

Saint Augustine Catholic Church

Oakland, California

• Third Sunday in Ordinary Time •

January 21st, 2024

Dear Friends of St. Augustine Parish.

Save the date! On Saturday, February 10, the three parishes that make up our cluster – St. Ambrose, St. Joseph the Worker, and St. Augustine – will hold a **Mardi Gras Potluck Party** to bring our communities together. It will be from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm at St. Augustine Church, 400 Alcatraz Ave., Oakland. There will be flyers with more information available at the Masses this weekend.

You may remember that the Universal Church held a **Synod on Synodality** in Rome in October. Two people who were present will be sharing their experiences here in the Diocese of Oakland. The first is **Fr. Agbonkhianmeghe E. Orobator, S.J.**, who is the new dean of the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University. He will be present on Wednesday, February 1, at 6:30 p.m. at Santa Maria in Orinda, an event co-sponsored by the Diocese of Oakland and the Jesuit School of Theology. This event offers the faithful of Oakland Diocese an opportunity to experience the spirit of the Synod, deepen the insights from the Synod, and discern good practices that represent visible and concrete signs of synodality in the local Church. For more information and registration go to: [Bringing the Synod Home \(ecatholic.com\)](https://www.ecatholic.com/bringing-the-synod-home)

The second speaker will be **Cardinal Robert McElroy**, Bishop of the Diocese of San Diego, who will be present at the Dominican Center in Fremont on February 4 (1:00 -3:00 pm). For more information and registration, go to [CESHopeforFutureflyerFeb2024_1080x.webp \(1080x1398\) \(ecatholic.com\)](https://www.ecatholic.com/CESHopeforFutureflyerFeb2024_1080x.webp)

(Call the parish office if you are seeing this on the physical bulletin and need the links sent to you.)

We pray for the **repose of the soul of Fr. Alexander Snyder** who died on Wednesday. He served the Diocese of Oakland for over 50 years.

Monday, January 22, is a **Day of Prayer for the Protection of the Unborn**.

In the peace of Christ,
Fr. John Prochaska

PAX CHRISTI PRESENTATION AT HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

Save the date! Pax Christi Northern CA along with Newman Nonviolent Peacemakers is hosting Fr. John Dear, well-known teacher of peace on January 27 from 9:30 am to noon at Newman Hall/Holy Spirit Parish (2700 Dwight Way, Berkeley) where he will be speaking on his new book, "The Gospel of Peace." At this event we will also be honoring Therese Mughannam Walrath, lifelong peace activist, the winner of our 2023 Tom Webb Memorial Peacemaker of the Year award. For more information email Dennise at denniseburgess@gmail.com.

400 Alcatraz Ave Oakland, CA 94609 • www.staugustineoakland.com

Weekend Mass schedule

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

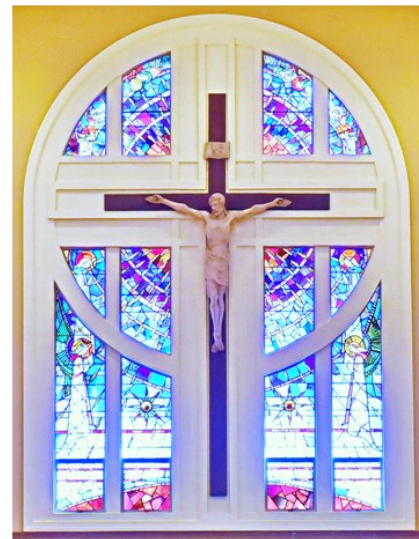
• Weekday Eucharist •

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.”



St. Augustine Catholic Church

400 Alcatraz Ave
Oakland, CA 94609
(510) 653-8631 ext 110
www.staugustineoakland.com

Parish staff

Pastor

Fr. John Prochaska
(510) 843-2244
frjohn@stjosephtheworkerchurch.org

Music Director

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

Office Manager

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

Douglas Castro/Maintenance

PARISH NEWS

National Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention Month.

To help combat this tragedy, here are some of the signs to look for:

Signs of being controlled

No identification documents

Unable to leave job or residence

Not in control of their own finances

Is under 18 and provides commercial sex acts

At any age unwillingly provides commercial sex acts

Is afraid of law enforcement or receiving help

In a relationship with someone who is dominating

Never is alone and/or always has someone translating or answering questions on their behalf

Signs of trauma

Inconsistent details when telling their story

Seems anxious, fearful or paranoid; avoids eye contact

Tearfulness or signs of depression

Unexplained bruises or cuts or other signs of physical abuse

Is evasive or unable to answer questions about where they live

For more information, go to <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/en> If you or someone you know needs help call the National Human Trafficking Hotline 1-888-373-7888 or text the hotline's BeFree textline: Text "BeFree" (233733).

Question of the Week

For Adults: What part of your life is Jesus calling you to change right now?

For Children: In what way do you think you can be a better follower of Jesus?

Fishing for People

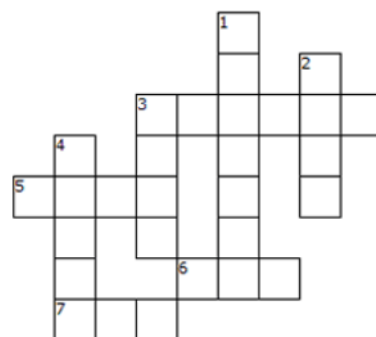
"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." Mark 1:17 (TNIV)

Based on Mark 1:14-20



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

JOHN	NEWS	CASTING	FISHERMEN	SIMON
KINGDOM	BOAT	GALILEE	NETS	BELIEVE
ANDREW	REPENT	SEA	BROTHER	FATHER
GOOD	COME	FOLLOW	JAMES	LAKE



ACROSS

- 3. To get behind someone and go where they go
- 5. A report of recent occurrences
- 6. An openwork fabric of cords used to catch fish
- 7. A large area of salty water, smaller than an ocean

DOWN

- 1. An area of Israel; the place of Jesus' ministry
- 2. A small vehicle for travelling on water
- 3. An animal which lives in water and is covered with scales
- 4. The Son of God

GALILEE	NEWS	JESUS	FISH
FOLLOW	SEA	BOAT	NET

WEEKLY CALENDAR

- 8:30 am Holy Mass
Thursdays
- 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

January 14th Collection: \$1,487. Thank you for your generosity.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers those who are ill:
 Sam Wolfe, Laura Patterson, Laura Ferreira, and Anabelle Espe.

And those who have died:
 Fr. Alex Snyder, Craig Zimmerman, 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 Mass
Parishioners & Benefactors

CALL OF THE FIRST FOUR DISCIPLES

By Fr. Reggie Carreon

A boy in a Sunday school class became increasingly uncomfortable as the teacher spoke about dying and going to heaven. The teacher said, "Put up your hand if you want to go to heaven." Everyone but the one boy put up their hands. The teacher was shocked. "Don't you want to go to heaven?" The boy responded, "Yes, but not with this bunch."

Jesus comes out in this Sunday's Gospel proclaiming the Kingdom of Heaven and summoning people to repentance. But soon afterwards, He is pictured as calling the first four disciples—SIMON, ANDREW, JAMES and JOHN. He asks them to follow Him and He tells them that they are going to be fishers of men. In modern parlance we say that He is giving them a vocation and mission. Their vocation is to follow Him. That is the vocation of every Christian. To be called to be Christian is to be called to follow Christ, to share His life and values, to think His thoughts, to love with His heart and to live the way He did.

But this vocation is coupled with a mission. "The Christian vocation is by its nature a vocation to the apostolate." Vatican II teaches (Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity, no.2). Once a person joins Christ, he must also join him in his mission. Jesus calls us not only for ourselves but for others also—to win them to Christ.

At the conclusion of one of the World Wide Retreats for Priests and Religious, Pope St. John Paul II told them a story. Priests and religious were arriving in heaven in great numbers. Each arrival is ushered into a room where Christ was waiting. But Christ looked pensive as He watched the arriving priests and religious. When one particular batch of arrivals was complete, He looked up and said to them, "I am glad that you are all here, but where are your people?"

And then the Pope told repeatedly the priests of this batch, "Fetch your people. Fetch your parishioners." The Pope has been giving the same message to every Christian as he calls again and again for a new evangelization. Each one of us is asked to go out to his brother and sister, especially those who do not know the Lord or enter our Churches. Sometimes we do not have to physically go out. We can radiate the grace of God to those the Lord places within our sphere of influence, like our family members, our maids, our helpers and our peers.

We can be fishers of men and women even though we do not preach to others. A faithful Christian living out the Gospel in our daily lives provides the best attraction to people to at least inquire about the Lord Jesus. There are some who have done this in a big way. St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta hardly preached to the non-Christian multitudes in India, but she gave a very attractive road to Christianity by her selfless service to the poorest of the poor. The honor given her in death by the people of India and by the mass media shows us what a powerful influence a life like Christ's exerts in this consumeristic and strife-torn world. But we need not envy her. We also have our own mission where God has put us. Let us fish for people in our corner of the world.

The Disciples' Vocation: The Gospel of St. John (see Jn.1, 35-50) teaches a number of lessons. For our purposes, two stand out. One is the personal nature of a call from Jesus Christ. He does not summon disciples as a faceless crowd but as unique individuals. "How do you know me?" Nathanael asks. "Before Philip called you," Jesus answers, "I saw you under the fig tree." He knows people's personal histories, their strength, weaknesses and their destinies; he has a purpose in mind for each one.