



St. Augustine Historical Society
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Natchez, LA 71456

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Pastor: **Rev. William 'Bill' Gearheard**
Office Email: [staugustine1803@gmail.com](#)
Office Phone Number: 318.379.2521
Father's Email: [frwgearheard@diocesealex.org](#)
Deacon: Dr. Harlan Mark Guidry 409.656.4651
Deacon's Email: [dcnmguidry@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:.....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
1st Friday, Holy Hour after Mass
For an Emergency Call: 318.581.1612

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 24, 2023



Mary-Christmas to all of the parishioners of St. Augustine and St. Anne! Notice how Mary teaches us to make Christmas and each Mass special. We are to live in awe and to celebrate God's greatest gift: Jesus Christ Savior of the human race! Mary celebrated her son's birth with the greatest humility, reverence and love. Mary-Christmas! Amazingly, her son does not come to us just once a year— but He comes in a cosmic way at every mass, He, Jesus is born! Mary-Christmas!

Jesus did not come to us in a grand and spectacular way, but in a lowly town, after a difficult journey, to an unassuming woman, and in a very humble and cold stable. Our God came to meet us and soon the skies are filled with angels from heaven announcing glad tidings to poor humble shepherds in distant fields and lands. **We are those shepherds, now!** We come together in joy because Christ's birth reveals to us we are His chosen ones who are privileged to worship the new born king by doing God's will by saying Yes. Forever we sing the goodness of the Lord, for in Jesus, God not only rejoices but God is truly with us! Mary-Christmas!! Many blessings to the second greatest gift of our parishes— our wonderful holy families!

Fr. Bill

Mass Schedule

Dec 23 Saturday 5:00 pm +Lester & +Faye Sarpy, Steph & +Mike Landreneaux & Family, +Isabel & +Joseph Delphin, Sr., Michael R. Velasques, +Phillip Brossett Sr., +Dennis J. Velasquez, +Benedict LaCour, Jr. and +M/M Benedict LaCour, Sr.

Dec 24 Sunday 8:15 am +Amy Tobin & Armstrong & Roland Families (Living & Deceased)

Dec 24 Sunday 10:30 am The People of the Parish

Dec 24 Sunday 5:00 pm +Todd Roque, Ryan Rickett, +Isabel & Joseph Delphin, Sr., Steph & Mike Landreneuax & Family, +Zenobia Delphin, Carol Narcisse Briscoe, Ursula Pichon, Damika Pichon, Kim Jones, Edolia Faciane and Bridget Sarpy

Sunday 8:00 pm +John A. Nichols

Sunday, 10:30 pm Catherine Rachal, Yolande Pinckley, and Jan Bordelon

Dec 25 Monday, 9:00 am +Benedict LaCour, Jr., +Marguerite Roque and +Charles H. Christopher

Dec 26 Tuesday No Mass

Dec 27 Wednesday 6:00 pm +Michael Velasquez

Dec 28 Thursday 8:00 am +Ernest Pichon

Dec 29 Friday 8:00 am +Justin Picou, Josh Picou & Family, Grace Schwing & Vicky Villemarette

Dec 30 Saturday 5:00 pm +Arthur Metoyer, +Todd Roque, Ryan Ricket, James F. Moran, Steph & Mike Landreneaux & Family, +Isabel & Joseph Delphin, Sr. & +Vigar LaCour.

Dec 31 Sunday 8:15 am +Amy Tobin & +Agnes C. Mictham,

Dec 31 Sunday 10:30 am The People of the Parish

Week's Offering: December 17, 2023			
	St. Augustine	St. Anne	
Weekly	\$ 4,629.00	\$	433.00
Building	\$ 50.00	\$	0.00
Retirement Fund	\$ 40.00	\$	0.00
Online 12/11-17	\$ 960.75	Building \$5.00	St. Anne \$50.00
Thank you for your generosity!		Christmas Flowers \$145.00	

Parish Service Schedule:

	LECTORS	USHERS	MO Holy Eucharist
Sat Dec 23 5:00 pm	Anita Evans	James Conant Keith Sarpy	TBA
Sun Dec 24 10:30 am	April Matt	Patrick Jones John Scott	Jackie Kimbrell Minnie Metoyer
5:00 pm	Children	Jacob Bellow Patrick Jones II	TBA
10:30 pm	Mary Jones	Barry Antee Farrell Christophe	TBA
Mon Dec 25 9 am	Sister Liz	Volunteers	TBA
Sun Dec 24 10:30 pm	Mary Jones	Barry Antee Farrell Christophe	TBA
Sat Dec 30	Bridget Metoyer	James Conant Keith Sarpy	TBA
Sun Dec 31 10:30 am	Jerry Jones	Jerry Campo Patrick Jones	TBA

This Week at a Glance

See Christmas Schedule

Tues No Mass
Wed 6 pm Mass
(AA Meeting Wed, 7:00 pm at St.
Anne's)
Thurs Mass 8 am
Fri 8 am Mass

St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

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

Christmas Mass Schedule:

St. Augustine, December 24, 5 pm & 10:30 PM

St. Anne, December 24, 8 pm

St. Augustine, December 25, 9 am

New Year Day, January 1, 9 am



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.

To add others to the list, contact Dcn. Mark @ 409.656.4651 or anyone in the ministry group (Henry Rachal, Catherine Rachal, Dianne Moran, Sylvia Lacour, Deloris Jones, Roosevelt Washington, Pat Jones, Angela Jones, PJ Jones, Dominick Metoyer, Joy McGraw and Tiffany Roque).

Church 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, religious sisters and brothers to serve our spiritual and physical needs. Please be generous.

2024 Collection Envelopes are located in the annex. Please pick them up. Thanks!

Christmas Flower envelopes are available on the table near the entrance of church. Funds will be used to help decorate the church for the Christmas season. You may contribute in honor/memory of someone living or deceased. Your intentions will be remembered at all masses celebrated from Christmas Eve through Epiphany.

SAVE THE DATE! February 23-25 Fullness of Truth Conference

In the middle of the church's National Eucharistic Revival, the Diocese of Alexandria in collaboration with Fullness of Truth Ministries, will be hosting a three-day diocesan conference at the **Randolph Riverfront Center in Alexandria** February 23-25. The focus of this conference will be for families and will include a track for youth. More information including presenters, cost etc. will be coming soon. If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Jason Lavergne in the Office of Religious Education and Faith Formation at (318) 445-6424 ext. 207.

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.

FOR THOSE UNABLE TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION

It is a tragedy that the Body of Christ remains divided by indifference. Jesus reveals that He and the Father are One and invites us to be One in Him through the Most Holy Eucharist. Reception of Holy Communion is reserved for those who are actively practicing the fullness of the Catholic Faith. If you are not currently striving to be available, vulnerable, and obedient to the teachings of His bride, the Catholic Church, I humbly exhort you to refrain from receiving Holy Communion and invite you to recite the following prayer:

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already here, and unite myself wholly to You. Amen.