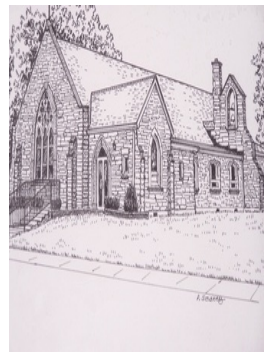




St. Augustine Church

16777 St. Augustine Church Road
Reed, Kentucky 42451



Third Sunday of Advent: December 15, 2013

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 baskets.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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

Website Administrator: Kristin Miller

Parish Council President: Robert E. Mitchell

Finance Committee Chair: Martha Miller

Parish Hall Rental: Robert E. Mitchell
Bookkeeper: Robert E. Mitchell
Email address:

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

Weekly Schedule - 12/14 - 12/22

Saturday	12/14	Mass	4:00 p.m. Richard Dunbar Family
Sunday	12/15	Mass	8:00 a.m. James L. Howard
Monday	12/16	No Mass	
Tuesday	12/17	No Mass	
Wednesday	12/18	No Mass	
Thursday	12/19	No Mass	
Friday	12/20	No Mass	
Saturday	12/21	Mass	4:00 p.m. Joseph L. Schwartz
Sunday	12/22	Mass	8:00 a.m. Connie Mills

Ministries for 12/21 and 12/22

<u>Servers:</u>	4:00 p.m.	Olivia Miller
	8:00 a.m.	Sam Mitchell, Gabe McFarland
<u>Lectors:</u>	4:00 p.m.	Tracy Miller
	8:00 a.m.	Michaela Boeglin
Eucharistic Ministers:	4:00 p.m.	Phyllis Schrecker, Larry Schwartz
	8:00 a.m.	Sonny & Linda Evans
Gifts:	4:00 p.m.	Michael Jackson Family
	8:00 a.m.	Thomas McFarland Family
<u>Ushers:</u>	4:00 p.m.	Volunteers
	8:00 a.m.	Sonny & Linda Evans
Church cleaner		Hershel Smith 12/7 - 12/21

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Choir practice for Christmas on Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome to join.

Please bring in non-perishable items for the Christmas baskets.

If you know someone in need of a food basket for Christmas, please contact Dee Anna Booker or Linda Evans.

Sunday, December 22, 2013, we will decorate the church for Christmas after the 8:00 a.m. Mass. Bring a potluck breakfast dish to share before decorating.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thursday, December 19, 2013,
6:30 p.m. St. Augustine Penance Service

Tuesday, December 24, 2013,
Christmas Eve Mass at 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 25, 2013,
Christmas Day Mass at 8:00 a.m.

Tuesday, December 31, 2013,
Solemnity of the Mary, Holy Mother of God Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m.

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

Monday, January 16, 2014,
5:30 Finance Committee Meeting

Happy Birthday:

Happy Anniversary:

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: \$1,390.00

“Are you the one who is to come, or do we look for another?”
Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

All three readings of today talk about the coming of the Messiah. The prophet Isaiah announces that He will come; the evangelist Matthew tells us He has come and the apostle James tells us that He will come again.

As you live as a Christian, trying to make the life of Jesus a reality in your own life, many are going to observe you. In key moments, some people are going to be looking at you for help; maybe you'll be their salvation, their way out. Directly or indirectly, they might ask you: Are you the one who can help me... Who can bring me salvation in this mess... or do I look for another?

You are a Christian. You openly and publicly bear the name of Christ... and you do it for all to see. You identify yourself as a Catholic. You attend Mass... receive the Sacraments. As a result people are going to look at you... to examine your actions. They will ask you questions about why you are a Catholic. As we heard John the Baptist declare in last Sunday's Gospel, he only baptized with water, but the One who is to come would baptize in the fire of the Holy Spirit.

Having been marked with the signs of Baptism and Confirmation and having been joined into Christ's Mystical Body in Holy Communion, the Church now sends you into the world around us. With Jesus, you are one who is sent. The word "Mass" is derived from "missa", which means mission or being sent. You come to Mass to receive in order to be sent, in order to share what you have received. So as a Baptized and Confirmed Catholic, as a representative of Christ, openly living the Christian life, you will encounter people who will be looking at you and your life and asking: "Are you the one who is to come, or do we look for another?"

John the Baptist sends the same question to Jesus, "Are you the one who is to come or do we look for another?" because John wasn't sure the new prophet who arrived is real one or not. Well, Jesus sent a reply back to John via John's own messengers: "Tell him, what you see and hear: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. Blessed is the one who takes no offense at me".

Today as we listen to Jesus through this Gospel, each one of us here should be able to give the answer that Jesus gave. People that know us should be able to see, to have a vision and see what the meaning and purpose of human life is all about. They should dream the dreams that we dream. There is light in our lives, a light that shines in the darkness, a light that points to hope, the hope of eventual victory... the hope of the triumph of good over evil... the hope of peace... a light that reveals the presence of salvation in our lives. The blind, the spiritually blind, in other words, ought to be able to see God's presence in humanity because of us.

Then there are the crippled. Others can see in us, or ought to see, a person who is actively doing something for the downtrodden in our world. The lepers, all around us, there are people whose skin crawl with self-hatred. They are those who have been neglected by others. They are the lonely, the socially underdeveloped. Do we regard them as lepers and refuse to even get near them or even breathe the air that they breathe? "Are you the one who is to come or do we look for another?" And there are the deaf... those who can't communicate... those who listen but do not hear. There are those who don't understand Christianity... or Jesus... who have never really heard about Jesus Christ... who haven't studied His personality... His character... and who would like to. Can you and I be answers to their prayers? Can we reveal Jesus to them by who we are and what we do?

Finally, we are sent to raise the dead back to life again. I suppose for us it means going to those in our lives who are exhausted, worn out, dead tired, and giving them the energy of our love... giving them the power of our love, our enthusiasm. It means spending a lot of time and energy on them... our own time and lots of our precious energy... helping them to break out of their shell and bring them back into life again. It means giving them hope... something to live for... a life full of beauty, wonder, goodness, and all of those things that make life really worth living. It means giving good news to those who are near death.

So, Christians, as Christmas comes to you once again – Happy are those who are not disappointed in you. You are the one sent by God into their lives so that they need not look for another!

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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.