

December 17 2023
 Third Sunday of Advent

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911



Third Sunday of Advent

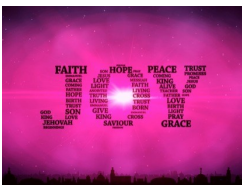
In the first reading, the writer declares that he has been sent by God to usher in the age of salvation for Jerusalem and all God's people. Jesus used this prophecy to announce the program of his own ministry.

The subject of the Gospel is the same as that of last Sunday: the witness of John the Baptist to Jesus. John summons all to faith in Jesus. He declares that he himself is not the light, and tells the people that unrecognized by them the light (Jesus) is already present among them.

In the second reading Paul takes a very practical line, telling the Thessalonians how they should live as they await the second coming of Christ.

The Third Sunday of Advent is known as "Gaudete Sunday."

Why is the third Sunday of Advent known as Gaudete Sunday?



Its name is taken from the entrance antiphon of the Mass, which is: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near." This is a quotation from [Philippians 4:4-5](#), and in Latin, the first word of the antiphon is *gaudete* (Latin, "rejoice")

What significance does this have?

Advent is the season of preparing for the arrival of the Lord Jesus (both his first coming and his second coming), and by the third Sunday of Advent, we are most of the way through the season.

Thus it is appropriate to rejoice as we see the goal of the season approaching: "The Lord is near."

This Week

Monday, December 18

7:00pm Mass Int Paul & Pilar Klimczak
 7:30pm Meeting Knights of Columbus Executive
 7:45pm Meeting Catholic in Recovery

Tuesday, December 19

6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group (Virtual)
8:00am Mass +Dino Geronimo
 6:30pm Meeting Parish Religious Education (PREP)
7:00pm Mass +John Boulton

December 20

8:00am Mass Int Clara Lum & Brian Hunt
 7:00pm Meeting Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)
7:00pm Mass +Yuet-sheung Wan

Thursday December 21

8:00am Mass +Guy de Charentenay
7:00pm Mass
 7:45pm Taizé Prayer Evening

Friday December 22 *Parish Office Closed @ 12 Noon*

8:00am Mass +Joan Weston
9:15am Mass St. Augustine's School
7:00pm Mass Int Liana Pulice

Saturday December 23

8:00am Mass
5:00pm Mass +Dominga Jimenez

Sunday December 24

9:00am Mass For Parishioners by Missionary Oblates
11:00am Mass +Eddie Johnny

Christmas Eve Masses

5:00pm Mass For Parishioners by Missionary Oblates
9:00pm Mass
12:00am Mass Int for a family

Caroling begins 30 minutes before Christmas Eve Masses.



OFFERTORY

We are grateful for these gifts
Sunday: \$11,862.98

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



Christmas & New Year Mass Obligation Year 2023

Christmas and New Years Day -which is the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God - both fall on Monday this year and are

Holy Days of Obligation when Catholics are required to attend Mass.

December 24th - being a Sunday -we are required to fulfill our Sunday Obligation before 4pm in **addition** to attending a Christmas Mass in the evening or on December 25th.

December 31st we need to fulfill our Sunday obligation

January 1st – Solemnity of Mary Mother of God – *Holy Day of Obligation*

In short – “one Mass cannot count for both Sunday and the Christmas or New Year’s “.

RCAV 2023



Thursday, December 21st 7:45 PM to 9:00 PM

Taizé is an ecumenical Christian monastic community in Burgundy, France. The music of the community is simple and reflective, sung repeatedly and in harmony. The community's services consist of this music, punctuated by Scripture readings and silence. You are invited to pray by singing, listening and reflecting.

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.

St. Augustine's Knights of Columbus Council 8319



Annual Charity Appeal

Car & Cash Prizes

Totaling over \$100,000

TICKETS

1 for \$5, 10 for \$20 & 50 for \$50



Limited tickets, please buy and support our parish council
Purchase your tickets online Sales End December 16th

Visit: <https://kofcdraw.net/c8319>

Cancelled Stamp Collection Box



Please save your used stamps and drop these off from time to time in the stamp box in the foyer for the Archdiocese Vocation Fund. All stamps have value and are gratefully received.

Email Fraud Warning

Our parish has received multiple reports from parishioners and priests who have fallen victim to recent **Internet email phishing scams**. Imposters, posing as priests and using email addresses that are similar to those of our priests, have been emailing people asking for personal donations, gift cards, and other forms of financial assistance.



Never respond to emails requesting gift cards, or any other form of personal financial assistance, even if it appears to be from a priest, deacon, religious, parish staff or bishop. If you have any doubt, please contact the sender by other means to verify any requests

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 or 604-670-4217.

FOOD COLLECTION

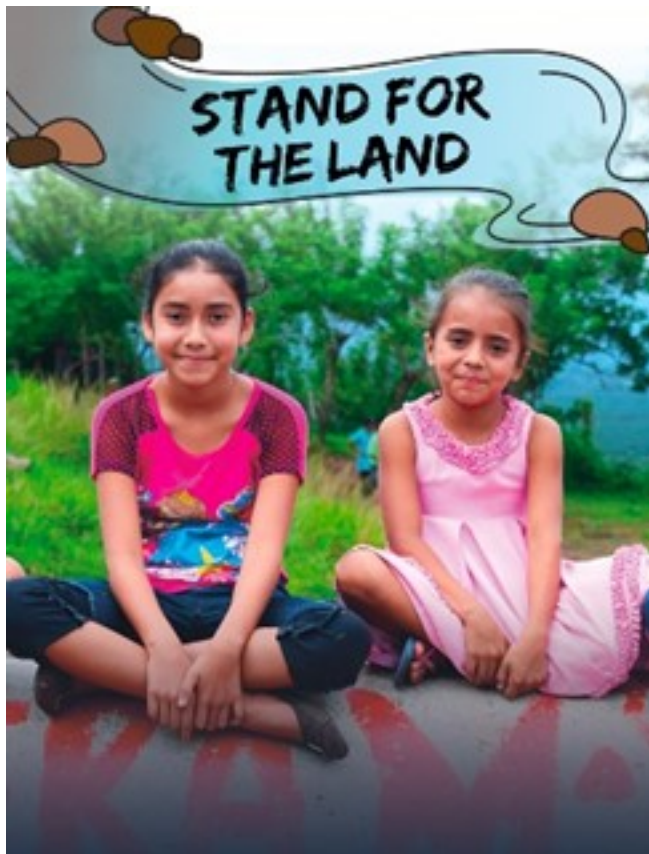
January 20 & 21 2023

"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.



Social Justice

Thank you for *standing for the land*

Thousands of Canadians [signed the letter](#) in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in Honduras who are protecting their water and fighting for their rights.

The **Create Hope – Stand for the Land** campaign aims to collect **32,000 signatures by February 25, 2024**. A delegation of Development and Peace – Caritas Canada members and staff will then meet with the Honduran ambassador to Canada to show our support and solidarity.

On behalf of all those struggling to preserve their land, their water, their culture and their lives, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada thanks you for your continued commitment and mobilization. Together, we are building a world of justice.

To **sign our petition** and to continue supporting our campaign, visit devp.org/act.

To **become a member** and support our mission, visit devp.org/joinus.



We are thrilled to invite you to be a part of our upcoming **Catholic Educators Conference** as a valued vendor partner that will be held on **Thursday, February 15, 2024**, at the prestigious **Vancouver Trade and Convention Centre, located in the heart of downtown Vancouver, BC**. Our event promises to be a fantastic platform for showcasing and promoting your products and services to a diverse and engaged audience.

For more information on how to become a vendor and sponsor of the event, please visit the following link:

<https://cisva.regfox.com/cec2024>

Catholic Educators Conference

cecregistration@cisva.bc.ca

Becoming Servants

Isaiah, Mary, Paul and John the Baptist invite us to become servants of the Lord with them. Each one calls us to trust in God's loving care, which in turn will enable God to work through us to accomplish what God wishes to accomplish in our world. As we look at each one, we can only marvel at how their simple "yes" transformed the world in some way.

Isaiah opened his heart and his life to the Spirit of the Lord, who transformed him into a symbol of hope and joy for God's people, bringing hope and peace to a people downtrodden and without direction. We hear Isaiah's words so often during Advent, where he sings of the great things God will do; healing the broken-hearted, healing those who are lacking wholeness in some way (the deaf, blind, mute, lame, poor) and promising a new beginning. Isaiah not only proclaimed God's promise, but he lived it in his own life and ministry.

Mary's song of thanksgiving, the Magnificat, echoes some of Isaiah's words in the first reading. By her simple yes, she helped transform the world, bringing the Messiah to birth in our world as one of us. By her yes, Mary put herself at the service of God, who chooses to manifest in a new and wonderful way the loving relationship with us that God desired at the time of creation. While Mary's yes might seem a simple act, it continues to transform the world through those who respond to Jesus' call to continue to build the Kingdom here in our world. Her yes is a radical response to her trust in God's love and invites us to respond in like manner.

St. Paul also challenges us with his admonition to "rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances" and the promise that "the one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this." Paul's life was upended when he encountered the Lord on the road to Damascus. From that point, his life was never the same again and he spent his life travelling through Asia Minor and Greece and finally, Rome, announcing the Good News and building the Kingdom. When Paul speaks of his trials along the way, one can only marvel at the trust Paul had in God's love for him and in the guidance of the Spirit.

Isaiah, Mary, Paul and John the Baptist remind us that God does great things, not just once, a long time ago, but continually, among and through us. How are we called to respond to allow God to do great things for us and through us?

Richard Beaudette, OMI

Vocation Team

613-806-3435

Vicar1@omilacombe.ca



CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

4th Sunday of Advent

December 23RD 5:00PM

December 24TH 9:00AM & 11:00AM

Christmas Eve — December 24TH

Carol Service 4:30PM Family Mass 5:00PM

Carol Service 8:30PM Mass 9:00PM - with Gospel Artist Marcus Mosley

Carol Service 11:30PM Mass 12 Midnight

Christmas Day Masses — December 25TH

9:00AM & 11:00AM

Feast of the Holy Family — December 30TH & 31ST

December 30TH 5:00PM

December 31ST 9:00AM & 11:00AM

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

December 31ST 5:00PM

January 1ST 9:00AM, 11:00AM, & 5:00PM

December 26th & January 2nd - 10:00AM Mass Only

The Parish Office will be closed December 26th & 27th

After Mass hospitality will resume after the Christmas Break

Pope's Prayer Intention for December

For persons with disabilities— We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

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. 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

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

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

Kathryn Arab ya@staugustineschurch.ca