

FATHER PAT'S SERMON NOTES

Fourth Sunday in Lent

It's Time to Step into the Light

The brightest room in the hospital is the operating room. They see everything there! Before surgery doctors must diagnose the problem. While an accurate diagnosis is no guarantee of a successful operation, an inaccurate diagnosis is a guarantee that more harm will be done than good.

Lent is a time to get a more accurate diagnosis of the condition of our spiritual health. It is also a time to intentionally and actively make a serious effort to present ourselves to the brilliant and skilled hands of the Great Physician who has never lost a patient that actually followed the Doctor's orders: Jesus Christ.

In the first reading today, God's people were facing a terrifying crisis. One after another, people were dying from snake bites. Moses and the people, however, saw in this crisis something more than just a freak snake infestation. They sincerely believed that the root cause of their predicament was the fact that they had strayed from the path that God was leading them (the Promised Land)! So, what was God's rescue strategy? He commanded Moses to make a statue of bronze in the shape of a serpent and mount it on a pole and then instruct the people that they MUST look at it to be healed! What a strange prescription. It is as if God were telling his hurting people that, if they want to be well, they have to be willing to look at the source of their problem! Most people do everything they can NOT to see the real problem that is holding them back or sabotaging their lives. They prefer to be in the dark instead of acknowledging that they have real issues. Denial is as old as the Old Testament!

Today, it is not a bronze serpent mounted on a pole that we are called to look to for healing but a Beloved Son mounted on Cross: **By His stripes, we are healed** (Isaiah 53:5). In the crucifixion, we see both our problem - the devastating effects of sin -and our solution: A forgiving Savior. Lent is a time for us to acknowledge the one (our sins) and embrace the other (Christ's forgiveness). **"The light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light"**. You see, God is committed to healing your issues: The question that remains to be answered is: Are you?

Father Patrick A Smith ©2015

See Fr. Pat's Sermon Notes and listen to the podcast at <http://saintaugustine-dc.org/category/sermon-notes/>

REMEMBER ST. AUGUSTINE PARISH IN YOUR WILL & BEQUESTS
SEE WEB PAGE FOR FATHER PAT'S SERMON NOTES AND LISTEN TO FATHER PAT'S SERMON PODCAST



Sunday, March 15, 2015

Scripture Readings

4th Sunday of Lent

2 Chr 36:14-16

Eph 2: 4-10

Jn 3:14-21

5th Sunday of Lent

Jer 31:31-34

Heb 5: 7-9

JN 12:20-33



8:15 am Daily Mass Intentions

| | | | | |
|-------|-----|----|--------------------|------------|
| Mon | Mar | 16 | Mary Leonard | - Living |
| Tues | Mar | 17 | Flossie D. Braxton | - Deceased |
| Wed | Mar | 18 | Donovan Anderson | - Living |
| Thurs | Mar | 19 | Keats Labule | - Living |
| Fri | Mar | 20 | Leona Miller | - Living |

Attendance 906



Bible Study Every Wednesday at 7:00pm in the School Cafeteria.



FAITH FOUNDATIONS: PRAYER

Need to know more about your faith? Want to grow closer to God? Join us for **Faith Foundations**. Offered through the Archdiocese, we are having at the Parish our next class on **PRAYER**, beginning on April 11 for four consecutive Saturday mornings. In prayer, the Christian humbly raises heart and mind to God as a response of faith and love to Christ who is our salvation. This course is designed to deepen appreciation of nature of Christian prayer and to explore the prayer of Jesus as the perfect model of prayer. So whether you are seeking to be certified as a Catechist, or simply want to know more about your faith for yourself and your family, come join us. Call Mrs. Bea Judon at 202 265-1470 for more details and to sign up.

ST AUGUSTINE SCHOOL COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN # 20000 ♦
ST. AUGUSTINE SCHOOL UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN #9670



3rd Sunday of Lent

THIS SUNDAY'S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR OUR PARISH POOR FUND

St. Augustine School *Love to Learn; Learn to Love*

SR. GLORIA AGUMAGU, HHCJ PRINCIPAL

INFORMATION: 202-667-2608

Catholic Education Corner

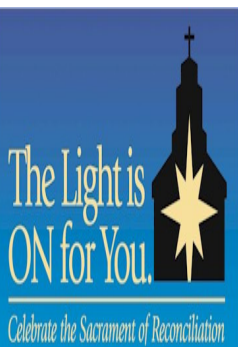


Registration
Information

Saint Augustine School is now registering for the 2015-2016 school year for grades Pre-K3, Pre-K4 through Eighth. For an application or more information, please contact Mr. Wilkins, Direction of Admissions at 202-667-2608 or email: admissions@saintaugustine-dc.org

Please Pray for Our Sick & Homebound

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| John Adams, Sr. Beatrice Alexander Donovan Anderson William Barksdale Frances Brooks Mary Burgan Williams Burgan Andrew Burton Angela Callighan Elizabeth Carter Phillip Cephas Vincent Clarke, Sr. Annie Cole Tommie Cunningham Pauline Dines Susan Epps Charles Edwards Richard B. Fowler Barbara Ferguson Daniel Galloway Inez Gaskins Charles Gathers Thelma Givens Charlene Gordon Valencia Green Robert Greenfield Frances Gulston Grace Hansberry Brian Harvey | John Harris Patricia Herndon Emily Hill Jeanne Hincley Deborah Jackson Paul Joy Benjamin Kilgore Sedonia Labee Keats Labule Louisa Lee Mary Leonard Bernadette Mahoney Catherine Mason Florence Matthews Edna Mills James McNamara Leona Miller Sylvia Monroe Julius Oben Colelle Ogbey Theresa Purcell George Queen Ashley Redhead, Jr. Royal Robinson Fran Robertson Lisa Rivera Doris Silas Gertina Simms Kathleen Simms | George Simmons Mary Smith Zedekiah Smith Donnie Stewart Willis Thomas Angela Tilghman Juanita Towns Selma Twitty Hayden Vaughn Lillian Vaughn Terry Vaughn Esperanza Walker Shirley Ward Betty Washington Lillie White Bernice Williams Teresa Wilkinson Lozzie York |
|---|---|---|



The Light is On You!
During Lent all Catholic Churches in the Archdiocese will be open for confessions and quiet prayer every Wednesday from 6:30pm to 8:00pm in the Church.



Stations of The Cross

Every Friday after the 12:10 pm Mass and at 7:30pm in the Church.



Girl Scout Cookie Time!

The Saint Augustine Girl Scout Troop 3859 will be selling cookies after all Masses until March 22nd — the last week for cookies sales. Please support our troop.



HHCJ Feast Day Celebration

The Congregation of Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus will celebrate their Feast Day on March 29, 2015 at the 10:00AM Mass. Light refreshments will follow in the Convent located at 2028 15th St, NW.

Please Pray for Our Dead



Parish Pastoral Council



Pastoral Parish Council Meetings are held every 3rd Saturday of the month at 9:00 am in the Gingras Center. Meetings are open to all parishioners.



PARK FREE
SUNDAYS FROM 9AM-4PM
REEVES CENTER
U STREET AT 14TH STREET NW
ENTER ON U STREET

Our Parish Bookstore and Gift Shop

Opens before and after weekend Masses. Use Visa or MasterCard (\$10 min), check (\$5min), or cash to buy: Bibles - Missals - Rosaries - Books on the Pope, Saints, Parish History, Faith, Discernment, Marriage, Children's Books, Father Pat's Homilies and more.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC, RECEIVING CONFIRMATION? SPONSORING INQUIRERS?
RCIA MEETS TUESDAYS AT 6:45 – 8:45PM IN THE GINGRAS CENTER - SABRINA WILLIAMS AT 202-294-6990.

▼ SEE GINGRAS CENTER BULLETIN BOARD FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS OF AVAILABLE EMPLOYMENT, YOUTH AND ADULT OPPORTUNITIES. ▼