

# Saint Augustine Catholic Church

Oakland, California

• Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time •

October 1st, 2023

## Why Attend Holy Mass?

The act of attending Holy Mass holds profound significance for millions around the world. For believers, it's not just a religious obligation but a deeply spiritual experience that offers numerous tangible and intangible rewards. Whether you are a devout follower or someone curious about the benefits of attending Holy Mass, this article delves into the gains that can be derived from this sacred practice.

### 1. Spiritual Nourishment

Holy Mass serves as a spiritual banquet where believers are nourished by the Word of God and the Eucharist. The readings from sacred scriptures and the homily provide insights into the teachings of Jesus Christ, offering guidance and wisdom for daily living. The Eucharist, the central element of Mass, symbolizes the body and blood of Christ, reinforcing the intimate connection between the individual and their faith.

### 2. Communal Bonding

Attending Holy Mass fosters a sense of community and belonging. Gathering with fellow believers who share the same faith and values creates a bond that transcends individual differences. This communal experience provides emotional support, a network of friendships, and a shared purpose that can be particularly valuable during challenging times.

### 3. Reflection and Inner Peace

In our fast-paced world, attending Holy Mass offers a precious opportunity for reflection and inner peace. The solemn environment, prayers, and moments of silence encourage self-examination, mindfulness, and an escape from the noise of daily life. This can lead to a heightened sense of clarity and tranquility, nurturing mental and emotional well-being.

### 4. Strengthening Faith

Regular participation in Holy Mass helps to deepen one's faith. Through continuous exposure to sacred rituals, teachings, and spiritual practices, believers gain a stronger understanding of their religion and its core tenets. The act of coming together to worship reinforces faith, making it more resilient to doubts and challenges.

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**400 Alcatraz Ave Oakland, CA 94609 • [www.staugustineoakland.com](http://www.staugustineoakland.com)**

**Weekend Mass schedule**

Saturday: 5:00 pm Vigil Mass  
Mass: Sunday, 10:00 am & 6:00pm

**• Weekday Eucharist •**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 8:30 a.m.  
Communion Service: Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.

**• Sacrament of Reconciliation •**

Saturday at 4 p.m.  
Also upon Request

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

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## 5. Moral and Ethical Guidance

The teachings imparted during Holy Mass often focus on moral and ethical values, guiding believers towards virtuous living. The readings and teachings inspire individuals to embrace compassion, forgiveness, humility, and empathy. By regularly attending Mass, believers are reminded of the importance of embodying these values in their interactions with others.

## 6. Gratitude and Joy

Expressing gratitude is a central theme in many religious traditions. Attending Holy Mass provides a dedicated time to offer thanks for blessings received and to acknowledge the presence of a higher power in one's life. This sense of gratitude can lead to increased levels of joy and contentment.

## 7. Encountering Transcendence

Participating in Holy Mass allows believers to experience a sense of transcendence - a connection to something greater than themselves. The rituals, symbols, and communal prayers create an environment that encourages believers to transcend their ordinary concerns and tap into a spiritual realm.

## 8. Renewed Purpose

Holy Mass can serve as a source of inspiration and renewed purpose. The teachings shared during Mass often encourage believers to live a life of purpose, service, and contribution to the well-being of society. This renewed sense of purpose can bring greater fulfillment and a sense of meaning to one's life.

Attending Holy Mass is not just a religious practice; it's an experience that offers a multitude of rewards for the mind, body, and spirit. From spiritual nourishment and communal bonding to inner peace and moral guidance, the gains from attending Mass are both profound and lasting. For believers, Holy Mass is a gateway to a deeper connection with their faith, their community, and the divine, ultimately enriching their lives in ways that extend far beyond the walls of the church.

Fr. Augustine Joseph

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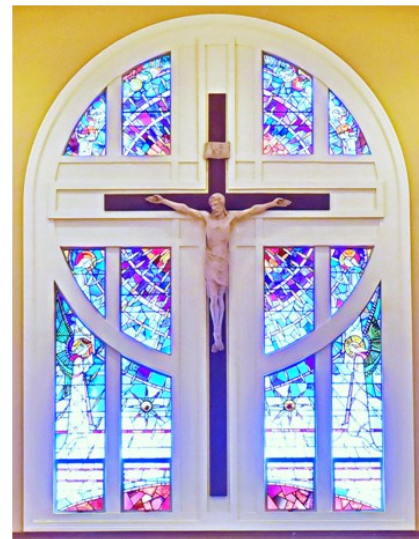
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## St. Augustine Catholic Church

400 Alcatraz Ave  
Oakland, CA 94609  
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### Parish staff

#### Parochial Administrator

Fr. Augustine Joseph  
(510) 653-8631 ext 100  
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#### Music Director

April McNeely  
(510) 504-4784  
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#### Faith Formation Coordinator

Kate Dole  
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tine@gmail.com  
(510) 653-8631 ext 102

#### Office Manager

Linda Prara-Jenkins  
(510) 653-8631 ext 101  
staugustinefrontdesk@gmail.com

Douglas Castro/Maintenance

## PARISH NEWS

### Welcome

If you recently moved into the neighborhood and have been attending our parish, we would love to invite you to pick up a registration form located on the table in the back of the church next to the hospitality table. You may drop it off in the collection basket at your convenience.

### Important Websites and TV Channels

**EWTN**—Masses televised daily.

AT&T UVerse—Channel 562—No HD.

Comcast: 33 (SD), 291 (SD), 1668 (HD)

**Vatican website:** [Vatican.va](http://Vatican.va)

**United States Conference of Catholic Bishops:** [usccb.org](http://usccb.org)

**Bishop Barron:** [wordonfire.org](http://wordonfire.org)

### Donations

For anyone who would like to donate to our parish via PayPal, please go to the website and click the Donate link.

If you would like to mail a check, you may send it to 400 Alcatraz Ave. Oakland, CA 94609 —

If you would like to drop it off at the rectory, you may put it in the slot by the rectory front door. It is located on the bottom left side wall. Please do not leave an envelope in the mailbox.

September 24th plate Collection—\$3,515 Thank you for your generosity.

### Question of the Week

**For Adults:** When have your actions not measured up to your promises? What was the outcome?

**For Children:** Why is it important to follow through on your promises to others?

### Welcome to RCIA

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) catechesis has just begun. If you are seeking initiation into the Catholic Church, or if you are just curious about the basic tenets of Catholic Christian doctrines and practices you can join RCIA Inquiry sessions after Sunday 10 AM Holy Mass in the Rectory (no strings attached). If you have questions about the RCIA process, you can email the RCIA team or leave a voicemail message at rciastaugustineinfo@gmail.com or 510.653.8631.

### The Parable of the Two Sons

"Which of the two did what his father wanted?" "The first," they answered. Matthew 21:31 (NIV)  
Based on Matthew 20:28-32 (NIV)



Z I N C K I N G D O M L T R K  
 T A K G D W M X V H N K T N W  
 M Z O Y H W A Y V T I Z N W M  
 Y W B R F T J Y X N M R S B O  
 T D G S H E I L M O H Z N O G  
 N R D Z F O T O D A Y F L L W  
 H O U W T F L W O R K L O Y Y  
 G H O T A H T G B E L I E V E  
 G H Q S H D I Q Q G A R N V C  
 S P U E H P J N V M V H S E P  
 G G F Q U Z H S K V O F X S L  
 J K U M J N N I A J J Y L O S  
 V I N E Y A R D I E Q Z K N Q  
 L U F A T H E R F R G A R S W  
 D I O F E Y N D H E F W U W X

|       |        |      |         |          |
|-------|--------|------|---------|----------|
| MAN   | GOD    | JOHN | KINGDOM | BELIEVE  |
| THINK | TODAY  | WAY  | WORK    | VINEYARD |
| SONS  | FATHER | TWO  | TRUTH   | SHOW     |

### WEEKLY CALENDAR

8:30 am Holy Mass  
Monday through Friday

4 pm Reconciliation  
Saturdays

5:00 pm Vigil Mass  
Saturdays

10:00 am Sunday Holy Mass

6:00 pm Sunday Holy Mass

7:00 pm Weekday Rosary on  
Zoom

### IN OUR PRAYERS

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

Sam Wolfe, Danica Truchlikova, Laura Patterson, Bob Shobar, Antonio Custodio, Eric Wikander and Anne Perkins.

**And those who have died:**

Rhea Bennet, Megan Franzen, Tony Custodio, all the victims of the Coronavirus, and all the souls in Purgatory who have no one to pray for them.

### Mass Intentions

10 am Sunday Holy Mass  
**Parishioners & Benefactors**

## Why is October referred to as the Month of the Rosary?

The short answer is this: October is dedicated as the Month of the Rosary because we celebrate the memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary each year on October 7th.

To understand this feast, we need to go back in time. In the 16th century, the Islamic Ottoman Empire presented a serious military threat to western Europe and sent a fleet of ships to attack Christian defenses in southern Europe. Pope Pius V recognized the grave danger and organized a fleet called the Holy League to confront the navy of the Ottoman Turks.

On October 7, 1571, the two navies engaged in a pivotal battle that would determine who controlled maritime traffic in the Mediterranean, Adriatic and Aegean seas. The fate of western Europe depended upon the success of Christians in this navy battle, which involved more than 400 warships (it was the largest naval battle in Western history for centuries).

Pius V knew he needed more than just military strength to defend Christian Europe, so he asked that all the faithful pray the rosary, requesting the intercession of the Blessed Mother. At the end of the Battle of Lepanto, the Holy League was victorious and the maritime expansion of the Ottoman Empire was permanently prevented.

The next year, Pius V established a feast on October 7 in honor of the Blessed Mother, originally called Our Lady of Victory. After a few centuries, the name was changed to Our Lady of the Rosary to more clearly recognize that prayer was the greatest power at work that day on the seas.

In 1571, the rosary was still a relatively new prayer form for the universal church. Pope Pius V had issued a decree formally establishing devotion to the rosary in the papal bull *Consueverunt Romani Pontifices* just two years before the Battle of Lepanto. The Holy Father's universal promulgation recognized the growing devotion to the Blessed Mother throughout Europe, as well as the increased prayer of the rosary in various locations. Devotion to the rosary was especially promoted in the 13th century by St. Dominic and in the 16th century by St. Peter Canisius (who, according to tradition, added the final verse to the Hail Mary, in which we pray, "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death" — printed officially in the Catechism of the Council of Trent in 1566; the first two verses of the Hail Mary are adapted from Luke 1:28 and 1:42).

Written by Bishop Daniel Mueggenborg  
<https://www.dotb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/october-2019-month-of-the-rosary.pdf>