

Saint Augustine of Canterbury Church

Also serving Saint Mary's Church in Souris, MB (Sundays at 11:00 am)

327-4th Street, Brandon, Manitoba R7A 3H1

Phone: 204-727-4728 Fax: 204-727-1027 Email: office@staug.ca Website: www.staug.ca

Weekday Office Hours: 8:30 am - 12:00 Noon, 12:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Pastor: Fr. John Okosun

Deacon: Rev. Mr. John MacKenzie



*Give thanks to the Lord for
His many Blessings
On Thanksgiving*

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

When people think of heaven, they often imagine a place up in the sky. Episodes of Star Trek should challenge that notion. The Bible usually speaks of heaven as an experience. According to our first reading, it is like a banquet, "a feast of rich food and choice wines" (Isaiah 25:6). Such a meal is an extraordinary event for hardworking people who seldom get to enjoy such luxury. According to today's Gospel account, the kingdom of heaven is like a wedding banquet, a feast of "calves and fattened cattle" (Matthew 22:4), a celebration of love and new life.

Some people might prefer an image that thrills the ear rather than the palette, like a Handel concerto or a Beethoven symphony. Whatever image is favored, heaven is an incomparable phenomenon that cannot be described. It is an experience that will thrill us to the core of our being.

To be invited to such an astounding experience might well be the event of a lifetime. This is, after all, an invitation from the king. Who would possibly turn it down? And yet, some do. As the Gospel recounts, some are too busy with work. Others would rather watch "the game." Still others who might accept the invitation minimize it by refusing to dress appropriately. How can people be so foolish? Yet, you and I often are.

God's invitation to the heavenly feast simply asks that we realize the magnitude of the honor extended to us, that we accept it graciously, and that we enjoy the experience. —Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

MASS INTENTIONS -

Tue.	Oct. 13	7:00 pm	Fr. David Kowalski	Rick & Jocelyn Kehler
Wed.	Oct. 14	9:30 am	Abortionists & Pro Choicers	Life's Vision
Thu.	Oct. 15	9:30 am	Neil & Shari †Viktor Schuldeis	Rose Marie Natalia & Family
Fri.	Oct. 16	12:15 pm	Victoria & her children	Rose Marie
Sat.	Oct. 17	9:30 am	†Jose Varghese	Mary & Thomas Jacob & Family
		4:00 pm	†Ed Burgess	Terry & Pam Szmon
Souris		6:30 pm	For All Parishioners	Fr. John
Sun.	Oct. 18	9:00 am	For All Parishioners	Fr. John
		11:00 am	Mary Ellen Sieklicki	Sieklicki Family
		7:00 pm	†Michael Carus	Julia Hamel

Prayer Intention from Archbishop Gagnon

We pray to the Lord Jesus, Who went about doing good and healing the sick. We ask for strength in body, mind and spirit for all those who are sick with the coronavirus. We pray especially for those who are greatly weakened by this virus; enable them to regain their health. We remember also those who have died due to its effects. Assist all those in the medical field who treat people with this malady and those doing research to find a cure. We ask, Lord, that through your grace, the spread of this virus within communities in Canada and throughout the world will be restricted and eliminated and that our Christian communities may joyfully proclaim the Good News you have entrusted to them.

Serra Brandon has had to cancel the Annual Clergy and Religious Appreciation Dinner in October. We regret having to do this, as it is the one time of the year we publicly acknowledge the work and blessings of our clergy and religious and have an opportunity to thank them. We ask that you too continue to remember them in prayers and support. In these challenging times our support is more important than ever. In keeping with our primary purpose, which is the promotion of vocations to the priesthood and religious life, we will be having displays and activities during the week of November 1-7 which is Vocation Awareness Week. Please watch for the displays and encourage the youth in your families to be attentive to the displays and their message.

In Our Prayers Are ...

Steve Bradley, Judy Bryant, Justin Enns, Rosaline Fedorkie, Colette Garlinski, Mildred Gareau, Frank Gudz, Jenny Hamill, Anthony Horan, Ralph Jonasson, Angela Lau, Diane Lomas, Paul Malabar, Brad Martin, Millicent Mychasiw, Paul Omilanow, Susan Richardson, Bonnie Schellenberg, Josephine Tarr, Ron Umpherville, Alice Young and the homebound.

Parishioners are Welcome Back:

- All Weekday & Weekend Masses have resumed to the same time as before Covid-19 with 120 parishioners per Mass. Once we have reached 120 capacity for the Mass in the Church, there will be overflow in the Parish Square.
- Social distancing is maintained.
- Face masks are encouraged.
- Disinfecting of pews done regularly.
- Those who are sick are encouraged to stay home.
- Funerals, baptisms and weddings are limited to 50 people.

Continued Cancellations

- Communion at private homes and at the hospital and personal care homes
- CWL meetings, all planned CWL activities, funeral lunches.
- Knights of Columbus, Pancake Breakfast, Chase the Ace, meetings and any other planned activities
- Prayer Group, Choir Practices, Serra Club, Senior Social Club, Parish Council Meetings.

Confessions:

- By appointment or 2:00-3:00 pm Friday

Donations to the Church:

- We would be very appreciative and grateful to everyone if they still helped us pay our bills by dropping off their collection in the collection boxes at all entrances of the church between 9:00 am-3:00 pm. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Church Office will be open weekdays:

Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

World Mission Sunday - This celebration of the missions will take place in every parish in the world. It is also a global celebration of the Universal Church. Your prayers and donations will assist Churches, hospitals, schools, and vocations where the church is still at a formative stage. With the assistance that Catholic communities throughout the world receive through World Mission Sunday, they will become self sufficient and continue to flourish. By sharing the gift of faith, we can bring hope and love to those who need it most. There will be yellow envelopes on the back and east vestibule tables of the church on October 18, 2020, World Mission Sunday.

Dear Padre: What is the Catholic Church's position on grace versus works?

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God; it is not from works" (Ephesians 2:8-9). The Catechism of the Catholic Church attests that we have merit in God's sight only because "God has freely chosen to associate man with the work of his grace" (CCC 2008). After God acted first on his own initiative, it then follows that we're free to act through his collaboration, "so that the merit of good works is to be attributed in the first place to the grace of God, then to the faithful" (CCC 2008). In other words, it's only through God's empowering Spirit in each of us that makes our good works for salvation pleasing to the Lord!

Moreover, Catholics believe these good works "contribute to growth in grace, so that the righteousness that comes from God is preserved and communion with Christ is deepened. When Catholics affirm the 'meritorious' character of good works, they wish to say that...a reward in heaven is promised to these works. Their intention is to emphasize the responsibility of persons for their actions, not to contest the character of those works as gifts, or far less to deny that justification always remains the unmerited gift of grace" (Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification, Lutheran World Federation and the Catholic Church, 38).

Christian prayer provides us with the grace that's needed for meritorious actions (CCC 2010). —Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR

Financial Report - Thank You!

Weekend Collection for Oct. 4- \$11,541.51

Weekly Expenses are approximately \$11,000.

Weekly overage was \$541.51

Sharing God's Gifts

Target for 2020 - \$45,720

Amount collected for 2020 = \$47,034.80

Amount to be refunded = \$1,314.80

Luke 6:38 - "The measure you give will be the measure you get back."

Options for Donating Money to the Church

1. E-Transfers NEW

We can accept donations by e-transfer from most financial institutions. Please use the email address "finance@staug.ca" and in the message line indicate who the donation receipt should go to (or your envelope #) and which fund you are donating to. For example, regular offering, building fund, St. Vincent de Paul, Life's Vision Brandon, flowers, etc.

2. Pre-Authorized Payments (PAP)

Simplify your weekly giving by filling out the purple PAP forms found at all entrances of the church or on the staug.ca website. You may give monthly, biweekly, or weekly. This automatic debit provides regular donations to the Parish even if you are unable to attend Mass; especially at this time of COVID-19. Please note that a void cheque or a bank deposit form are mandatory for signing up. Completed forms may be dropped off at (or mailed to) the Parish Office, or emailed to "finance@staug.ca", or dropped in the collection basket at Mass.

3. Donation Envelopes

If you are not registered as a member of St. Augustine's and you would like to use envelopes, please fill out the orange Parish Registration forms found at all entrances of the church or **on the website** and check off Yes for envelopes. Drop off (or mail) completed forms at the Parish Office or email to "finance@staug.ca", or drop in the collection baskets at Mass.

Praying with Pope Francis -October

We pray that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.

Parent's Meetings for First Reconciliation

There will be four parent's meetings this fall held on the following Thursdays at 6:30 PM for students receiving their First Reconciliation/Holy Communion: October 15 & 29, November 12 & 26.

Confirmation Classes 2020-2021

Classes for Confirmation will begin in November for those registered. Full information will be made available online this fall: staugfaithformation.com/owc-confirmation.

Young Adult Volunteers Needed

Is God calling you to assist with a ministry in the Church? Contact Caroline to see where help is needed (faithformation@staug.ca). Training to be provided.

October: Faith Formation

See the bulletin board in the East Vestibule for virtual Faith Formation events and opportunities. Free Rosaries and booklets available for October: Month of the Rosary.

Virtual Catholic Apologetics Conference – October 23-25

Come and learn about how to respond to today's toughest questions about the Faith, so you can be confident when entering challenging conversations on hot-button topics. This Free, conference gives tools and knowledge from 50+ Catholic theologians, apologists, and philosophers so you can be a defender of the Faith amidst today's challenges. Covering all of the challenging questions we encounter as 21st Century Catholics, such as: Catholic & Christian apologetics, theistic apologetics, responding to specific faiths, Catholic moral teaching and contemporary philosophies. For more information or to register, please visit: https://www.virtualcatholicconference.com/PWA2020#_s1a5qri4w

Healthy Sex in Lifetime Love - Online Adult Faith Formation with Leah Perrault – October 1, 15, 29

For many of us, formal learning about sexuality begins and ends at puberty, but healthy sexuality in lifetime love comes from continuous conversation and growing together. Join a conversation among adults about how spirituality can deepen healthy sexuality at every stage of living. October 1, 15, 29, 7-9 pm MST, with access to video recordings after for those registered who cannot attend live. \$90/person or couple. Registration deadline is: September 28th. More information and registration at www.queenshouse.org/?page_id=4399



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