



May 17th 2020
Sixth Sunday of Easter

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911

Keeping His Commandments



A number of times during the Last Supper Jesus said these or similar words to the apostles: "If you love me you would keep my commandments." Jesus wasn't just talking about the Ten Commandments. What commandments was he talking about? In the Gospel we find certain

things that we should do and certain things that we should not do. But this is just one aspect of the issue. There is more to that. Jesus invites to have a new spirit, new values and attitudes towards God, our neighbor and life in general. What is involved here is Christian discipleship. We can't truly call ourselves disciples of Jesus if we don't listen to his words and make an effort to live by them. One wouldn't be much of a Christian if one didn't try to live as Jesus taught.

There is one thing that we need to be aware of. We don't keep his commandments so that he will love us; we keep his commandments because he loves us. During that same supper Jesus said: "Love one another as I have loved you." It was he who first loved his disciples, and loved them unconditionally.

There are those who proclaim their love for Jesus in words, but who deny him in their deeds or by their way of life. Real love is shown in deeds. People know us by our acts, not by what we say with our lips.

It's not easy to live as a disciple of Christ in the modern world. But for that reason Jesus gave us the Holy Spirit. The Spirit comforts us in times of sorrow, enlightens us in times of darkness and make us strong in times of weakness.

World Day of Prayer for the Church in China- May 24

In May 2007, Pope Benedict XVI asked that May 24 be observed as a Day of Prayer for the Church in China. He chose this day since it is the traditional Feast of Our Lady of Help of Christians, who is venerated at the Shrine of Sheshan in Shanghai.

World Communications Day- May 24

On this day Catholics are invited to reflect upon the media of social communication (films, radio, television, newspapers, audiovisuals, social media) and see how they influence our lives.

The media can promote values that lead us to a more fully human society. The Church's ministry is twofold. The media can be used to promote the Gospel. At the same time, as receivers of the materials presented by the media, the faithful have a duty to support and promote worthwhile presentations on media and reject those which promote values contrary to spiritual growth.

This Week

Monday, May 18

10:00am Mass Victoria Day

Tuesday, May 19

6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group (Virtual Meeting)

8:00am Mass

7:00pm Mass

7:30pm Meeting Adult Faith Study (Virtual meeting)

Wednesday, May 20

8:00am Mass

7:00pm Mass

7:30pm Meeting Rejoice, Christian! Meet and Greet (RCIA) (Virtual Meeting)

Thursday, May 21

8:00am Mass

7:00pm Mass Int Delia Jimenez

Friday, May 22

8:00am Mass

7:00pm Mass

Saturday, May 23

8:00am Mass

5:00pm Mass

Sunday, May 24

9:00am Mass

11:00am Mass

5:00pm Mass

Pope's Prayer Intention for May

Evangelization For Deacons—We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.



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Pope's Message



We have heard what Jesus tells the disciples before his Ascension: *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me" (Mt 28:18)*; the power of Jesus, the strength of God. This theme runs through today's readings: in the first, Jesus says that it is not up to the disciples to know the "times or seasons which the

Father has fixed by his own authority", but he promises them the "power" of the Holy Spirit. (*Acts 1:7-8*). In the second, Saint Paul speaks about the "immeasurable greatness of his power in us who believe" and of the "working of his great might" (*Eph 1:19*). But in what does this strength, this power of God consist?

Jesus declares that there is a power "in heaven and on earth". It is, first and foremost, the power to connect heaven and earth. Today we celebrate this mystery because when Jesus ascended to the Father, our human flesh crossed the threshold of heaven: our humanity is there, in God, forever. Therein lies our trust, because God will never distance himself from mankind. And we are consoled in the knowledge that in God, with Jesus, a place has been prepared for each of us: a destiny as risen children awaits us and for this, it is truly worth the while of living here below, seeking the things from above, where our Lord is found (*cf. Col 3:1-2*). This is what Jesus did for us through his power to connect earth to heaven.

But his power did not end once he ascended into heaven. It continues even today and it endures forever. In fact, just before ascending to the Father, Jesus said, "I am with you always, to the close of the age" (*Mt 28:20*). It is not just a saying, a simple reassurance like when we tell our friends before leaving for a long trip: "I will be thinking of you". No. Jesus is truly *with us and for us*. In heaven, he shows the Father his humanity, our humanity. He shows the Father his wounds, the price he paid for us, and thus, he "always lives to make intercessions" (*Heb 7:25*) on our behalf. This is the key word of the power of Jesus: intercession. Jesus, with the Father, intercedes on our behalf every day, in every moment; in every prayer, in each of our requests for forgiveness, especially in every Mass. Jesus intervenes: he shows the Father the signs of the life he offered— as I have said— his wounds, and he intercedes, obtaining mercy for us. He is our "advocate" (*cf. Jn 2:1*), and when we have some important "cause", we would do well to entrust it to him and to say, "Lord Jesus, intercede for me, intercede for us, intercede for that person, intercede for that situation...".

A Word from Fr. Andrzej...



A belated but sincere blessing to all the mothers of our Parish — the wives, sisters, aunts and friends that toil tirelessly throughout the year, selflessly providing comfort, care and love. For families with school aged children, the task of mothering has never been so challenging as in this present time of social isolation and distance education. The art of mothering encompasses not only our children but often our own parents as we try to protect and keep our loved ones healthy, as they once did for us.

Thank you Mom!

It was my great pleasure this past week to join with Michael Yaptinchay, our School principal, in celebrating a Mass for St. Augustine's students, parents, teachers and friends. Our "Zoom" Mass was a well attended and joyous celebration. We look forward to coming together again in the near future, if not in person then by the power of technology.

May your week ahead be filled with good health and all God's blessings,

Fr. Andrzej

Meet our Candidates & Catechumens

Carmen



Four years ago my husband and I went through the annulment process with our first marriages. During that time my faith deepened dramatically and I finally felt ready to complete the Sacrament of Confirmation. This experience has surpassed my expectations as with each class I attend I am further enlightened and filled with immense gratitude.

Gabriel

As my wife Carmen proceeded with being confirmed, I suggested that I could be her sponsor after reading Saint Thomas of Aquinas. The book encourages us to be soldiers of Jesus enlightened by the Holy Spirit, receiving graces and a deeper understanding of our Lord.

The RCIA program has given me a broader view of Catholic teachings, and a wealth of information about our Church that I was unaware of.

Thank you Linda!

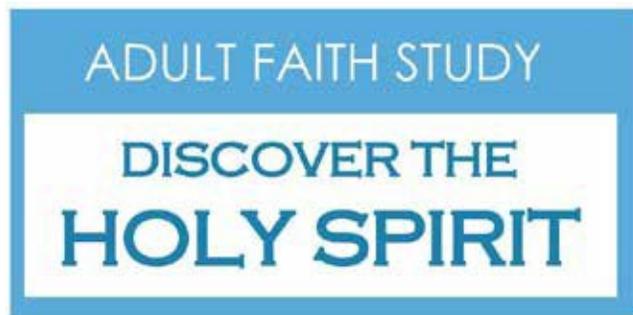
Please continue to keep all our Candidates and Catechumens in your thoughts and prayers as they continue their journey through the Easter season.

WELCOME TO ST. AUGUSTINE'S PARISH

St. Augustine's Oblate Parish is a Catholic community centered in Christ and the Eucharist that has a shared mission to welcome and invite all to participate ☒ celebrate in Word and Sacrament ☒ foster evangelization and spiritual formation ☒ advocate for social justice ☒ care for our common home.

Please note...

Throughout the past few weeks, St. Augustine's Church has remained open during regular office hours for private prayer and meditation. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available for those who request it. Please call the Parish Front Office to make an appointment should you wish to meet with Fr. Andrzej regarding the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**Virtual Faith Study - Discover the Holy Spirit**

Join us online Tuesday evenings at 7:30 starting for a weekly virtual gathering to learn more about the Holy Spirit and build community so we can become better disciples of Christ. We will be watching and discussing videos of The Wild Goose series by Fr. Dave Pivonka. For more information or to register e-mail: biblestudies@staugustineschurch.ca

Weekly Sunday Donations

Weekly offering envelopes may be dropped off at the Parish Office during regular office hours.

If you wish, you can make your Sunday and Special donations using Mastercard, Visa or Preauthorized Debit. Please complete the authorization form which can be picked up at the Parish Office or complete online at www.staugustineschurch.ca

The amount you authorize will be processed on the 2nd of each month.

Thank you for your generous financial support.



This time of lock down and uncertainty may well be a stimulus to seek God in a new way or share with him what thoughts and feelings are around. Frances Cheung is a parishioner of St. Augustine's

Church and has been trained in the tradition of Ignatian spirituality. She would like to offer the opportunity to have a spiritual conversation. If you are interested, please email Frances at f-cheung@hotmail.com. Conversations can take place via Skype or Teams; whichever works best for you.

**Movies Make Sense**

A contemporary way to find Christ at the movies, reflect on films through the lens of St. Ignatius of Loyola

Movies are social media. They relate closely to our lives. To

contemplate a movie is to encounter the Lord who is deep in your heart. It is to become aware of God's presence, reflecting your life experiences. You bring your feelings, emotions in conversation with Christ; the likelihood to be transformed.

Name of Movie: "The Lion King" (2019)

Date: May 23, 2020 from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

Facilitators: Frances Cheung and Katherine Tam are spiritual directors who have been trained in the tradition of Ignatian spirituality. They provide spiritual direction, give Spiritual Exercises and retreats.

Media: Microsoft Teams

No charge: There is no charge for this workshop. A donation to your Parish or a charity organization is appreciated.

You watch the movie at home. The movies will be viewed through the lens of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Prayer material will be sent upon acceptance. Each meeting will include prayer, presentation, sharing and discussion. Follow with individual spiritual direction (limited space).

Reserve your spot today and attend from the comfort and privacy of your home. Registration is required at: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfhYZV4zg_QmK09oPvC2MT2gcFobtrJqyRZvG5dssz-21rg/viewform?usp=sf_link



Looking for good, wholesome Catholic content....tired of searching the internet? Check out formed.org a virtual library with video and ebooks for adults and children! Find comprehensive and inspiring content.

Share with your friends and family! Simply sign up for FREE by visiting formed.org and entering our Parish access code **4FX3T6**. You may then create your personal account.

Please go to formed.org for many resources on Catholic faith formation, prayer, Catholic movies and many other resources.

If you are a parent with children home from school, there are many original resources available.

**We are all Searching for Something**

Why am I here? Where did I come from? What happens when I die? We find the answers to life's big questions when we wrestle with them in faith. In fact, the story of human history has largely been a

story of faith. We need a relationship with our maker—a relationship with life—to make sense of all of this.

Where am I going? Who am I journeying with along the way?

The Search is a powerful new Catholic evangelization experience hosted by Chris Stefanick and featuring scientists, astronauts, artists, and fellow searchers who uncover the answers to life's big questions on happiness, purpose, meaning, and faith. *The Search* video series has something for all of us, even those who are away from the Church but are still seeking, and those who have never considered faith before.

Oblate Corner**A dramatic war story**

July 24, 1994, marked the fiftieth anniversary of a drama that affected the Oblates in France, a few months before the end of World War II. In 1934 they had acquired a former castle at La Brosse Monceaux, south of Paris. Ninety religious were living there, which included about 80 scholastics in their studies.

Since they had been under German occupation for four years, the "Resistance" was organized just about everywhere. At the end of June 1944, Allied planes had dropped arms by parachute in the area. In an effort to conceal the weapons, the head of the resistance at Montreau thought of the Oblate scholasticate as a natural place. With the connivance of the priest bursar, the arms were hidden, while the containers and the parachutes were dropped in an abandoned well at the end of the property. Only six other religious were involved in this secret exploit. Unfortunately, a member of the clandestine group was stopped by the Gestapo. He was secretly carrying, in spite of orders to the contrary, a note-book containing the names of all his comrades.

The fatal outcome

On the following July 24, the outcome was tragic for the Oblate community. At about six in the morning, the Nazis invaded the property and forced all the religious to come out and stand on the lawn in front of the monastery. An officer of the Gestapo, named Korf, ordered the members of the so-called plot to reveal where the arms were hidden. No one betrayed the secret. They were subjected to "water" torture, and lashings with a bullwhip, not a word... Then came the threat of killing one, two or even ten men, for as much time as everyone kept silent. The torturer raised his gun and first called Father Christian Gilbert. In front of the helpless and terrified community he was coldly shot. Then, at few minute intervals, the man executed Father Albert Piat, scholastics Lucien Perrier and Jean Cuny as well as Brother Joachim Nio. The priests who were witnessing the scene gave the victims absolution from a distance. The multiple killing would probably have gone further, if a superior officer, who just happened to arrive on the scene, had not intervened to end the slaughter. Korf ordered to dump the corpses in the well and cover them with dirt.

Some may perhaps ask why would religious men take an active part in this resistance to the invader? Father Henri du Halgouët, who barely escaped in this drama, answers the question: "The fact that La Brosse, was situated very close to an area of working people, at Montreau, evidently brought us in contact with people of all political opinions, especially with communists engaged in the armed combat. They would not have understood how we could set ourselves apart, and allow them to run the greater risks. Furthermore, it had never to us to use those arms. The role foreseen for us, in the case of battles in this area, was limited to providing healing care.

Epilogue

In the afternoon after the carnage, the surviving religious were led as prisoners to Compiègne. On the following August 25, they were put on a train for Germany. Fortunately, the "Resistance" had blown up the railroad tracks. The Red Cross was able to free the Oblates on September 1st. One after the other, the 85 survivors could return to their scholasticate at La Brosse, only to find it devastated from top to bottom.

If you are new to our Parish Community or have an address or telephone change, please fill out the information below and submit it to the parish office or drop into the collection basket. please print in block letters.

<input type="checkbox"/> New Parishioner		<input type="checkbox"/> Need Envelopes		<input type="checkbox"/> Information Change	
First Name		First Name			
Spouse First Name		Spouse Last Name			
Children: Name(s) & Date of Birth					
Mailing Address					
City		Phone			
Postal Code		Email			
Comments					

Parish Information**PASTOR**

Rev. Andrzej Stendzina, OMI 604.736.4455 x 229
astendzina@rcav.org

PARISH OFFICE

Monday & Friday 9:00am-12noon,1:00pm-5:00pm
Tues/Wed/Thurs 10:00am-12noon,1:00pm-5:00pm
Monday is the Priest's day off.

Email: parish.saug@rcav.org

DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Linda Arnold 604.736.4455 x 229

PARISH SECRETARY

Jayne Le Vierge 604.736.4455 x 221

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM—PREP

Ferial Khan 604.736.4455 x 224
prep@staugustineschurch.ca

FAITH AND FOUNDATION

Campaign Office 604.736.4455 x 231
donate@faithandfoundation.com

ST AUGUSTINE SCHOOL

2154 West 7th Avenue V6K 0E3 604.731.8024
office@staugschool.ca

BAPTISM - REGISTRATION REQUIRED

604.736.4455 x 221

MARRIAGES/WEDDINGS

604.736.4455 x 221 parish.saug@rcav.org

RECONCILIATION

Weekdays 15 minutes before weekday Mass
Saturday 4:00pm—4:30pm

PARISH MINISTRIES**RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS)**

Linda Arnold rcia@staugustineschurch.ca

MUSIC MINISTRY

Peter Allen 604.257.3525
Manfred & Suzanne Milbers 604.255.0567
Mary Ellen Turnbull 778.995.6423

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK

Nelson Cheung 604.328.3882

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

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PARISH COUNCIL

Peggy Ho Yuen 604 266.1803

CWL (CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE)

Samantha Strudwick 604.255.1662

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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FOOD COLLECTION

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