



November 28th 2021
First Sunday of Advent

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911



Advent

The purpose of Advent is to help us prepare for Christmas. One can't understand the message of Christmas unless we are familiar with at least the broad outlines of the history of salvation.

The Advent liturgy relives in a microcosmic way the history of Israel, viewing it through the eyes of Christian faith. It shows that all of that history was pointing and leading towards Jesus. He was the one who fulfilled the messianic prophecies.

Advent takes us back in time so that we may appreciate the greatness of what we are heirs to. We are the heirs to the promise God made to the prophets. Advent helps us to appreciate the great blessings God has given us in Christ.

Today's first reading points to the first coming of Christ. It says that the Messiah will be descended from the stock of David, and his reign will be marked by wisdom, justice and integrity.

The Gospel deals with the Second Coming of Christ. The early Christians believed that the Second Coming was near, and would be preceded by cosmic signs. The disciples are urged to await the Lord's coming with confidence, vigilance and prayer.

How to prepare for the Second Coming of Christ is also the topic of the Second Reading.

This Week

Monday, November 29

7:00pm Mass +Kayoko Fujisawa

Tuesday, November 30

8:00am Mass +Ricardo Dimayuga
6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group (Virtual)
6:30pm Meeting Parish Religious Education (PREP)
7:00pm Meeting Adult Faith Study
7:00pm Mass Int Chad Galitzky

Wednesday, December 1

8:00am Mass Int Sonja Lawrence
7:00pm Meeting Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)
7:00pm Mass +Deceased relatives of Mary Connolly

Thursday, December 2

8:00am Mass +Melicio Cardenos Estoque, Sr.
7:00pm Mass +Oronzo Pavone

Friday, December 3 First Friday Adoration

8:00am Mass +Maria Esperanza Legara
11:00am Funeral +Jadwiga Kosik
7:00pm Mass Int Francis Narvaez

Saturday, December 4

8:00am Mass
11:00am Mass Celebration of St. Eugene de Mazenod
5:00pm Mass +Marie Matchett

Sunday December 5

9:00am Mass
11:00am Mass
5:00pm Mass RCIA Rite of Welcoming

Pope's Prayer Intention for December

Evangelization: *Catechists*— Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Parish Penitential Service

Monday December 13th at 7:00pm

OFFERTORY

We are grateful for these gifts

Sunday: \$9,251.00

Please visit www.staugustineschurch.ca

If you wish to maintain your contributions

via Debit or Credit Card

WELCOME TO OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

Bree Scarlett Trujillo

REST IN PEACE

Jadwiga Kosik

Theodore Kaklin

“St. Augustine’s Cares!”

Many B.C communities and Catholic Parishes have been hard hit by recent extreme weather and flooding. Community organizations and relief groups are working hard to help people in and around affected areas but we can also help!

Please consider making a donation to the Canadian Red Cross B.C and Yukon Division to help the affected communities of Princeton, Merritt, Chilliwack and Abbotsford. All donations are tax deductible and can be made online at donate.redcross.ca.

Migrant workers have also been hard hit by the devastation, particularly in the Fraser Valley. The Archdiocese has set up a "Fraser Valley Relief Fund" to help assist workers who have lost possessions and wages. Your tax deductible donation can be made through rcav.org/floodfund.

We are also collecting new items, such as socks, toques, scarves, gloves, toothbrushes, deodorant and other toiletries in our donation bin inside St. Augustine’s Church for migrant workers through St. Ann’s Catholic Church in Abbotsford. These items are needed by Tuesday, December 7th!

***Please help our brothers and sisters in need as
we enter the season of Advent!***

Liturgical Celebrations**Tuesday – St. Andrew the Apostle (feast)**

St. Andrew, also known as Andrew the Apostle, was a Christian Apostle and the older brother to St. Peter.

According to the New Testament, Andrew was born in the village of Bethsaida on the Sea of Galilee during the early first century. Much like his younger brother, Simon Peter, Andrew was also a fisherman. Andrew’s very name means strong and he was known for having good social skills.

In the Gospel of Matthew, it is said Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee and saw Andrew and Simon Peter fishing. It is then he asked the two to become disciples and “fishers of men.”

The Gospel of John tells a separate story, stating Andrew was a disciple of John the Baptist. When Jesus walked by one day, John the Baptist stated, “Behold, the Lamb of God”.

Meaning of Advent Wreath

Since circles have no beginning and no end, the circular shape of the Advent Wreath is used to symbolize God the Father and eternal life. The wreath holds four candles which are lit over the four weeks of Advent. There are three violet (purple) candles and one rose candle.

Violet is a liturgical color that is used to signify a time of penance, sacrifice, and prayer. During the first two and the last weeks of Advent we light violet candles. The Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday. On this day we celebrate that our waiting for Christmas is almost over. Rose is a liturgical color that is used to signify joy, so we light the rose candle on the third Sunday of Advent.

Traditionally, each of the four candles on an Advent wreath has their own meaning. The first Sunday of Advent symbolizes Hope. The second Sunday of Advent symbolizes Faith. The third Sunday of Advent symbolizes Joy. The fourth Sunday symbolizes Peace.

When Advent Wreaths are decorated the materials often have symbolic meaning. The use of evergreens reminds us of our eternal life with Christ, holly represents the crown of thorns from the Passion of Jesus, and pine cones symbolize Christ’s Resurrection.

Seniors Luncheon

Wednesday November 24th in the Parish Hall

**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.

St. Augustine's Catholic Community is seeking a Communications Coordinator

The Communications Coordinator will be responsible for creating, together with the Pastoral Team, a comprehensive communications strategy for the Parish. The successful candidate will be responsible for facilitating all Parish wide communications, working with Staff, Parish Pastoral Council, Committees, and Parishioner groups. The Communications Coordinator will promote programs and events to the Parish and the wider community through various communications channels. The Communication Coordinator will maintain, expand, and promote the Parish in its shared mission to welcome and invite all to participate and celebrate in Word and Sacrament, fostering evangelization and social justice.

Qualifications:

The Communications Coordinator is a visible representative of St. Augustine's Parish and the Diocesan Church; therefore it is required that the incumbent be a practising Catholic, registered in a Catholic Parish.

Excellent communication skills and initiative

Proficient in PC and Mac applications

Knowledge of Tilma

Specific tasks and duties:

Develop and manage a comprehensive Parish communications plan

Prepare the weekly Parish Bulletin

Maintain and create content for the parish website and other media platforms

Design and maintain PowerPoint announcements

Prepare the bi-monthly "The St. Augustine's Parishioner" newsletter

Promote Parish events using a variety of communication methods

Manage the Parish's email list and publish the electronic newsletter

Prepare and oversee Communication Budget

This is a part-time position with the possibility of expansion to full-time.

Position reports to the Pastor. Salary commensurate with experience.

Benefits according to the CISVA benefit plan.

Submit your questions or a resume to astendzina@rcav.org

Deadline for acceptance is December 17th 2021

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted

RCIA—Rite of Acceptance

First Sunday of Advent Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens

The Rite of Acceptance is of the utmost importance. Assembling publicly for the first time, the candidates who have completed the period of enquiry and are preparing for all the sacraments of Christian initiation declare their intention to the Church and the Church in turn, accepts them as persons who intend to become its members. God showers their grace on the candidates, since the celebration manifests their desire publicly and marks their reception and first consecration by the Church. Following the Rite of Acceptance, these Candidates are now known as Catechumens.

Catechumens for the Sacraments of Initiation:

Lucy Chen Paul Hoyda Janet Welch

Project Advance 2021—Our Way Forward

Please donate on-line at: projectadvance.ca

SAVE THE DATE!

11:00 AM Saturday December 4, 2021

The Anniversary of the Canonization of St. Eugene De Mazenod.



St. Eugene was the founder of the religious order, **Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate**, that founded our Parish. Come and join us for a Liturgical celebration of St. Eugene's canonization anniversary which will include a short history of the "Oblates of Mary Immaculate" and the amazing contribution they made to the development of our Country and many others around the world through their missionary service.

The liturgical service will be followed by a time for fellowship and light refreshments in the Parish Hall.

Note: We will have some elderly and immunocompromised people with us for this event so if you plan to join us for the fellowship part of the event we ask that you be Double Vaccinated.

2021 Fall Campaign Progress

The fourth week of our Fall Campaign continued to show great results as we have now raised more than \$430,000. All of these funds will be directed to the final phase of our school building project. We thank everyone who has participated in this year's campaign. Nearly 85 percent of school families have already made a commitment. Our goal is \$500,000.

If you have any questions about the campaign, please drop by our Faith and Foundation information table at the entrance of the Church. You can also call the Faith and Foundation Office at 604-736-4455 Extension 231.

Donations will be accepted until December 31, 2021. If you're writing a cheque to the campaign, please make it out to:

St. Augustine Parish School Building Fund

Donations may be deposited in the Sunday collection or dropped off at the information table at the entrance of our Church.

The Parish and School offices will also receive your gifts.

Stewardship Reflection

November 28, 2021 – First Sunday of Advent

"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." (Luke 21:28)

We celebrate Advent each year in preparation for the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await His second coming. What will you do differently this Advent season to grow in friendship and love with Jesus? How will you inspire others to do the same? Start by sharing your God story with others, especially those closest to you. Invite and accompany them on their faith journey this Advent.

Stand up and raise your heads!

As we are entering the season of Advent, today's Gospel paints for us a picture of the attitude of actively awaiting. "Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." (Luke 21:28) Stand up, raise your heads, be ready for action and make a difference! An awakened heart is able to empathize with the poor and marginalized, and to speak up for justice, peace and reconciliation. Standing up is just the beginning of making that first step towards the action.

In the letter to the young people on the occasion of the World Youth Day 2021, Pope Francis calls this attitude forward:

"Today Christ speaks to you the same words that he spoke to Paul: Arise! Do not remain downcast or caught up in yourself: a mission awaits you! You too can testify to what Jesus has begun to accomplish in your lives. In Jesus' name, I ask you:

Arise! Testify that you too were blind and encountered the light. You too have seen God's goodness and beauty in yourself, in others and in the communion of the Church, where all loneliness is overcome.

Arise! Testify to the love and respect it is possible to instil in human relationships, in the lives of our families, in the dialogue between parents and children, between the young and the elderly.

Arise! Uphold social justice, truth and integrity, human rights. Protect the persecuted, the poor and the vulnerable, those who have no voice in society, immigrants.

Arise! Testify to the new way of looking at things that enables you to view creation with eyes brimming with wonder, that makes you see the Earth as our common home, and gives you the courage to promote an integral ecology.

Arise! Testify that lives of failure can be rebuilt, that persons spiritually dead can rise anew, that those in bondage can once more be free, that hearts overwhelmed by sorrow can rediscover hope.

Arise! Testify joyfully that Christ is alive! Spread his message of love and salvation among your contemporaries, at school and in the university, at work, in the digital world, everywhere."

The essence of vocation is the answer to God's calling, embracing God's mission at this place and our particular time. Whatever our vocation is, we are all called to "stand up and raise our heads" for healthy relationships, social justice, human rights and the integrity of creation, for proclaiming the Gospel and witnessing it through our actions. May this advent be a time for "standing up and raising our heads"! The number of chocolates we eat from the Advent calendar won't make the world a better place; but our awakened heart will!

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 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

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

604.736-4455 Ext. 221

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

Diana Grierson lectors@staugustineschurch.ca

USHERS

Bill Borgen 604.224.2632

FOOD COLLECTION

Terry Murphy 604.736.5288

LEGION OF MARY

Immaculate.conception.praesidium@gmail.com