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**Thanks to my great, great,
great, great grandmother, Marie
Therese Coin Coin and all her
descendants for their faith,
strength, courage and endless
efforts to make the world a bet-
ter place for all.**

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SAINT AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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2262 HWY 484, Natchez, LA 71456

**The First Sunday in Advent
November 30, 2025**

Pastor: **Rev. William 'Bill' Gearheard**
Deacon: Dcn. Michael Young
Office Email: staugustine1803@gmail.com
Office Phone Number: 318.379.2521
Father's Email: frwgearheard@diocesealex.org
Deacon's Email: dcnmyoung@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—Saturday 4 pm
1st Friday, Holy Hour after Mass
For an Emergency Call: 318.581.1612

First Sunday of
ADVENT

During this season of anticipation, we are reminded that Jesus didn't come into the world only once, as a newborn baby over two thousand years ago, but also comes into the world—and our hearts—throughout our lives. Furthermore, as we hear in today's Gospel, he will return to the world without warning on the day of judgment. Therefore, over the Advent season we have a great incentive to prepare our hearts for his coming. May Jesus' words to his disciples resonate with us today: "You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

Jesus paints a scary picture of his second coming in today's Gospel, warning his disciples to be ready always. We too must prepare ourselves, not only for his return at any time, but also for his coming into our hearts in a deeper way at the time we least expect. The words of the prophet Isaiah and the apostle Paul can help. "Put on the Lord Jesus Christ," Paul says, or, as Isaiah puts it, "Let us walk in the light of the Lord." May God's word inspire us to prepare our hearts so that we may all "go rejoicing to the House of the Lord."

How can I prepare my heart this Advent to receive Jesus whenever he comes?

Mass Schedule

Nov 29 Saturday 5:00 pm +Andrew Balthazar, +Gretta R. Burns, +Eugene & Elizabeth Metoyer, +Eula Balthazar, +Todd Roque, and +Armand Sylvie

Nov 30 Sunday 8:15 am Culpepper & Schelette Families & +Andrew Balthazar

Nov 23 Sunday 10:30 am The People of the Parish

Dec 01 Monday No Mass
Readings: Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11

Dec 02 Tuesday 6:00 pm Communion Service
Readings: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

Dec 03 Wednesday 6:00 pm +Gretta R. Burns
Readings: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37

Dec 04 Thursday 8:00 am +Chad Jones
Readings: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1,8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Dec 05 Friday 8:00 am +Jared Riley
Readings: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

Dec 06 Saturday 9:00 am The Christians in Nigeria
5:00 pm +Andrew Balthazar, +Joe Raggio, +Armand Jones, +Anthony L. Rachal, +Ladys (Curry) Rachal, and +Regis E, Rachal
Readings: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Dec 07 Sunday 8:15 am Culpepper & Schelette Families & +Andrew Balthazar

Dec 07 Sunday 10:30 am The People of the Parish

Week's Offering:		November 23, 2025	
		St. Augustine	St. Anne
Weekly		\$4,421.00	\$ 360.00
Online 11/17-11/23	\$1,130.00	St. Anne \$75.00	Building \$5.00

Parish Service Schedule:

	LECTORS	USHERS	Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist
Sat Nov 29 5:00 pm	Ted Duggan	John Coutee Kenneth Metoyer	Bridget Metoyer
Sun Nov 30 10:30 am	April Matt	Ricky LaCour Darrell Roque	Tiffany Roque – Cup John Scott – Cup Rebecca Jones
Sat Dec 06 5:00 pm	Dianne Riley	Mike Bordelon John Coutee	Lireda Balthazar
Sun Dec 07 10:30 am	Rebecca Jones	Barry Antee Jacob Bellow	Tina Antee – Cup Ted Duggan – Cup Minnie Metoyer



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.

The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seed of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen,

Men's Prayer Group meets every Sunday @ 9:30 am

December 8, Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Is a Holy Day of Obligation

Mass Times: St. Augustine 8 am & 6 pm and St. Anne 4 pm



PARISH CARE MINISTRY - We ask for your prayers for: Nick Jackson, Hillery Peter Narcisse, Maxine Christophe, Janet Jones, Samuel Christophe, Sr., Leland & Gussie LaCaze, Mark Begnaud and Mona Beaudion.

St. Augustine Creole & Family Festival 2025 Profit is \$83,369.65 which is 27.6% profit over last year (2024). Thanks to everyone that made it a success!

December 3 Priest Anniversary Mass

The annual Priests' Jubilee Mass will be celebrated Wednesday, Dec. 3, 12:05 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral.

December 4 – Advent Retreat at St. Augustine from 6:00 - & 7:30 pm

“Getting the Facts Right Preparing for Christmas”

December 9 – Pastoral Council Meeting @ 6:45 pm in Spirituality Center

December 11 The Light is On for You: Advent Day of Reconciliation

Will be held at St. Augustine 6:30-7:30 p.m. to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

December 14 Retirement Fund for Religious

A lifetime of service deserves care in return. "Thanks to your generosity, we can provide the very best care to the sisters in our community," says Sister M. Stephanie Belgeri, 73, a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George in Alton, Illinois. Donations to the **Retirement Fund for Religious** provide housing, medical assistance, and essential support for thousands of aging religious. This collection will be taken up the week of Dec. 14. Please consider giving.

December 18

Confraternity of Christian Mothers Advent Reflections/Christmas Gathering will be Thursday, December 18, 2025 at 6 p.m. in the hall. There will be a ten dollar gift exchange, Bingo, and festive cuisine. Please mark your calendar and join us for an evening of fellowship.

December 28 Closing Mass for the Jubilee Year: Pilgrims of Hope

The closing Mass for the Jubilee Year of Hope will be held on Sunday, Dec. 28 at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Alexandria. Over the past year, hundreds of people from across the diocese participated in the Jubilee Year of Hope pilgrimage. Every pilgrimage site in our diocese distributed hundreds of passports and thousands of stickers.

We are overwhelmed with the number of completed passports being received weekly. Please note, if you are attempting to complete the pilgrimage, the pilgrimage site churches may take up their passport stickers and other materials after the closing Mass on Sunday, Dec. 28 so make sure you complete your pilgrimage before then. We will accept your completed passports in the mail into the beginning of 2026 but to ensure you receive a completion certificate signed by Bishop and a limited edition commemorative coin, please don't delay.