



### Repent and believe the Good News

The first half of Mark's Gospel describes Jesus' ministry of healing and preaching in Galilee.

Jesus begins his preaching ministry by calling people to repent and embrace the Good News. For Mark, 'believe in the Gospel' meant 'believe in the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ.'

Repentance is one of the main themes of the readings. The first reading relates how the preaching of Jonah met with the immediate response in the pagan city of Nineveh. The story shows the possibility of an entire city repenting and turning to God. It also shows the mercy and forgiveness of God.

If the Ninevites responded so fully to the preaching of Jonah, how much more fully should we respond to the preaching of Jesus. The Gospel shows the prompt response of the first disciples to his call to follow him.

Even though we can't share Paul's belief that the Second Coming of Christ is imminent, he still has an important message for us, namely, that this world is not the be-all and the end-all. We are destined for the next world. This should profoundly affect the way we live in this world.

### Pope's Prayer Intention for January

#### *For the gift of diversity in the Church—*

We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church

## This Week

### Monday, January 22

7:00pm	Mass	+Nan Barry
7:00pm	Meeting	Young Adults Leadership
7:30pm	Meeting	Faith Study
7:45pm	Meeting	Catholic in Recovery

### Tuesday, January 23

6:00am	Meeting	Men's Prayer Group (Virtual)
8:00am	Mass	+Fr. Oscar Pauwells
10:00am	Meeting	Busy Hands Women's Craft Group
11:00am	Funeral	+Hing Chanpong
6:30pm	Meeting	Parish Religious Education (PREP)
7:00pm	Mass	+Max Mehlis
7:45pm	Meeting	Bible Study

### Wednesday, January 24

8:00am	Mass	
7:00pm	Meeting	Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)
7:00pm	Mass	

### Thursday January 25 Founding of the Missionary Oblates (1816)

8:00am	Mass	Int Ferial Khan
8:30am	Meeting	RCAV John Paul II Coordinating Team
1:15pm	Meeting	Bible Study
7:00pm	Meeting	Faith Study Group
7:00pm	Meeting	Parish Pastoral Council
7:00pm	Mass	

### Friday January 26

8:00am	Mass	Int Antonio Peralta
10:00am	Funeral	+Fr. Vincent La Plante, OMI
7:00pm	Mass	

### Saturday January 27

8:00am	Mass	+Anita Doucet
10:00am	Meeting	Liturgy Committee
5:00pm	Mass	

### Sunday January 28

9:00am	Mass	+Antonio & Giuseppina Nardi
11:00am	Mass	+Elena Perri
5:00pm	Mass	For Parishioners by Missionary Oblates

**OFFERTORY**

We are grateful for these gifts  
Sunday: \$10,488.00

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

**REST IN PEACE**

+Fr. Vincent La Plante, OMI

+Hing Chanpong

## Faith Studies Series

DISCOVERY - SOURCE - GROWTH  
TRUST - COMMISSION

CCO Faith Studies Series invites you to encounter Christ through a simple but challenging look at the Gospel message.

DISCOVERY is a 7-week small group faith study, and the first of five levels that focuses on Jesus and explores what it means to have a personal relationship with Him.

It will transform your life, deepen your faith in Jesus, help you grow closer in community, and learn how to share your faith with others.

If you have completed Discovery, contact us to learn more about the other levels we plan to offer at the same time.

WHEN: **Thursdays, January 25, to March 7, 2024 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm**

WHERE: **St. Augustine's Parish Hall**

COST: **\$10 workbook**

*"Taking Discovery, it changed my view and outlook on my faith life... that He wants to have a personal relationship with me."*

For more and information and registration:  
[www.staugustineschurch.ca](http://www.staugustineschurch.ca)

Email: [faithformation@staugustineschurch.ca](mailto:faithformation@staugustineschurch.ca)  
[james.chau88@gmail.com](mailto:james.chau88@gmail.com)

Phone: James Chau 604-603-8871

**Ash Wednesday Palms**

We will be collecting last year's Palms until **Sunday February 11th 2024**. Palms from last year may be placed in the basket located in the Foyer of the Church.

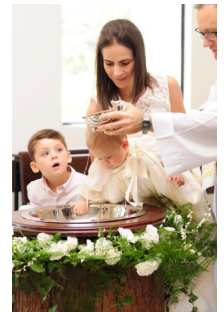
**Baptismal Preparation**

Please note the following dates for future Baptismal Preparation Classes. All Classes will be held at the Parish Centre and begin at 6:30pm.

Tuesday January 30th

Thursday March 21st

Thursday May 2nd



You may register by calling or leaving a message at the Parish Office with your name and contact number: 604 736-4455 Ext 221.

**Do you suffer in silence with an addiction, compulsion or some type of unhealthy attachment and feel you need help...**

Then, please consider coming to Catholic in Recovery (CIR) meeting, a 12 Steps Program tied to the Sacraments of the Church. We meet with other Catholics whose sole purpose is to help each other find healing from any addiction, compulsion, or unhealthy attachment.

We meet every Monday evening at the Church library between 7:45 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. to share our experience, strength and hope with other Catholics seeking recovery.

For more information and in confidence, please feel welcome to contact Jean-Joseph at Catholic in Recovery by email at

[cirstaugustines@gmail.com](mailto:cirstaugustines@gmail.com) or 604-670-4217.

**Cor - Men's Prayer Reflection:**

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, this focussed based Men's Prayer Gathering is available to all men. The St. Augustine's cohort will gather in the Parish Library at 7:30 pm every 3rd Wednesday of the month beginning Wednesday January 17th 2024.

**LECTIO DIVINA Praying the Scriptures**

We extend a warm welcome to women to join us to reflect together on the gospel reading for the following Sunday.

We meet regularly on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month.

For more information contact Lynette Brook 604 441 6845.

**FOOD COLLECTION**

February 17 & 18 2024

*"For I was hungry and you gave me food." Matthew 25:35*

**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.

Please pray for the repose of  
Fr. Vincent Laplante, OMI



Fr. Vince died January 12th, 2024, after a brief stay at the Vancouver General Hospital.



Born in Ottawa on June 13, 1924, Vince professed his vows as an Oblate of Mary Immaculate on September 8, 1949 and was ordained on May 29, 1954. Over his nearly 70 years of priesthood, Vince exercised his ministry in many ways, as a teacher, missionary, pastor and provincial councillor. During his years residing at Pandosy Place, Vince joyfully assisted where needed at St. Augustine's Parish and was the resident "handyman" at Pandosy. Vince was ever ready to extend a warm welcome and offer gracious Oblate hospitality to all visitors.

As we pray for Vince, we also remember the members of his Oblate community at Pandosy Place and the BC District, as well as the members of his family and the many friends who have been part of Vince's life over the years.

May he rest in peace.

### Vocation Live-in

There will be a Vocation Live-In on the weekend of February 10 -11 at the Seminary of Christ the King in Mission, BC. Anyone wishing to enter the Seminary in the next couple of years is welcome. For more information phone 604-826-8975 or email [rector.minors@sck.ca](mailto:rector.minors@sck.ca)



On September 30, 2019, a Motu proprio Apostolic Letter "Aperuit illis" issued by Pope Francis established the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time as the "Sunday of the Word of God." This year, January 20/21, 2024 will be designated as "Sunday of the Word of God".

The Pope instituted this celebration because, he wrote, "It is fitting, then that the life of our people be constantly marked by this decisive relationship with the living word that the Lord never tires of speaking to his Bride, that she may grow in love and faithfulness." The Scriptures themselves tell us that "the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword ..." (Hebrews 4:12). This tells us two things: first, that God wants to speak to us; second, that listening to God speak is the way for us to grow into our fullest potential.

So, here are some of ways that we can honor Pope Francis' directive and grow in devotion to the Word of God.

**1. Enthroned a Bible in your home.** Give the Word of God a prime place of honor and reverence in your home. Start by creating and devoting a "sacred space." Then, use an enthronement prayer service (several, [like this one](#), are available online), to make the Bible prominent in that space. The Bible then becomes the spiritual center of your home. Family members will be reminded daily of the importance of the Bible in the life of the Church and family. Visitors might even be curious about the purpose of this sacred space.

**2. Commit to a Bible study, especially with a group.** Father Mike Schmitz's *The Bible in a Year* was a top podcast in the world last year. There are numerous other great studies available: some on individual books of the Bible, and some on themes throughout Scripture. Still, too many Catholics admit that they have never read and studied the Bible much, if at all. These great programs and podcasts can help change that. Remember, though, that the full potential that these studies have is best achieved in community. The Bible was never meant to be studied only. It was meant to be discussed with the Church and, more importantly, to be lived in the world.

**3. Begin reading the daily Mass readings.** For those who may have already completed *The Bible in a Year*, or those who simply need a slightly different format, engaging with the daily Mass readings can be a great way to incorporate more Sacred Scripture into your life. Each and every day of the year, you will get readings from the Old and New Testaments. Over time, coupled with other recommendations on this list, your understanding of the Bible and, most importantly, your love of Jesus will grow immensely.

**4. Commit to learning *lectio divina*.** *Lectio divina* literally means "divine reading." It is the way that the Church Fathers came to deeper understandings of Sacred Scripture in the first centuries after Jesus' resurrection. It has been employed by Benedictines and other religious orders for centuries. It was recommended by the late Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI as the key that would unlock a new spiritual springtime in the Church. There are several great explanations, with resources to accompany, available online ([here](#) and [here](#), for example). I even humbly recommend my own book, *A Life of Conversion: Meeting Christ in the Gospels*.

**5. Commit to a holy hour, at least once each week.** We must keep in mind that the Word of God is a person – the Divine Word, Jesus Christ. Any and all of the recommendations above must lead us to a deeper relationship and communion with him.

**If you want to be a better disciple** of Jesus, and if you commit to one or more of these habits, your devotion to the Word of God will certainly grow. This is especially true for the last four recommendations, which can become weekly or even daily habits. Let's hope that by forming these devotional habits the Word of God "may speed ahead and be honored" (2 Thessalonians 3:1) in our homes, our communities and our world.

### What is Alpha?



Alpha is a basic introduction to the Christian faith - what C.S. Lewis called 'mere Christianity'

### What happens at Alpha?

Each session begins with a meal, has a video, great discussion and a chance to connect!

We are running an in-home **Alpha** starting Tuesday Jan 23rd at 7pm.

Please contact: [alpha@staugustineschurch.ca](mailto:alpha@staugustineschurch.ca) for more info or to register.

### Stewardship Reflection

*"Follow me and I will make you fishers of men."* - Mark 1:17

Jesus' call to "follow me" is a call to all Christians! The call is in the here and now, in our present circumstances, not when we think we are "ready" or have everything in order. Good stewardship of our God-given gifts means that things aren't always going to go according to our schedule, but that God has a much better plan in store for each of us.

## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Last Sunday at the 11:00am Mass we celebrated the Rite of Acceptance and the Rite of Welcoming with our catechumens and candidates.

In these Rites the catechumens and candidates declare their intention to become members of the Church and are invited into our faith community. We in turn pledge to pray for them and journey with them as they continue to grow as disciples of the Lord.



### CATECHUMENS

Cathy Yang  
Eddy Lee  
Arena Chan  
Catherine Newby  
Alexander Aziz  
Kathleen Rennie  
Ethan Chen  
Andy Yoo  
Marat Raimkhan  
Dana Raimkhan



### CANDIDATES

Annie Balzer  
Kimberly Page  
Paula Hicks  
Michael Osborne  
Colin Lorimer  
Michael Osborne



## Parish Information

### PASTOR

Rev. Ignacy Varias, OMI 604.736.4455 x 227  
pastor@staugustineschurch.ca

### 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](mailto:parish.saug@rcav.org)

### DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Linda Arnold 604.736.4455 x 229

### PARISH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue V6K 0E3 604.731.8024  
office@saschool.ca

### BAPTISM - REGISTRATION REQUIRED

604.736.4455 x 221

### MARRIAGES/WEDDINGS

604.736.4455 x 221 [parish.saug@rcav.org](mailto:parish.saug@rcav.org)

### PARISH MINISTRIES

#### RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS)

Linda Arnold [rcia@staugustineschurch.ca](mailto: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

Samantha Strudwick [em@staugustineschurch.ca](mailto:em@staugustineschurch.ca)

#### PARISH COUNCIL

Edwina Ramirez [parishcouncil@staugustineschurch.ca](mailto:parishcouncil@staugustineschurch.ca)

#### CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL)

Neysa Finnie [staugcwlpres@gmail.com](mailto:staugcwlpres@gmail.com)

#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Don Hitsman [dchitsman20@gmail.com](mailto:dchitsman20@gmail.com) / 778-722-9563

#### ADULT FAITH

Linda Chehab [faithformation@staugustineschurch.ca](mailto:faithformation@staugustineschurch.ca)

#### LECTORS

Diana Grierson [lectors@staugustineschurch.ca](mailto:lectors@staugustineschurch.ca)

#### USHERS

Paul Mitchell-Banks [paulmitchellbanks@gmail.com](mailto:paulmitchellbanks@gmail.com)

#### FOOD COLLECTION

Terry Murphy 604.736.5288

#### LEGION OF MARY

[Immaculate.conception.praesidium@gmail.com](mailto:Immaculate.conception.praesidium@gmail.com)

#### YOUNG ADULTS

Kathryn Arab [ya@staugustineschurch.ca](mailto:ya@staugustineschurch.ca)

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	