



March 21st 2021  
Fifth Sunday of Lent

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911



**The seed must die**

The first reading talks about a new covenant between God and his people. This new covenant was brought about through the death of Jesus: 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood'.

In the Gospel Jesus talks about his imminent death. It shows the very real disquiet with which he approached it. But it also stresses that what was to take place was within the purposes of God. Jesus uses the example of a grain of wheat dying in order to yield a harvest, thereby suggesting that his own death will bear much fruit.

John has no account of the agony in the garden in his Gospel. The nearest he gets to it is when he reports Jesus as saying, 'My soul is troubled.' And in the words, 'Should I ask the Father to save me from this hour?' we catch an unmistakable echo of his prayer in Gethsemane.

We catch a similar echo in the second reading: 'He learned to obey through suffering.' This reading also stresses the fruitfulness of Jesus' death: he became the source of eternal life for all who obey him.

**Liturgical celebrations:**

**Thursday – The Annunciation of the Lord (solemnity)**

This is the ancient title for the feast celebrating the Incarnation of the Word. This feast is a joint celebration of Christ and the Blessed Virgin: of the Word who becomes the Son of Mary and of the virgin who becomes the Mother of God.

In the universal Church, this liturgy celebrates the beginning of redemption. It also honors Mary as the 'new Eve,' the obedient and faithful woman who generously agrees to be the Mother of God. Mary cooperates freely in the plan of salvation.

**Pope's Prayer Intention for March**



**Evangelization: Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

**This Week**

**Monday, March 22**

7:00pm Mass +Aly Dendle

**Tuesday, March 23**

6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group (Virtual Meeting)  
8:00am Mass +Teresa Sewell  
7:00pm Mass +Artemio Domingo  
7:30pm Meeting Bible Study Group (Virtual Meeting)

**Wednesday, March 24**

8:00am Mass +Agnes Ebbs  
7:00pm Meeting Rite of Roman Catholic Initiation of Adults (Virtual)  
7:00pm Mass +Julian Wlosinski

**Thursday, March 25**

8:00am Mass +Julian Wlosinski  
7:00pm Mass +Bea Colwill  
(No Public Congregation)

**Friday, March 26**

8:00am Mass +Ivan Gervasio  
9:15am Mass St Augustine's School (No Public Congregation)  
7:00pm Mass +Erlinda Andal

**Saturday, March 27**

8:00am Mass +Wolf Hagen Endrejat  
**5:00pm Mass**  
**7:00pm Mass**

**Sunday, March 28**

**9:00am Mass** +Lucia Senichenko  
**11:00am Mass**  
**5:00pm Mass** +Armand Gimbrère

Please check the Parish webpage at:  
<http://staugustineschurch.ca>  
for Livestream Mass times during Holy Week



**OFFERTORY**

We are grateful for these gifts  
\$6,415.00

Please visit [www.staugustineschurch.ca](http://www.staugustineschurch.ca)  
If you wish to maintain your contributions  
via Debit or Credit Card



## Holy Communion at St. Augustine's Church on Sunday

### Receiving Holy Communion at St. Augustine's



Those who wish to receive Holy Communion may do so after celebrating St. Augustine's Sunday Mass on-line may do so by visiting the Church between 12 noon and 2:00pm each Sunday.

**Procedure:** Enter the Parish Centre through the glass door, sanitize your hands and proceed to the front of the Church to receive Holy Communion from Fr. Andrzej.

After receiving Holy Communion you may say a short prayer of thanksgiving before exiting the church through the east side door on Maple Street .

#### Please note:

Visiting the Church and receiving Holy Communion is not meant for prolonged personal prayer. You are welcome to do that on weekdays during office hours.

I hope all will understand the importance of complying to the Provincial Health restrictions and will co-operate.

Fr. Andrzej Stendzina, OMI

## Confession during the time of Lent



Confession during Lent will be **10:00am to 12noon**  
on **Saturday March 27th**

## Vocation Reflection:



### "Sir, We Wish to See Jesus"

By Vijay Deivanayagam, OMI - Vocation Team

"As followers of Christ, if we want to see Jesus, we must learn to die like the grain which dies and bear fruits. Seeing Jesus means dying to all parts of our life that blinds or hinders us to see a new life. Seeing Jesus means learning to die to resentment, hatred, self-centeredness, obsessions and compulsions, discrimination, and indifference to bear the fruits of love, peace, justice, forgiveness, unity, and solidarity."

Read the reflection here: <https://omilacombe.ca/become-an-oblate/>

Thank you for praying for and encouraging vocations to the Oblate religious life!

Jarek Pachocki OMI  
OMI Lacombe Canada - Vocation Director

## Sir, we wish to see Jesus

The Greeks, the new converts to Judaism came to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover. They had seen or heard about Jesus and his extraordinary things that Jesus had done. These Gentiles were curious to see or have a conversation with Jesus. They approached Philip, one of the disciples of Jesus with their request to see Jesus. According to John, the Greeks never got an audience with Jesus. Philip took their request to Andrew, and, together, Andrew and Philip told Jesus, but Jesus did not say yes or no. Instead, he said, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." Probably, Jesus used the image of the grain to speak of his forthcoming passion, death, and resurrection to his disciples.

What do you make of this reference to a grain of wheat falling to the ground and dying today as we reflect on this passage? What does it mean for us today as we enter this Sunday? Somehow death and seeing Jesus are inter-related and interconnected. As followers of Christ, if we want to see Jesus, we must learn to die like the grain which dies and bear fruits. Seeing Jesus means dying to all parts of our life that blinds or hinders us to see a new life. Seeing Jesus means learning to die to resentment, hatred, self-centeredness, obsessions and compulsions, discrimination, and indifference to bear the fruits of love, peace, justice, forgiveness, unity, and solidarity. Henri Nouwen in his prayer 'A cry for Mercy' elucidates, "Yes, Lord, I have to die... There is so much in me that needs to die: false attachments, greed and anger, impatience and stinginess". Therefore, in dying to self-life, we discover an abundant and new life as St. Francis of Assisi beautifully says, "it is in dying that we are born to eternal life."

As followers of Jesus, we are challenged by the message and example of Jesus today. The Lenten journey requires us to live more intensely the rhythm of dying and rising so that we may continue to witness Christ and Christian virtues in our lives. As St. Pope John Paul II says, "We must also let him be "seen" somehow through the eloquent witness of our own life (Novo millennio ineunte).

The season of Lent is to give us time once again to die to our old sinful ways of life and rise out of the tomb with Jesus to a new way of life – renewal attitude. The second preface of Lent states, "For you have given your children a sacred time for the renewing and purifying of their hearts, that, freed from disordered affections, they may so deal with the things of this passing world as to hold rather to the things that eternally endure". May this Lent be a time of special grace for each of us. As we are approaching the paschal feast of death and resurrection of lord Jesus Christ let us prepare ourselves for that celebration by dying to sinful ways and rising to new life with Jesus.

By Vijay Deivanayagam, OMI  
Vocation Team - Central  
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## 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.



### This Lent, let's share love!

Visit: <https://www.devp.org/en/campaign/sharelove>

Ways to **donate** to the D&P campaign during these times of COVID19

**Method #1:** Please use your own envelope or pick up one at the church.

Please **make cheque payable to your parish & write "for D&P" in the memo line**

Drop your envelopes in the church by appointment, or use surface mail by Canada Post addressed to your church in Vancouver or hand deliver your envelope.

**Method #2:** Online giving at [www.devp.org](http://www.devp.org) Select the GIVE NOW tab

**Method #3:** Online giving at [rcav.org/lent/share-lent](https://rcav.org/lent/share-lent)

All donations over \$20 can receive a tax receipt.

**Share Love, Share Lent and have a blessed Lenten Season!**

### St. Augustine's Vocation Ministry



**OMI**  
The Missionary Oblates  
of Mary Immaculate

Invites you to join us on Wednesday mornings at 8:30am to pray the Rosary for Vocations. We will do this over a Zoom video call. If you would like to join us please send an email to Ben Hume at [bhume03@gmail.com](mailto:bhume03@gmail.com) and he will put you on the invite list which

will contain the Zoom link to join the prayer session. If you are unsure how to access Zoom, please call Ben and he will help you through the process.

The next prayer session will happen on **March 24th at 8:30am.**

# FORMED®

Share with your friends and family! Simply sign up for FREE by visiting [formed.org](http://formed.org) and entering our Parish access code 4FX3T6. You may then create your personal account.

### FORMED for Children

**Learn and Pray with Brother Francis during Lent**

This 4-part series will help children learn more about what Lent is all about and why it is important.

Plus, join Brother Francis in praying a *Special Stations of the Cross* for children.



### Archbishop Miller's Letter on Share Lent 2021



**Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:**

During this Lenten Season, the Lord calls on us as his disciples to devote ourselves more intentionally to prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

In response to Pope Francis's urgent appeal in his recent encyclical *Fratelli Tutti*, this year *Caritas Canada*, the joint organization of Development and Peace and the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, is calling us to be brothers and sisters to all, regardless of their physical proximity to us.

Despite the tragic effects of COVID-19 here in Canada, the pandemic has caused even greater havoc in the poorest and most vulnerable societies, particularly among our already needy brothers and sisters in the Global South of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. Throughout the world we are one human family, and we must recover together from the present crisis.

Sunday, March 21, is Solidarity Sunday in the Archdiocese of Vancouver. On this day we take up our annual Share Lent collection that supports the humanitarian needs of the Global South. I encourage you to be as generous as possible to this year's campaign: "Share your Love this Lent." Remember the Lord's words to each of us: "So long as you did it to the least of these, you did it to me" (Mt 25:40).

Since we will likely be unable to have the usual in-person collection this year due to COVID-19, a range of opportunities to show your solidarity with the people of the Global South can be found at <https://rcav.org/share-lent/>.

I urge you to respond wholeheartedly to this pressing appeal.

With gratitude for your support of our brothers and sisters in need of your solidarity, and with my prayers for your families during this holy season, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

**+ J. Michael Miller, CSB**  
**Archbishop of Vancouver**

### Drug or Alcohol Addiction Recovery

If you, a loved one, or someone you know, wants to be free from an addiction to drugs or alcohol, consider **Sancta Maria House**. Located in a beautiful part of Vancouver, we offer a structured and supportive Catholic Christian 12-Step recovery program, in a pleasant, loving, family-like setting.

We accept women of all faith backgrounds. *For more information, visit:* [agapastreetministry.org/healing-homes/sancta-maria-house-1st-stage-recovery-house/](http://agapastreetministry.org/healing-homes/sancta-maria-house-1st-stage-recovery-house/) or call **604-731-5550**.

### St. Augustine's School Pass the Torch Annual Fundraiser



**PTT 2021 tickets on sale now! Event information and online ticket purchasing at**

[Pass the Torch Virtual Gala 2021](https://www.passsthetorchtickets.com/)

Please email questions or concerns to [passthetorchtickets@gmail.com](mailto:passthetorchtickets@gmail.com)

**A handful of unsung missionaries**



When he agreed to send Oblates to Canada, in 1841, Bishop de Mazenod by and large foresaw the possibility of going out to evangelize the original natives of that country. Therefore it should not surprise us to see these missionaries rushing to help the Amerindian tribes as early as 1844. Hence, the sons of Bishop de Mazenod inherited the missions of Saguenay, Upper Saint-Maurice, Temiscamingue, Abitibi and, a few years later, the Western tribes.

**The Quebec Amerindians**

It is impossible to reminisce on all of these valiant apostles who spared nothing to bring the Good News to the “children of the woodlands.” The first ones who visited the Algonquians of Abitibi, as early as 1844, were Fathers Nicholas Laverdochère and Jean-Marie Nédélec. In order to reach Fort Albany, they had to make long trips by canoe on rivers, through dangerous rapids.

Among the Crees at James Bay, the best known Oblate was beyond doubt Father François-Xavier Fafard. He was called “Sapier” by the Amerindians who could not pronounce “Xavier” his usual first name. Father Damase Couture spent forty-five years of his life at Fort George, in the most complete isolation, where he was able to baptize only a few children. Bishops Henri Belleau and Jules Leguerrier, the first two bishops of the region, were able to multiply the missions thanks to the talents and dedication of many Oblate Brothers, such as Brothers Grégoire Lapointe and Charles Tremblay.

**In Western Canada**

In 1846 the Western Amerindians in turn were drawn into the furrow of the Gospel. Dozens of nations, which rivaled in symbolic names, benefited from the dedication of Fathers Emile Grouard, Vital Grandin, Ovide Charlebois, and hundreds of other Oblates. We can name Father Albert Lacombe, with the Sauteux; Xavier Ducot, saved by a wolf, with the Peaux-de Lièvres; Jean Séguin, with the Loucheux, who waited three years for the delivery of windows for his house-chapel.

**Difficulties and fruits of their first labours**

All the missionaries of the first years had to withstand cold weather, hunger, and solitude.

In spite of their personal hardships, the Oblates brought numerous benefits to these Amerindian nations. Everywhere, they gave them books (dictionaries, etc.) written in their own language. As Father Joseph-Etienne Champagne, O.M.I. wrote: “What is outstanding in this missionary epic is not the number of conversions, but the fact that the Oblates are present in all the strategic points of a land as large as a continent.” And we could add: thanks especially to these unsung heroes who, like Saint Eugene de Mazenod, had “a Faith as large as the world.”

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**

Immaculate.conception.praesidium@gmail.com