

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE

A Samaritan Church with a Missionary Heart

2486 West 14th Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44113
(216) 781-5530
(216) 781-1124 Fax

Website: www.StAugustineCleveland.Org

Parish Office Hours:

Monday thru Friday: 9 AM to 5 PM
Saturday: 9 AM to 4 PM
Sunday: 9 AM to 2 PM

Community Cupboard:

Wednesdays: 5 PM to 7 PM
Saturdays: 11 AM to 2 PM

Mass Schedule:

Monday thru Friday: 5:30 PM
(Civic holidays at 10 AM)

Saturday: 4:15 PM*
Sunday: 8:30 AM* and 11 AM*

*Interpreted for the Deaf

Confession: Saturdays 3:30 PM – 4 PM or
by appointment

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
SUNDAY, JULY 24, 2022



Staff and Ministry Directory

For all Parish emails, add @StAugustineCleveland.org

Administrator: Rev. William O'Donnell, C.P.P.S, *email:* WODonnell

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Ben Jimenez, SJ, *email:* BJJimenez

Permanent Deacon: Chris DePenti, *email:* CDePenti@DioceseofCleveland.org

Parish Administrator: Bob Duda, *email:* BDuda

Finance Manager: Aldo Fierro, *email:* AFierro

Office Manager: Doris Everetts, *email:* DEveretts

Office Support: Kimberly Ambro, *email:* KAmbro

Director of Rainbow Camp and Volunteers: Jessica Neuhart, *email:* JNeuhart

Religious Education: Kathleen Ulintz, *email:* PSR

Deaf Ministry: *email:* DeafMinistry

Blind Ministry: *email:* BlindMinistry

Mental Health Ministry: MentalHealth

Outreach Ministry: *email:* Outreach

Augustine Rainbow Camp: *email:* ARC

Signing Choir: *email:* SigningChoir

General Information: *email:* Info



Parish Registration – Welcome new members! Please register by calling the parish office. Parishioners who are moving are asked to contact the office to update their information

Baptism – Baptisms may be scheduled at any time. Please call the parish office to make baptismal arrangements.

Funerals – Please call the parish office to schedule funerals prior to publishing any information.

Matrimony – Call the parish office to meet with a priest. Diocesan regulations require a minimum of 6 months preparation time.

Care of the Sick – Notify the parish office of those who are hospitalized or homebound. Arrangements can be made for pastoral visits, the Sacrament of the Anointing or the Sick. We can also bring Holy Communion to the homebound.

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

As God's children, we are all invited to ask God for whatever we need, from our daily bread to forgiveness for our trespasses. We are reminded of this every time we pray the Lord's Prayer, but today's readings speak to this as well. Gathered here today to listen to God's word and share in the Eucharist, let us be consoled in the knowledge that there is no limit to the generosity of a God who willingly sent the Son to suffer and die for us.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, July 23 rd - 4:15 PM	† Bob Bencic Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ
Sunday, July 24 th - 8:30 AM	† Annabelle King Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.P.P.S
Sunday, July 24 th - 11 AM	† Bernard Balchak and Terice Escott Fr. Joe McNulty
Monday, July 25 th - 5:30 PM	† Winifred Duncan <i>St. James, Apostle and Martyr</i>
Tuesday, July 26 th - 5:30 PM	† Grandparents <i>Sts. Joachim and Ann, Parents of Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
Wednesday, July 27 th - 5:30 PM	† Charles Johnson <i>St. Innocent I, Pope</i>
Thursday, July 28 th - 5:30 PM	† Dagmar Amrhein <i>St. Alphonsa, Religious, 1st native woman Saint of India</i>
Friday, July 29 th - 5:30 PM	† Julia Morgan <i>Memorial of Martha, Mary, and Lazarus</i>
Saturday, July 30 th - 4:15 PM	† Sr. Miriam Fidelis Fr. Joe McNulty Pinchot, OSU
Sunday, July 31 st - 8:30 AM	† Fermina Lopez Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ
Sunday, July 31 st - 11 AM	† David and Sarah Gabb Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.P.P.S

**Our Father
Who art
In Heaven,
Hallowed
Be thy name.**

**Thy Kingdom Come, Thy will be done, on earth
as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those**

**who trespass
against us.
And lead us
not into
temptation.
But deliver
us from evil.
For thine is
the Kingdom,
And the Power,
And the Glory
forever and ever.
Amen**

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Cor 4:7-15; Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6;
Mt 20:20-28

Tuesday: Jer 14:17-22; Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13;
Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday: Jer 15:10, 16-21; Ps 59:2-3, 4, 10- 11,
17, 18; Mt 13:44-46

Thursday: Jer 18:1-6; Ps 146:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab;
Mt 13:47-53

Friday: Jer 26:1-9; Ps 69:5, 8-10, 14; Jn 11:19- 27 or
Lk 10:38-42

Saturday: Jer 26:11-16, 24; Ps 69:15-16, 30-31,
33-34; Mt 14:1-12

Sunday: Ecc 1:2; 2:21-23; Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14
and 17; Col 3:1-5, 9-11; Lk 12:13-21

Welcome!

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church, no matter your personal history, age, income, background, gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity or spirituality, or marital situation. No matter your own self-image of holiness or virtue. You are invited, accepted, and respected here at St. Augustine Parish.

*Loving God,
For all who feel on the margins,
but who are at the center of your heart,
we ask you to open our hearts.
Help us to become a church and a nation
where:*

***All lives have dignity,
All people are loved
And all are welcome.***

Amen

Love without Measure...

Today's first reading from the Book of Genesis is one of my favorite passages in all the scriptures. It describes Abraham interceding before God on behalf of Sodom. I do not know of any other scriptural passage that more succinctly defines our relationship to God and the importance of prayer. The narrative unfolds like a drama, perhaps even like an extended comedy routine with increasing tension.

Abraham has a strategy. If he can get God to agree to spare Sodom for a certain number of just people, he can push God to reduce the number Abraham succeeds in persuading God to spare the city for fifty just people. But, knowing this would be difficult to find fifty good people in Sodom, he keeps lowering the number. He moves from fifty, to forty-five, then forty, then thirty, then twenty, then ten. His boldness and his persistence are amazing. With each verse the tension rises. We think ourselves, "quit while you're ahead!" We expect God at each request to say, "No! Enough! I've given too much already!" But none of that happens. Verse by verse, Abraham succeeds, so God agrees that only a handful of just people are necessary to spare all of Sodom.

Now this passage points to the importance of prayer. Our whole prayer tradition is an inheritance from Judaism, and this passage is one of its most brilliant expressions. Abraham is not afraid to ask God for what he wants. He does not hold back or stand on ceremony. Far from being reserved or polite, he attacks the conversation with God with an aggressiveness that can only be compared to a customer bartering with a merchant in a Near-Eastern bazaar. His example shows us that we are not only called to pray, but called to pray with our whole heart and soul. We are called to pray as if our life and the life of others depended upon it. Therefore, the intensity and the self-interest with which Abraham prays poses to us a fundamental question.

To place the question more directly I would simply ask, "Do you pray?" I am not asking whether you say prayers (we all do that) but do you pray? Do you entrust to God some of the needs of your life with anything approaching the intensity and the sincerity of Abraham? I would be willing to bet that many of us seldom pray in that way. I think that most of us think we are not worthy of God's attention or that there are others who are in greater need. Even when there are needs in our life, serious needs, I think we are inclined to trust that things will work out eventually, or what the case is so often, we kick the can down the road. But we do not turn to God and actually ask, "God, help me."

Both the Jewish and Christian traditions speak against such reluctance. What we are asked to do is to pray regularly and with our soul. What we are asked to do is entrust our deepest needs to God and believe that God will value the prayer that we offer. We are asked to believe that God is both Creator and Savior, and that our life is really in God's hands. We believe all of those things in our head, but it is only in prayer that they move from head to heart.

What would we pray for? We are able to choose. One of the great advantages of prayer is that it allows us to identify what is most important to us. We can pray for our children, our spouse, our partner. We can pray for a remission of cancer. We can pray for a peaceful death. We can pray for world peace or that our marriage would heal, depression relieved. We can pray for family or friends who are incarcerated and for the tragic number of young people who are struggling with addiction. We can pray for a reduction of violence, a meaningful job, and the end of COVID 19 and all the diseases that plague mankind. We can choose any need in our life or in the life of the world. But it is not enough to identify such needs. We must actually ask God to help us. It is in vocalizing our needs and desires that they become prayer.

But I must make a confession. Many times, when I pray most intensely, it is due to the fact that I have not done my part. As a student I prayed many times to pass a test when I did not study and prepare, as I should have. And the examples are numerous. Someone once said to me that God will not do for you what you can do for yourself. God so respects our freedom and our abilities.

Now prayer of course is not magic. If we could pray for a new Lexus and get one tomorrow, everyone would pray all the time. Prayer is an act of faith. It is entrusting our life, our deepest needs to God and believing that God will honor our request. Prayer is essential. Without prayer you cannot be a faithful Jew or Christian. Without prayer, all the things we believe are really just words. They are never entrusted to God in a real relationship. Jesus knows this. This is why as a good Jew he teaches us, "Ask and you will receive." Notice he does not say you will receive what you ask for. But he does say you will receive. You will receive what God gives you, and what God gives you will be good.

Abraham then is our model. Identify some good thing, and trust God enough to ask for it. The outcome is in God's hands, but the request and the way to offer it is in yours. So, ask with all your hands, but the request and the way to offer it is in yours. So, ask with all strength. You may receive peace for your family, welcome and acceptance for who we truly are and the ability to live transparent lives, restored health, or the hope to go on and simply take the next step. Don't hold back. Together we may save Sodom.



Thank You Greg Evers, C.P.P.S

This week Greg Evers, C.P.P.S will be concluding his summer ministry with us. He generously shared his time and talents with our Augustine Rainbow Camp. Please keep him in your prayers as he prepares for his transitional diaconate ordination on August 20, 2022.



Augustine Rainbow Camp

Another season of Augustine Rainbow Camp ended this past Friday with an all-camp talent show. If you were unable to join us in person, or would like to watch the talent show again, please visit the parish website at www.StAugustineCleveland.org.

A sincere **Thank You** to our donors and the dedicated volunteers and staff who have worked tirelessly to ensure our children had a safe and fun-filled summer experience.

We will miss seeing and hearing these young boys and girls singing and laughing with their friends. May you enjoy the rest of the summer and hope to see you next summer for another camp season.



The **St. Augustine Community Cupboard** (Food Pantry) is **open** on **Saturdays from 11 AM - 2 PM** and **Wednesdays from 5 PM - 7 PM**.

As we continue to serve the needs of our neighbors, we are in need of the following items:

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| Toilet Paper | Canned Meat |
| Paper Towels | Ketchup |
| Laundry Detergent | Mustard |
| Dish Soap | Mayo |
| Coffee | Dog Food |
| Tea | Deodorant (Men and Women) |
| Sugar | Hand Soap (Pump Bottles) |
| Creamer | Body Wash (Men and Women) |
| Flour | Shampoo |
| Kleenex | |
| Boxed Potatoes (Instant, Au Gratin, Scalloped, etc.) | |

Items can be dropped off during Parish office hours, at Mass, or during the Community Cupboard shopping hours.

We are in need volunteers to help during the hours the pantry is open. If you are interested, please contact the parish office by calling (216) 781-5530 or at OutreachMinistry@StAugustineCleveland.org.

Inspiration for the Week

Ultimately, what does God promise to give us when we pray? The short answer to that question is God. God promises to give Himself to us in prayer. Prayer is about union with God, not receiving favors. When God comes to us in prayer, His presence comes with faith, hope, and love. When we find these virtues enhanced and nurtured, we know that our prayer has been heard and answered. When we seek out, listen to, and live by these virtues we find ourselves led back to God and more united with the Divine Presence. We struggle with what we want God to do and how we want our prayer validated. That's what makes Jesus' prayer, the Our Father, so perfect. It celebrates a deepening intimate relationship of trust between our Creator and us. When we persistently cry out for God in love, how can that prayer go unanswered?

Counters Needed

We are looking for individuals willing to assist us in counting our weekly collections on Monday mornings. If you are available for approximately an hour and half one Monday every couple of months, please contact the parish office at (216) 781-5530.

St. Augustine Signing Choir

The Signing Choir will **resume practicing on Wednesday, August 3rd at 6:30 PM**. Anyone interested in joining the choir, with or without experience, should call the parish office at (216) 781-5530 or by email at SigningChoir@StAugustineCleveland.org.

PSR (Parish School of Religion) Catechists Needed

Have you ever thought about sharing our faith to others? Would you like to give back to the community but have not figured out how to help?

PSR is in need of volunteer catechists for the 2022-2023 school year.

As you discern this calling, please contact Kathleen Ulintz at (216) 781-5530 or by email, PSR@StAugustineCleveland.org.

The Fest



Make sure you mark your summer calendar for Sunday, August 7th for the highlight of the summer season The F**EST**. This year, our 22nd Annual Catholic Family F**EST**ival will be a great 'homecoming' as we all come back together for a day of faith, family, and fun all for **FREE** at the Center for Pastoral Leadership in Wickliffe. We have an amazing lineup of national Christian bands/artists, along with engaging activities, inspiring displays and presentations, and tasty, flavorful summertime food.

It's The F**EST** on Sunday, August 7 from 12 noon until 8 PM. Bishop Malesic will bring us all together in prayer for an inspiring outdoor Mass starting at 8 pm followed by the 'best' American Fireworks display of the summer. It's the perfect family day. It's close to home and easy access for everyone. Check out all the details at: www.theFEST.us.

Pray the Rosary



We invite you to join us **every weeknight** (Monday thru Friday) at **6 PM** in the church as we pray the rosary. If you are unable to join us in person, we encourage you to join us on livestream

Continued prayers for Arthur Tyler

It is with a heavy heart that I report the Parole Board for Arthur Tyler denied his request, 3 to 6. They have sent their findings on to the Governor for his decision. He can agree with the Board, or overturn the decision and set Arthur free, whichever he chooses. Arthur is sad, but he is determined to finish the recovery program he is now enrolled in to prepare for the future. Please pray that, for whatever reason, the Governor's heart will be touched and he will set Arthur free. To send words of encouragement to Arthur: Arthur Tyler #A175-637 Grafton Correctional Institution, 2500 Avon Belden Rd. Grafton, Ohio 44044. Thank You!

Peace, Pat Takacs
Parishioner



St. Augustine's has a long history of celebrating our history, parish family, and community around the time of Saint Augustine of Hippo's Feast Day. Over the years we have come to appreciate

Parish Day and most recently The Great Month. As this year's committee began discussions it was quickly agreed upon to try something new this year. As a result, we are excited to announce our evolving plans.

Friday, August 26, 2022
Our Famous Steak Roast with
 Classical Music by Chris McGee

6 PM to 8 PM (Reservations Required) *
 \$25/person for steak dinner
 \$20/person for chicken dinner



Saturday, August 27, 2022
Live Music Under the Tent

1-4 PM
 Swamp Boogie Band
A Classic Rock, R&B, and Blues Band

5-8 PM
 Change Your Evil Ways
A Santana Tribute Band



Sunday, August 28, 2022
Picnic Under the Tent
 12-7 PM
 Music ♦ Games ♦ Food

*Tickets for our steak roast will be available in the back of church after Mass or by calling the parish office at (216) 781-5530

As for any parish event it is only as successful as you make it. So, you are encouraged to help by volunteering and participating. Volunteer opportunities will be posted soon so be sure to sign up early for your desired time slot before someone else beats you to it.

We are also accepting donations of new items that can be used as prizes for our children and adult games. Items can be brought to Mass or the Parish Office during office hours.

For more information, please contact Bob Duda at (216) 781-5530 ext. 31 or by email at BDuda@StAugustineCleveland.org.

Thank you for supporting this annual parish celebration

Stewardship of Treasure

We are deeply grateful for your generosity in your weekly contribution to St. Augustine Parish. Your kindness and support enable us to provide for the needs of our parish and community. The collection for the weekend of July 17, 2022, was \$2,548.45. Thank you.



We live stream the Saturday 4:15 PM Mass, the 11 AM Mass on Sunday, and the weekday Rosary on the parish website, Facebook Page, and YouTube Channel. A live audio feed will be available for the Saturday 4:15 PM Mass the 11 AM Sunday Mass, and the praying of the Rosary. To access the audio feed, please call (216) 270-6331 prior to mass/rosary and enter code 2020 when prompted.

Calling All Gardeners

We have received many compliments on the beautiful flowers on our grounds. Unfortunately, keeping the flower beds thriving and weed free takes time and dedication. Do you have a little free time during the week to water the flowers and possibly pull weeds? If so, please contact the parish office at (216) 781-5530.



Sunday Thought

In this week's Gospel, Jesus tells us that whenever we pray, we should have the utmost confidence that our prayer will be heard and answered. Yet why does it seem that this is often not the case? The answer to our question is also contained within today's Gospel passage. Earlier in the passage, we are told what all our prayer petitions should consist of when we pray. In the "Lord's Prayer", we voice a series of petitions that must be the heart of every prayer a Christian prays. The coming of God's kingdom into each person's life is the heart of our request. It encompasses all that we ultimately need as Jesus' friend and companion. Our difficulty is that we often hope for lesser things to fill the hole within us that only God and His kingdom can fill. Since God has made us for Himself, He will never deny our request to be one with Him. Consequently, whenever we are united with Him, both our blessings and our needs take on their proper perspective. Our blessings will fill us with the profoundest gratitude and our crosses will challenge us to love God even more than we presently do.

"Prayer doesn't change God; it changes me."

A colleague asked C.S. Lewis if he really thought he could change God with his prayer for the cure of his wife's cancer. Lewis replied: "Prayer doesn't change God; it changes me." William McGill summed it up this way. "The value of persistent prayer is not that God will hear us but that we will finally hear God." Keep in mind that Jesus has taught us to address God as Father. A loving Father listens to his child, but does not blindly endorse every request. Instead, the loving Father provides what is needed, including discipline. Bishop Sheen has this comment on prayer: "The man who thinks only of himself says prayers of petition. He who thinks of his neighbor says prayers of intercession. He who thinks only of loving and serving God says prayers of abandonment to God's will, and that is the prayer of the saints." To pray is not to impose our will on God but to ask God to make us open to his will; in other words, we pray not to change God's mind but for God to change ours.

The Our Father is the "summary of the whole Gospel" (Tertullian) and it is the "perfect prayer" (St. Thomas Aquinas). "The Lord's Prayer is the most perfect of prayers... In it we ask, not only for all the things we can rightly desire, but also in the sequence that they should be desired. This prayer not only teaches us to ask for things, but also in what order we should desire them." (St. Thomas Aquinas, as quoted in Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2763)

Say It in Sign

Sign language classes for beginners will be offered in the fall. Our fall session will be held during the day. The exact day and time have not yet been determined. To pre-register or for more information on the fall class, please contact Bob Duda at (216) 781-5530 or at BDuda@StAugustineCleveland.org.

Prayer: Persistent and Persevering

In the second part of today's Gospel, by presenting the parable of a friend in need, Jesus emphasizes our need for persistent and persevering prayer, acknowledging our total dependence on God. In the ancient Hebrew world, hospitality was the essence of one's goodness. To welcome a visitor without food and drink was unthinkable. A traveler who was traveling in the evening to avoid the heat of the afternoon, might well arrive late at night. But the villagers used to go to bed early, as they had no electricity. So, in this parable, when a man received unexpected guests late at night and found his cupboard bare, he went to his neighbor and woke him in order to borrow a loaf of bread. In those days, people generally slept in one room, the children bedded down with the adults. Rising to answer the door would disrupt the whole family and hence the neighbor was reluctant to get up. Finally, however, because of the persistence of his guest, he got up and gave bread to his neighbor.

This parable does not mean that God is a reluctant giver. Rather it stresses the necessity of our persisting in prayer as the expression of our total dependence on God. Persevering in prayer helps us to purify our prayer, to make clear to ourselves our values and hopes, and to lead us to ask for what is really in our very best interests. St. Paul tells us to "pray without ceasing" (Romans), "pray at all times" (Ephesians), "be steadfast in prayer" (Colossians), and "pray constantly" (Thessalonians). Jesus assures us, "Knock and the door shall be opened."



Ohio Sales Tax Holiday is back again this year! That means Ohioans won't have to pay sales tax on purchases of clothing and footwear priced up to \$75 per item, as well as, school supplies and instructional materials priced up to \$20 per item. Consumers can buy as much as they want of eligible items, as long as the retail price for each item does not exceed the limit. The sales tax holiday applies to both online and brick and mortar retailers, for purchases made from 12:01 a.m. on Friday, August 5, 2022 to 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, August 7, 2022



Parish School of Religion (PSR)/CCD

St. Augustine's Parish School of Religion is currently registering students for faith formation and sacramental preparation. Classes begin in September on Monday evenings. Students from pre-school through

eighth grade are welcome. Visit St. Augustine Parish website at www.StAugustineCleveland.org or call the parish office at (216) 781-5530 for more information.

Family Perspective

Today in the Gospel, according to Luke we hear Jesus teaching us the "Our Father". We also get to hear about persistence in our prayer life through the parable of the man knocking in the night asking for bread. May of the indicators through this week's readings are that we serve a merciful God. God is merciful in such a way that Jesus says, "ask and you will receive; see and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." What seems very important to point out is that sometimes we humans knock on the wrong doors and the merciful Lord sees a clearer path and we do. Perhaps we should pray to just follow God's will, which means to pay attention to the Holy Spirit and pray often, remaining in love itself. This week, as we go forth, may we see your merciful hand working in our lives, Lord.

Altar Servers Needed

Is God calling you to serve as an Altar Server at Mass? Altar Servers perform not just functional roles but a symbolic role.

The actions of those who serve near the Altar and the Word of God do more than we think, and the way children and adults serve can lead people closer to God. All children, youth and adults who have received Holy Communion can be called to serve in this beautiful ministry of Altar Server.

If you would like to serve in this way, please contact the parish office at (216) 781-5530.



Cursillistas will gather for Ultreya on **Saturday, August 13th at 10 AM** in Walsh Hall. Cursillistas are invited to gather, pray, and share personal stories about living a life in God's Grace on the second Saturday of every month.

"Never give up!"

Years ago in Illinois, a young man with six months schooling and self-education competed in the state and national elections nine times and got defeated six times. First, he ran for an office in the legislature when he was 23 and was beaten. Next, he entered business with a partner but failed in that too, and spent the next seventeen years paying the debts of his worthless partner. He fell in love with a charming lady and they became engaged, but she died. The next year he had a nervous breakdown. Relying on the power of prayer, he ran for the post of Speaker (at 29), of Elector (at 31) and for a seat in Congress (at 34). He was defeated each time. He then tried to obtain an appointment to the U.S. Land Office as commissioner, but didn't succeed. He became a candidate for the Vice-Presidency and lost. Two years later he was defeated in an election to the Senate (at 46). He ran for office once more and was elected the sixteenth President of the United States in 1860 when he was 51. That man was Abraham Lincoln who put his trust in the power of persistent prayer coupled with never-fading Faith in God's goodness. It took Winston Churchill three years to get through the eighth grade, because he couldn't pass English! Ironically, he was asked many years later to give the commencement address at Oxford University. His famous speech consisted of only three words: "Never give up!"

In today's Gospel, after teaching the Lord's Prayer, Jesus instructs us that we should never give up in our prayer life.

Mississippi Roe v. Wade

The recent ruling by the Supreme Court of the United States overturning Roe v. Wade was received with varied emotions throughout the country. The cries of people supporting individual choice and the cries of people supporting life have not been silenced. For some, it has just intensified. What one sees as a victory another may see as a defeat.

We, as Catholic Christians, must respond with the compassion and mercy of Christ. We must respond with action and service and not just rhetoric and scripture. We truly need to be a support to our neighbor from the womb to the tomb.

We need to be mindful of the reasons why someone may have had an abortion. Regardless of where we stand on the issue, Christ calls us to respond with love. For no one is beyond forgiveness and reconciliation with God.

I think our response to this historic decision is beautifully told to us by St. Teresa of Avila:

*Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are they eyes which He looks compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which He walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are His body
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.
Let's be the compassionate Christ that we encounter every day in
each other and in the Holy Eucharist.*



Bob Duda



A Prayer in every Stitch

The soon-to-be grandmother begins knitting a sweater for her grandchild coming into the world. In the choice of yarn and design and color, she welcomes this special gift of God. In every stitch are all her prayers for a safe delivery, for the good health of her daughter, for a life of joy and a future of meaning and fulfillment for the newest member of her family, for the grace and wisdom to be a good grandmother to this child. The sweater itself becomes her prayer for the safety and well-being of mother and child, an offering of love, a ritual welcoming this new life into her family. [Adapted from *The Knitting Sutra: Craft as a Spiritual Practice* by Susan Gordon Lydon.]

Prayer, Jesus teaches, is not something that moves us from outside of our lives but should come from within our lives. Prayer is to realize God's presence in the joys and discoveries, the messiness and frustrations of our lives as parents, children, professionals, workers, citizens, students and teammates. To truly understand the words of Jesus' prayer in today's Gospel is to approach prayer as a connection between the compassion of God and the love we experience in our lives, between God's forgiveness and the forgiveness we extend, between the holy creativity of God and the work we do for our daily bread. Prayer is to be conscious of God's grace in every moment of our lives, an awareness of God's love in our midst in both the bread of the Eucharist and the lunch we make for our families, in the waters of baptism and the laundry, in the precious moments for quiet reflection and the rambunctious joy of playing with our kids.



World Day
for Grandparents
and the Elderly
2022

Today we celebrate the 2nd World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Below is an excerpt from Pope Francis' Message. The complete message is available at: <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/nonni/documents/20220503-messaggio-nonni-anziani.html>

Dear Friends,

"In old age they will still bear fruit" (Ps 92:15). These words of the Psalmist are glad tidings, a true "gospel" that we can proclaim to all on this second World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. They run counter to what the world thinks about this stage of life, but also to the attitude of grim resignation shown by some of us elderly people, who harbour few expectations for the future.

Many people are afraid of old age. They consider it a sort of disease with which any contact is best avoided. The elderly, they think, are none of their concern and should be set apart, perhaps in homes or places where they can be cared for, lest we have to deal with their problems. This is the mindset of the "throw-away culture", which leads us to think that we are somehow different from the poor and vulnerable in our midst, untouched by their frailties and separated from "them" and their troubles. The Scriptures see things differently. A long life – so the Bible teaches – is a blessing, and the elderly are not outcasts to be shunned but living signs of the goodness of God who bestows life in abundance. Blessed is the house where an older person lives! Blessed is the family that honors the elderly! Old age is not a time of life easily understood even by those of us who are already experiencing it. Even though it eventually comes with the passage of time, no one prepares us for old age, and at times it seems to take us by surprise...

Old age is no time to give up and lower the sails, but a season of enduring fruitfulness: a new mission awaits us and bids us look to the future...

Many of us have come to a sage and humble realization of what our world very much needs: the recognition that we are not saved alone, and that happiness is a bread we break together. Let us bear witness to this before those who wrongly think that they can find personal fulfillment and success in conflict..."

Beware! Church Text Message Scam

Have you received a suspicious text or email from Fr. Bill (or any church employee) requesting that you purchase gift cards on their behalf or loan them money? If you have—or receive something similar in the future—know that these DID NOT come from him (or any church employee). Cyber scammers, who are targeting Catholic parishes and schools throughout the nation, are victimizing parishioners and parents. Perpetrators use various techniques to gain the trust of a victim and may provide specific instructions, which if followed, could result in monetary loss to the victim. Do not become a victim. If in doubt, call the Parish Office at St. Augustine to authenticate the message. Do not respond to any message if you doubt its origin; just delete it.

Saint James the Apostle

Feast Day: July 25

Saint James the Apostle is also called James, son of Zebedee, or James the Greater to distinguish him from the other James in Jesus' group of twelve. Most of what we know about Saint James is recorded in the New Testament. He and his brother John were collected by Jesus along the sea of Galilee. Matthew 4:18-22 tells the story of Jesus calling first Simon Peter and his brother Andrew and then the sons of Zebedee. In Mark 3:17 the brothers receive a nickname from Jesus who calls them "sons of thunder" because of their many extreme reactions, like that in Luke 9:54 when they offer to call down fire on a Samaritan village.

Saint James was part of Jesus' intimate circle, a witness to the Transfiguration, the resurrection of Jarius' daughter, and the agony in the Garden of Gethsemane. In A.D. 44 Herod Agrippa had "James, the brother of John, killed by the sword." (Acts 12:2) He is the only apostle whose martyrdom is written in the New Testament.

According to Spanish tradition, his body was taken to Santiago de Compostela, Spain where his relics were rediscovered in 9th century. This tradition has sometimes been attributed to a passage in the Song of Roland which tells of St. James appearing to Charlemagne in a dream, prophesying that Charlemagne would conquer the Moors in Spain. This was followed by a vision of stars which if followed would lead to the saint's lost tomb. In the Middle Ages Compostela was a hugely popular pilgrimage site. The saint's relics continue to rest in the cathedral there and one can still undertake the pilgrimage.

This Week's Events of the Parish

- Monday:** Links Council Meeting: 3 PM (Walsh)
 Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)
 Rosary: 6 PM (Church)
 AA Meeting: 7:30 PM (Mylott Hall)
- Tuesday:** AA Meeting: 9:30 AM (Walsh Hall)
 Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)
 Rosary: 6 PM (Church)
 AA Meeting: 7:30 PM (Mylott Hall)
- Wednesday:** LINKS: 4 PM
 Community Cupboard: 5PM-7PM
 Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)
 Rosary: 6 PM (Church)
 AA Meeting: 6 PM (Mylott Hall)
 Signing Hands: 6:30 PM (Deaf Center)
- Thursday:** Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)
 Rosary: 6 PM (Church)
 Parish Celebration Meeting: 6:30 PM (Rectory)
 Boy Scouts: 6:30 PM (Second Floor)
 AA Meeting: 7 PM (Mylott Hall)
- Friday:** LINKS: 4 PM
 Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)
 Rosary: 6 PM (Church)
 AA Meeting: 7:30 PM (Mylott Hall)
- Saturday:** Community Cupboard: 11 AM – 2 PM
 Mass: 4:15 PM (Church)
- Sunday:** Mass: 8:30 AM and 11 AM (Church)

On the Lighter Side

A man's prayer: "Lord, controlling my tongue is no problem; it's my face that needs deliverance!" ☺

<i>July 23rd and 24th</i>			
	<i>Saturday 4:15 PM</i>	<i>Sunday 8:30 AM</i>	<i>Sunday 11 AM</i>
Priest Deacon	Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ (H)	Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.PP.S (H) Deacon Chris DePenti	Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.PP.S (H) Deacon Chris DePenti
Lectors	Dave Dilyn	Peggy Gerovac	Colleen Cassidy Priscilla Treska
Extraordinary Ministers of the Blessed Sacrament	Helen Bencic		Jill McNulty
<i>July 30th and 31st</i>			
	<i>Saturday 4:15 PM</i>	<i>Sunday 8:30 AM</i>	<i>Sunday 11 AM</i>
Priest Deacon	Fr. Joe McNulty (H) Deacon Chris DePenti	Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ (H)	Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.PP.S (H) Deacon Chris DePenti
Lectors	Michelle Rivera	Matthew Cook	Jean Mendis Sr. Regina Fierman, CSA
Extraordinary Ministers of the Blessed Sacrament	Migdalia Santiago-White	Bob Duda	

H: Homilist