



# ST. AUGUSTINE PARISH

413 W. 19<sup>TH</sup> ST. • COVINGTON, KY 41014  
(859) 431•3943

20 May 2020

My dear friends:

Praised be Jesus Christ! Now and forever!

Today our churches have reopened for the public celebration of Holy Mass and the other Sacraments! And while we are extremely excited to be able to worship our good God together, I am still keenly aware of the threats that the coronavirus poses to our community... both our community of faith and the neighborhoods we live in. We are going to do everything we can to provide the people of St. Augustine with a holy and safe place to worship. In order to do that, we need your help. If you are sick... please stay home! When you come to campus, please be sure to adhere to all the social distancing guidelines that have been implemented by the CDC and here at the parish. You will notice that the chairs in the gym are separated... please don't move them. And, if you are afraid to attend because of the potential for the spread of the virus, please know that Bishop Foys has dispensed you from the Sunday and Holy Day obligation to attend Mass. You will not be committing a sin by staying home and watching Mass on TV (or computer).

However! Just getting up late... or not feeling like going to Mass... or deciding to go to St. Mattress is not a valid reason for receiving the dispensation. Although we are apart, as the Church (the *Ecclesia* – the Assembly of believers), we are called to be together. Whenever one person is missing, we are less... one of the reasons we are called to evangelize (preach the Gospel) all the time!

I do want to once again express my gratitude to everyone who has continued to support the parish financially! Your generosity and your sacrifice has not gone unnoticed. One of the changes you will notice when you come back to Mass is that we will not be passing the basket for the collection. Instead we will have secured boxes at each entrance of the Gym for you to deposit your offering... obviously you can do this before or after Mass.

As you are all aware, because of my past letters, there is a new priest in the Diocese! We congratulate our very own **Father Jordan Hainsey** on his ordination to the sacred priesthood. I hope you had the opportunity to watch the ordination via live-stream. If you didn't, you can still find the link to the archived video on our parish website. Father Jordan was ordained on Saturday, May 16, 2020 (my 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary to the priesthood!... Fr. Michael will celebrate his 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary on Monday, June 1). His First Mass of Thanksgiving was on Sunday, May 17... which is also available for viewing. He did a wonderful job as the priest celebrant... it's like he's been doing it for years! You'll all be able to experience his Mass here in the weeks ahead.

The work in the church building itself has slowed down a little... the floors are being worked on, a new sound system has been ordered, and the new woodwork is still under design. The new ambo is still stuck in New York City... although we've been told to expect the shipment around May 27... please pray! People keep asking me when it will be finished... the simple answer is "I don't know." But is it my hope that we will be in the church building to celebrate the actual 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the parish... Saturday, June 20, 2020!



I've mentioned in my past letters that the new masonry sign on the corner of Euclid Avenue and 19<sup>th</sup> Street is partially completed. I've been told that the "sign" part will be installed before Memorial Day... so hopefully in the next few days! I've also been told that the statue of St. Augustine that will go on the sign pillar will arrive at the beginning of July!

I hope you have found these letters of mine helpful. In my work as Vicar General and Pastor, communication (or lack thereof) is always the cause of great stress and problems. Even though we will be gathering together again for worship, which will allow me the opportunity to speak to all of you directly, I still plan to write a weekly (or bi-monthly) letter. In addition, I am researching the opportunities to be able to communicate with the parishioners via electronic media... text messages and email. I'm think about being able to share simple news like schedules, cancellations, prayer requests, etc. I would be interested to know your thoughts on this... would you find this useful? You can email me at [parish@staugustines.net](mailto:parish@staugustines.net) or by dropping a note in the mail, the collection "basket", or by speaking to me after Mass (so long as you are at least 6 feet away!)

And no message from the pastor would be complete with a request for the purchase of **Raffle Tickets!** We have had some requests to take a stack of tickets to sell. Unfortunately, the State regulations do not allow for this. The tickets can be purchased online or by mailing us a check or dropping off money. We must limit person-to-person contact. We have just under a month to sell all 4000 tickets... so tell your family and friends! Send out the link [www.staugustines.net](http://www.staugustines.net) to everyone in your email contacts! Let's sell all of them! Remember, 1<sup>st</sup> place will take home up to \$14,000!

All of you continue to be in our daily prayers and will be remembered at our **PUBLIC** Masses! We are so grateful to serve you here at St. Augustine Parish. Thank you for the prayers you have been offering for us.

And, as always, thank you for your faith in our Lord Jesus and for your continued commitment to St. Augustine Parish! If you need ANYTHING – call the rectory/office – 859-431-3943.

Prayers and Blessings!

Very Reverend Daniel L. Schomaker  
Pastor

### **Parish Mass Intentions**

Monday, May 18 – **Joe Lestingi**  
Tuesday, May 19 – **Purgatorial Society**  
Wednesday, May 20 – **Mary Gronefeld**  
Thursday, May 21 – **Terri Hessling**  
Friday, May 22 – **People of the Parish**  
Saturday, May 23 – **Richard Bird**  
Sunday, May 24 – **People of the Parish (9am) & Terri Hessling (11am)**

Monday, May 25 – **Hattie Rauch**  
Tuesday, May 26 – **Tom Dressman, Sr.**  
Wednesday, May 27 – **Purgatorial Society**  
Thursday, May 28 – **Joseph Voskuhl**  
Friday, May 29 – **Jeanette Herzog**  
Saturday, May 30 – **Albert Suchanek**  
Sunday, May 31 – **Joseph Megerle, Sr. (9am) & Mary Ellen & Joseph Schappert (11am)**