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Thank you all for your prayers, support, greetings and help. In a special way I would like to thank Father Freddie and the parish staff who supported and strengthened me. They made many sacrifices and did extra work to take care of the parish.

Please continue to pray for Thresia Joseph, my mother, and my family members. May God continue to bless us all and prepare us for the Holy Week and Easter. I am sure that we will all take advantage of the wonderful opportunity for reconciliation on Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 PM. GOD'S MERCY ENDURES FOR EVER (Daniel 3:89).

Father Augustine

**A quote from Laudato Si, Section 29:**

"...unsafe water results in many deaths and the spread of water-related diseases, including those caused by micro-organisms and chemical substances. Dysentery and cholera, linked to inadequate hygiene and water supplies, are a significant cause of suffering and of infant mortality.

**We will continue our Bible Study next Sunday**, March 20th, 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](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> Sundays of the month. Rosary for Peace begins at 9:15 AM, on following days in 2016: 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](http://www.staugustineoakland.com)

Office phone number (510) 653-8631

**Pastor's Note**

We are approaching the most holy time of the year. During the Holy Week we celebrate what Jesus has done for us and continues to do for us through His death and resurrection. It is important that we ponder these great mysteries of our faith. They give us new perspective, inject new life and give new purpose to our lives; nay, I should say they give greater zest to our lives. It is great being a Christian!

I was awakened afresh into these great truths during the past month, dealing with the death of my own mother. She was 84 and in fairly good health. She was helping in the kitchen with my brother and sister-in-law when she felt breathing difficulty. No one thought it to be very serious. However, within a few minutes it became very serious and she began to sweat profusely. They tried to rush her to the hospital which was about 3 miles away. Before reaching the hospital she breathed her last. It was so sudden and unexpected that everyone was in great shock. It was so hard to believe that she passed away so quickly.

In our seminary days it was a practice to pray for a 'happy death.' There used to be monthly recollections or short retreats that always concluded with a prayer to Saint Joseph for a happy death. In my mother's case I believe it was a happy death. She did not have to go through all the ordeals and trials of our sunset years that we constantly see in our Care Homes and Comfort Cares. She died working and doing things she loved.

I do miss her terribly, yet I am consoled by the forthcoming celebration of Holy Week. Faith in Jesus, especially the resurrection, wipes away my sorrow and I truly believe that one day I will be with my mother in heaven and with all the faithful departed.

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**Mission Statement**

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



**St. Augustine Parish Office**

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Douglas Castro/Maintenance

**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, Ruby Toro.

**And those who have died:**

*Thresia Joseph, Rose Thomas, Efren Castaneda, Frankie Levine, Katie Johanni, Catherine Gerrick.*

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

Saturday, March 12th 2016, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 13th, 2016, 8 a.m.

**Parishioners & Benefactors**

Sunday, March 13th, 2016, 10:30 a.m.

Sunday March 13th, 2016, 2016, 6 p.m.

**John Garlicki (-)**

**Stewardship – Weekly Offering**

March 6th Collection: \$3,358.00 Includes EFT  
St. Vincent dePaul stewardship: \$64.47

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

Have you ever been too willing to "cast the first stone" when you disapproved of someone's behavior? How can you resist these feelings?

**For Children:**

When have you criticized or made fun of someone? What could help you act differently?

**WINGS (Women in God's Spirit)!**

WINGS is a faith enhancement group that encourages spiritual growth through prayer, Scripture study, catechesis, life sharing and community. Meetings take place on Wednesdays from October through May in St. Theresa Event Center (4850 Clarewood Dr., Oakland), meeting room 1 at 9:15am with hospitality followed by the guest speaker and program until 11:15 am. Women from local parishes and other denominations are welcome. Michael Pappas, Director, San Francisco Interfaith Council, will be the speaker on March 9th. His presentation opens the Spring season with a Social Justice series that challenges women to discern ways of putting faith into action.

For more information about WINGS, our Spring speaker series, or to attend as a guest, contact Courtenay Redis at [courtenaymorganredis@gmail.com](mailto:courtenaymorganredis@gmail.com).

**Dates to Remember**

Wednesday, 16th, **Evening Prayer** at 6:15 pm

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

**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.**

**Ministry Schedule**

Wednesday, Mar 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6:15 pm – Evening Prayer

Wednesday, Mar 16<sup>th</sup> @ 7 pm – Chrism Mass/Cathedral

Friday, Mar 18th @ 12:10 pm – Stations of the Cross

Sunday, Mar 20<sup>th</sup> @ 9:15 am – Faith Formation

Sunday, Mar 20<sup>th</sup> @ 9:15 – Sacramental

Preparation for Reconciliation & First Holy Communion

Sunday, Mar 20<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30 am - CLW

**From the Office of the Ministry Coordinator:**

The Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy began on Dec 8<sup>th</sup> 2015, the 50<sup>th</sup> 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:

**Mercy “demands justice”** “True mercy, the mercy God gives to us and teaches us, demands justice, it demands that the poor find the way to be poor no longer,” Pope Francis notes. “It asks us, the Church, us, the City of Rome, it asks the institutions — to ensure that no one ever again stand in need of a soup kitchen, of makeshift-lodgings, of a service of legal assistance in order to have his legitimate right recognized to live and to work, to be fully a person” (Address to Jesuit Refugee Services, 9/10/13). In your own life, and in your faith community, how do you work for justice? Do you seek to address the root causes of problems that affect those who are vulnerable??

<http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/new-evangelization/jubilee-of-mercy/upload/year-of-mercy-handout.pdf>

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

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

**# 31) Give away something of yours (that you really like) to someone you know will really enjoy it.**

**# 32) Pray a Divine Mercy Chaplet as you are traveling to or from work.**

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