December 18th 2022 Fourth Sunday of Advent

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

**SINCE 1911** 



**Preparing for Christmas** 

All three readings deal with the identity of 'the One who was to come'. The identity of the child was vaguely glimpsed in the Old Testament. Isaiah talked about the coming of a very special child (First Reading). But there is no reason to believe that he knew just how special that child would be. No prophecy is fully understood until after its fulfilment.

Matthew shows that Isaiah's prophecy was fulfilled in Jesus, and in a far greater way that the prophet could ever have imagined. The New Testament reveals the true identity of this special Child (Jesus). The second reading and the Gospel make it clear that Jesus was the Son of David. This was so because Joseph, his legal father, was descended from the line of David. But he is more than that. He is also the Son of God.

#### **Liturgical Celebrations**

#### Wednesday - Saint Peter Canisius

Peter was born in Nijmegen, The Netherlands, in 1521. He joined the Jesuits and worked in Germany, Austria, Bohemia and Switzerland as a leader of the Counter- Reformation. Peter educated Catholics with his popular and influential catechism. Although he worked in a time of confict with growing Lutheranism, he remained moderate and courteous. Peter died in 1597 and was canonized and declared Doctor of the Church in 1925.

#### Friday - Saint John of Kanty

John was born in Kanti, Poland in 1390. After his ordination, he served in the Faculty of Theology at Krakow University. A popular teacher and preacher, John was noted for his simplicity and love for the poor. He died in 1473 and was canonized in 1767.

## This Week

## Monday, December 19

7:00pm Mass +Dino Geronimo

### Tuesday, December 20

6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group (Virtual)

8:00am Mass +Lucy Butler

10:00am Meeting Busy Hands Women's Group

6:30pm Meeting Parish Religious Education Program (PREP)

7:00pm Mass +Yuet-sheung Wan

## Wednesday, December 21

8:00am Mass Int Fr. Bautista Boj, S.J. 7:00pm Mass +Felicidad del Moral Villalon

## Thursday, December 22

8:00am Mass Int Shirley Lorraine Jewitt

7:00pm Meeting Discovery

7:00pm Mass +Dominga Jimenez

## Friday, December 23 Parish Office Closed at 12 noon

8:00am Mass Int Sidwell McLeod 7:00pm Mass +Max Mehlis

## Saturday, December 24

4:30pm Caroling begins

5:00pm Mass

6:30pm Caroling begins

7:00pm Mass

8:30pm Caroling begins

9:00pm Mass

11:30pm Caroling begins

12:00am Mass

#### Sunday, December 25 Nativity of the Lord

9:00am Mass Int Betty Khan

11:00am Mass For Parishioners by Missionary Oblates





We are grateful for these gifts Sunday: \$10,638.45

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





Justice Patricia M. Proudfoot 1928 - 2019

Justice Patricia Proudfoot's life inspired many: she was dedicated to her family, loyal to her faith, untiring in her life of extraordinary public service and recognized for her commitment to education.

Once St. Augustine's Parish embraced the plan to build a much-needed new school, Father John Brioux, OMI, invited Justice Proudfoot to make what would be her first of many gifts to ensure our Parish's dream came to fruition.

The completion of the school's third floor in 2018 matched Justice Proudfoot's determination that the Parish and School community take this important step. Her significant bequest reflected her love of our Parish, her passion for Catholic education and her generous spirit.

Justice Proudfoot's faithful presence at our school touched the lives of so many. She cared deeply for the staff, loved engaging with the children, participated in our prayer partner outreach, attended our seniors' lunches, and delighted in the relationships she developed over many years.

In honour of Justice Proudfoot's love of our Parish School, its children and teaching staff, we dedicate this third floor to her memory.

December 15, 2022



#### St. Augustine School Open House

There will be an Open House at 7:00pm on Thursday, January 5, 2023 for new families hoping to enroll their children at St. Augustine School for the 2023-2024 school year. Please check the School website for additional information. (Adults only please).

#### 2022 Fall Campaign Update

As we enter the final month of our Fall Campaign, the generosity of parishioners and school families has now reached almost \$460,000. More than 93 percent of our school families have donated to the campaign. All these funds will be directed to the final phase of our school building project. Our goal is to reach \$500,000 by the end of December and with everyone's support we will get there.

Donations may be deposited in the Sunday collection, or you can stop by the Parish or School office to drop off your contributions. If you're writing a cheque to the campaign, please make it out to:

#### St. Augustine Parish School Building Fund.

If you have any questions about the Fall Campaign or the school building project, please drop by the Campaign table at the entrance of the Church or call the Faith and Foundation office at 604-736-4455 Extension 231

Thank you for your generosity and commitment to Catholic education

#### **Advent Giving Tree**



Anyone who can help sort and package the collection and/or drive to Covenant House on December 22nd (12:00 pm - 2:00 pm), please contact Eileen at

dcamparmo@hotmail.com. Thank you!



Celebrate The New Year at St. Augustine's. Delicious Dinner, Entertainment, Door Prizes, & More

**TICKETS** \$30 Adult \$15 Child (up to 14 years old)

Payable by cheque or cash

DINNER Prime Rib, Herb Roasted Chicken Vegetable Medley, Baked Potatoes Dessert, A Glass of Wine Coffee, Tea & Juice

TICKET SALES: After Mass December 10, 11, 17 & 18 and Parish Office

Hosted by the CWL & Knights of Columbus

#### 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.



#### Vocation Reflection: "Quit Arguing"

by Darcie Lich - Vocation Team - Oblate Associate

"Emmanuel means we don't have to do it alone. It's our in our nature to want to be certain about things. We want to know unequivocally that things will work out. We all want a sense that God is with us in some way. But sometimes we forget that if God has a plan, God is here to help with it. God is here to be part of it. God is with us. And I think that's it... that's how Mary and Joseph said yes. They trusted that if God was going to lead them to it, God would also be with them through it."

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

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

Jarek Pachocki OMI
OMI Lacombe Canada - Vocation Director

#### **Quit Arguing**

Full disclosure: sometimes I have a really hard time relating to Mary and Joseph.

That may be alarming for you to hear. You might even find it a bit irreverent. (Or, who knows? Maybe you're relieved to hear someone else say what you've secretly been thinking, yourself.)

But it's true.

Let's be honest. The fact that they were the earthly parents of Jesus means they're well out of my league to begin with. Oddly enough, I can live with that part. God picked them and not me for a reason – they'd have been infinitely better at raising the Son of God than I ever would have been. (I'm pretty sure that neither Mary nor Joseph would have let Jesus eat Cheetos that he found under the fridge.)

But it's the stuff leading up to the birth of Jesus that I struggle with most. We know the story: when the angel shows up and tells Mary that she's going to bear God's Son, she asks one question, and immediately answers, "Let it be done to me according to your word" (Lk 1:38).

# FOOD COLLECTION

January 21st & 22nd



In this Sunday's gospel (Mt 1:18-24), Joseph responds in much the same way when the same sort of thing happens to him. An angel appears to Joseph in a dream, and tells him that the baby his fiancée is carrying is from the Holy Spirit, and that he really should take Mary as his wife after all. And then Matthew tells us that "When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the Angel of the Lord commanded him."

This is where it becomes clear to me that, Cheetos notwithstanding, I wouldn't have been on the parental shortlist. Because God knows I'd have argued. Lots. I'd have pointed out that the timing wasn't right. I'd have asked if there was an easier way to do it. I'd have complained that it was too hard. I'd have declared the plan unrealistic. I'd have insisted that if I had to do it, it was going to be done my way.

Every time it appears that God has some sort of plan in mind for me, I throw a bunch of excuses up, complain that's really rather inconvenient, sulk if it's not what I had in mind, and sometimes just flat-out refuse. And this is why I often have a hard time relating to Mary and Joseph: they both immediately said 'yes'.

I often find myself wondering how they did it. No arguing. No quibbling. No excuses. Was it really that simple? Did the gospel writer leave out six paragraphs' worth of anxiety? Was a three-hour conversation edited out? What it was that made their yeses so easy?

Emmanuel.

God is with us.

Emmanuel means we don't have to do it alone. It's our in our nature to want to be certain about things. We want to know unequivocally that things will work out. We all want a sense that God is with us in some way. But sometimes we forget that if God has a plan, God is here to help with it. God is here to be part of it. God is with us. And I think that's it... that's how Mary and Joseph said yes. They trusted that if God was going to lead them to it, God would also be with them through it.

The deep and abiding message of salvation history is that if we pause long enough, if we stop arguing with the angel long enough to take a look around and a look within, we will find that God <u>is</u> with us. And when we truly are aware of it, when we truly trust that God is with us, it makes the yeses a little easier.

Mary said yes.

Joseph said yes.

As our Advent journey brings us ever closer to Bethlehem, may we find it a little easier to relate to Mary and Joseph, as the angel's reminder of "Emmanuel" gives us the courage to say 'yes', too.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (Romans 1:7)

By Darcie Lich Vocation Team – Oblate Associate (306) 220-0527 dlich@sasktel.net

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

### **CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

Penitential Service — December 14<sup>TH</sup> 7:00 PM

Christmas Eve Carol Service — December 24<sup>TH</sup>
4:30 PM, 6:30 PM, 8:30 PM & 11:30 PM

Christmas Eve Masses — December 24<sup>TH</sup> 5:00 PM - Family Mass 7:00 PM

9:00 PM - with Gospel Artist Marcus Mosley
12 Midnight

Christmas Day Masses — December 25<sup>TH</sup> 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Feast of the Holy Family — December 30<sup>TH</sup> 10:00 AM & 7:00 PM (NO 8:00AM MASS)

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God December 31<sup>ST</sup> 5:00 PM January 1<sup>ST</sup> 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 5:00 PM

Epiphany of the Lord Sunday Masses

January 7<sup>TH</sup> 5:00 PM

January 8<sup>TH</sup> 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 5:00 PM

Baptism of the Lord — January 9<sup>TH</sup> 10:00 AM & 7:00 PM (NO 8:00AM MASS)

December  $26^{th}$ , December  $27^{th}$ , and January  $2^{nd}$  - 10:00 AM Mass Only After Mass hospitality will resume after the Christmas Break

		ty or have an address or telephone change, please fill out the parish office or drop into the collection basket. please print in
☐ New Parishi	oner 🛭 Need I	Envelopes 🔲 Information Change
First Name		First Name
Spouse First Name		Spouse Last Name
Children: Name(s) & Dat	e of Birth	
Mailing Address		
City	Phone	
Postal Code	Email	
Comments		

## **Parish Information**

**PASTOR** 

Rev. Ignacy Warias, OMI 604.736.4455 x 227

iwarias@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 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

#### **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

Andrew Roznicki 604 733-5529

CWL (CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE)

Samantha Strudwick 604.255.1662

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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

ADULT FAITH

Clara Lum 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

Kathryn Arab ya@staugustineschurch.ca