

FATHER PAT'S SERMON NOTES

Third Sunday of Advent

Rejoice, Pray, and Give Thanks... Always!

"I rejoice heartily in the Lord! In my God is the joy of my soul!" says Isaiah, the prophet. So, what is the joy of your soul? Please don't say your girlfriend or boyfriend or best friend. Don't say your son or daughter; husband or wife or mom or dad or even the grandchildren! No, this is your **soul** we are talking about; the core of your being! Do all of your loved ones a huge favor and relieve them of the responsibility of being THE sustaining force in your life. It's a job description that they simply cannot and will not live up to. In fact, no finite human being, material possessions or wonderful but temporary circumstance can ultimately satisfy or sustain you.

In today's Gospel, John testifies about the only One who can fill the job description of being the joy of your soul: Jesus Christ. He testifies to the Light that shines even in the dark times; the Joy that endures even during the sad times; the Peace that can last through the upsetting times; and the Hope that can be sustained even in the direst of circumstances. This is the One you want to root your life in. How do we do this? Saint Paul in his Letter to the Thessalonians suggests a simple but powerful formula: **Rejoice always, pray without ceasing and give thanks in all circumstances.** Rejoice Always: There are things we do routinely each day (get a cup of coffee, brush your teeth, turn on the radio, groom your hair, fix up you face, dress, etc.). St. Paul encourages us to add "Rejoicing in God" to this list of things we do "all the time". Pray always: We have an extraordinary capacity to forget what matters most, including God. Prayer forces us to acknowledge God's presence whenever and wherever we engage in it. One-sentence prayers – even one-word prayers remind us that we are never, ever alone. Finally, Give Thanks always: Most people are more aware of what they lack than of what they have. Deliberately choosing to give thanks – religiously – regardless of the circumstances instantly widens the lenses of our perspective so that what we lack never eclipses the abundance we have received in Christ – the Joy of your soul!

Father Patrick A Smith ©2014



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

**"I am 'the voice of one crying out in the desert,
'Make straight the way of the Lord,'"**



Sunday, December 17, 2017

Scripture Readings

3rd Sunday of Advent

Is 61: 1-2a, 10-11

1 Thes 5:16-24

Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

4th Sunday of Advent

2 Sm 7: 1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

Rom 16:25-27

Lk 1:26-38



8:15 am Daily Mass Intentions

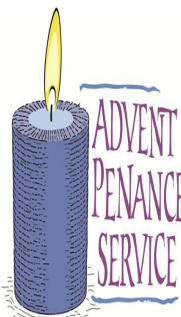
Mon	Dec	17	Grace Hansberry	-Living
Tues	Dec	18	Catherine Mason	-Living
Wed	Dec	19	James McNamara	-Living
Thurs	Dec	20	Mary Mubiru	-Living
Fri	Dec	21	Marguerite Parker	-Living

Attendance 753



BIBLE STUDY

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



ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE
Wednesday, December 20, 2017
7:00 pm in the Church

*Prepare for the Christmas Season
by celebrating the Sacrament of
Reconciliation.*



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



3rd Sunday In Advent

THIS SUNDAY'S SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR RETIREMENT FOR RELIGIOUS, AN ARCHDIOCESAN COLLECTION. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT. NEXT SUNDAY SECOND COLLECTION IS FOR OUR PARISH POOR.

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 2017-2018 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

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Gwendolyn Adams | Robert Greenfield | Alpha Nacnas |
| John Adams, Sr. | Frances Gulston | Julius Oben |
| Beatrice Alexander | Louise Harrison | Colelle Ogbey |
| Francis Arnold | Grace Hansberry | Eileen Ogu |
| Ronald Ausbrooks | Brian Harvey | Harriet Parker |
| William Barksdale | John Harris | Marguerite Parker |
| Althea Black | Patricia Herndon | Gunny David Pauley |
| Frances Brooks | Emily Hill | Cecilia Penero |
| Charles Brown | Jeanne Hinckley | Audrey Plaskett |
| Norma Brown | Eden Ingram | Theresa Purcell |
| Williams Burgan | Deborah Jackson | Gladys Quarelles |
| Andrew Burton | Charles Jackson | Tracey Quarelles |
| Angela Callighan | Marlene Jackson | Marie Racine |
| Elizabeth Carter | Kenya Jenkins | Samiya Rajah |
| Phillip Cephas | Malcom Jamison | Ze'La Rajah |
| Billy Chesley | Eleanor Johnson | Ashley Redhead, Jr. |
| Delores Chisley | Danielle Joy | Royal Robinson |
| Ollie Mae Clark | Paul Joy | Ruth Robinson |
| Monique Clarke | Howard Kilgore | Lisa Rivera |
| Ernestine Coghill Howard | Sedonia Labea | Gertina Simms |
| Emy-Lou Daley | Keats Lalube | Alise Simmons |
| Pauline Dines | Raymond Lane | Mary Smith |
| Theola Douglas | Louisa Lee | Donnie Stewart |
| Susan Epps | Mary Leonard | Don Strong |
| Barbara Ferguson | Elnora Lindsey | Mary Helen Swann |
| Julie Fish | Rev. Malanga | Willis Thomas |
| Toni Fisher | Bernadette Mahoney | Juanita Towns |
| Richard B. Fowler | Lita Majors | Hayden Vaughn |
| Daniel Galloway | Catherine Mason | Lillian Vaughn |
| Cathryn Gartmann | Florence Matthews | Terry Vaughn |
| Charles Gathers | Floyd McCrory | Shirley Ward |
| Rev Bob Gilliam | James McNamara | Betty Washington |
| Butler Grant | Sylvia Monroe | Elliot Weaver |
| Rev Charles Green | Arnetia Montague | Cynthia Wilkins |
| Valencia Green | Evelyn Morgan | Bernice Williams |

WORLD'S FINEST CHOCOLATE

Annual Fundraiser



Please support the students at Saint Augustine Catholic School and purchase some of the World's Finest Chocolate. Students are located in the back of the Church. Thank you for your support.

Saint Augustine School Presents

"A Christmas Carol 2017"

Friday December 22, 2017

Tickets: Adults: \$10.00

Senior Citizens: & Alumni: \$7.00

Children: (ages 5-12): \$5.00

For tickets and more information please call the School Office at 202-667-2608



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.

2017 CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve — Sunday, December 24, 2017

6:00pm Vigil Mass

The Children's Choir

11:00pm Christmas Carols (Doors open at 10:00pm)

12:00 Midnight Mass

The Combined Choirs of St Augustine

Christmas Day — Monday, December 25, 2017

8:00am Mass

11:00am Mass

New Year's Eve — Sunday, December 31, 2017

11:00pm Mass

New Year's Day — Monday, January 1, 2018

Solemnity of Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God

11:00am Mass



PARK FREE SUNDAY

FROM 9am — 4pm

REEVES CENTER

U STREET AT 14TH ST NW

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— 8:45 IN THE GINGRAS CENTER—SABRINA WILLIAMS AT 202-294-6990

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