

ST AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS Tuesday - Friday 9:00 am - 12 noon, 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Parish E-mail Information@StAugustineOH.org Visit us on the web at www.StAugustineOH.org

MASS

Saturday Vigil	5:00 pm	St Augustine
<i>Filipino Music 2nd Saturday</i>		
Spanish 1st Saturday	7:00 pm	St Augustine
Sunday	8:00 am	St Augustine
	9:30 am	St Augustine
	11:15 am	St Mary
Latin 2nd & 4th Sunday	11:15 am	St Augustine
Mon, Thu, Fri & 1st Sat	9:00 am	St Augustine
Thursday	12:10 pm	St Mary

CONFESSION

Friday	8:30 am	St Augustine
Saturday	4:00 pm	St Augustine
3rd Sunday	12:15 pm	St Mary

PARISH MINISTERS

Pastor	Rev. Paul Pluth, JCL
Administration	Mary A. Waters
Sacramental Prep & Adult Faith Formation	Peggy Smith
Religious Education	Rowena Harless
Director of Music	Kathleen Dodge-DeHaven
Administrative Assistant	Ruth Joy Abrea

ANOINTING OF THE SICK & HOLY COMMUNION

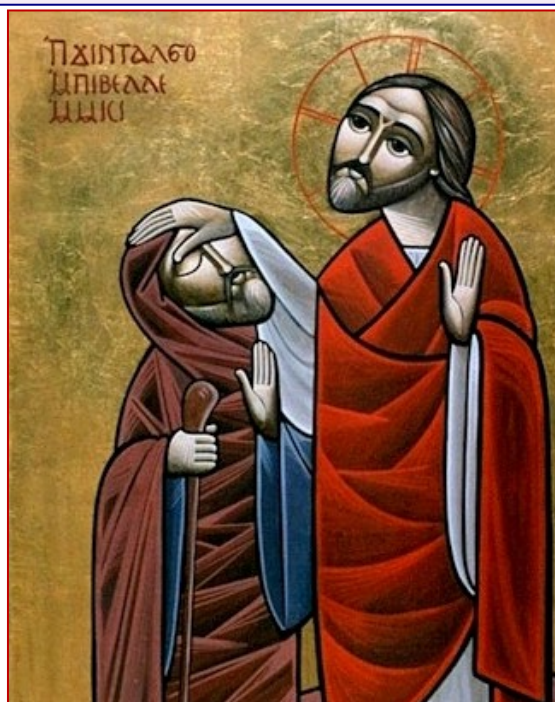
Please call the Parish Office

Fourth Sunday of Lent

26 March 2017

The story of the man born blind being given his sight shows how bitterly people resist the truth in front of them: Jesus is the one who healed the man. If they admit that, then they have to admit that the Holy Spirit is working through Jesus, and he is sent from God. So they make themselves blind to the truth, and Jesus calls them on it.

It takes Samuel a while to see as God sees - the first 7 sons of Jesse appear to be much more promising candidates



than David to be anointed as the future king of Israel. David is the youngest, and so overlooked that he isn't even called in from the fields for the lineup. But he's the one Samuel anoints, and David goes on to be the greatest king of Israel - so great, that when Jesus enters Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, he is acclaimed as the "Son of David", another David, ready to be proclaimed King of the Jews on the cross, for the salvation of the world.

Father Paul Pluth

Why Antiphons? - Fr Paul

For every Sunday and Feast, the Catholic Church assigns a Bible verse to be sung at the Entrance of Mass - the **Entrance Antiphon** - and a Bible verse to be sung during Holy Communion - the **Communion Antiphon**. The purpose of the **Entrance Antiphon** is to unite those who have gathered together for Mass, and to lead their minds to the mystery of the Sunday or Feast that is being celebrated (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal #47*). The purpose of the **Communion Antiphon** is to express the unity of those coming to Communion by uniting their voices, and to emphasize that Holy Communion is a community action, not only an individual devotion (*GIRM #86*). If the **Antiphons** are not sung, they are to be recited aloud by the priest (*GIRM ## 48, 87*).

The **Entrance and Communion Antiphons** have been neglected in the United States. The entire Mass is both an extended prayer and a meditation on the Bible, with every part of the Mass - *Lord, have mercy; Glory to God; Holy, Holy; Mystery of Faith; and Lamb of God* - coming from the Bible. A few months ago, I instructed our Director of Music to add these **Antiphons** to our Sunday and Feast Day Masses. My purpose was (1) for us to pray and celebrate the Catholic Mass as the Catholic Church has given us the Mass, and (2) to give us more Bible verses to feed on spiritually at Mass.

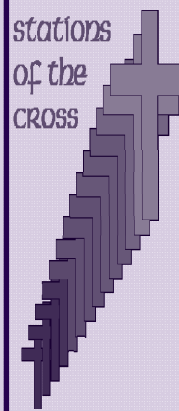
Not everyone has been happy with my decision. The **Antiphons** are new and unfamiliar, so worshipping with them takes getting used to. Some people didn't "get" why we are singing them when they were first introduced. Some have gone so far as to say they don't feel they are in a Catholic church anymore, because it's an unfamiliar practice. I understand all those concerns and unhappiness. Even Jesus says, "No one after drinking old wine wants the new, because they say 'The old is good.'" (*Luke 5:39*) We went through this adjustment time when we began using the new translation of the Mass five years ago, and now that translation is something we are used to worshipping with and do well.

So I ask you, as your pastor: once more, give it time for the new to become the "old wine". Drink in the words of the Bible in the **Antiphons** just as we do with the Bible verses we sing in the other parts of the Mass and in the songs. To repeat: my hope is for our community to pray and celebrate the Catholic Mass as the Catholic Church has given it to us, in all its fullness. To help that happen, we are printing out the **Antiphons** and putting them in the pews. Praise the Lord with a joyful noise! (*Psalms 98:4*)

The *Cross of Burdens* is up in the Vestibule again this Lent. Write down your burden and place it on the Cross. Our RE students will pray for you and your burdens every week during the 40 Days of Lent.



stations
of the
CROSS



Stations of the Cross in
Lent

5 pm Thursdays
9:30 am Fridays

Confessions in Lent

8:30 am Fridays
4 pm Saturdays
Wednesday, April 12
5pm - 7 pm

LENT ONLINE

✝ Sacred Space - Daily Devotions

Computer - sacredspace.ie
Smart Phone/Tablet -
Sacred Space app

✝ Pray As You Go - Devotions, Examen

Computer - pray-as-you-go.org
Smart Phone/Tablet -
Pray As You Go app

✝ Rice Bowl- Family Activities, Devotions

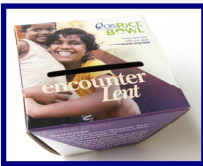
Follow the link on our website
www.staugustineoh.org

✝ Lectio Divina (Sacred Reading)

Follow the link on our website

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ☞ **Works of Mercy Rummage Sale** needs volunteers to arrange tables prior to the event, help in selling items during the event and rearrange the tables after the event. Can you help? If you can help, please call Barb Dumit at 360-240-9509.
- ☞ **Works of Mercy Rummage Sale**, Saturday, April 1, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Bring donations on Friday, March 31. Remember: No electrical. Please contact Barb Dumit if you can help for 1-2 hours on either day.
- ☞ **Pancake Breakfast and Blood Pressure Reading**, Sunday, April 2 at 9:00 am in Parish Hall and Classroom 1.
- ☞ **Father Paul Speaks!** Thursday, April 6 at 6:00 pm in the St Augustine parish hall on "What are we doing in Holy Week?" - a brief introduction to the worship of the holiest week of the year.
- ☞ **International Dinner Planning Meeting**, April 7, Friday at 5:00 pm in Classroom 1.
- ☞ **Coffee & Donuts** is cancelled on Palm Sunday, April 9 and Easter Sunday, April 16.
- ☞ **Project Rachel** - If you suffer from feelings of guilt, grief or anger or depression from a past abortion experience, join us on a journey of emotional and spiritual healing at a Vineyard Retreat April 28-30. Contact Valerie at 1-800-822-HOPE (4673).



Pray, fast, and do works of charity and family activities with the **Rice Bowl**, available in church. Or visit csrricebowl.org. Encounter yourself, encounter your neighbor, encounter Christ! See csrricebowl.org and download the app! #Encounter Lent



Prayer Garden Update

The St. Augustine Prayer Garden is beginning to show its beauty as new bulbs and blooms are popping up everywhere. There are many new plants that we hope to place this spring and continue to need the support of our wonderful community. In the vestibule you will find a list of our planting needs with prices and forms to complete if you would like to purchase a plant. Also, there are forms available to purchase plants in memory of a loved one or friend. If you have questions, please call Theresa Frazer (675-9840).



Books of 20 Forever Purple Heart postage stamps are available for sale in the Parish Office. Each time you use a stamp, please say a prayer for our military men and women who are in harm's way.

Please Pray for Our Family & Friends

Dale Auburg, Bennett Boyles, Lynn Brown, Michael Gerrity, Cassie Head, Michele Mercer, Morris Nelson, Sharon Osorio, Cecil Pierce, John Romanski, Brian Sloan

Permission is required from the individual prior to adding their name to the prayer list. To include a loved one's name, please call the Parish Office at 360-675-2303.

March 25 - April 1

- Sat 3:00 pm Choir Rehearsal, CH
4:00 pm Confessions, CH
4:00 pm Youth Choir Rehearsals, CH
5:00 pm Vigil Mass (*Ricky Dean McWilliams, RIP*)
- Sun 8:00 am Mass (*Genie Kennedy, RIP*)
9:30 am Mass (*Our Parishioners, INT*)
10:30 am Sagala Committee Meeting, CR 1/2
11:15 am Latin Mass (*Tom & Barbara Dumit, INT; Rubiel Cadavid, RIP; All Souls in Purgatory, RIP*)
6:30 pm Spanish Choir Rehearsal, CR5
- Mon **Office Unavailable**
9:00 am Mass (*Thomas King, RIP*)
9:30 am Patriotic Rosary, CH
10:00 am Living the Eucharist, CR 3
4:30 pm Agape, PH/K
6:00 pm Living the Eucharist, CR3
- Tue 7:00 am POETS, CH
4:30 pm Fitness Group, PH
- Wed 4:00 pm Elem RE, All
5:30 pm Youth Choir Rehearsal, CH
6:30 pm MS/HS RE, All
- Thu 9:00 am Mass (*Amparo Townsend, RIP*)
9:30 am Adoration, CH
10:00 am St Maria's Guild, CR 1/2
10:00 am Living the Eucharist, CR 3
3:00 pm RCIA-C, PO
4:45 pm Fitness Group, ST
5:00 pm Stations of the Cross, CH
5:45 pm Lent Soup Supper, PH/K
6:30 pm Living the Eucharist, CR 3
6:30 pm RCIA, CR 1/2
6:30 pm Spanish Choir Rehearsal, CR 5
7:30 pm Adoration
- Fri 8:30 am Confession
9:00 am Mass (*Silvia Perez, RIP*)
9:30 am Stations of the Cross, CH
- Sat 9:00 am 1st Saturday Mass (*Joseph Dady, INT; Rubiel Cadavid, RIP; All Souls in Purgatory, RIP*)
9:00 am Rummage Sale, PH/K
3:00 pm Choir Rehearsal, CH

**GOOD FRIDAY is a
Day of Fasting AND Abstinence**

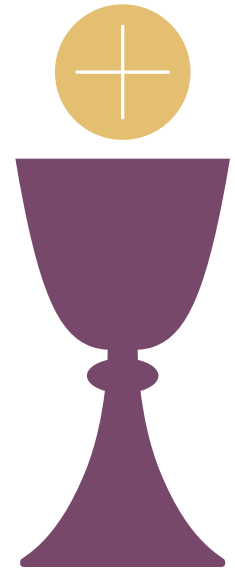
**Thank you for your
Stewardship of Treasure!**



**Weekly Expenses: \$12,764
March 19: \$14,695**

The Chance of a Lifetime

When someone has good news for us, what might we expect? A bonus? Some unexpected benefit? The chance of a lifetime? The Good News of Jesus Christ is all three of those things rolled into one: a wonderful gift; something good beyond our dreams, freely given; the chance of a lifetime for eternal happiness. Why, then, are we so shy about proclaiming it?



STUCK IN THE SALT SHAKER

We are sent out to evangelize: to proclaim the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ. The Gospel says we are the “salt of the earth.” Our calling makes us a lively, flavorful ingredient that will bring out the best in the world around us. The Good News is ours to share. But often enough we hesitate. We are salt... but we get stuck in the salt shaker.

There are various reasons for this. Here are a few common ones, along with some reasons why they shouldn't hold us back.

It's not how I was raised. True enough, some of us were brought to church as babes in arms, by stern silent parents and grandparents who believed that if we died before the water was poured we'd go to limbo. Earlier generations expected stability, tradition. You inherited your religion like you inherit being Irish, or Italian, or Polish, or Mexican. Everybody was something. You were Catholic.

Think about it, though. A lot has changed since that time. Religion is no longer a given, harnessed by generations reaching back to time immemorial. The number of unchurched and those not subscribing to any religion is fast-growing. Many are searching for faith. We need more than ever to reach out, witness, and invite.

I don't want to look like a holy roller. One of the effects of the privatization of religion is that some people consider

it bad taste to talk about faith at all. Anyone who wants to share what they believe, in this sort of mindset, is suspected of being a fanatic, abnormal.

But is this really the case? Religion is interesting. Faith is a plus in life. In general, people who have a faith community live longer, are more healthy, and are happier than those who don't. Why wouldn't you want to talk about it? Perhaps at one point in your life you were buttonholed by someone who tried to convert you, and you've sworn never to do this to someone else. Fine. But be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit will give you the right words to share your faith, in a genuine, convincing way. You might be surprised how long the conversation goes on, and how much interest there is in what you have to say.

It feels risky. Almost all of us carry around some anxiety about sharing something as personal as our faith. Suppose I share this precious part of my life with my non-believing friend or co-worker, or with a family member who no longer practices, and they reject it. Aren't they rejecting me also? Suppose they make fun of me, or ask me a question I can't answer. Will I look like a fool?

Truth to tell, there's always the possibility that sharing the Good News will not result in the outcomes we want—at least not immediately. We have no control over how people will respond. But we have to trust that God will be there to help us.

Sharing the Good News requires us to step out in faith and take a risk. But the risk is small compared to the potential gains. It's unlikely that you will make a fool of yourself. But suppose you do. Better a fool for Christ than tasteless salt in a salt shaker!

WITNESS AND INVITATION

To share the Good News is an act of faith. Yet proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ does not have to be overwhelming. It can happen quite naturally, through life witness and invitation.

Those who live their faith with sincerity and joy already give the most important witness: life witness. By their simple and unaffected commitment to whatever is good and true in the world around them, by their joy and fellowship with other believers, by their confidence in the promises of Christ and in a truth that transcends their present struggles, they offer an example of faith for all to see. Life witness is the cornerstone of proclaiming the Good News, because it gives flesh to the message of Christianity. An example is worth a thousand words.

Example alone, however, is not enough. Witness of life must be complemented by the invitation to "come and see" what Jesus Christ and his Kingdom are all about.

How do we invite others to discover faith in Jesus Christ for themselves? It may be easier than you think. Here are some suggestions:

- Invite someone to come with you to a church event and talk with them about it
- Share something in your faith that brings you joy; if it is good news to you, it may be good news to someone else
- Listen actively; respect the other person's freedom and journey

- Speak about Jesus and the Church from within your own experience
- Pray for the person whom you wish to reach

Any believer can witness and invite. It doesn't take advanced training or special skills. Neither does it require a life of perfect sanctity. Ordinary, fallible, imperfect people can do this. The witness we bring is not to ourselves, but to Jesus Christ, who loves us. And that is very good news.

REFLECT

Who are the people in my life who have no church home or who have drifted away from active participation in the Church? Do I understand and identify with their questions and longings? How can I be a bridge for them?

ACT

Decide on one concrete step you can take this week to reach out to someone with the Good News. Seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to help you.

PRAY

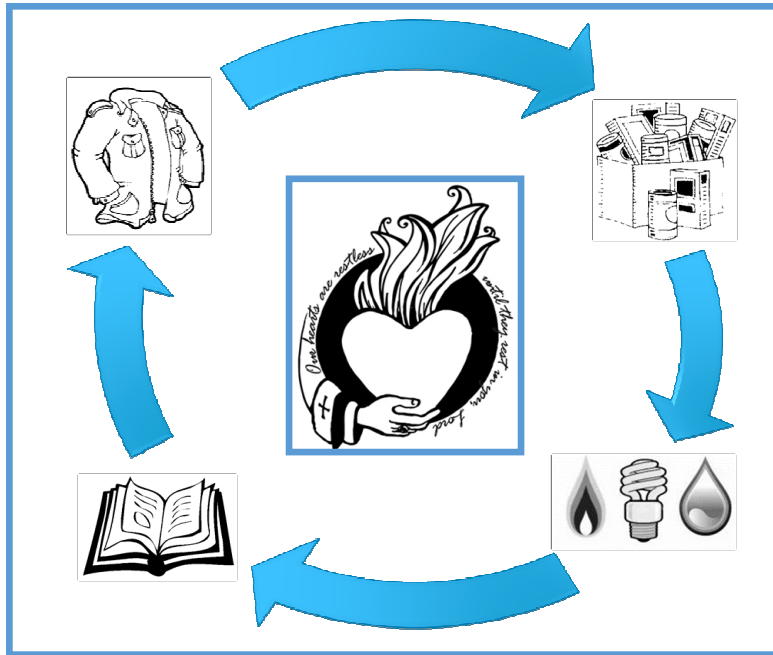
Holy Spirit, fill me with so much joy in my faith that I will want to share it with others. Give me the words to speak, the listening heart, and the courage I need to reflect your love. Let me be your witness today!

AUTHOR ■ Rita Ferrone is an award-winning writer and speaker in the areas of liturgy, catechesis, and renewal in the Roman Catholic Church.

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WORKS OF MERCY RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, April 1, 8:00 am-1:00 pm



**Proceeds
To
Benefit
All Our
Programs**

Drop off items

Friday, March 31, 10 am – 4 pm Parish Hall

Clothing, household items, books, toys, etc.

PLEASE DO NOT BRING:

Electrical appliances, curtain rods, sports equipment, suitcases, baby cribs, car seats or computer equipment.

Can you donate an hour or two to help set up or help on the day of the sale?

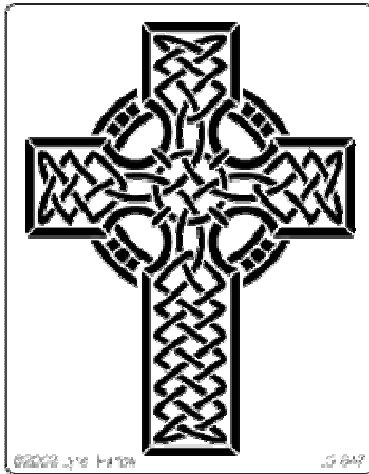
Questions: Call Barb at 240-9509



Spring Baptisms

Saturday, May 27

Mandatory classes will be held in the St Augustine Parish Office
Wednesday, April 26, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm and
Saturday, April 29, 10:00 am – Noon
Please call 360-675-2303 to register



**Want to learn more about
the Catholic faith?**

RCIA, Journey of Faith is held
every Thursday at 6:30pm in
classroom 1.

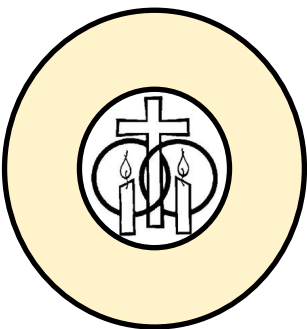
Please call if you have any
questions or just drop in.



Are you engaged and wanting to get married?

Congratulations!

Please call the Parish Office at 360-675-2303 and begin
preparations now as they can take six months.



**Are you civilly married and would like to have your marriage
recognized by the Church?**

Please call the parish office at 360-675-2303 to find out how we can help.

