



St. Augustine Church

16777 St. Augustine Church Road, Reed, Kentucky 42451



Third Sunday of Advent: December 16, 2012

Welcome to St. Augustine!!!

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

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Parish Website: www.staugustinereed.org
 Pastor: Fr. Jegin Puthenpurackal ----- Cell Phone (270) 929-2294
 Pastor email: jputhenpurackal@stpeterandstaugustine.com
 Website Administrator: Kristin Miller
 Parish Council President: Larry Schwartz
 Finance Committee Chair: Martha Miller
 Parish Hall Rental: Tracy Miller
 Bookkeeper: Tracy Miller - usmiller@bellsouth.net
 Bulletin Announcements: Stacy Cain - scain42966@att.net

Please send your bulletin announcements to Stacy Cain as early in the week as possible.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sat/Sun, December 15/16 Flower Collection
 Sunday, December 23 Potluck breakfast after 8:00 a.m. Mass & then decorate church
 Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve Mass at 8:00 p.m.
 Tuesday, December 25 Christmas Day Mass at 8:00 a.m.
 Saturday, December 29 Holy Family Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m.
 Sunday, December 30 Holy Family Mass at 8:00 a.m.
 Monday, December 31 Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE - December 16 - December 23

Sunday,	12/16	Mass	8:00 a.m.	Fitzie Fulkerson
			6:00 p.m.	RCIA Classes
Monday,	12/17	No Mass		
Tuesday,	12/18	No Mass		
Wednesday,	12/19	No Mass		
Thursday,	12/20	No Mass		
Friday,	12/21	No Mass		
Saturday,	12/22	Mass	5:30 p.m.	Raymond Fulkerson Sr.
Sunday,	12/23	Mass	8:00 a.m.	Dr. David Medley

Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

Greetings of love and prayerful wishes to you from Fr. Jegin Puthenpurackal. Hope and pray that these few lines of mine will find you in the best health of mind and body. I hope all of you are seriously preparing to receive Jesus into your heart. Yes, we are traveling to Bethlehem along with Mary & Joseph, and our journey to Bethlehem has brought us to the Third Sunday of Advent. This week invites us to bear fruit according to the repentance of our heart.

Dear Friends, Today's gospel is the continuation of last week's gospel. In the last week, we reflected about St. John the Baptist's mission preaching in that he came to prepare the way for the Lord. In today's gospel, we see his preaching ministry is bearing fruit in the lives of the people. There is a Chinese saying that goes like this: *"If you give a man a fish, he will eat once, if you teach a man to fish, he will eat for the rest of his life. If you are thinking a year ahead, sow seed. If you are thinking ten years ahead plant a tree. If you are thinking one hundred years ahead educate the people. By sowing a seed, you will harvest once. By planting a tree, you will harvest tenfold. By educating the people, you will harvest one hundred fold"*. (**Kuantzu**). Dear friends, to make this happen, it takes time to bear fruit, but be sure the very moment you receive the word of God, you will see the fruit of it and that is what we see in today's gospel. Receiving the word of God through St. John the Baptist, people are already lined up for baptism of Repentance. They are asking what should we do? John answers with, *"whoever has two cloaks should share one with the one who has none, whoever has food should do like wise. To tax collectors he tells stop collecting what is more than prescribed and to Soldiers he said do not accuse and persecute people and be satisfied with your wage"*. Dear friends this is the secret of a happy and satisfied life in Jesus.

In our day-to-day life, we encounter many situations and are called upon to open our eyes and respond to these situations. However, sometimes we are not able to find a solution to certain problems, and we ask ourselves, "What should we do?". The solution to all our problems are clearly mentioned in today's gospel, and that is what John is asking people to do - **Live a Life of Sharing and Justice**. Today, the whole world is in need of sincere equal sharing and justice, and that should begin from oneself. Once we begin to do that, be sure we will experience the Kingdom of God here on earth, but that is not happening through our lives and that is why to establish this peace and justice Jesus is coming for the second time. Yes, we need a total change of heart and attitude to receive Jesus.

Another important message St. John the Baptist teaches us is about tithes. Very often we keep Old Testament close to our heart and believe that we owe only 10 % of our income to the Church. St. John the Baptist corrected this idea and gave us the corrected note that it is not 10%, but it is 50%. That is why he says to the people, *"If you have two cloaks give one to the one who does not have, as also with food"*. This is the same message the story of Zacchaeus teaches us, when he experiences Jesus in his life. He says *"I give half my belongings to the poor and if I have defrauded anyone in the least, I pay him back four fold"*. My dear friends, we are the members of the New Testament. We are called the new Israel, so we need to change our life from Old Testament to New Testament and begin a new life in Jesus by accepting and living the preaching of St. John the Baptist.

May the Eucharistic Lord inspire each one of us with a repented heart to share and do justice to the other and to the world at large. Thus may the Good Lord fill our hearts with hope and joy to receive Jesus in our lives. **Amen**.

Weekly budget: \$2,219.00

Actual Collection:

\$5,571.00

Please continue to pray for the following:

Stan Embrey, Fr. Jegin, Dr. David Medley, Leo Murphy, Boonie Ralph and Sherry Schwartz.

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.

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.

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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