

QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK**LOVE ALL**

1. When you hear someone talking about making a difference in the world, what do you think about? Do you think you can make a difference? Even right now?
2. What did you think when you saw the story of the village chief react to hearing the good news? Have you ever met someone who felt the same way?
3. How do you think people view Christians?

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Pack Christmas boxes with St. Vincent dePaul this Advent!

Friday, Dec. 19th at 6 pm til 8 pm in the St. Vincent dePaul garage beneath the rectory at the corner of Colby and Alcatraz

Saturday, December 20th from 9 am til 2 pm in the same place.

Stop by for as long or as short a time as you are able. Questions? Contact Maureen

Wikander moweenie@gmail.com 510.847.3585

Glasses for the Philippines

Your old glasses can change a life! St. Augustine's is collecting reading and prescription glasses for the Holy Rosary International Medical Missions (HRIMM) as it prepares to serve the medical needs of the poor in the Philippines. The HRIMM is affiliated with Holy Rosary Parish in Antioch. The glasses will be distributed by the medical team this upcoming January when it visits Panay and Sablayan. More information on the mission can be found at <http://www.hrimm.org/>. Please take this opportunity to serve our brothers and sisters in Christ by placing reading and prescription glasses in the red bin in the vestibule at church. Questions? Call Peter Hayes on 925-323-0463.

GIVING TREE - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - The giving tree will be up on November 30th with ornaments bearing names and ages of St. Vincent de Paul and Elizabeth House families. Take an ornament and return an unwrapped gift to mass Dec. 13th or 14th to provide a gift for families who are undergoing difficult times.



Saint Augustine Catholic Church

400 Alcatraz Avenue, Oakland, California

www.staugustineoakland.com

Office phone number (510) 653-8631

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The first reaction to my appointment at Saint Augustine Church has been, "how appropriate...Father Augustine going to Saint Augustine." My first visit to the parish occurred during the first week of November, after I was asked by our Bishop if I would be open to working at the Church here. I have willingly accepted the offer and I am happy to be here.

As many of you know Saint Augustine has had a checkered history. I have met some of the priests who have been pastors here, especially in the early 1960s. They speak of the glorious days of Saint Augustine! The building of the Church and other facilities are silent witness to the faith of a vibrant community who sacrificed much to accomplish all these. Some of them have moved away, others have gone to eternity and I am sure some are still here with us.

If you read the Ministry profile for Saint Augustine parish (2012) at the diocesan website you will get a statistical analysis of the parish, its demographic makeup, income levels, religious affiliation, etc.

The challenge facing us today is not something theoretical or improving our knowledge base. It is rather living our faith in a practical way. Jesus words, "you are the light of the world" needs to be translated into our lives even with all our imperfections. As an ancient (Chinese?) proverb says, "It is better to light a candle than curse the darkness."

With God's help, with the power of the Holy Spirit, prayers of our Blessed Mother Mary and Saint Augustine, let us light a candle (in this era of electric lights a candle may seem too insignificant), let us each be a candle and dispel the darkness – darkness of fear, insecurity, ignorance, sin and so on. May we receive our light from the source of all light, Jesus Christ, our savior.

Advent is a season of hope. May we be a hopeful people, actively engaged in working for God's kingdom in our work places, in our homes and with people we socialize. Happy Advent.

Father Augustine



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Douglas Castro/Maintenance

Mission Statement

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

Kindly keep the following parishioners in your prayers as they have been placed in **Hospice care**: Hortense Atkins and Marilyn La Placa.

Please remember in your prayers those who are ill:

Alice Atkinson, Rose Knapp, Stephanie Sauder-Andrade, Sylvia Lope, Rose Domaguino, Madeleine Shannon, Matilda Maes, Mary Pavao, Patty Wiesner, Claudia Johnson, Carmon Woodyard.

And those who have died:

Cora Jose, Jeanne Harold Boxley, Kay Irwin, Timothy Michael Solovieff, Toby Burditt, Juanita Morris and Kristina Velarde.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, December 6th, 2014, 5:00 p.m.

Parishioners and Benefactors

Sunday, December 7th, 2014 8 a.m.

Stella & Oswald Jacob (+)

Sunday, December 7th, 10:30 a.m.

Parishioners and Benefactors

Sunday, December 7th, 2014, 6:00 p.m.

Parishioners and Benefactors

Stewardship – Weekly Offering

November 30, 2014: \$4,655 (includes EFT)

St. Vincent dePaul Stewardship: \$173.66



**ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH
ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR IS**

Dec. 6-7

We will continue our Bible Study this Sunday, December 7, 2014 after the 10:30 AM Mass in the Rectory dining room. All are welcome. Please bring your Holy Bible, a pen and note pad.

In the Powerful Name of Jesus.

Fr. Freddie Thomas

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.

Please come and join us every Tuesday morning at St. Augustine's, combining elements of Taizé music, contemplative prayer, and liturgy of the hours. The service will begin at 7:45 a.m. and will last approximately 25 minutes.

No prior experience or training is necessary in order to participate; all that is needed is a desire to meet with a small group to spend time in prayer. If you would like more information, please contact Susan Schaeffer at lilac52@gmail.com or 415-935-1729

Please join members of the Prayer Tree

To pray "Rosary for Peace" on the 1st Sundays of the month. Rosary for Peace begins at 9:15 AM, on following days in 2014: December 7.

Dates to Remember

Sunday, December 7, Arts & Crafts Fair

Monday, December 8th, Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation. Masses at 8:30 AM & 7 PM.

Wednesday, December 10th, Evening Prayer

Friday, December 12th, Guadalupe Mass 7 PM

Monday, December 15th Reconciliation Service 7 PM

Wednesday, December 17th Evening Prayer

Wednesday, December 24th, Family Mass 5 PM

Wednesday, December 24th, Midnight Mass, 11:30 PM

Thursday, December 25th, Christmas Mass 10:30 AM

Message from St. Vincent de Paul

Our annual One Warm Coat drive is underway through 12/30/14. Coats go directly to needy men, women, and children who wouldn't otherwise been able to buy a coat to stay warm this winter. There will be a box in the entry next to our regular carts for collection of these coats. Your participation is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your generosity.

St. Augustine's Advent Events, 2014

Christmas Family Mass Rehearsal

Join us one December 6th at 9:15am in the CLW Room to sign up for your role in the Christmas Eve Family Mass!



Singers, actors, readers, greeters, ushers, and children of all ages are needed!

Evening Prayer

Wednesdays in Advent @ 6:30 PM

Join us for quiet prayer and song in this season of simplicity.



Wednesday, December 3rd, 10th, & 17th
Meet us in the church.

CELEBRATE OUR MARIAN FEASTS!



Guadalupe

Join us in honoring the Patroness of the Americas with mass, music and festive treats!

Friday,
December 12th
at 7 PM in the
Church

Immaculate Conception

Join us for this Holy Day of Obligation (Opportunity)!

Monday, December 8th
Mass at 8:30 AM and 7 PM
in the Church.

Advent Reconciliation Service



Monday, December 15th
at 7 PM in the Church

Unless otherwise noted, please contact the parish office for more information or questions.