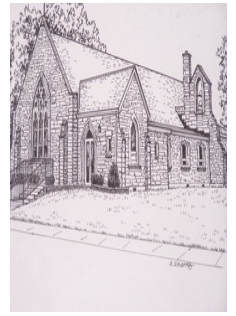




# St. Augustine Church

16777 St. Augustine Church Road  
Reed, Kentucky 42451



## The Baptism of the Lord: January 12, 2014

### Welcome to St. Augustine!!!

Parish Website: [www.staugustinereed.org](http://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 baskets.

#### CONTACT INFORMATION:

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

Website Administrator: Kristin Miller

Parish Council President: Robert E. Mitchell

Finance Committee Chair: Martha Miller

Parish Hall Rental: Rosemary Murphy  
Bookkeeper: Rosemary Murphy  
Email address: [rmurphee@hotmail.com](mailto:rmurphee@hotmail.com)

Please send your bulletin announcements to Stacy Cain by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday if possible. [scain42966@att.net](mailto:scain42966@att.net)

#### Weekly Schedule - 1/11 - 1/19

|           |      |         |                           |
|-----------|------|---------|---------------------------|
| Saturday  | 1/11 | Mass    | 4:00 p.m. Stanford Embrey |
| Sunday    | 1/12 | Mass    | 8:00 a.m. Rita Schwartz   |
| Monday    | 1/13 | No Mass |                           |
| Tuesday   | 1/14 | No Mass |                           |
| Wednesday | 1/15 | No Mass |                           |
| Thursday  | 1/16 | No Mass |                           |
| Friday    | 1/17 | No Mass |                           |
| Saturday  | 1/18 | Mass    | 4:00 p.m. Leo Murphy      |
| Sunday    | 1/19 | Mass    | 8:00 a.m. Stanford Embrey |

#### Ministries for 1/18 and 1/19

|                        |           |                                  |
|------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|
| <u>Servers:</u>        | 4:00 p.m. | Olivia Miller                    |
|                        | 8:00 a.m. | Ellie & Sam Mitchell             |
| <u>Lectors:</u>        | 4:00 p.m. | Kristin Miller                   |
|                        | 8:00 a.m. | Barbara Smith                    |
| Eucharistic Ministers: | 4:00 p.m. | Dee Anna Booker, Connie Williams |
|                        | 8:00 a.m. | Rob & April Mitchell             |
| Gifts:                 | 4:00 p.m. | Connie Williams Family           |
|                        | 8:00 a.m. | Andrew Boeglin Family            |
| <u>Ushers:</u>         | 4:00 p.m. | Volunteers                       |
|                        | 8:00 a.m. | Larry & Joseph Schwartz          |

Church cleaner Lois Payne 1/5 - 1/18

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Sunday, January 12, 2014,**  
Potluck Breakfast after 8:00 a.m. and then take down Christmas Decorations.

**Thursday, January 16, 2014,**  
5:30 Finance Committee Meeting  
6:30 Parish Council Meeting

#### **Happy Birthday:**

Olivia Miller 1/12

#### **Happy Anniversary:**

Ralph Jr & Amy Mitchell 1/15 15 years

#### **Please continue to pray for the following:**

Fr. Jegin  
Mary Angela Mitchell  
Paula Mayfield  
Sue Wolfe  
Debbie Ralph  
Jimmy Davis  
Joe Bill Merimee

Weekly Budget: \$2,023.00  
Actual Collection: \$1,085.00

Dear Friends in Jesus in Christ,

Last weekend, we celebrated the Epiphany/Manifestation of our Lord where we encountered three wise men from the East going out to meet Jesus in Bethlehem. Today, we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, and we see Jesus is going out to receive baptism from St. John the Baptist and is ready to begin His public ministry.

As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, many may ask why Jesus received Baptism? Jesus received Baptism because our faith teaches that through Baptism our original sins are washed away and we begin a new journey in Christ. But what about Jesus Christ, He did not have any original sins, because He Himself is God? St. Paul's letter to the Philippians 2: 6-7 would give a good answer to our question. We read, "Though He was in the form of God, He did not deem equality with God something to be grasped at. Rather, He emptied Himself and took the form of a slave, being born in the likeness of men." So by accepting baptism from St. John the Baptist, Jesus wanted to identify Himself with the least among us. This attitude of Jesus was the greatest success of His ministry, and it is a good message for all of us for all time. By this, we are invited to identify ourselves with the least in our community and society whenever we take any decision and do any action. But, is that happening in our lives? I am sure most of the time, we have the tendency to identify ourselves with the highest in the community and society, and we tend to raise our children the same way. As a consequence, we will never be able to lead a satisfied and peaceful life. So the first quality each baptized person should have is to be humble.

Secondly, as we are reflecting on the Baptism of the Lord, we find three major things are happening at that moment. Firstly, the heaven is opened; secondly, we have the descending of the Holy Spirit; and thirdly, we have the beautiful voice from heaven saying "This is my beloved son, with whom I am well pleased". Dear friends, at the time of every Baptism, these three things are happening. Yes, through Baptism, Heaven gets opened for the candidate, and they officially become a member of the Kingdom of God. It is the same we are reminded of at the time of death that "Our citizenship is in heaven.....". Now, are we sincere to the status that God has given to us freely? Gospel of Mathew 18:3, Jesus says, "I assure you, unless You change and become like little children, you will not enter the Kingdom of God." So the second quality one should have is to be Humble like little children.

At the time of Baptism, the second thing happening is the descending of the Holy Spirit. Only those who are humble can receive the spirit of the Lord and discern and do the will of God accordingly. That is why in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of God." Every one of us are given this beautiful chance, but the question is how many of us discern and make an effort to live accordingly? In the Gospel of Mathew 7:21, Jesus says "None of those who cry out 'Lord, Lord', will enter the kingdom of God but only the one who does the will of my Father in Heaven." So the third quality one should have to receive the Holy Spirit is to be Humble.

The last event we witness at the time of Baptism is the beautiful voice from Heaven, "You are my Beloved..." Yes, love should be the trade mark of Christian life, and it is love that gives meaning and purpose to human life. So through Baptism, God assures us of His true love for all of us, but do we assure our true love to Him always? Today every sin and every problem in the world is caused by corrupted love. So if you dream for a peaceful world and peaceful life, be a lover of God because it was only His love that saved us and will save us. Only a humble person can treat us with sincere love and that is Jesus Christ. Through the prophet Isaiah 43:1, God says "...Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name: you are mine."

Yes, we are called chosen and redeemed by Jesus through Baptism by Jesus' passion, death and resurrection, and we are His. Yes, we need to upgrade our life in Jesus Christ and should always believe that I am for Jesus and pledge our complete alliance to God more than anything else in this world. Jesus says to us through this celebration, "Learn from me, for I am meek and humble in heart" (Mt. 11:29). For every Baptism calls for the quality of humility and let us ask for that beautiful grace in our lives. God Bless you.

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|---|---|---|

**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.

**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.