

FATHER PAT'S SERMON NOTES

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

The Nativity of The Lord

“All I Want for Christmas is You!”

Each year when we celebrate Christmas, we remind ourselves that at the heart of it all is a gift; an extraordinary and amazing Gift from our extraordinary and amazing God! The Gift, of course, is Jesus. “**A child is born to us; a Son is given**”. One odd thing about this time of the year though is that we often overlook the obvious: Christmas is Jesus’ birthday not ours! Can you imagine especially as a child having a birthday coming and no one ever asking: “What do YOU want for your birthday?” - and instead just go out and buy gifts for themselves?

So, as a faith community, we choose to ask the obvious question: “**Jesus, what do you want for your birthday?**” As soon as I ask this question I can’t help but think of the contemporary Christmas song by Mariah Carey which includes the following lyrics: “*I don’t want a lot for Christmas, there is just one thing I need. I don’t care about the presents underneath the Christmas tree. I just want you for my own more than you could ever know. Make my wish come true. All I want for Christmas – is you!*” Wow. Could it really be that simple? “**I just want you**” our Lord says, “**just you**”. So there you have it. The only question now is whether you will give him the gift that he actually wants or will you sit out this Christmas celebration? I hope you will avoid the last option because Christ definitely wants you to be a part of his Birthday party - but not just for your own sake! Remember, God always intended for Jesus to be Joy TO the world and not just FOR ourselves!

With this in mind, we have decided to give you who attend Mass on Christmas a special a gift that may assist you in giving Christ the gift he wants most: Yourself. It is a little book entitled: **Resisting Happiness** by Matthew Kelly. The basic premise in the words of the author is this: “*Every day, every single one of us encounters resistance. We hit the snooze button, we procrastinate, we avoid the real issues in our lives... for all sorts of reasons. In essence, we sabotage or resist our own happiness. Only by overcoming resistance can we really experience the happiness God created us to experience*”. No one more than God wants you to know real joy this Christmas and beyond; the joy of giving him the gift of yourself and then letting him give you away to others so that they too may know and “*repeat the sounding joy*” again and again, till all have heard and come to know the joy of being close to him too!

Copyright ©Father Patrick A Smith, 2016

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, December 25, 2016

Scripture Readings

The Nativity of The Lord

Is 52:7-10

Heb 1:1-6

Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Nm 6:22-27

Gal 4:4-7

Lk 2:16-21



8:15 am Daily Mass Intentions

Mon	Dec	26	Frances Brooks	- Living
Tues	Dec	27	Francis Arnold	- Living
Wed	Dec	28	Valencia Green	- Living
Thurs	Dec	29	Bernice Williams	- Living
Fri	Dec	30	Betty Washington	- Living

Attendance



BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is held on every Wednesday at 7:00pm in the School Cafeteria.



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 31, 2016

New Year’s Eve

11:00pm Mass

Sunday, January 1, 2016

Solemnity of Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God

8:00am, 10:00am & 12:30pm

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



The Nativity of The Lord

**This Sunday's Second Collection is for our Parish Poor Fund
Next Sunday's Second Collection is for our Parish School. Thank you for your continued support.**

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 2016-2017 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



SUPPORT

Saint Augustine School

Saint Augustine Students will be selling candy after each Mass.
The candy is \$1.00 a bar.

SAVE THE DATE — January 14, 2017



**2017 Concert and Liturgy
Celebrating the Legacy of
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**

4:00pm — Archdiocese of Washington Mass
Gospel Choir
5:00pm — Most Rev. Mario E. Dorsonville
Auxiliary Bishop Of Washington

Saint Thomas More Catholic Church
4275 4th Street SE,
Washington, DC 20032

“Out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope.”
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Please Pray for Our Sick & Homebound

Gwendolyn Adams
John Adams, Sr.
Beatrice Alexander
Francis Arnold
Ronald Ausbrooks
William Barksdale
Valerie Barrows
Althea Black
Frances Brooks
Norma Brown
Mary Burgan
Williams Burgan
Andrew Burton
Angela Callighan
Elizabeth Carter
Phillip Cephas
Ollie Mae Clark
Ernestine Coghill-Howard
Karen Dickerson
Pauline Dines
Theola Douglas
Susan Epps
Barbara Ferguson
Julie Fish
Toni Fisher
Richard B. Fowler
Daniel Galloway
Inez Gaskins
Charles Gathers
Rev Charles Green
Valencia Green
Robert Greenfield
Frances Gulston
Louise Harrison

Grace Hansberry
Brian Harvey
John Harris
Patricia Herndon
Emily Hill
Jeanne Hinckley
Deborah Jackson
Charles Jackson
Marlene Jackson
Malcom Jamison
Eleanor Johnson
Paul Joy
Sedonia Labee
Keats Labule
Raymond Lane
Louisa Lee
Mary Leonard
Bernadette Mahoney
Lita Majors
Catherine Mason
Florence Matthews
Floyd McCory
James McNamara
Rick Middleton
Sylvia Monroe
Arnetia Montague
Alpha Nacnas
Evelyn Norris
Julius Oben
Colette Ogbey
Eileen Ogu
Harriet Parker
Marguerite Parker
Audrey Plaskett

Theresa Purrell
George Queen
Ashley Redhead, Jr.
Royal Robinson
Lisa Rivera
Doris Silas
Gertina Simms
Alise Simmons
George Simmons
Mary Smith
Zedekiah Smith
Donnie Stewart
Willis Thomas
Juanita Towns
Selma Twitty
Hayden Vaughn
Lillian Vaughn
Terry Vaughn
Shirley Ward
Betty Washington
William Waters
Elliot Weaver
Cynthia Wilkins
Bernice Williams
Teresa Wilkinson
Lozzie York



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
SUNDAY
FROM 9am — 4pm
REEVES CENTER**

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 Choir CDs

**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. ▼