



Cleansing of the Temple

Jesus' action in cleansing of the temple was a protest against the commercialisation of religion and the desecration of the Temple. But it went deeper. It was a symbolic action, in the fashion of an Old Testament prophet through which he passed judgement on the Jewish sacrificial system. He was declaring that temple worship, with its ritual and animal sacrifices, was irrelevant and could do nothing to bring people to God. He was replacing sacrificial worship with spiritual worship.

He was also protesting at the way religion had become narrow, nationalistic and exclusive. Israel had failed to fulfil her universal mission to humankind. It was God's intention that the Temple should be a house of prayer 'for all nations'. But the Temple remained the jealously-guarded preserve of Israel. No Gentile dared venture, under threat of penalty and death, beyond what was known as the 'court of the Gentiles'. Jesus declared that salvation was not just for the Jews, but for all peoples.

The first reading is one of the versions of the Decalogue. The Ten Commandments are a map of life for a people who enjoy a special relationship with God. They were to be seen as a gift, not a burden. However, Christians must live by the 'law' of Jesus. He brought in a new and more exacting law – the law of love. He effectively reduced the commandments to two: love of God and love of neighbour.

This Week

Monday, March 4

7:00pm Mass +Gloria Ascanio
7:45pm Meeting Catholic in Recovery

Tuesday, March 5

6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group (Virtual)
8:00am Mass +Bienvenido & Engracia Torres
10:00am Meeting Busy Hands Women's Craft Group
12:00noon Event Senior's Luncheon
6:30pm Meeting Parish Religious Education (PREP)
7:00pm Mass Int Susan Loczy

Wednesday, March 6

8:00am Mass Int Veronika Van Wollen
9:15am Event St Augustine School—Stations of the Cross
7:00pm Meeting Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)
7:00pm Mass +Aiden Carney

Thursday March 7

8:00am Mass +Murray Stanley
8:30am Event SAS Grade II Parent Coffee Meet up
11:00am Funeral +Mary Ellickson
1:15pm Meeting Bible Study
7:00pm Mass +Jason Albert Grey
7:30pm Meeting Faith Study Group

Friday March 8

8:00am Mass +Maria Perrotta
9:15am Mass St Augustine School
7:00pm Mass Int Jennifer, Hasson & Dominic
7:30pm Event Stations of the Cross

Saturday March 9

8:00am Mass +Guiseppe Nardi
3:00pm Meeting Legion of Mary
5:00pm Mass +Maria Wojcik

Sunday March 10

9:00am Mass Int Mary McQueen
10:30am Meeting St Augustine's Catholic Women's League
11:00am Mass +Ralph Noronha
Second Scrutiny (RCIA)
5:00pm Mass For Parishioners by Missionary Oblates

OFFERTORY

We are grateful for these gifts
Sunday: \$11,203.00

Please visit www.staugustineschurch.ca If you wish to maintain your contributions via Debit or Credit Card

**REST IN PEACE**

Mary Ellickson



RCIA celebrating the Rite of Election with Archbishop Miller
Sunday February 25th 2024

RCIA and THE SCRUTINIES?

The Scrutinies are Rites celebrated on the Third, Fourth and Fifth Sundays of Lent, by those people who are preparing to be baptized at Easter, known as "The Elect". They are important and special rites of the Church. Whenever they are celebrated the Scripture readings of Year A of the liturgical cycle are used.

The Scrutinies are described by the Church as:

"rites for self-searching and repentance, which are meant to uncover, then heal, all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong and good. The Scrutinies are celebrated in order to deliver the elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the way, the truth and the life."

The Gospels on the three Sundays on which the Scrutinies are celebrated teach the elect about the mystery of sin, and fill them with the Spirit of Christ.

1. The first Gospel (the Samaritan Woman at the well) tells us that Christ is the Living Water,
2. the second (healing of the man born blind), that he is the Light of the World,
3. and the third, (the raising of Lazarus from the dead), that he is the Resurrection and the Life.

Jesus described the purpose of his mission as "To give life in abundance" (John 10:10)

Each of the Gospels proclaimed in the three Scrutinies illustrates this.

Seeking Housing Rental

A long-time parish family (two parents/two young adults) is seeking rental accommodations, ideally three bedrooms/two bathrooms and storage, in Vancouver and/or neighbouring communities: East Van/Burnaby, Richmond.

The family also has an elderly dog (quiet and low maintenance).

If you have information or connections, please call 604-612-3777

Catholic in Recovery

If you feel you need help or you know someone who does and seeks recovery from an addiction, compulsion or some type of unhealthy attachment:

Please consider joining us in confidence at Catholic in Recovery (CIR), a 12 Steps weekly in-person meeting for Catholics at St. Augustine Church.

We meet every Monday evening from 7:45pm to 9:00pm whose sole purpose is to share our experience, strength and hope with other Catholics seeking recovery.

For the exact in-person location meeting, please contact Jean-Joseph in confidence at:

cirstaugustines@gmail.com or check the daily virtual Catholic in Recovery meetings via zoom at:

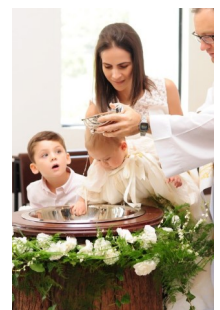
<https://catholicinrecovery.com/virtual-meeting-schedule/>

Baptismal Preparation

Classes are held at the Parish Centre beginning at 6:30pm.

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.

**FOOD COLLECTION**

March 16 & 17 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.

Lenten Penitential Service

March 12th 7:00pm (no Mass)

In preparation for Jesus' Resurrection and our baptismal renewal. Come for a time of prayer and reflection.

Several priests will be available to hear confessions.



Marriage Mentorship

Renewing the Church through Relationships

Discover St. Augustine's

Marriage Mentorship Program:

The program is virtues-based, structured and relational, made up of the couple preparing for marriage and a parish mentor couple.

The mentor couple will journey with the engaged couple as they prepare for marriage and will continue the relationship with them into their marriage. Building a relationship with a couple who they can: learn to trust, to turn to in times of difficulty, to ask tough questions and seek support from throughout your marriage.

We are looking for potential mentor couples to help engaged couples in a mentor relationship and to connect to our faith community. At this stage we not asking for a commitment, only your interest in considering whether this may be a calling. We will provide all the details and training. All you need is at least 5 years of marriage.

For more information or interest in joining please contact Program Coordinators Sheila & Matt O'Brien: obriensvan@gmail.com.



St. Augustine School Strategic Plan

St. Augustine School unveiled its Five Year Strategic Plan at its Annual General Meeting on February 22, 2024. We invite you to view the Strategic Plan on the school's website at www.faithandfoundation.com. For more information, please contact pec@saschool.ca or leave a message at the School Office.

FORMED

For quality programs and videos this Lent and during spring break

St. Augustine's Parish has a subscription to FORMED, an online Catholic website.

Please sign in with the Parish code: **4FX3T6**

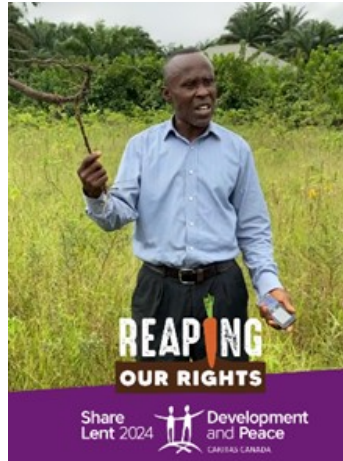
Stewardship Reflection

"You shall not carve idols for yourselves in the shape of anything..."

-Exodus 20:4

How many "gods" do you put before God? "Idols" do not always take the shape of physical things, things we can touch and feel. Those are easy to recognize. Many times they take the form of things we cannot touch and are much harder to spot like pride, power, ego, time, comfort or health. Pray for God's help to prune our vices and to grow in virtue.

Development and Peace



Nigeria is Africa's largest economy and biggest oil producer. Despite oil exports worth billions of dollars, millions of Nigerians remain in poverty and face food insecurity. In the south, pollution and contamination by the oil industry are causing great hardship.

Development and Peace – Caritas Canada's partner Health of Mother Earth Foundation (HOMEF) defends farmers' rights and helps protect their lands.

To learn more about the work of HOMEF, read our [Mini-magazine](#) and watch the video at devp.org/lent.



Proclaim

"The number of those who do not know Christ and do not belong to the Church is constantly on the increase." *St John Paul II*

We all know someone that does not know Jesus or know Him well enough. They're in our neighborhoods, schools, perhaps sitting beside us in the pews.

And what might change if they were to encounter Jesus and to see Him in a new way?

This May 4th we're planning a revival event where the Gospel will be proclaimed with an invitation into a new way of seeing life, Jesus, and the world.

This event, called Rescue Live, aims to accompany people towards a life-changing encounter with Jesus Christ.

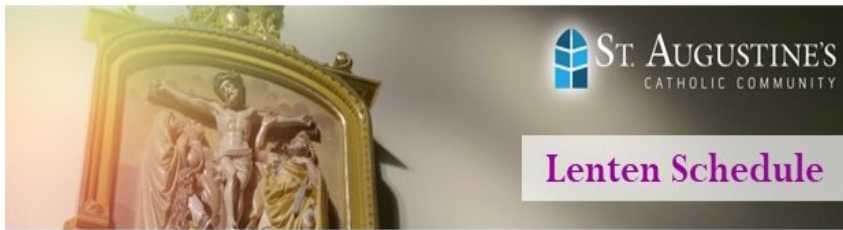
And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? Romans 10:16



We could promote Rescue Live far and wide, but personal invitation will have greater impact.

We're inviting you to personally be a part of 30+ parishes who have already signed up!

[Rescue Project LIVE - Save the Date](#)



Walk in the footsteps of Jesus and be reminded of God's love for us and the sacrifice that was made to save us.

This Lent you are welcome to join us with our parish groups praying the Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 7:30pm. Each group will be using a different format.

On Good Friday, Stations of the Cross will be led at 7:00pm

DATE	PARISH GROUP
March 8 th	Faith Formation <i>Theme: Eucharistic Adoration</i>
Tuesday, March 12 th 7:00pm No Mass	Lenten Penitential Service
March 15 th	Development & Peace <i>Theme: Share Lent: Reaping Our Rights</i>
March 22 nd	Catholic Women's League <i>Theme: Marriages and Families</i>
March 29 th at 7:00pm	Parish Pastoral Council <i>Theme: Walking with Jesus</i>

Please note: Tuesday, March 12th at 7:00pm is the Parish's Lenten Penitential Service. **There will be no Mass.**

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. 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**

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 7th 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

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK

604.736-4455 EXT.221

CONFESSION TIMES

Monday - Friday 6:35pm-6:50pm
Tuesday-Saturday 7:35am-7:50am
Saturday 4:00pm-4:30pm

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

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Samantha Strudwick em@staugustineschurch.ca

PARISH COUNCIL

Edwina Ramirez parishcouncil@staugustineschurch.ca

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE (CWL)

Neysa Finnie staugcwlpres@gmail.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Don Hitsman dchitsman20@gmail.com / 778-722-9563

ADULT FAITH

Linda Chehab faithformation@staugustineschurch.ca

LECTORS

Diana Grierson lectors@staugustineschurch.ca

USHERS

Paul Mitchell-Banks paulmitchellbanks@gmail.com

FOOD COLLECTION

Terry Murphy 604.736.5288

LEGION OF MARY

Immaculate.conception.praesidium@gmail.com

YOUNG ADULTS

Angelo Empleo ya@staugustineschurch.ca