

ST AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Information@StAugustineOH.org

Rev. Paul Pluth, JCL, Pastor

www.StAugustineOH.org

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

15 November 2020

The Fog of Worship

Mike Kerrigan, Wall Street Journal, 5 November 2020

I've never minded wearing eyeglasses to see distances, as I must. Contact lenses always felt too invasive, while the potential side effects of vision-correction surgery frightened me.

Never, that is, until the coronavirus era. It became clear, so to speak, during a recent Sunday Mass. Because I wear a mask to church, I have about a quarter-minute of altar visibility before breathing renders my spectacles useless. Thus I remove them when seated in the pews and focus on listening to the homily.

When it came time for the Communion Procession, I put my glasses back on and took my place in line. The altar amble took about 15 seconds, and, on receiving the Eucharist, two thoughts entered my mind. First, God is good. Second, as Steve Winwood, then-of-fittingly—Blind Faith, put it, I can't find my way home.

Through fogged-up lenses, what once was familiar suddenly seemed sinister. The serpentine ropes cordoned off socially distant rows with praetorian efficiency, but also duped the dim-sighted in a forest of pew after empty wooden pew.

Panicking, I committed to the wrong row as I lost my way in the fog, instantly realizing "right church, wrong pew" is more than an idiom. This was certain when the iPhone I'd counted on for dead reckoning wasn't on the bench where I expected it to be. I felt like Henry Fonda picking strawberries in "On Golden Pond," the moment he realized he was lost.

A kinder, older parishioner guided me back to my original seat. He seemed to enjoy applying the "do a good turn daily" script by helping someone so seemingly able-bodied across the proverbial street. Nor was it the day's last lesson in humility.

Two rows behind me was my good friend Greg, the sharp-witted type you hope doesn't see you when you trip on the street. He witnessed everything, and whispered to me a prayer from the Irish-Catholic hymnal: Get your, ahem, stuff together.

I have never experienced the fog of war, but I have endured the fog of worship. I wouldn't wish it on anybody.

Sit, Kneel or Stand? What To Do at Mass

Here in the Pacific Northwest, everyone does their one thing during Holy Communion. Sit, kneel or stand? All three are happening at the same time!

To bring unity to our worship, Archbishop Etienne has legislated new laws for what to do at Holy Communion, based on the universal law, the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM)*.

Effective Saturday, November 28, Archbishop Etienne requires

1. After the *Holy, Holy* we kneel until after the *Amen* of the Eucharistic Prayer.
2. After the *Lord's Prayer* and *Peace*, we remain standing during the *Lamb of God*.
3. After the *Lamb of God*, we kneel until we go forward for Holy Communion.
4. When we return to our places after Holy Communion, we may kneel or sit.

EXCEPTIONS

At St Mary and in the Parish Hall at St Augustine, because we have no kneelers, you are **not required to kneel** (*GIRM* 43).

In these places, it is appropriate to stand from the *Holy, Holy* through receiving Holy Communion, after which you may sit.

If you prefer to **kneel** during the Eucharistic Prayer and again **after the *Lamb of God***, that is your choice.

In any place, it is **improper to sit** during the Eucharistic Prayer, unless you are unable to kneel or stand.



Thanksgiving Day Mass Thursday, 9 am, November 26

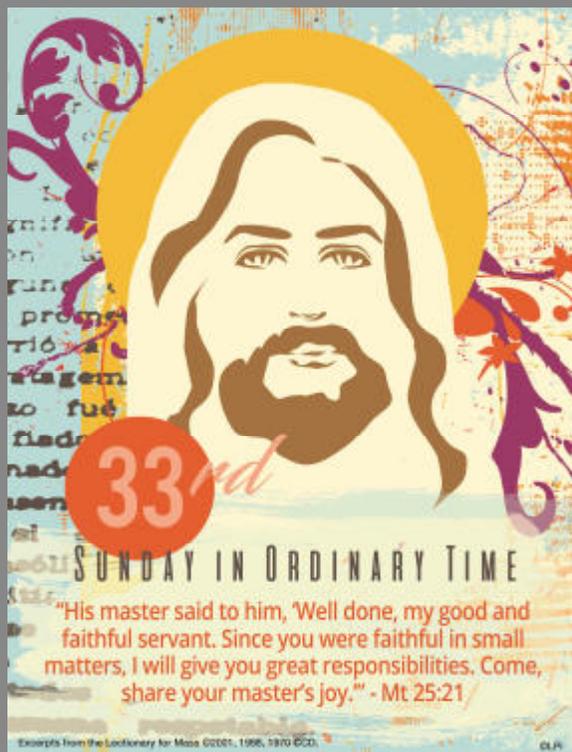
Reservations are required to attend the Mass. Please make your reservation between November 23 and November 25. Wearing a mask and social distancing will be strictly observed.

The Thanksgiving Day Mass will be livestreamed to our Facebook page: St Augustine Catholic Church and later on posted to our website at www.staugustineoh.org

Please bring non-perishables to be donated to Help House.

Next Baptisms are scheduled for February 13 (subject to change depending on Covid19 restrictions)

Baptism class is scheduled on January 9, Saturday from 9:00 am to noon on Zoom. Call Peggy Smith at 360-675-2303 ext. 5 to register, where you will receive instructions about the Zoom classes.



No Common Ground On Abortion Question

We all have laws we must follow - even minors have specific laws. Minors need parental consent to have their ears pierced. Minors need parental consent before care givers can give them an aspirin or their prescribed medicine. Minors need parental consent to go into the military. Minors need parental consent to marry. Why then, is Planned Parenthood so against parental consent before they perform abortions on minor girls? I will tell you why - they will lose money! Planned Parenthood is big business.

Good parents would never allow their daughter to have an abortion if they were aware of her situation! There is one law some people seem to have forgotten. It is one of God's Ten Commandments: 'Thou shalt not kill.' His laws were given to us all for all time. His laws remain unchanged, not subject to our whims or convenience. They supersede all earthly laws. God is our ultimate judge.

There is no common ground here. You are either pro-life or pro-death. A baby is a gift from God to be loved and cherished - not to be thrown back in His Face. A baby has a right to life and a right to expect that we, our judges and our laws, will protect them.

Ruth Weber, Davenport Iowa

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture



God gives us the gift of His very self and asks us to invest it. Investing God's greatest gift of Himself wisely, allows God's kingdom to grow and flourish. God trusts us with this pearl of great price in hopes that it will produce abundant fruit. While God's gift of self is realized into the gifts of faith, hope, and love, they are not meant to be solely for personal benefit. They are intended to be shared and are at the heart of Jesus' blueprint for happiness, the Beatitudes.

When we properly invest God's greatest gift, His most treasured possession, we invest in the wellbeing of all of our brothers and sisters and the world in which we live. We take up most seriously our call to be stewards and properly manage, not only our own affairs, but the affairs of those around and before us. God has put tremendous confidence in us. Do we have that same confidence in God?

We often go the extra mile and put in the additional effort when it comes to those concerns closest to us; our families, friends, careers, home and securities. But when it comes to things that are not as close to us, we can become lax and less conscientious. Tending to God's treasure requires a great deal of focus and persistent hard work. It demands that I see the bigger picture, God's picture, in which self-sacrifice is a given as we labor for the establishment of God's kingdom, God's vision. Fear and a lack of trust can loom large, however. We are afraid of letting go of what is "mine" and apprehensive of jeopardizing what we have in order to venture into something bigger and more promising.

Fear and a lack of trust serve no purpose in God's kingdom. They benefit neither the person nor God. What is required is a courageous resolve that produces the fortitude necessary to stay the course and do what God is asking. Doing all in our power to cultivate the seeds of faith, hope, and love in our world, working diligently to put all of our relationships in proper order, becoming attentive to systems and ideologies that hurt and oppress people, being mindful of injustice, and laboring on behalf of the poor and the needy are at the core of what each of us is asked to do. It is how we invest God's most precious gift wisely. If persistent, alert and attentive, then life will gradually improve around us, there will be greater peace and we will experience joy.



Marriage Preparation

Are you engaged to be married? Preparations for weddings are a six-month process. Please call 360.675.2303 x5 to begin.

Connect with Father Paul

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FatherPaulPluth



LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

God has entrusted his possessions to us. God's possessions are not earthly, physical things like ours; a home, bank account, personal items, and so forth. God's possessions are far greater and deeper. God's greatest possession is His very Self and it is precisely this pearl of great price that He bestows freely upon us. What are we going to do with it? Nourishing the fruits of wisdom is of the first order in determining how we are going to use what God has given.

Understanding that His gift has not been given purely for our self-benefit is another. Wisdom asks us to broaden our horizons to embrace all avenues of human life, including the needs of the poor, the marginalized, and the needy. Manifested primarily in the virtues of faith, hope, and love, what God has entrusted to us can multiply exponentially if we invest His gift wisely and reap the greatest benefits. While it requires a great deal of focus and persistent hard work, we will experience tremendous joy when we realize just how much confidence God has in us. Not acting on something out of fear or lack of trust serves no purpose and is of no use to either God or ourselves.

Mass Reservations

From Monday 9 am to Thursday 4 pm
You may make a reservation online
www.staugustineoh.org or by phone
at 360-675-2303 Ext. 23

Please take note: Make sure to list each person's first name in your reservation. Mass-goers not from the same household cannot be seated together.

No reservation & No mask, No entry.
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Join our online prayer group: one hour a week; either (or both) Tuesday 11am or Thursday 7pm. We meet on Zoom. Email Chris Pflugfelder for link to Zoom: cpflugfelder@comcast.net; or call 360-675-2026.

For more information, please visit www.flameoflove.us



Knight of Columbus will be selling "Keep Christ In Christmas" cards after the 5pm Saturday Vigil Mass and 9:30am Sunday Mass through November 22nd outside the vestibule area.
Beat the rush, get your cards early!

November 14 - 21

Nov 14 Sat	4:00 pm Confession, PO 5:00 pm Vigil Mass (<i>Our Parishioners, INT</i>)
Nov 15 Sun	9:30 am Mass, Church (<i>Father Roger Vehorn, INT; Milagros Abrea, INT; Steven & Anna Rezabek, RIP; Maria & Joaquin Blas Sr. RIP; Deceased of Dumit-Basil Family, RIP</i>) 9:30 am Mass, Parish Hall 9:30 am Mass Livestream (<i>FB page: St Augustine Catholic Church</i>)
Nov 16 Mon	Office Unavailable Start of Reservations for November 21 & 22 Mass! (call the parish office or go to our website, www.staugustineoh.org) 4:30 pm Agape
Nov 17 Tue	4:00 pm RE Online, 1st & 2nd Gr, Zoom 6:30 pm RE Online, 12th Gr, Zoom
Nov 18 Wed	10:00 am Fr Paul's Private Mass (<i>Bill Anderson, RIP</i>) 4:00 pm RE Online, 3rd & 4th Gr, Zoom 6:30 pm RE Online, Gr. 7/8 & 9/10, Zoom
Nov 19 Thu	4:00 pm RE Online, 5th & 6th Gr, Zoom 6:30 pm RE Online, 11th Gr, Zoom
Nov 20 Fri	10:00 am Fr Paul's Private Mass (<i>Jean Valdez, INT; Celestina Manalansan, RIP</i>) 10:30 am Divine Mercy Chaplet/Rosary, PG 11:00 am Private Prayer/Adoration, CH
Nov 21 Sat	No activity in the morning

Blessed are those who fear the Lord.



Thank you for your Stewardship of Treasure!

Weekly Expenses: \$13,090

November 1 Collection: \$16,645

November 8 Collection: \$19,431

Please write your envelope # on your check.

We encourage you to mail your donations to P.O. Box 1319, Oak Harbor, WA 98277.

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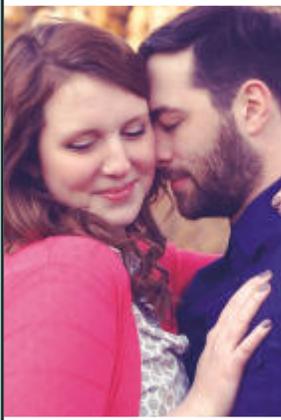
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