

St. Augustine Historical Society
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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, 8:15 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

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 February 4, 2024**

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Job's life has become a drudgery: restless nights followed by forgettable days. Every evening he ends his day without hope. He has no confidence that his life will change. A couple of weeks ago we heard Jesus call Andrew and Simon. They abandoned their nets of drudgery and follow him to a brand-new life. Today we see Jesus enter Simon's mother-in-law's house, where she lay in bed ill. His healing touch leads to her a new life, a life of ministry to her fellow disciples. Often we feel as Job did, stuck in a rut and despairing of our misfortune. May we instead find hope in Christ, as his first disciples did, allowing him to guide us to a life of service, a life with purpose, a life for the kingdom.

Interestingly, the Greek work *egeiro*, which Mark uses to describe how Jesus raised Simon's mother-in-law out of bed, is used in a slightly different form by the angel who greets the women at the tomb when they come to anoint Jesus' body. Recall that Mark wrote his Gospel long after Jesus' death and resurrection. It would appear that Mark intentionally used the same word the angel did to describe what Jesus did here. Jesus is truly raising her to a new life, a life of ministry to and for others.

Often we just have to learn things by ourselves. Sometimes it's because we're unsure if we can trust the person who's teaching us. Sometimes it's because what we're told seems unbelievable. But often it's simply because we learn better when we figure it out on our own. In today's Gospel, Mark says that Jesus did not permit the demons he drove out to speak "because they knew him". Later, we will hear again and again that despite following him for a long period of time, the disciples still misunderstood who Jesus was. They only learn little by little over time. Perhaps Jesus realized he had to wait patiently for his disciples to gradually learn who he was. What the demons could have revealed would not have enabled true learning.

How do I best learn more deeply about Jesus?

Mass Schedule

Feb 03 Saturday 5:00 pm +Todd Roque, +Charles 'Sonny' Metoyer, +Mike Velasquez, and +Joe and +Rosalie Jones

Feb 04 Sunday 8:15 am +Amy Tobin & +Agnes C. Mitcham

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

Feb 05 Monday No Mass
Readings: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Ps 3:2-7; Mk 5:1-20

Feb 06 Tuesday 6:00 pm +Darryl Davis
Readings: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3; Ps 86:1-6; Mk 5:21-43

Feb 07 Wednesday 6:00 pm +Agnes C. Mitcham
Readings: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Ps 32:-2, 5-7; Mk 6:1-6

Feb 08 Thursday 8:00 am +Vicky Villemarette
Readings: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; 1 Chr 29:10-11b, 11d-12d; Mk 6:7-13

Feb 09 Friday 8:00 am +Josh Picou, Justin Picou & Family, Vivian Dumas, +Charles Sonny Metoyer
Readings: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Feb 10 Saturday 5:00 pm +Lester & +Faye Sarpy, +Joseph D. Roque & +Agnes Monette
Readings: 1 Kgs 3:4-13; Ps 119:9-14; Mk 6:30-34

Feb 11 Sunday 8:15 am +Amy Tobin & +Cayer & Armstrong Families (Living & Deceased)

Feb 11 Sunday 10:30 am The People of the Parish

Week's Offering:	January 28, 2024	St. Augustine	St. Anne
Weekly	\$ 4,233.00		\$ 205.00
Church in Latin America	\$ 581.00		\$ 109.00
Online 1/15-1/21	\$ 1,370.75	Building \$5.00	St. Anne \$50.00

Thank you for your generosity!

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 8 am
 Fri 8 am Mass

Parish Service Schedule:

	LECTORS	USHERS	MO Holy Eucharist
Sat Feb 3 5:00 pm	Diane Riley	James Conant John Coutee	Lireda Balthazar
Sun Feb 4 10:30 am	Jennifer Colbert	Patrick Jones II John Scott	Minnie Metoyer
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 Patrick Jones

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

Meeting with All Men and Women who have attended the past ACTS Retreat, Sunday, February 4, 2024 at 12:30 pm

February 10, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion Workshop, 9 am Minor Basilica, Natchitoches. To register, contact Dcn Jason Lavergne at 318.445.6424 ext 207

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).

2023 Contribution Statements (Tax statements) are ready. The way we record your contributions are with the box envelopes or on-line giving. Please contact the office for your statement. Thank you for your generosity!

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.

February 23-25 Fullness of Truth Conference

This Lent, on February 23-25, 2024 at the **Randolph Riverfront Center in Alexandria**, during our great national Catholic Eucharistic Revival, Fullness of Truth-LA and the Diocese of Alexandria invite you to their exciting Catholic Family Event entitled, "*Real Presence, Real Power!: Eucharistic Life and the Science of Sainthood*". Featured speakers include "Science of Sainthood" founder Matthew Leonard; Louisiana native Dr. Brant Pitre; Augustine Institute theologian Dr. Michael Barber; "Spirit World" radio co-host Debbie Georgianni; and Louisiana "Mom" blogger Erin Franco. A Youth Track will be offered, as well as Concert/Sacred Music by Josh Blakesley. Our Lord said that this topic is the "one thing" necessary for one simple reason – it's how YOU get to heaven! Don't Miss It! To register, for room reservations, and schedule visit www.fullnessoftruth.org or call: (877) 218-7884.

• 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