



St. Augustine Historical Society
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SAINT AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
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2262 HWY 484, Natchez, LA 71456

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: [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, 8:30 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

**First Sunday of Advent
December 3, 2023**

Isaiah pleads with God to “rend the heavens and come down,” and rescue those who have wandered and move the hearts of the stubborn. For Christians, Jesus is God’s response to Isaiah’s prayer. He is the Good Shepherd, pursuing the lost sheep. He is the teacher, teaching us mercy and forgiveness. May we realize the gift we have in Jesus, our greatest Christmas gift, whom God sent to redeem us all.

A few weeks ago we heard the parable of the ten virgins waiting for the bridegroom, five who foolishly brought no oil with the for their lamps. The lesson from that Gospel can be applied to today’s as well. Be prepared. Be patient. Plan ahead because delays happen. The wise servants in today’s Gospel do exactly that, accomplishing their work so they are ready whenever the master returns, but waiting patiently because it may be a while. May we be reminded that our period of preparation does not end on December 25, for the Lord comes in different ways to different folks, not just as an infant child on Christmas Day. Let us make ourselves ready, whether it’s today or years from now.

Wherever this Advent finds your heart, my invitation is to bring it to Jesus. Start with a simple surrender and the offering of your days to the Lord. Prayerfully ask Him what He is calling you to this Advent, in your specific season of life, and in this moment of your faith journey.

Mass Schedule

Dec 02 Saturday 9 :00 am 1st Saturday Mass
5:00 pm +Bridgete Roque, +Mary Llorance, +Glenn Conant, Ryan Rickett, +Dennis Jame Velasquez, +Phillip Brosset, Jr., +Benedict LaCour, Jr. & +Alberta Marie Meziere

Dec 03 Sunday 8:15 am +Amy Tobin

Dec 03 Sunday 10:30 am The People of the Parish

Dec 04 Monday No Mass
Readings: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Dec 05 Tuesday 6:00 pm +Isabel Delphin Arceneaux
Readings: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Dec 06 Wednesday 6:00 pm +Michael Ray Velasquez
Readings: 1 Jn 2:29—3:6; Ps 98:1-3, 6; Jn 1:29-34

Dec 07 Thursday 4 pm **St. Anne Vigil** & 6:00 pm **St. Augustine Vigil**
+James Felton Moran
Readings: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42

Dec 08 Friday 8:00 am +Justin Picou, Josh Picou & Family, and Molly Mitchell Begnaud
Readings: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1-5; Jn 1:43-51

Dec 09 Saturday 5:00 pm +Fred Severin, +Edna R. Gallien, +M/M Malcolm Raggio, +Ryan Rickett, +Nicholas Delphin, Jr., Edna Johnson, Agnes Lucas and Travis Williams
Readings: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-28 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Dec 10 Sunday 8:15 am +Amy Tobin and Cayer & Armstrong Families (Living & Deceased)

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

Week's Offering:

November 26, 2023

St. Augustine

St. Anne

Weekly \$ 3,751.00 \$ 54400
Online 11/20-26 \$ 780.75 Building \$5.00 St. Anne \$50.00
Thank you for your generosity!

Parish Service Schedule:

	LECTORS	USHERS	MO Holy Eucharist
Sat Dec 2 5:00 pm	Diane Riley	Vanue Lacour Clyde Roque	TBA
Sun Dec 3 10:30 am	Chad Nelson	Ricky LaCour Darrell Roque II	TBA
Sat Dec 9 5:00 pm	Donna Dupree	Kenneth Metoyer Mike Bordelon	TBA
Sun Dec 10 10:30 am	John Scott	Henry Rachal Chris Sylvia	TBA



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.

This Week at a Glance

Tues 6 pm
Wed 6 pm Mass followed by CCD
(AA Meeting Wed, 7:00 pm at St. Anne's)
Thurs Mass 4 pm St Anne & 6 pm St. Augustine
Fri 8 am Mass

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.

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

If you are considering join the catholic church or want to learn more, please join us for R.C.I.A. It begins on Tuesday, December 5, 2023 in the parish hall.



PARISH CARE MINISTRY - We ask for your prayers for: Nick Jackson, Andrew Balthazar, Carroll Poche, Sylvester Sers, 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).

December 8, The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Day of Obligation

Mass Schedule: St. Anne Vigil, Dec. 7, 4 pm
St. Augustine Vigil, Dec. 7, 6 pm and Dec. 8, 8 am

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion Workshops

The next workshops for Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion will be held on the dates, times and locations below. The average time for the workshop is about three hours so please plan accordingly. The same information will be presented at each session. If you would like to sign up, please visit www.diocesealex.org or contact Dcn Jason Lavergne at (318) 445-6424 ext 207 or by email at dcnjlavergne@diocesealex.org.

Date, time and location is: **Dec. 9, 9:00 a.m. – St. Augustine Church, Isle Brevelle**

Lector Formation Workshops

The Diocese of Alexandria will be offering Lector workshops for those individuals who are interested in serving or who currently may serve as a Lector in their parish. To serve in this role, one must be of good standing with their Catholic faith and need the approval of their pastor. If you have any questions, please email or call Deacon Jason Lavergne at dcnjlavergne@diocesealex.org or 318-445-6424, ext. 207. All training workshops will present the same material and will last no longer than two and a half hours. Please sign up for the session that best fits your schedule at the Diocese website at www.diocesealex.org. The next time and location is: **Dec. 9, 2023, 12:30 p.m. – St. Augustine Church, Isle Brevelle**

Advent Lenten Mission - December 12, 13 & 14, 2023 @ 6:45 pm
Tuesday, December 12th — Advent Hope & Anticipation Celebration
Wednesday, December 13th — The Theology of Purgatory (Phillip Brocato)
Thursday, December 14th— The Theology of Reparation & Indulgences (Fr. Bill)

All parishioners have a subscription to **FORMED** and **AMEN**. Please utilize these great programs! Call the office for more information.

Weekend of December 9 & 10—2nd Collection - Retirement fund for Religious:

"Religious are blessed to serve," says Dominican Father Bertrand Ebben, age 90. Please donate to the Retirement Fund for Religious the week of Dec. 10. Your gift will provide essential care for nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to serving others. Let us show our gratitude to these selfless individuals by giving generously.