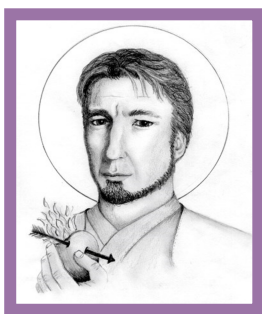


Saint Augustine & Saint Mary Catholic Churches



A Parish Family



February 6, 2022
The Presentation of the Lord



Masses

Sat. 5:00 pm - St. Augustine
Sun. 8:00 am - St. Augustine
Sun. 9:30 am - St. Augustine
Sun. 11:15 am - St. Mary
Wed. 9:30 am - St. Augustine
Thurs. 9:30 am - St. Mary
Fri. 9:30 am - St. Augustine

Reverend Paul R Pluth
Pastor

Information@StAugustineOH.org
www.StAugustineOH.org

St Augustine
185 N. Oak Harbor Street
Oak Harbor, WA 98277
(360) 675-2303

St Mary
207 North Main Street
Coupeville, WA 98239
(360) 675-2303

Mailing Address for both parishes:
P.O. Box 1319
Oak Harbor, WA 98277



Annual Renewal of Marriage Vows

Annual Renewal of Marriage Vows at all Masses on February 12 and 13. We will be celebrating the love and joy of married life.

All those who have experienced the lifelong commitment of marriage including those who are widows/widowers or those whose spouses are not present are welcome to commemorate this special occasion, just bring a picture of your spouse to Mass with you.

We Encounter Jesus



St Augustine & St Mary

February 5	4:00 pm	Confessions
Saturday	5:00 pm	Vigil Mass (Nancy Theune, INT; Kunie Hopper, RIP)
February 6	8:00 am	Mass (<i>Our Parishioners</i>)
Sunday	9 & 10:30 am	Coffee & Donuts, PH/K
	9:30 am	Mass (<i>Antonia Santos, RIP; Kristina Mary Stein, RIP</i>)
	9:30 am	Mass Livestreamed on FB page: St Augustine Catholic Church
	11:15 am	Mass at St Mary
February 7		Office Unavailable
Monday	4:00 pm	Agape, PH
	4:00 pm	Special Sacraments/RCIA 6th-11th grade, CR1&2
February 8	4:00 pm	RE 1st & 2nd grade & Kindergarten, CR 1-5
Tuesday	6:30 pm	RE 9th, 10th & 11th grade, CR 1 & 2
February 9	9:30 am	Mass (<i>Sharon Ann Ruple, RIP; Vance Noel Ruple Jr, RIP</i>)
Wednesday	10:00 am	Divine Mercy Chaplet & Adoration, CH
	10:00 am	St Maria's Guild, CR 1 & 2
	4:00 pm	RE 3rd & 4th grade, CR 1-4
	6:30 pm	RE 7th & 8th & 12th grade
February 10	9:30 am	Mass at St Mary
Thursday	4:00 pm	RE 5th & 6th grade, CR 1-4
	6:30 pm	RCIA, CR 1 & 2
February 11	9:30 am	Mass
Friday	10:00 am	Divine Mercy Chaplet & Adoration, CH
February 12	Saturday	No activities this morning



We Pray for Our Family



Brooks Allen, Jim Arbuckle, Phil Bercov, Rene Blair, Eileen Catalano, Clint Copeland, Doris Dean, Mark Dean, Tom Dumit, Bob Ellis, Douglas Hammer, Peggy Hennessey, Sheryl Henry, Marsha Kilgore, Jack Kraft, Rebecca Lund, Angelina Lupino, CDR Scott Maynes USN, Rick McCormick, PFC Zachary McCormick, Patti McKinnon, Dolores Meisch, Aislinn Moeller, Alexandria Molt, Richard Rezabek, Lou & Lulu Santos, USNG Tanya Shafer, Dennis Sionson, Chuck Tollefson, Guadalupe Trimble, Doug Undesser, Jeanne Valdez, Patty Williams, Diane Young

Permission is required from the individual prior to adding their name to the prayer list.
To include a loved one, please call the parish office at 360-675-2303

We Connect With Each Other



- ∞ **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** - Start your new year out right and sign up today for a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience: Virtual February 18-20. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit www.wwme.org or contact Jeff & Sandy Corneil at 360-930-2321.
- ∞ **Salesian Women's Silent Lenten Retreat** - March 25-27 at the Palisades Retreat House. Learn how St Francis de Sales suggests we approach issues of anxiety, stress, and sadness. Single room \$247.50 per person or shared room \$209 per person. Six from our parish are already going. Call Barb at 360-240-9509 for more information. To register <https://archseattle.org/archbishop-brunett-retreat-center-retreats/> and select the Salesian Retreat. Flyers with more information are posted around campus.
- ∞ **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)** - Non-baptized adults or baptized adults of a different denomination to enter into Full Communion with the Catholic Church. Also for baptized Catholics who have not received 1st Communion and/or Confirmation. Classes are on Thursdays, 6:30 pm in CR1. Call 360-675-2303 to register.
- ∞ **Baptisms** - Saturday, April 23 at St Augustine and Sunday, April 24 at St Mary. Baptism class is scheduled on Saturday, March 12th from 9:00 am to Noon at St Augustine. Please call the parish office at 360-675-2303 to register.
- ∞ **Traveling Statue of the Blessed Virgin Mother** - Available to you for prayer and meditation in your home. Please call Heather to schedule a visit at 360-720-0722.
- ∞ **Flame of Love of Immaculate Heart of Mary** - Join the ZOOM prayer group, 1 hour/week, Tuesday at 11:00 am and Thursday at 7:00 pm. Call Chris Pflugfelder at 360-675-2026 or cpflugfelder@comcast.net. Learn about the Flame of Love of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, a critically important grace for our time, by watching a brief video at: <https://youtu.be/xMnOeyCEnP4>

St Mary Pastoral Council Corner February 6



Our Path to Holiness
Beginning our Lenten journey
Saturday, February 26
10:00 am - Noon
St Mary Church Hall
Shari Lowder & Pat Marks will
facilitate

Ash Wednesday is March 2



“A light for revelation
to the Gentiles, and
for glory to your
people Israel.”

- Luke 2:32

We Are Stewards of God's Gifts

Saint Augustine

Weekly Expenses	\$13,090
January 23 Offering	\$13,380



Saint Mary

Weekly Expenses	\$ 2,962
January 23 Offering	\$ 13,156

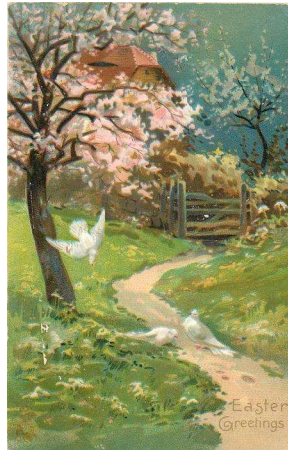
We encourage you to use online bill-pay through your bank. Include your envelope number and mail your donations to our mailing address: **P.O. Box 1319, Oak Harbor, WA 98277**. If you need your envelope number please call the parish office 360-675-2303.

OUR PATH TO HOLINESS

Beginning Our Lenten Journey

**You are invited to gather as a parish family
to focus on our path to holiness this Lent.**

We will discover the
holiness paths
we are already on and
we will explore
additional paths to
holiness.



Saturday, Feb. 26
10 AM to NOON
St. Mary Church
Harrington Hall
Please wear masks.

Together we journey toward Easter.

1 Peter 1:15-16:

Instead, be holy in all that you do,
just as God who called you is holy.

Scripture says, "Be holy because I am holy."

Will You Follow Jesus to Calvary?



Filmed on location in the Holy Land, **No Greater Love** is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for us. Best-selling author Edward Sri guides you through the last hours of Christ's life. You will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary.

Every step of the way, Old Testament prophecies, messianic expectations, biblical symbolism, and historical context shed light on the mystery of Christ's suffering and death.

Experience a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love for you—grow closer to Jesus than you ever have before.

Our Lenten Study of **NO GREATER LOVE**

**begins on Monday, March 7th at 10 am
in classroom 1 & 2
and on Zoom for those who cannot come.**

It is a six-week study and will end on April 11th.

Purchasing the Study Set from Ascension Press for \$26.95 gives you the Study Guide, the book and one year of online access to the videos.

Grief Support Options

Even in this time of pandemic, we understand that your grief continues. The resources below are listed as a way to help you through this time. Please contact our office if there is any way we can help. Sending you peace.

Living with Loss offered by WhidbeyHealth Hospice - This is a six-week grief support group designed to help you process the normal feelings of grief that follow the death of a loved one. This group will be an online class and is limited to ten (10) people. It is facilitated by Laurie Johnson, Bereavement Coordinator. There are two options listed below; you must pre-register in order to receive the Zoom invitation link. Pre-register for either group by sending an email to johnla@whidbeyhealth.org or call the hospice office at 360-914-5635 and ask for Bereavement.

Upcoming Group Dates & Times:

**Mondays, February 21 - March 28, 6-7:30 pm -or-
Thursdays, February 24 - March 31, 2-3 pm**

Island Senior Services Grief and Loss Support Group - This online, facilitated Zoom Support Group is a safe place to share experiences, emotions, memories, and obtain support from others grieving a loss. For information, contact Island Senior Resources: 360-321-1600 ext 0, 360-678-3373, or email reception@islandseniorservices.org

Grief Services from Hospice of the Northwest - Hospice of the Northwest offers several Online Grief Support Classes as well as some handouts. Their information can be found on their website at <https://www.hospicenw.org/grief-services/>



Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

February 2022

Catholic Community of St. Augustine and St. Mary

Rev. Paul Pluth, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

Want to make better decisions?

The best decisions are those made in harmony with God's will. And, a close relationship with God brings a strong sense of what He wants for us. When we grow distant and distracted, our perception of His will grows dim and the right course of action becomes less obvious. Prayer and Scripture reading help to bring clarity.



The right way to pray

Think of prayer as a focused conversation between two people who love each other. There is no one right way to pray. It is most rewarding when you talk to your loved one as often as possible, giving Him the best of your attention. Pope John Paul II said, "Pray any way you like, so long as you do pray." God is always ready to listen.

"If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other."
St. Teresa of Calcutta



Rediscover God's love for you

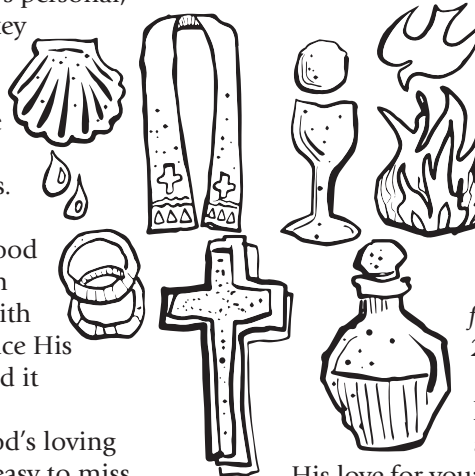
"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1). In these challenging times, being grounded in God's personal, powerful love is key to staying strong, positive, at peace, and able to handle whatever happens. A time of uncertainty is a good time to strengthen our connection with God and experience His love when we need it most.

Make room. God's loving presence may be easy to miss, especially if we do more talking than listening. Sometimes prayer means we talk at God instead of to Him. It is best to listen in the silence of our hearts. In prayer, open your heart to hear what He has to say. "Speak, Lord, for your

servant is listening" (1 Sam 3:10).

Embrace the Sacraments. More than just symbols, Sacraments are personal encounters with God's unlimited love and grace. For example, in Confession, we receive Christ's powerful, healing love. In the Eucharist, we encounter Jesus and his love for us, "in the flesh" (Matthew 26:26-28) at every Mass. **Find a devotion** that helps you focus on God and better understand

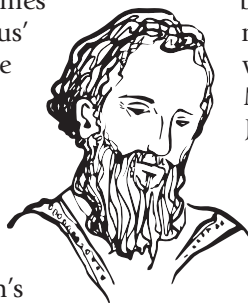
His love for you: the Rosary, Eucharistic Adoration, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, praying novenas, reciting litanies, attending daily Mass. Devotions highlight some aspect of God's intensely personal love for us and gives us ways to respond.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics call St. James the "brother of the Lord?"

St. Mark's Gospel names St. James as one of Jesus' "brothers" (6:3). In the original languages of the Bible, "brother" included other male relatives. Additionally, tradition holds that Cleopas was St. Joseph's



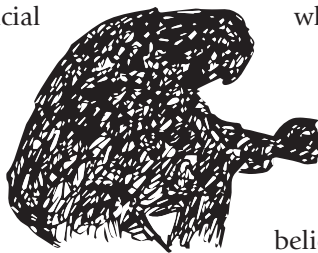
brother and James was his son, making him Jesus' cousin. Either way, the Church has always taught Mary's perpetual virginity, meaning Jesus (who was miraculously conceived) was her only child. This explains why Jesus entrusted Mary to St. John and not a sibling He didn't have (John 19:26-27).

Find peace in difficult times

If you follow news about national or world events, the reporting can rob you of peace. With stories of financial insecurity, unemployment, disease, depression, and division, how can we find peace?

Talk it out. Bringing worries into the light and confiding them to someone we trust can cut them down to size. Even better – talk about worries with God. Prayer has the added advantage of surrendering your problems into powerful hands. “Jesus, I trust in You!”

Focus on what you can do, not what you can’t.



Stress results from feeling powerless. Focusing on what we can’t do can “paralyze” our problem-solving abilities. Start making a list of steps you can take toward solving your problem. Whatever is beyond your control, leave to God.

Immerse yourself in God’s all-powerful love. Whether we feel it or not, whether we believe it or not, we are God’s precious children. He watches over us very closely. He knows what we can handle and is more than ready to help us with all the rest.

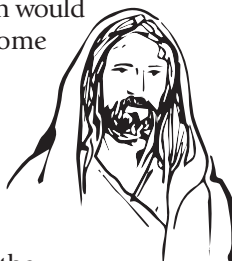
from Scripture

Luke 6:39-45, Fraternal correction begins with “me”

There is a danger to following someone who doesn’t know the way to God. In Jesus’ time, a young man would apply to a rabbi to become one of his students.

The student would live with the rabbi, study with him, and assist him with his work. As a result, the student might take on the teacher’s philosophy and values. Jesus cautioned His followers to choose their leaders carefully.

Then again, Jesus pointed out that it’s easier to see someone else’s faults and miss our own. Jesus gave the example of a man trying to warn his friend of a speck of dust in his eye, when



he himself is blind to the plank of wood in his own. Therefore, Jesus said we must first deal with our own faults before correcting others.

We are called to be disciples of Jesus Christ – God Himself – through whom we have eternal life. Like the disciples in Biblical times, we are called to stay close to Christ, let His grace transform us, and to live according to His values. Finally, we are called to bring Him to others.

Q & A How can we celebrate the Presentation?

The Presentation is when Jesus’ parents brought Him to the Temple to consecrate Him to God, in accord with ancient Jewish Law. Celebrating the feast of the Presentation of Our Lord began as early as the fourth century AD.

The candle connection. We recall Simeon’s prayer, in which he honored Jesus as “a light to reveal [God] to the nations” (Luke 2:32). Priests bless hundreds of candles and give them to the faithful for home use, lending this feast its other name: Candlemas.

Pancakes and crêpes are the traditional food for this day because of their light color. Treat yourself to anything that reminds you of the light and joy of this last “Christmas” feast day, like white chocolate, ice-cream, popcorn, mashed potatoes, etc.

Give back. God gave everything He had to save us because we mean everything to Him. Mary and Joseph made a ritual sacrifice in gratitude for their Son. In gratitude for His sacrifice, put something extra in the poor box at church in His honor.

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

Feasts & Celebrations

Feb. 2 – Presentation of the Lord. In accordance with Moses’ Law, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the Temple forty days after his birth. Simeon praised God for revealing the long-awaited Savior, saying, “Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace, according to thy word” (Luke 2:29).

Feb. 5 - St. Agatha (251). St. Agatha dedicated herself to God and kept this vow despite torture and imprisonment. God sent her a vision of St. Peter to comfort her, heal her, and fill her dungeon with heavenly light.

Feb. 22 – St. Margaret of Cortona (1297). St. Margaret’s conversion came after the sudden death of the man she was having an affair with. Shaken, she repented and became a Franciscan tertiary. She founded a hospital and an order of Tertiary sisters to operate it.

Feb. 28 – Sts. Romanus and Lupicinus (460). Saint Romanus became a hermit when he was 35. Later, his brother St. Lupicinus joined him in religious life. Together they founded two monasteries and a convent.

