

# SAINT AUGUSTINE PARISH

18 Barre Street • Montpelier, Vermont 05602



## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Phone Number:** 223-5285 (Rectory/Parish Office)

**Office Email:** [staugustine@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:staugustine@vermontcatholic.org)

**Religious Education Phone:** 802.448.3514

**Email:** [dlacourrege@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:dlacourrege@vermontcatholic.org)

**Website:** <http://staugustine.vermontcatholic.org>

**Mail:** 79 Summer St., Barre, VT 05641

## MASS SCHEDULE

**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.*

### Confession

**Friday:** 8:45–9:30 am

**Saturday:** 4:00–4:45 pm  
(or by appointment)

## Office Hours (@ St. Monica in Barre)

**Monday - Thursday:** 8:00am - 4:00pm

**Friday:** 8:00am - 12:00pm

### Saturday-Sunday

**RECTORY OFFICE CLOSED**

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

### **O.C.I.A.**

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

Wednesdays 6:30pm-8:00pm † September - April  
in St. Augustine Parish Hall

### **EMMAUS JOURNEY**

**Exploring the Christian Faith Vision**  
*Adult Continuing Education*

*With Dcn Regis Cummings and Joseph Gainza*

Thursdays 6:30-8PM on Zoom † September-April  
**Join Any Time**

## PASTORAL STAFF

**Pastor:** Rev. Fr. Patrick J. Forman

**Parochial Vicar:** Rev. Fr. Luan Van Tran

**Deacons:** Rev. Mr. Regis Cummings (S.S.)  
Rev. Mr. Gesualdo Schneider

**Religious Education Director:** Daniel Lacourrege

**Parish Secretary/Office Manager:** Liz Kilmurry

**Custodian/Cemetery Director:** Michael Bottiggi

## Parish Council Chair:

Conor Cook, [conor.p.cook@outlook.com](mailto:conor.p.cook@outlook.com)

## Finance Committee Chair:

Open at this time

## Catholic Daughters of America Regent:

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

## Knights of Columbus:

Grand Knight: William Toborg, [wlt1@caa.columbia.edu](mailto:wlt1@caa.columbia.edu)

Deputy Grand Knight: Conor Cook, [conor.p.cook@outlook.com](mailto:conor.p.cook@outlook.com)



## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

**Weddings:** Contact the Pastor before setting a date; a minimum of six months notice is required.

**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.

## 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

## MASS INTENTIONS

*Mass Intentions may be requested Tuesday through Friday, in person at the rectory, or by phone,*

## 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.

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

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

Please register by calling the rectory at 802-223-5285, or email: [staugustine@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:staugustine@vermontcatholic.org)

## December 21, 2025 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

READING 1  
RESPONSORIAL PSALM  
READING 2  
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION  
GOSPEL

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14  
Psalms 128:1-2, 3, 4-5  
Colossians 3:12-21 or 3:12-17  
Colossians 3:15a, 16a  
Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

## LITURGY

December 28

Holy Family  
of Jesus, Mary  
and Joseph

### ANNOUNCED MASS INTENTIONS

#### Saturday, Dec 20 Late Advent Weekday

5:15 PM Gillian Hernandez  
by Mama, Dad and Brother Ian

#### Sunday, Dec 21 - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

9:15 AM Francis and Mary Jane Cain  
by Fred & Mary Bashara

#### Monday, Dec 22 Late Advent Weekday

8:15 AM Arthur, Betty & Skipper Kerin  
by Pat Weldner

#### Tuesday, Dec 23 Saint John Kanty, Priest

8:15 AM Relief of Souls in Purgatory

#### Wednesday, Dec 24 Christmas Eve

4:00 PM All Parishioners

7:00 PM Special Intentions of Therese Schneider  
for her Birthday by Dcn Ges & Loretta

#### Thursday, Dec 25 Nativity of the Lord

9:00 AM Charles P. Kerin, Sr., Ellen D. Kerin, and  
Margaret F. Whitcomb by Susan & Rene Houle & Family

#### Friday, Dec 26 Saint Stephen, the First Martyr

8:15 AM Vicenta Saligan (Mother of Fr. Oliver)

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

5:15 PM Ron Dion by Liz

#### Sunday, Dec 28 - Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

9:15 AM All Parishioners

### IMPORTANT DATES

Sun, Dec 21 - **Christmas Pageant** 10:30am @ St. Augustine for  
ALL Religious Education Students from BOTH St. A & St. M

Wed, Dec 24-NO OCIA or Youth Group - **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

Fri, Dec 26 - St. Augustine Community Lunch 11:30am-1pm

Wed, Dec 31- NO OCIA or Youth Group—Happy New Year!

Fri, Jan 2 - St. Augustine Community Lunch 11:30am-1pm

### Coffee Hour

(Second Sunday of the Month after 9:15am Mass)

Please email or call Cynthia Murphy at  
[cynthiam1950@gmail.com](mailto:cynthiam1950@gmail.com) or 802.229.0779  
if you are able to provide baked goods/fruit/  
veggies or help out. Or just be spontaneous and  
bring us a surprise. You need not commit to every  
month.

Next Coffee Hour: January 11

### Holiday Schedule

#### Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve

St. Augustine - 4:00pm, 7:00pm

St. Monica - 4:00pm, 6:30pm, 9:00pm

#### Dec. 25 - Christmas Day

St. Augustine - 9:00am

St. Monica - 10:00am

#### Dec. 31-Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Vigil)

St. Augustine - 5:15pm

St. Monica - 4:00pm

#### Jan. 1-Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

St. Augustine - 9:15am

St Monica - 10:45am



Silent Night, Holy Night

Holy Day of  
Obligation

### Support for Dec 7

Online Giving:	\$974.00
Saint Augustine Offertory:	\$2,705.00
Building & Grounds:	\$70.00
Cemetery:	
Community Lunch:	\$300.00
Fuel:	\$35.00
Religious Ed:	
School:	\$616.00
Vigil Candles:	\$95.00
Non-Off. Misc. Donations:	\$500.00
Christmas:	\$200.00
Campaign for Human Dev:	\$25.00
Immaculate Conception:	\$267.00

Thank you for your continued support!

December 24/25 - FUEL/CHRISTMAS

No 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection Dec 28

## **Blessed Christmas 2025**



**My Dear Parishioners,**

Christmas is always a time to renew our belief that with God all things are possible. The light of God's love, shining brightly in Jesus, is reflected in all of the bright Christmas lights we have in our churches, yards and homes.

I pray that all of you experience a renewal of hope and faith every time you see a lit-up Christmas tree or bright "Merry Christmas" sign. May the happy song of the angels bring peace to all of you.

As always, I remind you that Christmas Day is just the beginning of 3 weeks of celebration which includes the Feast of Mary, Mother of God, the Holy Family, the Epiphany, and the Baptism of Jesus. While the secular world may move or put Christmas away on December 26, I pray we will continue to proclaim Joy to the World!

**God bless,**

Fr Pat



**My Dear Brothers and Sisters,**

As we celebrate this holy season of Christmas, we are reminded that the true heart of Christmas is Jesus Christ Himself who enters our world in humility to bring us hope, peace, and everlasting life.

Christmas calls us to receive this gift with grateful hearts and to let His love shape the way we live. Every act of kindness, every moment of forgiveness, every gesture of compassion becomes a way of sharing the very love that God has poured into our lives. When we make room for Christ in our hearts, we bring His light to others, especially those who feel alone, burdened, or forgotten during this season.

May this Christmas renew in us a deep sense of wonder at God's love. May it strengthen our families, bless our parish community, and inspire us to carry the joy of Christ far beyond this day. And may the peace of the new-born Savior rest upon each of you and all those you love.

**Merry Christmas, and may God bless you abundantly!**

Fr. Luan Van Tran

### **ATTENTION ALL Religious Education Students**

On Sunday, January 4, students will be receiving their annual Safe Environment Instruction. As per the norms of our Diocesan Safe Environment Policy, we are required to offer this instruction to all students every school year. We will be using the "Circle of Grace" program with age-appropriate instruction. Parent letters have been sent home via email so that you can review the course content in advance. If you choose to opt out of this program, you should let us know ahead of time so that we can plan accordingly.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the PCL, Daniel Lacourge, at [dlacourge@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:dlacourge@vermontcatholic.org).

### **ATTENTION ALL CONFIRMATION STUDENTS**

All our young people who are preparing for Confirmation this April are expected to attend the Diocese of Burlington Confirmation Pilgrimage on Saturday, January 17, 2026 at the Cathedral of St. Joseph. This is a self-transport event, so parents will need to arrange arrival and departure from the Cathedral at 29 Allen St., Burlington VT. The event goes from 10am through the Cathedral's Vigil Mass, which usually ends at 5pm; please be punctual. The parish will cover the cost of all student participants, but if parents wish to come and stay for the retreat they will need to pay a \$15 cover charge for food and materials.

**IMPORTANT:** you need to RSVP by email with Daniel Lacourge, our PCL, indicating any food allergies or special needs. You can also reach out to him with any questions or concerns you may have. He can be reached at [dlacourge@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:dlacourge@vermontcatholic.org).





**LET US PRAY FOR...** *our church, our parishes in Vermont and all over the world, our Catholic Schools, our communities, our families, those who are sick and infirm, those who are lonely, 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 loved one, friend, or neighbor, please call Cathy Asbell (802.279.7957).

**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:***

Kathy Callaghan  
G.  
GBJ  
Raylene Hedges  
Greg Ibey  
Matthew Khouri  
Jan Koval  
Olivia Leibold  
Lee Curtis Lilly  
Matthew Percy  
Pat Percy  
Jeannette Quinn  
Timothy Scandale  
Thomas Vivian

**PRAYERS**

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

**Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul**  
*of those who have died in our Parish*  
***Especially:***

*Carleen Pembroke Van Siclen*  
*Ronald Dion*  
*Gertrude "Trudy" McArdle*  
*Joseph Mureta*



**Jubilee Pilgrimage Passport**

The Diocese of Burlington has created a simple passport that is available to any parishioner who may wish to keep track of their pilgrimage to the 4 Jubilee Churches in our diocese. The passport has 6 visits,

***This project can be accomplished anytime throughout the Jubilee Year, as your schedule allows.***

Information on the Jubilee Churches and the Indulgence can be found here:  
[www.vermontcatholic.org/about/jubilee-year-2025/](http://www.vermontcatholic.org/about/jubilee-year-2025/)



**St. Joseph's Level III Residential Care Home, Burlington, VT**

***Rooms and Suites available:*** St. Joseph's Residential Care Home, operated by Vermont Catholic Charities, is a small home-like community that provides personal care, medication management, home cooked meals, nursing overview, and a wide array of activities. Our dedicated staff supports the needs of the whole person - physical, emotional, social and spiritual.

*For more information or to schedule a tour, please call 802.864.0264*

**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



**Worldwide Marriage Encounter: 4th Sunday of Advent**

***Psalm: 24:1-2: "Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory." Have you let the Lord enter your life and your relationship with your spouse? Jesus will strengthen you and guide your relationship to be even better.***

***Learn how, by attending the next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on:***  
**January 23-25, 2026 in North Easton, MA**  
**March 13-15, 2026 in South Burlington, VT**

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:

Contact **Gary & Lynn Root** at **802-456-8114**, [vtroot@together.net](mailto:vtroot@together.net) or [wwwme.org](http://wwwme.org).



**BISHOP'S APPEAL as of 12/01/2025 YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED**

**GOAL: \$32,676.00    ACTUAL: \$31,414.07    Recurring Estimate: \$1,277.07**

**ACTUAL (Including Recurring Est): \$33,935.07    % OF GOAL: 104%!**

Pope's Monthly Prayer Intention

**December**

**For Christians in areas of conflict**

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

## *A Window into Our Stained Glass Windows*

A few weeks ago, Fr. Pat shared this framed collage of seven images taken from the stained glass windows of St. Augustine Church: three Christmas scenes, the angels in the choir loft, St. Augustine's face, the pierced heart below him, and Christ the King in the northern transept. On the back it says "Father Searles, from Alice LeMay, Easter 1993...Picture done by Fr. Maurice Roy."

Many parishioners remember Fr. Wendell Searles (1929-2018) as he was pastor of St. Augustine church 1984-1995. Last Christmas (12/22/24) we looked at his love of image of the Nativity and its four-posted bed, so much so that he made holy cards with the image. We saw that the bed probably alludes to a common image in Scripture: the pillars of the earth. This is seen in Hannah's canticle, which is a source for Mary's Magnificat: "For the pillars of the earth are the LORD's, and he has set the world upon them" (1 Sam 2:8).



I don't know much about the origin of the collage (let me know if you do) but we have a couple clues. Fr. Pat said Fr. Searles was famous for his simplicity. "He always said that he could move in a heartbeat, that everything he owned fit in the trunk of his car." That's probably one reason why he left it behind. The other reason may be related to when it was made, Easter 1993. This means that the collage was not a going away present, as he didn't leave St. Augustine Church until 1995. Perhaps he thought it was more a gift to the rectory than to him.

So in a certain sense, maybe this is a gift from Fr. Searles to us. That in the 30th anniversary of his departure, this was discovered as a sign of his ongoing prayer for us and the renewal of St. Augustine Church.

*To Father Searles  
from  
Alice LeMay Easter 1993  
Stained glass windows  
in St. Augustine Church  
Montpelier, VT  
Picture done by  
Fr. Maurice Roy*

## **St. Augustine Community Lunch**



We would like to thank **Vermont Catholic Charities** for a recent donation of food and supplies to our Community Lunch. Along with the donations of food and money received at our Thanksgiving Mass, we now have a pantry full of the staples needed to provide healthy, hot meals each week. While our shelves are currently well stocked, provisions do not last long when serving 80+ meals a week. So, donations are always welcomed.

We thank all of our volunteers. Whether they prepare, cook, serve or clean up after the meals, they make it all possible. And we welcome our neighbors and parishioners to join us for lunch on Fridays.

**Lunch is served from 11:30am–1:00pm Fridays**

### St. Monica Parish Men of St. Joseph

Men of St. Joseph was founded in 2002 by Thomas F. Prindiville and Deacon Daniel Pudvah, with the strong support of the Pastor. The MOSJ meets monthly on the third Saturday (except in August) from 8:00am to 10:00am, in the Parish Hall. We have a breakfast, prayer time, discussions about our Faith, and occasionally invite a guest speaker. We assist the Pastor with projects when called upon. We enjoy a picnic the third Sunday in July in the Barre Town Recreation Shelter, and a special steak and eggs breakfast in December in the parish hall.

St. Augustine Parish Men are cordially invited to attend our meetings, meet our members, and enjoy fellowship. You may contact Deacon Dan at 802-479-3253 or Gary at 802-476-6097.



### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RAFFLE WINNER**

Congratulations to Rune Shadowfax of St. Augustine parish, the winner of the quarterly Knights of Columbus raffle to benefit the charitable and fraternal programs. Father Pat drew the winning ticket No 1821193 at the Knights' monthly meeting December 9.

Rune will receive a \$200 Visa gift card. The raffle raised \$1125.

Thank you to all who contributed by purchasing tickets or otherwise donating money.