

St. Augustine R. C. Parish

Fifth Sunday of Lent – March 29, 2020

“Creating A Community Of Involvement And Evangelization”

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National Shrine of
Santo Niño de Cebú

St. Augustine parish is an open, diverse, and active Roman Catholic community rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and founded in the Augustinian Tradition. We invite all to participate in our worship, service to others, and our faith development. These endeavors allow us to grow in the knowledge of God present in ourselves and each other. Our community joyfully welcomes all who are searching for a spiritual center to call home.

243 North Lawrence Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106
(GPS Address: 250 N. 4th Street)
Phone: 215-627-1838 FAX: 215-627-3911



Website: www.st-augustinechurch.com

Office Hours:
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Monday to Friday



Mass Schedule:

Monday - Friday: 12:05 PM
(10:00 AM on Legal Holidays)
Saturday Vigil: 5:15 PM
Sunday: 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 7:00 PM

Parish Staff:

Rev. William J. Donnelly, O.S.A.
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Parish Services Director (Ext. 115)
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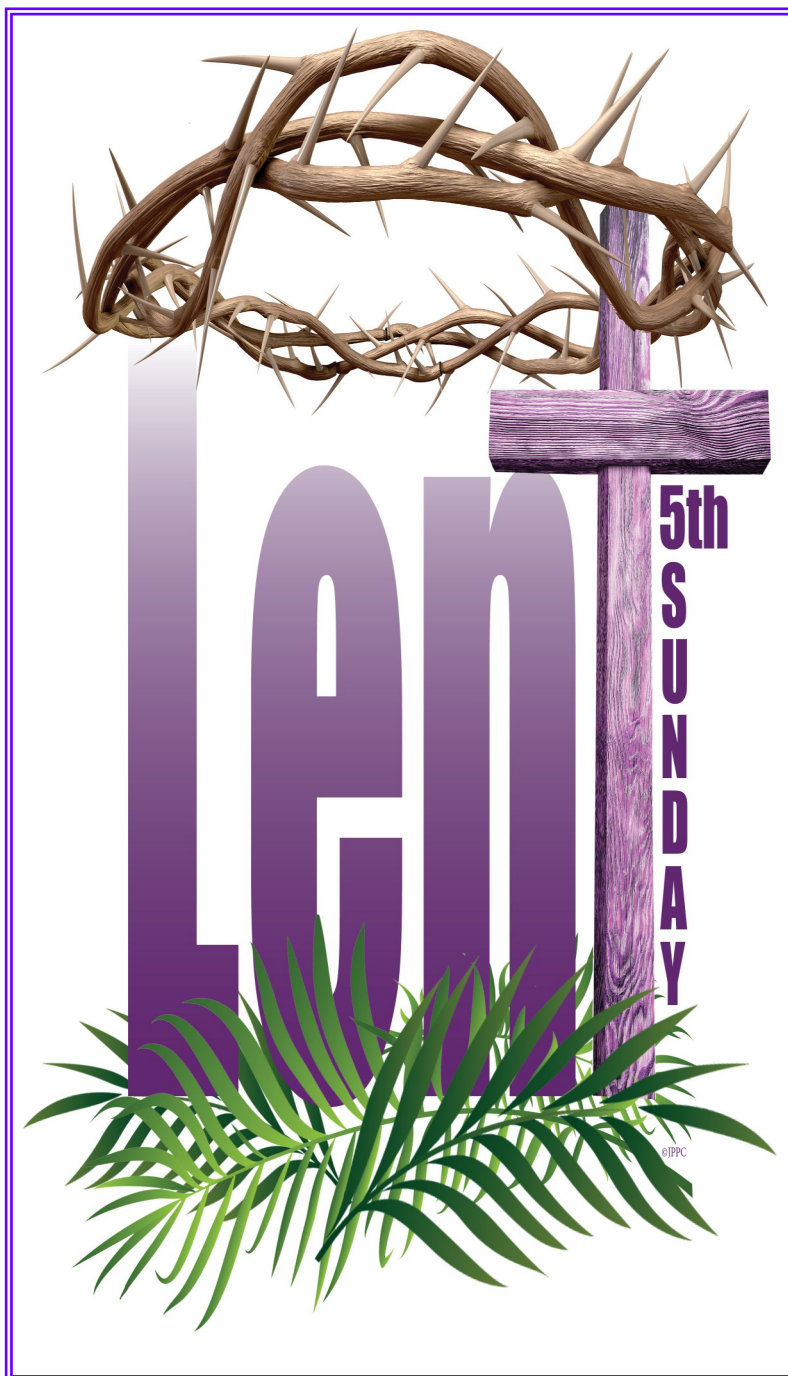
Kim Barroso
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Tim Babbage
Accountant (Ext. 116)
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In Residence:

Rev. Paul Morrissey, O.S.A., *Prison Chaplain*
Rev. James Keating, O.S.A.
Rev. James Paradis, O.S.A., *Prior*



Archdiocese Of Philadelphia Announces Additional Liturgical Guidelines For The Celebration Of Palm Sunday And The Sacred Paschal Triduum

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia (AOP) announced that Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez's previous directive to suspend the celebration of all public Masses in the Archdiocese until further notice remains in effect.

The March 17, 2020 suspension of all public Masses in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia remains in effect until further notice. This includes all Sunday and weekday Masses with the faithful. Priests will continue to offer Holy Mass privately during this period and to honor all requested Mass intentions.





Although **Palm Sunday Mass will not be celebrated publicly**, the palm distributed to the faithful on this day has great meaning. Palm is to be blessed and available for distribution at a later time determined by the parish.

The Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Celebration of the Passion of the Lord, the Easter Vigil, and Easter Sunday Masses are not to be celebrated publicly.

The Chrism Mass will not be celebrated publicly. Instead, Archbishop Pérez will celebrate it in a private manner at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul.

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia will continue to stream the 11:00 a.m. Mass live from the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul every Sunday, including Palm Sunday, and will also stream liturgical celebrations for the Sacred Paschal Triduum from www.archphila.org.

Additional information regarding opportunities for prayer and devotions are available on the Archdiocesan website.

 <p>Mass Intentions</p> <p>All Mass Intentions will be celebrated privately by the Parish Priests</p> <p>Saturday & Sunday, March 28 & 29, 2020</p> <p>5:15 PM ----- 9:00 AM ----- 11:00 AM ----- 7:00 PM -----</p> <p>Monday, March 30, 2020 12:05 PM Deborah Pollag</p> <p>Tuesday, March 31, 2020 12:05 PM Deceased Members of the Georeno Family</p> <p>Wednesday, April 01, 2020 12:05 PM † Sr. St. Catherine Curley, GNSH</p> <p>Thursday, April 02, 2020 12:05 PM † John Goetz</p> <p>Friday, April 03, 2020 12:05 PM † Horace & Elsie Banks</p> <p>Saturday, April 04, 2020 5:15 PM The Parish Community † = Deceased</p>	<p>Sacrificial Giving March 21 & 22, 2020</p> <p>Number of Envelopes Used: 4 Amount in Envelopes: \$340.00 Average \$/Envelope: \$85.00 Electronic Giving: 36 Amount Electronic: \$735.00 Average \$/Electronic: \$20.42 Loose Money: \$0 Total Collection: \$1,075.00</p>  <p>Capital Campaign News Goal: \$750,000 (Phase 1) To date: Pledges: 197 Percentage: 93.0145% Amount Pledged: \$697,608.50 Pledges Received: \$514,529.00 June 1st Gala Revenue: \$40,250.00 In-Kind Gifts Received: \$10,437.71 Campaign Total Rec'd: \$565,216.71</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Electronic Giving Just log on to our website, www.st-augustinechurch.com and click on: "Sign Up For Electronic Giving"</p>  </div>	 <p>The Bulletin Board</p> <p>Fifth Sunday of Lent Sunday, March 29, 2020 -----</p> <p>Monday, March 30, 2020 -----</p> <p>Tuesday, March 31, 2020 -----</p> <p>Wednesday, April 01, 2020 -----</p> <p>Thursday, April 02, 2020 -----</p> <p>Friday, April 03, 2020 -----</p> <p>Saturday, April 04, 2020 -----</p>
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March 26, 2020

Dear Parishioner, or better stated, Dear Friend of St. Augustine Parish,

Friendship is an essential note in St. Augustine's writings and is a better way to describe our Parish spirit. Often I have spoken about the distinction between seeing with our eyes and seeing with the "eyes" of our heart, because friendship is word that is rooted in our heart. When we gather, we open our heart to the presence of others, and it is something that I have witnessed when small groups gather after liturgy and experience that heartfelt presence.

With the present quarantine, our hearts are focused on family, good friends, and our working associates. We are praying for these special individuals that we know by name. Hopefully, you are also remembering in your prayers our brothers and sisters who gathered with us each Sunday—some whose names are known, and others who are unknown. Today, we are bonded with each other, the known and unknown, and particularly with our fears of the Coronavirus. All of us share a common dignity and today we all share a common concern.

My brother Augustinians at St. Augustine are gathering each day for morning and evening prayer. At mid-morning, we concelebrate (that is, celebrate with each other) our Eucharistic liturgy, praying for all our families, friends, and associates, along with each of you—our dear friends of St. Augustine. As we walk into an empty church, the feelings are unique. Your physical presence may be absent, but our memories "see" your faces and feel the presence of your spirit. There are faces that I know because I recall where you sit each Sunday, and I see your image without your presence. Know that we are praying with you, for you, and we are concerned for your health and welfare.

I have a special request of you. If there is someone in your family afflicted with the Coronavirus, and you care to share their name, please let us know and we will pray, with you, for them. Our Augustinian community may not have silver or gold, but like St. Peter, who healed the cripple who sat outside the Temple, we will join you in prayer for their recovery.

Finally, during this time, I ask that you reflect on the Jewish Exodus. It began with the Passover Meal—a meal of freedom—followed by the long journey of forty years. As the Jewish people began their passage into freedom, the Egyptian Army arrived as they stood before the Red Sea. They feared a holocaust, and even questioned why they left a life of making clay bricks. Despite the seeming insurmountable odds, with the gift of faith, the Red Sea became a canyon of safety and the dry land offered hope.

May our gifts of faith and hope bring us safely through this epidemic, and may our behavior continue to protect us, our loved ones, and our neighbors.

God be with us, and thanks to all who are doing what they can to support our Parish during these un-certain times.

Peace and Joy,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Bill Donnelly" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Fr. Bill Donnelly, O.S.A.

Sacrifice of Praise

Fifth Sunday of Lent: Ezekiel 27:12-14 / Romans 8:8-11 / John 11:1-45

Finding the Light of the World, in the World

In this week's Gospel, Jesus learns Lazarus is gravely ill. Out of great love for his friend, he chooses to travel back to Bethany. Those traveling with Jesus worry about his safety. Jesus tells the disciples they will travel during the light of day because anyone who walks in the light will not stumble — speaking here both figuratively and spiritually. Jesus is the “light of this world” (Jn 11:9), and we are called to walk in his teachings and his promises; if we walk by the light of Jesus, we will not risk stumbling into temptation nor falling away from faith.

Jesus shares seven “I Am” statements in the Scriptures. In this Gospel passage, he describes himself as light of the world, also “the resurrection and the life” (v. 25). Our hope for eternal life rests in Jesus Christ as Messiah, Savior. Could you answer Jesus with the affirmation of the belief that Martha did when he said to her: “Whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” (vv. 25-26).

She answered, “Yes, Lord, I ... believe.” Can you make this proclamation in your own life? Do you see the generosity of God in your life, that you can trust in his



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FOR REFLECTION

- How would you categorize your ability to trust God?
- Which prayers fortify or comfort you when you feel your faith wavering?
- Does Jesus' generosity toward his friends provide consolation or hope as you present your supplications to the Lord?

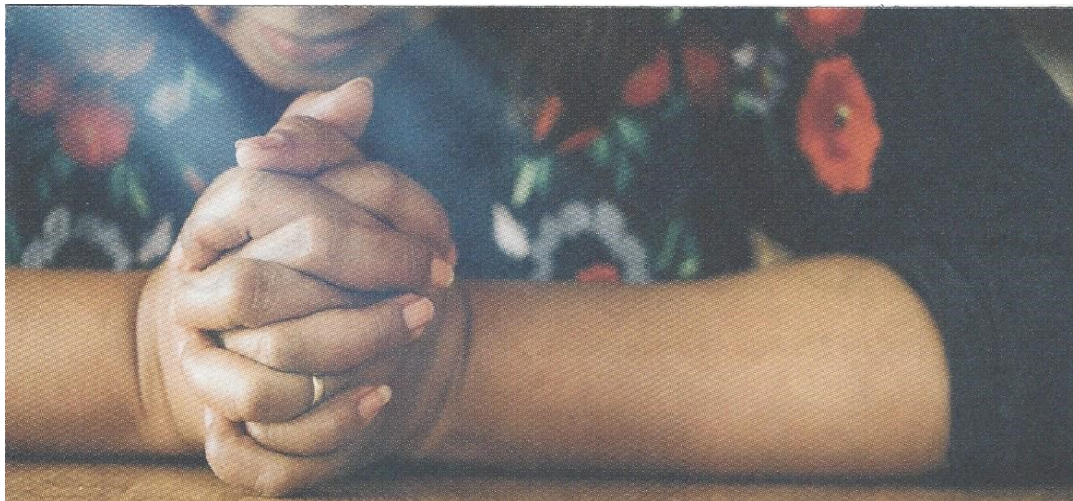
power whatever the circumstances? Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. Sometimes we are dead in our faith — whether in our prayer life, in lackluster participation in the sacraments, or in lack of time spent reading the Scriptures. We may have allowed it to wither and maybe even develop, dare we say, a stench.

Lazarus' sisters, Mary and Martha, are offered as

examples of contemplative and active prayers. When Jesus first visits them in Bethany, we find Martha anxious and busy, upset with her sister's contemplative stance at Jesus' feet. Jesus challenges her to find a balance in her life between work and prayer; she was missing that one thing needed — dedicated time with the Lord amidst all the other things to do. In John 11, with her proc-

lamation of faith in Jesus as Messiah, we witness the fruit of following Jesus' gentle admonition.

Lent is an opportunity for us to answer this same gentle exhortation from Jesus in our own lives. Beloved, you are anxious about a great many things, but only one thing is needed. Do you read those words and begin to make a list of the things for which you are worried? Can you recount the last time you sat at the Master's feet to learn from him? Do you believe you can come to Jesus with your supplications, no matter how dire or how many? Do you trust him with your life?



An Act of Trust

The word **supplication** comes from the Latin verb *supplicare*, which means to plead humbly, or to beseech. A prayer of supplication calls for one to humble themselves before the Lord and ask (petition) for a favor only he can give. It is an act of trust in the angel Gabriel's words, "for nothing will be impossible for God" (Lk 1:37).

PRAYER TIP

Prayer bears fruit in our lives when offered in:

DEVOTION
with earnest belief

HUMILITY
with reverent awe

CONFIDENCE
with expectant hope

PERSEVERANCE
with unwavering patience

TRUST
with abandon to the will of God

CATECHISM CONNECTION



"Jesus also prays for us — in our place and on our behalf. All our petitions were gathered up, once for all, in his cry on the Cross and, in his Resurrection, heard by the Father. This is why he never ceases to intercede for us with the Father. If our prayer is resolutely united with that of Jesus, in trust and boldness as children, we obtain all that we ask in his name, even more than any particular thing: the Holy Spirit himself, who contains all gifts."

— *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2741

Prayer

Lord Jesus, you told your disciples to ask and it will be answered. In your mercy, what we receive always aligns with the will of your Father. If we, broken and sinful, strive to give good gifts to our children, how much more will our heavenly Father provide. I bring my supplications to you, trusting in your love and mercy.

Remaining Steadfast in Prayer



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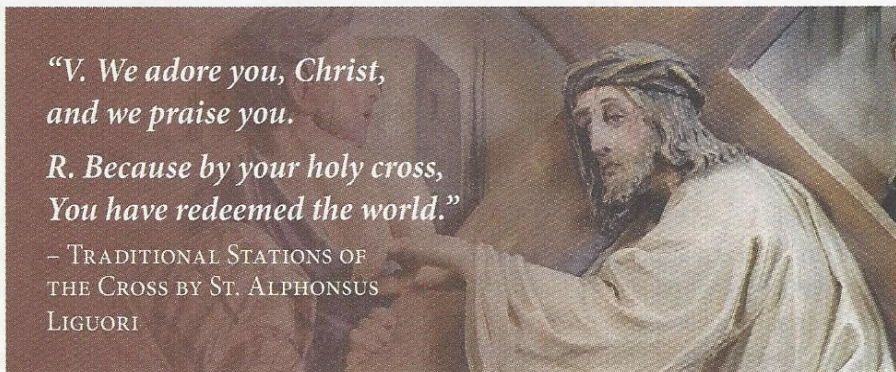
St. Gemma Galgani preferred to engage in informal prayer in the form of continually conversing with God throughout the day and night. This way, she believed, was the way to assure she remained in the presence of God at all times. Gemma spent a year suffering from spinal tuberculosis. After two failed attempts at reciting a novena to the Sacred Heart, she persevered and tried once more. This time, not only did she complete the nine days of prayer, but she also received a miraculous and complete cure of her ills upon its completion. Grateful to be cured, her focus remained on Jesus: "I too was

pleased, but not so much that I had been cured as that Jesus had chosen me for his child."

"V. We adore you, Christ, and we praise you.

R. Because by your holy cross, You have redeemed the world."

— TRADITIONAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS BY ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI





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#WHATSMYNAME
In Remembrance of Samantha Josephson

