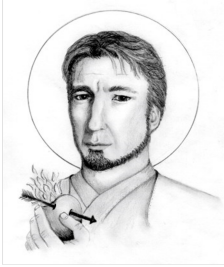


St. Augustine & St. Mary Catholic Churches



Pastor: Father Chris Hoiland frchris@staugustineoh.org

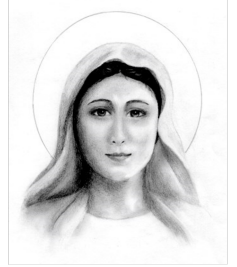
St. Augustine - 185 N. Oak Harbor Street, Oak Harbor, WA 98277

St. Mary - 207 North Main Street, Coupeville, WA 98239

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

Information@StAugustineOH.org

Website: StAugustineOH.org



December 3, 2023 - 1st Sunday of Advent

*Advent increases our hope, a hope which does not disappoint.
The Lord never lets us down. ~Pope Francis*

Mass Times

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

Thur. 9:30 am - St. Mary

Fri. 9:30 am - St. Augustine



Welcome!

If you are new to St. Augustine and St. Mary churches or returning after a long absence, please take a moment to register as a member of our parish.

Registrations can be found at each church, at the St. Augustine/St. Mary Parish Office in Oak Harbor and online at www.staugustineoh.org.

Being registered helps us to get to know you and gives you the opportunity to tell us if there are ministries where you might like to serve.

After registering you will be included in all email messages, letters, and you will receive a tax statement at the end of the year.

Please join our parish family!

Special Mass Times

Friday, December 8 - Feast of the Immaculate Conception. This is a Holy Day of Obligation when all the faithful are expected to attend Mass. Masses will be at 12 pm at St. Mary and 6 pm at St. Augustine.

Saturday, December 9 - The 5:00 pm Mass at St. Augustine will be dedicated to Our Lady of Guadalupe. The Mass will be in English.

Weekly Calendar: St Augustine

December 3	Sunday	8:00 am	Mass
		9:00 am	Pancake Breakfast, PH
		9:30 am	Mass (<i>Manualito Collantes, RIP</i>)
		10:30 am	Coffee & Donuts, PH
		Angel Tree Tag Return, Vestibule	
December 4	Monday	Office Unavailable	
		10:00 am	Advent Silent Retreat, CR 1&2
		4:30 pm	Agape, PH
December 5	Tuesday	4:00 pm	OCIC, CR 1&2
		4:00 pm	Special Sacraments, CR 3&4
		6:00 pm	OCIA, CR 1&2
December 6	Wednesday	9:30 am	Mass (<i>Maria E. Navarro, INT</i>)
		10:00 am	Divine Mercy/Adoration
		4:00 pm	RE (grades K-4), CR 1-5
		5:30-8:00 pm	Adoration, CH
		6:00 pm	Confessions, CH
		6:30 pm	RE (grades 6-12), CR 1-5
December 8	Friday	6:00 pm	Immaculate Conception Mass (<i>Conception Collantes, RIP</i>)
December 9	Saturday	4:00 pm	Confession
		5:00 pm	Vigil Mass, Our Lady of Guadalupe
December 10	Sunday	8:00 am	Mass
		9:00	Coffee & Donuts, PH
		9:30 am	Mass (<i>Peggy Suess, RIP;</i> <i>& Gary Wallin, RIP</i>)
		10:30 am	Coffee & Donuts, PH

Weekly Calendar: St Mary

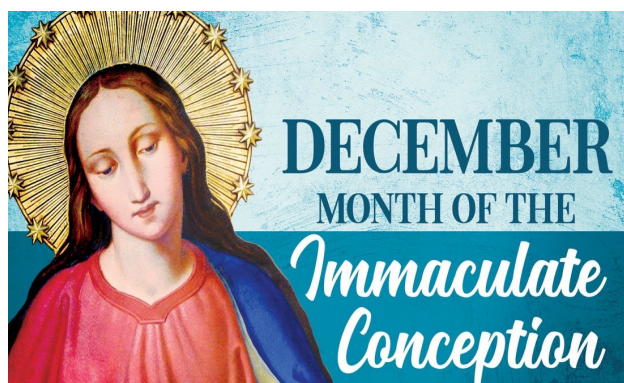
December 3	Sunday	11:15 am	Mass
		12:15 pm	Coffee & Conv./Bazaar, HH
December 7	Thursday	9:30 am	Mass
		10:20 am	Bible Study, HH
December 8	Friday	12:00 pm	Immaculate Conception Mass
December 10	Sunday	11:15 am	Mass
		12:15 pm	Coffee & Conversation

We Pray for Our Family

Ruth Abrea, Dale Auburg,
Fr. Larry Bailey,
Harold Bielen, Laura
Lafranchise,
Jim Brady,
Lynnie Ochoa-Brown,
Eileen Catalano,
Mike Cussimano,
Tomas Dagdagan,
Bob & Sue Ellis,
Douglas Hammer,
Sheryl & Mikey Henry,
Marsha Kilgore,
Martha McAllister,
Donald Hubner,
Jack Kraft,
Carol LeClercq,
Alexandria Molt,
Jasmine Patricio,
Mary Pierzchala,
Louis Ramirez,
Onee & Richard Rezabek,
Nancy & John Romanski,
Lou & Lulu Santos,
Philippe Sebrechts,
Jadwiga Sebrechts,
Dennis Sionson,
Chuck Tollefson,
Clint West,
David Williams,
Larry Williams,
Patty Williams

Permission is required from the individual prior to printing their name on the prayer list. To include a loved one, please call the parish office.

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's Pie Sales. Due to the generosity of parishioners and friends who provided the fruit, we were able to make and sell 551 pies. Thank you to all our faithful patrons who continue to buy our pies. A special thanks to Lodi and Dave, the trusted sous chefs, who help make this ministry possible. God bless you all! ~Theresa "The Pie Lady" Frazer



Sacraments

Baptisms:

- ∞ Call the parish office at 360-675-2303 to register for the next Baptism Class and Baptism. **We are scheduling a maximum of 4 children per Baptism.**

Anointings:

- ∞ Please call the parish office at 360-675-2303 during business hours to request an anointing or last rites.
- ∞ After 4pm Wednesday-Sunday, call the office at 360-675-2303 and listen to the message to receive the **emergency anointing or last rites only** phone number.
- ∞ *At any hour on Monday and Tuesday*, please call another parish for an anointing or last rites request.



The significance of the widow's story is not about the value of the coins. Jesus uses this parable to show us, "Not equal giving, but equal sacrifice." It is not the size of our gifts to God that matter; it is the idea that each of us as Catholics and Christians makes an equal sacrifice in our efforts to be good stewards of our treasure.

The Lord tells us, "For they have all contributed from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood." It takes not only generosity to do this, but also faith. Faith and gratitude to God for all of our many blessings.

How have you been called to share your blessings?

**PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER
GOD'S GIFTS TO YOU AND MAKE
YOUR PLEDGE TODAY.**

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"THE DAYS ARE COMING, SAYS THE LORD,
WHEN I WILL FULFILL THE PROMISE
I MADE TO THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH."

—JEREMIAH 33:14

Advent Opportunities

- ∞ **Advent Silent Retreat at St. Augustine** - Prayer, Advent Scripture Readings, Reflection & Journal. A time to take life at a slower pace & focus on what we need to do to allow God to enter our hearts more fully & to deepen our relationship with God. We'll meet on Mondays, 10-11:30 am, November 27, December 4, December 11, & December 18 in CR 1&2 in the parish hall. To register, please contact Mary E. Waters at adultff@staugustineoh.org or call 360.675.2303.
- ∞ **Adoration for everyone in the Holy Land** - Wednesday, December 6, from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm in St. Augustine church.
- ∞ **Advent Little Books** - The Little Blue Book of devotions for the Advent Season will be available in the Church. A \$2 donation per book is asked to cover the cost of this most valued seasonal resource.
- ∞ **Evening Confessions at St. Augustine** - Wednesdays during Advent, December 6, December 13, and December 20 at 6:00 pm in the church



News & Events

- ☞ **Angel Tree** - Please return your Angel Tree unwrapped gift in a gift bag with the tag attached to the outside of the bag after the weekend Masses of December 3 and December 10, or to the Parish Office during regular office hours. All gifts must be returned by the 9:30 am December 10 Mass. Thank you for helping to bring joy to a child this Christmas.
- ☞ **Pancake Breakfast** - Bring the family and join us in the Parish Hall December 3 after the 8am Mass for our next pancake and sausage breakfast. Donations are most welcome! 
- ☞ **Food Pantry** - The Works of Mercy Committee has discontinued the Food Pantry due to decreased need for this service. Works of Mercy would like to thank parishioners for their generous donations over the years. Please continue to donate directly to Help House.
- ☞ **St. Mary's Christmas Bazaar** - The Bazaar is next Saturday, December 2 from 9am-2pm and after Mass December 3. The Women of St. Mary are accepting handmade items and new or gently used gift items for donation in the Hall before the bazaar. Baked goods will be accepted on Friday, December 1. For more information contact Janet Rojas at 360-969-1609.
- ☞ **Winter Coat Drive** - Coats are needed for children ages 6-12. Coats/jackets will be collected until December 10 in the boxes in the vestibule. Gently used and new items only
-  **Simbang Gabi** - St Augustine parish will celebrate Simbang Gabi on Saturday, December 16, during the 5:00 pm Mass followed by a reception in the parish hall. This celebration will honor the Blessed Virgin Mary as she prayerfully awaits the birth of Christ.
- ☞ **2023 Taxes** - Please note that all 2023 contributions to St. Augustine and St. Mary need to be received by December 31, 2023 in order to be credited to your 2023 taxes. 
-  **New Year's Eve Potluck & White Elephant** - Send out the New Year with your fellow parishioners and join us on December 31st from 6pm - 10pm in the Parish Hall For a New Year's Eve Potluck. Bring a favorite dish to share and a gift that might be better suited to someone else for a White Elephant Gift Exchange. Make sure your gift is wrapped. One gift per participant. For more information call the parish office at 360-675-2303. We need volunteers to help set-up for this very fun event!!
- ☞ **Sanctuary Flowers** - Sanctuary Flowers will return at Christmas. We are currently accepting donations for the Christmas season and for January 2024. Thanks to all who have so generously contributed to the beauty of our church. 
- ☞ **Gifts from the Heart Food Bank in Coupeville** - To donate, or for more information, please see Paula Bradshaw after Mass. For monetary donations, make your check out to Gifts from the Heart Food Bank and mail to: P.O. Box 155, Coupeville, WA 98239.
- ☞ **Remembrance Corner** - Thank you for including your beloved family and friends in our November prayers. If you haven't already taken them home, please come into the office and claim your pictures.
- ☞ **Parish Library** - The Parish Lending Library is open for business. We invite you to come in during office hours and select a book or two to read during Advent.

Saint Augustine

Weekly Expenses \$13,090
Offering November 26: \$11,704

Stewardship



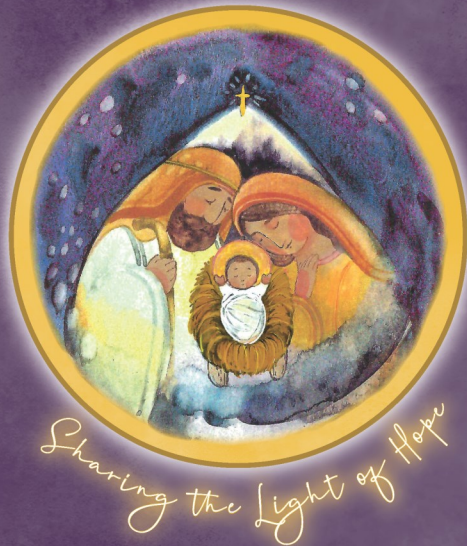
Saint Mary

Weekly Expenses \$2,962
Offering November 26: \$2,632

We encourage you to use online bill-pay through your bank as there is no cost to the parish or to you.

Include your envelope number and mail your donations to: P.O. Box 1319, Oak Harbor, WA 98277.

If you need your envelope number please call the parish office 360-675-2303.



2023 CCS/CHS APPEAL FOR THE POOR

December 2 & 3



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES
CATHOLIC HOUSING SERVICES
SERVING PEOPLE OF ALL BELIEFS

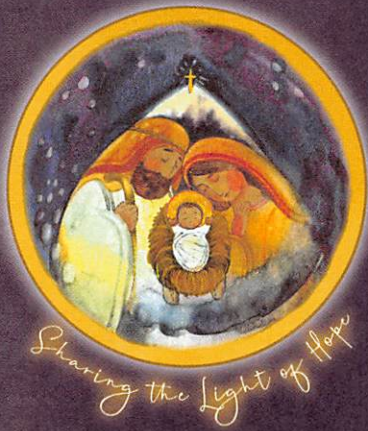
Gospel Reflection

Lately I've been listening to a science-based podcast on healthy daily living. The host frequently discusses the wide range of health benefits of sleep. So, each night I'm trying to get more, and better, slumber, and it's helping me feel energized. So, why in the world should we follow Christ's advice this week? "Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house will come ... lest he find you asleep." Isn't sleep, especially at midnight and cockcrow, a good thing?

Of course, it is. But the wakefulness the Lord calls us to is a deep, personal orientation to Him. A nightly vigil is therefore a metaphor for this, but it's not just that. We should give up real sleep in order to pray, too. This difficult practice is a time-tested way to foster wakefulness of heart. When we give up sleep to pray, it focuses us. We learn that life is not an endless series of days. You and I belong to the Lord — awake or asleep, in life and in death. Sooner or later, even our need for our physical sleep will pass away. And our attentiveness to God — that is, whether we are awaiting Him to meet us — will be all that matters.

May I challenge us this week and this Advent to intentionally give up at least one hour of sleep each week for prayer? Stay up later, wake up in the middle of the night, or an hour earlier, and pray. Will we be a bit more tired the next day? Yes. But we'll be amazed at the spiritual wakefulness that results, too. — **Father John Muir** ©LPi

CCS/CHS 2023 APPEAL FOR THE POOR



THANK YOU
TO PARISHES AND SUPPORTERS WHO
SHARE THE LIGHT OF HOPE
WITH TENS OF THOUSANDS OF NEIGHBORS SERVED
BY 190 CCS/CHS PROGRAMS IN
WESTERN WASHINGTON

2023 CCS/CHS NORTHWEST PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- ★ CCS NW is bringing resources to our region from the new **Catholic Healthcare Collaboration** with two newly trained **Community Health Workers** at CHS low-income housing in Bellingham and Sedro Woolley.
- ★ CCS worked with **St. Pius X Parish Mercy House** to support parishioners as they converted an underutilized building on their Mountlake campus to a multiservice center housing a social service navigator and a hub for **PREPARES**.
- ★ **NW Recovery Centers** have opened a new treatment center in Blaine and collaborated with Snohomish and Whatcom counties to provide screenings, referrals, and/or treatment to drug-impacted youth.
- ★ Thanks to the generous support of local parishes and advocacy of local government agencies, CCS/CHS successfully opened **Martha's Place**, the first permanent supportive housing in Skagit County. With support from 24/7 case management, 69 couples and individuals have emerged from chronic homelessness to live in a community.
- ★ The **Farmworker Center** (FWC), nationally recognized as a model for farmworker outreach, will host an event for other US Catholic Charities in the Spring. The FWC continues to play an essential role in the Skagit community, partnering with the Museum of Northwest Art, Work Source, Skagit Legal Aid, the Northwest Agricultural Business Center, the Mexican consulate, and Skagit Community College, to meet the needs of thousands of men, women, and children through social services, classes, and special events.
- ★ Thanks to a two-year \$2.7 million grant from the USDA Farm Food Worker Relief Program administered through **Catholic Charities USA**, CCS NW provides direct aid to agricultural workers.
- ★ **NW Ambassador Core** was launched to help parishioners share their knowledge of CCS/CHS local programs helping neighbors in need.
- ★ The agency is engaged with members of the **Swinomish and Lummi tribes** to receive information about historical trauma resulting from the Native American experience in boarding schools.



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES
CATHOLIC HOUSING SERVICES

OF WESTERN WASHINGTON
CCSWW.ORG



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SERVICES
CATHOLIC HOUSING SERVICES

SHARING THE LIGHT OF HOPE ACROSS WESTERN WASHINGTON

COMMUNITIES OF CONCERN

CCS/CHS actively participates in the **Communities of Concern Commission**, a statewide coalition of Black, Indigenous, and Communities of Color in urban and rural areas disproportionately affected by poverty.

FAMILY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

CCS FBH is a recognized leader and pioneer among state behavioral agencies. This year, FBH hosted child welfare experts and agency leaders from Japan seeking to learn how to better address and prevent child abuse and neglect using programs like our **Wraparound with Intensive Services (WiSe)**. 95% of the thousands of children and youth we served last year with intensive mental health treatment, integrated pediatric outpatient services, crisis response, and de-escalation remained safely with their families.

IMMIGRATION

Catholic Charities USA awarded CCSWW two grants in 2023 to provide asylum-seekers in our region with help and support. A \$25,000 grant provided direct financial assistance to clients of CCS' Catholic Immigration Legal Services (CILS). CCSWW divided the second grant of \$350,000 between CILS and 41 parishes providing emergency services and supplies to refugees in their communities.

LONG TERM CARE (LTC)

CCS Long Term Care (LTC). Last year, we served 4,600 homebound elders and others with disabilities, helping to keep people in their homes in all 19 counties of western Washington. This year, thanks in part to CCS LTC advocacy, more low-income clients are benefiting from "the most significant anti-poverty change in Long Term Care in many years:" the increase of their personal needs allowance from 100% to 300% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL).

NETWORK BUILDERS

Every year, **CCS Network Builders** work regionally to support service ministries in our deaneries and parishes, connecting the faithful to the people we serve. This year, CCS Network Builders are finding ways to support parish service ministries as they discern the path ahead through the Partners in the Gospel process.

PREPARES (PREGNANCY AND PARENTING SUPPORT)

One hundred four parish partners have joined the CCSWW **Pregnancy and Parenting Support Program**, offering vulnerable families the promise of support and assistance from pregnancy to their child's fifth birthday, including food, clothing, diapers, parenting classes, and referrals to social services. This year, parish volunteers offered special events including community baby showers for high school Teen Parent programs, and participation in Welcome Circle Family Days for refugees.



5 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

VOLUNTEER:

Serve meals, help seniors, and more at ccsww.org/volunteer

ADVOCATE:

Be a champion for those in need! Contact your local Network Builder:

José Ortiz at

JoseO@ccsww.org

Mary Wahl at

MaryWa@ccsww.org or

DONATE:

Visit ccsww.org/donate to make cash or stock gifts or leave a legacy gift through your estate.

STAY INFORMED:

Sign up for a monthly CCS/CHS update at ccsww.org/join-us

SHARE ON SOCIALS:

For more frequent updates, follow us @ccsww





The Knights of Columbus

*annual Christmas card sale will be after all
weekend Masses*

December 2/3, 9/10, 16/17

*Spread the true joy of Christmas with
religious cards illustrated by children
sponsored by **Knights of Columbus**
councils nationwide.*

*A portion of the proceeds from the sale of these cards
will benefit Knights of Columbus Charities*