

THE ORATORY OF SAINTS  
GREGORY & AUGUSTINE



TRADITIO | REVERENTIA | COMMUNITAS

## Welcome to the Oratory of Saints Gregory and Augustine

The Oratory of Saints Gregory and Augustine is pleased to welcome you. We are an apostolate of the Archdiocese of Saint Louis faithful to the teachings of the Church and striving to grow as a family of faith through the celebration of the Traditional Latin Mass and other Sacraments.

In the First Book of *The Confessions*, the other great St. Augustine (of Hippo) wrote the following: “Thou hast made us for Thyself and our hearts are restless until they find rest in Thee.” Whether you are curious about the traditional Latin Mass and interested in exploring its beauty, searching for a parish community where you and your family will feel at home, or seeking rest for your heart, we hope that the Oratory of Saints Gregory and Augustine can provide that respite for you.

Our bulletin serves to provide information about the weekly activities occurring here at the Oratory. Along with our website ([www.stlouislatinmass.com](http://www.stlouislatinmass.com)), the bulletin is your point of contact with the ever-increasing activities at the Oratory. I hope this will give you some sense of the grace of God, the love of Jesus Christ, and work of the Holy Spirit in our midst. I am delighted that God has brought you here! **Oremus pro invicem!**

—The Very Reverend Monsignor C. Eugene Morris, Rector

### MASS AND SACRAMENTS

#### Sunday Masses

- 6:30 am (Low Mass)
- 8:00 am (Low Mass)
- 10:00 am (High Mass)

#### Weekday Masses

- Monday thru Friday: 6:30 am & 12:15 pm
- First Friday: 6:30 pm
- Saturday: 8:15 am

#### Confession

- Sunday: 7:00 -7:45 am; 9:00 am – 10:30 am
- Monday thru Friday: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Wednesday: 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- First Friday: 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- Saturday: 7:00 am – 8:00 am

#### Divine Office

- Sunday: Prime @ 7:20 am; Terce @ 9:40 am; Vespers @ 2:30 pm; Compline @ 7 pm
- Monday: Vespers @ 6 pm & Compline @ 7pm
- Tuesday & Thursday: Compline @ 7 pm
- Wednesday: Compline @ 6:30 pm

**Infant Baptism** – Baptisms are normally scheduled on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of the month beginning at 10:00 am. Families expecting newborns and anticipating that they will be baptized here at the Oratory should schedule their baptism at the earliest convenience by contacting the Oratory office.

**Adult Baptism** – If you are interested in becoming Catholic or if you are an adult Catholic not yet confirmed, please contact the Oratory office for more information about adult catechesis.

**Matrimony** – Please contact the Oratory office at least six months prior to the desired date for the rite of marriage. The date is reserved after consultation and confirmation from the Rector of the Oratory.

**Extreme Unction/Visitation of the Sick** – Contact the Oratory to arrange the sacrament either at home or in the hospital.

### STAFF/ORGANIZATIONS

- **Rector:** Msgr. C. Eugene Morris  
[rector@oratorysga.org](mailto:rector@oratorysga.org)
- **Vice-Rector:** Fr. Michael Rennie  
[vicerector@oratorysga.org](mailto:vicerector@oratorysga.org)
- **Deacon:** Deacon Steve Pieper, MD  
[deacon@oratorysga.org](mailto:deacon@oratorysga.org)
- **Administrative Assistant:** Donna Mueller  
[office@oratorysga.org](mailto:office@oratorysga.org)
- **Facilities Manager:** Ben Schubert  
[facilities@oratorysga.org](mailto:facilities@oratorysga.org)
- **Auxiliary:** Anna Kalinowski  
[auxiliary@oratorysga.org](mailto:auxiliary@oratorysga.org)
- **Oratory Co-Op:**  
[co-op@oratorysga.org](mailto:co-op@oratorysga.org)
- **Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD):**  
[ccd@oratorysga.org](mailto:ccd@oratorysga.org)
- **Altar servers:**  
[servers@oratorysga.org](mailto:servers@oratorysga.org)
- **Altar and Rosary Society:**  
[altarandrosary@oratorysga.org](mailto:altarandrosary@oratorysga.org)
- **Knights of Columbus:**  
[kofc17355@oratorysga.org](mailto:kofc17355@oratorysga.org)
- **Troops of Saint George:**  
[tsg@oratorysga.org](mailto:tsg@oratorysga.org)
- **Oratory Schola:**  
[schola@oratorysga.org](mailto:schola@oratorysga.org)
- **Choir:**  
[choir@oratorysga.org](mailto:choir@oratorysga.org)
- **Young Adults:**  
[youngadults@oratorysga.org](mailto:youngadults@oratorysga.org)
- **Oratory Events:**  
[events@oratorysga.org](mailto:events@oratorysga.org)
- **Almonry of Ss. Gregory & Augustine:**  
[almonry@oratorysga.org](mailto:almonry@oratorysga.org)
- **Online Giving:**  
<https://www.osvhub.com/st-louis-latin-mass>

### CONTACT US

314-644-2144 / [stlouislatinmass.com](http://stlouislatinmass.com)  
7230 Dale Avenue, Richmond Heights, MO 63117

**FROM THE RECTOR**

In these days leading to Ash Wednesday, the Church sets before us Noah and Abraham, Old Testament figures who are intimately involved in salvation history. Noah’s fidelity to the Lord and obedience to the will of the Father along with his constancy during the flood are a foreshadowing of the coming of the salvific work of Christ and the response that we should have to Our Savior and what He accomplishes for us. Like Noah we are called to fidelity and obedience; so too, fidelity and obedience are fruits of the cleansing waters of baptism that Christ provides for His chosen ones. If the ark saved the world at one time, the wood of the cross has saved the whole world for all time. So too, Abraham our father in faith places his complete trust in the will of the Father even in the midst of being asked to sacrifice his only son. However, Our Heavenly Father will accept the sacrifice of His only Son allowing His death for our sins to be the perfect expression of His love for us. Spiritual growth requires a diligence in fostering virtue. It is not enough to want to be holy; we must cooperate with grace to become holy and manifest that holiness through a life of virtue. Our time before Lent provides the opportunity to ask ourselves in which virtues I might need to grow. This week let us give particular attention to fidelity and obedience. The profound confusion that exists in the Church today comes from a serious lack of faithfulness to tradition and a refusal to be obedient to the truths of Christ and His Church. We can participate in stemming the tidal waves of disobedience and infidelity through our own configuration to Christ, doing whatever He commands us to do. We must listen attentively to St. Paul’s exhortation to the Corinthians and find our strength in suffering and glorify the Lord through our sacrifices; sacrifices that may require our physical strength but more importantly the sacrifices of our will and intellect in humility before Christ and the Church.

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Sunday, 23 February:**

- Prime @ 7:20 am
- Terce @ 9:40 am
- Coffee Hour @ 11:30 am
- Vespers @ 2:30 pm
- Compline @ 7:00 pm

**Monday, 24 February:**

- Server Training @ 4:30 pm
- Girls’ Guild @ 4:30 pm
- Vespers @ 6:00 pm
- Troops of St. George @ 6:30 pm
- Compline @ 7:00 pm

**Tuesday, 25 February:**

- Compline @ 7:00 pm
- Choir practice @ 7:00 pm

**Wednesday, 26 February:**

- Holy Hour @ 5:00 pm
- Compline @ 6:30 pm

**Thursday, 27 February:**

- Compline @ 7:00 pm

**Friday, 28 February:**

- No Scheduled Events

**Saturday, 1 March:**

- Catholic Latin Class @ 7:00 am (SJR)
- Cantor School @ 9:00 am (SJR)
- Matins @ Lauds @ 4:00 pm

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**PILGRIM VIRGIN MARY STATUE 2025**

02/09-02/16 Santschi	02/16-02/23 Kiser
02/23-03/02 Agnew	03/02-03/09 Buyle
03/09-03/16 Leljedal	03/16-03/23 Grizzle
03/23-03/30 Turntine	03/30-04/06 Haulard
04/06-04/13 Kelly	04/13-04/20 Jones

04/20-04/27 Holman	04/27-05/04 Carapella
05/04-05/11 Cook	05/11-05/18 Hayward
05/18-05/25 Fowler	05/25-06/01 Blum
06/01-06/08 Wisniewski	06/08-06/15 Catalano
06/15-06/22 Kenney	06/22-06/29 Raymond
06/29-07/06 Hayes	07/06-07/13 Schuette
07/13-07/20 Filla	07/20-07/27 Petrick

Drop off and pick up the statue in the vestibule (back of church). Place the statue bag on the floor to left of the Oratory table. To join or to quit the schedule contact Sharon Alexander saalexa@sbcglobal.net

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Monday, 24 February – St. Matthias**

- 6:30 am: Dave McCarthy (d)
- 12:15 pm: Dr. Micheal Chehval (d)

**Tuesday, 25 February – FERIA**

- 6:30 am: Gerald Saykes (d)
- 12:15 pm: Dennis Almos (d)

**Wednesday, 26 February – FERIA**

- 6:30 am: Mary Lou Rheinheimer
- 12:15 pm: Ron & Joan Dobkin & Family

**Thursday, 27 February – St. Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows**

- 6:30 am: Gerald Saykes (d)
- 12:15 pm: Josephine Johnisee (d)

**Friday, 28 February – FERIA**

- 6:30 am: Roman Wunderlich (d)
- 12:15 pm: Michele Murphy

**Saturday, 1 March – Saturday of Our Lady**

- 8:15 am: Rev. Stephen Sotiroff (d)

**Sunday, 2 March – Quinquagesima**

- 6:30 am: Pro Populo
- 8:00 am: Gary Boekers (d)
- 10:00 am: John Ruzicka (d)

**SAFETY ALERT**

PLEASE do NOT allow your children to play on or walk on the metal grates that are in between the rectory and church (near the pergola) and the one that is on the east side of the rectory. THEY ARE NOT SAFE to walk on or play on. We do not want anyone to get hurt. Please be mindful of your children and make sure they are not playing on or around the black metal grates.

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**BLESSING & IMPOSITION OF THE BROWN SCAPULAR**

Twice a year at Advent and Lent, the Oratory invests its faithful in the Brown Scapular. To assist those who desire to have a scapular blessed and imposed on them, **on the First Sunday of Lent, 9 March 2025 after the 8 am Holy Mass**, there will be the blessing and imposition of scapulars on those who present themselves at the communion rail. Please bring your own scapular, have it unwrapped and off your neck if you are already wearing it. As there might a great number of people presenting themselves for this blessing, the only thing that will be blessed this day is the scapular. Any questions, please contact Msgr. Morris directly (rector@oratorysga.org).

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**VISIT TO ST LOUIS BY ST MARTIN'S ACADEMY**

President (Dan Kerr) and Director of Development (Aidan Cyrus) from St. Martin's Academy are making a visit to St. Louis the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of March. St. Martin's is an all-boys traditional Catholic boarding high school in Fort Scott, KS. The TLM is offered daily, some hours of the Office are prayed daily, they run a full farm and the academics are rigorous. There will be a gathering on Friday, 7 March, in the evening (place TBD) to learn about St. Martin's. We will likely be gathering at someone's home. Please consider joining even if you do not have a boy that is high school age or one that will be 13+ for a while. This is another good opportunity to have a very solid place which to tithe. You will be impressed by Dan and what they are doing in a small town in Kansas. Contact Chris Horan at [cmhoran@protonmail.com](mailto:cmhoran@protonmail.com) with questions and to RSVP.

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**CANTOR SCHOOL**

For the Saturdays of February and March, the parish men's schola will host a cantor school for boys and men ages 6 and up, featuring work on cantor skills, including but not limited to

- o The 8 Gregorian Modes
- o Simple chants from the Divine Office
- o More complicated chants from Holy Mass
- o Chants [group and potentially solo] for Holy Week and Easter

Classes will be after 8:15am Mass (approximately 9:00am-10:00am) in the St. Joseph Room (rectory basement), unless otherwise noted.

Please RSVP to Nicholas at [schola@oratorysga.org](mailto:schola@oratorysga.org) if you plan to attend any or all of the classes.

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**LATIN COURSE**

The Cantores Sancti Ludovici and other Latin instructors are offering another 8-week course in Ecclesiastical (Catholic) Latin designed especially for the laity. The remaining dates

are as follows: February 22 AND March 1, 8, 15, and 22 from 7:00am-8:00am in the St. Joseph Room. As with the previous course, the meetings will be largely stand-alone, so it is not necessary to attend them all. While integrating basic Latin grammar and syntax, this course is primarily intended to increase the devotion and piety of the faithful by offering glimpses of the rich theology and history contained in the prayers of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Divine Office, and other Catholic prayers in their original language. There will be a special focus on Holy Week texts [let's make Holy Week even better!].

This course is free, but RSVP registration is requested to [schola@oratorysga.org](mailto:schola@oratorysga.org). Students must be 12 years of age or older. There is no required textbook, but a list of helpful books will be provided to registrants. We encourage you to join us to learn more about our deep Roman Catholic heritage!

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**SEPTUAGESIMA & THE LENTEN SEASON**

The season of Septuagesima began, 16 February 2025 providing the opportunity to better prepare ourselves for the Lenten Season which begins on Ash Wednesday, 5 March 2025.

**Stations of the Cross** will be celebrated on the Fridays of Lent after the conclusion of the 12:15 pm Holy Mass.

The schedule for **Holy Week: HOLY THURSDAY @ 5:00 PM; GOOD FRIDAY @ 3:00 PM; HOLY SATURDAY @ 2:00 PM.** This information is shared early so that you might plan your schedules accordingly.

All of this information will continue to be available both in our bulletin and online. In a few weeks there will be a sheet on the Oratory table in the vestibule that will have all this information for our Lenten season.

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**LENTEN DAYS OF RECOLLECTION**

In order to assist the faithful during the Lenten season, there will be a Day of Reflection for both the women and men of the Oratory of Ss. Gregory and Augustine. The day begins with Holy Mass at 8:15 am and concludes by 2 pm. The retreat is open to non-parishioners and everyone is encouraged to attend. The cost for the day is \$25 and includes lunch. **Further information can be found in the vestibule of Church soon.**

- The Women's Day of Reflection – 29 March 2025
- The Men's Day of Reflection – 5 April 2025

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**LENTEN DAYS OF RECOLLECTION – HELP NEEDED**

In the past for the two Lenten Days of Reflection, the men have assisted with food and cleaning for the women's day (29 March 2025) and the women have provided that same service for the men's day (5 April 2025). If you are willing and able to assist with food set-up for breakfast and lunch and also clean-up after lunch your generosity would be greatly appreciated. Both breakfast and lunch are catered. Please contact Anna Kalinowski ([auxiliatrix@oratorysga.org](mailto:auxiliatrix@oratorysga.org)). In advance, may God reward your generosity.

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**TROOPS OF ST. GEORGE**

*Virtus. Honor. Fraternitas.* Calling all boys ages 6-18 and their fathers! How would you like to pray The Rosary around the campfire, The Angelus atop Taum Sauk Mountain, or St. Michael's Prayer in military formation? Troops of St. George uses the outdoors as our canvas and the sacraments as our path to light the way for the formation of Holy Catholic men and boys. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays at 6:30pm in the St. Joseph Room in addition to campouts, hikes and service projects. Cost is \$50/person, with a max of \$150/family and scholarships are available. Please visit [troopsofstgeorge.org](http://troopsofstgeorge.org), contact [tsg@oratorysga.org](mailto:tsg@oratorysga.org), or join us at our next meeting for more information.

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**EPIPHANY WATER 2025**

Epiphany water is still available to the faithful. Please take what you need. Also, you are free to use your own containers for Epiphany water. All of the blessed water will be available until we run out. The blessed salt and chalk are gone.

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**2025 CALENDARS**

The calendars for 2025 for the Oratory Community have arrived. This year's calendar comes from the Transalpine Redemptorists, a community of traditional monks rooted in the Redemptorists charism who practice both the contemplative and active life. Their motherhouse is in Scotland and they have recently founded a house in Montana.

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**WOMEN'S CONFERENCE (MARCH 2025)**

Catholic Women for Christ: Archdiocese of St. Louis is holding its annual conference on **Saturday, 8 March 2025**. The conference begins at 8:45 am and concludes at 4:00 pm and is being held at the Si Commons on the campus of St. Louis University High School. For more information please visit: [catholicwomenforchrist.org](http://catholicwomenforchrist.org).

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**BLESSED ITEMS**

If you wish to have items blessed, please drop them off at the rectory (Mon-Fri, 9am-2pm) and include your name and telephone number. Please make sure all items are clearly marked. Once Msgr. Morris or Fr. Rennier have blessed the items Donna Mueller, Administrative Assistant to the Rector, will call you to let you know the items are ready for pick up (from the rectory office, Mon-Fri, 9am-2pm). **Please drop off/pick up items at the front door on Dale Avenue, across from the field parking lot.**

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**LOST and FOUND**

As a reminder, the lost and found has been removed from the main vestibule. If you have lost/left your missal in church – please contact the office to see if we have it. For the other miscellaneous items, such as children's books, rosaries, prayer cards, eye glasses, etc. please visit the lost and found which will be located in the St. Joseph Room on Sundays only, during coffee hour.

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**DEVOTION TO THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS - BOOKS**

Please accept a copy of "The Secret of the Holy Face" by Fr. Lawrence Carney as a donation to all parishioners available

in the vestibule of the Church today. Given the course of events occurring in our country and within the Church, especially with regard to the current growth of Communism, it is recommended that Catholics understand and pray the Holy Face Devotion. This powerful devotion was given to mankind by our Lord and evolved as a weapon to combat the evils of Communism when it first appeared. Though the devotion became less popular, primarily after Vatican II, many Catholics now believe there is an urgent and renewed need for this prayerful exercise given its promises.

Numerous miracles are associated with this devotion which has the full approval of the Catholic Church. In 1843 the Lord spoke these words Sr. Marie de Saint Pierre, a Carmelite nun, in Tours:

*"The earth is covered with crimes. The violation of the first three Commandments of God has irritated My Father. The Holy Name of God blasphemed, and the Holy Day of the Lord profaned, filling up the measure of iniquities. These sins have risen into the throne of God and provoked his wrath which will soon burst forth if justice be not appeased. At no time have these crimes reached such a pitch."*

In 1845, the Reparative Mystery of the Holy Face was revealed to Sister Saint-Pierre as the Lord stated: "I seek Veronicas... and by My Holy Face, you will work many miracles."

The Lord gave Sister Saint-Pierre the Golden Arrow prayer as special reparation for blasphemy. She then prayed the rosary asking Our Lady's intercession in helping her to get the Lord's message to others. Shortly thereafter Mary's apparition at La Salette followed which affirmed the Lord's words to Sister Saint-Pierre, "The Church will be in eclipse."

The revelations to Sister Saint Pierre are also at the foundation of Our Lady's warning at Fatima, regarding the spread of atheistic errors of secular humanism, Socialism, and religious suppression contained in Communism and of revolutionary men.

Please consider studying and praying the Holy Face Devotion for our country and for Holy Mother Church in these challenging times.

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**NEW FAMILIES for JANUARY (alphabetical order)**

A warm welcome to our new parishioners!

- Theresa Colombini
- Benjamin Corbalis
- Elizabeth Di Valerio
- Gianna Fiumara
- Samantha Klump
- The Lamons Family ~ Ethan & Jennifer
- Marie LeJedal
- Grace Leonard
- Sydney Rooneo
- Timothy Schultz
- The Sessions Family ~ David and Adalynn

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# Sexagesima

23 February 2025

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

In your charity, please pray for the following members of the Oratory who are ill: Emily Brex; Damien Bruening, son of Aurora Miller; Jeanmarie DeCoster; Mary Gleckler, mother of Cathy Saccente and Mary Nelson; Hannah Green, daughter of Nicholas & Julie Green; Lena Henry, daughter of Toni & Mickey Henry; Shane Kiser, husband of Maggie Kiser; Dotty Kuhlmann, mother of Donna Mueller; Nicholas Lober, son of Bob & Theresa Lober; Mary McMahan; ; Michael Norfleet, son of Marsha Norfleet; Elizabeth Ryan; Patrick Schneider; Sylvester Soldinie; Lara Trudell, daughter of Sharon and Jim Alexander; and Renee Weidner.

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## PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

- Leona May Auer, mother of Keith Auer
- Robert Michael Marcos, step-father of Mary Auer
- Francis James Mooney, brother of James Mooney
- Louis Schubert, father of Ben Schubert
- Claudia Lee vonSydow
- Ruth Wilke, sister of Robert Schuette
- John Williams, brother of Mary McMahan

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## USHERS' SCHEDULE

Sunday, 23 February

6:30 am Jim Alexander\*, Chris Bauman

8:00 am Kip Babington\*, Terry Conway, Jeff Martin, Ken Catalano

10:00 am Mark Scheer\*, Robert Morgan, Patrick Kelly, Charlie Raymond

Sunday, 2 March

6:30 am Ben Schubert\*, Evan Adair

8:00 am Terry Conway\*, Sam Ashlock, Ken Catalano, Greg Rheinheimer

10:00 am Robert Morgan\*, Patrick Kelly, Gabe Jones, Jesse Hermann

Sunday, 9 March

6:30 am Chris Bauman\*, Bill Saccente

8:00 am Sam Ashlock\*, Greg Rheinheimer, Ken Catalano, Michael Nelson

10:00 am Patrick Kelly\*, Charlie Raymond, Gabe Jones, Jesse Hermann

Sunday, 16 March

6:30 am Evan Adair\*, Ben Schubert

8:00 am Greg Rheinheimer\*, Jeff Martin, Michael Nelson, Ken Catalano

10:00 am Charlie Raymond\*, Gabe Jones, Jesse Hermann, Joe Gassiraro

### + Altar Server Schedule: February – March 2025 +

Date	Time	MC at High Mass / Acolyte at Low Mass	Thurifer	Acolyte 1	Acolyte 2
23 February 2025	6:30 am	Michael Norfleet			
	8:00 am	Michael Rheinheimer			
	10:00 am	Michael Turntine	Joseph Noble	Joseph Fowler	Silas Buyle
2 March 2025	6:30 am	Jack Ryan			
	8:00 am	Matthew Rheinheimer			
	10:00 am	Philip Petrick	Michael Rennier	Michael Blum	Raymond Buyle
9 March 2025	6:30	Michael Norfleet			
	8:00	Joseph Blum			
	10:00	Salvatore Saccente	Castor Armesto	Augustine Rennier	Cabhan Ten-Eyck
16 March 2025	6:30	Jack Ryan			
	8:00	Matthew Rheinheimer			
	10:00	Sebastian Petrick	John Morgan	Levi Garvey	William Hayes
23 March 2025	6:30	Michael Norfleet			
	8:00	Castor Armesto			
	10:00	Paul Thomas Blaxton	Peter Blum	Paul Keys	George Blaxton

## FIRST SATURDAY/FIRST FRIDAY

1 March 2025	8:15 am	Salvatore Saccente	Joseph Noble	Joseph Fowler	Charles Fowler
7 March 2025	6:30 pm	Michael Turntine	Michael Rennier	Augustine Rennier	Silas Buyle

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## WELLSPRING OF TRADITION:

The Season of Septuagesima comprises the three weeks immediately preceding Lent. It forms one of the principal divisions of the Liturgical Year, and is itself divided into three parts, each part corresponding to a week: the first is called *Septuagesima*; the second, *Sexagesima*; the third, *Quinquagesima*.

All three are named from their numerical reference to Lent, which, in the language of the Church, is called *Quadragesima*, - that is, *Forty*, - because the great Feast of Easter is prepared for by these holy exercises of *Forty Days*. The words *Quinquagesima*, *Sexagesima*, and *Septuagesima*, tell us of the same great Solemnity as looming in the distance, and as being the great object towards which the Church would have us now begin to turn all our thoughts, and desires, and devotion.

The number *seven* is the basis of all these mysteries. Let us now meditate on the doctrine hid under the symbols of her Liturgy. And first, let us listen to St. Augustine, who thus gives us the clue to the whole of our Season’s mysteries. “There are two times,” says the Holy Doctor: “one which is *now*, and is spent in the temptations and tribulations of this life; the other which shall be *then*, and shall be spent in eternal security and joy. In figure of these, we celebrate two periods: the time ‘*before Easter*’ and the time ‘*after Easter.*’ That which is ‘*before Easter,*’ signifies the sorrow of this present life; that which is ‘*after Easter,*’ the blessedness of our future state. Hence it is, that we spend the first in fasting and prayer; and in the second, we give up our fasting, and give ourselves to praise.” [Enarrations; *Psalms* clviii.]

The Church, the interpreter of the Sacred Scriptures, often speaks to us of two *places*, which correspond with these two *times* of St. Augustine. These two places are Babylon and Jerusalem. *Babylon* is the image of this world of sin, in the midst whereof the Christian has to spend his years of probation; *Jerusalem* is the heavenly country, where he is to repose after all his trials. The people of Israel, whose whole history is but one great type of the human race, was banished from Jerusalem and kept in bondage in Babylon.

Now, this captivity, which kept the Israelites exiles from Sion, lasted seventy years; and it is to express this mystery, as Alcuin, Amalarius, Ivo of Chartres, and all the great Liturgists tell us, that the Church fixed the number of *Seventy* for the days of expiation. It is true, there are but sixty-three days between Septuagesima and Easter; but the Church, according to the style so continually used in the Sacred Scriptures, uses the round number instead of the literal and precise one.

The duration of the world itself, according to the ancient Christian tradition, is divided into seven ages. The human race must pass through seven Ages before the dawning of the Day of eternal life. The first Age included the time from the creation of Adam to Noah; the second begins with Noah and the renovation of the earth by the Deluge, and ends with the vocation of Abraham; the third opens with this first formation of God’s chosen people, and continues as far as Moses, through whom God gave the Law; the fourth consists of the period between Moses and David, in whom the house of Juda received the kingly power; the fifth is formed of the years, which passed between David’s reign and the captivity of Babylon, inclusively; the sixth dates from the return of the Jews to Jerusalem, and takes us on as far as the Birth of our Saviour. Then, finally, comes the seventh Age; it starts with the rising of this merciful Redeemer, the Sun of Justice, and is to continue till the dread coining of the Judge of the living and the dead. These are the Seven great divisions of Time; after which, Eternity.

In order to console us in the midst of the combats, which so thickly beset our path, the Church, like a beacon shining amidst the darkness of this our earthly abode, - shows us another *Seven*, which is to succeed the one we are now preparing to pass through. After the Septuagesima of mourning, we shall have the bright Easter with its *Seven* weeks of gladness, foreshadowing the happiness and bliss of Heaven. After having fasted with our Jesus, and suffered with him, the day will come when we shall rise together with him, and our hearts shall follow him to the highest heavens, and then after a brief interval, we shall feel descending upon us the Holy Ghost, with his *Seven* Gifts. The celebration of all these wondrous joys will take us *Seven* weeks, as the great Liturgists observe in their interpretation of the Rites of the Church: the seven joyous weeks from Easter to Pentecost will not be too long for the future glad Mysteries, which, after all, will be but figures of a still gladder future, the future of eternity.

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~ 02/16/2025 ~	
Weekly Collection Total	\$13,457.63
Online Giving	\$ 6,235.93
Total	\$ 19,693.56
Needed	\$ 17,869.00
Year to Date Total	\$ 552,690.98

***Our Lady of Walsingham, intercede for us who have recourse to thee!  
Ss. Gregory and Augustine, pray for us!***

**Perfect Love**  
DOULA SERVICES  
Amanda Antony, Doula  
doulaperfectlovedoula.com  
(903) 348-6205  
"Perfect love casts out fear."  
1 John 4:18

**COLDWELL BANKER PREMIER GROUP**  
**Alex Filla**  
Premier Real Estate Agent | Oratory Member  
afilla@cbphomes.com  
Office: 636-231-3122 • Cell: 636-390-2121

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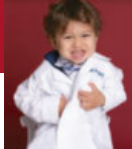
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