

# Saint Augustine Catholic Church

*Second Sunday of Advent*

December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011



## EXILE

Both Isaiah and Peter had the task of comforting and encouraging their communities during times of exile. The Israelites were in geographic exile from Israel; to them this was, in effect, the same as being in exile from their God. The early Christians, following the Resurrection, expected an immediate return of Christ in glory; they, too, felt in “exile” as the delay of the Second Coming grew longer and longer. All four of scripture’s authors today—Isaiah, the psalmist, Peter, and Mark—hasten to help us see things in God’s terms, not ours. They want us to know that we can never truly be exiled from God, or from God-among-us, since we know that when the faithful are gathered, Christ has come into their midst. Instead, we are encouraged today to do what we can from our end to shorten the time of our exile: to repent of our sins, to return our lives to the Lord, to live as people who seek the coming day of the Lord, when “kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss” (Psalm 85:10). © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

## Welcome To Saint Augustine’s



Our faith community is full of goodness, rich in spirituality and welcoming to all. Through our devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and our reliance upon the Holy Spirit, we live out our tradition of faith, hope and love as we continue to serve Him through His church. Please take the time to introduce yourself to Father John Jicha so he may personally welcome you to our parish.

## The Immaculate Conception

*A holy day of obligation*



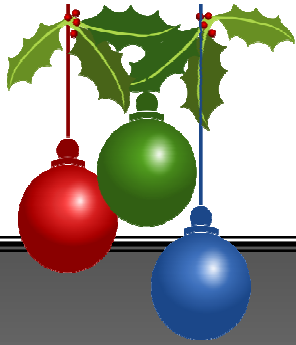
### **Saint Augustine Church**

Thursday,  
December 8<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 PM



### **Saint James Church**

Thursday,  
December 8<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 PM



## *Christmas Schedule*



**Saint Augustine Church**  
December 24<sup>th</sup> Masses  
4 PM & 9:30 PM  
Music Presentation 9 PM



December 25<sup>th</sup> Mass  
8:30 AM

**Saint James Church**  
December 24<sup>th</sup> Masses  
4 PM & 6:30 PM



December 25<sup>th</sup> Mass  
11 AM

**Penance Service**  
Monday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM  
St. Joseph's Church  
17630 Virginia Avenue  
Hagerstown



## **Please Pray for Our Military Men and Women!**

Please remember in your prayers those in our parish serving in the military, and all our military. If you know a parishioner serving our country, please let the office know so we may add them to our list.

Zach Coleman  
Sherree Grebenstein  
Andrew Patterson  
Stephen Puddy  
Lawrence Shaw  
Chris Watkins  
Danny Yentsch

## **Pearl Harbor**

Dear Father, on this annual recollection of the Pearl Harbor tragedy, we pray for thy benign blessings and guidance. Enable us to reflect clearly and conscientiously upon our priceless heritage. Let us be determined to guard and preserve it through all trials and difficulties. Help us to be worthy of the lofty ideals for which so many courageous men and women sacrificed so much. Grant us steadfast spirits always to defend our great inheritance for the countless generations yet unborn. Cast thy countenance upon our beloved country, the United States of America. Shelter the inhabitants of our land from all anguish, peril, and gloom. May this blessed haven ever be the citadel of justice, freedom, and brotherhood. May the time not be distant O God, when mankind will live in security and confidence as it is written in the book of thy Prophet Isaiah: "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore." Then the glory of God shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together. Amen.



## Prayer Circle

The prayer list published in the bulletin each week is a vehicle to notify parishioners of those in need of prayer. We focus on praying for the sick, those who have died, and for those who are serving in the military. Please call to add names to the listing by calling the church office or contacting Pat Palmer at 301.223.7992. **Please pray for:** Connie Adenhardt, Pat & Jim Baer, Provie Cardinale, Fr. Carter, Don Christensen, Midge Christopher, Jean Cushwa, Lisa Deleo, Joe DePalma, Doug DiRisio, Betty & Jack Dove, Kathryn Folley, Ann Gentile, George Gildersleeve, Mark Gordon, Arnold Gozora, Bernice & Jim Grandstaff, Ed Grebenstein, Debra Grogg, Joe Harris, Sabrina Jones, Joe Kallas, Beulah Keller, Danny Keller, Jonathan Knight, Dot Komarinski, Patty & George Koons, Claire O'Connell, Our Military, Betty Moore, Betty Nordmann, Keegan Oursler, Pat Palmer, Alli Pinieski, Thomas Quinlan (baby), Toni Rickard, Ginny Russell, Don Sanders, Tracy Serpi, Lawrence Shaw, Danny Spaw, Vocations, Norm Walker, Antoinette Wetzell, Dee Wyand, Katie Yentsch.

## Card Ministry

St. Augustine's cares about our fellow parishioners. To express our care and concerns, we have a card ministry. We can send cards to parishioners who are sick, hospitalized, recuperating from surgery, experiencing a terminal illness or homebound. Cards of sympathy can also be sent to those who have had a death in their immediate family. We can also send congratulatory cards to parishioners who are celebrating births and marriages. If you know of a parishioner who would like to receive a card, please contact Connie by calling 301.582.4394.

## Mass Schedule



DATE	CHURCH	TIME	MASS INTENTION
12/3	St. James	4:00 PM	Gregory Georgeiff
12/3	St. Augustine	6:30 PM	Todd Gordon
12/4	St. Augustine	8:30 AM	Deacon Dave Ebner SI
12/4	St. James	11:00 AM	The People of the Parish
12/5	St. James	11:30 AM	Thomas Folley
12/6	St. Augustine	8:30 AM	Elizabeth Householder SI
12/7	St. Augustine	8:30 AM	Diane & Jonathan Knight SI
12/8	St. Augustine	6:30 PM	John DiMarcantonio
12/8	St. James	7:00 PM	Bill Serrao
12/9	St. Augustine	8:30 AM	Budd Wuff

## Congratulations

Our parish family would like to congratulate Morcello Esposito for being Confirmed on Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at St. Augustine's.

## Perpetual Adoration Chapel



Adoring the Real and Whole Presence of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. Throughout church history, people have experienced tremendous graces in the presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Come and see for yourself. Jesus is waiting for YOU!

### Adorers Needed

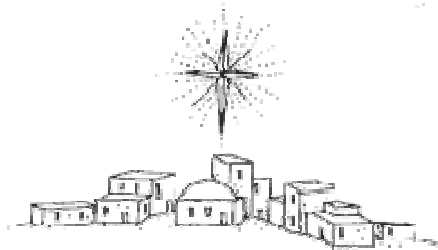
The Adoration Chapel is located by St. Maria Goretti High School, 1535 Oak Hill Avenue, in Hagerstown. Call Mr. or Mrs. Ott for more information or access keycards at 301.739.4167, or Roger Milihran at 301.432.6791. Thank you.

## Parish Council Meeting

There will be a Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM in the lower level of the church.

## Ministry Schedule

Date	December 10 <sup>th</sup>	December 11 <sup>th</sup>
Lectors	Ray Bielicki	Sherree Grebenstein
Eucharistic Ministers	Host: M. Kennelly Cup: A. Miller K. Miller	Host: G. DePalma Cup: J. DePalma K. Fortier
Altar Servers	S. Flessner	B. Brodnan
Money Counters		G. & J. DePalma D. Kaetzel



### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

- Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>:** Christmas Pageant Rehearsal 9:30 to 11 AM  
**Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>:** Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal 9:30 to 11 AM  
**Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>:** Christmas Pageant 9:35 AM followed by dessert social  
**Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>:** No Classes: Christmas break  
**Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>:** No Classes: New Year's break

### Children's Christmas Party Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>



#### Sponsored by Pangborn Knights of Columbus #1365

Please call early to reserve a spot (only 40 spots reserved) at this year's Christmas party for the Children and grand children of parishioners of St. Ann's, St. Mary's, St. Joseph's, St. James, St. Augustine's and St. Michael's. December 10<sup>th</sup>, from 9 to 11 AM the families of 40 children can enjoy a delicious breakfast, holiday music and some Christmas teaching points. Additionally each child that preregisters will receive a gift from St. Nicholas. Come and enjoy this great experience. To pre-register email John Navarro at: [kayaker1953@gmail.com](mailto:kayaker1953@gmail.com)



### Boost Your Offering

Boost your church offering without spending another dime! How? Prepay for your groceries by purchasing Martin's gift cards. For every \$100 these stores will donate \$5 back to the church. A family of 4 on a thrifty budget will spend close to \$400 dollars a month on groceries. With the use of gift cards that would generate an additional \$20 for Saint Augustine's with no additional cost to the family. We will have the cards (in \$25 increments) available for purchase in the after Masses. Shorten your Christmas Shopping by giving gift cards or work them into your normal monthly grocery budget. It's a win win situation. Ho, Ho, Ho!



### Local Blood Drive

On Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> between 1:00 and 7 PM, you can give the gift of blood at the Williamsport Community – American Legion Post 202, located at 400 American Legion Ave., Williamsport. To set an appointment you may call 1.800.732.0832.



## Social Justice

### The Giving Tree

There are still tags on our giving tree. Please consider taking a tag with you when you leave Mass today. The ornaments are to be fastened to the wrapped gifts and brought back to the church by Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>. You may choose one item, or if your means permit, you may purchase all on the list. Gifts will be distributed on Sunday, Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>. Thanks.

### Williamsport Food Bank

We wish to give thanks to those who are faithful to contributing to our local food bank. If you wish to give a monetary donation, please place offering in a plain envelope and mark donations for food bank with your name. The shelves are low and need to be restocked, please note items needed to replenish. **Items needed:** Beef Stew, Peas, Carrots, Mixed Vegetables, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Spaghetti Sauce, Tomato Soup, Rice, Applesauce, Canned Peaches, Fruit Cocktail and Pudding, Macaroni, Canned Tomatoes, Tomato Sauce, Juice, Jello, Crackers and Hygiene Products.

St. Augustine's will volunteer at the food bank on Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> & Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to our dedicated volunteers!

### Shepherd's Table

Thanks to our volunteers who prepared the meal and volunteered on Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>. We certainly appreciate your support to those in the community in need of a hot meal.



## Stewardship News

Nov. 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2011	St. Augustine	St. James
Attendance	166	306
Offertory Envelopes	\$838	\$1,822
Offertory Electronic	\$905	\$625
Offertory Loose	\$167	\$796
Maintenance	\$80	\$50
Pastoral Collection	\$0	\$50
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$1,990	\$3,343

### We Are Most Grateful

As always we are most grateful to all persons for their financial gifts to the church, in whatever form best suits them. May God bless and guide us always in using all such gifts for the building of His Kingdom.

Filled with desire, we respond to Your call for discipleship by shaping our lives in imitation of Christ. We profess that the call requires us to be stewards of Your gifts. As stewards, we receive Your gifts gratefully, cherish and tend them in a responsible manner, share them in practice and love with others, and return them with increase to the Lord. We pledge to our ongoing formation as stewards and our responsibility to call others to that same endeavor. Almighty and ever-faithful God, it is our fervent hope and prayer that You who have begun this good work in us will bring it to fulfillment in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

### Electronic Giving

Saint Augustine offers you another way to share what God has given you through our electronic giving format. This simple and secure method of giving to Saint Augustine has many advantages, and with more and more people using the internet for financial matters, we hope it is useful and helpful for many parishioners. If you are interested in signing-up for electronic giving, please go to [www.staugustinemd.org](http://www.staugustinemd.org) for additional information.

### The Gift of Stewardship

Consider donating some of your valuable TIME to the parish by volunteering to help us with any of the following ministries: LITURGY- *Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers, Altar Servers, Choir Members*; EDUCATION - *Catechists, Scripture Study*; SERVICE - *Food Bank, Soup Kitchen*. Call the church office with your interest at 301.223.7959.