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December 14, 2025

Pastor: Rev. William 'Bill' Gearheard

Deacon: Dcn. Michael Young

Office Email: staugustine1803@gmail.com Office Phone Number: 318.379.2521

Father's Email: frwgearheard@diocesealex.org Deacon's Email: dcnmyoung@diocesealex.org

Website: 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:... ..Sundav. 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



The third candle, the Candle of Joy, is traditionally pink, symbolizing rejoicing. The LORD is near! Our Salvation is at hand! Maranatha!

On Gaudete Sunday we rejoice, for we know that the Lord is near. With eyes of faith, we can sense his presence even as we prepare for the celebration of his coming to us as a newborn infant. With eyes of faith, we can see his comind to us as well as the prophet Isaiah or the New Testament prophet John the Baptist, who each prepared his people for God's transformative presence. With eyes of faith, let us glory in Jesus' presence right here, right now: in God's

word, in the Eucharist, and in those around us.

The powerful imagery in Isaiah's poetry overwhelms us with joy on this Guadete Sunday. Deserts bloom with abundant flowers? Parched land exults in joyful song! The blind will see, the deaf will hear, and those who cannot walk will leap like a stag! In this season of watchful preparation for the Lord's coming into our lives, may we recognize is transformative presence in our world as we long for the coming of the kingdom, when all this and more will be fulfilled.

If I am honest with myself, what part of Jesus' message offends me?

Advertisements: 13 Weeks \$65.00 - 26 Weeks \$125.00 - 52 Weeks \$250.00

Mass Schedule

Dec 13 Saturday 5:00 pm +Andrew Balthazar, +Joe Raggio, +Enolia Narcisse, +Annie Dell Severin,

+Vickie & Colice Raggio, +Chad Jones, and +Regis E. Rachal

Culpepper & Schelette Families & +Andrew Balthazar Dec 14 Sunday 8:15 am

The People of the Parish Dec 14 Sunday 10:30 am

No Mass Dec 15 Monday

Readings: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5b, 6, 7bc, 8-9; Mt 21:23-27

Dec 16 Tuesday 6:00 pm +Victor Joseph Metoyer, Sr.

Readings: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; Mt 21:28-32

Dec 17 Wednesday 6:00 pm The Sick of the Parish **Readings:** Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4b, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17

Dec 18 Thursday 8:00 am +Chad Jones

Readings: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25

Dec 19 Friday 8:00 am +Anthony L. Rachal

Readings: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6b, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Dec 20 Saturday 5:00 pm +Andrew Balthazar, LaCour Family, +Gretta R. Burns, +Ladys Curry Rachal

+Isanor & Eugene Metoyer and +Regis E. Rachal

Readings: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38

Dec 21 Sunday 10:30 am The People of the Parish Readings: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

Week's Offering:	25	
	St. Augustine	St. Anne
Weekly	\$4,622.10	\$578.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 680.00	\$ 40.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 225.00	\$ 59.00
Retirement for Religious	\$ 20.00	
Online 12/01-12/7 \$1,06	0.00 St. Anne \$75.00 Buil	ding \$5.00

0 / (0 /	06	
Parish.	Service	Sched	ule:

U———	LECTORS	USHERS	Extraordinary Minis- ters of the Eucharist
Sat Dec 13 5:00 pm	Sylvia Rachal	Donald Balthazar Kenneth Metoyer	Lireda Balthazar
Sun Dec 14 10:30 am	Marissa Dean	Lynwood Delphin John Scott	Tiffany Roque – Cup Mary Wilmore – Cup Henry Rachal
Sat Dec 20 5:00 pm	Agnes Ashby	James Conant Clyde Roque	David McGraw
Sun Dec 21 10:30 am	Sister Stephanie	Jerry Campo Patrick Jones	Ted Duggan – Cup Minnie Metoyer – Cup Tina Antee



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 \$30 dz. & Meat Pies \$40 dz. Please contact Mary Jones @ 318.471.2942 or the Office @ 318.379.2521



PARISH CARE MINISTRY - We ask for your prayers for: Nick Jackson, Hillery Peter Narcisse, Maxine Christophe, Janet Jones, Samuel Christophe, Sr., Leland & Gussie LaCaze, Mark Begnaud and Mona Beaudion.

December 14 Retirement Fund for Religious

A lifetime of service deserves care in return. "Thanks to your generosity, we can provide the very best care to the sisters in our community," says Sister M. Stephanie Belgeri, 73, a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George in Alton, Illinois. Donations to the **Retirement Fund for Religious** provide housing, medical assistance, and essential support for thousands of aging religious. This collection will be taken up the week of Dec. 14. Please consider giving.

December 18

The Jubilee Prayer Father in heaven, may the faith

you have given us in your son,

Jesus Christ, our brother, and the

flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawak-

en in us the blessed hope for the

May your grace transform us

into tireless cultivators of the

seed of the Gospel. May those

seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos

in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil van-

quished, your glory will shine

May the grace of the Jubilee

heaven. May that same grace

spread the joy and peace of our

Redeemer throughout the earth.

blessed, be glory and praise for

To you our God, eternally

reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of

eternally.

ever. Amen.

coming of your Kingdom.

Confraternity of Christian Mothers Advent Reflections/Christmas Gathering will be Thursday, December 18, 2025 at 6 p.m. in the hall. There will be a ten dollar gift exchange, Bingo, and festive cuisine. Please mark your calendar and join us for an evening of fellowship.

Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24 – 5 pm & 10:30 pm – St. Augustine December 24 - 8:00 pm - St. Anne December 25 – 9:00 am – St. Augustine

December 25 Vocations Collection

Traditionally at all Christmas Masses, a second collection is taken throughout our diocese for the education and formation of our priests. Through the Church Vocations collections, your generosity and prayers allow the church to continue to provide priests, sisters and brothers to serve our spiritual and physical needs. Please give generously.

December 28 Closing Mass for the Jubilee Year: Pilgrims of Hope

The closing Mass for the Jubilee Year of Hope will be held on Sunday, Dec. 28 at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Alexandria. Over the past year, hundreds of people from across the diocese participated in the Jubilee Year of Hope pilgrimage. Every pilgrimage site in our diocese distributed hundreds of passports and thousands of stickers. We are overwhelmed with the number of completed passports being received weekly. Please note, if you are attempting to complete the pilgrimage, the pilgrimage site churches may take up their passport stickers and other materials after the closing Mass on Sunday, Dec. 28 so make sure you complete your pilgrimage before then. We will accept your completed passports in the mail into the beginning of 2026 but to ensure you receive a completion certificate signed by Bishop and a limited edition commemorative coin, please don't delay.