

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

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, January 15, 2023



Parish Office Hours:

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

Community Cupboard and Closet:

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

Staff and Ministry Directory

For all Parish emails, add @StAugustineCleveland.org

Administrator/Chaplain to the Blind: Rev. William O'Donnell, C.P.P.S., *email:* WODonnell

Parochial Vicar/Chaplain to the Deaf: Rev. Ben Jimenez, SJ, *email:* BJimenez

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

Parish Life 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 Access Co-Ordinator: Robin McMarlin, *email:* RMcMarlin

Deaf Ministry: *email:* DeafMinistry

Blind Ministry: *email:* BlindMinistry

Mental Health Ministry: *email:* 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.



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

We call this period of the liturgical year “Ordinary Time,” but this time after Christmas is not ordinary at all, for it is now that we learn about the first days of Jesus’ public life. In today’s Gospel, John testifies that the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus when John baptized him, meaning that the Holy Spirit joined in Christ’s entire mission. The Holy Spirit descended upon us in our own baptism as well. May we be conscious of that divine presence as we join in Christ’s mission during our own ordinary time.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, January 14 th - 4:15 PM	† Robin Zarembski
Fr. Joe McNulty	
Sunday, January 15 th - 8:30 AM	† Chappelle Letman
Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.P.P.S	
Sunday, January 15 th - 11 AM	† Dennis Broz
Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ	
Monday, January. 16 th - 5:30 PM	† Earl Seifert
Tuesday, January 17 th - 5:30 PM	† Rosemary Roberts
St. Anthony, Abbot	
Wednesday, January 18 th - 5:30 PM	† Jack McMarlin
Thursday, January 19 th - 5:30 PM	† Lorette Treska
Friday, January 20 th - 5:30 PM	† Charles Johnson
St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr	
St. Sebastian, Martyr	
Saturday, January 21 st - 4:15 PM	† For All Souls in
Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ	Purgatory
Sunday, January 22 nd - 8:30 AM	† Skip McKenna
Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ	
Sunday, January 22 nd - 11 AM	† Petro Duda
Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.P.P.S	

The Pope's Intention for January: For Educators

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6; Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34

Monday: Heb 5:1-10; Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4; Mk 2:18-22

Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20; Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9, 10c; Mk 2:23-28

Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17; Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4; Mk 3:1-6

Thursday: Heb 7:25 — 8:6; Ps 40:7-8a, 8b- 9, 10, 17; Mk 3:7-12

Friday: Heb 8:6-13; Ps 85:8, 10, 11-12, 13-14; Mk 3:13-19

Saturday: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14; Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8 -9; Mk 3:20-21

Sunday: Is 8:23 — 9:3; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17; Mt 4:12-23 or 4:12-17

Welcome!

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church, no matter your personal history, age, income, background, gender, disability, 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

Thomas Merton was a Trappist Monk living the most part of his religious life in Gethsemani Kentucky. He entered the monastery as a young man three days after the bombing at Pearl Harbor that began the Second World War in the United States. Merton became a world-renowned monk writer, mystic, social critic, poet, artist and photographer and a pioneer of interreligious dialogue. His autobiography, *The Seven Storey Mountain*, has become a spiritual classic for our time and is only book of our time considered a spiritual classic. He died tragically in an electrical accident in 1968. However, his influence as a profound witness of faith and spirituality continues to this day.

Thomas Merton once said, "If you want to know who I am, do not ask me where I live or what I like to eat or how I comb my hair, asking me what I am living for." It is terrifying question, isn't it? What am I living for? It invites us to face our deepest value. It calls us to name that which directs our lives. In Merton's question a second question is implied: "Is what I am living for enough?" enough to warrant the life that I have been given.

So as we return to ordinary time, I would like to invite us to consider this critical question as this the beginning of a new year. What are we living for? What force is directing my life? There are probably many people here today who are considering imminent choices about their futures or about a career change. There are no doubt people are here confronting life issues and choices that they may have been avoiding up to now.

John the Baptist might help us as we struggle with Merton's question, because John the Baptist is very clear about what he is living for. He is living to be part of God's plan for the world. John that God was going to send Jesus to save us. John understood that he had a role to play to that plan. So, all that John did, his teaching, his work in the desert – were all aimed at bringing the plan to fruition. As it says in the gospel "I came baptizing with water so that he might be known to Israel," John points to Jesus and says, "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world." That's all that John needed to do, because that is what he was living for.

Today's gospel invites us to understand that the lives we live have a part to play in God's plan for the world. Whatever job we accomplish, any learning experience we have, good or challenging, is simply not about making a living or survival although at times that may seem an achievement enough. It is about how we do plays into God's plan for the world. It is God's plan that what we do makes the world a better place. And this provides ultimate purpose and meaning in our lives. Retirement is not simply a time to rest. The times and opportunities of retirement are meant to be for God's purpose. I often notice that many religious communities of men and women when they are announcing the retirement do so as new assignment calling them to a ministry of prayer and reflection.

Discovering how we can use our experience and talents in new ways to serve God can be deeply satisfying. Enjoying more time with family cannot only enrich us but it can be part of God's

plan in forming family members especially little ones. And as they are enriched and formed so is society enriched and blessed. Remember the old saying, "It takes a village to raise a child." It's true.

When we choose to use our talents and opportunities as part of God's plan, we find a deeper meaning for living. God is willing to use our simple actions for his own good purpose. That is something worth living for. And this can be enough to enrich us because there is no greater joy than being able to participate in God's plan to love and save the world.



Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them, O Lord

Donald Lutz
Longtime Tremont resident

Madeline Chappell-Hampton
Mother of James Howard (Christina)

Martha Kisiel
Parishioner and Mother of Frank Kisiel, Jr.

Helen Hauser
Parishioner



Mary's Rosary Guild of the Deaf

Mary's Rosary Guild of the Deaf invites you to their annual Welcome Lunch on January 22nd from 1-3 PM. The luncheon will be held in the Deaf Center. The cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. Please RSVP by January 15th to Maria Rivera at (216) 370-7141.

Cleveland Catholic Deaf Community Retreat

Just as Lent begins, the Cleveland Catholic Deaf Community (CCDC) will have a retreat on Saturday, February 25, 2023. Our retreat will be led by Fr. Shawn Carey, a deaf priest, from Boston. The theme is: Shield of Hope. You all are welcome to attend the retreat in the Deaf Center followed by 4:15 pm Mass in St. Augustine Church. Please join us to strengthen our spiritually and love for one another. Please contact CCDC at (216) 370-7722 or 1946CCDC@gmail.com for more information. Details of the retreat will follow in the near future.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

January 18-25 is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. It has a history of over 100 years, in which Christians around the world have taken part in an octave of prayer for visible Christian unity. By annually observing the WPCU, Christians move toward the fulfillment of Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper "that they all may be one." (cf. John 17:21)

According to the World Council of Churches and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity Joint Commission on the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, the theme for this year is from Isaiah 1:17, "Do good; seek justice." The entire scriptural passage for the theme is Isaiah 1:12-18, lamenting a lack of justice among the People of God. Yet, it also promises redemption by encouraging acts of justice.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity gives Christians an annual opportunity to continue their quest for the unity they already share in Christ. It is also a time to gather in praise of the Triune God and to deepen the understanding of the ecumenical movement. By joining in this annual celebration Christians raise their voices, hands and hearts to God seeking the fulfillment of the prayer of Jesus, the Son of God, "that they all may be one."

The Week of Prayer also invites those who participate to use it as an opportunity to examine the effectiveness of the ecumenical movement in seeking to end the divisions among Christians. From the smallest to the largest communities, from all cultures, races and language groups, from all the baptized to all those in ordained ministry, the Week of Prayer is also an opportunity to ask and examine the level of support they have given to this important movement in the life of the Church. An accounting of each Christian's discipleship and faithfulness to the proclamation of the Gospel—the good news of reconciliation—can be taken every year during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Calling to mind our common Christian commitment to justice and mercy, we pray that the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, January 18-25, 2023 will be full of moments of conversion of heart through our ecumenical encounters, so that "all may be one."

Pray the Rosary



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

St. Augustine Seniors 50 and over

The St. Augustine Seniors will gather on Thursday, January 26th at 12 Noon in Walsh Hall. We will have a speaker from Better Healthcare for Seniors. New members are always welcome.

Parish and Finance Council Meeting

There will be a joint council meeting on **Monday, January 23, 2022** at 7 PM in the Deaf Center. Please note the date change due to the MLK holiday.

John bore witness to the Lamb of God?

John bore witness to the Lamb of God John Sculley, former head of Apple Computer tells about his first encounter with Tom Watson, the man who made IBM into one of the world's great corporations. Sculley left Pepsi Cola to take the presidency of Apple. It was not an easy transition. During a time of tremendous pressure Sculley received an invitation from Watson to come to Watson's home. During the weekend, Sculley was most impressed by Watson on many levels but particularly by his modesty and by how genuinely interested he was in Apple. Watson seemed confident that Sculley's company would get over their problems. "As long as Apple can continue to innovate and hold together the things it believes in, it will pull through," Watson told Sculley. Sculley said it was the word of encouragement he needed coming from a man he greatly admired.

John did the same thing for his disciples by identifying Jesus as the "Lamb of God." The central theme of today's readings is a challenge to live like the Lamb of God and to die like the Lamb of God. In both the first and second readings God calls individuals to His service. The Gospel passage presents three themes, namely, John's witness to Jesus, Jesus' epiphany and identification as the "Lamb of God," and the call to discipleship. Those who are called gradually accept the identity of the One who calls them. Like John the Baptist, we may choose to accept today's Gospel as a personal and corporate call to become witnesses to the Lamb of God.

Sunday Thought

Our Gospel today speaks about recognizing the identity of Jesus Christ as God's only begotten Son. For John the Baptist this recognition required an act of God. While we have not been given this extraordinary help, we have not been left out completely. The scriptures often speak of "open ears" as standard equipment on any Christian. This simply means a willingness on our part to hear the voice of God in our daily situations through the indwelling power and presence of the Holy Spirit. Our lives are made up of many events, both big and small, and it is through these daily happening we hear the whisper of the divine. It is here that we must maintain an open ear. Obedience to this request means to listen to what is really going on in our lives. I must try to become present to the thoughts, feelings, and cares evoked by the events and people in my daily life and see how Jesus walks among them today.

Mass for Life

This coming Friday, January 20th, the annual Mass for Life will be celebrated at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist at E. 9th St. & Superior Ave., (Cleveland) at 10:00 A.M. The Office for Human Life invites students, families and people across the Diocese to come and celebrate the dignity and sanctity of ALL human life at this special liturgy.



Cursillistas will gather for Ultreya on **Saturday, February 12th 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.



Parish School of Religion

Due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, PSR classes will not be in session. We will resume our regular schedule on Monday, January 23rd at 5:30 PM.

If you have not yet registered your child for faith formation and sacramental preparation, please visit St. Augustine Parish website at www.StAugustineCleveland.org, email us at PSR@staugustinecleveland.org, or call the parish office at (216) 781-5530 for more information.

. Inspiration for the Week

John the Baptist had been told that he would see the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world. He listened, he believed, and he kept his eyes open. He was ready when God revealed the truth. Let's ask ourselves: are our eyes open? Are we ready?

St. Augustine Buckeye Deaf Seniors

St. Augustine Buckeye Deaf Seniors will gather in the Deaf Center on Tuesday, January 23rd at 10 AM for their regular meeting. New members are always welcome.



The **St. Augustine Community Cupboard** 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 seeking volunteers to assist in restocking shelves and assisting shoppers on the days we are open. In addition, 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

We have also created an **Amazon Wish List** which can be found on our parish website, www.StAugustineCleveland.org.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact the parish office by calling (216) 781-5530.

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 January 8, 2023 was \$1,887.75.00. Thank you for your generosity.

Counter Team B is scheduled this week on Tuesday.

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and The Civil Rights Movement

Since the time of the founding fathers, our country has been blessed with citizens who have had the courage to rise to the challenges of their day and call their fellow citizens forward in the unending task of building an ever more just nation. The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is one such figure who directed his work toward both the structural and personal causes of racism and whose witness continues to inspire work to transform our communities today.

Martin Luther King, Jr., was born on January 15, 1929. He was the son and grandson of pastors at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta. In King's youth, he attended racially segregated public schools in Georgia. A bright young man, King graduated from high school early, at only fifteen years old, and he went on to study at Morehouse College in Atlanta, receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1948. He then studied further at Crozer Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania and Boston University, earning his doctoral degree from the latter in 1955. While studying in Boston, King courted and married Coretta Scott. They went on to have two sons and two daughters. King served as the pastor of the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama, and labored as an advocate for civil rights for black Americans.

As one example of his witness on civil rights, in December of 1955, King helped to organize and lead the blacks of Montgomery, Alabama, to boycott the city's buses, which were segregated. This became known as the Montgomery Bus Boycott, and it lasted for just over a year, into December of 1956. During the Montgomery Bus Boycott, King was jailed, his home was bombed, and he underwent significant mistreatment. However, he never relented and, in December of 1956, the U.S. Supreme Court declared that it was unconstitutional to segregate buses.

The Gospel was at the core of King's rhetoric, as can be seen in his many sermons, writings (such as his "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," in which he notably quoted prominent Catholic saints Augustine of Hippo and Thomas Aquinas), and speeches (such as his famous "I Have a Dream" speech at the March on Washington in August of 1963). Until his assassination on April 4, 1968, King spoke out against numerous injustices in society, particularly those stemming from racial disharmony. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., stands as a figure whose legacy includes fostering racial harmony, and who witnessed to how the Good News of Jesus Christ underscores our inalienable human dignity, which God has bestowed on every one of us. This resource and many others are available at www.usccb.org/racism

Job Opening

We are accepting applications for a full time Director of Liturgy and Music as defined by the Second Vatican Council. The appropriate candidate will be a trained in Catholic Liturgy and Sacraments, a competent church organist, develops and directs the Church Choir and helps support through music the growth of church ministries to be welcoming and inclusive, a central dimension of our parish mission. Interested applicants should contact Bob Duda at BDuda@staugustinecleveland.org or (216) 781-5530 ext. 31.

2023 Mass Book

The 2023 Mass Book is now available for parishioners requesting Mass intention for the year 2023. Mass requests can be made by contacting the parish office or by mail. Please include your name, address and phone number on your request so that we can contact you if any adjustments need to be made.



Time for RCIA Invitations

Just a reminder that RCIA is intended for:

- Unbaptized adults
- Adults who have been baptized into a non-Catholic denomination,
- Adults who have been baptized but never received first Eucharist or Confirmation

For more information or to give a name, please contact the parish office at (216) 781-5530.

Family Perspectives

John testifies that Jesus is the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." John's work was to prepare the people of Israel to receive Jesus, and in today's Gospel, we start to see the very beginning of Jesus' public ministry. In describing Jesus as the lamb, John was subtly revealing how Jesus' public ministry would end. Jesus would ultimately die to take away the sin of the world. By Baptism, we are made children of God and called to testify to the truth of Jesus Christ- that He is the one who takes away the sins of the world. We are to follow John's exempt and by our life's testimony make the way for others to receive Jesus. *Father in Heaven, send your Holy Spirit upon us and strengthen our resolve to give testimony to the salvation of your son, Jesus Christ. Amen*

Church Stations of the Cross

When you came into church today you may have noticed that our Stations of the Cross are gone. This past week Henninger's removed our Stations for restoration. The Stations will be cleaned and remounted. The frames will be repaired and painted. We are expecting them to be completed by Holy Week.

Spaghetti Dinner

Mary's Rosary Guild of the Deaf will host a spaghetti dinner fundraiser on Sunday, February 26, 2023 from 1-3 PM in the Deaf Center. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for children. Take out will be available. Please RSVP by purchasing tickets or by contacting Jo Ann Whigham at (216) 370-7661 VP or the parish office at (216) 781-5530. All proceeds will benefit the 60th anniversary celebration being planned for Mary's Rosary Guild of the Deaf.

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 Terry Hogan at the parish office at (216) 781- 5530.

Help Wanted

Free training. Convenient hours. No pay- but the benefits are out of this world. One of the reasons we come to Mass is to be united with Christ, and the best way to be one with Him is through Holy Communion. Which we cannot receive without Eucharistic Ministers. In other words.....we need you!! If you are feeling called to join this vital ministry, please contact Bob Duda at (216) 781-5530 or at BDuda@staugustinecleveland.org

On the Lighter Side

My neighboring pastor put sanitary hot air hand dryers in the restrooms at his church and after two weeks took them out. I asked him why and he confessed that they worked fine but when he went in there he saw a sign that read, "For a sample of this week's sermon, push the button." ☺

Community Closet



Our Community Closet allows individuals to come and "shop" for clothing, bedding, and footwear items.

During the winter months there is a higher need for winter coats, boots, hats and gloves

The Community Closet is open on Wednesdays from 5 to 7 PM and on Saturdays from 11 AM to 2 PM.

For more information or to volunteer please contact the Parish Office at (216) 781-5530 or email, outreach@staugustinecleveland.org.

Lector Training Session

Following each Mass the weekend of January 21st and 22nd, Fr. Ben will have a lector training session for our new lectors and those interested in being a lector. If you are already a lector and would like a refresher "course" you are invited to join.

Holy Moments

A Handbook for the Rest of Your Life

Please find a complimentary copy of Matthew Kelley's most recent book, Holy Moments, available in the back of the church. A generous individual has provided our church with a copy for you to take home. Feel free to take more than one if you know someone who can benefit from this wonderful gift.



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 and enter code 2020 when prompted.

“Come and See”

William Willimon, professor at Duke Divinity School, remembers when a friend of his visited the Soviet Union in the 1970s. Upon his return he announced that the Church behind the Iron Curtain was mostly "irrelevant because the only people there are little old ladies." Dr. Willimon writes, "Looking back now at the col- lapse of Communism, the difficulties of rebuilding the Soviet Union after a long period of spiritual bankruptcy, I hope my friend would now say, 'Thank God for the little old ladies. Their existence provided a continuing, visible, political rebuke to the Soviets.'" (William H. Willimon). It would be wonderful if our prayer and witness were as effective as the prayers and witness of those little old ladies. It would be wonderful if our witness, like Andrew's, was effective enough to challenge another Simon Peter.

That is our task, and what a joyous, challenging task it is. Having found Christ, or more correctly having been found by Christ, we find others, which they, too, may "come and see." The essence of our witness-bearing is to state what we have seen and believed and then to invite others to "come and see." For John, Faith begins by responding to the invitation to "come and see." Three times Andrew brings someone to Jesus! First, he brings his brother, Simon (1:40), then, a boy with five barley loaves and two fish (6:8); and finally, "some Greeks" (12:20-22), who want to see Jesus, which signals the hour for the Son of Man to be glorified. We tell others about good restaurants, barbers, optometrists, etc. Why isn't there the same fervor over inviting and encouraging people to come and participate in our Church activities? Often we hesitate to do so because of the false notion that talking about religion is taboo in our culture, or that religion is a private matter and shouldn't be shared with others, or that we don't have much of a personal Faith to share, or that our worship services would not be appealing to others. One of the differences that Faith should make in our lives is the desire that others -- especially those without a religious Faith -- might also share in and benefit from the relationship God offers through Christ. If we are not willing to invite others into this experience, what does that say about our experiences with Christ and with our Church?

More Help Wanted

Did you know that the Mass is actually a double communion with Christ? Through the Eucharist, of course, and through the Word. And you can help!!

By proclaiming the scripture readings at Mass, our Lectors make it possible for us all to have a personal encounter with God.

Sound interesting to you? If you are feeling called to join this vital ministry, please contact Bob Duda at (216) 781-5530 or at BDuda@staugustinecleveland.org.

Protecting God's Children

The Diocese of Cleveland's "Protecting God's Children" program is a continuing effort to instruct and inform everyone about the protection of children from sexual abuse. To report any past or present suspected inappropriate behavior toward children by priests, deacons, religious, lay ecclesial ministers or personnel associated with the Church, please contact the Diocesan Response Service Office at (216) 334 -2999 or via email at response_services@dioceseofcleveland.org. You are also asked to immediately inform local authorities about inappropriate behavior.

John the Baptist, the Essene preacher

When John's parents died, he may well have been still too young to be on his own. Zechariah and Elizabeth had been very old when John was born, so that would not have been a surprise, but apparently seems to have been done to prepare for it just the same. According to tradition, the rest of the family had gone north to Nazareth because of political problems, and John, left alone, was taken in by a group of old men who lived in a little village down by the Dead Sea. The place was called Qumran, and the men were known as the Essenes. No one agrees just where the Essenes came from originally, but most agree that they had come to Qumran to get away from the "corruption" they believed was taking place in the Temple in Jerusalem. You could say they were religious fanatics, who spent the days and nights copying Scripture with its prophetic scrolls about how one day God was going to send His Messiah and flush that filth right out of Jerusalem. Since many of them were un- married, it was common for them to "adopt" homeless children and raise them, teaching them to continue the Essene lifestyle. One of those homeless children may well have been the young boy John. Years later, when he appears just a few miles north of Qumran, he preaches, "Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand!" These are Essene words, pure and simple. Even when he became a popular preacher, John had the humility to acknowledge and introduce Jesus as "the Lamb of God" and the expected Messiah.

Grief Support

Catholic Cemeteries Association provides free monthly Grief Support groups in two formats: In-Office (3 PM) and Virtually (5 PM) via Zoom. The next Grief Support sessions are **Sunday, Jan. 15th** Meetings are open discussion format, surrounding a monthly topic or whatever is in your heart. This month's topic is "Facing the New Year with Hope and Love". We offer a comfortable, private, and safe environment where you are free to explore your grief. Come and be in the presence of those who understand.

We will meet from 3- 4:00 PM in the main office at the following locations:

Holy Cross Cemetery, 14609 Brookpark Road

All Saints Cemetery, 480 W.Highland, Northfield

Saint Joseph Cemetery, 32789 Detroit Rd., Avon

Register for 5-6 PM Virtual Grief Support meeting:
<http://bit.ly/ccavirtualgriefsupportgroup>.

You can join virtually from any WiFi enabled area via computer, laptop, smartphone, or even without WiFi (via audio only) from your phone. If you do not have WiFi or email, please contact Rhonda (number below). Your RSVP for both In-Person and Virtual Grief Support is appreciated but not required to attend.

For more info or if you have questions, please contact Rhonda: 2169304866 or email rabrums@clecem.org

St. Augustine Signing Choir

The Signing Choir will resume practicing this Wednesday, January 18th at 6:30 PM in the Deaf Center. New members are always welcome.

St. Hilary of Poitiers

Feast Day: January 13th

How does a pagan man eventually become one of the most important Christians of his time? The story of St. Hilary helps us to see that God can and does work through each one of us.

Hilary was born in Poitiers, France, sometime around the year 300. His parents were very wealthy and made sure he received a good education. Hilary was raised as a pagan. Pagans worshipped many gods. That did not make sense to Hilary. He thought that there could only be one true God. To learn more, Hilary read the Scriptures. Meeting Jesus in the Gospels and learning what Jesus taught about God the Father changed Hilary's heart. He was baptized and became a Christian.

Hilary was married and had a daughter, so it was surprising when he was chosen to be the Bishop of Poitiers. But in those days bishops were chosen by local priests and approved by the people. Hilary was respected for his intelligence and his modesty. People thought that he would make a good leader.

At that time, a priest named Arius was preaching that Jesus was not truly God. This was a heresy, or false teaching, but many people, including the emperor, began to believe in Arius' preaching. Hilary opposed Arius' ideas and spoke out against him. He wanted everyone to know that it is through Jesus, God's only Son, that we are saved. The emperor punished Hilary by sending him away to a part of ancient Greece that is today known as Turkey.

Hilary made good use of his four years in exile. He wrote important books and sermons about the Blessed Trinity, and he composed hymns that expressed the beliefs of our faith. When he was finally permitted to return to Poitiers, the people gathered in the town square to cheer him. He spent the rest of his life writing and preaching. He died around 368 and was named a Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius IX in 1851.

This Week's Events of the Parish

Monday: 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: 3 PM (Walsh Hall)
Signing Choir Practice: 6:30 PM (Walsh)
Signing Hands: 6:30 PM (Deaf Center)
Community Cupboard: 5 PM-7PM
Community Closet: 5 PM-7 PM
Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)
Rosary: 6 PM (Church)
AA Meeting: 6 PM (Mylott Hall)

Thursday: Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)
Rosary: 6 PM (Church)
Boy Scouts: 6:30 PM (Second Floor)
AA Meeting: 7 PM (Mylott Hall)

Friday: LINKS: 3 PM (Walsh)
Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)
AA Meeting: 7:30 PM (Mylott Hall)

Saturday: Community Cupboard: 11 AM – 2 PM
Community Closet: 11 AM – 2 PM
Mass: 4:15PM (Church)

Sunday: Mass: 8:30 AM (Church)
Mass: 11 AM (Church)
MRGD Welcome Lunch: 1-3 PM (Deaf Center)

<i>January 14th and 15th</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. Bill O'Donnell, C.PP.S (H) Deacon Chris DePenti	Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ (H)
Lectors	Michelle Rivera	Peggy Gerovac	Jean Mendis John Kowalchik
Extraordinary Ministers of the Blessed Sacrament	Bob Duda Robin McMarlin Helen Bencic	Maria Rivera Leo Smith	Nora Kowalchik Jeannie Rawlings Frank Scialabba
<i>January 21st and 22nd</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. Ben Jimenez, SJ (H)	Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.PP.S (H) Deacon Chris DePenti
Lectors	Rick Toth	Matthew Cook	Kate Slosar Lin Janson
Extraordinary Ministers of the Blessed Sacrament	Theresa Ortiz Migdalia Santiago-White Calvin White	Debbie Sollars Kathy Yarmock Pat Abraham	John Kowalchik Sue Scialabba