

St. Augustine R. C. Parish

Third Sunday of Easter – April 26, 2020

“Creating A Community Of Involvement And Evangelization”

Served by the Augustinian Friars since 1796



National Shrine of
Santo Niño de Cebú

St. Augustine parish is an open, diverse, and active Roman Catholic community rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and founded in the Augustinian Tradition. We invite all to participate in our worship, service to others, and our faith development. These endeavors allow us to grow in the knowledge of God present in ourselves and each other. Our community joyfully welcomes all who are searching for a spiritual center to call home.

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Philadelphia, PA 19106
(GPS Address: 250 N. 4th Street)
Phone: 215-627-1838 FAX: 215-627-3911



Website: www.st-augustinechurch.com

Office Hours:

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Monday to Friday



Mass Schedule:

Monday - Friday: 12:05 PM
(10:00 AM on Legal Holidays)
Saturday Vigil: 5:15 PM
Sunday: 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 7:00 PM

Parish Staff:

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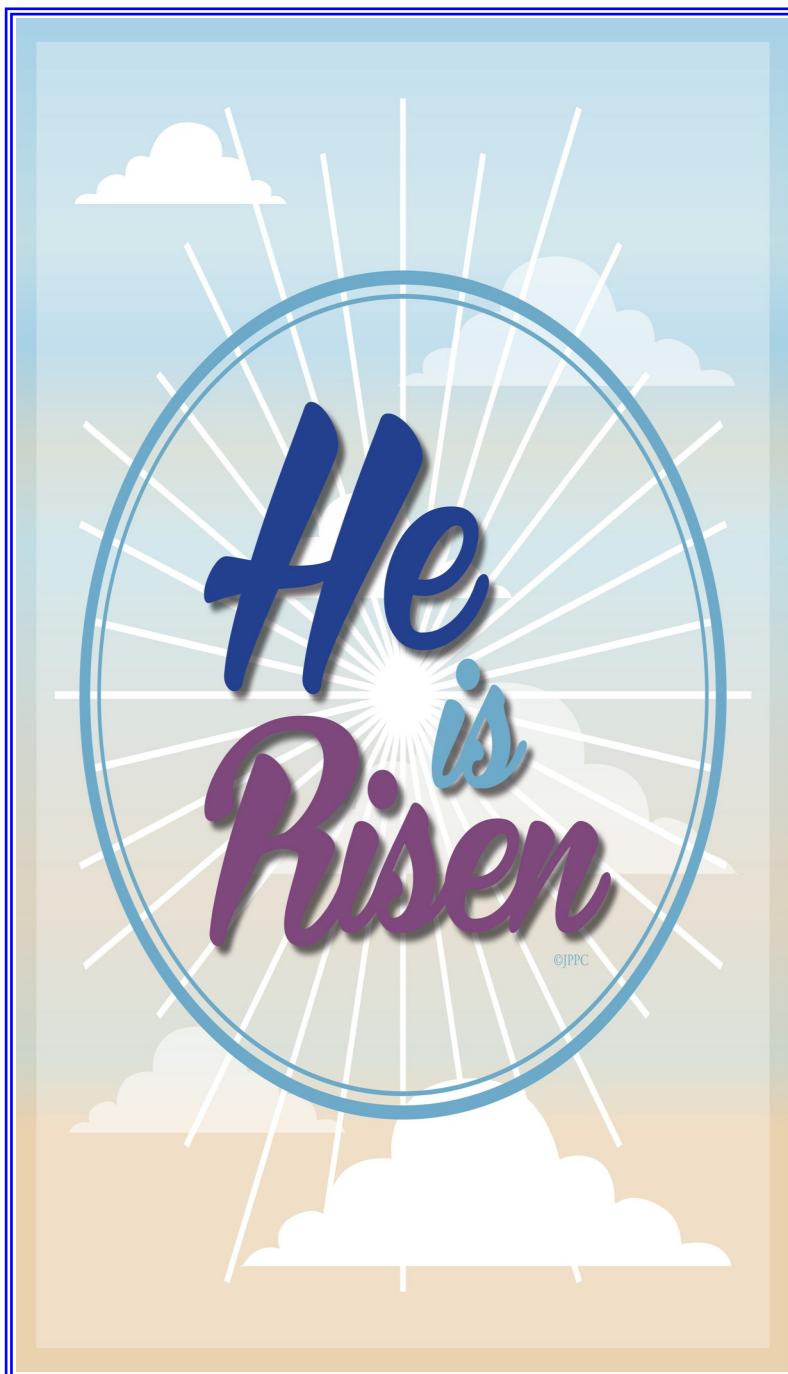
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In Residence:

Rev. Paul Morrissey, O.S.A., Prison Chaplain
Rev. James Keating, O.S.A.
Rev. James Paradis, O.S.A., Prior

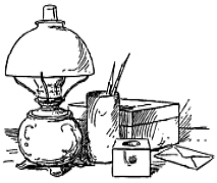




**Join us on Sundays at 11:00 AM starting on
April 26th when we LiveStream Mass from
Saint Augustine Church with the Friars.**

USE THE LINK BELOW TO TAKE YOU TO MASS....
<https://www.facebook.com/St.AugustineChurchPhiladelphia>

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A word from Fr. Bill.....

In the First Reading this weekend, St. Luke (author of the Acts of the Apostles which gives an account of the earliest Christian community) tells us that St. Peter “raised his voice” and told the Jewish community some powerful things. He was not afraid to tell them about Jesus’ life and what Jesus said and did. He spoke with confidence that Jesus wasn’t just a “nice guy” who said and did nice things, but that he was directly sent by God to communicate God’s plan. He talks with great conviction that Jesus was dead but came back to life so that all of us could live forever. He tells them very definitively about the Holy Spirit. I wonder if the crowd thought Peter was “high on something?”

In the Second Reading, we hear from St. Peter himself telling those to whom he is writing to conduct themselves with reverence on their journey of life because they (we) were ransomed not by anything perishable but by the precious blood of Jesus.

This is the same St. Peter who publicly denied that he was a friend or an associate or a disciple of Jesus. This is the same St. Peter who Jesus called Satan; “Get behind me Satan!” This is the same St. Peter who refused to allow Jesus to wash his feet. It is the same St. Peter who fell asleep while Jesus was in agony in the Garden and the same St. Peter who couldn’t stay with Jesus on his death bed.

What happened in between Peter’s weaknesses and his “raising his voice” and strongly, very convincingly, fearlessly, and without hesitation giving public witness to Jesus being the Messiah?

What happened between those times was that Peter experienced the Risen Jesus? This did not make his life easy. He was imprisoned for proclaiming his strong convictions. He was crucified upside down. He said he was not fit to die as Jesus did.

We all have our weaknesses. When it comes to our faith, we all have acted cowardly at times. But we all also can experience Jesus’ presence with us as Peter did. We can experience Jesus walking with us on our journey in times of dejection and disappointment, just as two of his disciples, Cleopas and an unnamed disciple, did on their way to Emmaus.

How can we experience the Risen Jesus? Taking advantage of the sacraments— “outward signs of Jesus’ presence with us;” praying with others — “where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am;” reading the scriptures— “this is the Word of the Lord;” reaching out to the hungry, the homeless, the imprisoned, the sick, etc. — “what you do to the least of my people you do to me.” When we do any of these things, we can say like Cleopas and his friend that, “our hearts were burning inside us.” Why? Jesus is present in the Eucharist, the Sacrament of Penance, a couple’s total commitment to each other, in prayer in the scriptures and in our good works.

If we use these resources, in spite of our weaknesses, we can live out our Baptism with conviction and fearlessly proclaim our faith as St. Peter did. When we were baptized our ears and mouths were touched as the prayer was said: “May you soon receive his word with your ears and profess the faith with your lips.”

Experiencing Jesus on our journey, may we not be shy to “raise our voices” and fearlessly proclaim our belief in who he is.



Have a great week!

Fr. Bill Waters, O.S.A.
Pastor

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#WHATSMYNAME
In Remembrance of Samantha Josephson

