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great, great grandmother,  
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and all her descendants  
for their faith, strength,  
courage and endless ef-  
forts to make the world a  
better place for all.*

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2262 HWY 484, Natchez, LA 71456



**20th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
August 18, 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)  
Website: [staugustinecaneriver.com](http://staugustinecaneriver.com)  
Office Hours: Wed–Fri 8:00 am–1 pm  
Parish Manager: Elizabeth Metoyer

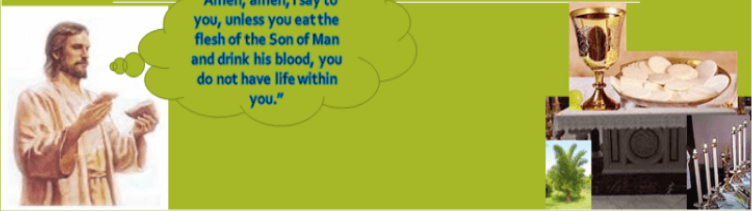
**Holy Sacrifice of the Mass**  
St. Augustine.....Saturday, 5:00 pm  
.....Sunday, 10:30 am  
Mission: St. Anne.....Sunday, 8:15 am  
3659 Old River Road, Natchitoches, LA 71457

\*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

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME, YEAR B**

Gospel John 6:51-58



"Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you."

In Proverbs, the author writes that Wisdom invites people from all over the city to a banquet. She promises that those with foolish thinking will gain understanding. In other words, the food she offers is herself, wisdom. In the Gospel, Jesus offers himself, "the living bread that came down from heaven," for the crowds to eat. Like Wisdom, he sets a banquet and invites everyone to feed on himself. Between digesting the Word and receiving the Eucharist, we can have both understanding and eternal life within us.

Paul tells the Ephesians to "try to understand what is the will of the Lord". Sometimes that's difficult. It 's often challenging to discern the right thing to do or to decide upon a direction to move. Paul goes on to tell them, "do not get drunk on wine...but be filled with the Spirit". Sound advice! We should do the same, becoming conscious of the Holy Spirit within us, for the Holy Spirit can guide us on the right path.

If it seems as if we've been hearing about Jesus as the Bread of Life for a few weeks now, you're absolutely right! John obviously thought that this teaching was quite important. Perhaps not coincidentally, John is the only evangelist who doesn't write about Jesus offering his Body and Blood at the Last Supper. This chapter takes its place. Keep in mind that this lecture to his disciples took place *before* the Last Supper. Therefore, the Last Supper is actually Jesus' opportunity to remind the disciples of when he said they must eat his flesh and drink his blood and that then he would remain in them and give them life. His disciples believed in him, they followed him, and they obeyed him, but Jesus tells them that they must do more. They must consume him and truly take him into themselves.

Do I look to the Holy Spirit for guidance? Do I take the time to discern God's will? Will I add that to my decision-making process now?

*Mass Schedule*

Aug 17 Saturday 5:00 Armstrong & Roland Families (Living & Deceased), +Joe Raggio, +Phillip Brossett, Jr., and +Rod Nelson

Aug 18 Sunday 8:15 am Cayer & Armstrong Families (Living & Deceased) and Culpepper & Schelette Families

Aug 18 Sunday 10:30 am The People of the Parish

Aug 19 Monday No Mass  
**Readings:** Ez 24:15-23; (Ps) Dt 32:18-21; Mt 19:16-22

Aug 20 Tuesday 6:00 pm +Joe Raggio  
**Readings:** Ez 28:1-10; (Ps) Dt 32:26-28, 30, 35-36; Mt 19:23-30

Aug 21 Wednesday 6:00 pm +Rod Nelson  
**Readings:** Ez 34:1-11; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 20:1-16

Aug 22 Thursday 8:00 am +Todd Roque  
**Readings:** Ez 36:23-28; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; Mt 22:1-14

Aug 23 Friday 8:00 am +Fr. Bill Gearheard  
**Readings:** Ez 37:1-14; Ps 107:2-9; Mt 22:34-40

Aug 24 Saturday 5:00 pm +Yvonne Jones, +Joe Raggio, +Sylvester Sers, +Cpl. Robert Leslie Jones, and +Rod Nelson  
**Readings:** Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13ab, 17-18; Jn 1:24-26

Aug 25 Sunday 8:15 am Culpepper & Schelette Families

Aug 25 Sunday 10:30 am The People of the Parish

**Week's Offering:**

**August 11, 2024**

	<b>St. Augustine</b>	<b>St. Anne</b>
Weekly & Easter	\$ 3,233.00	\$ 494.00
Maryhill Renewal	\$ 482.00	\$ 156.00
Online 8/4-8/11	\$ 690.75	Building \$100.00 St. Anne \$5.00

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

*Parish Service Schedule:*

	<b>LECTORS</b>	<b>USHERS</b>	Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
<b>Sat Aug 17 5:00 pm</b>	Doretta O'Brien	David McGraw Clyde Roque	Ted Duggan Bridget Metoyer
<b>Sun Aug 18 10:30 am</b>	Minnie Metoyer	Barry Antee Jacob Bellow	Wilson Coutee Tiffany Roque
<b>Sat Aug 24 5:00 pm</b>	Anita Evans	Donald Balthazar Farrell Christophe	David McGraw Catherine Rachal
<b>Sun Aug 25 10:30 am</b>	Chad Nelson	Jerry Campo Patrick Jones	Rebecca Jones Henry Rachal

**Prayer During Difficult Economic Times**

Gracious God, We know that your love is infinite and that you care about all areas of our life. In this time of economic insecurity, help us to trust that all of our security is in you. Keep us mindful that you always have and always will provide for our needs. Apart from you we can do nothing. Merciful God, We ask that you give our leaders the wisdom to guide our nation and the world out of the current economic crisis. Help us to protect the poor and all those who are struggling during this difficult time. Provide for their needs and give them hope. Open new opportunities for them and furnish the resources they need to live with dignity. Encourage those who have enough to share essential resources with those who lack the necessities of life, and to do so with humble, grateful and loving hearts. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

**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**

**Hot Tamales, August 17 & August 24 @ 8 am for the Creole Festival. Please come out and lend a helping hand.**

**Pastoral Council meeting August 20, 2024 @ 6 pm**

**The Church extends an invitation to all who wish to become members of the Catholic faith. If you are interested, please call the office to register at 318.379.2521. RCIA Meeting, Tuesday, August 27 @ 6 pm**

**Religious Education Class begin on September 4. Registration begins next week.**



**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, Fr. William Gearheard, Theresa Roque, Hillery Peter Narcisse and Joyce Conant.

**ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA) 2024**

Goal	Pledged	Received
\$20,828.00	\$20,907.00	\$18,157.80
\$ 2,234.00	\$ 1,658.00	\$ 1,658.00

**Please prayerful consider making a donation to the ADA appeal.**

**The Christian Mothers have Meat Pies to sell, \$30.00 a dozen. Please contact Gail Jones at 318.652.4203 if you are interested.**

**September 1** Since 1903, The **Catholic University of America** has been blessed by the generosity of parishioners around the country through the National Collection. James Cardinal Gibbons, our first chancellor and the ninth Archbishop of Baltimore, affectionately called the collection "the people's endowment." Catholic University is the national university of the Catholic Church. Gifts to the National Collection — the only second collection taken for higher education in the U.S. — support students during this crucial time and help the University conduct critical research that will serve parishes and dioceses throughout the country. Please be generous. For more information visit: <https://engage.catholic.edu/giving/how-give/national-collection>

**September 6-8 Genesis of Eve Women's Conference**

Join us downtown at the Alexandria at the Randolph Riverfront Center for a conference weekend be full of opportunities to listen and encounter, as women of all ages gather to expand their community and deepen their personal relationship with Christ. Each day will include talks from nationally recognized Catholic Speakers including Beth Davis, Jackie Francois Angel, Kathryn Whitaker, and Fr. Justin Brady. Worship will be led by Kelley Pease Lombardi and include music by Laura Huval, with the closing Mass to be celebrated by our own Bishop Robert Marshall. With the schedule also including time for Confessions and Adoration, it will be a true time of spiritual nourishment. The conference is open to women of all faiths, ages 18 and older, and mothers with nursing infants are welcome and encouraged to attend. The Genesis of Eve storefront along with other vendors will be there, with opportunities to shop Catholic and artisanal items. All meals for the weekend are included with ticket purchase, and a special rate is available through the Hotel Bentley for those wishing to stay nearby. For more information or to purchase tickets visit [genesisofeve.org](https://genesisofeve.org)

**September 28 Catechetical Formation Enrichment Day**

Calling all Catechists entrusted with handing down the faith to the youth and adults in our Diocese! We invite you to join us for a Day of Enrichment! Please join us on Saturday, Sept. 28 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the **LSU-Alexandria campus Brumfield Caffey Ballroom**. The day is free of charge and will consist of engaging talks, a panel Q&A, lunch, and more, all led by host Paul George and speaker, David Calavitta. Registration opens on Tuesday, July 30, and closes on Friday, Sept. 20. To register visit [www.diocesealex.org](http://www.diocesealex.org). Space is limited. Email Hannah at the Diocese of Alexandria office [hmorgan@diocesealex.org](mailto:hmorgan@diocesealex.org) or Steubenville South at [hello@steubenvillesouth.com](mailto:hello@steubenvillesouth.com) with any questions.