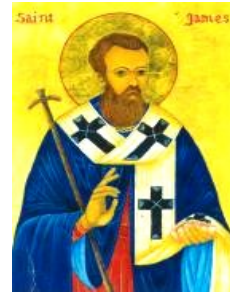


22ND SUNDAY ORDINARY YR B 2021 29 AUGUST

The Parish of St James Coorparoo A Vibrant, Prayerful, Inclusive Augustinian Parish Archdiocese of Brisbane



On my behalf of all my brother Augustinians at the Villanova Priory and around Australia, I would like to extend my greetings to all of you on this special weekend as we celebrate the feast days of St Monica and our Holy Father, Spiritual Founder of the Order, **ST AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO**. HAPPY FEAST DAY! - Fr Francis, OSA

- * **August 27 (Friday)** — Feast Day of St Monica, mother of St Augustine, patroness of mothers
- * **August 28 (Saturday)** — Solemnity, Our Holy Father, St Augustine - Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- * **August 29 (Sunday)** — Parish Community Gathering after 9AM Mass (Friends of St Augustine)



THE TEARS OF ST. AUGUSTINE

Written by: Br. Augustine Marogi, OP

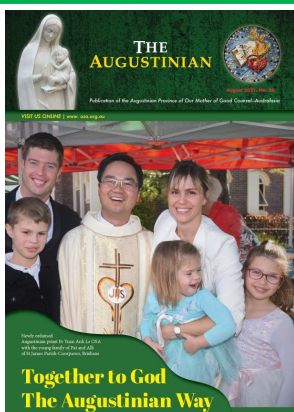
<https://www.wordonfire.org/resources/blog/the-son-of-tears/28347/>

Fra Angelico's painting, *The Conversion of St. Augustine*, offers a great insight into the spirituality of the Doctor of Grace. At the forefront of the painting, commanding the immediate attention of the viewer, is the figure of St. Augustine sitting and weeping. The painting portrays the moment of St. Augustine's conversion as it is described in his *Confessions* (Book VIII, chapter 12).

In the garden of his friend's house in Milan, after long struggles with "old attachments" that kept him from embracing the life of continence, Augustine gave way to the "storm" of tears that had been welling up inside of him, expressing his great remorse for his sinfulness, which proved to be invincible to his own strength. He wept because he felt he was the "captive" of his "sins," and while crying, he kept repeating, "How long shall I go on saying 'tomorrow, tomorrow'? Why not now? Why not make an end of my ugly sins at this moment?"

Augustine's tears signify a moment of recognition as well as an articulation of "inexpressible groanings," of sentiments that are too profound to be expressed in human words (Rom. 8:26). He recognizes his ineptitude and powerlessness when dealing with the consequences of his wounded nature. This recognition makes him look for a different source of strength through which he can overcome his weaknesses. He lifts his gaze to God and discovers the mystery of grace, which alone has the power to change the hardest of hearts and heal the most festering of wounds. Tears are the beginning of the road to holiness for this hopeless sinner.

These "inexpressible groanings" communicate to God the soul's deepest yearnings for salvation. On the one hand, these yearnings are mysterious and difficult for us to put into words. They are often tucked away or covered with the meaningless noise and clamor of our transient and worldly cares. On the other hand, the Father hears these yearnings from afar. He catches "sight" of them while they are "still a long way off" and sends the Holy Spirit, who "comes to the aid of our weakness" by translating them into a prayer consisting of "inexpressible groanings," which communicate to the Father our deep-seated longing for heaven (Luke 15:20, Rom. 8:26). The visible sign of this communication is torrential tears, tears of repentance that wash away our past and urge us on to a new beginning. (...continued on page 3)



Grab your copy (once available) of the most recent issue of **THE AUGUSTINIAN** featuring our very own Fr Tuan Anh Le's article on page 9.

On the cover of this issue are Fr Tuan, during his priestly ordination, together with the lovely family of Patrick & Alex who recently moved further north in QLD.

Social Justice

This Sunday, 29th of August, we celebrate Social Justice Sunday.

The Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement, *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*, invites us to join in responding to Pope Francis' invitation to take a 7-year journey towards total ecological sustainability guided by seven Laudato Si' Goals. The Statement provides theological foundations to ground and inspire our efforts to care for creation while responding to the needs of the disadvantaged and excluded. ACBC Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace, www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au or Tel (02) 6201 9845.

St. James Parish acknowledges the Jaggera People of Coorparoo as the traditional owners of the land on which we live.

BRINGING HOME THE GOSPEL

Hypocrisy

The Pharisees reprimand Jesus for allowing his disciples to eat without purifying themselves. They pretend to be shocked when Jesus does not follow the tradition of his religion. Jesus exposes the hypocrisy of the Pharisees to the crowd that has gathered.

Jesus makes it pretty clear he does not like hypocrites. In this Gospel, he is referring to the Pharisees who are more impressed with outward appearances than inner character. We have a wise saying concerning the same thing, "Don't judge a book by its cover." In the case of the Pharisees, the cover looked fine; it was the inside that was corrupt. I recall hoping the faculty would remember that saying with its proper meaning as I watched my son leave for school one Monday, following spring break.

Peter was wearing knee-length shorts and sneakers with one gray sock and one red. When I pointed the fact out to him, he replied that wearing socks of different colours was his thing. Apparently, he'd been doing it all year. I hadn't noticed because, up until now, he'd been wearing long pants. I didn't say another word. Peter is the youngest of my five; I'd already learned to pick my battles.



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"Be doers of the word, not hearers only, deluding yourselves."

Sheepish Question:

When and why have I tried to get around what God really wants?

FAMILY RESPONSE

Ask family members to talk about a time when they felt people were judging them unjustly. How did they feel? What did they do?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

Are there or were there ever any areas in your life where you have been hypocritical? How do you feel about it? What do you want to remember from last week? What are you looking forward to next week? What are your concerns?

I knew that when a child becomes an adolescent, I had to let some things go, saving my energy for the really important issues. I knew Pete was a good kid. He was respectful, kind and generous. If people were going to judge my son on his outward appearance, it was their problem. I try to remember how I felt that spring whenever I see a teenager with pants hanging below his boxers or hair dyed a bright orange. "Don't judge," I tell myself, "he's probably a great kid with wonderful parents." And I think about Peter today, a junior high teacher in a Catholic school who wears a shirt and tie every day and socks of the same colour.

Bringing Home the Gospel: Parent Reflections on the Sunday Gospels • Copyright © 2007, 2021 Judith Dunlap. Published by the Pastoral Center, PastoralCenter.com. All rights reserved. Scripture passages have been taken from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright ©1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A., and used by permission. All rights reserved.

Justice Challenge

If there is a message to hear this week, it is about being ready. The parables foretell the end of the world... be ready for you don't know when that might be. For Christians, that means we need to believe in, think about, and do the right things in life; we need to have our priorities in order. So what does this include? Feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit those in prison and give drink to those who are thirsty. Spend your life doing these things and you will be prepared. Why is that? These things shape our hearts and make us humble and willing to put others before ourselves. They help us to see the face of Christ in our midst. It is the crazy paradox of being a Christian. To be first, you must be last. To be a leader, you must be a servant. Are you ready? What are you spending your time on these days? The challenge this week is to look at your calendar... personal and family. How are you spending your time? Read Matthew 25:31-46, and make sure some of those things make it on your calendar each week.



Friends of St Augustine—an appreciation book by Mary McCormick (Melbourne). Email mary_mccormick@bigpond.com for book ordering details or [click here for order form](#).



Prayers

Please pray for recently deceased: Jacinta Severe;

Maria Van der Kamp; Maria Fernandez; Celedonia Marchesi; Joyce O'Brien; Leticia Baro; Patricia Frampton; Ann Testa; Michael Hayes; Bruce Smith; Luke Farrelly; Emilita Velayo

And these anniversaries: Robert Romano; Joan Shapland; Marie O'Reilly; Phillip & Noel Hunt.

Please pray for these unwell: Susan Carnay; Kevin Ryan; Jennie Hapea; Rita Lynch; Kay Bishop; Paul Andersen; Nancy Spriggins; Nenita Irasusta; Ty De Paoli; Kevin Sheehan; Bill Trewern; Des Crawford; Susan Blunt; Frank Cassidy; Marilou Balatinsayo.



AUGUST

27Aug -25September Fr Francis away

28 / 29 Saturday 4.30-5.30pm Reconciliation (book through Eventbrite); Year B/1 22nd Sunday Ordinary / St Augustine / Social Justice Sunday (Saturday Vigil 6pm; Sunday 7 & 9am) No Baptisms.

SEPTEMBER

27Aug -25September Fr Francis away

1 Going Deeper Week 2 8:45am-9:45am at St James Priory

1 Alpha this week (zoom)

2 Thursday St Rita's Conference 6.30pm in the Priory.

3 Friday 9am mass Anointing + Healing mass

3 Friday evening 6.30pm St James Priory Brisbane East Deanery Scripture Study Group

4 / 5 Saturday 4.30-5.30pm Reconciliation (book through Eventbrite); Year B/1 22nd Sunday Ordinary (Saturday Vigil 6pm; Sunday 7 & 9am) Baptisms; **First Holy Communion.**

Parish news

ALPHA—via ZOOM! —

Contact Doreen dashiki.c@gmail.com or <https://www.alpha.org/try-alpha/> & type Coorparoo.



Going Deeper is a ten-session online series of video discussions about the heart of the Catholic faith: St James parishioners may join the **Wednesday** sessions right after the morning mass. Sessions begin 8:45am at St James Priory. Those who wish to do this via Zoom, please scan the

QR code to register. Zoom sessions are on Tuesdays, beginning 7 September 7.30pm.



First Holy Communion:

Saturday 6pm September 4th AND

Sunday 9am September 5th

Sunday 9am September 12th Thanksgiving Mass.



(... continued from page 1)

St. Augustine's tears were not without important parallels. To the left of Fra Angelico's painting stands the figure of a man whose posture also denotes an emotional moment that is related to the one experienced by the main character. This figure is Alypius. At the same time of Augustine's conversion, Alypius also experiences the voice of God in his life through a scriptural passage that he reads in the Letter

to the Romans. When they both disclose to each other their desire to commit their lives to God and take up the life of celibacy, they go to Augustine's mother, St. Monica, and inform her of their decision. In turn, Monica is overjoyed at this news because she sees her son's commitment to the celibate life as God's generous response to her many "prayerful tears and plaintive lamentations."



St. Monica is very closely connected to her son's conversion. She spent seventeen years shedding tears over his waywardness, begging God for his soul. When her son embraced the Manichean heresy, she asked a Catholic bishop to speak to him and refute his errors. The bishop told her it was unwise to have that conversation with her son because he was "unripe for instructions," and that, in time, he would discover the truth simply by reading the Manicheans' books. This answer would not pacify the mother. She was relentless in her visits to the bishop, incessant with her tears for her son's conversion. Finally, losing his patience, the bishop said to her, "Leave me and go in peace. It cannot be that the son of these tears should be lost." He was correct; the son of tears discovered the Truth and offered his life to him. (*Dominicans of the Province of St. Joseph*)

Date nights! The Marriage Course: 7 Sessions

29 October — 3 December, 2021 Fridays from

7pm—9pm. At the moment we only have 4 couples who have replied to this invitation. Please send your intention to join by emailing pp.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au.



Romero's Pantry Run Appeal - Shopping vouchers desperately needed. Lockdowns signal a real crisis for the individuals and families we support. <https://romero.mercycommunity.org.au/donations/>



Safeguarding Sunday 12 September 2021

Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday (formerly Child Protection Sunday) on the second Sunday of September, at the conclusion of National Child Protection Week (5-11 September, 2021). Safeguarding Sunday seeks to acknowledge the immense damage caused by the sexual abuse of children and adults at risk, including by priests, religious and lay people within Catholic contexts. It makes a commitment to practices and protocols that create and maintain safe environments for all people. It invites people to pray for those harmed by abuse directly and indirectly.

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Parish Priest: pp.stjames@bne.catholic.net.au

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Primary School

92 Kirkland Ave,
Coorparoo, 4151.

Julian Cotter—Principal

Peter Gibson—Religious Education

Phone: 3457 1100

Fax: 3847 3337

Email: pcoorparoostj@bne.catholic.edu.au

Web: www.stjames.qld.edu.au/



Administration

Parish Priest	Fr Francis Belciña OSA	3397 1671
Assist Priest	Fr Lê Tuấn Anh (Tuan Anh) OSA	3397 1671
Parish Secretary	Trish Rashad	3397 1671
Parish Council Chairperson	Ray Mitchell	3892 1682
Finance Committee	Mark Garden	3397 1671
Pastoral Care	Parish Office	3397 1671
Safeguarding Officer	Kate Pearson	3397 1671

This Sunday's Readings 22nd Sunday Ordinary Time First Reading Deuteronomy

4: 1-2, 6-8 You may add nothing to the word which I speak to you—keep the commands of the Lord. **Second Reading James 1: 17-18, 21-22, 27** Be doers of the word. **Gospel Reading Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23** You forget the commandments of God and hold on to human tradition.



Weekly Mass times WEEKEND: Saturday 8am; Vigil 6pm.

Sunday 7am, 9am, no longer 6pm.

WEEKDAY: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 8am WEEKDAY: Friday 9am.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 4.30—5.30pm... by [Eventbrite link](#) or call parish office.

HEALING + ANOINTING MASS: Friday 1st October @ 9am.

ALL NIGHT VIGIL: Postponed Friday 1st October.

NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY (at this stage).

Counters

August 28 / 29 Anne & Margaret & Sylvia

September 4 / 5 Karleen & Sandra

Next week	23rd Ord Time Sept 5	VIGIL (FIRST H COM) SATURDAY 6PM	SUNDAY 7AM	SUN (FIRST H COM) 9AM
CHOIR (1st weekend)		Friends Filo Group	n/a	Akila & Group
COMMENTATOR		Bill S	Merina M	John W
LECTOR		Lorie R	Jana V	Leo B
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF COMMUNION		Ron S Anne S	Berenice T-F	Mike S Morag S
ALTAR SERVER/S		Joe R	Gene T-F	Leah S / Lalan C
POWERPOINT		Paul D	Gilbert / John D	Di / June S
MARSHAL		Lorie / Karen / Edward	Brendon G / Trish R	Else E

Next Sunday's Readings 23rd Sunday Ordinary Time / St Augustine

First Reading Isaiah 35: 4-7 Then the ears of the deaf shall be opened and the tongues of the dumb speak.

Second Reading James 2: 1-5 Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the kingdom?

Gospel Reading Mark 7: 31-37 He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

For complete Sunday's readings, visit our [St James website](#) (look for the Prayer tab).

www.stjames-coorparoo.org.au/sundays-readings.