

The Responsibility of Talent

Paul believed that the second coming of Christ was imminent. Hence, he urges the Thessalonians to be watchful. However, Matthew has accepted that the Parousia would be delayed. Even so, he too spoke about the necessity of being watchful. In the parable of the talents he spells out what this watchfulness consists in: it consists in carrying out the Lord's instructions to the best of one's God-given ability. The first reading sets before us the example of a woman who uses her talents to live an industrious and virtuous life.

Liturgical celebration:

Tuesday – Saint Elizabeth of Hungary (memorial)

St. Elizabeth was born in 1207. At age four she was betrothed to Ludwig of Thuringia. They married when she was 14. Elizabeth built hospitals to care for the needy and the sick. When her husband died she was accused of mismanagement and had to leave Wartburg. She entered the Third Order of Saint Francis and spent her days caring for the sick, the aged and the poor. She died at 24. She is a patron saint of the Franciscan Third Order and of Catholic charities.

Saturday – The presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (memorial)

The feast originated as a commemoration of the dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary's the New in Jerusalem in 543. An apocryphal source recounts that Mary's parents brought their three-year-old daughter to the Temple in Jerusalem to offer her to God, as was the custom. The feast entered the Western calendar in 1585 and it celebrates the recognition of Mary as a temple where God lives.

This Week

Monday, November 16

7:00pm Mass +All Souls In Purgatory
(No Public Congregation)

Tuesday, November 17

6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group (Virtual Meeting)
8:00am Mass +Cheryl Mellor
8:45am Baptism (No Public Congregation)
7:00pm Mass +Peggy Alashhab (No Public Congregation)
7:30pm Meeting Bible Study (Virtual Meeting)

Wednesday, November 18

8:00am Mass Int Cathy Lynn Jewitt
7:00pm Mass Int Adele, John, Maria & Daryl

Thursday, November 19

8:00am Mass +All Souls In Purgatory
7:00pm Mass +Michael Bell
(No Public Congregation)

Friday, November 20

8:00am Mass +Connie,, Emmanuel & Rodney Bonnici
7:00pm Mass +Jerzy, Helena & Tadeusz
(No Public Congregation)

Saturday, November 21

8:00am Mass +Helena & Henryk
10:00am Baptism (No Public Congregation)
5:00pm Mass +Sam Finnie
7:00pm Mass

Sunday, November 22

9:00am Mass +Julie Jalbuena
11:00am Mass
2:00pm Mass First Communion (No Public Congregation)
5:00pm Mass +Jeanette Lamay
7:00pm Mass

**OFFERTORY**

We are grateful for these gifts

\$7,430.00

Please visit www.staugustineschurch.ca

If you wish to maintain your contributions

FOURTH WORLD DAY OF THE POOR**33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - 15th November 2020**

“Stretch forth your hand to the poor” (*Sir 7:32*). Age-old wisdom has proposed these words as a sacred rule to be followed in life. Today these words remain as timely as ever. They help us fix our gaze on what is essential and overcome the barriers of indifference. Poverty always appears in a variety of guises, and calls for attention to each particular situation. In all of these, we have an opportunity to encounter the Lord Jesus, who has revealed himself as present in the least of his brothers and sisters (*cf. Mt 25:40*).

Let us take up the Old Testament book of Sirach, in which we find the words of a sage who lived some two hundred years before Christ. He sought out the wisdom that makes men and women better and more capable of insight into the affairs of life. He did this at a time of severe testing for the people of Israel, a time of suffering, grief and poverty due to the domination of foreign powers. As a man of great faith, rooted in the traditions of his forebears, his first thought was to turn to God and to beg from him the gift of wisdom. The Lord did not refuse his help.

From the book’s first pages, its author presents his advice concerning many concrete situations in life, one of which is poverty. He insists that even amid hardship we must continue to trust in God: “Do not be alarmed when disaster comes. Cling to him and do not leave him, so that you may be honoured at the end of your days. Whatever happens to you, accept it, and in the uncertainties of your humble state, be patient, since gold is tested in the fire, and chosen men in the furnace of humiliation. Trust him and he will uphold you, follow a straight path and hope in him. You who fear the Lord, wait for his mercy; do not turn aside in case you fall” (*2:2-7*).

In page after page, we discover a precious compendium of advice on how to act in the light of a close relationship with God, creator and lover of creation, just and provident towards all his children. This constant reference to God, however, does not detract from a concrete consideration of mankind. On the contrary, the two are closely connected.

This is clearly demonstrated by the passage from which the theme of this year’s Message is taken (*cf. 7:29-36*). Prayer to God and solidarity with the poor and suffering are inseparable. In order to perform an act of worship acceptable to the Lord, we have to recognize that each person, even the poorest and most contemptible, is made in the image of God. From this awareness comes the gift of God’s blessing, drawn by the generosity we show to the poor. Time devoted to prayer can never become an alibi for neglecting our neighbour in need. In fact the very opposite is true: the Lord’s blessing descends upon us and prayer attains its goal when accompanied by service to the poor.

How timely too, for ourselves, is this ancient teaching! Indeed, the word of God transcends space and time, religions and cultures. Generosity that supports the weak, consoles the afflicted, relieves suffering and restores dignity to those stripped of it, is a condition for a fully human life. The decision to care for the poor, for their many different needs, cannot be conditioned by the time available or by private interests, or by impersonal pastoral or social projects. The power of God’s grace cannot be restrained by the selfish tendency to put ourselves always first.

Keeping our gaze fixed on the poor is difficult, but more necessary than ever if we are to give proper direction to our personal life and the life of society. It is not a matter of fine words but of a concrete commitment inspired by divine charity. Each year, on the World Day of the Poor, I reiterate this basic truth in the life of the Church, for the poor are and always will be with us to help us welcome Christ’s presence into our daily lives (*cf. Jn 12:8*).

Encountering the poor and those in need constantly challenges us and forces us to think. How can we help to eliminate or at least alleviate their marginalization and suffering? How can we help them in their spiritual need? The Christian community is called to be involved in this kind of sharing and to recognize that it cannot be delegated to others. In order to help the poor, we ourselves need to live the experience of evangelical poverty. We cannot feel “alright” when any member of the human family is left behind and in the shadows. The silent cry of so many poor men, women and children should find the people of God at the forefront, always and everywhere, in efforts to give them a voice, to protect and support them in the face of hypocrisy and so many unfulfilled promises, and to invite them to share in the life of the community.

The Church certainly has no comprehensive solutions to propose, but by the grace of Christ she can offer her witness and her gestures of charity. She likewise feels compelled to speak out on behalf of those who lack life’s basic necessities. For the Christian people, to remind everyone of the great value of the common good is a vital commitment, expressed in the effort to ensure that no one whose human dignity is violated in its basic needs will be forgotten.

The ability to stretch forth our hand shows that we possess an innate capacity to act in ways that give meaning to life. How many outstretched hands do we see every day! Sadly, it is more and more the case that the frenetic pace of life sucks us into a whirlwind of indifference, to the point that we no longer know how to recognize the good silently being done each day and with great generosity all around us. Only when something happens that upsets the course of our lives do our eyes become capable of seeing the goodness of the saints “next door”, of “those who, living in our midst, reflect God’s presence”.

(*Gaudete et Exultate*, 7)

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.

Month of November –Remembering Our Loved Ones



This year, our Memorial Prayers for the Deceased will be following a different format than in the past. There will be three options for November Remembrance prayers.

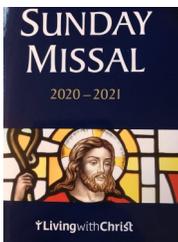
1. Telephone the Front Office: 604 736-4455 Ext 221 and request the name(s) of the Deceased to be added to the Memorial Book.

2. Send the name(s) via e mail to

parish.saug@rcav.org .

3. For a private Mass request to be celebrated by a Priest, write the name(s) on an envelope, enclosing a Mass Stipend for EACH prayer request. Drop the envelope off in person to the Front Office during regular business hours or when the Office is open on Sunday.

Year 2020–2021 Sunday Missals



The Parish Office is open each Sunday one-half hour before and one-half hour after the 9:00am and 11:00am Masses.

You may purchase a Sunday Missal 2020-2021 for \$5 by visiting the Parish Office or by speaking to Rose Tin Hla, Sacristan at the Church.

Sunday Offering Envelopes



To pick up your Envelopes please visit the Parish Office on Sunday beginning November 7th or the Parish Front Office during regular office hours.

Those who register to attend Masses will receive their envelope box upon signing in at Mass.

Liturgy of the Word for Children



Liturgy of the Word for Children will commence on October 25th at each 9am Mass. The format will be a 10-15 minute Zoom meeting during mass for children of all ages. Please pre-register to attend on the Parish website.

Parish Religious Education Program (PREP)



The Parish Religious Education Program for children attending

non-Catholic and/or Public schools is now open for students in Grades Two and Seven.

Grades Three, Four and Five will commence after Christmas. This is in keeping with the Archdiocesan guidelines for Religious Education.

For more information or to register contact:

prep@staugustineschurch.ca or call Ferial: 604 736-4455 Ext. 224

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)



RCIA meets every Wednesday evening @ 7:00pm. Meetings are held in the Parish Centre with social distancing in place.

If you are interested in the Catholic faith or know someone who is, please contact: Linda Arnold: 604 736-4455 Ext 229 or rcia@staugustineschurch.ca to register.

School News

Our Grade 7 students are again this year seeking SENIORS to be their PRAYER PARTNERS. If you are a Senior, and a member of the Parish, and would like to participate in this, please contact Cathie Oberndorf at

coberndorf@shaw.ca or call 604 488 4151. We believe that the grace and goodness that such a CONNECTION can create is a blessing for our youth and our Seniors.

Fall Campaign 2020 Update – Week 3

Many thanks to our donors to this year's Fall Campaign in support of our new school. To date, more than \$350,000 has been raised from

our school families and members of the parish who do not have children in the school. Our goal is \$500,000 and donations will be received

until December 31, 2020. You can deposit your gifts at the Faith and Foundation information table at the entrance of the Church, or in the Sunday

collection or dropped off at the school and parish offices. If making a gift by cheque, please make it out to: **St. Augustine Parish - School Building Fund.**

Thank you for your generosity as over 385 children are now receiving a Catholic education as we continue our century-old tradition of serving the educational needs of our community.

Around the Archdiocese

The Search

WHY ARE WE HERE? WHAT'S LIFE ALL ABOUT? The Search is an innovative video series that tackles the key questions of every human heart. In seven beautifully filmed episodes, Chris Stefanick and experts from multiple fields of science, medicine, psychology, art, and religion examine our place in the larger story of existence.

Are you ready for The Search? Join us for weekly sessions on Thursdays from Nov. 5 until Dec. 17 from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm. Register online at

beholdvancouver.org/events/the-search

Domestic Abuse Services - OLGCS

It is with the help and generosity of our volunteers and donors through the Catholic community that Domestic Abuse Services OLGCS is able to provide safe-shelter at Eva's House for survivors of domestic abuse. Please consider continuing your support through this difficult year by visiting our Christmas Legacy Giving catalogue Nov 1- Dec16. Give something life-changing to a family this Christmas and receive a little something back for a loved one.

www.DomesticAbuseServices.ca/shop

Pope's Prayer Intention for November

Universal: Artificial Intelligence

We pray that the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

The Sower of "Aves"

Poland can count among its sons many illustrious men. To name but a few we remember the holy martyrs Josaphat Kuncewicz and Maximilian Kolbe. Also, the wonderful composer Chopin, the young Jesuit Stanislas Kostka, and not the least, Karol Wojtyla, Pope John XXIII. The Oblate Congregation, for its part, is proud to have given the Church a humble Polish religious, who, without attaining a similar notoriety, we hope will become famous one day, by receiving the honors of beatification. We are speaking of Brother Antoine Kowalczyk, whose edifying life was recounted in a captivating book by Father Paul-Émile Breton: *Le forgeron de Dieu* (God's Blacksmith).

His life (1866-1947)

He was born in Dzierzanow, in the diocese of Poznam, on June 4, 1866. After being employed for a few years as blacksmith, he entered the Oblates in 1891, and five years later, was sent to Western Canada. His first assignment was at the mission of LaBiche Lake, where he was victim of a terrible accident while working at the local sawmill. He became entangled in a moving belt. His right arm was brutally crushed and the doctors had no choice but to amputate. Despite this handicap Brother Antoine lived fifty more years. At the Saint Jean Juniorate in Edmonton, he led a very active life and became a model of courage, humility, and piety for hundreds of students. On July 10, 1947, he died at the age of eighty one. He left a reputation of great sanctity. In April 1952, the first canonical steps were taken towards his beatification.

"Me, say an Ave"

Father Breton admits that he hesitated before entitling his book *Forgeron de Dieu*. Brother Antoine had developed such a devotion to Mary that he could have been presented to readers as a sower of "Aves". But the author explained his choice: "I wanted to bring out especially the virile aspect of his spiritual life. This humble Brother was not satisfied with a mere recital of frail "Aves" wrapped in sentimentality. He lived a rude existence, like the life of a blacksmith. He struggled and suffered. He had to hammer his soul with sacrifices, trials, and self-denials."

Nevertheless, Brother Antoine had extreme confidence in the Blessed Virgin. He entrusted all his tasks and all his difficulties to her. His sorrows, his joys, his personal intentions and those of others would invariably come to Mary. Since he had difficulty with the French language he would simply promise: "Moi, dire un ave" (Me, say an "Ave"). I have already written in the *Apostolat* about his adventure with a herd of swine, how he succeeded in leading them across a field of beautiful oats without the least damage to the crop, thanks to the "Aves" that he had recited beforehand. Another example follows of his power of intercession.

Bogged down

On a June day, in 1896, a caravan of eleven wagons, laden with all kinds of provisions, was traveling towards Labiche Lake. It had been raining abundantly for one month. The roads were wet and gutted with deep ruts. Progress was painful. Occasionally, six horses were required to free one wagon from the mud. At the foot of an incline, the first conveyance again became mired in the mud. The travelers were immobilized by a large swamp of some hundreds of feet. Everyone was questioning how they could extricate themselves this time. However, Brother Antoine had already jumped from his wagon, and was wading through the swamp. Up to his knees in water, he moved forward holding a small branch and a holy card in his hand.

Upon arrival at other side, he knelt on a mound and began to recite "Aves." A half-hour went by and he remained in prayer. The drivers began to grumble. "All this time was wasted. Does he think he can free us from here with prayers?" Father Henri Grandin spoke up in his defense: "My good friends, don't make fun of him. This little Brother is a saint." One hour later, the Polish Brother rose to his feet. He yelled to the travelers: "Now is time, you cross." Forward! All get ready. Surprise! The wheels turn as if the wagon were on solid ground. In less than fifteen minutes, the entire caravan had crossed the swamp without trouble. "You see," said Father Garin, "you had no reason to grumble against this little Brother." "That's true, but how did we know that he was a saint?"

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.

New Parishioner Need Envelopes 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 227
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

By Appointment Only 604 736-4455 Ext. 221

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

Sonny Harsono em@staugustineschurch.ca

PARISH COUNCIL

Peggy Ho Yuen 604 266.1803

CWL (CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE)

Samantha Strudwick 604.255.1662

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Sebastian Pereira 604.732.4565

ADULT FAITH

Clara Lum faithformation@staugustineschurch.ca

LECTORS

Danny Camparmo lectors@staugustineschurch.ca

USHERS

Bill Borgen 604.224.2632

MOM'S N TOTS

Cat Leung momstots@staugustineschurch.ca

FOOD COLLECTION

Terry Murphy 604.736.5288

LEGION OF MARY

Mary Lou Barin 604.767.8087
maryl.barin@gmail.com