

CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE, LARCHMONT, New York

FEBRUARY 19, 2017

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:**

“The Lord is kind and merciful”

Psalm 103

*Pastor's Corner*

**BE HOLY LIKE GOD!**

If we work backwards in today's Gospel we hear about God's unprejudiced treatment of the just and the unjust, those well-known for their goodness and those known for anything but love of God or others. The measure of God's holiness or perfection seems to be the way God sends sun and rain to everybody. That must be what Jesus meant when he said: "Love your enemies that you may be children of your heavenly father." And lest that be left simply as pious theory, he gave three practical, surprising and laughter-inducing examples of just what that looks like in practice.

Before we go to the examples, we need to explore the translation that says "offer no resistance to one who is evil." When did Jesus let evil pass untrammelled? A better translation of that statement is "Do not react with hostility to one who is evil." That's an entirely different thing from not resisting evil. So the practical question is how to resist without hostility.

Jesus suggests that when somebody slaps you, you should turn the other cheek. The play in this bit of wisdom comes with the carefully chosen word "slap". Jesus didn't say "When your spouse beats you, " or "When the gang bullies you again," instead, he said, "When somebody slaps you." A slap is meant to demean rather than to draw blood. A slap doesn't invite a fist fight; it's a put-down, a power play in the social hierarchy. Note too that the slap Matthew portrays was backhanded (right hand to right cheek). Jesus was describing something intended to put the victim in his or her place rather than to incapacitate her or him. Turning the other cheek changed the game by having the victim say, "Hit me with integrity and then we'll see." Surely a few of the audience gasped as they pictured a browbeaten servant finally standing up like that to an arrogant overlord.

So too with walking the extra mile. A Roman soldier could force a local resident to carry his pack, but for only one mile. The offer to go a second mile robbed the uniformed bully of the initiative and put him in danger of being reported for going beyond the limits. By now Jesus' audience was beginning to chuckle at the image of a Roman soldier pleading to get his pack back from a clever, audacious, pacifist rebel.

In the third example the power imbalance was economic. A poor person had borrowed money and all he had as collateral was his tunic, the outer garment that also served as his blanket at night. If the lender wanted to refuse to return the tunic until the loan was paid, he could get a group of collaborators to make the judgement on his behalf. The poor debtor then had no recourse except to make a prophetic point of the absolutely unadorned fact that such a law left some naked while others ended up possessing a grimy inner garment—laundry they didn't need and hardly wanted to touch.

What does God's holiness look like? It looks like a never-ending outreach to rebellious humanity, an ongoing invitation to communion, the incarnation of love, no matter the cost. It looks like a person who approaches an oppressor with an attitude that says "You, no we can be better than that!" It looks like Oscar Romero and Dorothy Day, Mother Teresa and the little kid who forgives his brother who tackled him breaking his leg.

Moses said "Be holy!" Jesus said "Be perfect," and with his stories he taught that it is not only possible, but a lot more fun than others options.

**Sister Mary M. McGlone, Preaching Resources February 19, 2017**



**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Week of February 20th — February 26th**

**Monday, February 20th**

7:45 am

9:00 am Bridget Paolucci

**Tuesday, February 21st**

7:45 am

9:00 am Claire and Roy Lockwood

**Wednesday, February 22nd**

7:45 am

9:00 am Bridget Paolucci

**Thursday, February 23rd**

7:45 am

9:00 am Diane Zimmerman

**Friday, February 24th**

7:45 am

9:00 am Dr. William Winter

**Saturday February 25th**

9:00 am Linda Frede-Tripicco

5:00 pm Bridget Paolucci

**Sunday, February 26th**

9:00 am Fred DiPiano

10:30 am Bridget Paolucci

12:00 pm Rosemarie Magazino

5:00 pm Philip Rizzo Jr.

**WE PRAY**

For those who are ill, including: Sandy Albert, Ellen R. Barbieri, Bill Battalia, Peter Benjamin, Frank Booth, Nelly Carillon, Debbie Coangelo, Teresa Cogan, Caryn Colombo, Conall Crean, Bernier De Comes, David DiPietro, Mary Ann Dolan, Elizabeth Dolan Dillon, Marlene Dufort, Mark Elliott, Loren Finnell, Mary Elizabeth Fraioli, Marty Gary, Robert Glickman, Alessandria Glickman, Eleanor Gordon, Mary Haid, Kerry Hegarty, Robert Heyde, Harvey and Mary Humphrey, Carol Hrabsky, Mary Jordan, Fred Kriegel, Dorothy & Dave Lakso, Zachary Lawrence, Rose Leghorn, Robert Mangone, Martin Martinez, Virginia McLaughlin, Bob Morris, Elizabeth Murray, Patricia Clifford Newman, Doris Nogueira, Scotty Norton, Doris O'Toole, Jack Pastor, Katherine Samon, Annmarie Shower, Susan Testa, Joan Troccoli, Rosemary Walsh, Nicholas James Walsh, Missy Wey, Mary Williams and Billy Zarcone.

**May they find healing and comfort in Jesus Christ.**

## THE CARDINAL'S ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

**The 2017 Cardinal's Appeal has begun!**

"So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith." Galatians 6:10

As disciples of Christ, we are called to help one another and be merciful, as Jesus taught us. It is only with **your help** that the Cardinal's Appeal continues its good work in our communities. Through our ministries and charities the *Cardinal's Appeal* continues to be a beacon of hope for our brothers and sisters in faith.

Online donations can be made at [www.cardinalsappeal.org](http://www.cardinalsappeal.org). Donation envelopes can be found in the pews. **Thank you for your generosity and support.**



## RITE OF ACCEPTANCE INTO THE ORDER OF CATECHUMENS

**On Sunday, February 19th at the beginning of the 12:00 pm Liturgy**, Eve Ciciu will be accepted as a Catechumen during the Rite of Acceptance. The Rite marks the beginning of Eve's movement from Inquiry to Preparation for reception of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist) at the Easter Vigil.



## STUDY THE SCRIPTURES IN SMALL GROUPS

Several small groups will begin meeting during Lent to study the Scriptures. **Join in to learn more about the Old Testament's Book of Psalms or the New Testament's Gospel of Matthew.** This Lent we will be offering a new group **study of The Eucharist in Scripture.** For more info or to sign up, please contact Pat McNamara at 834-0663 or [chenpat@optonline.net](mailto:chenpat@optonline.net).

Food Drive



## FOOD DRIVE THANK YOU

Many hands (and moving dollies and minivans!) lightened the over seven van loads of pasta, soup, spaghetti sauce, baby formula, canned tuna, etc. raised from the 2017 Scouting for Food Drive as the loot was transported from St. Augustine to New Rochelle Hope Food Pantry. Special thanks to Stephen Cox for organizing this year's effort, to St Augustine (especially Anne Avenius), Larchmont Stop and Shop and to all the Scouts, and food donors who once again made this community service effort a resounding success.

**Thank you also to St Augustine Parish for your food contributions.** Because of you over 4,000 pounds of food was donated to the hungry and have made a difference in their lives.

## ASH WEDNESDAY

***Wednesday, March 1st is Ash Wednesday***

and the beginning of the season of Lent. Ashes will be distributed after the homily. ***Mass times are 7:45 & 9:00 am, 12:00 Noon and 7:30 pm.***



## WHY ASHES?

On this day the Church invites us to receive a cross of ashes on our foreheads as a sign that during the coming Season of Lent we will make sincere efforts to cleanse our lives of sin and to discipline ourselves through prayers and fasting.

## WHO MAY RECEIVE ASHES?

Baptized individuals who have reached the age of reason. Babies and young children who have not yet received the Sacrament of Penance should not be presented to receive ashes, as ashes are intended for those capable of personal sin. The keeping of Ash Wednesday is for leading the baptized members of the Church to repentance and renewal of baptismal promises at Easter.

## LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINENCE

The regulations on Lenten fast and abstinence are: **"FASTING"** On Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, those who are 18 but not yet 59 are allowed only one full meal. Two smaller meals are allowed as needed, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

**"ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT"** Those who are 14 years of age or older are to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent.

The Church no longer attempts to prescribe Lenten practices in detail. The above regulations simply highlight Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and the other Fridays of Lent. The more fundamental obligation is to make lent a penitential season, choosing practices that are adapted to one's own needs.

**ASH WEDNESDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY are days of fast and abstinence. FRIDAYS in Lent are days of abstinence.**



## OUR 125TH ANNIVERSARY A LENTEN PARISH MISSION

Brother Jack Rathschmidt, O.F.M. Capuchin, will lead us through a mission experience during St. Augustine's 125th Lent as a parish. **Beginning at all of the weekend Masses on March 4-5 and continuing for three evening sessions (Sunday, Monday and Tuesday) from 7-7:45 pm**, he will challenge us to consider the questions, *What does it mean to be in a community? How can we share God's great mercy? What might it mean for us to broaden our horizons as Jesus' disciples?* (Br. Jack asks that we arrive 30 minutes before the evening sessions to sit in silent prayer as preparation; afterwards, a simple meal will be offered in the rectory.)



## SAVE THE DATE IRISH FLEADH SUNDAY, MARCH 19th

Join us at the Irish Fleadh, **March 19th from 2:30—4:45 pm** in Monsignor Kenny Hall, St. Augustine Church. Music, Light Refreshments, Arts and Crafts and More. **Come one come all.** Look for details in the coming weeks.

### FORMED.ORG

Eleven award-winning children’s movies about saints and heroes are now on formed.org, the website with documentaries about the Bible, programs about the Mass and the sacraments, and more, which the Archdiocese has given its parishes as a gift. **Access its many offerings using our parish code RNBYV2.**

### MIDNIGHT RUN NEEDS YOUR HELP

**The parish Midnight Run team is looking for a lunch coordinator.** The coordinator finds volunteers to supply lunches for runs throughout the year at four local churches, St. Augustine, St. John’s Episcopal, United Methodist and St. John’s Lutheran. This consortium has been going strong for decades; let’s keep up our end! For information, please contact MaryAnn De Feis, 833-1803 or [madefeis@gmail.com](mailto:madefeis@gmail.com). (For information about the Midnight Run organization, please visit <http://www.midnightrun.org>)

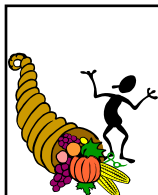


### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The completely volunteer-run adult ESL (English as a Second Language) program at the New Rochelle YMCA (50 Weyman Avenue, New Rochelle) is looking for teachers, substitute teachers, and tutors to teach English to adult immigrants either the morning, afternoon or evening during the week at the Y. **No previous ESL teaching required.** Please contact Karen Khor at [khortan@mac.com](mailto:khortan@mac.com) if you are interested.

### 2016 TAX FORMS

If you would like a copy of your 2016 donations to St Augustine Church for tax purposes, please contact the rectory at 914-834-1220 or email [abetkowski@staugustineny.org](mailto:abetkowski@staugustineny.org) and a copy will be mailed to you. Many thanks for your generosity and support throughout the year.



The items requested for February  
**PASTA, SOUP AND ESPECIALLY CEREAL**  
Donations of food can be left in the baskets at the front & side entrances to the church during the day.  
**Thank you for your continued generosity.**



### ZERO WASTE

Would you like to be part of St. Augustine’s new zero waste initiative with the three-pronged goal of reducing waste, educating parishioners and becoming an example in the care of Creation for our broader community? **In honor of St. Augustine’s 125th anniversary, our parish is rolling out a parish-wide zero waste initiative.** Zero waste is a goal where little or no trash is generated (more info at [zwia.org](http://zwia.org)). Everything is either reused, recycled or composted so that very little ends up in the waste stream. Please contact Karen Khor at [khortan@mac.com](mailto:khortan@mac.com) or [Ldoyle@staugustineny.org](mailto:Ldoyle@staugustineny.org) or call the rectory at 834-1220 to join our Care for Creation subcommittee.



### POPE FRANCIS’ LAUDATO SI’

In his encyclical on the environment. *Laudato Si’*, Pope Francis says that “climate change is a global problem with grave implications. . . It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day. Its worst impact will probably be felt by developing countries in coming decades” (LS 25). Pope Francis also reminds Catholics that caring for creation is an essential part of our faith (LS, 64) , and he calls upon world leaders to work together to solve the climate crisis. Now is an opportunity for Catholics to respond to the message of this important encyclical. **Please go to [GCCM.org](http://GCCM.org) (Global Catholic Climate Movement) and sign the petition urging President Trump to honor the Paris Agreement,** the world’s best chance at addressing the climate crisis before it is too late.

### *LIKE US ON FACEBOOK*

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/STAUGUSTINELARCHMONT](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/STAUGUSTINELARCHMONT)

### **MOVING? NEW TO THE PARISH?**

Our warmest welcome to all who worship with our parish family, whether long-time residents or newly arrived in the parish. If you are not registered, or need to update our records, please complete this form and place it in the collection basket or mail it to the rectory or register by visiting the Parish website at [www.staugustineny.org/register](http://www.staugustineny.org/register).

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE \_\_\_\_\_ TEL \_\_\_\_\_

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