

# SAINT AUGUSTINE PARISH

16 Barre Street • Montpelier, Vermont 05602



## PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Fr. Patrick J. Forman  
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Fr. Robert Murphy  
Deacons: Rev. Mr. Regis Cummings (S.S.)  
Rev. Mr. Gesualdo Schneider  
Parish Secretary: Liz Kilmurry  
Parish Custodian: Michael Bottiggi  
Director of Religious Education: CJ Flynn

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone Number: 223-5285 (Rectory/Parish Office)  
General Email: [saintaugustineoffice@comcast.net](mailto:saintaugustineoffice@comcast.net)  
[staugustine@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:staugustine@vermontcatholic.org)  
Religious Education Email: [rel\\_ed@comcast.net](mailto:rel_ed@comcast.net)  
Website: <http://www.saintaugustineschurch.com>

## Parish Council Chair:

John Kessler, 477-2379

## Finance Committee Chair:

Michael Dellipriscoli, [mdellipriscoli@gmail.com](mailto:mdellipriscoli@gmail.com)

## Catholic Daughters of America Regent:

Denise Parry, [parrya@myfairpoint.net](mailto:parrya@myfairpoint.net)

## Knights of Columbus Grand Knight:

Patrick Byrne, [pabyrne802@gmail.com](mailto:pabyrne802@gmail.com)

## MASS INTENTIONS

*Requests for Mass Intentions should be made in person at the Rectory office, or by phone.*

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Weddings: Contact Pastor before setting a date; minimum six months notice.  
Baptisms: By appointment; please call the rectory.

## SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please notify us of people who are ill and/or hospitalized. We will respond as soon as possible.

## WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS & GUESTS

We are delighted that you have joined our parish family. As we worship together, we hope you will feel at home here. We invite you to participate in the many parish ministries that provide opportunities for prayer, service and outreach.

*Being inspired by the Gospel to live with faith, hope and love, we aspire to build God's Kingdom.*

By registering as a parish member, we can get to know and serve you better.

Please register by calling the rectory at 802-223-5285, or email [staugustineoffice@comcast.net](mailto:staugustineoffice@comcast.net)

## MASS SCHEDULE

### ST. AUGUSTINE - Montpelier

Saturday: 5:15 pm  
Sunday: 9:15 am  
Mon, Tues, Fri: 8:15 am  
Wednesday: 12:10 pm  
Thursday: No Mass

*Please see inside bulletin for exceptions/changes*

### Holy Days and Holidays

*Please see Mass schedule inside bulletin.*

## CONFESSIONS

Friday: 8:45-9:45 am (during Holy Hour)  
Saturday: 4:30-5:00 pm  
(or by appointment)

## ST. AUGUSTINE OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Wednesday: 8:00am - 5:00pm  
Thursday: 8:00am - 4:00pm  
Friday: 8:00am - 12:00pm

**(Monday - Thursday: Closed Noon-1:00)**

Saturday-Sunday

**RECTORY OFFICE CLOSED**

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

DRE/PCL: CJ Flynn

**Grades K-6: Sunday 10:30-11:30am**

## R.C.I.A.

*A program for those interested in becoming Catholic and Catholics who would like to learn more about their faith.*

*With Fr. Robert Murphy*

Wednesdays 7:00pm-8:30pm † September - April  
Alternating weekly between St. Augustine and St. Monica

## Exploring the Christian Faith Vision

*Adult Continuing Education*

*With Dcn Regis Cummings and Joseph Gainza*  
Thursdays 7:00pm on Zoom † September - April

# December 24, 2023 Fourth Sunday of Advent

## READING 1

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

## READING 2

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

## GOSPEL

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 or Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3

Psalms 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, or Psalms 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

Colossians 3:15a, 16a or Hebrews 1:1-2

Luke 2:22-40

## LITURGY

Dec 31

Holy Family of  
Jesus, Mary &  
Joseph

## ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, Dec 23

5:15 PM Arthur, Betty & Skipper Kerin  
by Pat Weldner

### Sunday, Dec 24 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:15 AM Bill & Ruth Donnelly

### Sunday, Dec 24 - Christmas Vigil

4:00 PM Agnes & Philip Shay, Sr.

7:00PM Wayne & Gertrude Prevost by  
Pam & Family

### Monday, Dec 25 - Nativity of the Lord

9:00 AM Arthur, Betty & Skipper Kerin  
by Pat Weldner

Charles & Ellen Kerin and Margaret F. Whitcomb  
by Family

### Tuesday, Dec 26 Saint Stephen, The First Martyr

8:15AM Rita Diego

### Wednesday, Dec 27 Saint John Apostle and Evangelist

12:10 All Parishioners of St. Augustine

### Thursday, Dec 28 The Holy Innocents

NO MASS

### Friday, Dec 29 Saint Thomas Becket, Bishop

8:15AM Thérèse Higgins

### Saturday, Dec 30 - Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity

5:15 PM Marian Morrison by Family

### Sunday, Dec 31 - Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

9:15 AM Marian Morrison

## IMPORTANT DATES

The office will be closed December 25 through January 1  
We will return January 2.

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*

## Birthday Blessings

December 25 Pauline Brousseau

December 28 Paula Cody

December 29 Bonnie Giuliani

December 29 Janet Koval

December 30 Rose Brassard

January 1 Kimberly Farnum

January 4 Blake Bliss

January 3 Elaine Edwards

January 5 Stephen Cano

January 7 Doris Dufresne

January 7 Will Bruzzese

## Anniversary Blessings

December 31 Stephen & Beth (Adams) Cody



## Support for

	Dec 10
Online Giving:	\$ 897.00
Saint A. Offertory:	\$ 1,965.00
Building & Grounds:	\$ 5,070.00
Cemetery:	\$ 80.00
Fuel:	\$ 135.00
Religious Ed:	\$ 50.00
School:	\$ 69.00
Soup Kitchen:	\$
Vigil Candles:	\$ 20.00
Non-Off. Misc. Donations:	\$ 40.00
Flowers:	\$ 185.00
Immaculate Conception:	\$ 405.00
Retired Religious Fund:	\$ 740.00

NO 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection Dec 31

**4th Sunday of Advent  
Dec 23/24**

*Saturday Dec 23*  
**4:00pm St. Monica**  
**5:15pm St. Augustine**

*Sunday Dec 24*  
**8:30am St. Monica**  
**9:15am St. Augustine**

**Christmas - Dec 24/25**

*Vigil Mass Dec 24*  
**4:00pm St. Augustine**  
**4:00pm St. Monica**  
**7:00pm St. Augustine**  
**8:30pm St. Monica**  
**(concert at 7:30pm)**

*Holy Day Dec 25*  
**9:00am St. Augustine**  
**10:00am St. Monica**



**Honoring People with Flowers**

If you want to honor someone with flowers, and don't receive the envelopes by mail, please find the envelopes in the pews. When requesting flowers, please PRINT the names of those you would like to honor. The envelopes can then be dropped in the collection basket.

**Fr. Pat's Christmas Message**

My Dear Parishioners,

It is with joy and hope that I share with you my prayers that all of you have a Merry Christmas. A year ago we never would have thought about a flood in our area, and all of the consequences in its wake. Thanks be to God that we have been able to gather for Mass, all of this time and have been able to continue parish activities. God truly dwells with us, and Jesus' presence in the Eucharist is our strength.

As you celebrate the birthday of Jesus, may you experience His continued Presence in your home with your family. Our Christmas festivities over the next two weeks give us the opportunity to renew our hope as we proclaim: Jesus Christ is born!

**Merry Christmas!**

As this holy season arrives, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all of you, both at St. Monica Parish and St. Augustine Parish.

Your support, kindness, and prayers have been invaluable, especially as we've navigated the transition to serving both parishes this July.

The story of Christmas, the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, is a reminder of God's love and presence in our lives. In this season, we celebrate not just a historical event, but God's choice to draw close to us. It's a time to open our hearts more fully to His love and to share that love with others as Christ did with us.

This new year, I encourage all of us to be intentional about spreading the Gospel. Let's pray for the graces we need to be bold and prudent in our evangelization. Your efforts in welcoming and reaching out to others can make a big difference in their lives and can help them to know of God's love for them.

Please also pray that many people would have a genuine conversion and come back to the faith or join for the first time.

I am truly grateful for the prayers and support you've given me. Please know that you are in my prayers as well. May this Christmas bring joy, peace, and a renewed sense of God's love to each of you and your families.

In Christ,  
Father Robert Murphy

**Thank You**

We are grateful to everyone who has donated food or money to our Food Shelf recently. The need in our area remains steadfast. It is a blessing that we can share food with those who come to our door. Thank you to all those who decorated the church for the Christmas Season. It takes a lot of effort to move the decorations and arrange them so that we can be inspired to celebrate Jesus' birth. Our priests are grateful to everyone who sent a card to them. These encouragements are very much appreciated!

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

This Solemnity is celebrated on Monday, January 1. It honors the singular role Mary has in salvation history. Since this is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation this year, there will be one mass at each church: 8:15AM at St. Augustine; 10:00AM at St. Monica.



**LET US PRAY...**for our church, our parishes in Vermont and all over the world, for our Catholic Schools, for our communities, for our families, for those who are sick and infirm, for those who are lonely, for those who suffer from mental illness and addiction. Let us pray. **HOLY FAMILY PRAYER CIRCLE:** If you would like to have prayers said for a love one, neighbor, or friend, please call Cathy Asbell (802.279.7957). **VISITATION OF THE SICK:** Anyone who cannot celebrate Mass with us in church, who wishes to receive the Sacraments (Confession, Communion, Anointing of the Sick), please call the Rectory: 223.5285



### PLEASE PRAY

For all the men and women from our Parish, State, and Country who serve in the military, and for the sick of our Parish,

*Especially for:*

Larry Austin  
Barbara Barranco  
Richard Connery III  
Joan Fitzgerald  
Dean & Raylene Hedges  
Sarita Hernandez  
David Jerome  
Jan Koval  
Shirley Lanza  
Lydia Lewis  
Tom McCormick  
Matthew Percy  
Nancy Preis  
Jeannette Quinn  
Joel Rivera  
Quentin Sabiano  
Lillian Smith  
Robert C. Stevens  
Stella Thomas  
Thomas Vivian

Call 223-5285 (Rectory)  
To add someone to this list

PRAYERS PRAYERS PRAYERS

### Montpelier Food Pantry

**New Location:** 89 Main St. (Alleyway off E. State to right of Parking Garage)  
*Not accessible through the City Center Main Entrance.*  
Open: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, 10am-12pm  
Park on street at meters or at Trinity and walk over.  
Questions: dylan@justbasicsvt.org

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY!**

### Worldwide Marriage Encounter: Third Sunday of Advent: Rejoice Always!

*Isaiah 61:1:* "The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me."  
*1 Thessalonians 5:16-24:* "May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it."

Let the Lord transform your marriage. Give your spouse a gift. Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. You can find one by looking up WWME.org.

Some of the dates to sign up are:

**January 26-28, 2024 in Derby Line, VT**

**February 9-11, 2024 in Huntington, NY**

**March 15-17, 2024 in Upton, MA**

Worldwide Marriage Encounter sponsors a variety of in-person and virtual marriage experiences, some on weekends and some on seven weekdays. Couples explore their relationship with each other, God, and the Church.

Registration is limited; there is a \$100 application fee. For more information or to apply, call **Gary & Lynn Root** at **802-456-8114** or <https://www.mevtvw.org/>.

### EMMAUS JOURNEY

*Adult Continuing Education Program*

Join facilitators Dcn Regis Cummings and Joseph Gainza  
for Conversation Exploring the Christian Faith Journey

**Thursdays at 7:00pm on Zoom**  
**September - April**



*For details please Contact:*

**Dcn Regis Cummings - 802.223.6043**

### CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Following the teachings of Dom John Main OSB,  
founder of the Benedictine Priory, Montreal, Quebec

For details please Contact: Dcn Regis Cummings - 802.223.6043

### BISHOP'S APPEAL UPDATE AS OF 11.15.2023

**GOAL: \$42.739.00    ACTUAL: \$ 23,359.00    % OF GOAL: 60%**

### Pope's Monthly Prayer Intention

**December**

### For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Download Small Group Reflection (PDF) at <https://popesprayerusa.net/popese-intentions/>







## A Window into Our Stained Glass Windows

Weds. December 27 is the Feast of Saint John, Apostle and evangelist. St John is found in the north transept with the other four Gospel writers. He also appears five other times in the windows and can be easily found as he is the only one of the twelve Apostles without a beard.

In the 8/20 bulletin we saw that after the crucifixion, John took Mary into his household. She moved with John to Ephesus, where she was assumed into heaven.

John wrote three Epistles, the Book of Revelation, and a Gospel (which we'll learn about next week in part 2).

John is the brother of the Apostle James, the longest living Apostle and the only one not to forsake Jesus at the crucifixion and not to be martyred. Not that it wasn't tried, which his window teaches with a green winged snake emerging from the chalice John holds. Legend has it that John was given a chalice of poisoned wine to drink. The poison floated out of the chalice in the form of a green snake, and John was unharmed. In the past, people brought wine or cider to Mass on John's feast day to be blessed.

St. John died in Ephesus in 98 A.D and is the patron of love, loyalty, friendships, and authors.

<https://aleteia.org/2017/12/28/what-does-st-john-the-evangelist-have-to-do-with-wine-and-snakes/>

