

St. Augustine Catholic Church

May 5, 2024

6th Sunday of Easter



Photo courtesy of Villanova University
Artist Vernon Adams

Rev. Stephan Brown, SVD, Pastor

Rev. Mr. Curtiss Talley, Deacon ~~~ Rev. Mr. Andrew Terry, Deacon

PASTORAL TEAM

Office Manager

Karen Owens

Pastoral Team Asst.

Lenora Morris

Bookkeepers

Brandy Oltremari

Dianna Crawford

Ministers of Music

Gwen Atkins

Robert Clayborne

Leo Davis, DMA

Dir. of Religious Education

Henry & Ruby Snowden

Maintenance Engineer

Luke Mukenge

Health Ministry

Helen Oliver

Youth Ministry

Marissa Gooden

1169 Kerr Avenue, Memphis, TN 38106

Phone~ 901.774.2297 Fax~ 901.774.1067

Web: www.staugustinememphis.net

E-Mail: staug.info@staugustine.cdom.org

Facebook: St. Augustine Catholic Parish

Spiritual Food for The Journey...



Love one another.

YOU ARE ACCEPTABLE TO HIM, LET US LOVE ONE ANOTHER

This week how fitting it is that we begin our month of May reflecting on Love. However, before we look at love we hear a message from the Acts of the Apostles that tells us "you are acceptable" to Christ. So first take a moment and tell someone "You are acceptable". Look at Acts 10:34

**Then Peter proceeded to speak and said,
"In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.
Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly
is acceptable to him."**

**While Peter was still speaking these things,
the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the word.**

When we seek to truly live uprightly before God, we are "Acceptable to Him." In being acceptable to God it means that we are seeking to live and walk in right relationship with Him and with our Sisters and Brothers. Yes, for Paul tells us that we are the righteousness of God in Jesus Christ when he says in 2nd Corinthians 5:21

"For our sake he made him to be sin who did not know sin, so that we might become the righteousness of God in him."

This word tells us something about ourselves, both our character and identity if we live in faith and belief in God through His Son, we have become the very righteousness of God. This says something and calls us to a deeper understanding and relationship with Christ.

This brings us to the Johannine scriptures that we have today that teach us about love. When we think of love, we think of warm affectionate feelings. We think of the great fondness that we feel for others that make us all warm and fuzzy inside. We also use love so loosely in our Society, we love our Cars, our homes, We love our pets, We love our favorite food or drink, "I just love mint chip ice cream.". But you see Jesus isn't talking about this kind of love. To understand love as Christians you must look at the Bible chapter on love 1 Corinthians 13.

" If I speak in human and angelic tongues* but do not have love, I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal. And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge; if I have all faith so as to move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing.

If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, [love] is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth.

It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing.

For we know partially,, and we prophesy partially, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I used to talk as a child, think as a child, reason as a child; when I became a man, I put aside childish things.

At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face. At present I know partially; then I shall know fully, as I am fully known. So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love."*



We are called to live in love with God and one another. Love is of God, and when we Love God, we are impelled to love others both in word and deed. This is the message for the world. This is why the Gospel message must be proclaimed in new ways, that Love conquers all. Our city, nation and world need the Love of God poured out through His Son to bring, peace, healing and understanding to a deeply divided and hurting world.

REV STEPHAN BROWN, SVD, PASTOR

There is present within our local community a great deal of division regarding blessings for those couples in irregular situations. It is important to first always remember, that the Shepherd's heart must always remain open even to those whose lives may seemingly not be realized in accordance with the official position of the church.

As I think about blessings, I am reminded of the joy it brought so many inmates at the San Pedro Federal Prison in San Pedro California. These men had been a part of or participated in some of the most heinous crimes against humanity, yet when asking for a blessing there is never any hesitation. They were always blessed. In walking the streets of St. Petersburg and someone approaches me and says "pastor pray for me, bless me", that woman is a known addict and prostitute, do I deny her? No! I bless her and invite her to church. Our Christmas 2022 as the doors of my church opened and two immigrants entered, a man and a woman, only days after walking thousands of miles to cross our nations borders, they were in need, did I ask their state in life? Did I check to see if they had immigration documents, did I review their state of grace when they sought understanding? No, we helped them and blessed them, we provided for their needs which included a prayer and blessing.

I share these three examples noting only two things that they all held in common. They all had "irregular" lives, and they all desired God's blessing and mercy and the heart of the shepherd remained open to them. People of all ways of life seek compassion, understanding and healing even those whose lives may be "irregular" as individuals or couples and for some be considered cause for scandal. The church does not only seek God's blessing for those who follow faithfully her teaching. The heart of the shepherd, and the church must always be open to absolutely every human heart seeking to experience God's love, mercy and blessing. Praying that we all one day grow and live more perfectly the divine love that exists in our human hearts.

REV STEPHAN BROWN, SVD, PASTOR

DOCTRINAL DECLARATION OPENS POSSIBILITY OF BLESSING COUPLES IN IRREGULAR SITUATIONS
With the Declaration “Fiducia supplicans” issued by the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith, approved by Pope Francis, it will be possible to bless same-sex couples but without any type of ritualization or offering the impression of a marriage. The doctrine regarding marriage does not change, and the blessing does not signify approval of the union.

By Vatican News

Next Sunday's Readings-May 12, 2024
Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11 ~ Jesus is Taken up in Heaven
Ephesians 4:1-13 ~ Jesus is Seated at the Right Hand of God
Mark 16:15-20 ~ Disciples Go Forth to Preach

APRIL PARISH FINANCES

Budgeted Revenue:	\$50,250.00
Collection/Online/Gifts	\$37,206.11
Rent	\$ 1,000.00
21st Century	\$ 6,989.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$45,195.11
EXPENSES:	
Utilities	\$ 3,867.00
Maintenance/Repairs	\$ 55.52
Operating Expenses	\$39,240.45
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$43,162.97
DIFFERENCE	\$ 2,032.14
Parish Assessment to Diocese	\$9,347.44
21st Century Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$285,818.02
Revenue for April	\$ 4,639.00
ArchBishop Lyke Fund	\$ 3,350.00
Expenses covered by 21st Century	\$ 86,763.91
Ending Balance	\$207,043.11



Lorraine Chandler, Berta Moss—5/5
Richard Terrell, Jesse Turner— 5/6
Yvonne Denton, Aaron Thomas —5/8
Kevin Lomax—5/9
Ljillauna Saffold—5/10
David Moore—5/11

Prayer for Healing...

Foster Adams, Gloria Alsandor, Harold Adams Beamon, Annie Beck, Gerald Bond, Eugene Brassell, Gwen Collins, Helen Cooke, Longino Cooke, Patricia Cowart, Tina Crawford, Robert Crowley, Raye Dudley, Sharl Golden, David Green, Vivian Harris, Bernice Hayes, Darrell Hollimon, Marvin Housley, Sr., Mae Johnson, Dorothy Katoe, Mary King, Audrey McGhee, Florine McMillan, Hattie Moore, Raymond Moore, Sr., Oliver Peyton, Polk Puryear, Altonette Robinson, Floyd Shavers, Mayme Tuggle, Ben Wells, Eric Wells, Bertharene Young, Joyce Young, Joseph Young

LORD, MAY OUR DEARLY DEPARTED REST IN EVERLASTING PEACE

May 5 ~ James Pickett, Catherine McKenzie, Hildred Lomax
May 6 ~ Charles E. Lomax, Emma Jean Hollowell-Kyser
May 7 ~ Rosa Lee Marshall, Ollie Marie Everett
May 8 ~ Dorothy Kinkle, Mary M. Boyd
May 9 ~ Garnette Hose, Henry G. Snowden
May 10 ~ BArthur Greene, Sr., Joe L. Denton
May 11 ~ Irby Fogleman, Hubert T. Wade



A horizontal banner with a rainbow background and floral patterns on the left and right sides. The word "Announcements" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font across the center.

Announcements



Leenard Jennings, passed away on April 29th. A visitation will be held Thursday, May 9th at M.J. Edwards (Whitehaven Funeral Chapel, 5494 Elvis Presley Blvd, Memphis, TN 38116). A celebration of life will occur Friday, May 10th at 12:00pm at M. J. Edwards. The burial will be held on Friday, May 10th at West Tennessee Veterans Cemetery at 2:00pm.

Contact Information: St. Augustine members, if you have recently or in the past couple of years changed your phone number or address, please notify the church office. This will ensure that you receive important information regarding the parish and our activities.

In order to better serve our parish community and good financial stewards, bulletins will now be sent to your email as a convenience. We will continue to produce bulletins in house but only a limited number will be printed. Please ensure your email addresses are up to date. If you have not received a flock note from St. Augustine, contact the church office. This will also ensure that you receive up to date information regarding the parish including the bulletin directly in your email.

Don't miss the opportunity to contribute to The Archbishop James P. Lyke, O.F.M Memorial "G" Drive. Please consider making your gift of \$1000.00 by June 24th which commemorates the Ordination Anniversary of the Late Archbishop Lyke. Make Your Gift out to **"St Augustine Church"** in the Memo place the "Archbishop Lyke "G" Drive.

The revised weekday Mass schedule is as follows: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday at 12:00pm. Other Masses will remain the same: Saturday, 4:00pm and Sunday, 8:00am and 11:00am.

Congratulations to ICCS Principal Kadesha Gordon, who has been selected as an honoree for the Memphis Business Journal's 2024 class of 40 Under 40 presented by Leaders Credit Union! This honor lists Ms. Gordon as one of the best and brightest under the age of 40 in the Memphis and the Mid-South area. Honorees will be celebrated at an awards event and in a special section of MBI in May. [Memphis Business Journal](#) [Leaders Credit Union](#)



Congratulations
Kadesha Gordon!!!!



Matsiko World Orphan Choir



Matsiko World Orphan Choir

National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus (NBCCC)

The group was founded in April 1968, shortly after the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. The murder of King sparked a radical activist notion among Black Catholic clergy, who had themselves been mistreated for some time within the Catholic Church after being locked out from the priesthood altogether for much of US Church history.

The new group was convened in Detroit by Fr Herman A. Porter, who sent out a call to Black Catholic clergy nationwide. A religious brother, a religious sister (Sr. Martin De Porres Grey, RSM), and a White clergyman also attempted to attend, but were eventually rebuffed. (Grey went on to found the National Black Sisters Conference shortly thereafter)

The group discussed the situation before them, and formulated a statement that, after being published, made waves within the Church, largely due to its opening line:

The Catholic Church in the United States, primarily a white racist institution, has addressed itself primarily to white society and is definitely a part of that society. On the contrary, we feel that her primary, though not exclusive work, should be in the area of institutional, attitudinal and societal change.

The statement also made a number of demands of the largely White hierarchy, most of which went unanswered.

The group has continued to meet annually since, including in a joint conference with the NBSC and the National Black Seminarians' Association (NBCSA), a constituent organization of the NBCCC.

In 2020, the NBCCC teamed with the NBSC, National Association of Black Catholic Administrators, and the Institute for Black Catholic Studies to make a statement in support of the Black Lives Matter movement.

MASS TIMES

Weekday

Monday ~ Wednesday ~ Thursday

12PM Chapel

Weekend

Saturday Vigil 4PM

Sunday 8AM and 11AM

