



St. Augustine Historical Society
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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

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 28, 2024

It is interesting that Mark chooses not to write anything about what Jesus taught in the synagogue, but only about how he taught. Twice he says that Jesus taught with authority. Teaching with authority can mean two different things. The obvious meaning is reflected in the way Jesus confronts the unclean spirit: he orders it to come out of the man and the unclean spirit obeys. But teachers also speak with authority when they know the subject inside and out. Clearly, no one knows the subject of God or faith better than Jesus. This is the authority the unclean spirit recognizes. Jesus is able to interpret the law beyond measure because he himself has come to fulfill it.

Mark also contrasts Jesus' teaching with the scribes, much maligned in the Gospels. It is not their fault; no matter how much the scribes studied the law, they could not truly understand it as Jesus could. Therefore, when we attempt to discern what Jesus would teach us today about our current issues and problems, we look to his authority in both senses: inspiring obedience and knowing God's will.

“Have you come to destroy us?” asks the unclean spirit in the Gospel, knowing that without a person to reside in, it was doomed. Indeed, Jesus only expels the unclean spirit from the poor man; he does not slay it. In a way it is destroyed, however, because it no longer has a host. The unclean spirit is made powerless and the man is freed of his torment. But the man would be wise to avoid the vulnerability that could lead to this demon returning to him, for it is only defeated for now, not destroyed forever. We too depend upon a higher power to exorcise our demons, but forever taking care to resist their reappearance later.

Can I identify an unclean spirit in me that seeks to destroy me? Can I find the courage to ask God to free me from this demon?

Mass Schedule

Jan 27 Saturday 5:00 pm +Agnes C. Mitcham, +Sidney Pichon, +Michael 'Mickey' Moran, +Clarence Ravard, +Audrey Ravard, +William Antee, Jr., +Marguerite Roque and +Edna Gallion

Jan 28 Sunday 8:15 am +Amy Tobin

Jan 28 Sunday 10:30 am The People of the Parish

Jan 29 Monday No Mass
Readings: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Ps 3:2-7; Mk 5:1-20

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

Jan 31 Wednesday 6:00 pm +Todd Roque
Readings: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Ps 32:-2, 5-7; Mk 6:1-6

Feb 01 Thursday 8:00 am +Justin Picou, Josh Picou & Family, +Ralph Dean, +Jean Picou, +Charles 'Sonny' Metoyer and Mary Norma Honore
Readings: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; 1 Chr 29:10-11b, 11d-12d; Mk 6:7-13

Feb 02 Friday 8:00 am +Dennis James Velasquez
Readings: Mal 3:1-4; Ps 24:7-10; Heb 2:14-18; Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Feb 03 Saturday 5:00 pm +Todd Roque, +Charles 'Sonny' Metoyer, +Mike Velasquez, and +Joe and +Rosalie Jones
Readings: 1 Kgs 3:4-13; Ps 119:9-14; Mk 6:30-34

Feb 04 Sunday 8:15 am +Amy Tobin & +Agnes Monette

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

Week's Offering:	January 21, 2024	St. Augustine	St. Anne
Weekly	\$ 3,201.00		\$ 544.00
Online 1/15-1/21	\$ 1,000.75	Building \$5.00	St. Anne \$50.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Parish Service Schedule:

	LECTORS	USHERS	MO Holy Eucharist
Sat Jan 28 5:00 pm	Agnes Ashby	James Conant Mike Bordelon	TBA
Sun Jan 29 10:30 am	Tina Antee	Ricky LaCour Darrell Roque	TBA
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 Mary Wilmore

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

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

Pastoral Council Meeting, Tuesday, Jan 30 @ 6:45 pm

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



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).



Fr. Bill wishes to thank everyone for your prayers, gifts, food and generosity during the Christmas season. May God bless each and everyone.

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!

January 28 Church in Latin America:

Next week, we will take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America. For many in Latin America and the Caribbean, a rising secular culture, difficult rural terrain, and a shortage of ministers all present obstacles to practicing the faith. Your support for the collection provides lay leadership training, catechesis, priestly and religious formation, and other programs to share our Catholic faith with those who long to hear the Good News of Christ. To learn more about how your gifts make a difference, visit www.usccb.org/latin-america.

February 2 and February 3 March for Life in the Diocese of Alexandria

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

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.