



*"The mission of St. Augustine of Canterbury parish is to grow closer to Christ and one another through worship, prayer, learning and service, and to dedicate our lives to serving Christ in the world through the power of the Holy Spirit."*

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## **Please Join Us For Our Christmas Services!**



## **Christmas Services 2025**

### **CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY EUCHARIST**

Wednesday, Dec. 24, 3 pm

### **CHORAL CONCERT with Organ and Brass**

Wednesday, Dec. 24, 8:30 pm

### **CHORAL EUCHARIST**

Wednesday, Dec. 24, 9 pm

### **CHRISTMAS DAY**

Thursday, Dec. 25, 10 am

# New Year's Brunch

Happy  
New Year!

2026



## New Year's Brunch - Sunday, January 4

### AFTER THE 10 AM SERVICE

Please join us for our New Year's Brunch for great food, fun, fellowship, and those delightful mimosas! No need to sign up, just come and celebrate 2026!



### Message About Our Kitchen FROM FATHER WES

*We are blessed to have a beautiful commercial kitchen in our parish hall and we are even more blessed to have countless volunteers that make it all run smoothly. From our kitchen managers and shoppers, Sunday morning coffee hour crews, cooks for major events, hospitality teams, to the clean up crews, we have numerous people working to allow us all to enjoy the fellowship we experience in that place. A few quick*

*reminders to us all to help out with that process.*

**1. Please do not bring food from home that you can't eat to the church in the hopes that we will use it on Sunday morning.** It messes up our system, and we don't generally know where the food has come from so we do not serve it. Ninety nine times out of one hundred that food gets thrown away. Save yourself, and us, the trouble and just throw it away at home.

**2. If you are a ministry leader or leading an event, please try to clean up the kitchen as much as possible when you are finished.** If you have questions about what to do, reach out to the church office and we will try to point you in the right direction.

3. Last, but not least, **please remember that we are trying to manage a lot of different groups and needs, along with our church budget.** That means that sometimes we may not have exactly what you want or are used to having, but let's all try to be flexible and grateful for all the work that is done on our behalf.

**Thank you all for helping to keep our kitchen clean, well organized, and a pleasant place for us all.**

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### **Please Donate for Jamaica Hurricane Relief**

On October 28, Hurricane Melissa, a catastrophic Category 5 storm, made landfall over New Hope, Jamaica, with wind speeds of 185 mph. Hurricane Melissa caused widespread destruction across the Caribbean — killing dozens, destroying homes, schools, hospitals, and businesses with catastrophic damage and flooding.

**St. Augustine's is collecting funds to support those in Jamaica who are suffering in the aftermath from the widespread devastation the hurricane left in its wake.**

You may write us a check and designate "Jamaica Hurricane Relief" in the memo field. If you want to give cash, you may do so in an envelope marked with your name and "Jamaica Hurricane Relief". Questions? Please [contact the office](#) or call 772-770-3494.

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# THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



His Name shall be  
called Emmanuel,  
which is "God with us."

Matthew 1:23

## ***"They Shall Name Him Emmanuel"***

This Sunday, fourth Sunday of Advent is all about Mary, how she was with child and about to bear a son, the Son who would save all of humanity. Much has been said about her obedience to take God at His word when the angel Gabriel told her that she, a virgin, would bear God's own son! While she did ask "How could this be?" - when she received the explanation from the angel about how it would happen, she simply said *"Be it done unto me according to your word."* (Luke 1:38)

While that in itself is incredible, we should probably take a look at Joseph's role in all of this – that faced with what appeared to be a very disgraceful situation, he too also listened to an angel instead, just as Mary had. It was Joseph who chose to keep her for his wife and to raise a son that he himself did not father, so as to fulfill the Scriptures. Undoubtedly both Mary and Joseph had heard the prophecies handed down through the ages about the birth of the Messiah, that they were both able to listen and believe when angels gave them corroborating information that confirmed what had been spoken about for centuries, and that they were chosen as the vessels to be Jesus' earthly parents.

Emmanuel means *"God with us"*. God is now with us because Jesus came into the world through the obedience of both Mary and Joseph to say "yes" to God. What incredible thing this Christmas might God present to each one of us to say "yes" to?

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## ***Upcoming Events***

### **Caregiver's Support Group**

The Caregivers Support Group will meet on on **December 23** (the fourth Tuesday of each month), **at 2 pm** in the Parish Hall. If you are feeling weighed down by caregiving worries or concerns, connecting with other caregivers is great emotional support. Come share your practical advice on managing challenges in caregiver relationships. **Contact:** [Sally Munson](#)





## St. Augustine Serves at Shining Light Garden

Come join us at a truly inspiring place where we plant, weed and harvest vegetables for our neighbors in need, distributed via local food pantries, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, and other assistance programs throughout Indian River County. Our next service date Saturday, December 27 at 8:30 am.

Like to get involved? Please contact [Barbara McGowan](#)

## Monthly Blood Pressure Screening

Come have your blood pressure checked by our RN's on **Sunday, December 28 after the 8 am and 10 am services** (or any last Sunday of the month) in the Parish Hall. Bring any questions you have to our Health & Wellness Team.



## "Ask the Dietician"

The Health and Wellness Team will also host an **"Ask The Dietician"** session **after the 10 am service that same Sunday**. Church members will have the opportunity to speak one-on-one with Phillippa Norman, MS, RD/LD and ask questions about nutritional wellness. We will discuss how nutrition plays a vital role in managing chronic diseases and improving quality of life.

Education informational will be provided. **Ministry contact:** [Sally Munson](#)

# Clean Up Crew



*Please consider  
joining us!*

for an Organizational/Training Meeting  
on **Tuesday, January 6, 2026** at 4pm

## Organizational/Training Meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 6, 4 pm

St. Augustine's continues to provide fellowship opportunities into this new year. Our Clean Up Crew service for events will continue for the new year. **Please consider offering your talent and serve with us on this team!**

### Duties include:

Attend the Organizational/training meeting on December 16th .

Clean up kitchen and hall after events: New Year's Brunch, Shrove Tuesday, Pot Luck Dinners, St. Patrick's Day, Italian Festival, Thanksgiving Day, or other events that may occur. **We will be dividing these events amongst our crew, so you would only need to serve at some of the events.**

Please sign up in the Narthex.

Questions? Please call Beth Weatherstone 772-538-6185.



**Music Bingo!**

Join us **Friday, January 9, 2026 from 7-9 pm in the Parish Hall** for a whole new take on Bingo! DJ Troy livens up the party as you search for the songs you know from the '70s and '80s on your Music Bingo cards. Pay just \$5 for six games. Great prizes, one for each round. **Please BYOB & snacks**, and don't forget your family and friends! Contact: [Carol Paris](#)

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### ECW Blood Drive

The Big Red Bus will be stationed in St. Augustine's parking lot **Saturday, January 10 from 9 am to 2 pm**, ready to take your blood donation. All donors will receive a \$20 gift card to a national retailer like Target, Walmart or Amazon and also a wellness check up which includes blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening.

**GIVE BLOOD**



**SAVE A LIFE**

*Fact: One in three of us will need a blood transfusion.*

There is a need for all blood types right now. Trauma patients, cancer patients, newborns, and other people who need blood transfusions every day rely on you to give the gift of life and donate blood. Blood is essential to life and there is no substitute. It cannot be made. Generous blood donors are the only source of blood for those in critical need. The need for blood never takes a vacation!

**Please sign up in the Narthex - Appointments are available and walk-ins are welcome.** Contact: [Pam Wehrberger](#)

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Find these and all our upcoming events at ...

[Calendar](#)

***Looking to Deepen Your Faith?***

# Sunday Morning

Adult Christian Education



**Please join us in  
the Library at 9 am.  
We would love to  
see you there!**



## Sunday School Christmas Party!

This Sunday, our Sunday School class will take a joyful pause from our regular Bible lesson as we celebrate the season of Christmas together. The children will enjoy a festive Christmas party filled with decorating gingerbread houses, creating handmade Christmas ornaments, and sharing laughter and fellowship with one another. It's a special time to slow down, celebrate, and enjoy the gift of being together as a church family.

While we won't have a formal Bible lesson this week, the spirit of the season will be woven throughout our time together as we celebrate the joy, love, and hope that Jesus' birth brings to our hearts. These moments of creativity and connection help remind us that celebrating Jesus can happen in many meaningful ways.

After the church service today, the children will also be practicing their parts for the Christmas Pageant, as we prepare to share the story of Jesus' birth with our church family. The pageant will take place on Christmas Eve at 3:00 pm,



and we are so excited to see the children shine as they help bring this beautiful story to life.

We look forward to resuming our Bible study next week as we continue our journey through the life of Jesus with the story of The Baptism of Jesus, an important moment that marks the beginning of His ministry and invites us to reflect on listening to God, trusting His plan, and stepping into the purpose He has for our lives.

Wishing all of our families a blessed and joy-filled Christmas!

## Please Come Join Us!

**Sunday School meets Sunday at 10 am** in the last classroom at the end of the hall in the Christian Education Wing. **Ages K-8 are welcome.** Come with your friends and make new ones too!

If you have kids, grandkids, neighbors, or anyone that might be interested in Sunday School, please contact ministry leader [Michelle Guancione](#).

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## Evening Bible Study

**Evening Bible Study is taking a two week break before Christmas. We will pick back up Tuesday, January 6th, with the Gospel of Matthew.** Over the course of the next year our Sunday gospel readings will be taken from the Gospel of Matthew. Our hope is that this evening bible study on Matthew will help us all dig deep into the Gospel of Matthew this next year.

If you have any questions contact Tyler at [tyler@staugustinevero.com](mailto:tyler@staugustinevero.com). We hope you can make it!

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## **Connections: Women's Bible Study Group**

Ladies, please join us for Connections - a weekly Bible Study ministry just for women. As iron sharpens iron, we will learn from each other, grow in our faith, and develop rich friendships as we study the Bible together.

**We are taking a break before Christmas and our next study will begin on January 6** which runs through March 24. We will focus on the Book of Exodus which recounts the single most important event in Israel's history, God rescues the people of Israel from Egypt and invites them into a covenant with Him. We will be using the study guide "Exodus" (Knowing The Bible Series) by Matthew R. Newkirk.

Please order your study guide here:

[Exodus Study Guide by Matthew R. Newkirk](#)

If you have any questions, please contact [Anita Plummer](#) or [Valerie Reich](#)

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## ***Outreach / Volunteer Opportunities***

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The holidays are upon us, and we might know someone going through a challenging time—or maybe it's you! Whether it's illness, recovery from surgery, or simply needing a little comfort, we'd love to bring some warmth your way.

**Would you like to volunteer? We'd love your help with making rolls, cookies, or delivering soups—it's as easy as pie!** The process is very easy and simple. Please contact [Cherie Foster](mailto:Cherie.Foster@birchpoint5@gmail.com) at [birchpoint5@gmail.com](mailto:birchpoint5@gmail.com) to volunteer or to receive soup.

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**THANK YOU!!!**

**for over 10,000 lbs. in 2025!**

- **Spaghetti Sauce**
- **Pasta**
- **Peanut Butter**

### **Salvation Army Ministry**

Thanks to everyone who continues to support this ministry and has helped us to meet our goal of over 10,000 pounds of Spaghetti, Pasta and Peanut butter for 2025 - we could not have done it without YOU! We are looking forward to being able to provide at least another 10,000 pounds in 2026.

The three items that we donate every week to the Salvation Army continue to be a lifeline to families in need! The Salvation Army tells us we are the **ONLY** church in town who is doing this on a weekly basis, and that the fully stocked shelves on Monday are empty by Wednesday. **We only accept three items: pasta, spaghetti sauce and peanut butter (at their request).** Please place your contributions in the collection box in the Parish Hall.



And as always, your faithfulness in helping to serve our local community is very much appreciated. **Thank you!**

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## ***This Sunday!***

“Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.”

MATTHEW 1:23

## **Advent 4 Wreath Prayer**

Today we light the first, second, third, and fourth candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is **HOPE**, the second candle is **PEACE**, the third candle is **JOY**, and the fourth candle is **LOVE**.

*Loving God, your mercy and compassion endure forever. Open our hearts, that we may receive your love; and following the example of your Son, spread that love to a love-starved world. Through Jesus Christ, who loved us to the end. Amen.*



I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.  
Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

John 13:34

## ***Come Worship with us this Sunday!***

St. Augustine of Canterbury invites you to join us for worship this **Fourth Sunday of Advent**, either in person or via [Livestream](#) at 10 am. Watch our livestreamed service anytime during the week on our [YouTube channel](#).

## **This Week's Scripture Readings:**

### **First Reading:**

Isaiah 7:10-16

### **Gradual Psalm:**

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

### **Second Reading:**

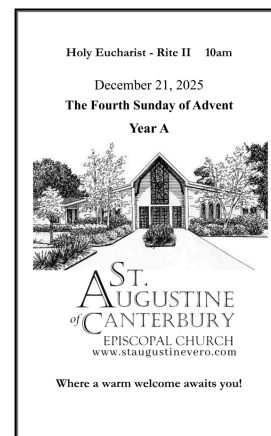
Romans 1:1-7

### **The Gospel:**

Matthew 1:18-25

[Worship Schedule>](#)

[Download the Bulletin>](#)



## **This Weekend's Readers and Servers will be...**

### **Saturday, 5:30 pm**

**All duties:** Carolyn Robinson

### **Sunday, 10 am**

**Ushers:** Brian & Karen McIntyre, and Pam Wehrberger



## **Sunday, 8 am**

**Lessons/Server:** Mary Power

**POTP:** Tom Hall

**Ushers:**

Jo Ann Kirchhoff, Valorie Stevenson

**Coffee Hour:** Byron & Inge Curcio,  
Donna & Carl Kerber



**Lessons:** Anita Plummer

**POTP:** Heather Bennett

**Chalice Bearers:**

Tom & Pam White

**Crucifer:** Tom White

**Torches:**

Heather Bennett, Pam White

**LEM:** Heather Bennett

**Livestream:** Emma Shields

**Sunday School Assistant:**

Julia Wiggins

**Coffee Hour:**

Belma Kerrigan, Janet Langan, Mary  
Moriarty, Carole Pennington



## **Home Communion**

Are you unable to worship with us in person due to illness or mobility issues and would like to receive communion at home? Just call the church office (772-770-3494) and ask to be put on the Home Communion list or contact [Sally Munson](#) to schedule a home visit.

## **Join us this Week for ...**

### ***Sunday Morning Coffee Hour***

Please come join us each Sunday at Coffee Hour after the 8 am and 10 am services in the Parish Hall. Enjoy great coffee and treats as well as the company of your fellow parishioners. You never know who you might meet!

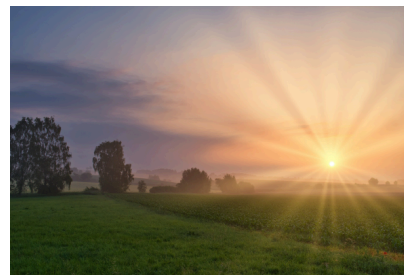


### **Sunday Morning Coffee Hour Needs Volunteers!**

Serve once a month on one of 4 teams that rotate weekly, or on a team that only serves when there are 5 Sundays in the month. Contact [Brian McIntyre](#)

### ***Morning Prayer* | Daily 8 am, M-F**

Join in on [Daily Morning Prayer](#) services over the telephone. Simply dial (339) 209-4611 before 8 am, Monday through Friday to participate. The service is easy to follow and is about 20 minutes long. Newcomers, please see the [Online Instructions](#) to set up the Daily Office App. [Launch the Daily Office App>](#)



**Parish Prayer Group | Mondays at 1:30 pm|Library**

Prayer Shawl & Knitting Ministry | Tuesdays, 1-3 pm | Library

Evening Bible Study | Tuesdays at 6:30 pm | Library

Healing Eucharist | Wednesdays at 10 am | Sanctuary

Bible Study | Wednesdays at 11 am | Library

## News & Notes



### Wrapped Angel Tree Gifts

The gifts are wrapped and ready to be given out at the Youth Guidance Christmas Party on Friday, December 19. We are so grateful for the generosity shown by our parishioners who eagerly take a tag to bless a child and for those who come to wrap all of the gifts for these precious children. Once again, thanks for your

support of this ministry!



The holidays, although filled with family, friends and celebration, can be a stressful time of year under normal circumstances. For those who are alone, have lost a loved one or gone through a recent crisis, it can be emotionally difficult. Here are a few tips to get through the holidays if you are grieving or feeling "blue":

**Acknowledge** that the holidays will be different and may be emotional.

**Be honest** and tell people what you want to do for the holidays and what you don't want to do. Listen to yourself and communicate with friends and/or family

what works for you.

**Decide** which traditions you want to keep and which you want to change. Maybe create a new tradition.

**Don't feel guilty** about skipping events if you are on overload. At the same time, if you are feeling lonely, reach out to a friend or fellow parishioner. Generally, people want to be of help.

**Practice self care** whether it be meditation, a walk, a massage; whatever soothes your soul. Try to get plenty of rest, eat healthy and limit alcohol intake.

**Remember** those you have lost. Sharing memories can often be therapeutic.

**Consider volunteering** by doing something kind for someone else, such as helping at a soup kitchen, delivering presents to the disadvantaged. It may lift your spirits by helping others.

**Seek help** if you are struggling. It may be helpful to join a support group or see a counselor or health professional. Don't be afraid to say YES to people who want to help and may offer their support.

St. Augustine of Canterbury prides itself in being a welcoming and caring faith community. If you know of someone who is in need of support, reach out to them. It's the best gift you can give!

Sally Munson, RN  
Pastoral Care Ministries, Coordinator

*(material taken from [palliativecare.org.au/youre-not-alone-tips-managing-grief-holidays](https://palliativecare.org.au/youre-not-alone-tips-managing-grief-holidays))*

## Calendar

### **Mark Your Calendars!**

**Fri. Dec. 19** - Third Fridays at the Source, 12 pm, Parish Hall Kitchen/Offsite

**Mon. Dec. 22, 29** - Parish Prayer Group, Library

**Tues. Dec. 23** - Parish Prayer Shawl Group, 1 pm, Library

**Tues. Dec. 23** - Caregivers Support Group, 2 pm, Parish Hall

**Wed. Dec 24** - Christmas Eve Family Service, 3 pm, Sanctuary

**Wed. Dec. 24** - Christmas Eve Choral Concert, 8:30 pm, Sanctuary

**Wed. Dec. 24** - Christmas Eve Traditional Service, 9 pm, Sanctuary

**Thurs. Dec 25** - Christmas Day Service (Rite II), 10 am, Sanctuary

**Thurs. Dec 25** - **OFFICE CLOSED 12/25 thru 12/30**; Office will be OPEN on Wed. Dec. 31; CLOSED Thurs-Fri. Jan 1-2, 2026. Normal hours Monday, 01/05.

**Sat. Dec. 27** – DOK Meeting Library, 10 am, Library

**Sat. Dec. 27** - Shining Light Garden, 8:30-10:30 am, Offsite

**Sun. Dec. 28** - Blood Pressure Screening, 9 & 11 am, Parish Hall

**Sun., Dec. 28** - Ask the Dietician, 11 am only, Parish Hall

### **Save the Date!**

**Sun. Jan 4** – New Year's Brunch in the Parish Hall after 10am service  
**Mon. Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26** - Parish Prayer Group, Library  
**Tues. Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27** – Connections Bible Study, 9:30 am, Parish Hall  
**Tues. Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27** - Parish Prayer Shawl Group, 1 pm, Library  
**Tues. Jan. 6** – Clean Up Crew Meeting and Training, 4 pm, Parish Hall  
**Tues. Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27** – Evening Bible Study, 6:30 pm, Library  
**Fri. Jan. 9, 2026** – Music Bingo in the Parish Hall 7pm  
**Sat. Jan. 10, 2026** – ECW Blood Drive in the Parking Lot, 9am-2pm  
**Tues. Jan. 13** - Finance Meeting, 11 am, Library  
**Fri. Jan. 16** - Third Fridays at the Source, 12 pm, Parish Hall  
**Sun. Jan. 18** - Annual Meeting, in the church after the 10 am service  
**Mon. Jan. 19** - Vestry Meeting, 7 pm  
**Tues. Jan. 20** - Men's Breakfast, 9 am, CJ Cannon's  
**Sat. Jan. 24** – DOK Meeting Library, 10 am, Library  
**Sun. Jan. 25** - Blood Pressure Screening, 9 & 11 am, Parish Hall  
**Sun. Jan. 25** - Ask the Dietician, 11 am only, Parish Hall  
**Tues. Jan. 27** - Caregivers Support Group, 2 pm, Parish Hall

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***Find these events and more on our [St. Augustine's calendar](#)***

**CALENDAR**

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***Useful Links***

- [How to Choose a Bible](#)> by the Rev. Wes Shields
- [Church Center](#) To access our Church Center database app on the web
- [Daughters of the King Prayer List](#)
- [Morning Prayer info and downloads](#)
- [Livestream Services](#)
- [St. Augustine's Facebook Page](#)
- [St. Augustine's YouTube Channel](#) To subscribe: Sign in to YouTube on your computer. Go to [St. Augustine's YouTube channel](#) and select a video to play. Click "Subscribe" under the play window.

***Please Keep in Your Prayers***

**Please pray for ...** all who are affected by violence, conflict or impacted by natural disasters. We also pray for **Patrick, Pam, Jay, Beemer, Gladys, Margaret, Gloria, Melanie, Samira, Paulo, Rosanjela, Jacira, Valerie, Carol, Sarah, Linda Sue, Dakota, Arden, Elinor, Jacinth, Andy, Joanne.**

***Parish Prayer List Reminder!***

*The Parish Prayer List names are reviewed on a monthly basis. Names remain on the list as long as the Office is aware that they are to remain. Names of those we have not received updates are removed from the list unless the parish office is otherwise notified. Please let us know who is in the hospital and who is deceased. Contact: [Dana Johnson](#) at 772-770-3494.*

**This Week, We Celebrate**

**This Week, We Remember**



### **Birthdays**

23 – Pam White  
Mimi Gerstell  
24 – Kay DeMola  
Tom Elwood  
Brian Murphy  
25 – Stephanie Woolard  
27 – Harvey Lynch

### **Anniversaries**

23 – Mary & Lockwood  
Rianhard

### **Departed**

21 – Joseph Lurgio, Jr. (2021)  
23 – Richard Reinsmith (2019)  
24 – Robert Kirby Shirley, III (2023)



### **Altar Flowers**

If you would like to remember a loved one with Altar Flowers after Christmas, please fill out a flower request envelope found in the brochure rack on the wall in the Narthex, or on the Slat Wall in the Parish Hall. It can be submitted to the office or in the offering plate, or contact [Dana Johnson](#) at the Parish Office at 772-770-3494.

## **Join Our Parish Family**



### **Like us On Facebook**

Follow St. Augustine's on Facebook and see all the latest posts.

[Like Us>](#)



### **Install Church Center**

Install this useful app on your phone and have secure access to the Parish Directory, the Calendar, your Giving activity and more.

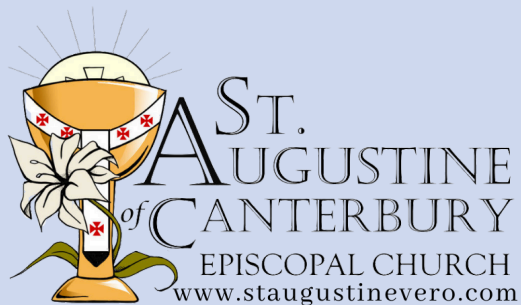
[Install Instructions>](#)



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