



My Dear Parishioners,

Greetings and Praised be Jesus Christ!

This weekend we welcome to our parish Fr. Callan, a Divine Word Missionary. Fr. Callan is a native of the Philadelphia area and it is a delight to welcome him to St. Patrick for the Annual Mission Appeal. A collection for the Mission Appeal was already taken earlier this summer. If you missed it or would like to make an additional donation, simply place an envelope in the Sunday Collection and mark it "Mission Appeal". We will send the total collection to the Propagation of the Faith at the end of September.

This weekend, we welcome back to our parish many of our families as Summer 2023 comes to an unofficial end. In years past, schools waited until after Labor Day to begin. But now, things have changed. In fact, things are changing rapidly and a lot of the changes are not good. Times of transition can be difficult especially the start of the school year. In such times, we lean heavily on family for support including Church Family. In that regard, I want to assure all our moms, dads and children of special prayer, support and assistance in this transition time of year. We as a parish will be praying for you all! So too are the Saints! I highlight the support of two saints whose feasts are this week: St. Monica and St. Augustine. Both knew a lot about transitions and their friendship can be a big help.

Consider the following reflection written by Glenn E. Myers:

St. Augustine presents the whole of human existence as a journey. Every step we take moves us closer to God or farther away. That venture begins long before conversion. In fact, it is often the twists and turns in life that God uses to draw us to himself. Even when we veer off in the wrong direction the Lord pursues us.

In his *Confessions*, Augustine details his own pilgrimage. Running from God for many years, he finally yielded his life to the Almighty. After conversion the journey did not end. The remainder of Augustine's life was spent in hot pursuit of the One he loved.

According to Augustine, each of us is a homo viator—a traveler, a pilgrim. Along each segment of the path, the ultimate question is: Which direction are we headed? Are we moving toward God or wandering away from him? The essence of evil is movement away from the God. Sin is orienting ourselves toward our narcissistic cravings instead of toward God's love.

Only God's grace redeems and sets us in the right direction. From beginning to end, Augustine emphasizes that the whole of the Christian life is by faith. In his debate with Pelagius, Augustine affirms that we cannot somehow reach God or fulfill his commands by human effort. Rather, God is always prior—working in our hearts by grace.

May we welcome the friendship of Augustine and Monica into our lives especially this week!

Peace,

Fr. Rogers

LIVING STONES APPEAL
St. Patrick Connecting Cornerstones Project

LIVING STONES APPEAL: PHASE II ~ MENDING THE GAP
Thank you to all who are part of our Connecting Cornerstones Project and to all those who continue to help us **MEND THE GAP!** As of 8/22/23:
MONEY RAISED: \$1,614,823
COST OF PROJECT: \$1,966,908
MONIES NEEDED: \$352,085
 For more information or to make a donation, please visit our website.
www.stpatrickkennettsquare.org/living-stones-appeal/

PLEASE NOTE: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4
MASS AT 9:00AM
NO ADORATION



Please join us Friday, September 1
at 7:00PM in church
for First Friday Adoration