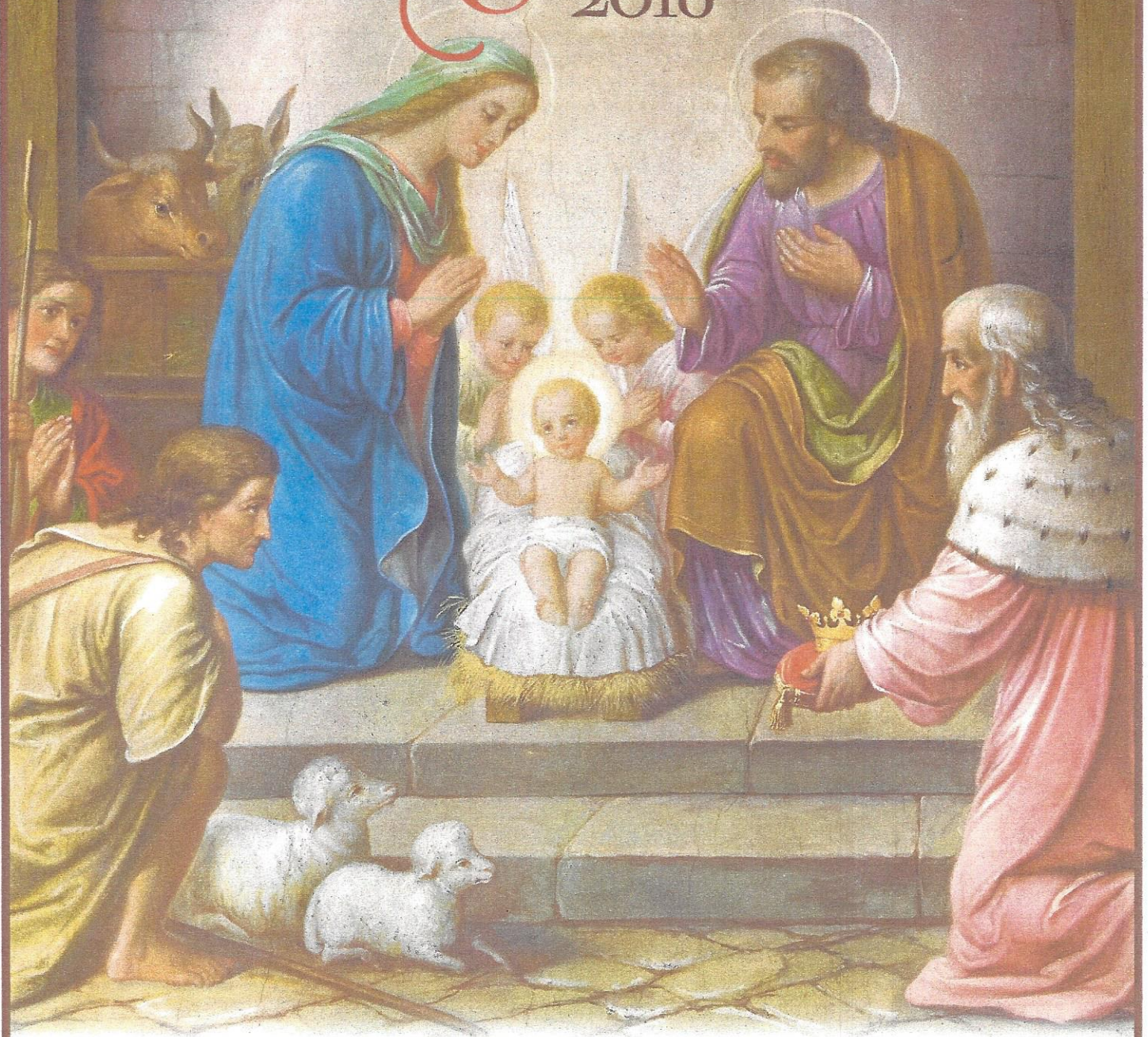


Christmas

2018



St. Augustine Parish
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

St. Augustine Parish

The Nativity of Our Lord – Christmas – December 25, 2018

"Creating A Community Of Involvement And Evangelization"

Served by the Augustinian Friars since 1796

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 F. Waters, O.S.A.

Pastor (Ext. 110)

pastorstaugustine@gmail.com

Jacob A. Marquart, III, O.F.S.

Parish Services Director (Ext. 115)

staugustineparish09@gmail.com

Jean Mangini

Wedding Coordinator (Ext. 118)

staugweddings9@gmail.com

Kim Barroso

Music Director

kim.barroso@gmail.com

Robert Zigmund

Maintenance/Facilities Manager (Ext. 111)

facilities243@gmail.com

Tim Babbage

Accountant (Ext. 116)

timbabbage@hotmail.com

In Residence:

Rev. Paul Morrissey, O.S.A., spirhealth@aol.com

Rev. James Keating, O.S.A.

Rev. James Paradis, O.S.A., *Prior*

Sacramental Celebrations

Sacrament of Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on a regular basis, except during Lent. It is usually celebrated within Mass. Arrangements must be made in advance. The parents of the child to be baptized meet personally ahead of time with the priest celebrating the sacrament.

Contact the parish office for further information.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Weddings are arranged by appointment at least eight months in advance of the desired wedding date.

Contact the parish office for more information.

Ministry to the Sick & Sacrament of the Sick

If anyone in your family is seriously ill, preparing for surgery, or in a nursing home and they would like a visit from the pastor, please call the parish office.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:30 PM to 5:00 PM

Anytime by appointment.

Parish Registration

Please call the parish office or visit the parish website for a registration form or more information. Forms are also available in the back of the Church.

Parish Committees

The Parish Council, Filipino Sub-Council, and Finance Committees assist the staff in serving the parish. Please contact the parish office or see Fr. Bill for information about serving on these various committees.

Novena to the Santo Niño

Each Sunday, after the 11:00 AM Mass there is a novena in honor of the Santo Niño.



January 18, 2019
Washington, D.C.
www.marchforlife.org

End abortion by uniting, educating, and mobilizing pro-life people in the public square.



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, December 25th ~ CLOSED
 Wednesday, December 26th ~ Re-Open
 at 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Tuesday, January 1st ~ CLOSED

SAVE THE DATE!

**MARRIAGE DAY
 OF REFLECTION**

**SATURDAY,
 FEBRUARY 23, 2019
 10:30 AM TO 6:30 PM
 (CONCLUDES WITH MASS)**

Please visit our parish website for all of the latest parish news and events!
www.st-augustinechurch.com



Please visit our Facebook:
St.AugustineChurchPhiladelphia

Many years ago a candy maker wanted to make a candy that would symbolize the true meaning of Christmas - Jesus.

The hard candy was shaped like a "J" to represent that Jesus is our rock of all ages. The candy was made of white to stand for the pureness of Jesus. The red represents the blood that Jesus shed to save us from our sins.

So the next time you see a candy cane take a minute to remember the real meaning of Christmas.....Jesus!

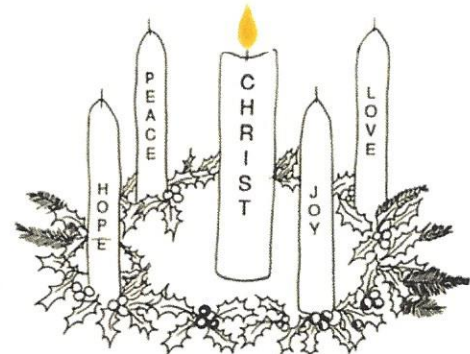


Did You Know?
 The birthplace of Jesus, "Bethlehem," means "House of Bread." Many ancient commentators interpret this as prefiguring the Eucharist. Jesus came to earth in the "House of Bread," and comes to us in the form of Living Bread, every time we receive him under the forms of bread and wine in the Blessed Sacrament.

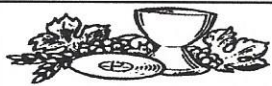


Merry Christmas

The nativity scene, or crèche, was first popularized by Saint Francis of Assisi in the 13th Century. Many put out most of the nativity scene before Christmas, but wait until December 25th to place Baby Jesus in the manger, and wait until the feast of the Epiphany to arrange the Magi. Setting up the crib can be an occasion for prayer and the reading of Holy Scripture.



CHRISTMAS DAY



Mass Intentions

**Saturday & Sunday,
 December 22 & 23, 2018**

- 5:15 PM Young & Ong Families
- 9:00 AM Young & Ong Families
- 11:00 AM † Fernando Dacanay
- 7:00 PM † Anna & Marian Stachowcz

Monday, December 24, 2018

- 5:30 PM Young & Ong Families
- 8:30 PM The Parish Community
- 10:30 PM Young & Ong Families

**Tuesday, December 25, 2018
 CHRISTMAS DAY**

- 10:00 AM For the People

Wednesday, December 26, 2018

- 12:05 PM † Christopher Mermer

Thursday, December 27, 2018

- 12:05 PM † John A. Georeno

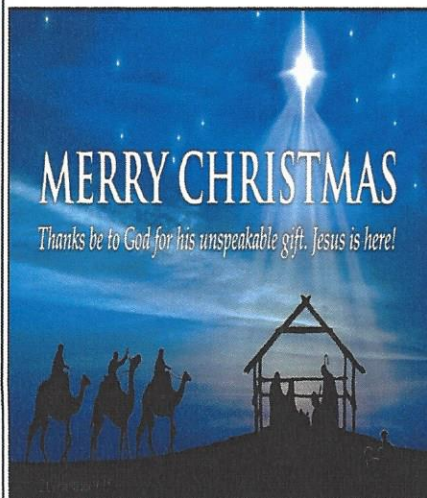
Friday, December 28, 2018

- 12:05 PM † Christopher Mermer

Saturday, December 29, 2018

- 5:15 PM Young & Ong Families

† = Deceased



The Bulletin Board

**Fourth Sunday of Advent
 Sunday, December 23, 2018**

Monday, December 24, 2018

**Tuesday, December 25, 2018
 CHRISTMAS DAY
 MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

7:00 PM S.A. Meeting in CHB

Wednesday, December 26, 2018
 8:00 PM Fiat Prayer Group

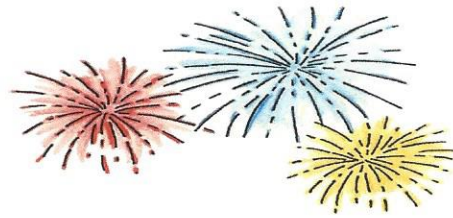
Thursday, December 27, 2018
 5:00 PM Devine-Quattrone Rehearsal
 7:00 PM S.A. Meeting in CHB

Friday, December 28, 2018
 2:00 PM Devine-Quattrone Wedding

Saturday, December 29, 2018
 2:00 PM Oman-Merlini Wedding
 7:00 PM N.A. Meeting in CHB



Happy New Year



New Year's Eve Party

Come and enjoy a night of fun, singing, dancing, free champagne, Filipino and American food (BYOB) at St. Augustine Church – Carr Hall on **December 31st from 7:00 PM to 12:00 AM. Mass to follow at 12:15 AM.** Tickets are: \$20

for adults, \$10 for child ages 13-17, \$5 for children ages 8-12, and children under the age of 7 are free.

For more info please contact:

Dr. Lita Manguba - 267.538.8042

Elgene Morales - 267.307.8145

Cesar Manguba - 215.613.8627

Ferdie Luyun - 267.625.8958



Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions



January 2019

Evangelization – For Our Young People

That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.

Please remember the Holy Father's intentions in your own daily prayers.

– 11th Annual Man Up Philly – Catholic Men's Conference ♦ March 9, 2019

At *Neumann University's Mirenda Center*, men are invited to join Catholic Men from throughout all of the Archdiocese for the 11th Annual Archdiocesan *Catholic Men's Conference*.



www.manupphilly.com



Winter Sinulog ♦ Feast of Santo Niño

January 20th, 2019 11:00 AM Mass

Light Lunch to follow Mass in Carr Hall.

All Are Welcome!

Prayer for Christmas Dinner

Eternal God, This joyful day is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. May that light illuminate our hearts and shine in our words and deeds. May the hope, the peace, the joy, and the love represented by the birth in Bethlehem fill our lives and become part of all that we say and do. May we share the divine life of your son Jesus Christ, even as he humbled himself to share our humanity. Bless us and the feast that You have provided for us, let us be thankful for the true gift of Christmas, your Son. Amen.

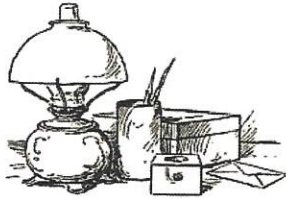
Nativity Prayer of St. Augustine

Let the just rejoice, for their justifier is born. Let the sick and infirm rejoice, For their Saviour is born. Let the captives rejoice, For their Redeemer is born. Let slaves rejoice, for their Master is born. Let free men rejoice, For their Liberator is born. Let All Christians rejoice, For Jesus Christ is born. Amen.

Christmas Tree Blessing Prayer

Lord our God, the heavens are the work of your hands, the moon and the stars you made; the earth and the sea, and every living creature came into being by your word. And all of us, too. May this tree bring cheer to this house though Jesus Christ your good and holy Son, who brings life and beauty to us and to our world. Lighting this tree, we hope in his promise. Amen.





A word from Fr. Bill.....

Dear Parishioners:

I am sure we all will be celebrating in various ways this week. Some of us will be traveling to be with loved ones as we hear Mary traveling to see Elizabeth in this Sunday's Gospel. We all will see Christmas trees lit, some outside and some inside. We all will receive and give gifts. Most of us will have a meal with family and friends. Why are we doing all of this?

As we travel, may we remember Jesus traveled to us and became one like us so that we could be like him. In more theological jargon, by coming to earth Jesus took on our humanity, so that we could share in his divinity.

May the lights we put up and the ones we see remind us that Jesus brought us out of darkness into light. The result of the first sin was that we lost paradise and union with God. Like the Israelites who we heard about all thru Advent, we were in darkness on our journey. Jesus came and identified himself saying he was "the light of the world." By following him we can share in the eternal light. At our baptism our parents and Godparents were given a candle, a light lit from the Paschal (Easter) Candle and told to keep the flame of faith burning brightly.

We all have a need to be loved, accepted in our frailties and to be affirmed. God has given us the gift of Jesus to give us a very definite sign of God's total unconditional gift for us and to affirm us in our brokenness.

Jesus has given us himself in the Eucharist, his body and blood, so that as we share this Eucharistic meal with God's family we can be strengthened on our journey to the Kingdom like the Israelites were strengthened on their journey to the Promise Land.

We can go thru the motions this week of traveling, seeing lights, giving and receiving gifts and sharing meals with loved ones. We can do these things because it is what we do every year and it is what everyone else is doing and it is what is expected of us. Or, we can do these things this week because we truly appreciate and want to celebrate Jesus coming into our lives and being the light, the gift, and the nourishment for us to have eternal life with him.

Have a wonderful Christmas week.

Fr. Bill

*Merry
Christmas*

Maligayang Pasko !





Christmas H · O · P · E

One of my sisters, the youngest of our little tribe, announced that she will be flying across the fruited plain this Christmas to a distant state. Why? Mainly to see her grandchildren open their gifts on Christmas morning.

I'm sure that's one of the reasons why grandparents and millions of others among us will be taking planes, trains, or automobiles to go hither and yon for Christmas. My belief is that many of those travelers, and we more stationary types as well, will be ultimately seeking something else in these perplexing times. It is a reason to hope. Not that we automatically voice it, or even realize it. But I dare say that Christmas delivers on that hope. Once we get past the gifts and the goofy sweaters, there it is, underneath it all for us to see.

What, after all, does the Birth of Christ come down to? It is both sublime and simple. God the Father, our divine Creator, having been disappointed by the decision of His human creatures to sin, decided to send us an emissary. The Father wished to teach us, by way of the greatest audio-visual aid that He could designate, His own Son in a human nature, how to live according to His original design. That in itself was an amazing act of love.

But God the Father did more, as all good fathers always do. He sent His Son to us also as our Redeemer, who freely made the ultimate sacrifice to atone for our sins. Thereupon, the long-locked gates of heaven swung wide open. That is why Christmas remains the perennial gift of hope to the human family, second only to the Resurrection.

Like many Christmases before this one, particularly during the wars of the last century, there are ample reasons to sink to despair just now. Knowing that refugee camps mar faraway landscapes, and drug needles litter our cities partly prove the point. Sin further abounds at every abortion clinic.

But for us Catholics, the awful headlines of the past summer, a chronicle of criminality in the abuse of young people; one that has been hiding for years in clerical circles low and high, are enough not only to stir shame and anger, but also to turn sour any taste of hope. When we listen to the victims of abuse, we nearly gag at their stories. Is there still Christmas hope?

How does this annual celebration of Christ's birth counteract the mix of gloom I have described? It is to know with the certainty of Faith that God still believes in us. In turn, we can place our hope in His Son's words: "I am with you all days, until the end of time." This means so much more than the catchy slogan "Jesus is the reason for the season."

Now I know that atheists, secularists, and all those members of an imaginary "Cynics International" are ready with their chorus of denials. So then, are we believers foolhardy to believe in Christmas hope? Only if we forsake its Source, which is Christ Jesus. He it is who founded a Church to carry on His mission. A Church that has survived, and can boast of thousands of canonized saints on its rolls, many of whom lived through their own crises in the world and in the Church.

Naturally, this leads to a consideration of Mary, Queen of the Saints, the beautiful Lady who made the first Christmas possible. Rightly is she called "Our Lady of Hope." She knew so well that on that holy night, for the first time in history, one need not look up for heaven, but to look down at it. Because Heaven was in her arms, looking for all the world like a beautiful Babe.

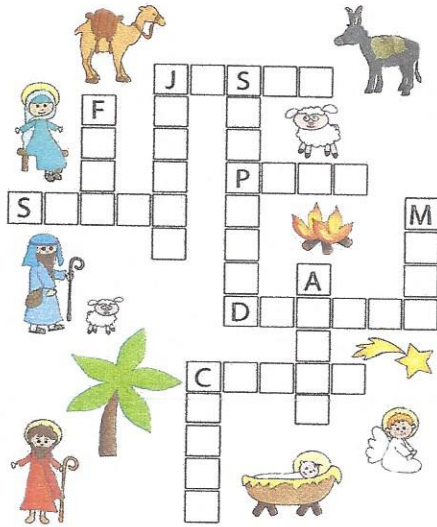
A blessed Christmas to you and yours.

Christmas Reflection by Father Leonard N. Peterson, Retired Pastor, Archdiocese of Philadelphia



Christmas Activities

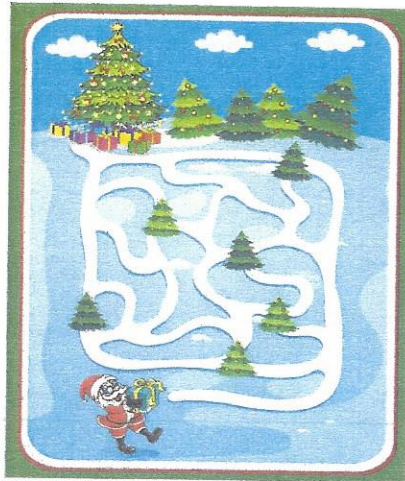
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Find the images in the box below



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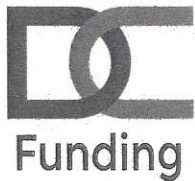
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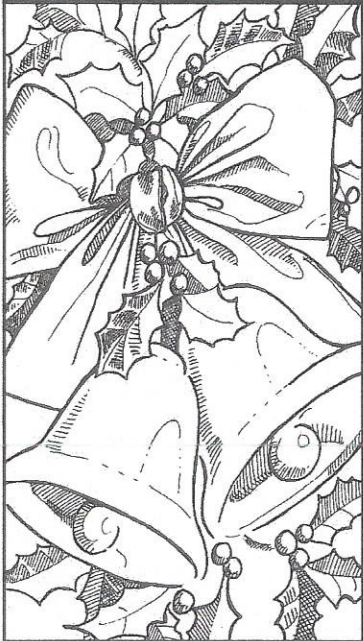
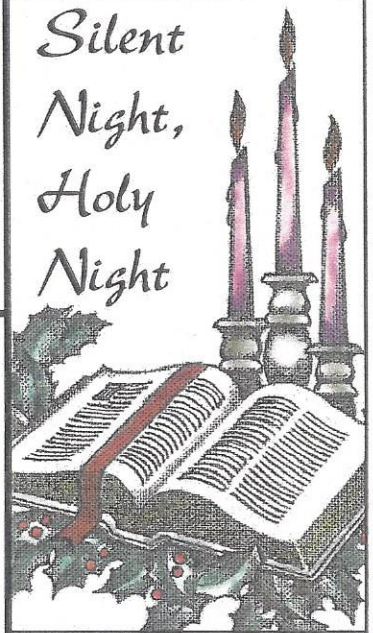
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*Silent
Night,
Holy
Night*



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Christmas*

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