

# St. Augustine R. C. Parish

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

### December 24, 2023

*"Creating A Community Of Involvement And Evangelization"*

**Served by the Augustinian Friars since 1796**

*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.*



National Shrine of  
Santo Niño de Cebú

243 North Lawrence Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106  
(GPS Address: 250 N. 4th Street)  
Phone: 215-627-1838 FAX: 215-627-3911  
Website: [www.st-augustinechurch.com](http://www.st-augustinechurch.com)



**Office Hours:**  
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday to Friday

**Mass Schedule:**  
Monday - Friday: 12:05 PM (LiveStreamed)  
(10:00 AM on Legal Holidays)  
  
Saturday Vigil — *Suspended Indefinitely*  
  
Sunday: 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 7:00 PM  
(All Masses are LiveStreamed)

#### **Parish Staff:**

Rev. William F. Waters, O.S.A.  
Pastor (Ext. 110)  
[pastorstaugustine@gmail.com](mailto:pastorstaugustine@gmail.com)

Jacob A. Marquart, III, O.F.S.  
Parish Services Director (Ext. 115)  
[staugustineparish09@gmail.com](mailto:staugustineparish09@gmail.com)

Jean Mangini  
Wedding Coordinator (Ext. 118)  
[staugweddings9@gmail.com](mailto:staugweddings9@gmail.com)

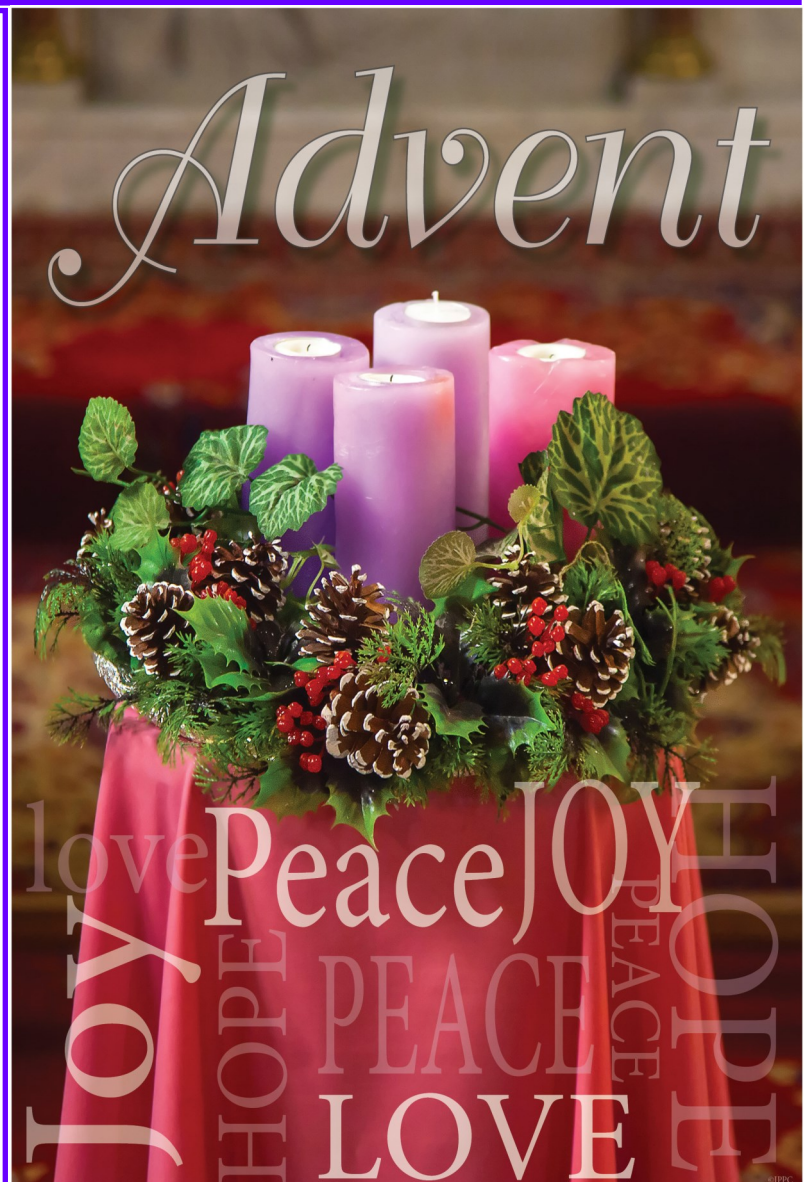
Kim Barroso  
Music Director  
[kim.barroso@gmail.com](mailto:kim.barroso@gmail.com)

Adam Klukiewski  
Maintenance Director (Ext. 111)  
[facilities243@gmail.com](mailto:facilities243@gmail.com)

Tim Babbage  
Accountant (Ext. 116)  
[timbabbage@hotmail.com](mailto:timbabbage@hotmail.com)

#### **In Residence:**

Rev. Paul Morrissey, O.S.A., [spirbealth@aol.com](mailto:spirbealth@aol.com)  
Rev. James Paradis, O.S.A., Prior  
Rev. Richard O'Leary, O.S.A.



Weekly Parish Rosary via Zoom—8:00 PM on Tuesday  
Meeting ID: 854-1235-0301 PW: 150408

Weekly Scripture Study via Zoom—7:00 PM on Thursday  
Meeting ID: 832-4986-0935 PW: 025786

**Did You Know?**

The birthplace of Jesus in, "Bethlehem," means "House of Bread." Many ancient commentators interpret this as prefiguring the Eucharist. Jesus came to earth in the "House of Bread," and comes to us in the form of Living Bread, every time we receive him under the forms of bread and wine in the Blessed Sacrament.



Many years ago a candy maker wanted to make a candy that would symbolize the true meaning of Christmas - Jesus.

The hard candy was shaped like a "J" to represent that Jesus is our rock of all ages. The candy was made of white to stand for the pureness of Jesus. The red represents the blood that Jesus shed to save us from our sins.

So the next time you see a candy cane take a minute to remember the real meaning of Christmas.....Jesus!



**Winter Sinulog  
Feast of Santo Niño**

**January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024  
11:00 AM Mass**

**All Are Welcome!**



**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**



Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ CLOSING at 1:00 PM

Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> — CLOSED

Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup> — CLOSED

Wednesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>

Re-Open at 9:15 AM to 5:00 PM



**Mass Intentions**

**Sunday, December 24, 2023**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

9:00 AM † Barbara Elefante  
11:00 AM Young & Ong Families

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

5:30 PM † Mildred Crossley  
8:30 PM Nadene Shearstone and  
Dottie Renk (Intention)

**Monday, December 25, 2023**

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

10:00 AM Ad Populum

**Tuesday, December 26, 2023**

12:05 PM † Jacob & Margaret Marquart

**Wednesday, December 27, 2023**

12:05 PM † Eleanor Leneghan Dempsey

**Thursday, December 28, 2023**

12:05 PM † Angel Yang

**Friday, December 29, 2023**

12:05 PM Young & Ong Families

**Saturday, December 30, 2023**

† = Deceased



**Capital Campaign News**

**Goal: \$750,000 (Phase 1) To date:**

Pledges: 227 Percentage: 117.3232%

Amount Pledged: \$879,923.68

Pledges Received: \$824,453.68

In-Kind Gifts Received: \$10,437.71

Campaign Total Rec'd: \$834,891.39

**Sacrificial Giving  
December 17, 2023**

Number of Envelopes Used: 26

Amount in Envelopes: \$2,390.00

Average \$/Envelope: \$91.92

Electronic Giving: 44

Amount Electronic: \$1,535.00

Average \$/Electronic: \$34.89

Loose Money: \$452.00

Total Collection: \$4,377.00

**Electronic Giving**

Just log on to our website,  
[www.st-augustinechurch.com](http://www.st-augustinechurch.com)  
and click on:

**"Sign Up For Electronic Giving"**



**Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Sunday, December 24, 2023**

**Monday, December 25, 2023  
MERRY CHRISTMAS !**

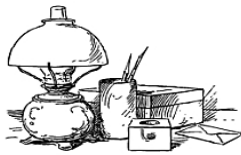
**Tuesday, December 26, 2023  
7:00 PM Sexaholics Anonymous (SA)**

**Wednesday, December 27, 2023**

**Thursday, December 28, 2023  
7:00 PM Parish Scripture Study—Zoom  
7:00 PM Sexaholics Anonymous (SA)**

**Friday, December 29, 2023**

**Saturday, December 30, 2023  
7:00 PM Narcotics Anonymous (NA)**



## *A word from Fr. Bill...*

Dear Parishioners:

Thank you for your prayers, thoughts, and best wishes. Everything is moving in the right direction. I am walking more on a walker, cane and endurance is better. There is definitely progress. I found out this past Wednesday that January 2nd is the anticipated date that I will leave Magee Rehab. Exactly what will happen from there needs to be discussed by various "interested" parties.

This Sunday is a mixed bag or one might say dual themes. Sunday morning, we will be celebrating the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Sunday afternoon, we will be celebrating Christmas Eve.

Be assured of my prayers that you all have a wonderful Christmas celebration.

May I suggest that as we give presents and receive presents, we consider that is all a reflection of God's incredible present to us, namely his Son, Jesus.

As we unwrap gifts, may we unwrap the gift of Jesus' total love for us, no matter how much we have strayed. May we unwrap the forgiveness of Jesus. May we unwrap the great gift of being able to share in Jesus' life now by participating in the Sacraments (Baptism, Confirmation, Penance, Eucharist, Marriage, etc.), by reading the Scriptures, and by participating in the faith community, etc. May we unwrap the great gift of sharing totally in Jesus' life in the world to come.

As we see the lights on the trees and elsewhere, may they be a reminder that Jesus became human with us to be our light and that we are to reflect that light to others on a regular basis.

May our Christmas dinner with family and friends remind us of our Eucharistic meal with our faith community.

Presents, wrappings, lights, and family meals are all essential elements of our celebration of Christmas. It is very easy to go thru the motions because that is what everyone is doing, especially at various parties.

May we not just go thru the motions of presents, wrapping, lights and meals. May we stay in touch with what those presents, wrappings, lights and meals truly reflect.

May the words of St. Augustine from Sermon 190 help us to keep the perspective of this wonderful celebration:

"He rest in a manger, but holds the world;  
He found no room in the inn, but makes his home in the hearts of those who believe.  
So that the weak could become strong, the Source of all Strength became weak."

Have a wonderful celebration of Jesus' birth.

Fr. Bill

*Merry  
Christmas*

*Maligayang Pasko !*





**GIVING  
HOPE  
TO ALL**  
*Catholic Charities Appeal*

-2023-

CATHOLICCHARITIESAPPEAL.ORG



*A blessed and peaceful Christmas to each one of you. We hope that your hearts are full, your needs are met, and your wants are few.*

As you celebrate with family and friends, we are compelled to remind you of the Holy Family that first Christmas in supplication for the many who mirror their plight right here in our community this Christmas:

- Juliana has chosen life for her unborn son, but she is scared and unsure of how to care for herself and a newborn.
- Greg doesn't want to become a statistic and needs to get help to break the cycles of addiction and homelessness.
- Dottie is a fiercely independent senior, but she no longer feels safe in her home. She feels overwhelmed trying to navigate elderly care services.
- Roger has been working three jobs to support his family of four, but inflation keeps making his pay seem smaller and smaller. He's beginning to worry about utilities and food.
- The Johnson Family needs to send their child to one of the three Schools of Special Education but tuition is just out of reach for their child.

These are real stories playing out right now across our community. **The Catholic Charities Appeal has funded the various programs and ministries that helped these individuals and families struggle to thrive. However, we are in real danger this year due to the increased need faced by so many. The need is great; we are asking the faithful to respond with equal greatness.**

Help us multiply the love and generosity so graciously gifted by God through His Son and allow us to continue doing His work among the most vulnerable in our community. To support the Catholic Charities Appeal please visit [catholiccharitiesappeal.org/donate](https://catholiccharitiesappeal.org/donate) or scan the QR code. Your gift matters.



*Scan here to donate*




YOU ARE INVITED TO


# YOUNG ADULT DISCUSSIONS



SAT, JAN 6TH 11-12:30	LOCATION: CARR HALL
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Come discuss with other young adults about all that God has in store for you in 2024



**MARK SQUILLA**

1ST DISTRICT COUNCILMEMBER  
MAJORITY WHIP

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\*Valid thru December 31, 2023. Valid on advance planning cemetery space purchases only in specific areas of the cemetery. See location manager for details. Monthly payment is subject to down payment, interest rate and term. Minimum of 5% down payment required. Cannot be combined with other offers. Excludes prior purchases. Vault and Opening and Closing required for Burial. Limit 10 cemetery spaces per family.

[PhiladelphiaCatholicCemeteries.com](http://PhiladelphiaCatholicCemeteries.com)



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