

St. Augustine Historical Society
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Pastor: **Rev. William 'Bill' Gearheard**
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 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
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**Fourth Sunday in Lent
 March 10, 2024**

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Sometimes when we are called to make a judgment, we feel it more comfortable to feign blindness to the issue. "I don't want to think about it," we say. In today's Gospel, the blind man's parents go this route, fearful to give any response at all. Other times our blindness may be willful, as in the case of some of the authorities, who ignore the cure and choose instead to look at the Sabbath laws. The person in the Gospel who resolved to see, who has the courage to speak what he saw, is the man who have been blind. He testifies that Jesus cured him. He reasons that Jesus must be from God. Finally, he recognizes him as Son of Man and Lord.

What the formerly blind man did was to use God-given power to discernment. Able to physically see for the first time in his life, he discerns what had happened and how it was possible. Later, he realizes that Jesus pursued him after he was thrown out of the synagogue, indicating that his heart had been moved. To use the LORD's words from the first reading, the formerly blind man chooses to overlook the appearances and lofty stature of the authorities and look into the heart of the matter and the heart of the One who cured him. He sees with the eyes of faith.

In Genesis, God scooped clay out of the ground to form Adam and breathed into his nostrils to bring life. Here Jesus scoops clay out of the ground, having moistened it with his own saliva, and brings sight to the blind man. Also, note that Jesus does this immediately after telling his disciples that he was the light of the world. As his Father did, Jesus gives of his own life force to bring light and life to the world.

During Lent we call to mind our own blindnesses. How am I blind to God's grace in my life? How am I blind to God's work in the world and in the people in it?

Mass Schedule

- Mar 09 Saturday 5:00 pm +Catherine C. Roque, +Special Intention, +Joe Raggio, Kimberly Delphin-Martin, +Benedict LaCour and +Laura Ann Meziere and +Agnes Mitcham
- Mar 10 Sunday 8:15 am +Amy Tobin, +Cayer & Armstrong Families (Living & Deceased), +Larry E. Bayonne
- Mar 10 Sunday 10:30 am The People of the Parish
- Mar 11 Monday No Mass
Readings: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b; Jn 4:43-54
- Mar 12 Tuesday 6:00 pm +Earl Metoyer, Sr., Ann. Linda J. Davis, Laura A Meziere & Benedict LaCour
Readings: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
- Mar 13 Wednesday 6:00 pm +Charles 'Sonny' Metoyer
Readings: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13c-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30
- Mar 14 Thursday 8:00 am +Charles 'Sonny' Metoyer
Readings: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
- Mar 15 Friday 8:00 am +Mary Honore' **6:00 pm Stations of the Cross**
Readings: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
- Mar 16 Saturday 5:00 pm +Joe Raggio, Armstrong & Roland Families (Living & Deceased), Bridget Roque, Ruth Conant, Brenda Balthazar and Joan Kreider
Readings: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9b-12; Jn 7:40-53
- Mar 17 Sunday 8:15 am +Amy Tobin, +Agnes C. Mitcham and +Larry E. Bayonne
- Mar 17 Sunday 10:30 am The People of the Parish

Week's Offering:	March 3, 2024	
	St. Augustine	St. Anne
Weekly	\$ 4,274.00	\$ 676.00
Building Fund	\$ 536.00	\$ 82.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 120.00	\$ 15.00
Online 2/26-3/3	\$ 2,103.25	Building \$80.00 St. Anne \$50.00

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	Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
Sat Mar 9 5:00 pm	Agnes Ashby	Mike Bordelon Kenneth Metoyer	Lireda Balthazar
Sun Mar 10 10:30 am	Sister Liz	Henry Rachal Chris Sylvia	Jackie Delphin
Sat Mar 16 5:00 pm	Dianne Riley	James Conant David McGraw	Jackie Metoyer
Sun Mar 17 10:30 am	Marissa Dean	Patrick Jones II John Scott	Tina LaCour Rebecca 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

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

Christian Mothers will be making meat pies for the Melrose Arts & Crafts Festival on Saturday, March 16th at 8 am in the hall. Your help would be appreciated.

March 16, at 9:30 am - Important Meeting for all Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist and Lectors in St. Augustine Catholic Church

March 19, Feast of St. Joseph Potluck Pot Luck Supper immediately following 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).

SPECIAL Thanks to everyone that brought food or prayed for me during my illness. Fr. Bill

Easter Flower envelopes are available on the table near the entrance of church. Funds will be used to help decorate the church for the Easter season. You may contribute in honor/memory of someone living or deceased. Your intentions will be remembered at all masses celebrated from the Easter vigil through Pentecost.

March 9-10 Catholic Relief Services. This weekend, we will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Your support for this collection aids victims of persecution and natural disasters, provides legal services to poor immigrants, and advocates for the powerless. Through your generosity, six Catholic agencies reveal Christ's love to the vulnerable refugee, the immigrant family, and those who are poor and marginalized. Please prayerfully consider contributing to The Catholic Relief Services Collection today.

March 15-17 Beginning Experience

Widowed, Separated or Divorced? Don't know where to turn? Struggling with grief or loss? Beginning Experience of Alexandria is registering now for a weekend that provides an individual with the opportunity to encounter self and to grow with a purpose to achieve inner peace. The experience is to help close the door gently on the past and move on with renewed hope. The weekend will be held at Maryhill Renewal Center – Pineville, LA on March 15 – 17, 2024. For more information the website is www.beginningexperience.org or to register contact Anna at (318) 448-1990, (318) 452-2678 or asweat7@aol.com.

March 22-24 Seminary Come and See Weekend

St. Joseph Abbey Seminary College is scheduled to have its Spring "Come and See" weekend from March 22-24. This is a great opportunity for any male 16 years old or older to come and see the seminary campus and what seminary life is like. For more information, please contact the Director of Vocations, Fr. Luke LaFleur at frllafleur@diocesealex.org.

April 13 @ 7pm St. Augustine Catholic Church presents: SONGS OF A PEOPLE - Music and Poetry of the African-American Experience featuring Ivan Griffin, Bass-Baritone; Wilfred Delphin, Piano; and Michael Boucee, Narrator. Reception will begin at 6pm. Featuring the music of H. Leslie Adams, R. Nathaniel Dett, Roy Belfield, Glenn Burleigh, Moses Hogan, Dan Shore, and more... Poetry by Maya Angelou, Langston Hughes, and Paul Laurence Dunbar

May 10, 2024 Scholarship Deadline

High School Seniors interested in applying for the **St. Joseph Scholarship** must have their applications in by **May 10, 2024**. The \$1000.00 scholarship is open to students attending four year institutions. Contact Chris Sylvia at 318.554.9237 or csylvie@att.net.