

# FATHER PAT'S SERMON NOTES

## 3rd Sunday In Ordinary Times

### The Unparalleled Power of the Mass

The practical way that the early Church honored the third commandment (Keep holy the Sabbath day) after the resurrection of Jesus was by gathering as a community every Sunday, the first day of the week, and no longer Saturday, the last day of the week. This was a huge change that only something extraordinary and life altering would warrant; something like the resurrection of Jesus which occurred on the first day of the week (Sunday)! The first Christians, who were overwhelmingly Jewish, combined the Synagogue liturgy (reading the scriptures and teaching) with the Temple liturgy (prayer, sacrifice and worship). The two parts of the Mass reflect this combination exactly: Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

So, the Mass is the pinnacle and apex of our faith. Yet amazingly, some people say that Mass bores them. Does it really? A person bored at Mass is like an *unconscious rider* strapped into the fastest and most sophisticated and death-defying roller coaster ever built. When the ride is over and the unconscious person awakens, she is thoroughly unimpressed and un-thrilled! To be fair, sometimes we who have liturgical roles at Mass can "celebrate" it in such a way that the experience comes across like a poorly acted play with a weak story-line and a lousy score! We don't give it the effort that it deserves. We don't realize that we are playing with Holy Fire! That is, we are unaware that God invites us to be conduits of a power as great as the power of creation itself! We "handle" the Mass like toddlers would handle precious diamonds – like they don't have a clue about their worth!

Compare this to the assembly gathered for the reading of the Book of the Law described in today's reading from the Prophet Nehemiah. For a good part of the day the people are enthralled, deeply moved, falling to their knees and on their faces – even weeping as the Holy Scriptures are read to them! Wow! What were they seeing that we often fail to see? For them it was an event like none other; because it was nothing less than an encounter with the living God. So is the Mass – even more so! But the question is: **Are you awake to this encounter or are you unconsciously missing the ride of a lifetime?**

©Fr. Patrick A. Smith 2013 [First published under the title: Staying Close to God by Keeping the Sabbath Holy]

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, January 27 2019

### Scripture Readings

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10

1 Cor 12:12-30 or 12:12-14, 27

Lk 1:1-4, 4:14-21

4th Sunday In Ordinary Times

Jer 1:4-5, 17-19

1 Cor 12:31-13:13 or 13:4-13

Lk 4:21-30



### 8:15 am Daily Mass Intentions

Mon	Jan	28	Debra Henry	-Living
Tues	Jan	29	Gladys Quarells	-Living
Wed	Jan	30	Tracey Quarells	-Living
Thurs	Jan	31	Ira Johnson	-Living
Fri	Feb	1	Donald Johnson	-Living

Attendance 793



### BIBLE STUDY

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



### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

January 27 - February 2, 2019

Catholic Schools  
Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

Many exiting activities are being planned for this week. Please see the flyer and come celebrate with us.



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



This Sunday's Second collection is for our Parish Poor. Thank You for your continued support.  
NEXT Sunday's Second Collection is for Parish School.

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 2018-2019 school year for grades Pre-K3, Pre-K4 through Eighth. For an

application or more information, please contact Mr. Raven Wilkins, Director of Admissions at 202-667-2608 or email: [admissions@saintaugustine-dc.org](mailto:admissions@saintaugustine-dc.org).



Check out our School's 2018 video on our school landing page at [www.staug-dc.org](http://www.staug-dc.org) or by searching "St. Augustine Catholic School DC" on YouTube. Thank you!

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

*Save the Date*

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February 2019

The Black History Committee is planning a series of activities and events to celebrate Black History Month. Please stay tuned for information.



### GET TO KNOW YOUR PPC February 2-3, 2019

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) invites you to a coffee fellowship. You can meet and greet the PPC members and have an opportunity to ask questions and/or make suggestions to improve your parish. We will be in the School Cafeteria after 4:30 Mass, and the Saint Augustine Room after each Mass on Sunday.



## SHARE

**SHARE** packages for the month of February are on sale after each Mass at the Ushers' Table.

## Please Pray for Our Sick & Homebound

Gwendolyn Adams	Frances Gulston	Gunny David Pauley
John Adams, Sr.	Grace Hansberry	Cecilia Penero
Beatrice Alexander	Brian Harvey	Audrey Plasket
Francis Arnold	Michelle Harvey	Rhoda Pounds
Ronald Ausbrooks	John Harris	Theresa Purcell
William Barksdale	Patricia Herndon	Glady Quarells
Althea Black	Albert Hill	Tracy Redhead, Jr.
Frances Brook	Emily Hill	Inez Robinson
Norma Brown	Jeanne Hinckley	Isidro Rodriguez
Williams Burgan	Deborah Jackson	Ruth Robinson
Andrew Burton	Charles Jackson	Lisa Rivera
Angela Callighan	Marlene Jackson	Gertina Simms
Marguerite Carroll	Malcolm Jamison	Alise Simmons
Phillip Cephas	Eleanor Johnson	Mary Smith
Billy Chesley	Paul Joy	Donnie Stewart
Delores Chisley	Sandra Kimbell	Don Strong
Ollie Mae Clark	Benjamin Kilgore	Mary Helen Swann
Vincent Michael Clarke	Keats Labule	Juanita Towns
Ernestine Coghill Howard	Raymond Lane	Hayden Vaughn
Emy-Lou Daley	Louisa Lee	Lillian Vaughn
Pauline Dines	Mary Leonard	Terry Vaughn
Theola Douglas	Elнора Lindsey	Shirley Ward
Susan Epps	Rev. Malanga	Betty Washington
Roberta Fancher	Bernadette Mahoney	Elliott Weaver
Barbara Ferguson	Lita Majors	Cynthia Wilkins
Julie Fish	Florence Matthews	Bernice Williams
Toni Fisher	Floyd McCrory	Teresa Williams
Richard B. Fowler	James McNamara	Lozzie York
Daniel Galloway	Will Miller	
Cathryn Gartmann	Sylvia Monroe	
Charles Gathers	Arnetta Montague	
Rev Bob Gilliam	Renata Montague	
Shirley Goodall	Evelyn Morgan	
Irving Goodall	Alpha Nacnas	
Butler Grant	Julius Oben	
Rev Charles Green	Colelle Ogbey	
Teresita Green	Eileen Ogu	
Robert Greenfield	Harriet Parker	

## 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  
U STREET AT 14TH ST 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— 8:45 IN THE GINGRAS CENTER—SABRINA WILLIAMS AT 202-294-6990

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