

Continued from page 1

Now, it was Sister Teresa who was reduced to tears. She took care of the child and fed her. Sister Teresa was gradually awakened to the plight of the poor surrounding the school.

In September 1946, while journeying to Darjeeling for her annual spiritual retreat, Sister Teresa received the call/ inspiration to serve the poor. She left the security and comfort of the convent and stepped into the slums of Calcutta.

At this time, politically, India was in great turmoil with the freedom movement gaining huge momentum under Mahatma Gandhi. India gained freedom from British rule in August 1947; It was under this stormy sky, with uncertainties of every sort, that Sister Teresa set up her little nest in the middle of a slum in Calcutta. She was a foreigner, and a woman with hardly any knowledge of the local language, Bengali, and above all a Christian in a non-Christian (Hindu majority) country. It appeared to be a recipe for failure, nay, for total disaster. But God's ways are not our ways!

An acquaintance from her teaching days allowed Sister Teresa to live in one of his huts. Soon news spread, "Sister is living in the slums." Few of her students and friends visited her and some of them chose to live with her. Students and people around affectionately called Sister Teresa, 'Mother.' Gradually, Sister Teresa became Mother Teresa, and the rest is history. Today, she is Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta (Kolkata).

Father Augustine



Saint Augustine Catholic Church

Mother Teresa, a Saint of our Times.

Saint of the gutters, saint of the poor and abandoned, a saint of our times. That was Mother Theresa. I am sure there are people in our community who have met her. I was privileged to meet Mother Theresa and shake hands with her while I was a student of Theology in Shillong, India. She had come there to give a talk to the theologians. I still remember the topic of her talk – the sacrament of Reconciliation. She was exhorting the future priests to be available always for the sacrament of Reconciliation.

The magnitude of Mother Theresa's work can be appreciated better when we comprehend the milieu surrounding her life and works. She was born Anjezë Gonxhe Bojaxhiu of Albanian decent in Skopje, present day Macedonia. Catholics were a minority in her home town. It was her family's deep faith that was a bedrock in those tumultuous times which saw endless revolving doors of political entities clambering for power. Maybe these experiences of upheavals, violence and political changes prepared the future saint to work in a foreign country, India.

At 18, Anjezë joined the Sisters of Loreto in Ireland. It was there that she took the name Sister Mary Teresa. After a brief stay in Ireland she left for India where she officially joined the Loreto sisters; she made her final profession in 1937. Her assignment was to be a teacher in one of the schools run by her religious order.

The Loreto sisters have schools in Calcutta (now called Kolkata) which are considered elite schools even today. They cared mainly for the upper class children and a few poor children who received a totally free education. Sister Teresa taught in one of these schools; during class one of the girls passed out. Thinking the child was sleeping during her class Sister was upset. "Why do you sleep during class?" She shook the child and yelled, "Why don't you stay home and sleep?" The child opened her eyes to see sister bending over her angrily. Tears rolled down its cheeks as the child sobbed in confusion and fear. Sister repeated the question, "Why are you sleeping in class?" The child was too frightened to speak. Seeing Sister's growing frustration another child blurted out, "Sister, this girl has not eaten any food; she is very poor."

Continued on page 4



St. Augustine Parish Office

400 Alcatraz Ave Oakland, CA 94609
Phone: (510) 653-8631 ext 110
www.staugustineoakland.com
saintaugustinechurch@comcast.net
Emergency Cell number (510) 653-8631 ext 111

Fr. Augustine Joseph
Parochial Administrator, ext 100
pastorachurch@comcast.net

April McNeely, Music Director
(510) 504-4784
april.mcneely@gmail.com

Karen Glen, Ministry Coordinator, ext 102
kglen.staugustineMC@gmail.com

Linda Prara-Jenkins, Office Manager, ext 101
staugustinefrontdesk@gmail.com

To see more pictures, please click on your St. Augustine email that was sent to you on Friday, September 2nd.

Mission Statement

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

Please remember in your prayers those who are ill:
Virginia Nelson, Ruby Toro, Vivian Richardi, Pat Nolan, Jim McMurray.

And those who have died:
Claudia Johnson, George Wolfe, Loretta Schmitz, Mari Kittel

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, September 3rd, 2016, 5 p.m.
Parishioners & Benefactors
Sunday, September 4th, 2016, 8 a.m.
Sunday, September 4th, 10:30 a.m.
Sunday, September 4th, 2016, 6 p.m.

Stewardship – Weekly Offering

August 28th, 2016, Collection: \$3,931.00 Includes EFT

St. Vincent dePaul Stewardship: \$77.43

Votive Candle donations: \$7.00

The Year of Mercy: A Call to live God’s Abundant Love

September 8@ 7pm: God’s Invitation to be present to ourselves and the world

We will look at how present we are to experience God’s everyday mercy. We will look at areas of relationship in our lives, such as Family, Friendship, Intimacy etc.

September 15@ 7pm: God’s Invitation to live our faith meaningfully

We will look at the invitation to meaningfully form our faith and spirituality as responsible, mature adults. We will review how mature faith is merciful faith and how it shapes our pastoral response to our diverse Catholic Family.

Please come and join us. The workshops are open to everyone, and we mean it when we say “ALL are welcome!” I look forward to having you there, to meeting you, and to learning with and from one another.

Rev. Stephan Kappler, Psy.D. is a licensed psychologist and the founder/director of KAIROS Psychology Group, an Assessment, Psychotherapy, and Consultation Practice in Oakland, California. He is a priest of the Diocese of Oakland, the pastor of St. Jarlath parish, and he has 22 years of experience, ministering in various pastoral settings and with diverse populations. He earned his doctorate in clinical psychology (Psy.D.) from John F. Kennedy University in Pleasant Hill, California. Current areas of specialization include assessments of and therapeutic work with clergy and religious, seminarians and candidates for religious life, and integration of spirituality into the therapeutic process. Dr. Kappler has clinical experience in working with issues pertaining to depression and anxiety, grief, HIV/AIDS, sexual identity formation, as well as assessment and treatment of sexual addiction. He studied Spanish in Cuernavaca, Mexico and provides services in English, Spanish, and German. [CA License: PSY 26183]

Question of the Week

For Adults:

How do you try to discover what God is asking you?

For Children:

When is it hard for you to know the right thing to do? Who helps you know?

Rosary Repairs

Is your rosary sitting in a drawer, broken and need of repair? Contact Suzy Arnhart before or after the 10:30 am Mass, and she will gladly repair it free of charge.

Ministry Calendar:

Mercy: The Heart of Peace (Interfaith Meeting of Prayer for Peace)

Cathedral of Christ the Light, Sept 6th @ 5:45 pm

NO RCIA Inquiry Class – Wednesday, Sept 7th

Adult Faith Formation – Thursday, Sept 8th @ 7pm: Rev Stephan Kappler

God’s Invitation to be present to ourselves and the world

Children’s Liturgy of the Word: 10:30 am 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.

What does the USCCB say about Children’s Faith Formation? (Part 2 of 2)

Structured Catechesis:

When children begin school, they enter a world wider than the family. The school environment provides greater opportunities for children's intellectual, affective, and behavioral development. This means that parents, pastors, catechists, and teachers need to cooperate closely to ensure that the catechesis offered children is truly an ecclesial catechesis that is consistent with Christian values lived in the family. Pastors have a serious obligation to assist parents and educators in their mission to hand on the faith to future generations. School-age children should receive formal and systematic catechesis in a parish-based catechetical program, a Catholic school, or a program of home-based catechesis in which the content of the faith and the experience of Christian life is presented authentically and completely. Having introduced them to the person of Jesus Christ within the family, catechesis for school-age children presents his teachings, his ministry, and the major events of his life. Children can begin to appreciate the parables of Jesus and capture glimpses of the Kingdom of God; they can learn more formal prayers; and they can commit brief passages of Sacred Scripture to memory. Catechesis for the Sacraments of Penance and Reconciliation and of the Eucharist is ordinarily provided in these early years of schooling. The most important task of the catechesis of children is to provide, through the witness of adults, an environment in which young people can grow in faith. Several pastoral directives should guide the catechists of children:

- Be able to understand children, communicate with them, listen to them with respect, be sensitive to their circumstances, and be aware of their current values.
- Recognize that children have a dignity of their own and that they are important not only for what they will do in the future, but for who they are now.
- Encourage them to know and respect other cultural, religious, racial, and ethnic groups, and use catechetical materials that are adapted to accommodate cultural, racial, and ethnic pluralism; the concerns of particular groups; and persons with special needs.
- Understand that the child's comprehension and other powers develop gradually, and present religious truths in greater depth and propose more mature challenges as the capacity for understanding and growth in faith increases.
- Provide experiences in which they can live faith and apply the message of salvation to real-life situations; encourage the use of imagination, as well as intelligence and memory.
- Provide experiences that link Liturgy and catechesis and promote appreciation for the community celebration of the Eucharist.
- Stimulate not only exterior but interior activity—a prayerful response from the heart. “Foster a sense of community that is an important part of education for social life.

Family Faith Formation begins again in September

Registration information and forms are now available for this coming year. The program is available for Kinder – 4th Grade. If your child is starting 1st grade they should begin classes this year to be ready for sacramental preparation when they are in 2nd grade. Faith Formation classes begin on September 18th and are held from 9:10 am to 10:10 am on Sunday morning. Families can attend the 8 am or 10:30 am mass together, as classes are between the two morning masses. Forms are available in the vestibule of the church or more information please contact Karen @ (510) 653-8631 or kglen.staugustinemc@gmail.com