

THE AUGMENTER

Webster's Definition:
augment (verb)—to
make or become greater
augmenter (noun)

Newsletter for Families of St. Augustine Religious Education in Larchmont, NY
Our entire task in this life consists in healing the eyes of the heart so that they may be able to see God. — St. Augustine

Hunger—a Haunting Hoop that Encircles our World

Pope Francis recently said: "In a world where there is so much wealth, so many resources to feed everyone, it is unfathomable that there are so many hungry children. . .How can I become a little poorer in order to be more like Jesus, who was the poor Teacher?"

Each Sunday during the 10:30 a.m. Family Mass our children offer food for the hungry and learn that they can be the change they wish to see in the World. In this last week of January, Cardinal Dolan has initiated a special collection for the hungry. Our middle school learners were asked to share in this collection.

During the upcoming season of Lent our children and young people will participate in Catholic Relief Services' **Operation Rice Bowl**. This year on Ash Wednesday after receiving ashes our young people will be offered their own Rice Bowl as a reminder that **Lent is a time to grow closer to God by helping those who are poor, hungry and marginalized**. Some other Lenten activities will accent our need to respond to the needs of so many and remind our children and young people of their Baptismal call to be disciples of Jesus. That translates into action steps this Lent. Enclosed is a Lenten flyer that will help make Lent relevant and responsive for families.

What Catechists Can Learn From St. Augustine

Joe Paprocki, *Loyola Press* author, wrote about his admiration of Thomas Colbert and I am quoting a part of it with St. Augustine in mind:

"Now, [America Magazine](#) has done a feature on Colbert titled "[Truth and Truthiness: What Catholic catechists can learn from Stephen Colbert.](#)" In short, the article emphasizes how Colbert "embodies a formula for effective catechesis proffered by St. Augustine of Hippo in the fourth and fifth centuries: delight, instruct, persuade. Here's what Augustine says on each:

Delight: "A hearer must be delighted, so that he can be gripped and made to listen." St. Ignatius of Loyola echoed this when he said that the most effective way to teach was to "enter through their door but be sure to leave through your door."

Instruct: Augustine asserts that the best method of teaching is "one by which the listener hears the truth and understands what he hears." Simple and straightforward and in a "language" that the listener can understand.

Persuade: The article explains that, according to Augustine, as essential as knowledge is, "teaching falls short if students' learning does not affect their living." In short, truths need to be internalized and lived out. The article concludes quite powerfully with these words: "If Catholic catechists were to apply the lessons of Colbert's success to their own work of evangelization, our country might very well become not just a "Colbert Nation" but a people of God."

In keeping with Joe Paprocki's blog concerning Colbert, I thought this was a perfect opportunity to clarify, correct and persuade a better naming of our religious education process, the catechetical process. So many still name it as "CCD" (Confraternity of Christian Doctrine). But in the 21st century with more current theological studies we use "religious education" or "the catechetical process" rather than CCD. St. Augustine seems to say it best with words like--**delight, instruct and persuade**.

In using the Pflaum Gospel Weeklies catechists, children, young people and families benefit from the approach of the weekly Sunday Gospel so that God's Word pervades every aspect of our lives and Jesus becomes central to our living. Religious education becomes real and life-giving. St. Augustine would agree!

Thanks to our catechists, assistant catechists and volunteers, people who give themselves unreservedly to the spread of our faith and the witness of the Gospel. The dedication and dynamism of these people mark the meaning of all that is—God With Us.

Sunday Catechists and Assistants

1S1-Cathriona Murphy, Lessy Martinez,
Jacqui Longbucco*

2S1-Joan Haworth, Laura Kiernan*
Samantha Pulcino*

3S1-Margarita Sawhney

4S1-Elvira Perdomo, John Wilson* Katie Wilson*

5S1-Sara Romeo Keeshan*, Chris Keeshan*

5S2- Karen Khor

6S1-Courtney Hewson*, Karen Astorina

7/8S1-Juan Pujadas

Wednesday Catechists and Assistants

First Grade

1A1-Megan Graham, Abby Showers,
Christine O'Shea

1A2-Rachael Grimm*, Lynelle McLane*

1A3-Hope Hickey*, Patti Anderson*

1A4-Terry Donnellan*, Catherine Bertini*

Second Grade

2A1-Diane Proctor, Katie Fitzgerald

2A2-Debra Quintana

2A3-Laura Maloney, Danielle Stout

2A4-Cha Mackie, Amanda Schlumberger,
Lynda Fisher

2A5-Brenda Heffernan, Pier Witek*

Third Grade

3A1-Carey Federspiel, Mary Ann Martucci

3A2-Judy Casey, Anne McCarthy

3A3-Rachael Horan*, Roisin Butler*

3A4-Courtney Hewson* Greg Hurley

3A5-Genevieve Boron

Fourth Grade

4A1-Jodi Jamieson, Jack Jamieson*

4A2-Jenny Webb, Heather Messerle*

4A3-Maureen Meehan, Fran Mannix

4A4-Kate Anderson, Theresa Finck

4A5-Mark McNally*, Maggie McNally*

Fifth Grade

5A1-Tom Burns, André Castaybert

5A2-Dawn Johanson, Linda Brown

5A3-Teresa Laughlin

5A4-Jane Symington, Paul Kaminski
Lisa Sommer

Sixth Grade

6E1-Mary Ann Mazza

6E2-Valerie Mouracade

6E3-Diane Andersen, Tom Andersen*

6E4-Rachael Erfe

Seventh Grade

7E1-Anita Dziwura,
James Dziwura*

7E2-Margi Gristina

7E3-Therese Hollwitz

7E4-Ann Betkowski

Eighth Grade

8E1-Mary Spollen

8E2-Jolita Haigis*

8E3-Joan Haworth

9th Confirmation

Sr. Suzanne,
Claire Brosnan,
Melissa Schoen



* New Catechists & Assistants as of 2013

** Special Wednesday Volunteers: office — Lisa Collins and Missy Wey
Child Care — Margaret Paganini, Rachael Grimm, Juliet Bailey, Cathy Bizzard,
Diana Bravo, Kendra Jennings, Jessica Prezorski, Jenny Shiels-Toland and Kim
Vetere

*** Special Sunday Volunteers — Diane Lama, Maura Gallagher, Christina Kraft,
Jo-Ann Allee and Ed Rice

The Augmenter logo expands our vision of God through the seasons.



Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered

* March 12	Wednesday	Gr. 8
* March 16	Sunday	Gr. 7/8
* March 19	Wednesday	Gr. 4
		Gr. 7
* March 23	Sunday	Gr. 5 & 6
* March 26	Wednesday	Gr. 3 & 6
* March 30	Sunday	Gr. 3 & 4
* April 2	Wednesday	Gr. 3 & 5

SAVE THESE DATES

March 5
Ash Wednesday

March 15
1st Reconciliation in Church:
11:00 am for Class 2A4, 2A5, 2S1
1:00 pm for Class 2A1, 2A2, 2A3