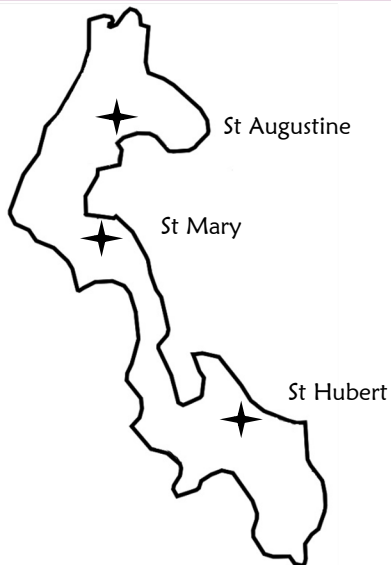




Whidbey Island Family of Catholic Churches

St Augustine · St Mary · St Hubert

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

St. Hubert - 804 3rd Street, Langley, WA 98260

Mailing Address - P.O. Box 388, Langley, WA 98260

*December 15, 2024
Gaudete Sunday
Third Sunday of Advent*

Regular Mass Times

Sat. 5:00 pm - St. Augustine

Sat. 5:00 pm - St. Hubert

Sun. 8:00 am - St. Augustine

Sun. 9:00 am - St. Hubert

Sun. 9:30 am - St. Augustine

Sun. 11:15 am - St. Mary

Wed. 9:30 am - St. Augustine

Wed. 10:30 am - St. Hubert

Thur. 9:30 am - St. Mary

Fri. 9:30 am - St. Augustine

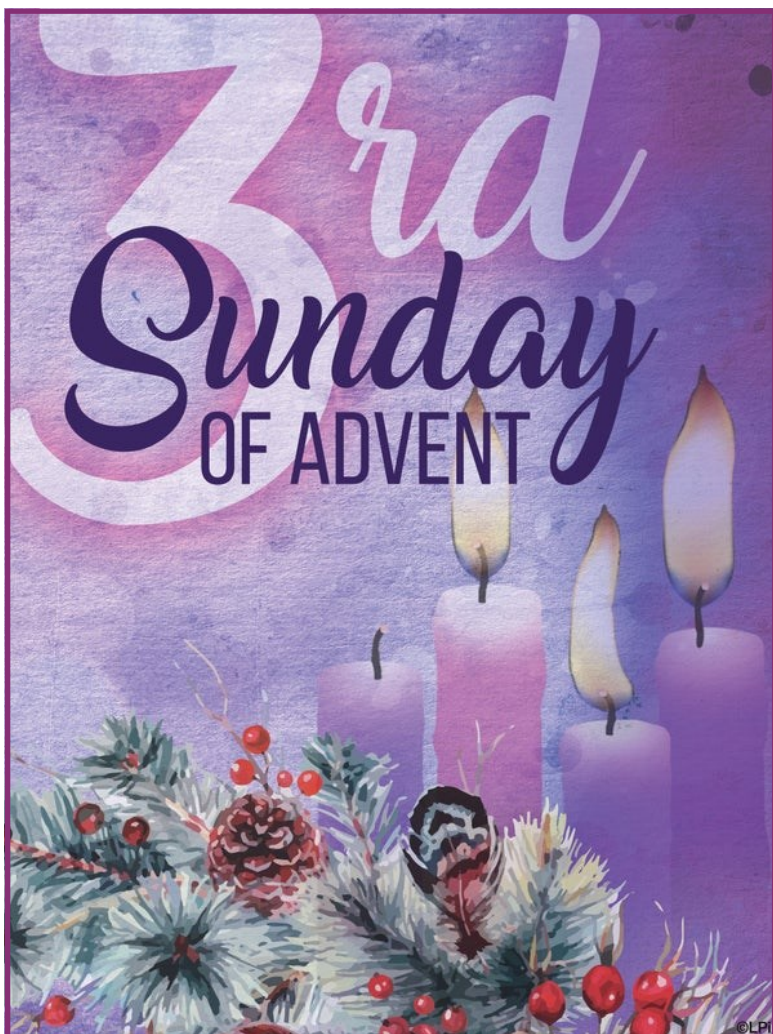
Confessions

Saturday, 4:00 pm - St. Augustine

Saturday, 4:00 pm - St. Hubert

Advent Confessions

Wednesdays, 6:00 pm - St. Augustine



St Augustine/St Mary Parish Office Hours

Monday: Closed to the public

Tuesday - Friday: 10:00 am-12:00 pm & 1:00 pm-4:00 pm

information@staugustineoh.org (360)675-2303

St Hubert Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday: 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

Friday: Closed to the public

sthubert@whidbey.com (360)221-5383

Weekly Calendar - St. Augustine

Dec 15	Sunday	8:00 am	Mass
		9:00 am	Coffee & Donuts, PH
		9:30 am	Mass (<i>Arturo O. Franco, RIP; Virginia Boncodin, INT</i>)
		10:00 am	Coffee & Donuts, PH
Dec 16	Monday	10:00 am	Adult Faith Education, CR 1&2
		4:30 pm	Agape Meal, PH
Dec 17	Tuesday	4:00 pm	OCIC, CR 4 CANCELLED
		6:00 pm	OCIA, CR 1&2
		7:00 pm	FCCW Bible Study Christmas Potluck, CR 3&4
Dec 18	Wednesday	9:30 am	Mass (<i>Moises & Quintina deLeón</i>)
		10:00 am	Divine Mercy/Adoration, CH
		4:00 pm	RE (grades K-5), CR1-5
		6:00 pm	Confessions, CH
		6:30 pm	RE (grades 6-12), CR 1-5
Dec 20	Friday	9:30 am	Mass
		10:00 am	Divine Mercy/Adoration, CH
Dec 21	Saturday	4:00 pm	Confessions CANCELLED
		5:00 pm	Vigil Mass (Simbang Gabi)
		6:00 pm	Simbang Gabi Reception, PH
Dec 22	Sunday	8:00 am	Mass
		9:00 am	Coffee & Donuts, PH
		9:30 am	Mass (<i>Gloria Manlangit, RIP, Norma Clark, RIP</i>)
		10:00 am	Coffee & Donuts, PH

Weekly Calendar - St. Mary

Dec 15	Sunday	11:15 am	Mass (<i>John Sager, RIP; Patricia Shuster, RIP</i>)
		12:15 pm	Coffee & Conversation, HH
Dec 19	Thursday	9:30 am	Mass
		10:00 am	Bible Study, CR
Dec 22	Sunday	11:15 am	Mass (<i>Kyle Santos, RIP</i>)
		12:15 pm	Coffee & Conversation, HH

Saint Augustine

Weekly Expenses \$ 13,090
November 17 Offering \$ 13,422

Weekly Sacrificial Giving

Saint Mary

Weekly Expenses \$ 2,962
November 17 Offering \$ 4,690

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. Thank you!

Sacraments

Baptisms

- ⌘ There are no Baptisms or classes during Advent
- ⌘ The next Baptisms/classes are in January, 2025
- ⌘ We schedule a maximum of 4 children per Baptism.
- ⌘ Call the parish office at 360-675-2303 for more information or to register for class.

Anointings:

- ⌘ Please call the parish office at 360-675-2303 on Wednesday - Friday from 10:00 am - 4:00pm to request an anointing or last rites. On Tuesdays, please call the St. Mary, Anacortes office number at 360-293-2101.
- ⌘ 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. *On any Monday*, please call another parish to request an anointing.

Tips & Etiquette

In these last days of Advent, how can we, too, “prepare the way of the Lord”?

- ⌘ Go to Confession (there are extra opportunities during Advent!)
- ⌘ Give a little (“Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise” Luke 3:11)
- ⌘ Attend daily Mass (Wed/Fri at 9:30 am at St Augustine and Thursday at 9:30 am at St Mary)



Prayer for Vocations

O Holy Spirit, source of wisdom and discernment, we implore You to grant our priests and religious the ability to discern Your will in all things. Guide their decisions, so they may lead Your flock with clarity and prudence. Grant them the insight to navigate the complexities of our modern world while remaining faithful to the timeless teachings of the Church. May their leadership be a source of unity and growth within our faith community.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, *Amen*

Volunteer Opportunities

- ⌘ Please contact Mary Brady at bradylady2@yahoo.com if you would like to help with the Monday night Agape community meal.
- ⌘ We urgently need volunteers to chair the funeral reception committee. Please contact the office at (360)675-2303 if you are interested in helping.

News and Events

- ☞ **Sanctuary Flowers** - Sanctuary Flowers will return after Christmas. We are currently accepting donations for Christmas flowers and for January 2025. Thank you to all who so generously contributed to the beauty of Saint Augustine in 2024.
- ☞ **Simbang Gabi** - St. Augustine parish will celebrate Simbang Gabi on Saturday, December 21, during the 5:00 pm Mass, followed by a reception in the parish hall. This traditional Filipino celebration honors the Blessed Virgin Mary as she prayerfully awaits the birth of Christ.
- ☞ **New Year's Eve Potluck & White Elephant** - Send out 2024 at St. Augustine with your fellow parishioners and join us on December 31st from 6pm - 10pm in the Parish Hall for a family-friendly New Year's Eve Potluck & White Elephant Exchange. Bring a favorite dish to share and a wrapped gift for the exchange. One gift per participant, please. For more information or to volunteer (we need you!) please call Theresa at 206-992-8193.
- ☞ **2024 Taxes** - Please note that all 2024 contributions to St. Augustine and St. Mary need to be received no later than Dec 31 in order to be credited to your 2024 taxes.
- ☞ **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 parish office in Oak Harbor, and online at www.staugustineoh.org.

Holiday Mass Schedule

Simbang Gabi

St Augustine, Dec 21 at 5:00pm

Christmas Eve

St Augustine, 6:00pm & 9:00pm

Christmas Day

St Augustine, 9:30am

St Mary, 12:00pm

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

(Holy Day of Obligation)

St Augustine, Dec 31, 5:00pm

St Mary, Jan 1, 12:00pm



We Pray for Our Family

Ruth Abrea, Fr. Larry Bailey, Marrisa Blas, Gary Barrett, Linnie Ochoa-Brown, Jim Brady, Pete Caldwell, Patrick Cantwell, Eileen Catalano, Robert Cipres, Kathy Collantes, Christina Collings, Daniel Cook, Lois Coplea, Cecilia Crook, Justin Day, Tomasa Dagdagan, Betsy Eidsmoe, Bob Ellis, Debbie Gallo, Douglas Hammer, Lynn & Jerry Henriksen, Donald Hubner, Teresa Jauregui, James Jarosz, Marsha Kilgore, Jack Kraft, Laura Lafranchise, Carol LeClercq, Phyllis Lund, Pat Magorrian, Dick Malone, Martha McAllister, Alexandria Molt, Morris Nelson, Marlene Olson, Jasmine Patricio, Onie Hedeon & Richard Rezabek, Denise Robertson, Nancy & John Romanski, Lou & Lulu Santos, Jadwiga & Philippe Sebrechts, Dennis Sionson, Steven Spencer, Kathy Stratton, Don Stubenrauch, Chuck Tollefson, Carmela Tubo

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

Gaudete Sunday



This Sunday's Gospel continues last week's focus on John the Baptist and his role in preparing the way for Christ. Recall that last week's reading described John's appearance in the desert and established his connection with the prophetic tradition of Israel. If we were to read Luke's Gospel continuously, we would learn about John the Baptist challenging the crowds who came to him and calling upon them to show evidence of their repentance. John tells his listeners that they cannot rely on their lineage as Israelites because children of Abraham can be raised up from stones. Repentance, rather, must be observable in one's actions. Here, Luke is continuing to set up two important themes of his Gospel message: the Christian faith is expressed in one's actions, and the call to salvation is extended to everyone, Jews and Gentiles.

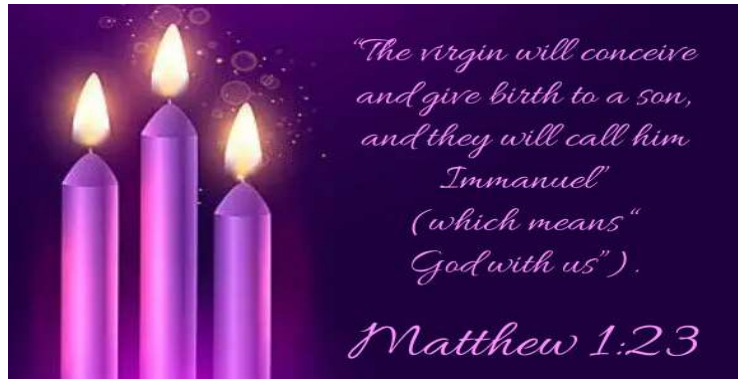
In today's Gospel reading, the crowds ask John the Baptist for specifics. What evidence of repentance is required? John replies by naming concrete actions: crowds should share their food and cloaks; tax collectors should be just; soldiers should act fairly. The concern for justice is a hallmark of Luke's Gospel.

When the crowd begins to wonder if John the Baptist might be the Messiah, John interprets his baptism and makes it clear that his ministry is in preparation for the Messiah. John the Baptist knows his place and role in God's plan of salvation. By encouraging the crowd to act similarly in accordance with their stations in life, John's teaching suggests

that each person has a role to play in God's salvation. It is the great mystery of our salvation that God permits and even asks for human cooperation in his divine plans.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is a Latin word that means "rejoice." This name is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass, which is also echoed in today's second reading from the Paul's letter to the Philippians. Some people mark this Sunday by lighting a pink candle instead of a purple one on their Advent wreath. It is a reminder that the Advent season is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

Youth Advent Retreat Testimonies



We had 22 participants at our recent Youth Advent retreat.

Please enjoy some of their highlights!

"One thing that inspired me was how waiting can be a good thing, and only you know when you're ready."

"Eucharistic adoration and the music"

"I was inspired by the participation of everyone's voices talking about how to retrieve the Gospel of God again"

"Inspired me to pray more"

"Eucharistic adoration inspired me to do it again."

"I liked having group discussions"

"I was deeply inspired today by miss Kaylan's story. I really liked how her young son felt the strong with God which led her into this religion. Also, that waiting can be a good thing"

"Something I have learned about today is about waiting isn't that bad period you just have to have patience and the new stories."

"Learn how to wait for Jesus and it is important to wait"

"we learn that I am more fortunate than I think, I realize that I need to make more time for my prayer life than being on my phone. Waiting is not bad"

"I enjoyed making the advent reads."

"The song and stories were nice"