

# St. Augustine & St. Mary Catholic Churches



Pastor: Father Chris Hoiland    frchris@staugustineoh.org

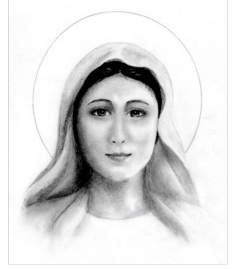
St. Augustine - 185 N. Oak Harbor Street, Oak Harbor, WA 98277

St. Mary - 207 North Main Street, Coupeville, WA 98239

Mailing Address for both parishes - P.O. Box 1319, Oak Harbor, WA 98277

[Information@StAugustineOH.org](mailto:Information@StAugustineOH.org)

Website: [StAugustineOH.org](http://StAugustineOH.org)



**December 17, 2023 - Gaudete Sunday**

## Mass Times

Sat. 5:00 pm - St. Augustine  
Sun. 8:00 am - St. Augustine  
Sun. 9:30 am - St. Augustine  
Sun. 11:15 am - St. Mary  
Wed. 9:30 am - St. Augustine  
Thur. 9:30 am - St. Mary  
Fri. 9:30 am - St. Augustine

## Welcome!

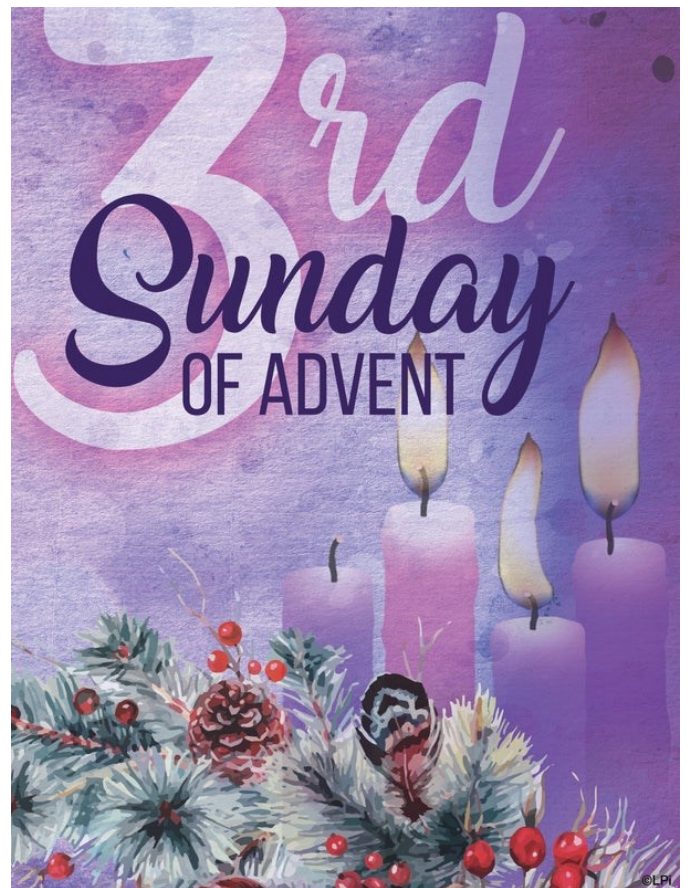
If you are new to St. Augustine and St. Mary churches or returning after a long absence, please take a moment to register as a member of our parish.

Registrations can be found at each church, at the St. Augustine/St. Mary Parish Office in Oak Harbor and online at [www.staugustineoh.org](http://www.staugustineoh.org).

Being registered helps us to get to know you and gives you the opportunity to tell us if there are ministries where you might like to serve.

After registering you will be included in all email messages, letters, and you will receive a tax statement at the end of the year.

**Please join our parish family!**



“God walks into your soul with a silent step. God comes to you more than you go to Him. Never will His coming be what you expect, and yet never will it disappoint. The more you respond to His gentle pressure, the greater will be your freedom.”

-Venerable Fulton Sheen

# Weekly Calendar

## St Augustine

December 17	Sunday	8:00 am	Mass
		9:00 am & 10:30 am	Coffee & Donuts, PH
		9:30 am	Mass ( <i>Jennifer Perry, RIP</i> )
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December 18	Monday	Office Unavailable	
		10:00 am	Advent Silent Retreat, CR 1&2
		4:30 pm	Agape, PH/KT
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December 19	Tuesday	<b>No RE or Special Sacraments - Christmas Break</b>	
		4:00 pm	OCIC, CR 1&2
		6:00 pm	OCIA, CR 1&2
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December 20	Wednesday	10:00 am	Funeral Mass, Leonarda Memales
		<del>10:30 am</del>	<del>Divine Mercy/Adoration, CH</del>
		6:00 pm	Confession
		<b>NO RE or Special Sacraments - Christmas Break</b>	
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December 21	Thursday	6:30 pm	Choir practice, CH
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December 22	Friday	9:30 am	Mass ( <i>Antonia &amp; Vicente Santos, RIP</i> )
		10:00 am	Divine Mercy/Adoration, CH
		12:00 pm	Office Closed for Staff Event
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December 23	Saturday	4:00 pm	Confession
		5:00 pm	4th Sunday of Advent Vigil Mass ( <i>Teodoro Navarro, RIP; Angelo deGuzman, RIP</i> )
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December 24	Sunday	8:00 am	4th Sunday of Advent Mass
		9:30 am	4th Sunday of Advent Mass
		6:00 pm	Christmas Eve Mass



## St Mary

December 17	Sunday	11:15 am	Mass
		12:15 pm	Coffee & Conversation, HH
		12:30 pm	Bible Study, CR
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December 21	Thursday	9:30 am	Mass
		10:00 am	Confessions, CH
		10:20 am	Bible Study, HH
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December 24	Sunday	11:15 am	4th Sunday of Advent Mass

## Sacraments

### **Baptisms:**

- ∞ Call the parish office at 360-675-2303 to register for the next Baptism Class is January 20 at 1:30 pm and Baptism is February 10. **We are scheduling a maximum of 4 children per Baptism.**

### **Anointings:**

- ∞ Please call the parish office at 360-675-2303 during business hours to request an anointing or last rites.
- ∞ After 4pm Wednesday-Sunday, call the office at 360-675-2303 and listen to the message to receive the **emergency anointing or last rites only** phone number.
- ∞ *At any hour on Monday and Tuesday*, please call another parish for an anointing or last rites request.

## We Pray for Our Family

Ruth Abrea, Dale Auburg, Fr. Larry Bailey, Harold Bielen, Laura Lafranchise, Jim Brady, Lynnne Ochoa-Brown, Eileen Catalano, Mike Cussimano, Tomasa Dagdagan, Bob & Sue Ellis, Douglas Hammer, Sheryl & Mikey Henry, Marsha Kilgore, Martha McAllister, Donald Hubner, Jack Kraft, Carol LeClercq, Alexandria Molt, Jasmine Patricio, Mary Pierzchala, Louis Ramirez, Onee & Richard Rezabek, Nancy & John Romanski, Lou & Lulu Santos, Jadwiga & Philippe Sebrechts, Dennis Sionson, Chuck Tollefson, Clint West, David Williams, Larry Williams, Patty Williams

*Permission is required from the individual prior to printing their name on the prayer list.  
To include a loved one, please call the parish office.*

## Gospel Meditation

Why do we believe in Jesus and the Catholic Church? Why should we continue to do so? We've never seen him face-to-face (at least not most of us, I assume). Most of us have never had mystical visions of angels or saints. We live in the same world as our atheist and secularists friends. Why do we believe in Christ if we've never seen him?

The simple, symbolic answer the Gospel presents to us this week might surprise us: we believe because of John the Baptist. Early in John's Gospel we hear: **"There was a man sent from God, his name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him."** The Baptist powerfully announces Jesus. This is a historical fact, and it is also now a *pattern* at work in our lives.

John the Baptist stands for the entirety of the old covenant, everything entrusted to the Jewish people. Yet he prophetically opens the door to something entirely new in Jesus, to the revival and fulfillment of God's promises. In every generation, and in every human life, God continues to do this. He has done it through people named Augustine, Francis, Catherine, Theresa, and countless others. I challenge you to name at least three people through whom God has announced the coming of Jesus in your life. Consciously thank God for their testimony. And let's commit ourselves to listening to the spirit of John the Baptist testify again this week so that we might more strongly believe in the light.

— *Father John Muir* ©LPi



## **Advent Little Books**



The Little Blue Book of devotions for the Advent Season is available in the Church. A \$2 donation per book is asked to cover the cost of this most valued seasonal resource.

## **Advent Confession Schedule**

### **St. Augustine**

Wednesday, December 20, 6:00 pm  
Saturday, December 23, 4:00 pm

### **St. Mary**

Thursday, December 21, 10:00 am





## News & Events



- ⌘ **Food Pantry** - The Works of Mercy Committee at St. Augustine has discontinued the Food Pantry due to decreased need for this service. Works of Mercy would like to thank parishioners for their generous donations over the years. Please continue to donate directly to Help House.
- ⌘ **2023 Taxes** - Please note that all 2023 contributions to St. Augustine and St. Mary need to be received by December 31, 2023 in order to be credited to your 2023 taxes.
- ⌘ **New Year's Eve Potluck & White Elephant** - Send out the New Year at St. Augustine with your fellow parishioners and join us on December 31st from 6pm - 10pm in the Parish Hall for a family-friendly New Year's Eve Potluck & White Elephant. Bring a favorite dish to share and a wrapped gift for the White Elephant Gift Exchange. One gift per participant. For more information or to volunteer, we need you, please call Theresa at 206-992-8193.
- ⌘ **Sanctuary Flowers** - Sanctuary Flowers will return at Christmas. We are currently accepting donations for the Christmas season and for January 2024. Thanks to all who have so generously contributed to the beauty of our church.
- ⌘ **Gifts from the Heart Food Bank in Coupeville** - To donate, or for more information, please see Paula Bradshaw after Mass. For monetary donations, make your check out to Gifts from the Heart Food Bank and mail to: P.O. Box 155, Coupeville, WA 98239.
- ⌘ **Parish Library** - The Parish Lending Library at St. Augustine is open for business. We invite you to come in during office hours and select a book or two to read during Advent.



*Gaudete is Latin for "rejoice." On this 3rd Sunday of Advent we mark the halfway point until Christ's birth at Christmas.*

### Saint Augustine

Weekly Expenses      \$13,090  
Offering December 3:    \$16,730

### Stewardship



### Saint Mary

Weekly Expenses      \$2,962  
Offering December 3:    \$5,148

We encourage you to use online bill-pay through your bank as there is no cost to the parish or to you.  
Include your envelope number and mail your donations to: P.O. Box 1319, Oak Harbor, WA 98277.  
If you need your envelope number please call the parish office 360-675-2303.



*The Nativity of the Lord*

## Octave of Christmas Masses

**Christmas Eve Mass**  
Sunday, December 24  
6:00 pm St. Augustine

**Christmas Day**  
Monday, December 25  
8:00 am St. Augustine  
9:30 am St. Augustine  
11:15 am St. Mary

**New Year's Eve Mass**  
Sunday, December 31  
5:00 pm St. Augustine

**Mary, Mother of God Mass**  
Monday, January 1  
12:00 pm Noon St. Mary