

**St. Peter, Holy Guardian Angels and St. John the Baptist
Parishes
(902) 535-2053
Rev. John Yake, I. V. Dei**

**Bulletin email: bulletinsjbsp@gmail.com
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 28, 2022**

The Memorial of [St. Augustine](#), which is ordinarily celebrated today, is superseded by the Sunday liturgy.

St. Augustine of Hippo

Augustine Aurelius was born on November 13, 354, in Tagaste, North Africa. His father was a pagan, his mother, St. Monica. Still unbaptized and burning for knowledge, he came under the influence of the Manicheans, which caused his mother intense sorrow. He left Africa for Rome, deceiving his mother, who was ever anxious to be near him. She prayed and wept. A bishop consoled her by observing that a son of so many tears would never be lost. Yet the evil spirit drove him constantly deeper into moral degeneracy, capitalizing on his leaning toward pride and stubbornness. Grace was playing a waiting game; there still was time, and the greater the depths into which the evil spirit plunged its fledgling, the stronger would be the reaction.



Augustine recognized this vacuum; he saw how the human heart is created with a great abyss; the earthly satisfactions that can be thrown into it are no more than a handful of stones that hardly cover the bottom. And in that moment grace was able to break through: Restless is the heart until it rests in God. The tears of his mother, the sanctity of Milan's Bishop Ambrose, the book of St. Anthony the hermit, and the sacred Scriptures wrought his conversion, which was sealed by baptism on Easter night 387. Augustine's mother went to Milan with joy and witnessed her son's baptism. It was what it should have been, the greatest event of his life, his conversion — metanoia. Grace had conquered. Augustine accompanied his mother to Ostia, where she died. She was eager to die, for now she had given birth to her son for the second time.

In 388 he returned to Tagaste, where he lived a common life with his friends. In 391 he was ordained priest at Hippo, in 394 made coadjutor to bishop Valerius, and then from 396 to 430 bishop of Hippo.

Augustine, numbered among the four great Doctors of the Western Church, possessed one of the most penetrating minds of ancient Christendom. He was the most important Platonist of patristic times, the Church's most influential theologian, especially with regard to clarifying the dogmas of the Trinity, grace, and the Church. He was a great speaker, a prolific writer, a saint with an inexhaustible spirituality. His *Confessions*, a book appreciated in every age, describes a notable portion of his life (until 400), his errors, his battles, his profound religious observations. Famous too is his work *The City of God*, a worthy memorial to his genius, a philosophy of history. Most edifying are his homilies, especially those on the psalms and on the Gospel of St. John.

Augustine's episcopal life was filled with mighty battles against heretics, over all of whom he triumphed. His most illustrious victory was that over Pelagius, who denied the necessity of grace; from this encounter he earned the surname "Doctor of grace." As an emblem Christian art accords him a burning heart to symbolize the ardent love of God which permeates all his writings. He is the founder of canonical life in common; therefore Augustinian monks and the Hermits of St. Augustine honor him as their spiritual father.

—Excerpted from *The Church's Year of Grace* by Pius Parsch

Sunday Readings

The **First Reading** is taken from the Book of Sirach 3:17-18, 20:28-29. In today's reading we have a few more of the words of wisdom on humility from this saintly man who spent his life meditating on the law of God revealed to the Chosen People.

The **Second Reading** is from Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24. The author contrasts two scenes: One is the giving of the Old Covenant, and the other is the assembly of those justified by the New Covenant. The reason why the Church has selected these verses is to impress on the Jewish converts the superiority of the Christian religion over that of the Old Testament, which they had practiced until their conversion.

The **Gospel** is from St. Luke 14:1, 7-14, in which Jesus had been invited to dine in the house of a leading Pharisee. The Pharisees were so convinced of their own perfect knowledge and observance of the law, that they thought nobody else could possibly know it or observe it as perfectly as they did. In a very simple parable, Jesus told them where their pride would lead them.

A proud Christian, that is, a proud follower of the humble Christ, is a contradiction in terms. Christ, the Son of God, lowered himself to our level when He took our human nature. He was born in a stable, reared in the obscure village of Nazareth, earned his meager meals as a country carpenter, died on a cross as a malefactor with two thieves as companions and was buried in a God's banquet. Thank God, there are few whose pride leads them to these extremes, but there are far too many who set

themselves up as judges over their neighbor and appoint themselves as the models to be imitated by all others.

There is a little demon of pride in each one of us. There is a natural inclination in each one to esteem ourselves a little better in most ways, if not in all, than our neighbor. We must keep this demon in check and not let him grow in us. Any gifts of mind or body that we have are from God—our duty is to use them properly and to thank God for the loan of them. If He gave greater gifts to another, I thank God for it. That other was able to make better use of them than I would. I have enough gifts to go on. I shall not be judged on the use or abuse of gifts which I did not receive.

If I use all the gifts which God gave me, to help my neighbor, the spiritually poor, the lame and blind, to heaven, instead of keeping myself aloof from them as the Pharisees did, then my judgment will be easy. I shall be "repaid in the resurrection of the just."

The proud Christian sets himself up as a critic of God's wisdom. He muses: God forgives sinners too easily. God doesn't know them as well as I do. That conversion cannot be trusted, it will not last, he says. The "sinners" prosper, they are blessed with good health, a happy family, more than their share of the world's goods, and here am I who never failed God, who always did what was right and even more, and I am neglected by God. God doesn't know his real friends!

These are the questionings of a proud soul. Such Christians raise themselves above their neighbors in their own minds. They choose the first places, and from their self-appointed heights they look down on their fellow guests at stranger's grave. Could He have done more to induce us to listen to his counsel when He said: "Learn of me, for I am humble of heart?"

Yet, there are Christians who are proud. Like the Pharisees of old, they thank God that they are not like the rest of men. They shun any contact with sinners. They cover their ears when any scandal is mentioned. Yet they never miss the gossip and are always ready to condemn offhand the unfortunate giver of scandal, without knowing the extenuating circumstances.

—Excerpted from The Sunday Readings Cycle C, Fr. Kevin O' Sullivan, O.F.M.

Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the office:

902-535-2053

Rev. John Yake, I.V. Dei

Instructors for baptism:

Mary Fougere, SJB 902) 535-2699

Rose Pâté, SP (902) 302-7011

Vera Doucette, HGA (902) 785-4018

Parents who request that their children receive the sacraments of Christian initiation: Baptism, Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation, are reminded that they are making a commitment before God to raise their children in the faith. Sacraments do not magically guarantee eternal salvation but they offer divine assistance in the struggle against evil so that the Christian life can be lived in witness to Jesus Christ and his mission.

As the beginning of a new school year, we pray that our children receive all they need to live the Christian life. Here below is offered guidelines for emboldening their religious lives.

The Spiritual Rights of the Child

Written for the International Year of the Child 1979

by Ann and Jerry van Regan of Sydney, NS

The right to know and love God.

The right to participate in a living community of faith.

The right to the needed resources is for spiritual growth.

The right to religious and moral education from informed parents.

The right to hear the Word of God and have it interpreted.

The right to times of silence and solitude to develop a contemplative spirit.

The right to active participation in community worship.

The right to live in a home with faith in God as the heart of daily life.

The right to pray freely.

The right to be of service to others.

Weekday Masses

Tuesday, August 30, 2022

SJB 4:00 PM

***Mass for the living**

Henrietta & Arthur Doary

Wednesday, August 31, 2022

SP 9:00 AM

Friday, September 2, 2022

SP 11:00 AM

Mass of Christian Burial

+Joseph Alexander Murray

Saturday, September 3, 2022

SH 4:00 PM

HGA 5:30 PM

+ Beverly & Sonny Chivari

Sunday, September 4, 2022

SJB 9:00 AM

+ Charles "George" Landry

SP 10:30 AM

+ Aubrey Gouthro

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no weekday Masses from Sept. 5th to 9th
and Sept. 12th to Sept. 16th

Receipts

Holy Guardian Angels

August 20, 2022

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 621.00
Candles	18.00

<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 639.00</u>
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St. John the Baptist

August 21, 2022

Envelopes & loose	\$ 850.00
Property Maintenance	50.00
Cemetery	270.00

<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 1,170.00</u>
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St. Peter's

August 21, 2022

Envelopes & Loose	\$ 1,158.00
Candles	16.30
Old Cemetery Road	20.00

Total **\$ 1,194.30**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Annual Celebration for Mother of Sorrows Pioneer Shrine in Mabou will take place on Sunday September 11th.

The Continuous Rosary starts at 1:00 pm at the Shrine.

Mass will be offered at St. Mary's Church at 4:00 pm with Father Dan MacDonald officiating.

There will be refreshments at the Parish Hall after Mass Compliments of St. Mary's CWL For inquiries please call 902-945-2221

The Gift Shop at the Shrine is open every day from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm.

HGA; Next meeting to continue planning for the 200th anniversary of Holy Guardian Angels Parish is Sunday, August 28th. L'Ardoise Community Center, 2:00 P.M. Everyone welcome.

RTO – Meet & Greet

Sept. 13/22 – La Picasse, PDG

9:30-11:45 – Activities/Social

Morning Refreshments & Lunch \$10.00/Person

AGM Meeting -12:30

-Secretary & Treasurer positions up for nominations

Contact Donna at: dmmachin@nstu.ca or 902-535-2074 by Sept. 7th.