

THE AUGMENTER

Webster's Definition:
augment (verb)—to make or become greater
augmenter (noun)

Newsletter for Families of St. Augustine Religious Education in Larchmont, NY
Our entire task in this life consists in healing the eyes of the heart so that they may be able to see God. — St. Augustine

Finding God **Our NEW Religion Series**

This year we are delving into a new way of living and sharing our faith. Loyola Press, the book publishers of the **Finding God** series, is a work sponsored by the Jesuits in Chicago. Sr. Suzanne had the privilege of sharing in the marvel of this company as an educational consultant during 2007. She knows the new series very well and has given workshops to catechists and parents around the country explaining how to use the learner texts. It is her privilege to introduce your family to this lively, relevant and Gospel-inspired way of living our faith in the 21st century. **Finding God: Our Response to God's Gifts** for Grades 1 through 8, serves our whole parish by offering innovative, imaginative, and practical approaches to lifelong nourishment of faith. The website www.findinggod.org is yours for the click of your mouse!

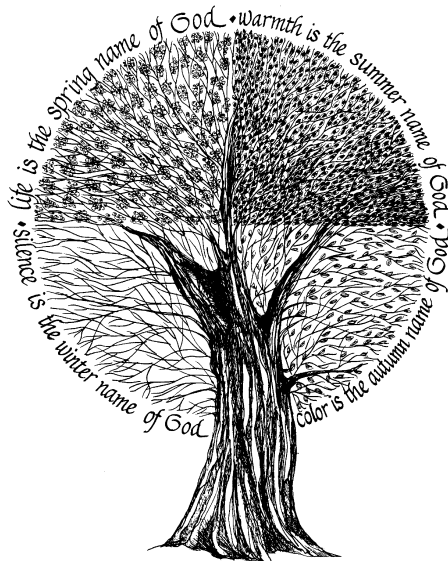
The basic premise of this process is that **God invites and we respond**. The learners enter into a fourfold experience: **Engage, Explore, Reflect and Respond** with a new kind of prayer in each lesson. The **five themes** of each learner's book are **God, Jesus, Church, sacraments and morality** in a spiral approach, according to their developmental levels of growth. Dramatic Scripture readings, guided-imagery prayer, and music come on CDs. Each class has its own boom box to provide the optimum in the experience. By engaging the learner who is also disciple and apprentice in a growing faith, the catechist can more easily be guided by the Spirit in the integration of faith and life.

This year, the Confirmation candidates, besides having the benefit of the book, Loyola Press's **Confirmed in the Spirit**, will enter new group experiences each Wednesday. Several different formats will be used. With dance, drama and music, the candidates will be engaged and challenged. They can expect to be surprised, never wanting to miss a class!!

Family Catechesis **A Way to Connect and Belong —** **Growing in Faith as a Parish**

Some call it "total community catechesis," others, "family catechesis" and still others say, **"I want to feel that I belong to St. Augustine's, that I am connected."** This year we want all to become engaged, to explore, reflect and respond to the opportunity of building community. Several events are being planned to involve people of every generation, be it the x, y, z, boomer, or builder group! We hope to be people who offer hospitality. We want to encourage a renewed life of faith that heals and connects us to one another. What does being a community at St. Augustine's look like? Here are a few ways to spell it!

Check out the program events on page 2



The Augmenter logo expands our vision of God through the seasons. It reminds us of God's presence in the here and now of our community in Larchmont, where most of the streets are named after trees. It takes us into a new realm of naming God through the signs of the seasons and makes greater the marvel of who God is—life, warmth, color and silence.

Helpful to the success of our religious ed process of growth:

- ☺ Be on time for class.
- ☺ Come ready with a smile on your face and in your heart.
- ☺ Remember that you are in God's presence.
- ☺ Open your heart to God.
- ☺ Share the Good News of Jesus with your family and friends.

Sacramental Preparation

Upcoming Events

Confirmation Parents Meeting
Wednesday, October 21
7:30 pm in cafeteria

Enrollment of Candidates

Sunday, November 1
10:30 am Liturgy

As an instrument of peace and community building the newsletters, **Finding God** and **The Augmenter**, will come to your home to promote communication and hospitality. At St. Augustine's, we are a welcoming Church, reaching out to one another and to all, for the life of the world.

Growing in Faith as a Parish

The Pancake Brunch on September 20. The title is changed because it is being held after the 10:30 Family Liturgy on Catechetical Sunday in Kenny Hall. All are invited and monetary donations are encouraged for the marvels of food to be had. Every parishioner is invited!!

Coffee Klatch on the third Wednesday of each month after the 9:00 a.m. Mass in the rectory for a gathering to come to know, enjoy one another and have some refreshments.

4th Sundays -Young Adults - 5:00 p.m. Liturgy. The lectors and Eucharistic ministers will resemble the millennials. Refreshments in the rectory afterwards for this group will foster a spirit that resonates with their preferred interests and faith life.

A Moms and Tots group will be formed to promote all that young Moms need in growing babies and toddlers.

Midnight Run in October will be encouraged and supported through the efforts of the Third and Fourth Graders and their parents.

Walk for Habitat for Humanity on November 8th for one and all!

An Overnight Retreat for 10th, 11th and 12th graders from 7:30 p.m. on November 10 to 3:00 p.m. on the 11th at Bethany Spirituality Center in Highland Mills, NY with Tony Bellizzi!

Aging and Spirituality is a topic to be celebrated in four Experiences beginning in November.

Thanksgiving Liturgy at 9:00 a.m. Celebrate a Thanksgiving dinner made for a family of a few or the many with all the trimmings as a faith community before delivering the meal!

Listening to God's Word by Alice Camille. Read this book and blog your response or gather five times during October, November, January, February, and March to network within small a community of faith group.

The Angel Tree will be coordinated by the Fifth Graders to make Christmas life-giving for those in need

Christmas Concert and Pageant, December 13 at 3:00 p.m. in Church — As a sign of our oneness we will appreciate the music and voices of the choir, the genius of the choir director while remembering the incarnation as dramatized by our first graders!

Church History in January for the 8th Grade — Msgr. Kelly, our church historian, will familiarize learners, parents and parishioners with the time honored stars through the centuries who built the framework of our church.

First Reconciliation on February 6 at 1:00 p.m.

Food Fast for Teens on February 26 from 7 p.m. to February 27 at 7 a.m. With the support of monetary donations teens will fast for 12 hours for the poor and hungry of the world who are helped by Catholic Relief Services. During the fast the teens will learn about world hunger, poverty and the oppressed and how their efforts can help.

A Seder in March presided by Rabbi Jeffrey Sirkman and Msgr. Thomas Kelly for the 6th graders and their parents. The Hebrew Scriptures will come alive in this celebration of the Passover!

Confirmation Retreat on March 18 at Bethany Spirituality Center

Living Stations of the Cross on March 24th prayed and dramatized by the Confirmation

Class in church. With the use of dance, music and artistry these young people will display how Jesus' call to discipleship did not end at Calvary but summons us to a life lived in solidarity with the world community. All are invited.

Midnight Run in March will be supported and encouraged by our Eighth Graders and their parents.

First Eucharist retreat on April 10 and 17 for those preparing for first Eucharist and their parents

First Eucharist on Saturday, April 24 at 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Confirmation on Saturday, May 8 at the 5:00 p.m. Liturgy with Bishop Dennis Sullivan presiding.

A rendition of the life of Jesus on May 19 as depicted by the 7th Grader via a multi-media approach!

The collections of food for the food pantries will be coordinated by the Seventh Grade to better serve the area poor.

A Hospitality Group is being formed of Wisdom Seniors and Confirmation Candidates to welcome parishioners at Saturday and Sunday liturgies, to aid in the stewardship offerings and to seat parishioners.

Liturgy of the Word for Children is celebrated every Sunday during the 10:30 a.m. Family Liturgy for children ages four through nine.

If any of these events or happenings interests you and you want to become involved, please call the rectory at 834-1220 or the religious education office 834-9523 or email staugred@verizon.net, and you will be put in touch with someone from the Growing in Faith team—Sister Suzanne, Soledad Sambrano, Cathy Fugazy, Jane Nishimura, Fred Bruno, Father Dillon, and Msgr. Kelly. We need coordinators of the events!! This is lived faith! **Watch the website for details—www.staugustineny.org**

Sister Suzanne Duzen, SS.C.M., Director of Religious Education
Publisher of *The Augmenter*

Send suggestions for future articles to: srsuzanne@verizon.net

SACRAMENT PREPARATION SCHEDULE FOR 2009-2010

First Reconciliation

January 10, 2010 at 9:00 to 10:00 am
OR January 12, 2010 7:30 to 8:30 pm
 Parents Meeting for Reconciliation — Kenny Hall

February 6, 2010 at 1:00 pm
First Reconciliation — Church



First Eucharist

February 28, 2010 at 9:00 to 10:00 am
OR March 2, 2010 7:30 to 8:30 pm
 Parents Meeting for Eucharist — Kenny Hall

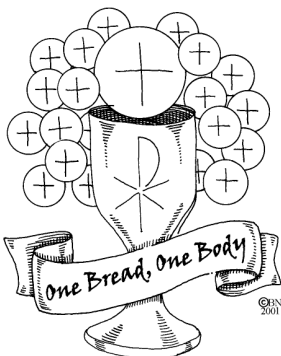
March 7, 2010 at 10:30 Mass
 Enrollment for children preparing for First Eucharist

April 10, 2010 at 9:30 to 11:30 am
 First Eucharist Retreat — Cafeteria
 Group 1
 with one parent present for each child

April 17, 2010 at 9:30 to 11:30 am
 First Eucharist Retreat — Cafeteria
 Group 2
 with one parent present for each child

April 20, 2010 at 6:00 to 7:00 pm
 Rehearsal for the 10:30 Eucharist — Church
 Group 1
 with one parent present for each child

April 22, 2010 at 6:00 to 7:00 pm
 Rehearsal for the 1:00 Eucharist — Church
 Group 2
 with one parent present for each child



Though Many, We are One.

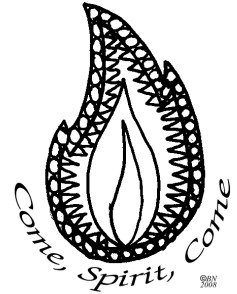
April 24, 2010 at 10:30 am
First Eucharist in Church
Group 1

April 24, 2010 at 1:00 pm
First Eucharist in Church
Group 2

Confirmation

October 21, 2009
from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.
 Parents Meeting
 in the Cafeteria

November 1, 2009
at 10:30 a.m. Mass
 Enrollment of candidates
 with parents present



March 18, 2010 at 12:30 to 7:30 p.m.
 Travel by bus to Confirmation Retreat
 Bethany Spirituality Center, Highland Mills, NY

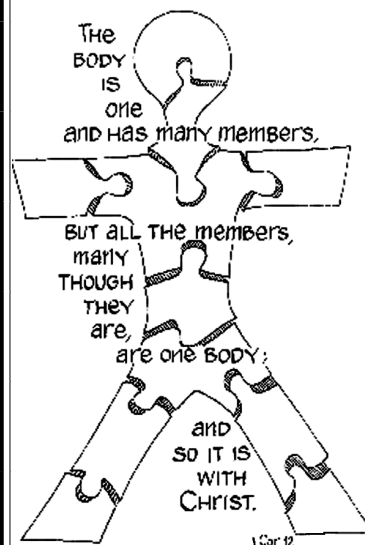
March 24, 2010 at 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. in Church
 Living Stations of the Cross
 performed by the Confirmation candidates

May 2, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in Church
 Rehearsal for Confirmation with candidates and
 sponsors (a parent must be present if the sponsor
 is unable to attend).

May 5, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in Church
 Rehearsal for candidates but parents are welcome.

May 8, 2010 at 5:00 pm
Confirmation — Church

Sacrament of Reconciliation



For Grades 3—8

Sundays

November
 8, 15 & 22
 from
 9:15—10:15 am

And
 March 7, 14 & 21

Wednesdays

October 28,
 November 4 & 18
And

March 3, 10 & 17
 from 3:00—4:15
 pm and
 7:15—8:30 pm

For Grade 9

Wednesday, December 2
 & February 24, 7:15 pm