

Continued from page 1

When the Gentiles heard this, they were glad and praised the word of the Lord; and as many as had been destined for eternal life became believers.

Paul, thus, becomes the apostle to the Gentiles or nations. January 25th is feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul.

Father Augustine

#### A Right to Justice

Jesus stood up in his home town and announced his program: to bring glad tidings to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives, recovery of sight to the blind and release to prisoners. It may not sound particularly religious to some, but it was a program established by one who had returned to Galilee "in the power of the Spirit."

Today's liturgy juxtaposes the story of Jesus reading in the synagogue with the story of Ezra reading the law to people upon their return from exile. The suggestion is that Jesus' program is a kind of law, a rule that should govern our lives. Bringing good news to the poor, liberating people from all their oppressions, this is not some optional activity that one can engage in only if one is inclined. It is "the law of the Lord," it is the program for which we have all been anointed.

The unity and peace we pray for at the beginning of Mass will only come if Jesus' followers accept his program as their own.

In his plan of salvation. God gave Israel its law. ... Of this collection of laws, love of God above all things and of neighbor as oneself already constitute the center. But the justice which must govern relations between people, and the law which is its juridical expression, also belong to the sum and substance of the biblical law. ... It is in this context that one should appreciate the biblical law's care for the poor, the needy, the widow and the orphan: They have a right to justice according to the juridical ordinances of the people of God.

Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith,  
[Instruction on Christian Freedom and Liberation](#), 1986: 45

Gerald Darring

Help is needed for our Altar Linen Ministry. What does this entail? You would be responsible for the care and laundering of the altar clothes (corporals, purificators and towels) for an assigned month, three times a year. These are all small linens. Training is simple and will be provided. If interested in this special ministry please contact Daya at [\(510\) 845-4561](tel:5108454561) or [\(510\) 520-0663](tel:5105200663).

**Electronic Funds Transfer**  
**IT MAKES EVERY SUNDAY COUNT!**  
Application Forms are in the back of the church

## Saint Augustine Catholic Church

400 Alcatraz Avenue, Oakland, California 94609

[www.staugustineoakland.com](http://www.staugustineoakland.com)

Office phone number (510) 653-8631

### Conversion of Saint Paul

After the resurrection of Christ, the conversion of Paul is considered as one of the most momentous events in the history of Christianity. It was the relentless missionary spirit of Saint Paul that spread Christian faith across the Middle East especially in present day countries like Turkey, Syria, Iraq, Rome and the neighboring regions. Now many of these countries are engulfed by war and violence and need our prayers and support. It is also ironic that in some of these places Christian faith is all but gone.

The Jewish name of Paul was Saul; the Latin version of his name is Paulus or Paul. Paul was a well-educated and erudite Pharisee. He witnessed the martyrdom of Stephen (stoned to death) and quite approved of it. He was bent on uprooting the nascent Christian faith. As part of this mission he was on his way to Damascus in Syria when Jesus appears to him (Acts 22). In Paul's own words:

While I was on my way and approaching Damascus, about noon, a great light from heaven suddenly shone about me. I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' I answered, 'Who are you, Lord?' Then He said to me, 'I am Jesus of Nazareth whom you are persecuting.' Acts 22:6-8.

The conversion experience transformed Paul into a believer, missionary and an apostle. As Paul's words were not welcomed in the synagogues, he began to preach to the non-Jewish population. We read in Acts of the Apostle 13: 46-48:

Then both Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken first to you. Since you reject it ... we are now turning to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, saying,

'I have set you to be a light for the Gentiles, so that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.'"

Continued on page 4

#### Mission Statement

We are called by Christ to love Him, to follow Him and to bring Him to the world.



#### St. Augustine Parish Office

400 Alcatraz Ave Oakland, CA 94609

Phone: (510) 653-8631 ext 110

[www.staugustineoakland.com](http://www.staugustineoakland.com)

[saintaugustinechurch@comcast.net](mailto:saintaugustinechurch@comcast.net)

Emergency Cell number (510) 653-8631 ext 111

Fr. Augustine Joseph  
Parochial Administrator, ext 100  
[pastorachurch@comcast.net](mailto:pastorachurch@comcast.net)

Paul McWilliams, Director, Music ext 104  
[pmcwilliams@usfca.edu](mailto:pmcwilliams@usfca.edu)

Karen Glen, Ministry Coordinator, ext 102  
[kglen.staugustineMC@gmail.com](mailto:kglen.staugustineMC@gmail.com)

Linda Prara-Jenkins, Office Manager, ext 101  
[staugustinefrontdesk@gmail.com](mailto:staugustinefrontdesk@gmail.com)

Douglas Castro/Maintenance

**Please remember in your prayers those who are ill:**

Bob Shobar, Gloria Bautista, Virginia Nelson, Fr. Freddie's father, Thomas, Claudia Johnson, Theresa Allevato.

**And those who have died:**

Marilyn La Placa, Mary Flynn, Rose Thomas, Frankie Levine, Katie Johanni, Catherine Gerrick

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Saturday, January 23rd, 2016, 5:00 p.m.

**Michael Moran (-)**

Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 8 a.m.

**Parishioners & Benefactors**

Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 10:30 a.m.

**Michael Moran (-)**

Sunday January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016, 2016, 6 p.m.

**Parishioners & Benefactors**

**Stewardship – Weekly Offering**

January 10th Collection: \$3,743.00 Includes EFT

St. Vincent dePaul stewardship: \$154.41

**Question of the Week****For Adults:**

What do you believe that the anointing you received at Baptism requires you to do?

**For Children:**

What could you do this week for someone who has less than you?

**Dates to Remember**

Tuesday, February 2nd, Year of Mercy Service, Stations of the Cross

Wednesday, February 10th, Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 17th, 24th, 2nd, 9th, 16th, Evening Prayer

**Job opening: Director for Music Ministry**

***Saint Augustine Parish, Oakland, seeks a Music Minister.*** It is a part time paid position. Music minister is responsible for music ministry in the Church. It will include planning and development of the full liturgical cycle, coordinated scheduling, supervision of musicians and volunteers, etc. Candidate must be able to organize and implement events and have flexibility in work hours. It requires weekend work. A more detailed job description can be obtained from the parish.

This is a 20 hours per week position. Salary classification is M-3. Salary is based upon the diocesan scale and depends on qualification and experience.

Please send your cover letter, application and resume to Pastor, Saint Augustine Parish, 400 Alcatraz Ave, Oakland 94609 or email to: [pastorachurch@comcast.net](mailto:pastorachurch@comcast.net) . All candidates need to fill out the application form completely.

Application form is found at the following website: <http://www.oakdiocese.org/offices/human-resources/employment/personnel-policies-for-responschanceries-and-parishes/AppendixD15%20Application.pdf>

**Cathedral of Christ the Light Jubilee Year of Mercy Major Events:****Early 2016**

Pilgrimages to the Cathedral of Christ the Light  
For parishes, groups and individuals begin

**March 4-5, 2016**

“24 Hours for the Lord”

The Cathedral of Christ the Light and Deaneries/Parishes

**November 20, 2016: 10 a.m.**

Mass - Conclusion of the Jubilee of Mercy

The Cathedral of Christ the Light - Bishop Michael Barber, S.J.. Celebrant

**Ministry Schedule**

Wednesday, Jan 27<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm: RCIA

Sunday, Jan 31st @ 9:15 am – Faith Formation

Sunday, Jan 31st @ 9:15 – Sacramental

Preparation for Reconciliation & First Holy Communion

Sunday, Jan 31st – CLW

Sunday, Jan 31<sup>st</sup> @ 12:30 pm – Eucharistic

Ministers Meeting

**Weekly Worship Schedule**

**Saturday Vigil**

**5:00 p.m.**

**Sunday Eucharist**

**8:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.**

**Weekday Eucharist**

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday**

**8:30 a.m.**

**Communion Service**

**Wednesday 8:30 a.m.**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**Saturday 4 p.m.**

**From the Office of the Ministry Coordinator:****LETTER FROM BISHOP BARBER**

My dear brothers and sisters,

The Holy Year of Mercy comes to us as a gift from God through the ministry of our beloved Pope Francis, and as Saint Paul once said: “Behold, now is the acceptable time, behold, now is the day of salvation” (2 Cor 6:2).

We have been called by Pope Francis to celebrate this Jubilee Year, first of all, contemplating the face of Christ, in whom the mystery of God’s mercy has reached its summit. But we also need to bring the experience of God’s mercy to the whole world.

Our Diocese is fully embracing this joyful celebration with many different programs and events, but, above all, by promoting the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. It is my deepest desire, as father and pastor of the Church of Oakland, that each Catholic might be willing and able to practice them and truly become “merciful like the Father,” not only during this Holy Year, but always.

With the assurance of my prayers and blessings,

**Michael C. Barber, SJ**

*Bishop of Oakland*

Visit the Diocese Jubilee of Mercy website @ <http://www.jubileeofmercy-eb.org>

**56 Ways to Be Merciful During the Jubilee Year of Mercy**

**# 17 HOLD! YOUR! TONGUE!**

**#18 Offer to run an errand (groceries, dry cleaning pick up, dog-walking) for a busy parent or homebound person.**

Please continue to pray with me that our Parish community will grow in God’s love and holiness. In Christ’s love. Karen