



St. Augustine

Guided by the Holy Spirit, we strive to grow in loving support and forgiveness in union with Jesus Christ. We pledge our talents and resources through communal worship, Christian education, service, outreach, and witness, to love God and neighbor in the world around us. Prayerfully seeking to make the efforts of each the advantage of all, we invite, encourage, and welcome all to join us.

November 28, 2010

68035 Main Street - Richmond, Michigan 48062

(586) 727-5215



Note from Father Joe

The Season of Advent is a “time of waiting.” We Americans do not like waiting; it doesn't seem productive - or is it? Do you recall the preparations made for your wedding, or your first child, or for a very important guest? All kinds of preparations were made and when the time arrived, you were ready.

Advent is a very special time of preparation for each of us. There is a very special quest we are preparing our mind, body, and soul to receive anew into our hearts. The Advent message is that the Church - the Mystical Body of Christ - is waiting with hope, filled with the Holy Spirit, and each one of us has been heralded, as Mary was, to be a Christbearer to a world desperately in need of all the saving it can get. We must make room in our lives for Christ by removing from them whatever stands in the way of Jesus being born anew in each of us. St. Paul tells us in Romans 13:12-13, “Put on the armor of light....Let us live honorably as in daylight...” We are asked to look within, to enlarge our heart so that the life and light of Christ may develop and shine forth from us. Will you say “yes” to God, just as Mary said “yes” to become the Mother of Jesus Christ?

We celebrate the fruit of our “yes” on Christmas. Just as Mary was the first Christbearer, we have been formed into Christbearers when our hands become Christ's hands, our feet become Christ's feet, our nourishment and our actions become intricately linked with the life of Christ. Christ is depending on us to be Christbearers to each other

with love of God's compassion, peace and justice, and understanding today and every day. Be a new light to the world, so all will say “see how they love one another.”

Try to make this time of preparation meaningful through faith enrichment, prayer, and works of charity. Spend some extra time in prayer by attending the Advent Holy Hour on Friday, December 3rd, at 6:30 p.m. Do some spiritual reading and reflection by reading the Sacred Scriptures and by using the Advent issue of *The*



Word Among Us faith enrichment booklet. Also, take advantage of the extra time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, which will be offered from 12:00 noon to 12:30 pm. each Saturday of Advent. This is in addition to the regular time for Reconciliation from 4:15 p.m. until 4:45 p.m. on Saturdays. Let us together be ready and prepared to greet our Savior when he comes again!

F. Joe

Advent Holy Hour

6:30 p.m.

Friday, December 3, 2010

Come and join us for prayer and adoration in the presence of Christ present in the exposed Blessed Sacrament. Pray with us for peace in our world and for conversions, as well as for our servicemen and women in Afghanistan and in other parts of our world. Make this a special time to open your heart more fully to our Lord in this season of Advent.

St. Augustine Catholic Church

68035 Main St., Richmond, Michigan 48062
 Website - <http://www.staugustinecatholicchurch.com>
 Email - staugustinerichmond@comcast.net

Parish Office: (586) 727-5215 Fax: (586) 727-3760

Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. and
 Monday - Thursday - 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., or by appointment

Bulletin Submissions Deadline: 9:00 a.m. on Monday for the following weekend; deadline changes near major holidays. Please submit **electronically** to dbertossi.st.a@comcast.net

Rev. Joseph Plawecki, Pastor - Ext. 115
 Rev. John Nedumcheril, Associate Pastor - Ext. 119
 Bob Fillhart, Business Manager - Ext. 116
 Colleen Baumgarten, Bookkeeper - Ext. 114
 Joe Agosta, Director of Music - Ext. 171
 Ted Suwalkowski, Director of Buildings and Grounds
 Barbara Armstrong & Patti Misiuk, Secretaries - Ext. 110

Office of Faith Formation: (586) 727-9290

Tina Kovalcik,
 Pastoral Associate/Director of Religious Education - Ext. 125
 Lisa Hamel, After-School Program Assistant - Ext. 141
 Betty Raska, Secretary - Ext. 111

Youth Ministry (586) 727-9290

Marcie Dullea, Youth Minister

St. Augustine School: (586) 727-9365

Website - <http://www.staugustinecatholicsschool.com>

Jerry Bagierek, Principal - Ext. 131
 Connie Miller, Secretary - Ext. 129
 Judy Rey, Secretary - Ext. 130

Sunday Masses:

Saturday - 5:00 p.m.; Sunday - 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.

Daily Masses:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday - 8:00 a.m.;
 Tuesday - 6:30 p.m.; First Saturday of the Month - 8:00 a.m.

Holy Day Masses: 6:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., and 7:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday, 4:15 p.m. in Church; or by appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism:

Preparation is required. Please contact the Office of Faith Formation as far in advance as possible.

Sacrament of Marriage:

Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance; contact the Pastor for an appointment.

Sacrament of the Sick:

Notify the Parish Office of any need for hospital or home visits.

~ This Week Ahead ~

Monday, November 29, 2010

8:00 p.m. - AA Meeting (Room 4)

Wednesday, December 1, 2010

4:30 p.m. - Faith Formation (Parish Center)

6:30 p.m. - Contemporary Music Ministry Practice (Church)

7:00 p.m. - Capital Campaign Town Hall (School Library)

7:00 p.m. - Baptism Prep II (Room 7)

Thursday, December 2, 2010

7:00 p.m. - RCIA (Room3)

7:00 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal (Church)

Friday, December 3, 2010

6:30 p.m. - Holy Hour (Church)

Saturday, December 4, 2010

8:00 a.m. - First Saturday Mass (Church)

10:00 a.m. - First Penance Workshop (Parish Center)

3:00 p.m. - Olive Wood Display (Parish Center)

St. Augustine Parish Pastoral Council 2010-2011

- † **Debbie Michon** - Chair
- † **Otto Hohmann** - Vice Chair
- † **Jill Hebel** - Secretary

- † **Steven Kovalcik**
- † **Douglas Kubick**
- † **Jessica Leenknecht**
- † **Elizabeth Montgomery**
- † **Greg Rushlow**
- † **Patty Smith**
- † **Fr. Joe Plawecki**

Registration and Parish Membership:

New Parishioners are always welcome!
 Call or visit the Parish Office during business hours to request registration materials.
 Please remember to notify the Parish Office of any change in your address, phone number, or membership status.

Richmond Knights of Columbus:

Brian J. Brickel, Grand Knight



Our Parish Life

Scriptures

Intentions

Monday, November 29, 2010

Is 4:2-6 Mt 8:5-11	7:30 a.m. - Rosary 8:00 a.m. - Mass	Helen Nehrenberg req. by Norman & Audrey Campbell
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Tuesday, November 30, 2010

St. Andrew

Rom 10:9-18 Mt 4:18-22	6:00 p.m. - Rosary 6:30 p.m. - Mass	Patrick Ward req. by Class of 1950
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Wednesday, December 1, 2010

Is 25:6-10a Mt. 15:29-37	7:30 a.m. - Rosary Divine Mercy Chaplet 8:00 a.m. - Mass	Irene Caughell req. by Family & Friends
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Thursday, December 2, 2010

Is 26:1-6 Mt 7:21, 24-27	7:30 a.m. - Rosary 8:00 a.m. - Mass	For the Sick of St. Augustine Parish
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Friday, December 3, 2010

St. Francis Xavier

Is 29:17-24 Mt 9:27-31	7:30 a.m. - Rosary 8:00 a.m. - Mass 6:30 p.m. Holy Hour	Sylvester Pierzynski req. by His Wife
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Saturday, December 4, 2010

St. John of Damascus

Is 30:19-21, 23-26 Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8	8:00 a.m. - Mass 4:15-4:45 p.m. - Reconciliation	
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Sunday, December 5, 2010

Second Sunday of Advent



Eucharistic Liturgies:

- Saturday -
5:00 p.m.

- Sunday -
7:30 a.m.; 9:30 a.m.;
11:30 a.m.

Scriptures:

Isaiah 11:1-10
Romans 15:4-9
Matthew 3:1-12

Intentions:

Sylvester Pierzynski -
80th Birthday Remembrance,
req. by His Wife & Children

Leo Weingartz,
req. by Lloyd & Doris Sues

Fred Austin -
21st Anniversary Remembrance,
req. by Betty Raska & family

Virginia Bartoszek,
req. by Her Husband,
Louis Bartoszek

Deceased Members of
Edward & Eleanor Fraley Family,
req. by The Family

Please remember those who are...

Facing the challenges of illness at home or in the hospital,
Receiving extend care,
and
those who have gone on to
Celebrate Eternal Life in Christ

*God the Father, Hear our Prayer, Hear us, God the Son,
Holy spirit, Hear our Prayer, Mercy on your People, Lord.*

Faith Formation

Live ~ Learn ~ Grow

Church Tour – Part II

Last week I had written an article about learning and re-learning the proper names and places of items or “furniture” in the Church. This is part II of that article.

After we discussed the importance and symbolism of the Church door, our attention was drawn to the wall font. These fonts are filled with Holy Water and are located in the vestibule of a church or inside the church proper. They are conveniently placed at the entrance and exit doors for people to bless themselves as they enter and leave the church. This action is a reminder of our baptism. A promise made to the church that we would be raised in the faith and we would practice our faith. Holy Water is a sacramental blessed by a priest, invoking God’s blessing on all who use it. Blessed water is a symbol of spiritual cleansing, and its use is advised in moments of physical danger and against temptations from spiritual enemies. It is common practice to dip one’s fingers in holy water and reverently make the Sign of the Cross as one enters the Catholic Church.

Next, we moved on to the Vigil Candles. These seven day candles are offered for those who need special prayers. When you light a Vigil Candle, you take a moment to offer your prayers to God and possibly ask for the invocation of the saints.

We moved around the corner from the Vigil Candles to find the Side Altar and the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Isn’t she beautiful?!

We then moved near the pillar to the Ambo which is also known as the Altar of the Word. Here is where we proclaim the Word of God during the Liturgy of the Word.

Immediately behind the Ambo are the Lector and Cantor chairs. Next to these chairs is the Credence Table. This table holds the Sacramentary, cruet of water, basin and finger towel, the chalice, paten, corporal, cups, and bells.

Mass to Mark 140th Birthday of Fr. Solanus Casey

All are invited to a Mass marking the 140th birthday of the Venerable Solanus Casey. Fr. Jim Hast, OFM Cap, director of pastoral care at the Solanus Casey Center, will be the celebrant. The Mass will be held on **Sunday, November 28**, at 12 noon in St. Bonaventure Chapel, 1780 Mount Elliott, Detroit.

Music will be by the Solanus Choir under the direction of Dennis Choiniert. Refreshments will follow Mass. St. Bonaventure is located on Mount Elliott, between E. Lafayette and Kercheval. For more information, go to www.SolanusCasey.org or call (313) 579-2100.

Fr. Solanus served as “porter” or receptionist and doorkeeper at St. Bonaventure Monastery. A man of great faith and humility, he met thousands of people from every age and walk of life at the monastery door. In 1995, Pope John Paul II declared Fr. Solanus to be venerable, the second step in the path to sainthood.

Please Help the Funeral Luncheon Committee!!

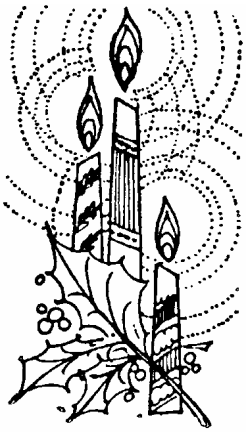
The St. Augustine Funeral Committee recently purchased a two-tiered step ladder for use in the funeral storage room. Unfortunately, the step stool is missing. If you borrowed it and forgot to return it, or know where it is, please contact the Parish Office at (586) 727-5215, ext. 110. Thank you!



These items are placed here until the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Next week I will finish the “furniture” in the sanctuary and move into the assembly area and gathering space. If there is something that you have questions about or “were just wondering about” feel free to ask me. I love teaching and handing on the richness of our Catholic faith. By no means, do I know all the answers to all the questions. But I do know where to go to obtain the correct information. Together, we journey together, in faith, hope and love!

Tina Kovalcik
Pastoral Associate/DRE



*St. Augustine
Advent
by
Candlelight*

*An invitation
to
all women*

*Thursday, December 9, 2010
6:30 p.m.*

Parish Center Hall

Guest Speaker - Anita Houghton

*Topic: Jesus ~ A Light Shining
In the Darkness*

*Come and enjoy an evening
with friends, and share the
Spirit of the Season
with prayer and reflection.
Come and bring a friend
Come and pray with us
Come Prepare
the Way of the Lord!*

Come!

*Reservations are requested
Call (586) 727-9290 ext 125*

*Refreshments will be served
A freewill offering will be taken*

*Would you like to set a table
for six?*

*Please call Tina at (586) 727-9290,
ext 125*



**Breakfast with
St. Nicholas**

When: *Sunday, December 5, 2010*

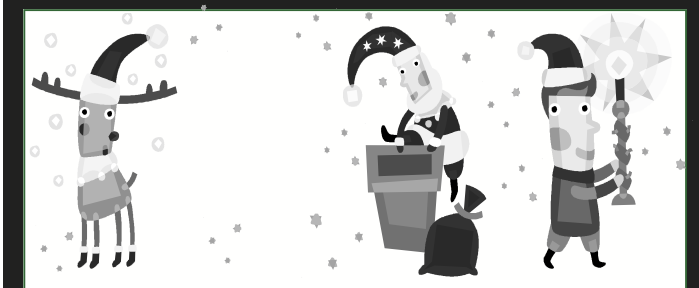
Time: *8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.*

Where: *St. Augustine Parish Hall*

Cost: *Free Will Donation*

*Breakfast Menu:
Pancakes, Eggs, and Ham
Coffee, Tea, or Juice*

Richmond and Chesterfield Discount Cards
and
Christmas Ornaments from the Holy Land
will be available to purchase



Stewardship

Due to an earlier bulletin deadline, we are unable to report the financial data from the weekend of November 21. This information will be reported at a later date.





St. A's Health Ministry

Greetings! Many of you know me as a parish nurse, but my other job is that of a hospice nurse for Mercy Hospice out of Port Huron. In this job, I see first hand the loving care that many in our community are giving to another person. Many people have been caregiving for years before their loved one needs hospice services. I am in awe of the gentle and holy care people give on a daily basis, many times in silence. Caregivers are truly heroes in my eyes.

A caregiver is someone who gives basic care to a person who has a medical condition, such as cancer, that prevents him or her from independently doing activities of daily living. The caregiver helps the person with tasks such as preparing and eating, taking medicine, bathing, and dressing.



If you are a caregiver, “What can I do to make caregiving easier on me?” Being a caregiver takes a lot out of you, both physically and emotionally. It's important to your own health not to ignore your needs while you care for someone else. The following are some things you can do to make sure you stay as healthy as possible during your loved one's illness.

Make wellness a priority. You may feel like you have to “do it all,” regardless of the toll it takes on you. However, one of the most important things you can do for your loved one is to take care of yourself by doing the following:

- ✝ Visit your doctor for regular check-ups.
- ✝ Eat a balanced diet. This may be easier than you think because you may be sharing meals with your loved one, who will also need to eat well.
- ✝ Get plenty of rest. If you're short on sleep, take naps when your loved one does.
- ✝ Get some exercise, 30-60 minutes of exercise 4-6 times a week can give you more energy, reduce stress, and improve your mood.
- ✝ Do relaxation exercises (such as deep

✝ Take a break from caregiving. If you take some time for yourself, you'll be better able to take care of your loved one.

Stay organized. Caregiving is often a full-time job, but you may be doing it on top of your other responsibilities, such as a paid job or taking care of your children. Make a schedule with your family. This will help all of you stay organized and will help you manage the demands on your time. Don't forget to schedule time for things you enjoy, such as visiting with friends or going out to dinner or a movie.



‘When did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?’ And the king will say to them in reply, ‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.’



Matthew 25:37-41

Peace and Blessings,
Maureen Duncan, RN

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Altar Sodality Christmas Potluck

The December meeting of the St. Augustine Altar Sodality will be held in the Parish Hall on **Tuesday, December 7, with the annual Christmas potluck starting at 6:00 p.m.** for those who wish to attend the 6:30 Mass.

Each Sodality member is asked to bring:

1. A large dish to pass.
2. An unwrapped baby gift for the NCCW layettes. They are in need of newborn & size 1 diapers.
3. Toiletries and phone cards for the service men and women.

The Refreshment Committee for the meeting is: Kathy Grande, Sharon Ozark, Mary Lou Brickel, and Donna Pack.

There will be a short Sodality meeting after dinner.





**Town Hall Meeting
on the
New Capital Campaign**

**Wednesday, December 1, 2010
7:00 p.m.**

Our parish will be participating in a new Capital Campaign conducted by our Archdiocese for the purpose of raising funds and promoting good stewardship for the strengthening of the financial condition of our parish as well as the Archdiocese.

All parishes of the Archdiocese are required to participate in this campaign. We have elected to be in the first group of parishes. Our parish will benefit significantly from this effort. More information will be provided in future bulletins and mailings. To find out more information or to help in any way, please plan on attending the special meeting regarding the Capital Campaign in our parish hall on Wednesday, December 1, at 7:00 p.m. All are invited to attend and help us plan for the future well-being of our parish and the work of Christ in the Archdiocese.

A Family Perspective

by Bud Ozar

In today's Gospel, Jesus advises: "Stay awake, watch out, and pray for the strength to hold your ground" when "fearful and bewildering signs" appear threatening your family. Resist being "fearful" – fear cripples! Instead "pray for the strength" to be courageous.

*First Sunday
of Advent*



*Advent Spiritual Growth
Opportunities this Week*

Advent Holy Hour

Friday, December 3 - 6:30 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, December 4

12:00 Noon - 12:30 p.m.

4:15 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Spiritual Reading

*Pick up a copy of the Advent issue
of The Word Among Us at both
Church entrances.*



Remembering Those Who Serve

- DC2 Troy Baran
- FNE3 Nathan Bilbrey
- Cpt Kevin Chamberlain
- Cpl Kyle Dupuis
- Spc Samuel Feldman
- Mid3 Adam Haag
- Cpt Christopher Haag
- LT USN Ryan Haag
- SSgt Michael R. Hagan
- Cpt Michael A. Hoffman, D.D.S.
- Sgt Daniel Johns
- 1Lt David F Kuntz
- Cpl Christopher Lemke
- SP4 Cory Moore
- Cpt Christopher Platz
- Cpt Lisa Marie Platz
- MSgt Jeffrey Platz
- PFC Ryan Pryslak
- MSgt Kevin Quant
- Col Matthew Rettke
- 1Lt Brad Roshak
- POHM2 John-Christopher Sbraccia
- SPC Kurtis Schneider
- PFC Nicholas Spens
- SMSgt Joseph Stevens
- SSG Raymond Stier
- PFC Christopher Tishler
- Sgt Nathaniel Wirgau
- TSgt Jeffrey Yelencich

Remember The Sick

Please include the following name(s) on the Prayer List during December - January



Submitted by: _____

"WIDOWED FRIENDS"

A "Peer" support group in the AOD



For Widowed Men and Women

Christmas Celebration Dinner
Conversation, Games, and Cards
in a supportive atmosphere

When: Sunday, December 12 – 1:45 pm

Where: Golden Hawk Golf Club Dining Room
9861 Meisner Lane (28 Mile Rd.)
1.3 miles east of County Line Rd.,
Casco Twp., (Richmond Area)

Cost: \$14.00 covers tax & gratuity
(pay at the door – cash only)

Includes: Choice of: Queen Cut Prime Rib,
Smothered Chicken, or Broiled Cod

MUST RSVP to state your meal choice by **Dec 7th**
Call Richard @ (586) 784-9210 or
Wayne @ (810) 982-8574

**Come meet new friends
in a safe and friendly setting!**

National Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-799-7233

Family Violence Hotline
1-800-996-6228

Do not suffer in silence. You are NOT alone.
These hotlines are staffed with trained counselors
who will provide crisis assistance and information.

Don't Forget!

December envelopes are available to be picked up at the Main Street entrance of the Church. We are no longer mailing the envelopes in an effort to reduce Parish expenses. If you know of someone who is unable to pick up his or her envelopes, please have that person contact the Parish Office at (586) 727-5215, ext. 110.

