



St. Augustine Church

16777 St. Augustine Church Road
Reed, Kentucky 42451

4th Sunday of Lent: March 6, 2016

Welcome to St. Augustine!!!

Parish Website: www.staugustinereed.org



We want to welcome our visitors and new parishioners! Please introduce yourself to Fr. Jegin. If you have not registered, we ask that you fill out a form from the back of church and mail or place it in the collection basket.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Pastor: Fr. Jegin Puthenpurackal
Cell Phone: (270) 929-2294
Email: jputhenpurackal@stpeterandstaugustine.com

Website Admin: Kristin Miller
Parish Council Pres: Jerry Ralph
Finance Comm. Chair: Rob Mitchell
Parish Hall Rental: Rosemary Murphy
Bookkeeper: Rosemary Murphy
Email Address: rmurphee@hotmail.com

Please send your bulletin announcements to Stacy Cain by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday.
scain42966@att.net

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 3/6 8:00 a.m. Peggy Payne
Sunday 3/13 8:00 a.m. Peggy Payne

Ministries for 3/13

Servers: John & Henry Boeglin
Lectors: Kristin Miller
Eucharistic Min: Dee Anna Booker, Anna Dee DeMar
Gifts: Debbie Merimee Family
Ushers: Dee Anna Booker, Ben Blair

Church Cleaner:

Anna Dee DeMar 2/28 – 3/12

Please Keep in Your Prayers:

Father Jegin Paula Mayfield
Donnie Brown Bucky Lacer

WEEKLY BUDGET: \$1,221.15

Regular Collection: \$1,068.00
Maintenance \$20.00
Catholic Relief Services \$10.00
Easter Flowers \$10.00
Infirm Priests \$125.00
Good Friday \$10.00
Easter Sunday Coll \$10.00

BIRTHDAY'S FOR THIS WEEK:

Herman Miller 3/6
Jeff Raley 3/7
Zach Barnard 3/8
Mike Jackson 3/11
Michaela Boeglin 3/12
Jimmy Davis 3/12

ANNIVERSARIES FOR THIS WEEK:

Announcements

The Ministry List for March is posted in the Sacristy. Please be sure to check the Holy Week appointments. **If you are unable to serve on your appointed day, please contact Stanette @ (270) 929-8345.** It is very important that these positions are filled for the services remembering the Passion of Christ and His Resurrection.

Thank you for the consolation that you gave us at the service for our son, Timothy Chaney, and for your continuing prayers. All was greatly appreciated, Dave and Juanita Chaney

Registration Information: YOUTH 2000 will be held March 11-13, registration will be limited to the first 900 applications and money received this year due to the event being held at **The Owensboro Convention Center**. Youth must register through a Parish, School or Other Group. For more information contact Melinda Prunty 270-683-1545.

Fast & Abstinence Rules: In the United States, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has declared that "the age of fasting is from the completion of the eighteenth year to the beginning of the sixtieth." The USCCB also allows the substitution of some other form of penance for abstinence on all of the Fridays of the year, except for those Fridays in Lent. Rules for fasting and abstinence in the United States are:

- Every person 14 years of age or older must abstain from meat (and items made with meat) on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays in Lent.
- Every person between the age of 18 and 60 must fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
- Every person 14 years of age or older must abstain from meat (and items made with meat) on all other Fridays of the year, unless he or she substitutes some other form of penance for abstinence.

Year of Divine Mercy: Pope Francis announced a Year of Divine Mercy on December 8, 2015 through November 20, 2016. The Door of Mercy was opened at St. Stephen's Cathedral and will remain open until November 13, 2016. All are invited and encouraged to make a pilgrimage during the Jubilee Year.

Project UK T-shirt Quilt for St. Augustine Reverse Raffle dinner. Need UK t-shirts for this project so if you would like to donate a UK t-shirt for this project, please place it in the back per of the church by the organ. **(As of right now we only have 5 t-shirts – this is not enough to make a quilt)**

Church Cleaners: Cleaning the Church is an act of your love and gratitude to God for our Church. If for some reason you are unable to clean when it is your turn, please contact **Herschel Smith (270) 302-0601** and for a fee of \$30.00 he will clean for your two weeks. If you are physically unable to clean, please contact Herschel so other arrangements can be made.

Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

Jesus says, *“Do not think that I came to abolish the law and the prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill”*. Yes, Jesus fulfilled everything through His Love. Yes, Jesus is always blamed for His love. Today, scribes and Pharisees say, *“This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”*

As Christians, we know that there is a great difference in the image of God pictured in the Old Testament and in the New Testament. The Old Testament God is a judging and punishing God. People approached God with lots of fear and had to offer sacrifices prescribed by the laws for the expiation of their sins, otherwise, they could expect many unfortunate things in their lives. Yes, the Old Testament God was a law oriented God, but with the birth of Jesus, we have a New Testament God, who is so kind and merciful, who searches for the lost one. Thus Luke 19:10 says *“for the son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”* Yes, in the New Testament, we have a love oriented God.

On this 4th Sunday of Lent, we have the parable of the prodigal son for our spiritual reflection. By presenting this beautiful story of two sons and their loving father, the church invites us to reflect about our own Christian life in this world. There is no doubt that every one of us is wearing the mask of these three characters in the parable on different occasions. Yes, every one of us has the right to choose the suitable character, but as a true Christian, one should choose the character of the loving father. Only then can he or she be called as Christian.

If we seriously examine, there is no doubt that the role of the loving father is very challenging in this world, but still we should say there are some who have taken up that challenge and because of their merit we still find goodness in this darkened world. If we seriously examine, there is no doubt that most of us are content with the role of both sons in the parable. In the case of the oldest son, he is standing along with the Scribes and Pharisees of the Old Testament. He thinks that following commandments is the greatest virtue, and so he obeyed his father, but not as a son, but like a slave. Though he was at home, he never became a true son and brother, but he always lived like a slave and because of that he reacts differently to his brother's return.

In the case of the prodigal son, he exploits the love of his Father due to his selfishness, loses all the blessings he received and messes up his entire life because of his irresponsible character. The same way every one of us has received numerous blessings and gifts in our lives from the Lord, but how did we make use of those blessings in our lives? Do we really use those gifts and blessings according to the desire of God? If not, it is not too late. We too have a chance to return to the Lord and seek His mercy by saying *“Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you”*. Yes, we don't see any words of forgiveness from the father, but his actions spoke loudly and clearly - beautiful robe, beautiful ring, sandals and the great meal. The same way God is waiting for each one of us. Thus this beautiful passage gives us the beautiful message that though we have sinned and gone far away from home, He is still hopeful of your return. Yes, God has not lost His hope in you. Have you lost your hope in Him? So don't be late, get back to your home! **God Bless.**

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**Sacrament of Baptism:** The Sacrament of Baptism for infants is administered upon request. Parents and Godparents must attend an evening class on Baptism in the Catholic Church. Please contact the pastor and set up an appointment for this class at least a month in advance. At least one parent must be a practicing Catholic for their child to be baptized in the Catholic Church. Godparents must be at least 16 years of age and at least one must be a practicing Catholic.

**Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick:** The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is celebrated upon request, and at least four times a year at all the weekend Masses. Please notify the pastor or call the parish office if you know of anyone who might need this sacrament, but may not be able to notify the pastor personally. Please inform the pastor if you or any one in your family is in the hospital. If you notify us before surgery, we can celebrate this sacrament before you are admitted to the hospital. If your doctor is willing, we can also have a blessing for him/her at the time of your anointing.

**Sacraments to the Home Bound:** Please inform the pastor if you know of anyone who is homebound so that we can insure that they are afforded ample opportunities to receive the Sacraments. We would rather be notified by several people than to not be notified at all, so please don't presume that someone else has already notified us.

**Sacrament of Marriage:** A couple wishing to marry must contact the priest at least six months prior to the desired wedding date. According to the guidelines of our diocese, you should not make absolute plans for a specific wedding date until after meeting with the priest. The couple will be required to attend a marriage preparation course which will include at least one formal program such as an Engaged Encounter Weekend or the Sponsor Couple Program.

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