

FATHER PAT'S SERMON NOTES

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

What if Weeds could become Wheat?

I hated pulling weeds in the yard as a kid. I much preferred cutting the grass, or raking the leaves and bagging them afterward. If I was more familiar with the scriptures read today as a boy, I could have quoted the bible to my parents to make a case that God himself was generally against pulling weeds! **"Master"** the servant asked, **"do you want us to pull up the weeds? No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them. Let them grow together until harvest..."** I wonder what my parents would have to say about THAT!

Have you ever thought: *"The world would be a much better place if we could instantly get rid of all the bad people"*? It's a tempting proposition but if we thought it through, we'd realize that we may be unintentionally wishing our own demise or that of a family member or friend who goes astray in a moment of stupidity or desperation! God's patience is a lifeline to us: **"Do you think I take any pleasure in the death of the wicked?, 'declares the Sovereign LORD'. Rather, am I not pleased when they turn from their ways and live?"** (Ezekiel 18:23).

Jesus said that the weeds represent the wicked or children of the evil one. I think that it is safe to say that your average church-goer would not classify themselves as members of this group! However, it's not a bad idea to keep in mind that Jesus spoke of both God and the devil as Fathers; the latter being **"the Father of Lies"** (John 8:44). If you are judged only from the witness of your life, how you treat your neighbor in thought, words and actions, or where you invest most of your time and energy — would it be fair to ask the question: **"Who's your Daddy?"** So, maybe before we start seeking to exorcise our Church of all of the weeds, we might want to double check whether we are one of them. Let us then invite the weeds to repent and experience God's life changing forgiveness. For his mercy can turn weeds into wheat and hopeless cases into grateful witnesses of what the power of God can do with a heart willing to repent.

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

"Let them grow together until the harvest."



Sunday, July 23, 2017

Scripture Readings

16th Sunday In Ordinary Time

Wis 12:13, 16-19

Rom 8:26-27

Mt 13:24-43 or 12:24-30

17th Sunday In Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12

Rom 8:28-30

Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46



8:15 am Daily Mass Intentions

Mon	July	24	Beth Nelson Rogers	- Deceased
Tues	July	25	Chris Erwin	- Deceased
Wed	July	26	Dolores Thomas	- Deceased
Thurs	July	27	Alma Spivey	- Deceased
Fri	July	28	Clarence E DesBordes	- Deceased

Attendance 790

BIBLE STUDY



Bible Study is on vacation until September. Stay tuned for the return date.



SAVE THE DATE
NAME TAG SUNDAY
August 5-6, 2017

Get ready for our upcoming Name Tag Weekend Aug 5 & 6! Bring your own or we will provide one for you as we continue calling each other by name and building our faith community.



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



NO SECOND COLLECTION THIS SUNDAY

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

COLLEGE BOUND BASKETS



Each year we provide College Bound Baskets for students who have served regularly for three or more years (including their senior year in high school) in a formal parish ministry. Students are nominated by their ministries in recognition of their dedicated service. Please support our annual College Bound Basket drive by donating the following new items:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Towels | Laundry Baskets |
| Sheets (Twin-XL) | Deodorant |
| Soap | Shampoo |
| Laundry detergent | Computer USB drives... |
| Toothpaste | and any other items students |
| Toothbrushes | need to take to college. |
| Lotion | |

We also accept monetary donations!
Donations are accepted until July 30, 2017.



4th ANNUAL "SUMMER IN THE CITY" FOOD DRIVE

Please support food pantries at St. Thomas More, St. Francis Xavier, Holy Name and St. Luke. Items needed include canned tuna or chicken, vegetables, fruit, rice, baked beans, pasta, pasta sauce and peanut butter and jelly in plastic containers. Bring your donations to Church on July 29-30, 2017. Thank you.

THE MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY NEED YOU!



The Ministers of Hospitality—the Ushers—are looking for a few good men and women aged 18 and older to join this dedicated ministry of the Church. Please see any Usher after Mass for details.

Please Pray for Our Sick & Homebound

Gwendolyn Adams
John Adams, Sr.
Beatrice Alexander
Francis Arnold
Ronald Ausbrooks
William Barksdale
Althea Black
Frances Brooks
Charles Brown
Norma Brown
Williams Burgan
Andrew Burton
Angela Callighan
Elizabeth Carter
Phillip Cephas
Billy Chesley
Dolores Chisley
Ollie Mae Clark
Ernestine Coghill Howard
Emy-Lou Daley
Pauline Dines
Theola Douglas
Susan Epps
Barbara Ferguson
Julie Fish
Toni Fisher
Richard B. Fowler
Daniel Galloway
Inez Gaskins
Charles Gathers
Rev Bob Gilliam
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
Danielle Joy
Paul Joy
Sedonia Labee
Keats Labule
Raymond Lane
Louisa Lee
Mary Leonard
Rev. Malanga
Bernadette Mahoney
Lita Majors
Catherine Mason
Florence Matthews
Floyd McCrory
James McNamara
Rick Middleton
Sylvia Monroe
Arnetia Montague
Evelyn Morgan
Alpha Nacnas
Julius Oben
Colelle Ogbe

Eileen Ogu
Harriet Parker
Marguerite Parker
Gunny David Pauley
Cecilia Penero
Audrey Plaskett
Theresa Purcell
Samiya Rajah
Ze'La Rajah
Ashley Redhead, Jr.
Royal Robinson
Ruth Robinson
Lisa Rivera
Gertina Simms
Alise Simmons
Mary Smith
Zedekiah Smith
Donnie Stewart
Don Strong
Mary Helen Swann
Willis Thomas
Juanita Towns
Selma Twitty
Hayden Vaughn
Lillian Vaughn
Terry Vaughn
Shirley Ward
Betty Washington
Elliot Weaver
Cynthia Wilkins
Bernice Williams
Teresa Wilkinson
Lozzie York



PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

Beth Nelson Rogers (Sister of Mary Wilburn)



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
U STREET AT 14TH ST NW

*Enter on U Street
Please see an Usher after Mass for a
Reeves Center Parking Coupon*

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