

**ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH
WASHINGTON ST. CORK**

TEL: 021 427 04 10

www.staugustinescork.ie

www.churchservices.tv

Weekday Mass Times

Monday – Saturday: 8.30, 9.30, 11.00, 4.00pm.

Divine Mercy Mass: Monday at 8.00pm.

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil: 8.00pm.

Sunday: 10.30, 11.30, 1.00pm

Polish Mass: 9.00, and 6.00pm.

Augustinian Devotions

Purgatorial Society: Monday 11.00am.

Mother of Good Counsel Novena Prayers

Friday, 10.35am and 3.35pm.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Thurs, after 11.00 Mass – 3.30pm.

St. Rita Novena Prayers: Saturday after 11.00 Mass

Mass for the Sick: Saturday, 4.00pm

Rosary: Monday – Saturday, 10.35am and 3.35pm.

Confessions

Mon. – Fri. 11.30 -12.15, and 4.30pm -5.30pm

Sat. 11.30 -1.00pm; 3.00pm - 4.00pm; 4.30 -5.30pm
and 7.1 5- 7.45pm.

Eve of First Friday: 11.30 -1.00pm; 3.00 - 4.00pm
4.30pm -5.30pm

COPE FOUNDATION

**The Annual Church Door Collection will be held next
weekend, Sat. 6th/ Sun. 7th Dec. 2008**

Thank you for your support.

I saw a homeless person getting off a bus, and I thought,
“How does he know which is his ?”

I slept through the alarm this morning.
Good thing it was only a small fire !

Going to church doesn't make you a Christian anymore than
going to a garage makes you a mechanic. Have a good day.

1st SUNDAY of ADVENT

30.11.2008 2008

Helen Keller was only 2 when an illness left her blind and deaf. Until age 7, when she learned to communicate, Helen lived in a world of silence and darkness. When her “miracle-working” teacher, Anne Sullivan, spelled “w-a-t-e-r” on Helen’s palm while holding her hand under a stream, Helen understood, and communication opened up the world to her again. She later wrote: “Everything has its wonders, even darkness and silence, and I learn, whatever state I may be in, therein to be content.”

Today begins the season of Advent. Like the Easter Vigil, Advent begins in darkness. In silence we wait patiently and anticipate this overture to the story of our faith. We wait for the storyteller’s first words. Like sentinels on dark ramparts, we look for the dawn.

On this first Sunday of Advent our readings speak to us of the last days. The candles of the Advent wreath remind us of the passing of time. As we light the first candle, let us pray for the grace to make of our lives a preparation for eternal life with God.

That Christians of every nation and every congregation may witness to the love which creates and powers everything that is good.

BLESSING THE ADVENT WREATH

Father of all creation and Lord of light, bless our wreath of evergreens and candles. Be present among us as we come together to celebrate in prayer the coming of Christ. May our hearts and minds reflect the lights of these candles, that Christmas will find us joyfully ready to receive our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The circle of evergreen leaves stands for God, who is without beginning and without end. The purple ribbon stand for penance and sorrow for sin. The red candle stands for joy of living in God’s way of love.

Today the first purple candle is lit as we begin our preparations for the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

ADVENT

Today, on the first Sunday of Advent, we begin a new Liturgical or Church year. During Advent we prepare for the celebration of the Birthday of Jesus and for the second coming of Christ at the end of time (Christ will come again). Such preparation is necessary if we are to celebrate Christmas worthily and be renewed and enriched by it. Otherwise the feast will come and go, leaving us unchanged and no nearer to God than before. Let us be earnest in our preparation and strive to become better people.

In his sermons for Advent, St Bernard speaks of three comings of the Lord: his coming which has already taken place when he was born at Bethlehem, his future coming in glory at the end of time and his spiritual coming which belongs to the present. Throughout the season of Advent we are invited and encouraged to think about the threefold coming of Christ.

The Gospel reading for the first Sunday of Advent refers to our Lord’s second coming at the end of history. Given the delay of the second coming, Mark urges his community to be constantly vigilant. While this community has received authority from Jesus, it must employ this authority for the benefit of others. Vigilance is one form of such service.

Be watchful and alert: you do not know when the time will come !

Treat each day as your last; one day you will be right

ADVENT: A TIME OF HOPE

It is said that while there is life there is hope.

This has an even deeper meaning in reverse:
while there is hope there is life.

Hope is strength.

Hope sheds light into despairing hearts.

It inspires the will to live.

It is the doctor’s most powerful ally.

It is a shield against defeat and failure.

It revives ideals and renews dreams.

As long as there is hope, no situation is impossible.

Advent summons us to wait in joyful hope
for the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

In the final analysis, he is our hope.

