**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sunday, February 5, 2023**

2486 West 14th Street

Cleveland, Ohio 44113

(216) 781-5530

(216) 781-1124 Fax

**Website**: www.StAugustineCleveland. Org

**Parish Office Hours:**

Monday thru Friday: 9 AM to 4 PM

Saturday: 9 AM to 4 PM

Sunday: 9 AM to 2 PM

**Community Cupboard and Closet:**

Wednesdays: 5 PM to 7 PM

Saturdays: 11 AM to 2 PM

**Mass Schedule:**

Monday thru Friday: 5:30 PM

 *(Civic holidays at 10 AM)*

Saturday: 4:15 PM\*

Sunday: 8:30 AM\* and 11 AM\*

\*Interpreted for the Deaf

**Confession:**

**THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF**

**ST. AUGUSTINE**

*A Samaritan Church with a Missionary Heart*



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| **Parish Registration** – Welcome new members! Please register by calling the parish office. Parishioners who are moving are asked to contact the office to update their information**Baptism** – Baptisms may be scheduled at any time. Please call the parish office to make baptismal arrangements.  | **Funerals** – Please call the parish office to schedule funerals prior to publishing any information.**Matrimony** – Call the parish office to meet with a priest. Diocesan regulations require a minimum of 6 months preparation time.  | **Care of the Sick** – Notify the parish office of those who are hospitalized or homebound. Arrangements can be made for pastoral visits, the Sacrament of the Anointing or the Sick. We can also bring Holy Communion to the homebound. Qr code  Description automatically generated |

Saturdays 3:30 PM – 4 PM or by appointment

**Staff and Ministry Directory**

For all Parish emails, add @StAugustineCleveland.org

Administrator/Chaplain to the Blind: Rev. William O’Donnell, C.PP.S, *email:* WODonnell

Parochial Vicar/Chaplain to the Deaf: Rev. Ben Jimenez, SJ, *email:* BJimenez

Permanent Deacon: Chris DePenti, *email: CDePenti@DioceseofClevleand.org* Deaf Ministry: *email:* DeafMinistry

Parish Life Administrator: Bob Duda, *email:* BDuda Blind Ministry: *email:* BlindMinistry

Finance Manager: Aldo Fierro, *email:* AFierro Mental Health Ministry: MentalHealth

Office Manager: Doris Everetts, *email:* DEveretts Outreach Ministry: *email:* Outreach

Office Support: Kimberly Ambro, *email:* KAmbro Augustine Rainbow Camp: *email:* ARC

Director of Rainbow Camp and Volunteers: Jessica Neuhart, *email:* JNeuhart Signing Choir: *email:* SigningChoir Religious Education: Kathleen Ulintz, *email:* PSR General Information: *email:* Info

Deaf Access Co-Ordinator: Robin McMarlin, email: RMcMarlin

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

“You are the light of the world,” Jesus tells his disciples in today’s Gospel, exhorting them to shine that light for everyone to see. Jesus himself is the light who shone through the darkness from the very moment he was born. Now he challenges his disciples to be that light—the light of Christ—for others. We are given that same challenge. May we be conscious of receiving the Lord today in the word and the Eucharist, so that we may go forth to shine the light of Christ, transforming the darkness around us.

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**Mass Intentions for the Week**

Saturday, February 4th- 4:15 PM † Don Lutz

Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ

Sunday, February 5th- 8:30 AM † Martha Kisiel

Fr. Bill O’Donnell, C.PP.S

Sunday, February 5th– 11 AM † Jennie Zelinski

Fr. Bill O’Donnell, C.PP.S

Monday, February 6th- 5:30 PM † LaVerne Weedling

*St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs*

Tuesday, February 7th- 5:30 PM † Robert Gruntokowski

*St. John Bosco, Priest*

Wednesday, February 8th- 5:30 PM † Ralph Gurney

*St. Jerome Emiliani*

*St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin*

Thursday, February 9th- 5:30 PM † Carmel Vitale

Friday, February 10th- 5:30 PM † Flora Wray

*St. Scholastica, Virgin*

Saturday, February 11th- 4:15 PM † Bob Bencic

Fr. Bill O’Donnell, C.PP.S

Sunday, February 12th- 8:30 AM Pam, Curt, and Sara

Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ Olsen (Helath)

Sunday, February 2th– 11 AM † Robin Zarembski

Fr. Joe McNulty

**The Pope’s Intention for February: For Parishes**

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity, and welcome towards those most in need.



This weekend we welcome in Baptism Lincoln Latessa. May the Light of Christ, given in Baptism, shine on Lincoln forever. Amen!



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Sunday: Is 58:7‐10; Ps 112:4‐5, 6‐7, 8‐9; 1 Cor 2:1‐5; Mt 5:13‐16

Monday: Gn 1:1‐19; Ps 104:1‐2a, 5‐6, 10, 12, 24, 35c; Mk 6:53‐56

Tuesday: Gn 1:20 — 2:4a; Ps 8:4‐5, 6‐7, 8‐9;

Mk 7:1‐13

Wednesday: Gn 2:4b‐9, 15‐17; Ps 104:1‐2a,

27‐28, 29bc‐30; Mk 7:14‐23

Thursday: Gn 2:18‐25; Ps 128:1‐2, 3, 4‐5;

Mk 7:24‐30

Friday: Gn 3:1‐8; Ps 32:1‐2, 5, 6, 7; Mk 7:31‐ 37

Saturday: Gn 3:9‐24; Ps 90:2, 3‐4abc, 5‐6, 12‐13; Mk 8:1‐10

Sunday: Sir 15:15‐20; Ps 119:1‐2, 4‐5, 17‐18, 33‐34; 1 Cor 2:6‐10; Mt 5:17‐37 or Mt5:20‐ 22a, 27‐28, 33‐34a, 37

**Welcome!**

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church, no matter your personal history, age, income, background, gender, disability, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity or spirituality, or marital situation. No matter your own self-image of holiness or virtue. You are invited, accepted, and respected here at St. Augustine Parish.

 *Loving God,*

 *For all who feel on the margins,*

 *but who are at the center of your heart,*

 *we ask you to open our hearts.*

 *Help us to become a church and a nation where:*

***All lives have dignity,***

***All people are loved***

***And all are welcome.***

  *Amen*

**Love Without Measure**

Jesus throws out this image right at the beginning of today’s gospel. “You are the salt of the earth.” Really Jesus? What do you mean by that? How are we like salt? Jesus never explains this image. Therefore, the door opens for us to consider a variety of ways in which we are like salt. Let me suggest one of them to you today. Salt is good when used in small amounts, at least in food. Have you ever tried to make a stew or a soup and measured poorly, putting in way to much salt? It can’t be eaten. So salt is to be used sparingly. How often do we read a recipe that asks for a “pinch of salt”? A pinch is very small. But that is the point. It is still necessary. That is why the recipe calls for it. Without that pinch of salt, the food loses it flavor. So, when Jesus says that we are the salt of the earth, me might be asking us to adopt the small gesture, the simple word, the gentle touch. When Jesus says we are salt, he is telling us that sometimes following him involves actions that are not very big at all.

Now following Jesus certainly involves more than these small gestures. That is probably why the image of salt in today’s gospel is followed immediately by the image of light. Sometimes we can do big things. Sometimes we can be a city on the mountain, a lamp on a lamp stand, giving light to everyone in the house. Sometimes our light can change people’s lives. We can be instrumental in encouraging and directing people to seek help for addiction or mental health concerns. We can be instrumental in bringing enemies together to find forgiveness or families reconciliation. When we have an opportunity to accomplish on of these big things, we should by all means take the risk and let our light shine. What a wonderful and growing light our Cupboard and Closet have created by serving so many and providing a place where people in need can turn.

But these dramatic possibilities do not occur every day. It is for this reason that today’s gospel tells us that when we cannot be light of the world, it is still service to be a pinch of salt.

It could be a pinch of salt or a shining light to stay in touch with family or elderly neighbors during these brutally cold winter days.

I ask your prayers for a special intention that needs the guidance of the Holy Spirit, a pinch of salt and a shining light.

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**Aid to the Church in Central and Eastern Europe**

This weekend we will take up the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports the Church in more than 25 countries that still struggle to recover from former communist rule. Funds from this collection support pastoral care, catechesis, renovations, and seminary formation. Your support restores the Church and builds the future in this region. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection next week. More information can be found at [www.usccb.org/ccee](http://www.usccb.org/ccee).

**Feast of St. Blaise “Blessing of Throats”**

Friday, Feb. 3rd, was the Feast of Saint Blaise. Blaise was the bishop of Sebastea in Armenia and died as a martyr in the early 4th century. He is associated with the healing of throats (and other illnesses) due to the legend of him healing a small child who had a bone lodged in its throat. At each of the Masses this weekend, Feb. 4th and 5th, we will offer the blessing of throats.

**World Day of Consecrated Life**

This Sunday we celebrate World Day for Consecrated Life. We recognize and give thanks for those who have consecrated their lives to God and the Church through the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. The consecrated life is one way that women and men live our their baptismal commitment as followers of Jesus. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life.

**Cleveland Catholic Deaf Community Retreat**

Just as Lent begins, the Cleveland Catholic Deaf Community (CCDC) will have a retreat on Saturday, February 25, 2023. Our retreat will be led by Fr. Shawn Carey, a deaf priest, from Boston. The theme is: Shield of Hope. You all are welcome to attend the retreat in the Deaf Center followed by 4:15 pm Mass in St. Augustine Church. Please join us to strengthen our spiritually and love for one another. Please contact CCDC at (216) 370-7722 or 1946CCDC@gmail.com for more information. Details of the retreat will follow in the near future.

**Parish Fish Fry**

It’s that time of year again for the friendliest fish fry in town! Fish Frys begin Friday, February 24th from 4 PM until 7 PM. Our Fish Fry will be held in Walsh Hall (basement of former school building). We will have dine-in and take-out available this year. Stay tuned for more information.

**Spaghetti Dinner**

Mary’s Rosary Guild of the Deaf will host a spaghetti dinner fundraiser on Sunday, February 26, 2023 from 1-3 PM in the Deaf Center. Tickets are $12 for adults and $6 for children. Take out will be available. Please RSVP by purchasing tickets or by contacting Jo Ann Whigham at (216) 370-7661 VP or the parish office at (216) 781-5530. All proceeds will benefit the 60th anniversary celebration being planned for Mary’s Rosary Guild of the Deaf.

**Church Stations of the Cross**

When you came into church today you may have noticed that our Stations of the Cross are gone. Last week Henninger’s removed our Stations for restoration. The Stations will be cleaned and remounted. The frames will be repaired and painted. We are expecting them to be completed by Lent.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new parishioner, Carl Suvak. (4:15 PM Mass) “I was a stranger and you welcomed me.” (Mark 25:35) Please welcome our new parishioner to our parish family.

 **Is Your Light Shining?**

“You are the salt and light of the world!” If you doubt your light matters, take this little quiz:

1. Name the five wealthiest people in the world.

2. Name the last five Heisman trophy winners.

3. Name the last five winners of the Miss America Pageant. Do you know all these answers? Probably not.

Ask yourself some additional questions:

1. Who fed and clothed you when you were helpless?

2. What was the name of your 1st grade teacher?

3. Who is the first friend you would call in an emergency? You do know the answers to these questions. They are the salt and light of the world.

*A light is something which is meant to be seen.  (The lamp in Palestine was like a sauce‐boat full of oil with a wick floating in it.  When people went out, for safety's sake they took the lamp from its stand and put it under an earthen bushel measure, so that it might burn without risk until they came back).  Christians must be visible like a "city" on a hilltop and a lamp on a "lamp stand."  Jesus therefore expects His followers to be seen by the world (Jn 13:35; 17:21). In addition, they must radiate and give light.  "Let your light shine before men" (Mt 5:16).  By this metaphor Jesus means that our Christianity should be visible in the ordinary activities of the world, for example, in the way we treat a shop assistant across the counter, in the way we order a meal in a restaurant, in the way we treat our employees or serve our employer, in the way we play a game or drive or park a motor car, in the daily language we use, in the daily literature we read.*

**Pr ay the Rosary**

We invite you to join us **every weeknight** (Monday thru Friday) at **6 PM** in Church as we pray the rosary. If you are unable to join us in person, we encourage you to join us on livestream

**St. Augustine Seniors**

50 and over

The St. Augustine Seniors will gather on Thursday, February 9th at 12 Noon in Walsh Hall. New members are always welcome.

**Save the Date-Parish Breakfast**

Our next complimentary Parish Breakfast will be on Sunday, February 19th from 9:15 AM – 1 PM in Walsh Hall (basement of school building). We hope that you will be able to join us for food and fellowship.

**2022 Tax Statement Requests**

2022 Tax statements will be prepared for those who request them. Please include your name, address and phone number on a piece of paper and return to the parish office by placing it in the collection basket, or by calling the parish office at (216) 781-5530.

**Theology on the Rocks West**

**For Adults 40 and Over**

Join us Monday, Feb. 13 at Copper Cup (Ironwood Café) at 680 Dover Center in Westlake. Ever wonder why time seems to fly when you’re doing something you love and time seems like an eternity when you’re doing something you abhor? Biblical time management doesn’t provide more time but it helps us make the best use of the time we’ve been given. It looks not at chronological time but at Kairos time, God’s time. At the beginning of this New Year, Fr. Dan Schlegel will guide us in examining ways to enhance opportunities to live life more meaningfully, purposefully with joy and hope.

$15.00 per person which includes light appetizers & refreshments. Cash Bar is also available. Pay online or at the door. Be sure to RSVP either way. Register in advance at: www.theologyontherocks.wixsite.com/west. Doors open at 6:30pm. Program begins at 7pm.

**Theology on Tap**

invites all young adults in their 20s and 30s to a reflection on St. John Paul II’s Meditation on Givenness: ‘Creation as Gift ’. As we prepare our hearts for Lent, how can we make a gift of ourselves to others? What does it mean to give and receive well? Join us as we dive into these questions and more with Gregg and Elizabeth Stovicek on Tuesday, February 21st, at 7:00 pm, at Forest City Brewery. Registration is available at www.dioceseofcleveland.org/totcle or you may pay at the door ($5). For questions, please contact totclewest@gmail.com .

**Sunday Thought**

In today’s Gospel Jesus tells us that we must be salt and light. What He is calling us to become by using these familiar images is that as followers of Jesus we must bring a sense of enthusiasm and hope to an otherwise cynical and hopeless world. The problem is that for many Christians the uniform for the day is often long faces that portray only doom and gloom. It is hard to convince those who do not know Jesus yet in their lives that following Him is not a heavy burden but a great joy. Jesus Himself often uses the symbol of light as a sign of Himself. For instance, He called Himself, “the Light of the World.” When He describes Himself in such terms, He also means to describe in the same fashion those who are His disciples. It is good to remember that ours is a borrowed light. We could never produce a reflection of Jesus Christ on our own. It is also important to recall that unless we are open to the working of His grace in our lives nothing in us will ever happen

Cursillistas will gather for Ultreya on **Saturday, February 12th at 10 AM** in Walsh Hall. Cursillistas are invited to gather, pray, and share personal stories about living a life in God's Grace on the second Saturday of every month.

**Parish School of Religion**

Religious education classes will continue this Monday at 5:30 PM.

If you have not yet registered your child for faith formation and sacramental preparation, please visit St. Augustine Parish website at [www.StAugustineCleveland.org](http://www.StAugustineCleveland.org), email us at PSR@staugustinecleveland.org, or call the parish office at (216) 781-5530 for more information.

****The **St. Augustine Community Cupboard** is **open** on **Saturdays** from **11 AM - 2 PM** and **Wednesdays** from **5 PM - 7 PM.**

As we continue to serve the needs of our neighbors, we are seeking volunteers to assist in restocking shelves and assisting shoppers on the days we are open. In addition, we are in need of the following items:

Toilet Paper Canned Meat

Paper Towels Ketchup

Laundry Detergent Mustard

Dish Soap Mayo

Coffee Dog Food

Tea Deodorant (Men and Women)

Sugar Hand Soap (Pump Bottles)

Creamer Body Wash (Men and Women)

Flour Shampoo

 Kleenex Boxed Potatoes

We have also created an **Amazon Wish List which can be found on our parish website, www.StAugustineCleveland.org.**

For more information or to volunteer, please contact the parish office by calling (216) 781-5530.

**Community Closet**

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Our Community Closet allows individuals to come and “shop” for clothing, bedding, and footwear items.

During the winter months there is a higher need for winter coats, boots, hats and gloves

The Community Closet is open on Wednesdays from 5 to 7 PM and on Saturdays from 11 AM to 2 PM.

For more information or to volunteer please contact the Parish Office at (216) 781-5530 or email, outreach@staugustinecleveland.org.

*Families Served in the Community Closet and Cupboard during the month of January: 523*

**Inspiration for the Week**

It’s hard to shine the light of truth in a world that so often prefers darkness. But God built his city on a hill, not a valley. His glory, by definition, exists to be proclaimed, as salt exists to give flavor.

**St. Augustine Buckey Deaf Seniors**

St. Augustine Buckeye Deaf Seniors will gather in the Deaf Center on Tuesday, February 7th at 10 AM for their regular meeting. New members are always welcome.

**Protecting God’s Children**

The Diocese of Cleveland’s “Protecting God’s Children” program is a continuing effort to instruct and inform everyone about the protection of children from sexual abuse. To report any past or present suspected inappropriate behavior toward children by priests, deacons, religious, lay ecclesial ministers or personnel associated with the Church, please contact the Diocesan Response Service Office at (216) 334 -2999 or via email at response\_services@dioceseofcleveland.org. You are also asked to immediately inform local authorities about inappropriate behavior.

**Stewardship of Treasure**

We are deeply grateful for your generosity in your weekly contribution to St. Augustine Parish. Your kindness and support enable us to provide for the needs of our parish and community. The collection for the weekend of January 22, 2023 was $2,079.00. Thank you for your generosity.

*Counter Team B is scheduled this week.*

**Counters Needed**

We are looking for individuals willing to assist us in counting our weekly collections on Monday mornings. If you are available for approximately an hour and half one Monday every couple of months, please contact Terry Hogan at the parish office at (216) 781- 5530.

**Family Perspectives**

This week’s Gospel picks up where last week’s left off. Jesus calls His disciples the light of the world. “Your light must shine before others, that they may see your deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.” As the light of the world, our actions should reveal God to others. The way we live our lives should show that we are followers of Christ, and our conversations should welcome others to the knowledge and love of God. We may not always know what someone needs or what they are going through, but if we encounter others with the willingness to be God’s instrument, His kindness and mercy will shine through.

*Heavenly Father, may Your light shine through us, so that our words and actions may help all those we encounter come to know Your love. Amen.*

**Legal Aid Society Free Legal Clinics**

The Legal Aid Society’s 2023 calendar is now available - For a printable bilingual list of Legal Aid’s upcoming FREE legal advice clinics scheduled for early 2023 visit https://tinyurl.com/LASoC-Jan2023. We encourage folks to come speak with us at an in-person clinic for free legal advice about civil legal issues related to shelter, safety, consumer rights, education, work, and more. Visit https://lasclev.org or call 888-817-3777 for information, to get the current clinic schedule, & more.

**Music with Beamer**

Gary Lee “Beamer”, a member of our music ministry, will have a concert in honor of his birthday, on February 9th at 6 PM in Walsh Hall. All are invited.

**St. Augustine Signing Choir**

The Signing Choir will resumepracticing this Wednesday, at 6:30 PM in Walsh Hall. New members are always welcome.

**“People of the Earth”**

AM 1260 THE ROCK Consider listening to AM 1260 The Rock Catholic radio as part of your Lenten observances. Turn away from the noise of the world and turn towards the signal of joy and mercy on the airwaves! Join us for Lenten Devotions, daily Mass, Rosary, apologetics and much more on AM1260 The Rock. Tuesdays at 3 PM we will air the Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus and Fridays at 3 PM Stations of the Cross. The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy will continue to air on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 3 PM throughout Lent. Prayers and program guides can be found at https:// am1260therock.com or call us at 216-227-1260.

**You are the salt of the earth…. and light for the world!**

Many people struggle with their identity and a clear sense of purpose. They wander aimlessly, feeling as though they have no reason to exist. In today’s gospel, Jesus offers those who would follow him identity and purpose. “You are salt. You are light.” Jesus encourages his followers to understand that they are valued beyond the worth of any commodity in the world. They are good for something. In fact, in Roman society, soldiers were paid in salt – which is the origin of the word salary! Jesus says we are worth our salt, not only to him but to the world. We have an important role to play in this world.

A Christian whose religious experience is limited to only weekend Mass is like keeping your salt in the shaker. If we acknowledge God only in a church, then we can easily miss the Christ present wherever we go during the week. Jesus warned against this very thing. If salt loses its flavor, who can restore it? He warns us not to fear being bold or making a difference. Our Christianity is to enhance the purpose and quality of life for everyone. Our presence should be known, but not in an obnoxious way as being too salty or a light that is too blinding. Salt is the enhancer of food, not the food itself. Salt loses itself in the flavoring of the food. So too Christians are to lose themselves in the service of others. It is only when salt is applied to the food that it preserves the food or enhances its flavor. In Jesus’ day unsalted meat would spoil. It is only as we involve ourselves in society that we keep it from spoiling. Jesus also calls us to be the light of the world. We are to bring light into the darkness around us by our good works of charity and justice. We are, in the words of the Prophet Isaiah, to “Share your bread with the hungry, shelter the oppressed and the homeless; clothe the naked when you see them, and do not turn your back on your own. Then your light shall break forth…” When we serve others we can literally brighten up someone’s day and encounter the living God. Instead of worrying if the spotlight is shining on ourselves, it’s more valuable to be a blessing or answer to someone’s prayer. When we do such works, the world will certainly take note and we will be glorifying the Lord by our lives.

So wherever you go and whatever you do this week, remember to sprinkle your “salt” and shine your “light”! People will notice and see the difference you make in their lives, and hopefully be inspired to do the same. I’ve been blessed by many people who have “passed the salt”, and have shone their light to help put me back on the brighter path to God ‐ for you I am very grateful.

**2023 Mass Book**

The 2023 Mass Book is now available for parishioners requesting Mass intention for the year 2023. Mass requests can be made by contacting the parish office or by mail. Please include your name, address and phone number on your request so that we can contact you if any adjustments need to be made.

**Time for RCIA Invitations**

*Just a reminder that RCIA is intended for:*

• Unbaptized adults

•Adults who have been baptized into a non-Catholic denomination,

Adults who have been baptized but never received first Eucharist or Confirmation

For more information or to give a name, please contact the parish office at (216) 781-5530.

**Catholic Charities 2023 Annual Appeal**

The 2023 Catholic Charities Appeal will take place next weekend in our parish. Please refer to the insert in this week’s bulletin, which includes our parish’s goal and an overview of the importance of Catholic Charities in our communities. This year’s appeal theme is “A time to heal. A time to help.”

As in the past, an in-pew commitment process will take place next weekend, February 18th and 19th. All who have not received the mailing from Bishop Malesic, or have not had a chance to respond to it, will be asked to consider making a pledge to support Catholic Charities. For more information, please visit CatholicCommunity.org/2023Appeal.

**On the Lighter Side**

Suddenly the husband appears behind the wife's back and says: "Careful, CAREFUL, put more fat in the pan! You're frying too many at a time. TOO MANY! Flip them! FLIP THEM! Come on! Put more fat in there. Oh dear lord. How are you gonna make space for the fat now, look, they're sticking to the pan! Careful! Careful now! You never listen to me when I cook! NEVER! Flip them over already. HURRY! ARE YOU CRAZY? Take it easy! EASY! Nooo, don't forget the salt. Put salt on them, SALT!" The wife stares at her husband: "What's wrong with you? You think I can't fry a few eggs?" The husband answers calmly: "I just wanted to show you what it feels like when I'm driving."☺

We live stream the Saturday 4:15 PM Mass, the 11 AM Mass on Sunday, and the weekday Rosary on the parish website, Facebook Page, and YouTube Channel. A live audio feed will be available for the Saturday 4:15 PM Mass the 11 AM Sunday Mass, and the praying of the Rosary. To access the audio feed, please call (216) 270-6331prior to mass and enter code 2020 when prompted

**St. Agatha of Sicily**

 Feast Day: February 5th

During the first three centuries of the Church, Rome persecuted Christians. Roman emperors sent out letters and told Roman governors to force Christians to deny their God.

The governors then arrested known Christians. But many refused to give up their belief in the God who had raised Jesus to new life. So Rome put these faithful Christians to death. The Church honors them as martyrs—people who lived and died for what they believed.

Agatha was one of these martyrs. We know only a little about this saint. One thing we do know is that she was born in Sicily in the third century. As a teenager, she decided to remain a virgin. But an important man named Quintianus wanted to marry her.

At that time—251 AD—Emperor Decius was persecuting Christians. So when Agatha said no to marriage, Quintianus reported to officials that she was a Christian. But Agatha refused to deny God’s love. So Quintianus, who was the governor of her district in Rome, sent her to a house where men tried to do evil things to Agatha. But her goodness won them over. Then Roman soldiers tortured and, finally, killed her (likely between 251-253 AD). As she died, Agatha is said to have praised God for his faithfulness to her. She asked God to welcome her into his kingdom.

Soon legends grew about Agatha. Agatha became a hero to Christians who faced persecution and death. Her example inspired their own faithfulness.

In some parts of Italy, St. Agatha’s intercession is invoked against volcanic eruptions, fire, and lightning. In recent years she has been petitioned in prayers for people suffering from breast cancer.

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| ***February 4th and 5th*** |
|  | ***Saturday******4:15 PM*** | ***Sunday******8:30 AM*** | ***Sunday******11 AM*** |
| **Priest****Deacon** | Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ Deacon Chris DePenti (H) | Fr. Bill O’Donnell, C.PP.SDeacon Chris DePenti (H) | Fr. Bill O’Donnell, C.PP.SDeacon Chris DePenti (H)  |
| **Lectors** | Steve Slywczuk | Ed Zubek | Jeannie RawlingsJohn Kowalchik |
| **Extraordinary Ministers of the Blessed Sacrament** | Helen BencicDave Dylyn | Joe LewandowskiRobin McMarlin | Tom CaltonMolly Cassidy |
| ***February 11th and 12th***  |
|  | ***Saturday******4:15 PM*** | ***Sunday******8:30 AM*** | ***Sunday******11 AM*** |
| **Priest****Deacon** | Fr. Bill O’Donnell, C.PP.S (H) Deacon Chris DePenti (H) | Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ (H) | Fr. Joe McNulty (H)Deacon Chris DePenti (H)  |
| **Lectors** | Migdalia Santiago-White | Matthew Cook | Colleen CassidyDan Lotz |
| **Extraordinary Ministers of the Blessed Sacrament** | Theresa OrtizHelen Bencic | Maria RiveraLeo SmithEddie Reyes | Bob CassidyDawn Dingledein |

**This Week’s Events of the Parish**

Monday: Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)

 PSR: 5:30 PM (School Building)

 Rosary: 6 PM (Church)

 AA Meeting: 7:30 PM (Mylott Hall)

Tuesday: AA Meeting: 9:30 AM (Walsh Hall)

 Buckeye Deaf Seniors: 10 AM (Deaf Center)

 Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)

 Rosary: 6 PM (Church)

 AA Meeting: 7:30 PM (Mylott Hall)

Wednesday: LINKS: 3 PM (Walsh Hall)

 Signing Choir Practice: 6:30 PM (Walsh)

 Signing Hands: 6:30 PM (Deaf Center)

 Community Cupboard: 5 PM-7PM

 Community Closet: 5 PM-7 PM

 Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)

 Rosary: 6 PM (Church)

 AA Meeting: 6 PM (Mylott Hall)

Thursday: St. Augustine Seniors: 12 Noon (Walsh)

 Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)

 Rosary: 6 PM (Church)

 Music with Beamer: 6 PM (Walsh)

 Boy Scouts: 6:30 PM (Second Floor)

 AA Meeting: 7 PM (Mylott Hall)

Friday: LINKS: 3 PM (Walsh)

 Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)

 AA Meeting: 7:30 PM (Mylott Hall)

Saturday: Ultreya: 10 AM (Walsh)

 Community Cupboard: 11 AM – 2 PM

 Community Closet: 11 AM – 2 PM

 Mass: 4:15PM (Church)

Sunday: Mass: 8:30 AM (Church)

 Mass: 11 AM (Church)