



St. Augustine Historical Society
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Natchez, LA 71456

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SAINT AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
est. 1803



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: 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

**Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
December 31, 2023**

Written in the second century before Christ's birth, Sirach offers pearls of wisdom that can still help us live a moral and faith-filled life. Today we hear the author make the argument that acting with kindness can offset occasions of sin: "Kindness to a father will not be forgotten, firmly planted against the debt of your sins". Whether to our parents or not, we certainly owe a debt to others in the times we have acted sinfully and selfishly. Kindness can stand against that debt. In the actual text, the verse goes on to say that kindness "will take lasting root". Exercising kindness grows kindness. Even when we disagree or can't get along, we can be kind.

Hebrews teaches a lesson about one of the most troubling stories in scripture: Abraham's near sacrifice of Isaac. It offers an explanation for Abraham's trustworthiness having already produced a miracle in Sarah giving birth so late in life, then surely God must be able to perform another miracle to allow Isaac to go on to have children of his own. Abraham's faith led him to place his trust in God and God's plan.

Joseph and Mary brought Jesus to the temple to present him to the Lord because he was their firstborn son. Before he can even be consecrated, however, Simeon and Anna recognize the Savior of the world in this babe. In faith, they have waited all their lives-until they were of an advanced age-for this moment to come. Their fidelity and devotion to God brought them to the temple each day and allowed them to see deeper than anyone else there present, allowed them to see the light of the world who would shine forth for all to see, allowed them to see the eventual redemption of all peoples.

How does my faith affect the way that I treat the members of my family? How can my faith help me grow to be a better parent/sibling/daughter/son?

Mass Schedule

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

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

Jan 01 Monday, 9:00 am +Joseph D. Roque
Readings: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

Jan 02 Tuesday 6:00 pm +Charles Sonny Metoyer
Readings: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

Jan 03 Wednesday 6:00 pm +Fr. James McGirr
Readings: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1-3, 6; Jn 1:29-34

Jan 04 Thursday 8:00 am +Agnes C. Mitcham
Readings: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42

Jan 05 Friday 8:00 am +Justin Picou and Josh Picou & Family
Readings: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1-5; Jn 1:43-51

Jan 06 Saturday 5:00 pm +Todd Roque, Sylvester Sers and Edna R. Gallien
Readings: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11

Jan 07 Sunday 8:15 am +Amy Tobin & +Agnes C. Mitcham

Jan 07 Sunday 10:30 am The People of the Parish

Week's Offering:

December 24 & 25, 2023

St. Augustine

St. Anne

Weekly	\$ 3,559.00	\$ 470.00
Christmas Vocations	\$ 1,061.00	\$ 104.00
Christmas Offering	\$ 6,905.00	\$ 140.00
Online 12/18-25	\$ 830.75	Building \$5.00 St. Anne \$50.00
Thank you for your generosity!		

Parish Service Schedule:

	LECTORS	USHERS	MO Holy Eucharist
Sat Dec 30 5:00 pm	Bridget Metoyer	James Conant Keith Sarpy	TBA
Sun Dec 31 10:30 am	Jerry Jones	Jerry Campo Patrick Jones	TBA
Sat Jan 06 5:00 pm	Jackie Metoyer	Donald Balthazar Farrell Christophe	TBA
Sun Dec 31 10:30 am	Jerry Campo	Henry Rachal Chris Sylvia	TBA

This Week at a Glance

Mon 9 am
Tues 6 pm
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.

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



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).

2024 Collection Envelopes are located in the annex. Please pick them up. If you would like to register with us, please contact the office. Thanks!

March for Life across the state begin January 13

Lafayette: Saturday, Jan. 13, 2024, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Festival De La Vie, meet at Parc San Souci, Downtown Lafayette

Shreveport: Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024, 10:00 a.m. Meet at the grassy area near the Louisiana Boardwalk!

Baton Rouge: Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024, 10:00 a.m. Meet at the Capitol Lawn.

Monroe: Sunday, Jan. 21, 2024, 2:00 p.m. Meet at the Purple Lot at First West.

Lake Charles: Monday, Jan. 22, 2024, 6:00 p.m. Meet at the Veterans Memorial Park

Natchitoches: Friday, February 2, 2024, 10:00 a.m. Meet at the Riverbank in Downtown Natchitoches.

Alexandria-Pineville: Saturday, Feb. 3, 2024, 10:00 a.m. Meet at Louisiana Christian University

To learn more, please visit: <https://prolifelouisiana.org/lalifemarch>

The Church Today: The week of January 14, we will be taking up a special collection for our diocesan newspaper -- 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. 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.

January 22 National Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal, no. 373, designates January 22 as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children": "In all the Dioceses of the United States of America, January 22 (or January 23, when January 22 falls on a Sunday) shall be observed as a particular day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion."

February 10 Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion Workshops

The next workshop for Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion will be held on Feb. 10, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Natchitoches, Louisiana. 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.

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.