



The Newsletter



SAINT AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH

The Mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and with each other in Jesus Christ. We pursue that mission in prayer, worship, and the sacraments, the proclamation of the

Gospel, and in working for justice, peace and love. The Book of Common Prayer, Page 855

Saint Augustine's Church is a parish of the Diocese of Fond du Lac: A community of disciples enthusiastically leading all people to transformation in Jesus.

Volume LV

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From the Rector

Dear members of St. Augustine's,

Lately I have used the term "Big Deal" quite often. My use of it refers to something important. Not necessarily more important than something else, but important in its own right.

I remember when I first began attending the Episcopal Church, I asked why the bells are rung during Eucharist. The answer I was given was the bells signify "Pay attention! Something important is about to happen."

I have long thought that that was a perfect way to explain the ringing of the Sanctus bells. Lent, is a bell-ringing event, in that sense. Not in the same way we are joyous and ring bells on Easter, but in the sense of something important is about to happen.

We easily understand why Holy Week events are important, but it is also fair to ask "why is Lent important?"

Lent is important because it is a build-up to the events Holy Week and Easter – the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ.

Beginning with Ash Wednesday, Lent is a time for us to prepare ourselves for Jesus' death, but also the way he was treated and the low points in human expectations and behaviors.

This is a time of reflection about our own lives, and a time to look at why we are Christians and how we can live that out by following God's desires and letting Jesus and the Holy Spirit into our lives.

May this be a time you are able to hear the Sanctus bells ringing and hear the "big deal" messages sent your way.

Blessings for a Holy Lent,

Meredyth+

Annual meeting

St. Augustine's annual meeting will be held Sunday, Feb. 9, during coffee hour. At this time, we will hear brief reports on the past year, learn about our ministry, elect vestry members and delegates to convention; and have the annual budget presented. The meeting does not generally last very long, about half an hour, plus socializing time.

A light lunch will be served.

Lent begins

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on Wednesday, Feb. 26 with services at 9 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Each service will include imposition of ashes.

During Lent, stations of the cross will be offered each Friday at 5:30 p.m.



Lenten Class

“Entering the Passion of Jesus,” is the name of the Lenten class/discussion in which we will engage this year. We will use a book and video program developed by Amy-Jill Levine, a theologian and professor at Vanderbilt University. Her materials were used for the Advent class and generated much discussion and offered a different perspective for having conversations we consider every year.

The class is scheduled for Tuesday mornings, but if need be, a second class can be offered.

The cost of the book is \$17. A sign-up sheet is in the guild hall.

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be held in the church at 5:30 p.m. Fridays in Lent. On Good Friday, Stations will be held following the noon service.

Cursillo

Cursillo, a movement within the church, has the purpose to help individuals understand their own callings to be Christian leaders. This leadership may become visible in work situations, family life, social life, leisure activities and within the Church environment. With the ultimate goal of bringing all to Christ, a Cursillo weekend is a three-day gathering, with others who have the same goals.

During the weekend, participants experience meditations, small group discussion, listening, and various forms of worship with emphasis on the doctrine of Grace, the

Sacraments, and the great Cursillo tripod of Piety, Study and Action. In addition, there is fellowship, singing, good food, time for privacy, meditation and prayer. prayer.

This years' Cursillo will be May 14, 15 and 16 at Spencer Lake Bible Camp in Waupaca. On Sunday, February 2, Dave Annis, a long-time Cursillista in our diocese, will attend coffee hour to share a bit more about what Cursillo is and its benefits.

Babs turns 100

Babs Bogart is turning 100 on Saturday, February 15. To celebrate her family is hosting an open house that day at Milestone Senior Living from 2 to 4 p.m. Milestone is located at 4686 North Shore Drive, Rhinelander.

The family asks for no gifts, other than your presence, to help Bab's celebrate a century of life.

Trivia -- Babs' given name is Hazel.

