

**St. Augustine Historical Society**  
 PO BOX 335  
 Natchez, LA 71456

FACEBOOK: [StAugustineHistoricalSociety](#)  
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2262 HWY 484, Natchez, LA 71456

**Fifth Sunday of Easter  
 April 28, 2024**

Pastor: **Rev. William 'Bill' Gearheard**  
 Office Email: [staugustine1803@gmail.com](mailto:staugustine1803@gmail.com)  
 Office Phone Number: 318.379.2521  
 Father's Email: [frwgearheard@diocesealex.org](mailto:frwgearheard@diocesealex.org)  
 Deacon: Dr. Harlan Mark Guidry 409.656.4651  
 Deacon's Email: [dcnmguidry@diocesealex.org](mailto:dcnmguidry@diocesealex.org)  
 Website: [staugustinecanriver.com](http://staugustinecanriver.com)  
 Office Hours: Wed–Fri 8:00 am–1 pm  
 Parish Manager: Elizabeth Metoyer

**Holy Sacrifice of the Mass**  
 St. Augustine.....Saturday, 5:00 pm  
 .....Sunday, 10:30 am  
 Mission: St. Anne:.....Sunday, 8:15 am  
 3659 Old River Road, Natchitoches, LA 71457

\*Holy Day's of Obligations & All Special Celebrations  
 will be at 6:00 pm  
**Weekday Masses:** 1st Saturday 9:00 am  
 Tuesday and Wednesday 6:00 pm  
 Thursday and Friday 8:00 am

Confessions 30 minutes before Mass—Saturday 4 pm  
 1st Friday, Holy Hour after Mass  
 For an Emergency Call: 318.581.1612

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**5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)** **JOHN**  
 Chapter 15:1-8

Visualize your family tree. Perhaps your grandparents or great-greatparents are the trunk of the tree, with branches of aunts and uncles and cousins, and smaller ones for children and grandchildren. Spouses are grafted onto the tree, with family trees of their own that they bring to your family. Through births and marriages, the family tree grows and grows. We are part of God's family tree. We are all God's children and in baptism we were grafted onto that one tree. This tree is a living thing, growing and producing fruit for generations to come.

We are connected to each other. All of us are connected to Jesus. As the vine grows, Jesus gives us support and sustenance, enabling us to bear fruit. For the vine is a living thing, designed to grow and develop. We help the vines do this when we put our faith into practice, when we sacrifice ourselves for the least of our sisters and brothers, for they too are connected to the vines. In doing so, we nurture the vines and, as Jesus told his disciples, we glorify God.

Saul was in a very difficult place after his conversion. By immediately boldly speaking in Jesus' name, he stirred up murderous feelings in the Hellenists, who were probably Greek-speaking Jews living outside Judea. But most of the disciples still feared him, for he had just been persecuting them, even presiding over Stephen's stoning. Barnabas saves the day and Saul's skin. Convinced of Saul's sincerity, Barnabas vouched for him to the disciples. In a way, Barnabas was like a node on the vine, allowing Saul to be grafted onto it and accepted by the other branches. Not even Barnabas could have guessed then that Saul—renamed Paul—would go on to bear fruit like no other branch of the vine, adding branches of the vine all over the known world.



*Mass Schedule*

Apr 27 Saturday 5:00 pm Todd Roque, Deceased Members of David Coutee Family, +Joe Raggio, +Joseph D. Delphin, Jr., +Berchman LaCour, +Sylvester Sers, and Cleo Balthazar

Apr 28 Sunday 8:15 am +Amy Tobin

Apr 28 Sunday 10:30 am The People of the Parish

Apr 29 Monday No Mass  
**Readings:** Acts 14:5-18; Ps 115:1-4, 15-16; Jn 14:21-26

Apr 30 Tuesday 6:00 pm +Lula 'Toot' LaCour  
**Readings:** Acts 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13ab, 21; Jn 14:27-31a

May 01 Wednesday 6:00 pm +Chad Jones  
**Readings:** Acts 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; Jn 15:1-8

May 02 Thursday 8:00 am Vicky Villamarette  
**Readings:** Acts 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-3, 10; Jn 15:9-11

May 03 Friday 8:00 am +Todd Roque, +Justin Picou, Josh Picou & Family, Michelle George, and Tim Godette  
**Readings:** 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-5; Jn 14:6-14

May 04 Saturday 9:00 am Those Suffering with Addiction and Depression  
 5:00 pm Charlton Splawn, Deceased Members of the Byone Family, +Joe Raggio, +Sylvester Sers, +Joseph P. Delphin, Sr., +Isabel Arceneaux, +Anniv. Of Frances Meziere and + Anniv. Of Benedict LaCour  
**Readings:** Acts 16:1-10; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5; Jn 15:18-21

May 05 Sunday 8:15 am +Amy Tobin, +Agnes C. Mitcham, and +Sammie Longlois

May 05 Sunday 10:30 am The People of the Parish

**Week's Offering: April 21, 2024**

	St. Augustine	St. Anne
Weekly & Easter	\$ 3,694.46	\$ 465.00
Building	\$ 0.00	\$ 13.00
Online 4/15-4/21	\$ 1,620.75	Building \$5.00 St. Anne \$75.00

Thank you for your generosity!

**This Week at a Glance**  
 St. Augustine Weekday Masses

Tues. 6 pm  
 Wed. 6 pm  
 Thurs 8 am  
 Fri 8 am  
 Sat 9 am

*Parish Service Schedule:*

	LECTORS	USHERS	Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
Sat Apr 27 5:00 pm	Diane Riley	Mike Bordelon Kenneth Metoyer	Bridget Metoyer
Sun Apr 28 10:30 am	Marissa Deen	Barry Antee Glenn Sers	Catherine Rachal Henry Rachal
Sat May 4 5:00 pm	Catherine Rachal	Donald Balthazar James Conant	David McGraw
Sun May 5 10:30 am	Rebecca Jones	Patrick Jones John Scott	Tiffany Roque

**Prayer of St. Augustine**  
 Eternal God, who are the light of the minds that know you, the joy of the hearts that love you, and the strength of the wills that serve you; grant us so to know you, that we may truly love you, and so to love you that we may fully serve you, whom to serve is perfect freedom, in Jesus our Lord.

**On-Line Giving**



To give online through our new platform, visit our giving page on our website <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/staugustinecaneriver> You can also give through text message by sending "Give" to 318-217-8833 or just scan the QR code. Please register with the Parish by calling 318.379.2521 during office hours.

**Men's Prayer Group meets every Sunday @ 9:30 am**

**Finance Council Meeting, April 30 @ 6:45 pm in Spirituality Center**

**Pastoral Council Meeting, May 1 @ 6:45 pm in Spirituality Center**

**First Communion and May Crowning is Sunday, May 4, 2024 at 10:30 am Mass**

**St. Augustine Parish Work Day, May 11th @ 7 am (Men and Women are needed)**

**Christian Mothers Annual Meeting, Saturday, May 11, 2024 at 3:00 pm in the hall.**

**Creole Festival Meeting, May 16 @ 6:45 pm**

**Graduating Seniors Mass will be held on Sunday, May, 26, 2024 at 10:30 service. Please contact Deloris Jones with your name and Bio. Christian Mothers will hold a reception after mass.**



**PARISH CARE MINISTRY** - We ask for your prayers for: Nick Jackson, Andrew Balthazar, Carroll Poche, Donald Gallion, Henry Llorence, Jr., Cynthia LaCour, Lizzie Metoyer, Vanue Lacour, Sister Stephanie Langston and Theresa Roque.

**ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA) 2024**

Goal	Pledged	Received
\$20,828.00	\$15,576.00	\$11,260.05
\$ 2,234.00	\$ 1,125.00	\$ 875.00

Please prayerful consider making a donation to the ADA appeal.

The **Christian Mothers** have **Meat Pies** to sell, \$40.00 a dozen. Please contact Gail Jones if interested.

This weekend please support the **Catholic Home Missions Appeal** today! Nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are considered mission dioceses because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities needed in their communities. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States. Please be generous. More information can be found at [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).

**May 4-5 St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Fair at St. John's Hall, Cloutierville**

Kitchen Opens May 4 at 11:00 am with BBQ Dinners, Gumbo, Hot Tamales, Meat Pies & Hamburgers. Bingo starts at 5:30 pm and Games for Children  
 May 5 Kitchen Opens at 11:00 am —4 pm with Turkey Dinners and the favorites—Gumbo, Meat Pies, Hot Tamales and Hamburgers. Prize Bingo 12—4 pm  
**Lots of flowers and plants for sale - Both Days**

**"Dignitas Infinita" (The Infinite Dignity of Human beings, April 8, 2024, Declaration for the Doctrine of the faith, Vatican City, Italy. )**

Three fundamental concepts of human dignity":

1. Human dignity. Human beings are "willed" to exist, created and loved by God. By being human all are made in the image and likeness of God and are to be treated with a basic respect and a dignity as children loved by God.
2. Moral dignity. Human freedom is not merely a capacity to choose between one option or another, but is more accurately understood as the capacity to grow and perfect oneself in accordance with Divine Will and choices made correctly that affect the individual and others. (Making righteous choices gives us more freedom and dignity.) Freedom is not absolute but in accordance to the Law (Commandments of God) and to one's natural and genetic birth.
3. Social dignity. Focuses on the social conditions in which people live. All human beings are entitled by God to live with basic resources: clean water, adequate nutrition, basic health services, basic shelter, and basic fundamental human rights.

*"Respect for the dignity of each and every person is the indispensable basis for the very existence of any society which claims to be founded on just law and not on the force of power."*