

St. Augustine Parish

Bridgeport, PA

*Serving the people of Bridgeport, Swedesburg and areas of King of Prussia & Swedeland since 1892.
Serving the people of the former Slovak Catholic Parish of Our Mother of Sorrows (OMS) since 2001.*



*Two
Beautiful
Churches!
One Great Parish*



PARISH STAFF

Reverend Louis C. Bier, Pastor
Rev. Robert J. Murray, O.S.A., Weekend Ministry
Reverend Francis H. Gallen, Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Msgr. Francis X. Schmidt, Pastor Emeritus

PARISH RECTORY

464 Ford Street
Bridgeport, Pennsylvania 19405
Phone: (610)272-4088 – Facsimile: (610)272-6396

Parish Website: www.saintaugustinechurch.net

ST. AUGUSTINE CEMETERY & MAUSOLEUM

Rt. 202,
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406
Phone: (610)272-1710 – Facsimile: (610)272-6396

MASS & WORSHIP SCHEDULE

(All Masses celebrated at St. Augustine Church unless noted otherwise).

Saturday Vigil: 5:00p.m.
Sunday: 8:00 @ OMS Worship Site
10:30a.m.
Weekdays: 7:30a.m. (Mon.-Thursday)
Holy Days: As announced.

DEVOTIONS: Miraculous Medal Prayers: Wednesdays after Mass. **Eucharistic Adoration:** Wednesdays from 8:00a.m until 12:00 Noon.

FAITH FORMATION: For parish children in grades K-8 attending non-catholic school. Instructions are held every Sunday at 9:00a.m.

CONFESSIONS: Each Saturday from 4:00 to 4:30p.m. Eves of Holy Days: 20 minutes before the Vigil Mass. Seasonal Penance Services and anytime by appointment.

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is held during the year for any adult committed to discern if God is calling him/her to the Catholic faith.

PRE-JORDAN: Expectant parents and godparents are asked to participate in a seminar on Baptism held on the 4th Monday of every other month (Sept., Nov., Jan., March, May, July) in the Ministry wing at 7:30 p.m. Please call the rectory to register for the seminar. **Godparents:** Must bring a letter of eligibility from their home parish the evening of the seminar.

BAPTISMS: Celebrated the 2nd Sunday of every month after the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

MARRIAGE: Arrangements should be made at least six months before the date of the wedding. Please contact the rectory.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK: Any parishioner who is ill, infirm or shut-in may receive Holy Communion at home. Please call the rectory for the Sacrament of the Anointing. Please inform us of anyone who is hospitalized.

NEW PARISHIONERS: All are welcome. Please register by calling the rectory. Those moving should inform the rectory office as soon as possible.

OFFICE HOURS: Mon.-Friday 9:00am – 4:00pm. The rectory office is closed on civic holidays.

PLEASE NOTE: Personal receivers are available in the Sacristy for use at Mass for the hearing impaired.

The United Way of Southeastern PA Code Number for Bridgeport CYO is: 2328 St. Augustine

We Are a Tithing Parish

January 25, 2009 - 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

“Teach me your ways, O Lord.”

COORDINATORS OF PARISH MINISTRIES & ACTIVITIES

Adult Faith Formation –
Altar Servers – *Leo Brady*
Altar Society –
Baby Sitting (Sunday Mass) –
Baptismal Prep. – *Amy Czarkowski & Cheryl Smith*
Building Committee –
Bulletin – *Mary Ann Krajnik*
Business Manager – *Coleen Popowicz*
Cantors – *Helen Surman & Jan Krueger*
Catholic Charities – *Jim Murphy*
Children’s Faith Formation (CCD)–*Janet Kita*
Cemetery Supervisor – *Jack DeStefano*
Choir (Adult) – *Kass Reid*
Community of Disciples – *Sr. Catherine & Ed Loughlin*
CYO Advisory Board – *Jerry Cunnane*
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion –
Kay Bolger & Jozef Bobok
Finance Council – *Father Bier*
Food Certificate Program – *Coleen Popowicz*
God’s Little Children – *Barbara Bores*
Heart Program – *Beth Stalker*
Hospitality Days - *Carol Wisor*
Ladies Guild – *Mary Ann Krajnik*
Lectors – *Peter Frasier & Eleanor Grabowski*
Liturgy Committee – *Father Bier*
Music Ministry – *Kass Reid & Helen Surman*
Newsletter –
Pastoral Council – *Father Bier*
Peace & Justice Committee – *Janet Kita*
Prayer Chain – *Linda Korpel*
Pre-Cana – *John & Sheila Sargent*
Prime Time (Senior Outreach)
RCIA Representative –
Respect Life – *Robert Bores*
Sacristan – *Leo Brady*
Stewardship Committee –
Ushers – *Junior Evan & John Czarkowski*
Vocation Coordinator – *John Sargent*
Website Coordinator – *Jozef Bobok*
Welcoming Committee –
Youth Ministry – *Vanessa T. Unger*

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Rev. Louis C. Bier Kevin Bonner, '10 Karen Hinchey, '10 Janet Kita (ex-officio)
Mary Eads, '09 Shawn Courtney, '10 Edward Kohler, '10 Leo Brady (appointed)
Sheila Sargent, '09 John Czarkowski, '10 Brenda Turner, '10 Mary Ann Krajnik (appointed)

“TITHING IS GOD’S PLAN FOR GIVING”

“And of all that You give me, I surely give one tenth to You.”

Genesis 28:22

Sunday, January 18, 2009 - \$4,335.20	Sunday, January 20, 2008 - \$ 5,122.55
Christmas, 2008 thus far - \$19,046.00	Christmas, 2007 - \$18,034.00
Catholic Relief - \$620.22	Catholic Relief - \$ 1,035.98

Thank you for tithing – 5% to God’s Church and 5% to God’s other good works (2nd collections, Missions, Catholic Charities, Poor box, Parish Campaigns, Cancer research, Private charities, etc.).

TITHING COMMENTS

Father Bier – *“We now thank God for His gift of love to us – His Son, Jesus Christ. Let us give back to God our gratitude by ‘tithing.’ I thank everyone who is ‘tithing’ and I ask everyone to consider becoming a tither during this season of ‘loving.’ If you cannot give a full 5%, then why not begin with 3%. God in His love will be grateful.”*

A Parishioner – *“God always provided for me and my family and I am so thankful. I hope more parishioners begin to tithe as I have done for 10 years. It is an act of faith - and God will respond to that faith. Just trust Him.”*

Every household has received a **“Tithing Comment”** card. After you have had some time to pray, read and think about tithing, you are invited to share your personal feelings by returning this ‘comment’ card via the collection basket. Your comments will help and encourage our parishioners to join in the spirit of tithing.

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

Please pray for these and all our Military personnel:



BM2 Stefan Bachman, Cpt. Pascal Blanchette, Cpl. James Ellis, USMC, HM2 Michael Ford, Gregory Giordano (Army), Gregory Kantz, Stephen Kantz, 2nd Lt. Joseph Saboe, Lt. J.G. Shane R. Dennis, Sgt. Matthew McNulty, 1st Lt.

Jeffrey A. Seamans, USMC, Major William Watson.

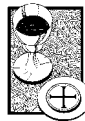
“Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen”

The SANCTUARY CANDLE burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. This week the Sanctuary Candle is in memory of the deceased members of the Oldrate family at the request of the family.



An offering of \$10.00 is requested. You can call the rectory to make arrangements.

THE BREAD & WINE in the early Church were brought by the people and used at the celebration of the Mass. The bread and wine this week is for an increase of vocations to the Priesthood.



If you wish to participate in this ancient ritual of the Church, please call the rectory to make arrangements. An offering of \$20.00 for each memorial is requested.

If you wish to place flowers on the altars at either of our Churches in memory of a loved one or a special occasion, kindly contact the rectory and we will contact the florist. Thank you.



We are happy to keep the name of your loved one on the list for **one month**. If you wish to extend a request for prayers beyond this time, please contact the Rectory to let us know so we do not remove the name from the list. Please remember, only the names of the seriously ill should be placed on the sick list. Thank you.



Please remember in your prayers those who are sick:

Marcella Baumann, James Brogan, Pasquale Capobianco, Cynthia Collins, Nancy Davidson, Msgr. William Dombrow, Christopher Ellow, Rev. Francis H. Gallen, Mary Huth, John Kuhna, Paige Leary, Michelle Lewis, Inez Mainieri, Patricia McCarthy, Joseph Mulvey, Christopher Nero, Sister Georgene Luther, Mark Puckerin, Chris Smith, Milton Stratton, Helen Strickler, Tricia Taggart, Benjamin Walsh, Daniel Weimert, James White and Lauren Williams.



Mass Intentions

SUNDAY – 1/25 – 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00AM: Edward & Margaret Bucha

Requested by – The Estright-Bucha Families

10:30AM: Kenny Ritrovato

Requested by – Russell & Loraine DeSimone

MONDAY- 1/26 – Timothy & Titus, bishops

7:30AM: Anna Powell

Requested by – Bill & Ginnie Schiffer

TUESDAY – 1/27 – Weekday

7:30AM: Catherine & Mary Albert

Requested by – Enid Pecharo

WEDNESDAY–1/28 – Thomas Aquinas, priest & doctor

7:30AM: John McTamney

Requested by – Jim & Sally Haines

THURSDAY – 1/29 – Weekday

7:30AM: Phillip Pimpinello

Requested by – His Family

FRIDAY – 1/30 – Weekday

NO MORNING MASS

SATURDAY – 1/31 – John Bosco, priest

5:00PM: Deborah Carea

Requested by – Her family

SUNDAY – 2/1 – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00AM: David Cabrey (3rd Anniversary)

Requested by – Helen Cabrey

10:30AM: Rose & Joe Mazei

Requested by – Their Estate

N.B. – Father Bier says Mass for the people of the parish every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation.



EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed every **Wednesday from 8:00AM to 12 Noon**. Please stop and spend some time before our Eucharistic Lord.

ST. AUGUSTINE PRAYER CHAIN: If you wish to place anyone on the ‘prayer chain’ or if you wish to be a member of the prayer chain, contact **Linda Korpel at 610-291-1138**.



From The Pastor

Dear Friends:

When Jesus began his ministry, he did not call the apostles to be just admirers. Jesus does not call us to be admirers or supporters of cheerleaders or scholars of his Gospel.

Jesus calls us to be followers – **to take up our crosses as he did**. He calls us to imitate his spirit of humility and compassion. He calls us to pay the price of Good Friday in order to realize the fulfillment of Easter resurrection.

In Jesus' coming, the time of God's justice and forgiveness has come. Jesus calls us to **"abandon"** our **"nets"** of self-centeredness, fear and despair and walk with him to become **"fishers"** of the life and love of God.

One of our immediate challenges as a disciple of Jesus is to insure that we do everything to protect the unborn. **You have seen in this bulletin over the last month that there is pending legislation (FOCA) in Washington, DC that would establish the right to abortion throughout all nine months of pregnancy as a fundamental right! We can't allow this to happen!** As a disciple of Jesus Christ, we must see that every unborn child is just that – **a child!** There will be a post-card campaign initiated by the Catholic Bishop's Conference to write to our senators and representative asking them **to defeat FOCA** when it is brought to the Congressional floor in the near future. If you signed your post card this weekend at Mass – Thank you. May we continue to fight for life.

Our five-week seminar on St. Paul is rapidly approaching. We will examine the life of Paul, his theology and its influence on the Church and the relevance Paul's writings have for us today. I hope many parishioners will attend this Lenten seminar. **However, please do not wait until the last minute to register!** The number of people attending the seminar will determine where the seminar will be held, so even if you know you cannot make every week, please register by **February 10th**. In anticipating the feast of St. Blasé, we will have the blessing of throats after all the Masses next weekend.

We ask the Holy Spirit to bless President Obama with wisdom, understanding, courage and all the spiritual gifts he will need to lead us in these most challenging times. We pray for all of our elected officials that they will work together to bring about world peace, economic stability, health care and most of all, a respect for all human life – from the womb to the tomb. God bless you this week and we ask God's blessing on America!

Father Bier

FOCA POST CARD CAMPAIGN

THIS WEEKEND, all Catholics are asked to participate in a post card writing campaign to our Senators and Congressman asking them to vote against the impending FOCA legislation (see elsewhere in bulletin). Post cards will be filled out before Mass and you are asked to place them in the collection basket. Your efforts will help save innocent unborn children. Thank you.

BAPTISM CLASS

The next Pre-Jordan class for expectant parents and godparents will be held on **Monday, January 26th at 7:30PM** in the Ministry wing of the rectory. If you are planning to attend, please call the rectory by **January 22nd** to register. Do not wait until your child is born to attend this instruction. Thank you.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

January 31st – February 1st

- 5:00 PM: Michaela Kiczula – Nicholas Benetiz**
- 8:00 AM: Daniel Green – Megan McGee**
- 10:30 AM: Kristine & Kevin O'Sullivan**

Thank You!

On behalf of our parish family, I thank the Ladies Guild for their most generous recent donation of **\$1,000** to the parish. This gift is from the profit of their recent Christmas raffle. I thank them for their generosity and to everyone who purchased tickets.

LADIES GUILD

The next meeting of the Ladies Guild will be **Tuesday, February 10th at 7:00PM at OMS Hall**. All ladies of the parish are welcome to attend and join this parish organization.

PRO-LIFE NEWS

Pro-Life Rosary: Every **Wednesday at 10AM** in front of Bryn Mawr Hospital. Join us on **Wednesday evenings** at Sacred Heart Church at **6:00PM** to pray for the Unborn.

In addition, join us in front of the hospital on **Saturday, February 28th from 10:00-11:00AM.**

Stand up for what we, as Catholics, believe: that the unborn are people with rights!

Sunday, February 1st – Fr. Thomas Euteneur will speak at the Ramada Inn in Essington, PA on spiritual warfare and exorcism. Call **610-527-2906** to make a reservation.

Pregnant and need help? For information, alternatives and resources, contact the Pregnancy Hotline at **610-626-4006** for help for mother and baby. *“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves.”*

Proverbs 31:8

“FREEDOM OF CHOICE ACT”

HELP FIGHT THIS LEGISLATION

To everyone who values human life – please be aware of pending legislation that many members of Congress are pledging to have passed when Congress reconvenes this January.

The Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA) would establish the right to abortion, throughout all nine months of pregnancy, as a fundamental right (like the right to free speech) and **wipe away every restriction** on abortion nationwide. It will eradicate state and federal abortion laws that the majority of Americans support and it would prevent states from enacting similar protective measures in the future. In Cardinal Rigali’s words: *“If enacted, (FOCA) would obliterate virtually all the gains of the past 35 years and cause the abortion rate to skyrocket.... We cannot allow this to happen. We cannot tolerate an even greater loss of innocent human lives.”*

Please act today to make your voice heard and to fight this terrible piece of legislation. To read the expert analysis by Americans United for Life (AUL) and sign the Fight FOCA petition, go to: www.FightFOCA.com.

BLESSING OF THROATS

Throats will be blessed after all the Masses **next weekend** in honor of the feast of St. Blasé that is observed on February 3rd.

PRAY FOR PRIESTLY VOCATIONS

Beginning this weekend, we will pray the prayer for Priestly vocations before Mass in lieu of our Stewardship Prayer. You are also asked to pray this prayer in your homes for vocations.

Lord Jesus, bless the Archdiocese of Philadelphia with priests after your heart. May the young men of our parishes whom You are calling to be priests, respond generously. Give them the courage and the insight to discern your invitation, by speaking with a trusted priest or friend.

We pray as well for the young women of our parishes to consider the consecrated life. May their prayer be that of Mary – to proclaim the greatness of the Lord – through a life of service as consecrated religious.

Most Holy Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – we are confident that you will hear our prayer and send good priests and consecrated religious to guide us. Amen.

CONSHOHOCKEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Promoting Catholic Values & Academic Excellence
Pre-School to Grade 8

Join us for two Open Houses at both locations:

Grades 1-8 – 205 Fayette Street

Wednesday, February 11th – 9-11AM & 6-8PM

Call: 610-828-2007

Pre-K 3 to Kindergarten – 5th Avenue

Thursday, February 12th – 9:30 – 11:30AM & 6-8PM

Call: 610-828-0755

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- * Health & Wellness Curriculum

RETROUVAILLE is a Catholic based program to help marriages that are stressed or in trouble. The next program will be held at the Malvern Retreat Center on **February 13-15, 2009**. All calls are confidential. For more information, call 1-800-470-2230 or go to www.HelpOurMarriage.com

"HEARTS 4 JESUS"
YOUTH MINISTRY NIGHTS

**KIDS – KEEP THESE DATES OPEN!
FOR ALL JUNIOR HIGH KIDS**
7PM – 8:30PM – Youth Hall (Rambo & Ford Sts.)
February 15th (Valentine Cookie Bakeoff).
FOR ALL HIGH SCHOOL TEENS
Youth Hall (Rambo & Ford Sts.)
SUPER BOWL XLIII PARTY
February 1st @ 5:30PM –at the Youth Hall.
Bring your friends for a SUPER TIME!
+++++

For more information or to volunteer in any capacity, call Vanessa at 610-272-4088 or e-mail vanessamadrak@hotmail.com

Youth & Young Adult Opportunities



"Youth for the Eucharist" - Every 2nd Sunday of the month at St. Titus Church, East Norriton, PA. 7:00 - 9:00PM. Prayer & Praise, Adoration & Confession. Keep up to date on the latest by visiting www.oyya.org

HEED THE CALL

Have you ever considered being a priest? What an awesome life it is! Do not be afraid to **HEED THE CALL** of Jesus Christ.

Are you between the ages of 16 and 24? Have you ever thought about being a priest? Does the thought interest you? **HEED THE CALL**. Come and join others for a weekend **March 27, 28 & 29** at St. Charles Seminary to explore the call. For more information, call **610-667-5778** or visit our website www.HeedTheCall.org. Registration is required.

PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!

Generous hearts change the world. Be generous to Jesus. Consider the Priesthood.

SCHEDULE

- Sun. Jan. 25 CCD – 9AM
- Mon. Jan 26 Baptism Class – 7:30PM
- Wed. Jan. 28 Exposition – 8AM - Noon
Pro-Life Rosary – 6PM @ Sacred Heart
- Sat. Jan. 31 Rosary for Life – Bryn Mawr – 10AM
Confessions – 4:00PM
Blessing of Throats after Mass
- Sun. Feb. 1 CCD – 9 AM
Blessing of Throats after Mass

NICARAGUAN OPPORTUNITY

Knights of Columbus Holy Family Council 3327, Bridgeport, seeks to sponsor two or three young Catholic men (H.S. Juniors or Seniors) as guests for a pilgrimage trip to Nicaragua from May 4-8, 2009. The trip is in cooperation with Food for the Poor and the locally based Fr. Chuck's Challenge. This presents an opportunity to understand better the problems of some of the poorest on our continent in the secluded Northern Highlands of Nicaragua. Exciting, safe, memorable, life-changing experience! **Please contact Bob Bores @ 610-265-4848 or Msgr. Francis Schmidt @ 610-676-0146.**

VALENTINE BRUNCH

Good Will Fire Company (304 Bush St.) and Imperial's Catering is hosting a Valentine Brunch on **Sunday, February 15th from 9:00AM – 1:30PM.** **Cost:** Adults - \$8; Children (4-9) - \$5; Children under 3 – **FREE.** All you can eat. Call **610-275-8985** for more information.



ALL YEAR REUNION

Great & Glorious St. Patrick in Norristown is hosting a reunion for all those who graduated from St. Patrick's High School and Grade School on **Saturday, March 28th from 7PM – 11PM at the Westover Country Club in Jeffersonville.** Buffet dinner, beer and soda included. **Tickets: \$35.** For tickets and information, call **Barbara (Byrnes) Santangelo @ 610-277-5738 or Clare Byrnes @ 610-275-6350.**

OUR LADY'S MEMORIAL GARDEN

You can purchase a brick to be placed in our Memorial Garden in memory of a deceased loved one or to commemorate an anniversary or a special occasion in the life of your family. Contact the rectory to make arrangements.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT

Rachel's Vineyard Ministries will be hosting a Retreat for Healing after Abortion on **February 20-22**. The retreat will be held in Doylestown, PA. For more information, call Susan Fetta at 267-880-3631. Read more about it online at www.rachesvineyard.org. All requests are strictly confidential.

FLU SEASON

The flu season is once again upon us. We respectfully suggest that you use prudent judgment concerning shaking hands at the Sign of Peace during the flu season. Respect the choice of the people around you if they do not shake hands.

AARP TAX PREPARERS will be available at Upper Merion Senior Service Center from **February 5th and every Thursday including April 9th from 10:00AM – 2:00PM**. Appointments **MUST** be made in person ... no telephone appointments. Appointments are limited to one hour. Appointment sheets are on the Lobby desk. This is a **FREE** service.

NATIONAL PARKS TRIP sponsored by St. Helena Church from **August 22nd to September 22nd**. Highlights are: Scottsdale, Grand Canyon, Jackson Hole, Grand Teton, Yellowstone National, Old Faithful and much more. There will be a slide presentation on **January 21st at 6:30PM** at St. Helena's upper school. For more information, call **Theresa Smith @ 215-646-7636**.

OUR PARISH BULLETIN needs your advertising support! It pays for our bulletin and provides revenue for our parish. To have your business, service or practice recommended to all our parish families, please call Jim Finnen at 610-653-2145.

www.saintaugustinechurch.net Read the bulletin online. Stay informed. Get involved.

The Year of St. Paul

June, 2008 – June, 2009



During this Jubilee year marking the 2,000th birthday of St. Paul, Pope Benedict XVI believes that we need to look back at our origins – our foundation – to inspire us, to re-energize our culture with Christianity because of secularism and a sense of loss of evangelization with the Church and the world. There is boldness to St. Paul's proclamation of the Gospel.

All parishioners are invited to discover St. Paul, Apostle to the Gentiles, by participating in our five-week adult faith formation seminar. We will examine the life of Paul, his theology and its influence on the Church and the relevance his writings have for us today. You will come away from the experience with a profoundly deeper understanding and appreciation of Paul and his importance to the Catholic Faith.

The seminar topics are:

- Week 1: February 17th – Who was St. Paul?*
- Week 2: February 24th – Paul's Theology (Part 1)*
- Week 3: March 3rd – Paul's Theology (Part 2)*
- Week 4: March 24th – Paul & the Sacraments (1)*
- Week 5: March 31st – Paul & the Sacraments (2)*

Time: 7:00PM – 8:30PM

Place: The location will depend on the number of people who register. The seminar will be held either in the ministry wing or in St. Monica's Hall.

** You may not be able to attend every seminar, however, **do not let this deter you.** Please register by **February 10th** so we can make the necessary arrangements. Thank you.

Year of St. Paul Seminar

Father Bier:

I/We will be attending the Seminar on St. Paul

Number attending: ____

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Please return to the rectory by February 10th

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