



**St. Augustine Historical Society**  
PO BOX 335  
Natchez, LA 71456

FACEBOOK: [StAugustineHistoricalSociety](#)  
m.guidry@verizon.net; 409-656-4651

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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

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**February 11, 2024**

The strictures announced in the first reading were sensible for their time, for even then people realized that the skin disease they referred to as leprosy was quite contagious. If a person with symptoms ate, socialized and lived with others, the whole community was at risk. Because the scabs and sores were both obvious and unsightly, people concluded that those with the disease were being punished by God. Therefore, they must be sinful and impure. Between contagion and impurity, they were best kept outside the community. Because they were being punished by God (or so they believed), only God could heal them.

This brings us to the leper in today's Gospel. The leper recognized Jesus for more than a healer, for a healer could only cure an illness. The leper, recall, specifically asked to be made clean. He wanted God's punishment to be removed. He wanted the barrier the moment he touched him, bridging the gap between community and outcast, even before healing him. In touching the man, Jesus would have been considered to have made himself impure. But far from making himself less than whole, he is making the community whole by restoring the leper to it.

Jesus challenges us to do the same, to break down the barriers that keep us apart, that keep some excluded from the community. He challenges us to be unafraid of reaching out to those whom we feel uncomfortable coming in contact with. Paul called upon the Corinthians to imitate him, as he imitates Christ. Though he was Jewish, Paul reached out to Gentiles from Jerusalem to the ends of the known world, bringing all of them into this new religion as full members. This is the inclusivity we are called to imitate in our families, our communities, our nation, and our world.

Who can I reach out to in order to help make by family/community/world whole? How can I go about doing so?



Mass Schedule

Feb 10 Saturday 5:00 pm	+Lester & +Faye Sarpy, +Joseph D. Roque & +Agnes Monette
Feb 11 Sunday 8:15 am	+Amy Tobin & Cayer & Armstrong Families (Living & Deceased), +Larry E. Bayonne, and Kimberly Delphin Martin
Feb 11 Sunday 10:30 am	The People of the Parish
Feb 12 Monday	No Mass
Readings: Jas 1:1-11; Ps 119:67-68, 71-72, 75-76; Mk 8:11-13	
Feb 13 Tuesday 6:00 pm	+Grace Monette
Readings: Jas 1:12-18; Ps 94:12-15, 18-19; Mk 8:14-21	
Feb 14 Wednesday 4:00 pm	St. Anne's
6:00 pm	+Grace Monette, +James L. Metoyer, Sr., and +Gerald Metoyer
Readings: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6a, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20—6:2; Mk 6:1-6	
Feb 15 Thursday 8:00 am	+Justin Picou & Josh Picou & Family
Readings: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25	
Feb 16 Friday 8:00 am	+Todd Roque
6:00 pm	Stations of the Cross
Readings: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6a, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15	
Feb 17 Saturday 5:00 pm	+Armstrong & +Ronald Families (Living & Deceased), +Adeline Pellerin, +Chester & Lorraine Metoyer, +Joan Edwards, & + Floyd & +Pete Rachal
Readings: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32	
Feb 18 Sunday 8:15 am	+Amy Tobin & +Agnes C. Mitcham, and +Larry E. Bayonne
Feb 18 Sunday 10:30 am	The People of the Parish

Week's Offering:

February 4, 2024

St. Augustine

St. Anne

Weekly	\$ 4,917.00	\$ 374.00
Building Fund	\$ 467.00	\$ 47.00
Church in Latin America	\$ 20.00	The Church Today -\$20
Online 1/28-2/4	\$ 1,603.25	Building \$80.00 St. Anne \$50.00

Parish Service Schedule:

	LECTORS	USHERS	MO Holy Eucharist
Sat Feb 10 5:00 pm	Donna Dupree	Farrell Christophe Clyde Roque	Anita Evans
Sun Feb 11 10:30 am	Marissa Dean	Barry Antee Norah Sers	Carey Blanchard
Wed. Feb 14 6 pm	Darrell Roque III	Keith Sarpy Jacob Bellow	David McGraw Jacqueline Kimbrel Delphin
Sat Feb 17 5:00 pm	Anita Evans	Mike Bordelon Kenneth Metoyer	Jackie Metoyer
Sun Feb 18 10:30 am	Minnie Metoyer	Ricky LaCour Darrell Roque	Catherine Rachal Henry Rachal

This Week at a Glance

Tues 6 pm  
Wed 4 pm—St Anne's  
6 pm Mass - St. Aug  
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

All Religious Education students please attend Ash Wednesday Services @ 6 pm

Religious Education Parents Meeting, Feb 21, after 6 pm Mass

Lifeshare Blood Drive, February 25, 11:30 am—2 pm,  
St. Augustine Parking Lot

St Anne's Fish Fry, March 1 & 15, 2024, 5—8 pm



**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).

Ash Wednesday Services February 14, 2024 4 pm—St. Anne's 6 pm St. Augustine

**Ash Wednesday and Good Friday** are obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics. In addition, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards. Members of the Eastern Catholic Churches are to observe the particular law of their own *sui iuris* Church. [A Reflection on Lenten Fasting](#) If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.

LENT

The annual Lenten season is the fitting time to climb the holy mountain of Easter. The Lenten season has a double character, namely to prepare both catechumens and faithful to celebrate the paschal mystery. The catechumens, both with the rite of election and scrutinies, and by catechesis, are prepared for the celebration of the sacraments of Christian initiation; the faithful, ever more attentive to the word of God and prayer, prepare themselves by penance for the renewal of their baptismal promises".

February 14 Church in Central and Eastern Europe

On Ash Wednesday we will take up the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports the church in more than 25 countries that struggle to recover from former communist rule. It also aids communities throughout the region that are affected by the war in Ukraine. Funds support pastoral care, catechesis, renovations, and seminary formation. Your support restores the Church and builds the future of this region. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection. You can find more information at [www.usccb.org/ccce](http://www.usccb.org/ccce). #iGiveCatholicTogether (<https://usccb.igivecatholictogether.org/organizations/usccb-church-in-central-and-eastern-europe>) also accepts funds for this collection if you prefer to donate online.

**Rice Bowls are on the table at the entrance of the Church. Father requests all Religious Education student to pick one up! Please be generous this Lenten Season!**

**Understand, Live, and Share your Faith** (Please prayerfully consider as we will be starting this program soon.) **More details will follow!**

Unite with us on a spiritual journey that will transform you into the image and likeness of Jesus. **Come, Lord Jesus!** is a program based on Prayer, Scripture, Eucharist, and Fellowship as in **Acts 2:42**. ("They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to fellowship, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers.") This program evangelizes its members in small faith communities the way Jesus did. Members meet weekly to reflect upon and discuss the Sunday Scripture readings following an unparalleled spiritual process. The rich content is replete with scriptural passages motivating spiritual growth, love for Jesus, and His word. Developed in 1969 by Father Conley Bertrand, a Catholic priest, this program is modeled after Jesus and the Early Church.

This inspiring program is a complete study of the Sunday Readings, including Gospels (Be My Witness), Epistles (Love One Another), and the Old Testament (Give Glory to God) in three separate volumes. Following the Liturgical Calendar and utilizing the Catechism of the Catholic Church, members grow in sanctification through prayer, Scripture, Eucharist, and Christian community.