



*“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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*O gracious Father, who openest thine hand and fillest all things living with plenteousness: Bless the lands and waters, and multiply the harvests of the world; let thy Spirit go forth, that it may renew the face of the earth; show thy loving-kindness, that our land may give her increase; and save us from selfish use of what thou givest, that men and women everywhere may give thee thanks; through Christ our Lord. Amen.*  
BCP pg. 842

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# Angel Tree

## Next Sunday, Dec. 7 is the Angel Tree Gifts Deadline!

Please make sure that all gifts are brought to church by Sunday, December 7. If you are waiting for something to arrive and you know that it will be late, please let us know.

Having trouble finding your Amazon gifts? Please [contact the office](#) or call 772-770-3494 and Dana will be happy to email you the gift links for your child. Please also contact the office if you didn't get a chance to sign in when selecting your gift tag from the tree, as we have several gift tags that are unaccounted for.



**Angel Tree Christmas Gift Wrap Party** will be held on **Saturday, December 13 at 9am**. This year, we will have gifts to wrap for 64 children. Please bring extra wrapping paper, labels, tape, and your own scissors. If you wish, bring a treat to share; coffee and tea will be served. No sign-up necessary!

## THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Stay Awake!

**"Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."**

Matthew 24:44

### **"Stay Awake!"**

We all know how it is - the holidays are now upon us. We rush around, enjoy gatherings with our family and friends, stuff ourselves with Thanksgiving dinner and seasonal treats, and frantically start our Christmas shopping! But this Sunday, the first Sunday of Advent, we are told to "Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming." (Matthew 24:42). The word "advent" means "the arrival of a notable person, thing, or event." So, Advent as a season marks the acknowledgement of "the second coming of Christ." And yet, we do not know the day or the hour at which He

will come! (Mathew 24:44). Jesus tells us to “stay awake” so that we may be ready when He appears.

Advent is a time of prayer and quiet reflection that allows us to take a break from the hustle and bustle and get ready for the birth of Christ. While the world does just the opposite by cramming many events and parties into December, we might be better served to take a beat and take this time to pull back a little, much like we do in Lent as we prepare for Easter. Take some quiet time during this season of Advent. We can spend a little more time in prayer, more time reading Scripture, and some might even be called to fast so that they can really appreciate feasting at Christmas. Some may be called to more acts of service and giving to those in need. Whatever we choose to do, if we do it with the focus of getting to know Jesus better, it will be time well spent.



## *Upcoming Events*



**Thursday, November 27**

*Thanksgiving  
Dinner*

**2 pm in the Parish Hall**



**Don't Forget Your Sides Dishes  
and Help the "Clean-Up Crew!"**

As we are all aware, many hands make light work, and pitching in after dinner makes for a pleasant time for all.

## ***Monthly Blood Pressure Screening***

Come have your blood pressure checked by our RN's on **Sunday, November 30** 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](#)

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## **ECW Christmas Tea**

**Saturday,  
December 6  
at 2 pm  
in the Parish Hall**



### **Join ECW for their Annual Christmas Tea**

Come and enjoy specially brewed tea, tasty tidbits, fun and fellowship! This year we will feature an afternoon of fun with Dr. Doug & Robin LaPointe, *"Comedy With a Point!"* along with riddles and prizes, and topped off with door prizes.

As we are continuing our annual ECW gift outreach for the residents at St. Francis Manor, **please also bring a wrapped gift** marking it for a "Lady", "Gent", or "Either".

**Please sign up in the Narthex.** Questions? Contact: Pam Wehrberger at [gran459495@aol.com](mailto:gran459495@aol.com)

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## SAS to help out at the 3rd Annual Kids Triathlon

On **Saturday, Dec. 6**, the Rotary Club of Vero Beach will host their 3rd Annual Kids Triathlon, and St. Augustine Serves will be there to help out! The Kids Triathlon invites children ages 6 - 13 to enter a fun, safe Swim, Bike, and Run multi-sport race event that is geared for both 1st time and seasoned triathletes. The event emphasizes personal achievement for over 300 kids, who with all levels of experience, race against their own best efforts, fostering a supportive atmosphere where each child sets their own goals and participation is celebrated.

Come join in the fun by volunteering to help out either with **Event Prep on Friday, Dec. 5** or **Event Support on Saturday, Dec. 6**. The event takes place at the Gifford Aquatic Center at 4895 43rd Avenue, Vero Beach, and you can choose the **four-hour shift** that works best for you. Please sign up here: <https://kidstriverobeach.com/volunteer/>

Be sure to note at the bottom of the form that you are part of St. Augustine Serves team. Questions? Barbara McGowan ([barbaraamcgowan@gmail.com](mailto:barbaraamcgowan@gmail.com))



The Fellowship Ministry is excited to announce a special holiday outing on **Saturday, December 14 at 2 pm**, to see the musical adaptation of "A Christmas Carol, the Musical" at the Vero Beach Theatre Guild! Come share in the warmth of fellowship and the spirit of Christmas — we can't wait to experience this holiday classic with you!

**We still have tickets left! The cost is \$36 and it will be first come, first serve.** The object of this is fellowship, so we ask that you limit the number of tickets to family members. You can reserve a ticket by writing to

[office@staugustinevero.com](mailto:office@staugustinevero.com). We ask that you wait no more than 2 days to come in, pay for, and receive your tickets. If the cost is keeping you from going, please reach out to [Fr. Wes](#) who will be happy to work something out.

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## *Candlelight Remembrance Service*

Sunday, December 14, 2025 - 5:30 pm

### **Candlelight Remembrance Service**

Join us for this special service on **Sunday, December 14 at 5:30 pm** as we light candles and remember our loved ones in prayer, music and reflection. There will be a sign up sheet at the entrance where you can write down the names of the people that you would like remembered in the service. Please extend an invitation to family, friends, and all who might be finding this a difficult season to navigate.

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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!**

Please join us as we resume our study of First Corinthians for the next few weeks before Christmas.

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## **This Week's Lesson: The Wise Men Follow The Star**

When Jesus was born, God placed a bright and unusual star in the sky. Far away in another land, a group of Wise Men—sometimes called Magi—noticed the star. They studied the sky and knew this star meant a very important King had been born. They didn't know His name yet, but they were determined to find Him. So they packed their supplies, gathered their gifts, and began a long journey that took days, weeks, maybe even months.

Once they arrived in Jerusalem, they naturally began asking, "Where is the newborn King of the Jews? We saw His star and have come to worship Him." This question upset King Herod. Herod was very protective of his power, and the idea of another "king" made him afraid and angry. But he didn't show it. Instead, he pretended to be interested and told the Wise Men to search for the child and report back to him—which he only said because he secretly wanted to harm Jesus. Herod gathered the priests and teachers of the law

and asked them where the Messiah was supposed to be born. They told him the prophecy said Bethlehem. So Herod sent the Wise Men there, pretending he also wanted to worship the child.

As the Wise Men traveled toward Bethlehem, the special star appeared again. It moved ahead of them and stopped right over the place where Jesus was. When they saw the star shining above the house, they were filled with joy. They went inside, saw Jesus with Mary His mother, and immediately bowed down to worship Him. They opened their treasures and presented their gifts—gold, frankincense, and myrrh—gifts that showed honor, worship, and the greatness of who Jesus truly is. That night, God warned the Wise Men in a dream not to return to King Herod. So, they obeyed God and traveled home a different way, protecting Jesus from Herod's plan. God continued to watch over Jesus and guide Joseph and Mary to keep Him safe.

This story teaches us that: God always keeps His promises. Those who truly seek Jesus will find Him. God protects His plan even when others try to harm it. Jesus is worthy of worship from the very beginning of His life.

## 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](#).



## Evening Bible Study

On Tuesday December the 2nd, we will begin a short three week study on Paul's Letter to Titus. Titus is only 3 chapters long and is a great opportunity to experience bible study. If you have any questions contact Tyler at [tyler@staugustinevero.com](mailto:tyler@staugustinevero.com). We hope you can make it!





## Connections: Women's Bible Study Group

There will be no Bible Study on November 25.

**Tuesdays, December 2nd, 9th, and 16th, 9:30 am - 11:00 am**

Ladies, please join us as we journey through the book of Psalms and make connections to other books of the Bible. As we grow in intimacy with God, let's deepen our faith and build friendships as we study God's word together. No study guide is necessary for this three-week study. Bring your Bible or you are welcome to use one of ours. We will be meeting in the Library.

Please be on the lookout for a new study to begin after the New Year!  
Questions? Contact [Anita Plummer](#)

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## *Outreach / Volunteer Opportunities*



## 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 dates are Saturdays, December 13 & 27.**

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

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As we are coming up on the holidays, 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](#) at [birchpoint5@gmail.com](mailto:birchpoint5@gmail.com) to volunteer or to receive soup.

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WEDNESDAY



### Salvation Army Ministry

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. **Please help us to continue our**

support of this ministry!

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!***

“Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

MATTHEW 24:44

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

St. Augustine of Canterbury invites you to join us for worship this **First 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 2:1-5

**Gradual Psalm:**

Psalm 122

**Second Reading:**

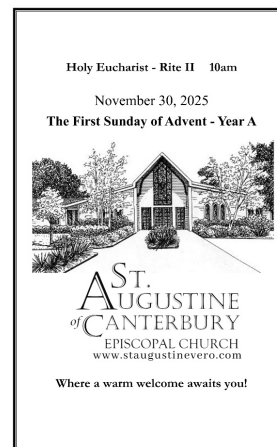
Romans 13:11-14

**The Gospel:**

Matthew 24:36-44

[Worship Schedule>](#)

[Download the Bulletin>](#)



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

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

**All duties:** Jane Ferguson

### **Sunday, 8 am**

**Lessons/Server/POTP:** Kate Schmidt

**Ushers:** Sandy & Bill Hawksworth

**Coffee Hour:**

Byron & Inge Curcio, Donna Kerber

### **Sunday, 10 am**

**Ushers:** Cris Vaccaro, Tom & Pam Wehrberger

**Lessons:** Carolyn Robinson

**POTP:** Heather Bennett

**Chalice Bearers:**

Heather Bennett, Nancy Kelly

**Crucifer:** Heather Bennett

**Torches:**

Nancy Kelly, Carolyn Robinson

**LEM:** Carolyn Robinson

**Livestream:** Emma Shields

**Sunday School Ass't:**

Julia Wiggins

**Coffee Hour:** Barbara & Charlie





Houston, Cheri Foster



## 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!

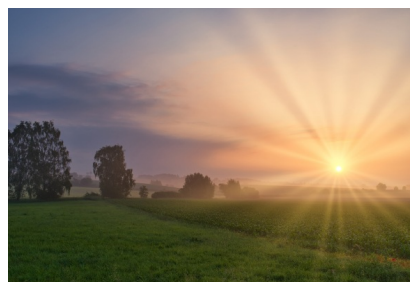


### Sunday Morning Coffee Hour Needs Volunteers!

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

### OFFICE is CLOSED for Thanksgiving!

Wednesday - Friday, Nov. 26-28. Normal Business hours resume Monday, December 1.



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](http://palliativecare.org.au/youre-not-alone-tips-managing-grief-holidays))*



**The Daughters of the King pray for our parish every day.** With the busy holiday season upon us, we thought you might appreciate a gentle reminder on how to pray. Just remember, "ACTS."

A - Adoration  
C - Confession  
T - Thanksgiving  
S - Supplication

**DOK Discernment Classes are rescheduled for Friday, January 9, 2026.**

If you would like confidential prayers, please fill out a blue card found in the pew racks and place it in box in the Narthex. To maintain confidentiality, do not place them in the Collection plates. If you would like more information about who we are and what we do, please contact [Nancy Kelly](#), call 772-559-3271, or seek out anyone of us who wears the Cross of the Order.

## Calendar

### ***Mark Your Calendars!***

**Wed-Fri. Nov. 26-28** - Office Closed, Thanksgiving Holiday

**Thurs. Nov. 27** - Thanksgiving Dinner, 2pm, Parish Hall

**Sun., Nov. 30** - Blood Pressure Screening, 9 & 11 am, Parish Hall

**Sun., Nov. 30** - Ask the Dietician, 11 am only, Parish Hall

### ***Save the Date!***

**Mon. Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29** - Parish Prayer Group, Library

**Tues. Dec. 2, 9, 16** - Connections Bible Study, 9:30 am, Parish Hall

**Tues. Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23** - Parish Prayer Shawl Group, 1 pm, Library

**Tues. Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23** - Evening Bible Study, 6:30 pm, Library

**Sat. Dec 6** - ECW Christmas Tea, 2-4 pm, Parish Hall

**Sun. Dec 7** - Angel Tree Gift DEADLINE - bring all gifts to church or call office.

**Mon. Dec 8** - Vestry Meeting, 7 pm



Tues. Dec. 9 - Outreach Ministry Meeting, 11 am, Parish Hall  
Sat. Dec. 13, 27 - Shining Light Garden, 8:30-10:30 am, Offsite  
Sat. Dec. 13 - Angel Tree Christmas Gift Wrapping Party, 9 am, Parish Hall  
Sun. Dec 14 - Vero Beach Theater Guild "A Christmas Carol", 2 pm offsite  
Sun. Dec 14 - Candlelight Remembrance Service, 5:30 pm  
Tues. Dec. 16 - Men's Breakfast, 9 am, CJ Cannon's  
Fri. Dec. 19 - Third Fridays at the Source, 12 pm, Parish Hall Kitchen/Offsite  
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  
Sun. Dec. 28 - Blood Pressure Screening, 9 & 11 am, Parish Hall  
Sun., Dec. 28 - Ask the Dietician, 11 am only, 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 **Gloria, Melanie, Sannira, Darlene, Bob, Peyton, Ken, Jane, Al, Ginger, Josephine, Dan, Valerie, Sean, Jerry, Steve, Kathryn, Kira, Paulo, Rosanjela, Jacira, Carol, Page, 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

### Birthdays

30 - Mia Seymour  
Roy Thompson  
01 - Doug Anderson  
02 - Terry Lurgio  
Eleanor Dwyer  
05 - Glenda Altman  
John Macionis  
06 - Sally Mahan

### Anniversaries

None this week.

## This Week, We Remember

### Departed

30 - Susan Polhamus (1999)  
02 - Joseph Curran, Jr. (2021)



### Altar Flowers

Mary Laughton would like to remember her husband, Ted Laughton for his birthday and celebrate Fr. Michael Goldberg's birthday this past week.

While we do not display Altar Flowers during Advent, you may remember a loved one with Christmas Flowers in the Christmas Eve/Christmas Day bulletins. Please fill out a Christmas flower request envelope found on the table in the Narthex. It can be submitted to the office or in the offering plate on Sunday

mornings. The deadline for submitting envelopes is Sunday, December 14. If you have any questions, please call the office at 772-770-3494 or contact [Dana Johnson](#)

## 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



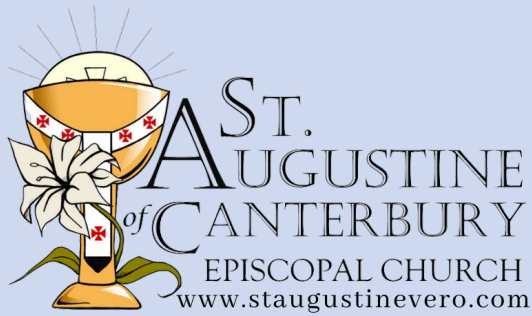
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**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday-Thursday, 9 am-2 pm  
Fridays: 9 am-12 pm

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