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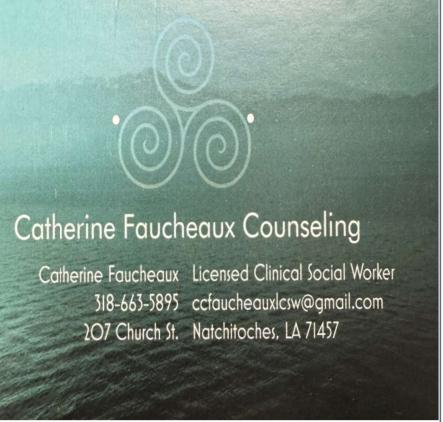
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**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**  
December 28, 2025



On the Sunday after Christmas, we honor the Holy Family and hold them up as a model for our own families. From the start Jesus, Mary, and Joseph had to deal with hardships, uncertainty, and even danger. But together they placed their bond with each other. We too are called to trust in the Lord as we face the trials and difficulties of our own lives. As

we continue our Christ celebration, may our families be consecrated in the love of the Holy Family.

Today's readings offer a number of lessons about family life. Ben Sirs shares his wisdom about children's responsibilities to their parents, particularly as their parents age. Saint Paul's advice to the Colossians about how to treat each other teaches us well how to treat members of our own families. The Holy Family places their trust in the Lord as they our own families. The Holy Family places their trust in the Lord as they fear for their safety in dangerous circumstances. May today's reading encourage us as we seek God's blessing upon family of every kind.

**Question of the Week:**

As this tumultuous year comes to an end, what can I do for those who are strangers in a strange land?

Pastor: **Rev. William 'Bill' Gearheard**

Deacon: Dcn. Michael Young

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's Email: [dcmhyoung@diocesealex.org](mailto:dcmhyoung@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

### Mass Schedule

Dec 27 Saturday 5:00 pm +Andrew Balthazar, +Arthur Metoyer, +Fred Severin, +Bernadine Delphin & Family, +Curtis T. Bordenave, Jr., +Benedict LaCour Sr. & +Stella LaCour Family, +Lawrence & +Frances Meziere Family, +Laura & +Lawrence Meziere, Jr. and +Chad Nelson

Dec 28 Sunday 8:15 am Culpepper & Schelette Families & +Andrew Balthazar

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

Dec 29 Monday No Mass

**Readings:** 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Luke 2:22-35

Dec 30 Tuesday 6:00 pm +Anthony Rachall & Chad Nelson

**Readings:** 1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40

Dec 31 Wednesday 4:00 pm St. Anne

**Readings:** 1 Jm 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18

Jan 01 Thursday 9:00 am +Ladys Rachal, +Joseph D. Roque, +Claudia Moran, Charles Roque Family and +Samuel Bishop, Jr.

**Readings:** Nb 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8; Gal 4:4-7

Jan 02 Friday 8:00 am +Chad Jones

**Readings:** 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Jan 03 Saturday 9:00 am Those suffering from Depression & Addiction

5:00 pm +Anthony L. Rachal, +Ladys Rachal, +Regis Rachal & Chad Nelson

Jan 04 Sunday 8:15 am Culpepper & Schelette Families

Jan 04 Sunday 10:30 am The People of the Parish

### Week's Offering: December 21, 2025

|                       | St. Augustine | St. Anne                         |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|
| Weekly Building Fund  | \$5,503.00    | \$583.00                         |
| Christmas Flowers     | \$5,000.00    |                                  |
| Immaculate Conception | \$ 110.00     | \$ 5.00                          |
| Online 12/15-12/21    | \$ 100.00     | \$138.00                         |
|                       | \$1,350.00    | St. Anne \$50.00 Building \$5.00 |

### Parish Service Schedule:

|                     | LECTORS         | USHERS                        | Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist                    |
|---------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Sat Dec 27 5:00 pm  | Bridget Metoyer | John Coutee<br>David McGraw   | Lireda Balthazar  |
| Sun Dec 28 10:30 am | Chad Nelson     | Jerry Campo<br>Patrick Jones  | Ted Duggan – Cup<br>Minnie Metoyer – Cup<br>Tina Antee      |
| Sat Jan 03 5:00 pm  | Bridget Metoyer | John Coutee<br>David McGraw   | Lireda Balthazar  |
| Sun Dec 28 10:30 am | Chad Nelson     | Ricky LaCour<br>Darrell Roque | Tiffany Roque – Cup<br>John Scott – Cup<br>Catherine Rachal |

### 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 \$30 dz. & Meat Pies \$40 dz.

Please contact Mary Jones @ 318.471.2942 or the Office @ 318.379.2521

Please pick up your envelopes in the annex!



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

### New Year Mass Schedule

#### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)

December 31 – 4 pm Vigil - St. Anne

January 1 – 9:00 am – St. Augustine

#### 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.

For those who use Rapides Regional Medical Center: A small reminder for all our Catholics who may be admitted to Rapides Regional Medical Center in Alexandria. Sometimes when going through admitting, the hospital worker may neglect to ask for the patient's religious affiliation. The result is the patient is not listed on the roster as Catholic and the hospital's Catholic ministry team is unaware that you are in the hospital. Please try to remember to mention this during the admitting procedure.

**The Church Today.** The week of January 11, we will be taking up a special collection for the Church Today. Every month, this 20-page newspaper is mailed FREE to every Catholic household in the diocese. All donations to this special collection go directly to the Church Today to help defray the cost of printing and mailing. Your donation also defrays the cost of our digital outreach via the diocesan website [www.diocesealex.org](http://www.diocesealex.org). If you, or someone you know, would like to receive the Church Today FREE each month, call 318-445-6424, ext 209 to request it or sign up at <https://www.diocesealex.org/the-office-of-communications/>

#### January 10 Transitional Deacon Ordination of Matthew Bonner

You are invited to join us for the Transitional Deacon Ordination of Matthew Bonner at 10:00 a.m. at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Alexandria.

#### January 15 Catholic Charities Thrift Shop Volunteer Recruitment Breakfast

Catholic Charities of Central Louisiana will be opening its own thrift shop in February! Volunteers are needed to help sort and price merchandise, pickup donations, and man the sales floor during hours of operation. If you are interested in volunteering, a volunteer recruitment breakfast will be held from 9:00-10:00 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 15 at the St. Joseph Catholic Center, 4400 Coliseum Blvd., Alexandria. For more information or to RSVP please contact [jgilchrist@cccla.org](mailto:jgilchrist@cccla.org)