

ST AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

185 N Oak Harbor Street, Oak Harbor, WA 98277 (360) 675-2303

Information@StAugustineOH.org

Rev. Paul Pluth, JCL, Pastor

www.StAugustineOH.org

3rd Sunday of Advent

13 December 2020



DECEMBER SCHEDULE OF MASSES & RESERVATION DATES



Date of Mass/Service	Make your Reservation on:
December 19 & 20 (Sat & Sun)	Dec 14, 9 am to Dec 17, 4 pm
December 24, Christmas Eve Masses: St Mary: 4 pm St Augustine: 7:30 pm and 9:30 pm	Dec 14, 9 am to Dec 22, 4 pm
December 25, Christmas Day, 9:30 am	Dec 14, 9 am to Dec 22, 4 pm
December 26 & 27 (Sat & Sun)	Dec 14, 9 am to Dec 22, 4 pm
December 31, New Year's Eve Mass at St Augustine, 5 pm	Dec 14, 9 am to Dec 22, 4 pm
January 1, Mary, Holy Mother of God Mass at St Mary, 9 am	Dec 14, 9 am to Dec 22, 4 pm
January 2 & 3 (Sat & Sun)	Dec 14, 9 am to Dec 22, 4 pm

To make a reservation, go to www.staugustineoh.org or call the parish office at 360-675-2303 (Ext 23 for voicemail)

The Parish Office will be closed from Dec 24 to January 3. Hence, please take note of the dates of reservation during that time period for the Masses you wish to attend.

The Masses to be livestreamed to our Facebook page (St Augustine Catholic Church) are:

All Sunday 9:30 am Masses

Penance Service on Dec 14, Monday at 6 pm

Simbang Gabi Mass on Dec 19, Saturday at 5 pm

Dec 24, 7:30 pm Mass and December 31, 5 pm Mass



SIMBANG GABI

This year, St Augustine Parish will celebrate Simbang Gabi (Evening Mass) on Saturday, December 19, during the 5PM Mass with Father Paul Pluth as the celebrant. This celebration will honor the Blessed Virgin Mary as she prayerfully awaits the birth of Christ.

Mass Reservations are required. Wearing a mask and social distancing are strictly observed. This Mass will be livestreamed.

(Please note: there was a typo error on the date of the Simbang Gabi Mass on the postcards that were mailed to parishioners. The correct date is December 19.)



“Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord, one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day.

**The Lord does not delay his promise,
as some regard “delay,” but he is patient with you,
not wishing that any should perish
but that all should come to repentance.**

According to his promise, we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace.”

2 Peter 3:8-9, 13-14



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 the office at 360-675-2303 to register, where you will receive instructions about the Zoom classes.

SYMBOLISM OF THE CANDLES ON ADVENT WREATH

The first candle, which is purple, symbolizes hope. It is sometimes called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

The second candle, also purple, represents faith. It is called the "Bethlehem Candle" as a reminder of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

The third candle is pink and symbolizes joy. It is called the "Shepherd's Candle," and is pink because rose is a liturgical color for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.

On the fourth week of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Savior. This final candle, the "Angel's Candle," symbolizes peace. It reminds us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

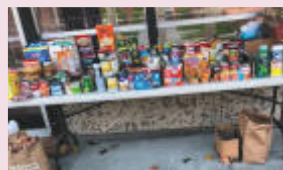
Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

Did you ever stop and realize that there is no earthly gain that can ever really satisfy us? Think of winning the Lotto. On this side of the winning ticket, it's all about the money, the new car, house, vacations, bank accounts, and infinite pleasures. The possibility of acquiring all of these earthly securities brings us back again and again to the purchase of a ticket. Then, one day we win! Our dreams are fulfilled, and happiness is on the horizon. Then one day, we wake up and realize that nothing has really changed, and I am not as satisfied as I thought I was or would be. I find myself living in my incompleteness and with my profound sorrow and grief. I did not find joy.

Glimpses of joy are possible but not by material means. They are brought to us through incredible experiences of connection that bring us face to face with real and authentic faith, hope, and love. And, they are glimpses and do not last. The moment we find ourselves looking back at them, they are gone, and we find ourselves remembering the moment in memory. To carry joy within us is to realize that it is not something we create, manufacture or even acquire. It is not able to be purchased. It is a gift. My need for joy mirrors my need for eternity, for a Creator who has a claim on the very essence of who I am and desires a home within me. As C.S. Lewis discovered, joy is a surprise that speaks to my very soul and is given as gift by the God who loves me.

The beauty of Advent is found in discovering the beauty of the gift of joy. God has visited his people for no other reason than to show them where and how to find joy! All of our human and earthly joy experiences are always only glimpses. They never satisfy us, sustain us or fulfill us. It is only God who is the joy of my soul. Real, Divine experiences of joy catch us off guard, make us stop and become aware, bring a feeling of awe and rightness and have an eternal Otherness about them. Nothing created by humans can ever come close to this. We probably will not fully realize the truth of all of this until we actually meet God face to face in heaven one day. Then in that sacred moment when our hearts leap for joy, we will understand what we have been tirelessly searching for all along. Intense gratitude will most surely follow.

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A BIG THANK YOU

The Works of Mercy group of St. Augustine would like to thank everyone who donated non-perishable items. Some items were given to Agape clients while the rest of the items were delivered to Help House.

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

What gives you joy? Joy is discovered when we connect with something or someone very deeply and experience a dimension of ourselves that material or secular possessions cannot bring. Joy is stumbled upon when we see our newly born child for the first time, get caught up in the vastness of a mountain landscape, and are led out into infinity gazing at an ocean's horizon, or being lovingly present with someone when they are vulnerable and in need. Joy is a profound experience that in its uniqueness grounds us in ultimate truth. Did you know that all authentic, profound, and memorable moments of joy mirror the eternal joy we desire from God? We can have glimpses of this eternal Divine joy as we embark upon our earthly journey, mirrored in our human connections with joy, but experienced directly during moments of deep prayer. God is the joy of my soul. Ponder those intense words! You will know moments of true and real joy by paying attention to your response and experience. You will find yourself rejoicing and saying thank you.

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St Augustine Baby Boutique*

The Pro Life Ministry of St. Augustine invites you to donate baby items to our St. A Baby Boutique. The following items are the ones most requested and most needed by the clients of Pregnancy Care Clinic (PCC): size 3, 4, 5 and 6 diapers, baby wipes, Similac powder formula (any kind), baby boy clothes (from preemie to 2T), or monetary donation.

Note: Baby clothes do not need to be new but in good condition & good quality. No baby furniture please.

You may mail or drop off your CASH or CHECK donations at the parish office (make checks payable to St Augustine and write Pregnancy Care Clinic on the memo line).

Donations accepted January 1-31. A wooden box will be placed in the vestibule for all the baby items.



*Benefits the Clients of the Pregnancy Care Clinic



Thank you to all who supported the Knight of Columbus "Keep Christ In Christmas (KCIC)" Christmas Card Sales.

Your heartfelt generosity in purchasing and donating to the KCIC Christmas sales raised \$500.00!

All proceeds are going to the "Called to Serve as Christ" campaign to pay back our priests, sisters, and family of faith for answering Christ's call to continue His work.

Thank you very much and have a joyful, safe and Merry Christmas!

— Grand Knight, John E. O'Brien Council #3361

December 12 - 19

Dec 12 Sat	4:00 pm Confession, PO 5:00 pm Vigil Mass (<i>Our Parishioners, INT</i>)
Dec 13 Sun	9:30 am Mass, Church (<i>Frank Gibroski, RIP; Gregorio & Mercedes Ramirez, RIP; Thomas Ramirez, RIP; Anthony Paczkowski; Mark Theune RIP; Lucina Kaup, RIP</i>) 9:30 am Mass, Parish Hall 9:30 am Mass Livestream (<i>FB page: St Augustine Catholic Church</i>)
Dec 14 Mon	Office Unavailable Start of Reservations for Dec 19 & 20 Masses, Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Masses, Dec 26 & 27, Dec 31, Jan 2 & 3 Masses (call the parish office or go to our website, www.staugustineoh.org) 4:30 pm Agape 6:00 pm Penance Service (<i>FB page: St Augustine Catholic Church</i>)
Dec 15 Tue	4:00 pm RE Online, 1st & 2nd Gr, Zoom 6:30 pm RE Online, 12th Gr, Zoom
Dec 16 Wed	9:30 am Mass 4:00 pm RE Online, 3rd & 4th Gr, Zoom 6:30 pm RE Online, Gr. 7/8 & 9/10, Zoom
Dec 17 Thu	4:00 pm RE Online, 5th & 6th Gr, Zoom 6:30 pm RE Online, 11th Gr, Zoom
Dec 18 Fri	10:00 am Fr Paul's Private Mass 11:00 am Private Prayer/Adoration, CH
Dec 19 Sat	No activity in the morning



Please Note:

All 2020 contributions to the parish must be received by December 31, 2020 in order to be counted towards your 2020 income tax.

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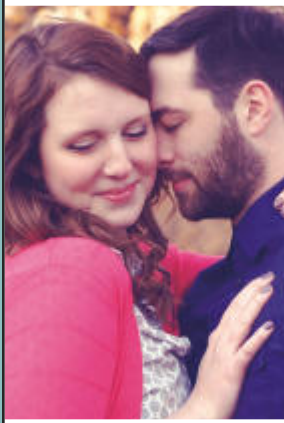
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