



## 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday *in* Ordinary Time

“And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it.”

*Matthew 16:18*

## 21<sup>o</sup> Domingo *del* Tiempo Ordinario

“Y ahora yo te digo: Tú eres Pedro, y sobre esta piedra edificaré mi Iglesia; los poderes de la muerte jamás la podrán vencer.”

*Mateo 16, 18*

## Masses are offered for...

SUNDAY, AUG 23-TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
10:00AM-JoAnn Brusnahan

TUESDAY, AUG 25  
5:30PM-Paula Gaudet  
6:00-6:45PM CONFESSIONS

FRIDAY, AUG 28-MEMORIAL OF ST.  
AUGUSTINE  
8:00A-8:20AM CONFESSIONS  
8:30AM-Herman Nagel  
6:00PM-For the Parish

SUNDAY, AUG 30-TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
10:00AM- Sally Michael



## FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

## An Image, An Identity

When we look in the mirror we see our reflection. It is an image of us that is slightly distorted; we find the mirror image a bit backward. God does not ask us to identify a mirror image of ourselves, but rather to "see" beyond the physical and go to the deeper spiritual level. That deeper spiritual level is where God speaks to us in a still, small voice. Furthermore, we can't look through any device and spy God. God is too expansive to be captured in one lens.

The Gospel reading today is invoked when we seek to defend the primacy of Peter and of the Church of Rome. Our understanding of Jesus establishing the Papal Office is based on this reading. Peter means rock. It is the rock of faith and understanding. It is the rock of recognition that Jesus is the anointed one of God. This rock acknowledges itself as a servant, as a disciple, as a steward of the keys to the kingdom. We sometimes get so caught up in the person serving the office we fail to recognize that what is important is the office itself. Humans will continue to err, but God knows all and has the end in sight. We have to trust the Holy Spirit is guiding the right person into the office.

As Fr. Bennett takes charge of the office of pastor this week, we are here to support, to be led, to listen, and to trust God knows what God is doing for us, even if it is confusing. Remember, a couple weeks ago Peter slipped below the waves, and after Jesus is arrested Peter denies knowing him. And yet, it was Peter who was able, with boldness, to rightly identify Jesus as the Son of God. At our core, we know who is ultimately in charge and to whom we all must answer. I am thankful again and again that we walk together as a community.

Our challenge this week and the weeks ahead is to keep an open mind. We are called to look beyond the people and see God at work through them. The offices, the orders in the Church are for the good. This week may we take a good look at ourselves, and see one another as God sees us. May we be bold in proclaiming Jesus as Lord, and may we never lose sight of the One in whose image we are created.

Dr. Anthony (Tony) Butler, DMin.  
Director of Religious Education

Ministry ScheduleLECTOR

AUGUST 23-WILL MESSMAN

AUGUST 30 MARTY PARK

ALTAR SERVERS

AUGUST 23-ISAAC AND ADAM MESSMAN

AUGUST 30-KATIE LANE



Like our Facebook page  
Club 1881 Knights of Columbus

End of The Month Breakfast

Sunday, August 30

All you can eat breakfast

8:00 to 11:30

Dine in or carry out

We will be serving biscuits and gravy, breakfast casserole, pancakes and sausage. This is a free will offering.

Fish Fry

Friday, September 11

5 to 7 pm At 325 East Vine St

Dine in or carry out (866-9938)

Fried Pollack, jumbo shrimp or chicken strips served with French fries and cole slaw.

NOVENA

**PLEASE JOIN US IN SAYING THE NOVENA  
STARTING AUGUST 19-27TH ON THE  
FOLLOWING PAGE...**



A commemorative book to celebrate the years of service by the CPPS to St. Augustine has been published under the direction of John Groppe and committee. One book per family will be distributed at the August 16th 10:00 Mass. If you won't be in attendance, contact Melissa in the church office at 219.866.5351 to reserve your copy.

Stewardship

**\$4653.32**

Total for the week of 8/9/2020

We need approx \$7000.00 to meet our budget goals.

### What is a Novena

The Catholic tradition of praying novenas has its roots in the earliest days of the Church. In the Acts of the Apostles we read that after the ascension of Jesus, the apostles returned to Jerusalem, to the upper room, where "They all devoted themselves single-mindedly to prayer, along with some women and Mary the Mother of Jesus and his brothers" (Acts 1:14). Jesus had instructed his disciples to wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit, and on the day of Pentecost, the Spirit of the Lord came to them. This prayer of the first Christian community was the first "novena." Based on this, Christians have always prayed for various needs, trusting that God both hears and answer prayer.

The word "novena" is derived from the Latin term *novem*, meaning nine. In biblical times, numbers held deep symbolism for people. The number "three," for example, symbolized perfection, fullness, completeness. The number nine—three times three—symbolized perfection times perfection. Novenas developed because it was thought that—symbolically speaking—nine days represented the perfect amount of time to pray. The ancient Greeks and Romans had the custom of mourning for nine days after a death. The early Christian Church offered Mass for the deceased for nine consecutive days. During the Middle Ages novenas in preparation for solemn feasts became popular, as did novenas to particular saints.

Whether a novena is made solemnly – in a parish church in preparation for a feast day – or in the privacy of one's home, as Christians we never really pray alone. Through the water of Baptism we have become members of the body of Christ and are thereby united to every other member of Christ's Mystical Body. When we pray, we are spiritually united with all the other members.

We suggest that during the novena you make time in your schedule to pray the morning prayer and evening prayer. If you are able, try to also set aside time during the day when you can pray the novena and any other particular prayer(s) you have chosen. What is important is to pray with expectant faith and confidence in a loving God who will answer our prayers in the way that will most benefit us. The Lord "satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry he fills with good things" (Ps 107:9).

St. Augustine is one of the greatest defenders of the Catholic faith and the patron saint of searchers. At the end of nine days of prayer, we hope to find the God that saved Saint Augustine waiting to deliver us from temporal concerns through his kind intercession.

You will be inspired by reflecting on the life of Saint Augustine and his transformation from a life of sin and iniquity to become one of the greatest saints the church has ever known.



### Morning Prayer:

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, in reparation for my sins, for the intentions of all my family and friends, and in particular, for the intentions of our Holy Father. Amen.

### Daily Prayer: (pray after each Devotional Prayer)

Heavenly Father,

We turn to you now with the intentions we hold in our hearts, and pray as St. Augustine has taught:

Spirit of wisdom and understanding, enlighten our minds to perceive the mysteries of the universe in relation to eternity.

Spirit of right judgment and courage, guide us and make us firm in our baptismal decision to follow Jesus' way of love.

Spirit of knowledge and reverence, help us to see the lasting value of justice and mercy in our everyday dealings with one another.

May we respect life as we work to solve problems of family and nation, economy and ecology.

Spirit of God, spark our faith, hope and love into new action each day.

Fill our lives with wonder and awe in your presence which penetrates all creation.

### Intercessions: (pray after each Daily Prayer)

Intercede for us, St. Augustine

That God may favorably hear our plea

And that He may grant us the grace

To accept His will in all things,

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord,

In the unity of the Holy Spirit,

One God forever and ever.

Amen.

### Evening Prayer:

Watch, O Lord, with those who wake, or watch or weep tonight, and give Your angels and saints charge over those who sleep. Tender Your sick ones; bless Your dying ones; soothe Your suffering ones; pity Your afflicted ones; shield Your joyous ones. And all for Your love's sake.

Amen. – Prayer by St. Augustine

## Novena to St. Augustine of Hippo

(Devotional Prayers as written by St. Augustine)

**Day 1**

*"No one knows what he himself is made of, except his own spirit within him, yet there is still some part of him which remains hidden even from his own spirit; but you, Lord, know everything about a human being because you have made him... Let me, then, confess what I know about myself, and confess too what I do not know, because what I know of myself I know only because you shed light on me, and what I do not know I shall remain ignorant about until my darkness becomes like bright noon before your face." (from the "Confessions")*

**Day 2**

*"Though good and bad men suffer alike, we must not suppose that there is no difference between the men themselves, because there is no difference in what they both suffer. For even in the likeness of the sufferings, there remains an unlikeness in the sufferers; and though exposed to the same anguish, virtue and vice are not the same things. For as the same fire causes gold to glow brightly, and chaff to smoke; and under the same flail the straw is beaten small, while the grain is cleansed; and as the lees are not mixed with the oil, though squeezed out of the vat by the same pressure, so the same violence of affliction proves, purges, clarifies the good, but damns, ruins, exterminates the wicked." (from "The City of God")*

**Day 3**

*"The wisdom of what a person says is in direct proportion to his progress in learning the Holy Scriptures – and I am not speaking of intensive reading or memorization, but real understanding and careful investigation of their meaning. Some people read them but neglect them; by their reading they profit in knowledge, by their neglect they forfeit understanding." (from "On Christian Doctrine")*

**Day 4**

*"You are surprised that the world is losing its grip, that the world is grown old? Think of a man: he is born, he grows up, he becomes old. Old age has its many complaints: coughing, shaking, failing eyesight, anxious, terribly tired. A man grows old; he is full of complaints. The world is old; it is full of pressing tribulations. . . . Do not hold onto the old man, the world; do not refuse to regain your youth in Christ, who says to you, 'The world is passing away, the world is losing its grip, the world is short of breath. Do not fear. Thy youth shall be renewed as an eagle'"*

**Day 5**

*"A person who is a good and true Christian should realize that truth belongs to his Lord, wherever it is found, gathering and acknowledging it even in pagan literature, but rejecting superstitious vanities and deploring and avoiding those who 'though they knew God did not glorify him as God or give thanks but became enfeebled in their own thoughts and plunged their senseless minds into darkness. Claiming to be wise they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for the image of corruptible mortals and animals and reptiles' [Rom. 1:21-3]"—(from "On Christian Doctrine")*

**Day 6**

*"As Christians, our task is to make daily progress toward God. Our pilgrimage on earth is a school in which God is the only teacher, and it demands good students, not one who play truant. In this school we learn something every day. We learn something from commandments, something from examples, and something from sacraments. These things are remedies for our wounds and materials for study."*

**Day 7**

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**Day 8**

*"I look forward, not to what lies ahead of me in this life and will surely pass away, but to my eternal goal. I am intent upon this one purpose, not distracted by other aims, and with this goal in view I press on, eager for the prize, God's heavenly summons. Then I shall listen to the sound of Your praises and gaze at Your beauty ever present, never future, never past. But now my years are but sighs. You, O Lord, are my only solace. You, my Father, are eternal. But I am divided between time gone by and time to come, and its course is a mystery to me. My thoughts, the intimate life of my soul, are torn this way and that in the havoc of change. And so it will be until I am purified and melted by the fire of Your love and fused into one with You." (from the "Confessions")*

**Day 9**

*"Late have I loved you, beauty so old and so new: late have I loved you. And see, you were within and I was in the external world and sought you there, and in my unlovely state I plunged into those lovely created things which you made. You were with me, and I was not with you. The lovely things kept me far from you, though if they did not have their existence in you, they had no existence at all. You called and cried out loud and shattered my deafness. You were radiant and resplendent, you put to flight my blindness. You were fragrant, and I drew in my breath and now pant after you. I tasted you, and I feel but hunger and thirst for you. You touched me, and I am set on fire to attain the peace which is yours." (from the "Confessions")*

## FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parish Family of St. A's,

For many of you, my life and yours have been entwined for decades. I remember John Groppe when he was a boy of a professor and Phyllis Mingear when she was just out of her teens, or so it seems. We have grown older together. I think we've aged rather well. For the majority of you, it seems I haven't had the time to know you in the same way, but I've a fondness for you that surpasses length of acquaintance.

I want to thank all of you for your support throughout my nine years at the parish. Your letters of support recently received as well as your generous gifts are greatly appreciated. In the midst of my move I am unable to send personal notes of thanks, much to my regret. I trust that you'll accept my thanks here as a substitute.

I would only ask that you strive to continue to be a parish family together, a Holy Family. And the way to do that is to be a community of Holy Families, each in your own homes. If the old saying is true that "home is where the heart is," then Rensselaer and St. A's will always be my home, for my heart will always be here.

Goodbye and God be with you always. I think a lot of his heart is here, too.

Love and

Peace!\

FD



## Feast of St. Augustine

Friday, August 28th

6:00PM MASS

Meet & Greet with Fr. Joshua Bennett

following Mass.

Ice Cream and Homemade Cookies

Bring Lawn Chairs

Social Distancing

## PASTORATE MASS SCHEDULE

### WEEKEND SCHEDULE

**Saturday Vigil: [5:00pm CT](#) ([6:00pm ET](#)) -**

**Sts. Peter and Paul, Goodland**

**Sunday Morning: [8:30am ET](#) ([7:30am CT](#)) -**

**Sacred Heart, Remington**

**Sunday Morning: [10:00am CT](#) ([11:00am ET](#)) -**

**St. Augustine, Rensselaer**

### WEEKDAY SCHEDULE

**Monday: NO MASS**

**Tuesday: [5:30pm CT](#) ([6:30pm ET](#)) -**

**St. Augustine, Rensselaer (Confessions [6pm-6:45pm CT](#))**

**Wednesday: [8:30am ET](#) ([7:30am CT](#)) -**

**Sacred Heart, Remington (Confessions [8am - 8:20am ET](#))**

**Thursday: [5:30pm ET](#) ([4:30pm CT](#)) -**

**Sacred Heart, Remington (Confessions [6pm-6:45pm ET](#))**

**Friday: [8:30am CT](#) ([9:30am ET](#)) -**

**St. Augustine, Rensselaer (Confessions [8am - 8:20am CT](#))**

**Saturday: [9:00am ET](#) ([8:00am CT](#)) -**

**Sacred Heart, Remington (Confessions [9:30am - 10am ET](#))**

## Birthday List

August 24-Ellen McGraw, Alex Gull, Susan Bowman

August 25-Ed Stath

August 27-Ben Hillan, Mary Snyder, Tucker Wilcox

August 28-Adam Benner, Diane Davis

August 29-Barbara Misch, Gabriel King, Harlow Brady

August 30-Emily Pickering, Manuel Herrera Sepulveda,

Anita Padgett

