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Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A



August 27, 2023

**First Reading** – *Isaiah 22. 15, 19-23.* I will place on his shoulders the key of the House of David

**Second Reading** – *Romans 11.33-36.* You are Peter. I will give you the keys of the Kingdom

**Gospel** - *Matthew 16. 13-20.* You are Peter. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

**Pope’s Prayer Intention for August – For World Youth Day** – We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and to witness the Gospel in their own lives.

**Mass: Times, Feasts, Readings and Intentions:**



**Sunday, 10:00 A.M. – Twenty- First Sunday in Ordinary Time** – *Isaiah 22.15, 19-23, Romans 11.33-36, Matthew 16.13-20* – Intention: Pro Populo (For the People)

**2:00 P.M.** – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy Prayers and Reflections, and Meditation Time

**3:00 P.M.** – Divine Mercy Chaplet, Readings, Meditation Time, and Benediction

**Monday – 9:30 A.M. – Saint Augustine, Bishop, Doctor** – 1 Thessalonians 1.1-5, 8b-10, Matthew 23.13-22

**Tuesday, 9:30 A.M. –The Passion of Saint John the Baptist** – Jeremiah 1.17-19, Mark 6.17-29 – For the intentions of Michael, Meghan Bridget, Ben and Nora

**Wednesday, 9:30 A.M** – 1 Thessalonians 2.9-13, Matthew 23.27-32

**Thursday, 9:30 A.M.** – 1 Thessalonians 3.7-13, Matthew 24.42-51, For the Intentions of Michael, Meghan, Bridget, Ben and Nora

**Friday, 9:30 A.M.** – First Friday – 1 Thessalonians 4.1-8 Matthew 25.1-13 – For the repose of the soul of Debbie Green – requested by her husband, Donald Green

**Saturday, 10:00 A.M.** – Our Lady's Saturday – 1 Thessalonians 4.9-11, Matthew 25.14-30 – A request for prayers

**Sunday, 10:00 A.M. – Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time** – Jeremiah 20.7-9, Romans 12. 1-2, Matthew 16.21-27

**2:00 P.M.** – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Divine Mercy Prayers, and Reflection Time, and Meditation Time

**3:00 P.M.** – Divine Mercy Chaplet, Readings, Meditation Time, and Benediction

**Feast of Saint Augustine – Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup> – SPECIAL TIMINGS – Everyone is Invited (Not necessary to attend every event)**

**8:30 A.M.** - Office of Readings

**9:00 A.M.** – Morning Prayer

**9:30 A.M.** – Mass in honour of Saint Augustine – Celebrant: Father Albert MacPherson, O.S.A., Concelebrant: Father Frank Pellerin, A.S.C.

**10:30 A.M.** – Brunch hosted by Dan and Lucille Fougere

**12:00 P.M.** – Noon Day Office, followed by the Litany of Saint Augustine

**Saint Augustine** - This famous son of St. Monica was born in Africa and spent



many years of his life in wicked living and in false beliefs. Though he was one of the most intelligent men who ever lived and though he had been brought up a Christian, his sins of impurity and his pride darkened his mind so much, that he could not see or understand the Divine Truth anymore. Through the prayers of his holy mother and the marvelous preaching of St. Ambrose, Augustine finally became convinced that Christianity was the one true religion. Yet he did not become a Christian then, because he thought he could never live a pure life. One day, however, he heard about two men who had suddenly been converted on reading the life of St. Antony, and he felt terrible ashamed of himself. "What are we doing?" he cried to his friend Alipius. "Unlearned people are taking Heaven by force,

while we, with all our knowledge, are so cowardly that we keep rolling around in the mud of our sins!"

Full of bitter sorrow, Augustine flung himself out into the garden and cried out to God, "How long more, O Lord? Why does not this hour put an end to my sins?" Just then he heard a child singing, "Take up and read!" Thinking that God intended him to hear those words, he picked up the book of the Letters of St. Paul, and read the first passage his gaze fell on. It was just what Augustine needed, for in it, St. Paul says to put away all impurity and to live in imitation of Jesus. That did it! From then on, Augustine began a new life.

He was baptized, became a priest, a bishop, a famous Catholic writer, Founder of religious orders, and one of the greatest saints that ever lived. He became very devout and charitable, too. On the wall of his room he had the following sentence written in large letters: "Here we do not speak evil of anyone." St. Augustine overcame strong heresies, practiced great poverty and supported the poor, preached very often and prayed with great fervor right up until his death. "Too late have I loved You!" he once cried to God, but with his holy life he certainly made up for the sins he committed before his conversion. His feast day is August 28th.

**World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation: September 1** – In 2015, Pope Francis declared September 1 as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. Coinciding with a celebration instituted by the Orthodox Church, it is a day of ecumenical prayer and unity. The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace (which is in the process of merging with the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development) has proposed celebrations on their website. Gatherings for prayer are encouraged. Communities are encouraged to take practical initiatives to combat earth's environmental crisis. After Mass, on Friday we will have a special prayer service to unite ourselves with the universal Church.



**Pope appeals for a renewal of our relationship with**

**Creation** - Pope Francis' message for the 2023 World Day

of Prayer for the Care of Creation is released focusing on

the theme, "Let Justice and Peace Flow", inspired by the words of the prophet Amos:

"Let justice flow on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream."

**By Vatican News staff writer**

In his **Message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation** (released on Thursday 25 May ahead of the 2023 celebration on 1 September) Pope Francis chose the theme "Let Justice and Peace Flow," inspired by the words of the prophet Amos: "Let justice flow on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream." The Pope begins by noting that, "God wants justice to reign; it is as essential to our life

as God's children made in his likeness as water is essential for our physical survival."

Pope Francis first instituted the September 1st World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation in 2015, serving as a way to encourage the faithful around the world to pray for our common home. The annual day also marks the beginning of an ecumenical outreach bringing Christians to pray and work together in what is called the Season of Creation which lasts till 4 October, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. The origins of the day also go back to Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios who proclaimed September 1 as Creation Day for the Orthodox in 1989, followed by other Christian European Churches in 2001, and by Pope Francis in 2015.

Hearts in harmony

Recalling his apostolic journey to Canada in July 2022, and in particular his visit to the Indigenous People on the shores of Lac Ste. Anne in Alberta, the Pope reflected on how so many of the people down through the ages have found "consolation and strength" from these waters, likening the natural beauty there to the "maternal heartbeat of the earth." And just as the heart of a baby in the womb beats in harmony with the mother, so also "we need to harmonize our own rhythms of life with those of creation, which gives us life."

"During this Season of Creation, let us dwell on those heartbeats: our own and those of our mothers and grandmothers, the heartbeat of creation and the heartbeat of God. Today they do not beat in harmony; they are not harmonized in justice and peace.," he writes.

And decriing the fact that too many of our brothers and sisters are prevented from drinking from that mighty river, the Pope says "Let us heed our call to stand with the victims of environmental and climate injustice, and to put an end to the senseless war against creation."

*"Let us heed our call to stand with the victims of environmental and climate injustice, and to put an end to the senseless war against creation"*

### **Healing Masses -**

Father Albert MacPherson, O.S.A.

Augustinian Healing Ministries

Friday, September 22, 2023, 7:00 P.M.

And

Friday, December 3, 2023, 7:00 P.M.

Our Lady of Grace Monastery Chapel