

# FATHER PAT'S SERMON NOTES

## Fifth Sunday in Lent

### The Grain of Wheat

The Christian life is not the life you were born with! But it is the life that God wants you to have. But the only way to have it is to make an exchange: You freely laying down your old life and God freely giving you the gift of a new one. This is why we, like the grain of wheat in the Gospel, first have to die before we can live... for Christ. As we see in the first reading from the prophet Jeremiah, the old life, like the Old Covenant, was marred by broken promises, broken hearts and shattered dreams. Commitments made but not kept; oaths taken but not lived up to; love pledged but frequently betrayed were all the legacy of sin that ended in exile and death. So, God calls us to die to ourselves and this legacy of sin and instead take up a new profession: Living for Him. How do begin? Repenting of our sins and asking for a NEW heart!

In the hymn, Give me a clean Heart based on today's Psalm (51), we sing: "Give me a clean heart, that I may serve Thee". God says, 'I will make a new covenant with (my people)... I will place my law within them and write it on their hearts'(Jer. 31). We need healthy hearts to live healthy lives. We need Godly hearts to live holy lives! We need generous hearts with his law of love engraved on them to answer the call to live... for Him and for others!

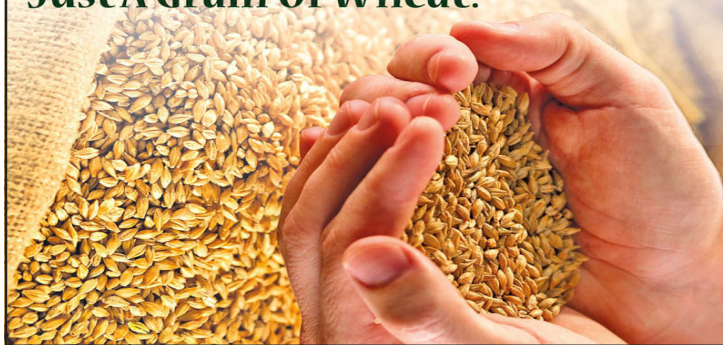
So, what will be the unique characteristics that clearly distinguish our new lives from the old way of life? Forgiveness and reconciliation. When you forgive another from your heart, you sabotage Satan's master plan and conquer hell itself. While the glorious **finale** of Jesus' life on earth was the resurrection, the key victory that inflicted the mortal blow to Satan's kingdom was the crucifixion! Christ willingness to accept its excruciating pain by forgiving his persecutors sealed the deal...and our fate: Not even our sin would defeat his Father's indomitable love for us. The Christian life is not the life you were born with, but it is the life that God wants you to have. A life where apparent failure leads to victory, despair leads to triumph, and even death is transformed into to resurrection!

Father Patrick A Smith ©2012 [revised original title: "Die Live Forgive"]

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

## Unless A Grain Of Wheat Falls To The Earth And Dies, It Remains Just A Grain Of Wheat.



Sunday, March 22, 2015

### Scripture Readings

5th Sunday of Lent

Jer 31:31-34

Heb 5: 7-9

JN 12:20-33

Palm Sunday

Is 50:4-7

Phil 2:6-11

Mk 14:1-15:47 or 15:1-39



### 8:15 am Daily Mass Intentions

Mon	Mar	23	Valerie Moyo	- Living
Tues	Mar	24	Florence Matthews	- Living
Wed	Mar	25	Donna Smith	- Deceased
Thurs	Mar	26	Bernice Williams	- Living
Fri	Mar	27	Elizabeth Carter	- Living

Attendance

927



**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



5th Sunday of Lent

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

SR. GLORIA AGUMAGU, HHCJ PRINCIPAL

INFORMATION: 202-667-2608

## Catholic Education Corner



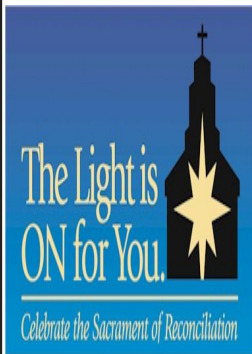
Saint Augustine School is now registering for the 2015-2016 school year for grades Pre-K3, Pre-K4 through Eighth. For an application or more information, please contact Mr. Wilkins, Direction of Admissions at 202-667-2608 or email: [admissions@saintaugustine-dc.org](mailto:admissions@saintaugustine-dc.org)

## 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 Labue  
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  
Brenda West  
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.



**Please Pray for Our Dead**  
*Donna Smith (Sister-in-law to Father Smith)*



### 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.



### Stations of The Cross

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



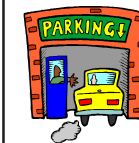
### Girl Scout Cookie Time!

The Saint Augustine Girl Scout Troop 3859 will be selling cookies after all Masses today — the last day 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.



**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. ▼