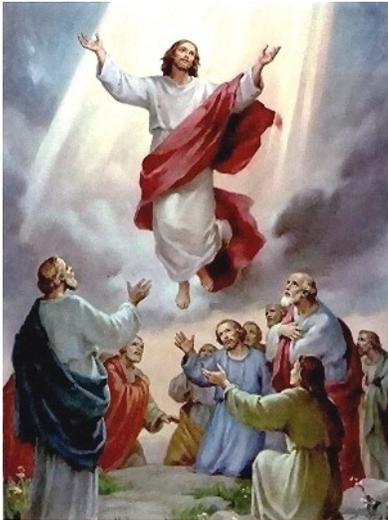


May 16th 2021
 The Ascension of the Lord

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911

The Ascension of the Lord



The reading from Acts describes the ascension of Jesus. It also shows how Jesus, now in the glorious presence of his Father, continues to act through the Holy Spirit and through his followers.

The Gospel is concerned with the Lord's ascension and the missionary charge he gave to his apostles. The preaching of the apostles was to have the same effect as the preaching of Jesus. The reference to picking up snakes and drinking poison is not to taken literally. Hyperbole can be an accepted way of making a point – through the power of Jesus the apostles will triumph over evils.

The apostles are to challenge people of all times and places either to believe or reject the Gospel. The statement that equates belief in Christ with salvation and disbelief with condemnation, can't be preached as bluntly as that. Today unbelief springs from many factors, not least from the poor witness given by those who claim to believe in Jesus.

The theological meaning of the feast is expressed in the second reading: God has glorified Jesus, raising him above all earthly powers, and making him head of the Church and Lord of creation.

The ascension of Jesus is his liberation from all restrictions of time and space. It does not represent his removal from the earth, but his constant presence everywhere on earth.

Pope's Pastoral Works – May 16



This collection provides an opportunity for Catholics to make a financial offering to assist the Holy Father. One-third of the funds collected is for what is traditionally known as Peter's Pence: donations used by the Pope for his charitable contributions to those most in need. Two-thirds of the collection is to support the Holy Father in administering the Holy See and serving the Universal Church. Information about how Peter's Pence is used is available in the Holy See's yearly financial report.

This Week

Monday, May 17

7:00pm Mass +Kristofer Bihis

Tuesday, May 18

6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group (Virtual Meeting)
 8:00am Mass Int Miguel Trinidad
 7:00pm Mass Int Mariano & Leonora Trinidad

Wednesday, May 19

8:00am Mass +Anna Maria Gimbrère
 7:00pm Meeting Rite of Roman Catholic Initiation of Adults (Virtual)
 7:00pm Mass +Magdelyn Steward

Thursday, May 20

8:00am Mass
 7:00pm Mass +Reynaldo Dajay

Friday, May 21

8:00am Mass Int Delia Jimenez
 7:00pm Mass +Maria Esperanza & Romeo Legara

Saturday, May 22

8:00am Mass +Magdelyn Steward
 2:00pm Wedding
 5:00pm Mass +Margot Yoshikawa

Sunday May 23

9:00am Mass +Fr. John J. Brioux, OMI
 11:00am Mass
 2:00pm Bapt
 5:00pm Mass

Pope's Prayer Intention for May

Evangelization: The world of finance

Let us pray that those in finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

**OFFERTORY**

We are grateful for these gifts

Sunday: \$9,007.00

Please visit www.staugustineschurch.ca

If you wish to maintain your contributions

via Debit or Credit Card

**World Communications Day – May 16**

On 24 January 2019, the liturgical memorial of Saint Francis de Sales, patron saint of writers and journalists, the Holy See released the Holy Father's Message for the 53rd World Communications Day. The message is entitled "We are members of one another (*Eph 4:25*): from social network communities to the human community".

In his Message, Pope Francis emphasizes the importance of the word community: "A community is that much stronger if it is cohesive and supportive, if it is animated by feelings of trust, and pursues common objectives. The community as a network of solidarity requires mutual listening and dialogue, based on the responsible use of language."



In Canada, World Communications Day will be celebrated on May 16, the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

Calling All St. Augustine's Women

Add your voice and support to a national sisterhood of Catholic women who promote awareness and respond to political and social issues that affect all Canadians. For more than 100 years, the Catholic's Women's League (CWL) has been that voice. Be a voice in your community by joining St. Augustine's CWL.

Annual dues are \$35. You may pay by cash or cheque by leaving an envelope with your name, address, email and phone number at the Parish Office or drop it off when you come to Communion on Sunday.

Current members are reminded it is time for your annual renewal.

We look forward to welcoming new members and connecting with current members.

To learn more, contact Samantha sammyseal86@hotmail.com

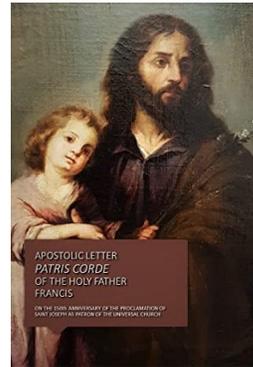
or 604-255-1662

Contacting Our Parishioners

Who would have thought we would still be watching Mass from home and keeping a social distance from our fellow parishioners after a year?

St. Augustine's Parish Pastoral Council continues to meet regularly and has been thinking about our community and how we might better communicate with you. To that end, we are forming a telephone committee and, on behalf of Fr. Andrzej, volunteers will be reaching out to confirm and update your contact information.

We look forward to conversing with you and sharing our Parish goals and future plans together.

**APOSTOLIC LETTER**

Patris Corde

Of the Holy Father

Francis

**ON THE 150th ANNIVERSARY OF
THE PROCLAMATION OF ST. JOSEPH AS
PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH**

Cont'd from last week....

Joseph found happiness not in mere self-sacrifice but in self-gift. In him, we never see frustration but only trust. His patient silence was the prelude to concrete expressions of trust. Our world today needs fathers. It has no use for tyrants who would domineer others as a means of compensating for their own needs. It rejects those who confuse authority with authoritarianism, service with servility, discussion with oppression, charity with a welfare mentality, power with destruction. Every true vocation is born of the gift of oneself, which is the fruit of mature sacrifice. The priesthood and consecrated life likewise require this kind of maturity. Whatever our vocation, whether to marriage, celibacy or virginity, our gift of self will not come to fulfilment if it stops at sacrifice; were that the case, instead of becoming a sign of the beauty and joy of love, the gift of self would risk being an expression of unhappiness, sadness and frustration.

When fathers refuse to live the lives of their children for them, new and unexpected vistas open up. Every child is the bearer of a unique mystery that can only be brought to light with the help of a father who respects that child's freedom. A father realizes that he is most a father and educator at the point when he becomes "useless", when he sees that his child has become independent and can walk the paths of life unaccompanied. When he becomes like Joseph, who always knew that his child was not his own but had merely been entrusted to his care. In the end, this is what Jesus would have us understand when he says: "Call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven" (*Mt 23:9*).

In every exercise of our fatherhood, we should always keep in mind that it has nothing to do with possession, but is rather a "sign" pointing to a greater fatherhood. In a way, we are all like Joseph: a shadow of the heavenly Father, who "makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust" (*Mt 5:45*). And a shadow that follows his Son.

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.



The Commissioning of the Apostles

The Greek philosopher Heraclitus wrote about 2500 years ago, "Nothing is permanent except change." To live is to change. Psychologically, it is important to acknowledge the transition from the old to the new, from the past to the future and from what was, to what is to be. We often use commissioning ceremonies to mark such new beginnings, especially if the changes are planned and intentional. In our liturgical life, this feast of the ascension marks a transition between the resurrection of Christ at Easter and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost

Now that he was about to leave them (to ascend into heaven) Jesus said to the apostles, "Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation." He thus entrusted them with the task of carrying on his mission.

Jesus has no body now on earth but ours.

He has no hands but ours to feed the hungry.

He has no feet but ours to seek out the lost.

He has no ears but ours to listen to the lonely.

He has no tongue but ours to comfort the sad.

He has no heart but ours to love the unloved.

For Jesus, his ascension was not a journey into outer space, but a journey home. He was returning to the Father. His disappearance into a cloud symbolizes his entry into divine glory. The apostles understood that Jesus' going was connected with the sending of the Spirit, "Unless I go, the Spirit will not come, but if I go, I will send him to you." (*John 16:7*) This meant that his physical absence was a good thing for the apostles.

This helps us to understand why they all returned to Jerusalem full of joy (*Luke 24:52*). However, they were also sad because he was leaving them. This ascension is as much about us as it is about Jesus. What happened to Jesus is meant to happen to us too. We too are destined to for glory. In the incarnation, Jesus took our humanity on himself. In the ascension, that humanity has been taken up and glorified. This means that our humanity is now in the unimaginable light of the presence of God.

The ascension does not imply the Lord's absence from the earth. Rather it represents his liberation from all the restrictions of time and space so that he can be present everywhere on earth. Jesus also didn't hide from the apostles the difficulties and temptations they would have to face. The only assurance Jesus gave them was that he would be with them always. This is why he told them, "I will be with you always, yes to the end of time." (*Mathew 28:20*).

Jesus now depends on each one of us to preach the Gospel and to be his witnesses before the world. This is a daunting task but also it is a special and great privilege. The most effective way to preach and to witness to

Jesus is by living a good Christian life. We draw strength from our experience that the risen and glorified Christ is with us as he was with the apostles. We are not asked to be successful, only to be faithful witnesses to Christ.

Through baptism we become co-missioned by Jesus' gift of the Holy Spirit. Responding to our vocation we carry out the mission that is entrusted to us personally by God. What fosters a deeper and sober response to our vocation involves coming to terms with the vastness of Divine within us. Practicing the contemplative prayer leads to a greater awareness of how present Jesus is in our world through the mystery of Spirit. Silent trusting prayer reduces our distractions from love and helps us gather our heart and mind and soul to actively serve the spread of this Divine Love to all the world.

By Susai Jesu, OMI
Vocation Team – Contact West
Phone: (587) 335-2015
Email: soosaijesu@gmail.com

St. Augustine's Vocation Ministry



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 e mail to Ben Hume at bhume03@gmail.com . If you are unsure how to access Zoom, please contact Ben and he will help you through the process.

The next prayer session is scheduled for **May 19th at 8:30am**.

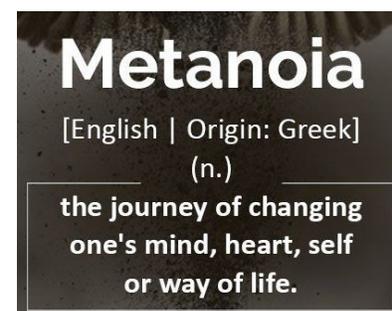
Receiving Holy Communion at St. Augustine's



Those who wish to receive Holy Communion may do so by visiting the Church between 12 noon and 2:00pm each Sunday.

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.

Bible Study Group



Join St. Augustine's Adult Faith Group this summer on a journey with Christ into conversion. This 10-part video study entitled METANOIA featuring Fr. Dave Pivonka, TOR, is inspiring, engaging, and accessible to everyone. We invite you to join us via ZOOM (no prior experience required) on Tuesday evenings 7:30-9 PM starting May 25th.

There is no cost, but registration is required.

Please email biblestudies@staugustineschurch.ca to register or for more information. We hope you will join us on this journey of grace, hope, repentance, and transformation!

His gun... for an Oblate cross



Many young people, discouraged with life, attempt suicide. That is a fact of life reported regularly in the newspapers. How sad. The world needs them so much. Why don't they do like Ovide Védrenne? Here is his history: it tells of the mercy of God and the maternal care of Mary.

A real devil

Ovide was born in France in 1831 and was enrolled in a Freemason's youth group early in life. A brilliant student, gifted with unusual intelligence, but lazy, he became deeply involved in the Revolution of 1848. Thrown in prison then released, he entered a military academy where he got into all kinds of trouble. When he was twenty, he joined the African Zouaves. He was known for his courage as well as for his misdemeanors. "He was a real devil", said one of his companions.

He was promoted to the rank of sergeant three times, and three times was degraded for insubordination. All he had left was his many citations and medals, that he called his "kitchen utensils". When the epidemic broke out in the army in the Crimea, he devoted himself to the care of the sick and contracted typhus. Given his serious condition, the chaplain tried to reach out to him but was bluntly rejected. By dint of her kindness, however, a Sister of Charity managed to make him accept a medal of the Blessed Virgin that he wore faithfully. It brought him health in body and soul.

A failed suicide

The day the peace was signed, our daredevil, removed from the battle fields and with little taste for civil life, decided to kill himself. His best friend, who had made the same decision, was the first to use the only pistol they had. Védrenne was about to do the same when friends, who had heard the first shot, rushed in to stay his arm and made him give up the suicide. A few days later, while walking along Cannebière Street in Marseilles, penniless and desperate, he met a priest. He abruptly said to him: "Father, I want to go to confession, but not to you because you are too young." The priest then led him to Fr Louis Genthon, an Oblate, who was chaplain at Calvary Church

A Missionary without equal

After his confession the curious penitent looked at the religious. "But you are not like the other priests! You carry a crucifix in your belt like a gun..." "That is because I belong to a religious Order called the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate." "Eh! What are you saying? Missionaries... That sounds like something far away and rough... And is Mary the General? ... Is there a way to join your group?" "Perhaps, but that is up to the Provincial." "The Provincial? Is he the recruiting officer?" "That's right..." The provincial at the time was a former missionary of the Americas, Fr François-Xavier Bermond. He welcomed the convert warmly and after a few days of thought directed him to the Notre-Dame de l'Osier novitiate. Despite the fact that he was thirty-five years old Védrenne resolutely began living the Rule and bending to the requirements of religious life. After ordination the former soldier was sent to Ceylon. For a score of years he edified his confreres and the faithful. "Oh God, forgive me. Ah! If I had known you earlier," he often repeated. In 1888, he became seriously ill. The end was near. A confrere tried to comfort him saying: "Fr Védrenne, you love the Blessed Virgin, don't you?" He answered "Eh! Who told you I didn't? A Zouave does not tremble in the face of death. This morning, I warned God that he was going to receive a famous rascal today..." He died bravely and feisty, as he had lived, at the age of fifty-seven.

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