

ST AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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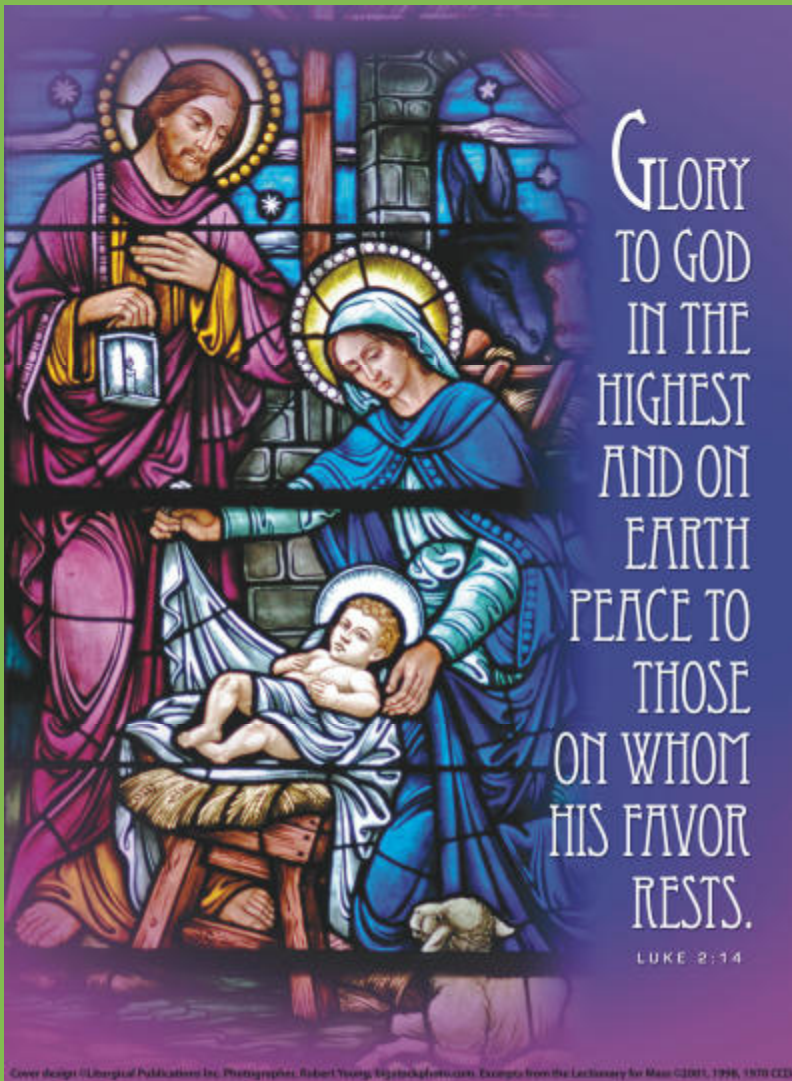
Information@StAugustineOH.org

Rev. Paul Pluth, JCL, Pastor

www.StAugustineOH.org

4th Sunday of Advent

20 December 2020



*We wish you God's
richest blessings
at Christmas
and peace in the
New Year!*

*Father Paul Pluth,
Mary Waters,
Peggy Smith,
Rowena Harless,
Ruth Joy Abrea,
Jim Kraft,
Peggy McCormick,
& Kathleen Dodge-
DeHaven*

Reflection: 4th Sunday of Advent, Luke 1:39-45

Blessed Advent!

Today we have two mothers meeting: they are related, and one carries in her womb John the Baptist and the other woman, Mary, carries in her womb Jesus.

The Gospel account says that John, who would cry out in the desert the message that everyone needs to "prepare the way of the Lord," leapt with joy in the womb of his mother upon hearing Mary's greeting.

John's message in the dessert is the message that we all need to heed as we get closer to the Christmas celebration. May our faith leap with joy at the chance to proclaim our Lord and to prepare the way.

Christmas

Christmas is the Feast of the Incarnation and Christ takes on a human body precisely so as to offer the sacrifice of that body that saves the world.

"A Savior is born for you." He is a savior precisely because he bears our human nature, and has a human body like we do – a body offered on the cross and in the Eucharist.

As we see in readings and the Gospels, the details of His birth are carefully planned by God and foretold by his prophets. His birth is all about hope fulfilled and hope inspired. That hope outlasts his birth, and extends to us today as we work to build a world in harmony with the vision of peace, life, and love that Christmas inspires.

Abortion is diametrically opposed to this vision of peace, life and love.

May all believers and their clergy, take renewed strength and courage to speak out against abortion, consistent with the vision of Christmas and the proclamation of the Gospel.

Pro-Life Articles

**DECEMBER MASSES TO BE
LIVESTREAMED TO FACEBOOK PAGE
'St Augustine Catholic Church'**

All 9:30 am Sunday Masses

Christmas Eve Mass,
December 24, Thursday at 7:30 pm

New Year's Eve Mass
December 31, Thursday at 5:00 pm

CHRISTMAS MEDITATION

It is one thing to sing out the words, "Joy to the World," and quite another to experience that joy ourselves. Many have not experienced the full impact of that first Holy Night because they choose to keep the manger at a distance rather than make a home with the Holy One who resides there. The birth of Christ levels the playing field of life and we have to allow ourselves to be leveled. There is no way to truly be human unless we understand that God is with us and blesses every fiber of the human experience. We cannot be truly human unless we listen to the words of the Word Made Flesh and work so that justice and peace can be realized by all, and God's sacred earth cared for and nurtured.

The axis of Christmas begins to shift when we realize it's not about, "I and me," but, "we and us," and there's an order and purpose to how God fashions and sustains things. The world hasn't really given Christ a full shot yet to understand that Truth has been born in our midst. We pick and choose what suits us in the message and leave the rest behind.

What needs to change about you so that Christ can truly be born in 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

December 19 - 26

Dec 19 Sat	4:00 pm Confession, PO 5:00 pm Vigil Mass (<i>Our Parishioners, INT</i>)
Dec 20 Sun	9:30 am Mass, Church (<i>Nicholas Reed, RIP; Leo Doyle, RIP; Thomas & David King, RIP; John & Mary Keating, RIP; Brady friends & relatives and Ulrickson family, INT</i>) 9:30 am Mass, Parish Hall 9:30 am Mass Livestream (<i>FB page: St Augustine Catholic Church</i>)
Dec 21 Mon	Office Unavailable 4:30 pm Agape
Dec 22 Tue	NO RE
Dec 23 Wed	Office Closed 9:30 am Mass (<i>Julie Lujan, RIP</i>) NO RE
Dec 24 Thu	CHRISTMAS EVE - Office Closed, Holiday NO RE 7:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass, CH/PH (<i>Our Parishioners, INT</i>) 7:30 pm Christmas Eve Livestream Mass, FB 9:30 pm Christmas Eve Mass, CH (<i>All military service members who are deployed, INT</i>)
Dec 25 Fri	CHRISTMAS DAY - Office Closed, Holiday 9:30 am Christmas Day Mass, CH (<i>Staff of St Augustine & St Mary, INT</i>)
Dec 26 Sat	No activity in the morning

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

Does the world realize that it is waiting? As we go about all of the busyness of our lives and entertain our distractions, there are many holes and gaps in our lives that need to be filled. We are always wanting more, but not really sure what that "more" needs to be. Fulfillment, happiness, contentment, and true satisfactions are fleeting occurrences and often come to us in illusive ways. What we think is the ultimate fix to our anxious emptiness really is only a fancy trend that we entertain.

The world does not realize any more today than it did over two thousand years ago that it is waiting for a Savior. We need a Savior. We need to see and embrace the God who has broken into history and become one with us. It is this union of God and man that sets us on a straight path, orders our relationships, establishes proper focus and goals, and tells us whose kingdom we really are meant to serve. The world does not know how truly lost it is.

Do you realize how lost you are and that the One you need most is here among us and within your grasp? ©LPI

Thinking About Becoming a EUCHARISTIC MINISTER? Now is the Time!



We will be holding a training session mid-January for anyone who would like to become a Eucharistic Minister at St. Augustine. With COVID restrictions, we have been doing things a bit differently, but still serving our parish family. If you are interested in joining our beautiful team of ministers after the holidays, please contact Debbie Karney at KrazyKs@gmail.com or home phone: 360-240-8687. Email is always the best way to reach me due to my work schedule, but you could always leave a message on my machine at home. I am happy to answer questions and explain how we are serving during Covid, and what is needed to begin.

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.



Thank you for your Stewardship of Treasure!

Weekly Expenses: \$13,090
December 6 Collection: \$16,325
(includes Immaculate Conception)
December 13 Collection: \$11,676

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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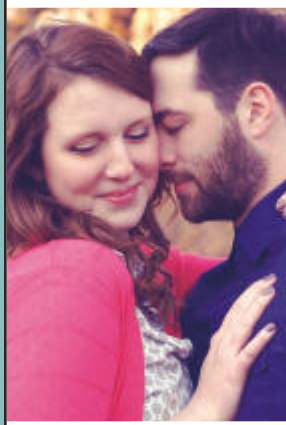
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