

Saint Augustine Catholic Church

Oakland, California

• Sixth Sunday of Easter •

May 5th, 2024

[Dear Friends of St. Augustine Parish.](#)

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! - Christ is Risen! - Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

We have begun the month of May, a month traditionally focused on **Mary, the Mother of Jesus**. We honor Mary not to distract us from our relationship with Jesus, but to draw closer to Him. The rosary focuses on the life of Christ, and how Mary has been - and is - God's instrument to bring us Jesus. Mary's whole life has been focused on God and bringing us Jesus, Our Savior. She is a model for us in the Christian life, and is ready at every moment to pray for us. We recall that the first miracle in the Gospel of John, the changing of the water into wine at Cana, comes through the intercession of Mary. If you never pray the rosary, I encourage you to do so. Start with one time per week during this month in which we honor Blessed Virgen Mary.

God's abundant blessings of Easter joy to you and your loved ones.
Fr. John Prochaska

Bookkeeper / Secretary Position

St. Augustine Church, Oakland, is hiring a part-time Bookkeeper / Secretary. The position will be 22 hours per week and is classified as S5 on the Diocesan Salary scale. The candidate will have experience with QuickBooks, Microsoft Software (especially Excel), and have the capacity to learn other software as necessary. The person will also have the ability to interact well with people, work under little supervision, and schedule the use of parish facilities. For a full job-description and application, please contact Fr. John Prochaska, Parochial Administrator, at 510-653-8631 or johnpro50@gmail.com

Maintenance Technician Position

St. Augustine Church, Oakland, is hiring a part-time Maintenance Technician. The position will be 15 hours per week plus emergency responses, and is classified as S5 on the Diocesan Salary scale. The candidate will be responsible for maintaining the parish facilities in a clean and well-working condition. The person will have the ability to work under little supervision. For a full job-description and application, please contact Fr. John Prochaska, Parochial Administrator, at 510-653-8631 or johnpro50@gmail.com

Support Groups for Caregivers and for Mental Health Support

St. Columba Church, Oakland

Listening Ministry

Contact: Fred Piazza; fred.j.piazza@gmail.com / 925.871.9534

If you want to start a support group at your church or a mental health ministry of some form, please contact Kiona Medina at kmedina@oakdiocese.org for training opportunities and resources.**

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

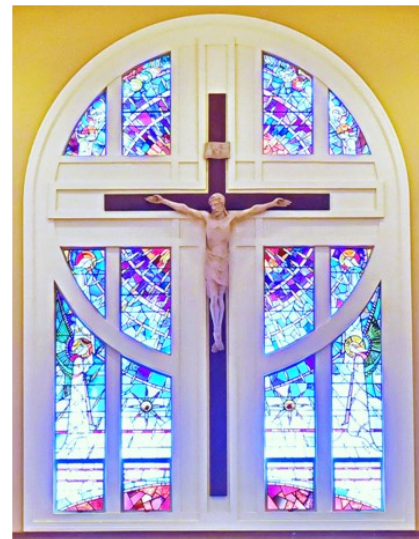
• Weekday Eucharist •

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

Parochial Administrator
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

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.

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 mail box.

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

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops: usccb.org

Bishop Barron: wordonfire.org

Next week's second collection is for the Catholic Communications Campaign.

Young Catholics, here is a link to the Grapevine, a monthly newsletter of activities taking place in the Bay Area:



[ISSUE #84: Mary's Retreat, Artists' Group, & more \(mailchi.mp\)](#)

Question of the Week

For Adults: How is love of others connected to love for God?

For Children: Who needs Jesus' love this week? How can you show them his love?

Love One another

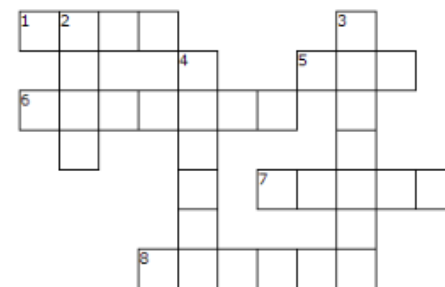
My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. John 15:12 (NIV)

Based on John 15:9-17 (NIV)



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

FRIENDS	OBEY	LOVE	FRUIT
DOWN	BUSINESS	BEAR	MASTER
LAY	FATHER	LIFE	REMAIN
SERVANTS	GREATER	COMMAND	CHOSE



ACROSS

- 1. To hold dear, to like or desire greatly
- 5. A state of happiness or delight
- 6. Someone that performs duties for a master
- 7. To gain knowledge, skill, or understanding
- 8. A person that you like very much

DOWN

- 2. To do what you are told; follow the rules
- 3. An order which a person is expected to obey
- 4. One who has authority over another person

SERVANT	OBEY	LEARN	COMMAND
FRIEND	LOVE	MASTER	JOY

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

April 28th Collection:
\$1,371. Thank you for your generosity.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers those who are ill:
Sam Wolfe, Laura Patterson, Kate Dole, Ron Kowalski Jr. and Nancy Diritto.

And those who have died:
Maureen Sullivan, and Fr. George Crespino. Plus all the souls in Purgatory who have no one to pray for them.

Mass Intentions

- 5 pm Saturday Holy Mass
Teresa Allevato (+)
- 6 pm Sunday Holy Mass
Parishioners & Benefactors

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Today's Gospel follows immediately after the Gospel proclaimed last week, in which Jesus taught that he was the vine and that his disciples were the branches. In the example of the vine and the branches, we learned that our union with Jesus will lead to fruitful service. Today's reading extends this teaching to describe the kind of service that Christians are called upon to offer to others.

When John wrote this Gospel, his community was influenced by a set of religious beliefs called Gnosticism. It appears that one of John's intentions was to distinguish Christian belief from the beliefs held by the Gnostics. Evidence of this can be found in today's Gospel.

One of the tenets of Gnostic teaching was the importance of knowledge, or *gnosis*, as the determining aspect of faith. We read today's Gospel as a response to this teaching. In John's Gospel, we hear Jesus affirm that he is known by the Father and that his disciples will know the Father by knowing Jesus. In this passage, however, Jesus reminds his disciples that this knowledge is to be expressed in love. Those who know Jesus well—and Jesus says that his disciples do know him—will love one another. Knowledge leads to love, which leads to action. John reminds his community that Jesus taught that love is the sign of a true disciple and, thus, a true Christian. Even more, a true disciple shows a particular kind of love, sacrificial love.

In the Greek, there are two words for love that are used in this passage. The first is *agape*. The second is *philia*. The first word is most often used to describe love for other persons and for God. It is understood as the highest and most perfect kind of love. The second word is used to describe the affection of friendship. In this context, John appears to use these words as synonyms. The root of the Greek word for friend comes from this second term for love, *philia*. By using this word, Jesus transforms the terms of his relationship with his disciples and redefines for them their relationship with God. In the Hebrew Scriptures, faith in God made one a servant of God.

Here Jesus teaches that his relationship to his disciples is based on friendship, not servitude.

Another aspect of Gnostic belief taught that a believer was an elect person, chosen and set apart from the world. John reminds his community that Jesus also taught that a disciple is one who had been chosen—one who had been chosen by Jesus. To be chosen by Jesus, however, is not to be set apart from the world. Instead, to be chosen by Jesus is to be sent to serve the world as he did. The disciples of Jesus were chosen and were sent into the world to bear fruit by serving others, by sacrificing for others, in love.

This reading, like last week's, is part of Jesus' Last Supper discourse. In the context of John's Gospel, these words are spoken before Jesus' Crucifixion. We read his instruction to the disciples in light of his death and Resurrection. We know that Jesus himself gives us the greatest example of the kind of love and service that he teaches to his disciples. He has, in fact, laid down his life for his friends, for his disciples, and for us. Through his death and Resurrection, we have received the grace to love others as Jesus has commanded.

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/sixth-sunday-of-easter-cycle-b-sunday-connection/>