

**Will he get out to go Fishin?  
Will Ontario be free to let anglers have their R&R May 9, fishin season!**

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**“I’m goin FISHIN... many have said this phrase... “keys missin gone fishin”**



**Jesus said**, “Follow me and I will make you fishers of people” (see Matthew 4:19) But most parishes are not in the business of catching people. If we catch any fish, it’s because the fish swam into the harbor and jumped in the boat. When you think of it, we don’t actually go out intentionally and fish. Did you know that Alpha is a fishing tool—a way to proclaim the Gospel to people who are not yet connected with the Church. People invite other people to come. Because we have a culture of invitation, many coming to Alpha in parishes are non-churchgoers. Putting on Alpha and having testimonies sometimes after a homily or a short story shared on line or parish bulletin...goes a long way to engage, invite, and say “COME on in...you are welcome”

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**Consult these links often for news on the parish and the Archdiocese.**

**Parish website:** [www.staugustineparish.ca](http://www.staugustineparish.ca)

**Sunday Mass:** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all of our masses at St. Augustine are private celebrations. Sunday Masses will be available for viewing via St. Augustine's youtube channel – just go on line and type in St. Augustine Ottawa Youtube – this will bring you to the link with the present and past Sunday Masses.

**Twitter @staugustineott** ... Did you know that Father Frank posts 3 or 4 tweets each day? Check it out!

**Archdiocese of Ottawa Website:** [www.catholicottawa.ca](http://www.catholicottawa.ca)

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**How has it been here at St. Augustine Parish?**

**Looking back on the last five years** here in the parish, I have engaged everyone to ‘look beyond the hour on Sunday’. In my homilies and at parish council meetings, I have spoken about the importance of:

- Bringing someone to church, a family member, or a friend
- Empowering people on Alpha with an invitation to participate
- Getting involved at the church and/or in ministry
- Hosting an evening with the pastor, inviting your neighbours for a discussion on Christian topics
- Using videos during homilies, to reinforce the message of the Gospel
- Encouraging men to be a member of Knights of Columbus, in this communal outreach, assisting the Pastor in his pastoral work. These areas are the fruit of our Sunday Liturgy, to go beyond our worship space; place “faith in action”.

**What will it be like when we return to church?** This will take some time and discernment. For the first while, there will be smaller groups. The question on size will be a serious factor. Involvement of ministries within the Mass, will be curtailed, for example, discouraging choirs, processions, collection taken and a different format for distribution of Communion. All of these important factors are currently under serious consideration. There are new protocols coming for both the short and long term.

**Celebrating Sacraments in the Church** is in need of review. We are in need of an “overhaul” as it were on this important topic in parish life. Parents whose children are preparing for the Sacraments need the understanding of attendance at church. As we say at Baptism “*be the best teachers of the faith, in what they say or do*”. Collectively as a parish, we need to provide adequate formation of all those seeking an Easter Sacrament; much like those in RCIA who can spend a whole year in formation before being received into the Church. I think that Alpha will engage the recipients into a whole new way of Catholic Faith, as will continued follow/up from Alpha and entering into Bible Study or involvement in the parish. I’m hoping, that in September, we will be able to offer Alpha at the parish, once again.

**PLEASE PRAY:**

1. For the members of our parish who are ill, especially Brian and Peggy Gallant, Mary Ruest, Patricia Beach, Steve Blizzard, Marg Heaslip, her daughter Marie, and her grandson Nicarlo.
2. For clergy members who are ill, especially Father Frank Morrisey (brother of Joan St Germain) and retired Archbishop Marcel Gervais.
3. For those who are in need of accompaniment, and those in need of outreach.
4. For all those who are affected by the Covid 19 virus, either in hospital or at home, for the unemployed, for the front line workers in health care and in our grocery stores and for the speedy development of a vaccine, or a cure to this pandemic.

**Major Diocesan News May 6!**



The Holy See announced on May 6 that the Coadjutor Archbishop is the Most Reverend Marcel Damphousse. Archbishop Elect Damphousse will become Archbishop of Ottawa-Cornwall when Archbishop Terrence Prendergast retires. The announcement also said that the Archdiocese of Ottawa and the Diocese of Alexandria-Cornwall are now canonically amalgamated to form the Archdiocese of Ottawa-Cornwall. The civil amalgamation will require an Act of Parliament and is not expected for several more months. In addition, the Most Reverend Guy Desrochers, C.S.s.R., has been appointed Bishop of Pembroke, also effective May 6.

<https://www.catholicottawa.ca/amalgamation>

**CONTINUE TO STAY HEALTHY, STAY CONNECTED AND STAY SAFE.  
THIS TOO SHALL PASS. GOD BLESS YOU.**