

Choose Life - Choose Good

REFLECTIONS
ON THE
WORD



In the first reading from the book of Sirach we are told: "before each person are life and death, good and evil and whichever one chooses, that shall be given." Doesn't this seem like the ultimate no-brainer? Who wouldn't choose life and good? If it's that easy, why do we struggle with so many of our decisions in life? I think it's because very few, if any of the situations we find ourselves in are that black and white.

I think this is what Jesus is driving at in today's gospel. He is trying to tell his disciples that things may not be as simple as they seem on the surface. From the point of view of the disciples, and the Pharisees (church of the day) for that matter, the law was in place and seemed pretty straight forward. Don't break any of the commandments; don't teach anyone to break the commandments and you should be good. Then comes the sermon on the mount and Jesus calls us to something more. He invites us to go beyond simply obeying the law to something deeper. For example, if the only reason you obey the law is to avoid punishment then you are missing out on the deeper meaning. Respect and love for your neighbor.

As a self professed Christian living in today's world I need to assess daily whether I am just doing the bare minimum in my observance of God's law or going the extra mile that Jesus is calling me to. While I have not physically murdered anyone, have I taken care to preserve their dignity as a person and worked diligently to keep their reputation intact. I truly believe in the saying: "give people a reputation they will want to live up to". We are called to welcome the stranger; to comfort widows and orphans. You know, there is much talk these days on both sides of the border about the acceptance of refugees and screening people to make sure they fit in our society. Do I welcome the stranger whole heartedly and make them feel at home or am I just ok that they are here as long as I don't have to deal with them. Huge difference between tolerance and acceptance.

Choosing life and good is the right way to go but it's anything but easy. If it was easy then everyone would do it. I heard it said in a homily that when trying to make a difficult decision, your guiding principle should always be: what requires the most love? If we do the thing that requires the most love from us then I think we're moving in the right direction. Simply following the letter of the law doesn't require much love on my part. On the other hand, seeking the deeper truth in the spirit of the law requires a lot. So, when asked if I choose life over death and good over evil, I say: YES. Not: Yes, but....the but comes from the evil one.

Mark Mahoney

Welcome to ... Queen of All Saints Parish

February 12, 2017
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Saint Augustine's
340 Dominion Street
Moncton, NB



Saint Lawrence O'Toole
2340 Route 115
Irishtown, NB



Our Lady of Mercy
11 St. Andrews Street
Pointe-du-Chêne, NB

PASTORAL MINISTRY TEAM

Priest-Moderator: Rev. Allison Carroll
Assistant Priest: Rev. Laurence Quin-Morris
frlaurence@qasmoncton.com
Liturgy: Carole Penney
Justice and Solidarity: Marilyn McCleary

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE—HEURES DES MESSES

St. Augustine's: Friday—12:00 noon
Saturday—4:00 p.m.; Sunday 11:00 a.m.
St. Lawrence O'Toole: Sunday —9:00 a.m.; dimanche—9h00
Our Lady of Mercy: Saturday 7:00 p.m.

Parish Office: 340 Dominion Street, Moncton, NB E1C 6H8
Telephone: 857-4223 **Fax:** 857-0020

Email: parish.office@qasmoncton.com **Website:** www.qasmoncton.com
Facebook: Queen of All Saints Parish Grouping

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00, 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Faith Development-Children: Eileen Caissie
eileen.caissie@qasmoncton.com

St. Lawrence O'Toole Cemetery: Linda Evans 389-9300

Ray of Hope Needy Kitchen: 857-4224
Meals served: Monday to Friday 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon

St. Vincent de Paul Society: 857-2088
Clothing Depot Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Daily Readings

Monday	Genesis 4:1-15, 25; Mark 8:11-13
Tuesday	Memorial: St. Cyril and St. Methodius Genesis 6:5-8, 7:1-5, 10; Mark 8:14-21
Wednesday	Genesis 8:6-13, 20-22; Mark 8:22-26
Thursday	Genesis 9:1-13; Mark 8:27-33
Friday	Genesis 11:1-9; Mark 8:34-38, 9:1
Saturday	Hebrews 11:1-7; Mark 9:2-13
Sunday	Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Leviticus 19:1-2, Corinthians 3:16-23; Matthew 5:38-48



There are a number of boxes of 2017 weekly collection envelopes assigned to St. Augustine's parishioners that have still not been claimed!

In order to save postage costs, please pick up your 2016 INCOME TAX RECEIPT at the parish office.

Led by Fr. Laurence, a **PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND** will be held February 7th to 15th, 2018. Information brochures are available at each church.



ASH WEDNESDAY is March 1st! A basket is available at the entrance to each church to accept your old palms.



COMMUNAL CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

It is important that those who are sick and those around them understand the significance of the **Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick as a sacrament of healing**. Who should celebrate this sacrament?

- * Those who are elderly and whose frailty is becoming more pronounced.
- * Those adults and children who are suffering from a major illness. (Illness comes in many different forms: physical, mental, psychological, emotional, & spiritual).
- * Those who are facing or recovering from surgery or serious medical tests.
- * Those suffering from a serious accident.
- * Those who suffer from chronic illness such as arthritis or diabetes.
- * Those who care for the sick, especially those who are closely bound in love to them.

The English churches of the Moncton Diocese work together to offer this communal celebration. This Tuesday, February 14th at 11:00 a.m., mass and the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be held at St. Bernard's. **All are invited to join in prayer for those who are sick and for their caregivers.**

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat	11	4:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	St. A OLM	Anniversary Late Gerry McGrath Late Marie Léa LeBlanc	Wife Stella & Family Odette & Family
Sun	12	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. L O'T St. A	Anniversary Late Edgar Cormier Late Gerald Arthur	Al & Shirley Josephine Solano Family
Fri	17	12:00 noon	St. A	Anniversary Late Roy Biddiscombe	Bob & Rita LeBlanc
Sat	18	4:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	St. A OLM	Anniversary Late Eugene Boudreau Late Fred Walker	Marceline Belliveau
Sun	19	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	St. L O'T St. A	Anniversary Late Reg King Anniversary Late Hamford Hachey	Eileen, Phyllis, Wayne, Eddy, Joyce Celia & Family

OFFERINGS FOR LAST WEEK



Saint Augustine's: Envelopes: **\$3,748.25** (191 env.); Loose: **\$647.47**; Building Fund: **\$370.00** (18 env.); Ray of Hope: **\$2,237.00** (67 env.); Christmas Offering: **\$2,500.00**; Candles: **\$85.00**; Pre-Authorized Payments: **\$1,645.00** (38 env.).

Saint Lawrence O'Toole: Envelopes: **\$1,288.00** (50 env.); Loose: **\$73.20**; Initial Offering: **\$20.00** (2 env.); New Year's Offering: **\$20.00**; Pre-Authorized: **\$28.00** (2 env.).

Our Lady of Mercy: Envelopes: **\$680.00** (32 env.); Loose: **\$39.95**; Candles: **\$50.05**.

Thank you for your generosity !

Young at Heart

QUEEN OF ALL SAINTS SENIORS GROUP extends an invitation to Seniors and Retirees for an afternoon of socializing, board games or cards on Monday, February 13th from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The elevator will be available for this gathering which is held in the Fr. Peter McKee room in St. Augustine's Church basement. For information, contact Debbie at 384-8431.

St. Bernard's Catholic Women's League members will host their annual **SHAMROCK CARD PARTY** Wednesday, March 15th, 12:00 noon in St. Bernard's Church Hall. Price is \$10.00 each and includes Luncheon and prizes! Only 200 tickets will be sold. Tickets available from Louise Ongo at 859-7306 or Norma Gibson at 855-8236.

**RAY OF HOPE
NEEDY KITCHEN
FUNDRAISER**

Friday,
May 5th

SAVE THE DATE



At St. Augustine's next Saturday, February 18th and Sunday, February 19th let's gather at the back of the church after Mass to socialize while enjoying a beverage and cookie. Look forward to seeing you there!



**From the Diocesan Offices of Faith Development,
Liturgy and Youth Faith Development**
Ellen - 857- 9952 ellen.diocesemoncton@gmail.com;
Deb - liturgymoncton@gmail.com
Trevor - 857-4879 trevord.diocese@gmail.com

The next selection for **BOOKS FOR BREAKFAST** for Young Adults 19-30 will be *The Prophet*, by Kahlil Gibran. Meet to discuss the book on Saturday, February 25th at Jean's Restaurant, Mountain Road. Contact Trevor for more information.

Rediscovering our relationship with God and creation in light of the Pope's Encyclical, Laudato Si' and the Universe Story – Beginning March 2nd and continuing through the Thursdays during Lent, Sr. Denise Lirette, fj will guide the conversation about the call from Pope Francis to care for the earth, using the document *Laudato Si' (Praise Be to You)*. Sessions will take place at Holy Family Church Hall from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Copies of *Laudato Si'* are available from the Vision Book Store for \$10, or can be downloaded from the Vatican website at http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html. Please contact Ellen or Trevor to register.

Interested in helping your faith community? Willing to give an hour or two each week, biweekly or once a month? St. Augustine's is in need of people to look after **WASHING THE VESSELS FOLLOWING MASS**; and **MASS COORDINATORS** to help with liturgies. Training will be provided! Please contact the parish office for further information.



Did you know.... in 1978, the first annual Fall Education and Action campaign was organized. **A Time to Act** was a national campaign which consisted of sending Christmas cards to South African political prisoners.

COMMUNION TO OUR HOMEBOUND—Our parish unit of has a team of people prepared to offer the **SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION** to people who may be homebound. If you have a family member or know of someone who would like to receive communion from one of our Ministers of Care, please contact the parish office at 857-4223.

If in doubt—check it out. In the case of inclement weather on the weekends and you are wondering if mass is still scheduled, please call the parish office at 857-4223 prior to the liturgy. If masses are cancelled there will be an immediate dated message to inform you.



"He's today's greeter."



GROUP A—level 1 to 6
Sunday, February 19th Session 11
Sunday, March 12th Session 12
Sunday, March 26th Session 13

GROUP B—level 1 to 6
Monday, February 20th Session 11
Monday, March 13th Session 12
Monday, March 27th Session 13

GROUP C—level 4 to 6 only
Tuesday, February 14 Session 10
Tuesday, February 21st Session 11
Tuesday, March 14th Session 12

A gathering for **CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES AND SPONSORS OR PARENT** will be held Sunday, February 12th at 6:00 p.m. in St. Augustine's Church basement.



A RETREAT FOR ALL CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES AND SPONSOR OR PARENT will be held in St. Augustine's Basement Saturday, February 25th from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

A GATHERING FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN PREPARING FOR FIRST RECONCILIATION will be held in St. Augustine's basement this Monday, February 13th at 6:30 p.m. Storm date is for Wednesday, February 15th.

A GATHERING FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN PREPARING FOR FIRST EUCHARIST will be held in St. Augustine's basement on Sunday, February 26th at 6:30 p.m.



QUEEN OF ALL SAINTS PARISH

Tuesdays
1:30 p.m.—St. Augustine's: **Adoration and Rosary**

Thursdays
7:00 p.m.—St. Lawrence O'Toole: **Adoration and Prayers for Vocations**

Sunday, February 12th
6:00 p.m.—St. Augustine's: **Confirmation Preparation Session**

Monday, February 13th
1:00 p.m.—St. Augustine's: **Seniors and Retirees Gathering**

6:30 p.m.—St. Augustine's Church Basement: **First Reconciliation Gathering for Children and Parents**

Tuesday, February 14th
6:15 p.m.—St. Augustine's: **Family Session C**

Sunday, February 19th
9:15 a.m.—St. Augustine's: **Family Session A**

10:00 a.m.—St. Lawrence O'Toole: **Goodie Sunday**

11:00 a.m.—St. Augustine's: **Family Mass**

Monday, February 20th
6:15 p.m.—St. Augustine's: **Family Session B**

Tuesday, February 21st
10:00 a.m.—St. Lawrence O'Toole: **St. Lawrence O'Toole Local Pastoral Council**

6:15 p.m.—St. Augustine's: **Family Session C**

Saturday, February 25th
1:00 p.m.—St. Augustine's Church Basement: **Confirmation Gathering**

Monday, February 26th
6:30 p.m.—St. Augustine's: **First Eucharist Gathering for Children and Parents**

Wednesday, March 1st
Ash Wednesday