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The prime sin in so much of the biblical tradition is idolatry: service of the creature rather than of the creator, and the attempt to overturn creation by making God in human likeness. The Bible castigates not only the worship of idols, but also manifestations of idolatry, such as the quest for unrestrained power and the desire for great wealth.

U.S. Bishops, [Economic Justice for All](#), 1986: 33

Gerald Darring

A quote from Laudato Si, Section 159

Since the world has been given to us, we can no longer view reality in a purely utilitarian way, in which efficiency and productivity are entirely geared to our individual benefit... the world we have received also belongs to those who will follow us. The Portuguese bishops have said:

" The environment... is on loan to each generation, which must then hand it on to the next "

We will continue our Bible Study next Sunday, March 6th, after the 10:30 a.m. Mass in the cafeteria. All are welcome. Please bring your Holy Bible, a pen and note pad.

In the Powerful Name of Jesus,

Fr. Freddie Thomas

Quiet times of centering prayer, a brief reflection, shared petitions, framed with simple music. All are welcome!" The service will begin on Thursday mornings 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](tel: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 2015: March 6th, April 3th, May 1st, June 5th, July 3rd, August 7th, September 4th, October 2nd, November 6th, December 4th.

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

Office phone number (510) 653-8631

The Prime Sin

Moses encountered on Mount Sinai the one God, the God of his ancestors, the God whose name is *I am*. A covenant was to be made with the people of Israel, one based on their recognition of YHWH as the one God. The Israelites would stray from that covenant from time to time, turning away from the one God and worshipping false gods.

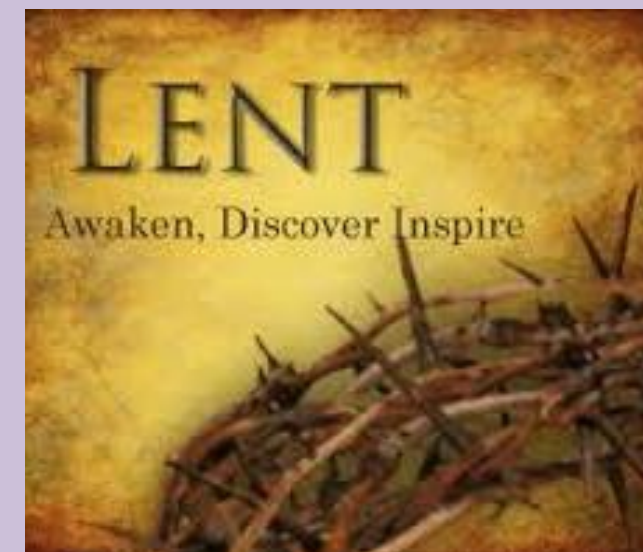
Their prophets would repeatedly call them back to the covenant worship of the one God.

We, too, turn away from the one God to worship false gods. We make an idol of money, worshipping at the altar of the almighty dollar. We make an idol of power, worshipping at the altar of political domination and economic oppression. We make an idol of pleasure, worshipping at the altar of sex and luxurious comfort.

Our prophets call us back to the one God, but we ignore or kill them.

Lent is a season to turn away from our false idols and call on the merciful and gracious Lord, who is "slow to anger and abounding in kindness." We are called in Lent "to prayer, fasting and works of mercy" because, as Jesus tells us in the Gospel, "you will all come to the same end unless you begin to reform."

We are called to abandon our false gods of money, power and pleasure and return to the one God, "who secures justice and the rights of all the oppressed."



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Douglas Castro/Maintenance

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m and to bring Him to the world.

Please remember in your prayers those who are ill:

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

And those who have died:

Theresa Joseph, Rose Thomas, Frankie Levine, Katie Johanni, Catherine Gerrick.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, February 27th, 2016, 5:00 p.m.

Parishioners & Benefactors

Sunday, February 28th, 2016, 8 a.m.

Sunday, February 28th, 2016, 10:30 a.m.

John Caybut (+)

Sunday February 28th 2016, 2016, 6 p.m.

Gabor Tuba (-)**Stewardship – Weekly Offering**

February 21st Collection: \$ 3,153.00 Includes EFT
St. Vincent dePaul stewardship: \$52.69

Question of the Week**For Adults:**

What important work could bear fruit in your life right now if you have more confidence in God's loving care?

For Children:

What great work would you like to do as you grow older?
What can you do to begin now?

Dates to Remember

Wednesday, March 2nd, 9th, 16th, **Evening Prayer** at 6:15 pm

Friday, March 11th, and 18th, **Stations of the Cross** at 12:10 pm, and March 18, at 7 pm

Tuesday, March 1st, **Day of Mercy Service, Contemplative Prayer** with Sister Celeste at 7 pm.

Monday, March 21st, **Lenten Reconciliation** at 7 pm.

Thursday, March 24th, **Holy Thursday, The Lord's Supper and Adoration**, 7 pm to 12 am.

Friday, March 25th, **Good Friday Services:**

12 pm to 1 pm - **Chaplet of Divine Mercy** followed by The Seven Last Words.

3:30 pm - **Family Stations of the Cross**

7 pm - **The Veneration of the Cross**

Saturday, March 26th, **Easter Vigil**, time TBD.

There will be no 4 pm Reconciliation or 5 pm Mass.

March 27th, **Easter Sunday**, Masses at 8 am and 10:30 am. There will not be a 6 pm Mass.

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

Tuesday, Mar 1 @ 7pm – Day of Mercy

Wednesday, Mar 2, @ 6:15 pm – Evening Prayer

Friday, Mar 4th @ 9 am – 24 hours with the Lord

Saturday, Mar 5th – Conclusion of 24 hours with the Lord (TBD)

Sunday, Mar 6th @ 9:15 am – Faith Formation

Sunday, Mar 6th @ 9:15 – Sacramental Preparation for Reconciliation & First Holy Communion

Sunday, Mar 6th @ 10:30 am - CLW

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:

The Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy began on Dec 8th 2015, the 50th Anniversary of the close of the Second Vatican Council. During this Lenten Season I will be sharing some reflections on what this might mean to us in our own lives:

Jesus is the “face” of the Father’s mercy

Jesus of Nazareth, Pope Francis writes in *Misericordiae Vultus*, the Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, is the “face” of the Father’s mercy—he reveals the mercy of God by his words, actions, and person. We follow Jesus’ example when we open ourselves to the Father’s mercy by looking “sincerely” into the eyes of our brothers and sisters, including those “who are denied their dignity.” **How have you experienced the Father’s mercy in your own life? How might Jesus be calling you to look “sincerely” into the eyes of those who are denied their dignity? (Official Website of the Jubilee Year of Mercy)**

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

56 Ways to Be Merciful During the Jubilee Year of Mercy

27) Take advantage of sales to buy small toothpastes, soaps, shampoos, socks and feminine products/toiletries; donate them to parish outreaches or make gift bags and have them ready to hand out where needed.

28) Create a short end-of-day ritual to ask for (and extend) forgiveness with those you live with. “*Do not let the sun set on your anger*” (Eph. 4:26)

Visit our new Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Augustine-Catholic-Church-113260159035124/>
Please continue to pray with me that our Parish community will grow in God’s love and holiness. In Christ’s love, Karen