



December 13th 2020
Third Sunday of Advent

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911



Third Sunday of Advent

In the first reading, the writer declares that he has been sent by God to usher in the age of salvation for Jerusalem and all God's people. Jesus used this prophecy to announce the program of his own ministry.

The subject of the Gospel is the same as that of last Sunday: the witness of John the Baptist to Jesus. John summons all to faith in Jesus. He declares that he himself is not the light, and tells the people that unrecognized by them the light (Jesus) is already present among them.

In the second reading Paul takes a very practical line, telling the Thessalonians how they should live as they await the second coming of Christ.

Liurgical celebration:



Monday – St. John of the Cross (memorial)

John was born in 1542 in Spain. He entered the Carmelite community and was ordained in 1567. With a great Carmelite mystic, Teresa of Avila, he worked for the reformation of his order. He died in 1591, was canonized in 1726 and was proclaimed Doctor of the Church in 1926.

This Week

Monday, December 14

7:00pm Mass Int Matthew Slater

Tuesday, December 15

6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group (Virtual Meeting)
8:00am Mass Int Evan Stewart
11:00am Funeral +Eugene Fujisawa
7:00pm Mass +Adolf Behrend
7:30pm Meeting Bible Study (Virtual Meeting)

Wednesday, December 16

8:00am Mass Int Gabriel Stewart
7:00pm Mass Int Paul Behrend

Thursday, December 17

8:00am Mass Int Quinn Stewart
7:00pm Mass +Eugene and +Kayoko Fujisawa

Friday, December 18

8:00am Mass +Maria Esperanza Legara
9:15am Mass St Augustine's School (No public congregation)
7:00pm Mass Int Judith Dajay

Saturday, December 19

8:00am Mass +Rene & Dino Geronimo
11:00am Baptism (No public congregation)
1-3:00pm Confessions
5:00pm Mass (Live streamed)
7:00pm Mass

Sunday, December 20

9:00am Mass +Klaus Kacy (Live streamed)
11:00am Mass
5:00pm Mass Int Joseph & Florence Chaks

OFFERTORY

We are grateful for these gifts

\$7,150.00

Please visit www.staugustineschurch.ca

If you wish to maintain your contributions

via Debit or Credit Card

WELCOME TO OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

Marcus Mammo

REST IN PEACE

Eugene Uji Fujisawa

**The Third Sunday of Advent is known as "Gaudete Sunday"**

Why is the third Sunday of Advent known as Gaudete Sunday?

Its name is taken from the entrance antiphon of the Mass, which is: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." This is a quotation from *Philippians 4:4-5*, and in Latin, the first word of the antiphon is *gaudete* (Latin, "rejoice")

What significance does this have?

Advent is the season of preparing for the arrival of the Lord Jesus (both his first coming and his second coming), and by the third Sunday of Advent, we are most of the way through the season.

Thus it is appropriate to rejoice as we see the goal of the season approaching: "The Lord is near."

A Christmas Update from the Arts & Environment Committee

We have started to decorate the Church for Christmas with a very limited number of people charged with the task, two to be exact. We have collected fir branches from the Christmas Tree lot down the street from the Church to make the swags and wreaths and you will see from the photo we have also placed two planters at the entrance to the Parish Centre.

Mario Amisano, who owns the tree lot at 8th and Arbutus, is a long time parishioner at St. Augustine's and has, for over 30 years, donated Christmas trees to the Parish, we are so grateful for his generosity.

The Knights of Columbus have installed the outdoor Nativity scene again this year and, as usual, it looks lovely. The Knights have also hung lights around the Church and Parish Centre as well as at Pandosy and this year

the lights are blue. Why blue you ask? Well the Archdiocese has launched a Blue Light Campaign, inviting everyone to use blue lights when decorating the Church as a sign of hope and solidarity with families who have lost loved ones and are experiencing a "blue Christmas" this year.

Once the Church is fully decorated about mid month, we invite you to drop by and take in the splendour that is the Christmas season at St. Augustine's Church.

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.

Confessions during Advent at St. Augustine's Parish



Saturday, December 19

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Other days by appointment. Call the Parish Office

Year 2020–2021 Sunday Missals

You may purchase a Sunday Missal 2020-2021 for \$5 by visiting the Parish Office during regular Office hours.

Sunday Offering Envelopes

To pick up your Envelopes please visit the Parish Office during regular office hours.

Liturgy of the Word for Children



Liturgy of the Word for Children is available at each 9am Sunday Mass. The format will be a 10 to 15 minute Zoom meeting during Mass for children of all ages.

Please pre-register to attend on the Parish website.

Advent Evening of Song and Prayer



Please join us for the St. Augustine School Advent Evening of Song and Prayer on Monday, December 14 at 7:00pm. This year, we will be live-streaming the Evening on the

Parish YouTube Channel. It will include a combination of live narration, scripture, and pre-recorded sessions of singing by the school children.

All are most welcome to join us!

Fall Campaign 2020 Update

Many heart-felt thanks to our donors to this year's Fall Campaign in support of our new school. To date, we have raised more than \$500,000 from our school families and members of the parish who don't have children in the school. We are continuing to receive donations until December 31, 2020.

Until such time that we're able to resume attendance at weekend masses, you can deposit your gifts at the school or 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 and spiritual needs of our community.

If you have any questions about the campaign please contact our Faith and Foundation team at 604-736-4455 (Extension 231).

Advent Giving Tree for Covenant House - St. Augustine's Parish



Advent Giving Tree - this year our Giving Tree collection will look a little different! Due to the suspension of Masses until December 7th we will be encouraging people to donate to Covenant House in the following ways:

Make an online donation to Covenant House using the link below:

https://secure3.convio.net/chb/site/Donation2?df_id=1940&1940.donation=form1&mfc_pref=T&_ga=2.211581718.2097149310.1606326705-1959237507.1605723077

Before December 31st all money donated will be tripled!! Thanks to generous donations by Ryan Reynolds and Blake Lively and three anonymous donors the Matching Campaign triple amount is up to \$375,000.

Covenant House's Amazon Wish List and buy any of the items Covenant House has identified as needing:

https://www.amazon.ca/hz/wishlist/ls/11YY69EGV1WN?ref=cm_sw_em_r_wl_dp_ZLxCogmafHwo2



Due to ongoing restrictions, the in-person Giving Tree drop off is postponed. Please support Covenant house by donating online. We will re-schedule in the New Year.

\$5 or \$10 gift cards to Tom Hortons, McDonalds, or Starbucks / Men's underwear (boxer briefs - sizes M, L & XL) / hand warmers /small umbrellas/journals/notebooks / earbuds/hoodies/sweatpants

To find out about the work Covenant House does with youth

please check out these videos:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYOqwn-fHC0&ab_channel=CovenantHouseVancouver

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=15CEI2wcEeg&t=6s&ab_channel=CovenantHouseVancouver

St Patrick's Regional High School



The Celtic Raffle is an annual ALL CASH-PRIZE RAFFLE fundraising event. Tickets are only \$5 each. Purchases can be done online through the following link: <https://celticraffle2021.rafflenexus.com/>

The funds raised from the raffle will directly benefit the students; including *but not limited to* the school choir, the school play, sports and grad events.

This year we will be holding our draw at: St. Patrick's Regional Secondary School Open House Event on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

Deadline for ticket purchases: Monday, January 11, 2021 at 4:00 PM

For more information about this fundraiser, please view the school website: <https://stpats.bc.ca/>. For specific questions about the raffle, please direct them to: celticraffle@stpats.bc.ca or 604-879-7469

Thank you for supporting our Regional Secondary School.

The prize money totals \$18,000.

First Prize = \$10,000

Second Prize = \$5,000

Third, Fourth and Fifth Prizes = \$1,000

John the Baptist: The witness who summons all to faith in Jesus



The third Sunday of Advent, we light the Rose candle, symbolic of joy. John the Baptist had a central role to play in the coming of the Saviour. He proved to be a courageous and effective witness. He had a very strong personality and was a man of principle. He did not go in for a life of comfort rather he lived in the desert. His was a living example of what he preached. Yet, his vision of what the Messiah would be like was very different from what Jesus modeled. Their approaches were also very different.

For John, the Messiah would be an uncompromising judge and give a fiery judgement on all the sinners. But, Jesus made it clear that he did not come to condemn the sinners but to save them. While John preached bad news, (focused by sin) Jesus preached good news. John prophesied the judgement of God and Jesus prophesied the salvation of God. John was an ascetic but Jesus mixed with the people, eating and drinking with all including sinners.

Their approaches and differences raised questions among many as to know who is who, and who is what? John the Baptist declares that he is not the Messiah. Nor is he Elijah, who was expected to precede the Messiah. Nor is he the prophet who was to come. He is merely the voice in the wilderness spoken of by the prophet of Isaiah. His task was to prepare the way for the Messiah who has already come and stands among the people, though they did not recognize him.

The Oblate vocation is a call to be a voice in the wilderness of our confused world as was John. But Oblates are to be more concerned with salvation than judgement which was the witness of Jesus. In this way we will disappoint some and delight others. But the more that we are seeking God and the kingdom we will taste in this life joy of which is to come. Above all the Oblate vocation is to stand with people in the wilderness and not against them.



Pope's Prayer Intention for December

Evangelization: *For a life of prayer -*

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

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 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

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