

St. Augustine Historical Society
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2262 HWY 484, Natchez, LA 71456

**The First Sunday in Lent
 February 18, 2024**

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, 8:15 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

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The author of Genesis does not use the word “rainbow” to describe the object God sets in the sky after the Great Flood. No, the word we see repeatedly is “bow,” as in “bow and arrow.” When God says, “I set my bow in the clouds,” what God is doing is unilaterally disarming. In effect God is saying, “You have just seen the power I have to destroy all life on earth, but now I am promising you that I will never do it again; in fact, I will transform this weapon of aggression into a thing of beauty.” When we commit to peaceful, nonviolent action, we make ourselves vulnerable, but this is exactly what God does in making this covenant. May we be as willing as God is to do so.

By the waters of the flood the world was transformed. By the waters of baptism we are transformed. God established a covenant with Noah, his descendants, and all living creatures, transforming humanity’s relationship with God. We enter into a covenant in baptism, transforming our relationship with Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. As we journey through these forty days, let us open ourselves to the transformative grace of God in our lives.

Mark tells us precious little about Jesus’ forty days in the desert: no details of Satan’s temptations, as we hear from Matthew and Luke. But he mentions that Jesus “was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him”. We too many find ourselves beset by “wild beasts” within and without as we try to resist temptations. Let us look to the angels in our lives who care for us, who offer their occasional assistance when we need it or their constant support throughout our trials. Better yet, make us angels who minister to others when they undergo difficulties or trauma and feel deserted and in need.

How will I minister to others during these forty days of Lent? Who is in need of my help?

Mass Schedule

- Feb 17 Saturday 5:00 pm +Armstrong & +Ronald Families (Living & Deceased), +Adeline Pellerin, +Chester & Lorraine Metoyer, +Joan Edwards, & + Floyd & +Pete Rachal
- 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
- Feb 19 Monday No Mass
Readings: Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mt 25:31-46
- Feb 20 Tuesday 6:00 pm +Brenda Balthazar Medina
Readings: Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; Mt 6:7-15
- Feb 21 Wednesday 6:00 pm +Todd Roque & Joe Raggio
Readings: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; Lk 1:29-32
- Feb 22 Thursday 8:00 am +Vicky Villemarette
Readings: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 16:13-19
- Feb 23 Friday 8:00 am +Mary Honore' **6:00 pm Stations of the Cross**
Readings: Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; Mt 5:20-26
- Feb 24 Saturday 5:00 pm +Pat Picon, +Ruby Rachal LaCour, +Marjorie Sylvia, +Yvonne Jones, and +Carrie Metoyer
Readings: Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; Mt 5:43-48
- Feb 25 Sunday 8:15 am +Amy Tobin, +Agnes C. Mitcham, +John A. Nicholas, +Larry E. Bayonne and Sammie Longlois
- Feb 25 Sunday 10:30 am The People of the Parish

Week's Offering:	February 11, 2024	
	St. Augustine	St. Anne
Weekly	\$ 5,417.00	\$ 572.00
Building Fund	\$ 40.00	\$ 50.00
Ash Wednesday	\$ 1,317.00	\$ 66.00
Church in Latin America	\$ 314.00	\$ 64.00
Online 2/5-2/11	\$ 730.75	Building \$5.00 St. Anne \$70.00

Thank you for your generosity!

This Week at a Glance

Tues 6 pm
 Wed 6 pm Mass - St. Aug
 Thurs Mass 8 am
 Fri 8 am Mass
 6 pm Stations of the Cross

Parish Service Schedule:

	LECTORS	USHERS	MO Holy Eucharist
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
Sat Feb 24 5:00 pm	Dorretta O'Brien	Donald Balthazar David McGraw	Bridget Metoyer
Sun Feb 25 10:30 am	John Scott	Jerry Campo Patrick Jones	Tina Antee Wilson Coutee

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

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

Men of the Parish Work Day, 1st Saturday, March 2 following 9 am Mass



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).

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.

This weekend - February 18, 2024 - Black and Indian Missions. We will be taking up a collection for Black and Indian Missions. This collection exists to help diocesan communities to build the Church and preach the Gospel of Jesus among the African American, Native American, and Alaska Native people of God. It supports parish life and catechesis, evangelization, Catholic education, and vocations in Black and Indian Missions across the United States. Please give generously.

March 2 St. Rita Lenten Pilgrimage

Join us Saturday, March 2 as we visit seven churches for "Stations of the Seven Churches" Pilgrimage. Locations we will visit: St. John the Baptist, Deville; St. Gerard Church, Jonesville; St. Patrick Church, Ferriday; Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Natchez, MS; Holy Family Church, Natchez, MS; St. Mary's Basilica, Natchez, MS, concluding with Mass at 4:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Vidalia. The bus will leave St. Rita promptly at 7:00 a.m. and we should be back to Alexandria by 7:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided at St. Patrick Church in Ferriday. Cost is \$20 per person. To make your reservation, call (318) 445-7141 ext. 214.

March 7-10 Silent Lenten Retreat

"Reflections" Silent Lenten Retreat will be held at Maryhill Renewal Center the weekend of March 7-10. Busyness is the hallmark of today's society. The external noise and pressure in our lives make it difficult to know how God is calling us to follow Him. In a retreat surrounded by the quiet of nature, you will be encouraged to listen in prayer to the voice of God speaking to your heart. Come for a weekend of silent reflection and prayer. Each retreatant is provided a private room and an individual Spiritual Director who will guide the weekend reflections using the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Your retreat will be tailored for you. Space is limited. For more information or to register, contact one of the directors listed below.

Maria Burke 318-240-4553 mburke4553@gmail.com
 Ingrid Cannella 318-792-3331 icnewell@yahoo.com