

## CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

# St. Augustine Catholic Church

ON THE CORNER OF MONROE & E. CLINTON STREETS, NAPOLEON, OHIO 43545

**PASTOR:** Reverend Jerry Schetter      **DEACON:** Jon Gottron

**COORDINATOR OF PARISH MINISTRIES:** Laurie Brubaker

### *Join us for worship ...*

#### New Parishioners

Please arrange to register at the Parish Office

Saturday: 4:30 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Spanish Mass - On the 2nd Sunday of each month, 1:00 p.m.

### REGULAR OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Closed Mondays and Weekends

Parish Office 210 E. Clinton St.	419-592-7656
Reverend Jerry Schetter	emergency only 419-305-5149
Email	jerry.schetter@augustinenapoleon.com
Parish Email	saintaugustineoffice@gmail.com
Parish Website	www.staugie.net
Deacon Jon Gottron	419-966-7106
School	722 Monroe St. 419-592-3641
School Email	ginny.minnick@augustinenapoleon.com
Youth Minister	Regina Fritsch
Email	regina.fritsch@augustinenapoleon.com
St. Vincent de Paul Society	419-592-0438



### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/FORMATION

*Educating all our children for lifelong, faithful,  
participating membership in St. Augustine Parish*

#### • ST. AUGUSTINE SCHOOL (Pre K -8)

Ginny Minnick, Principal, 419-592-3641

#### • FAMILY CATECHESIS PROGRAM (FCP) (1-8)

Sunday morning, 9:00 - 10:15 a.m. during school year.

CO-DIRECTORS Jen Roth & Regina Fritsch

#### • ST. AUGIES YOUTH (SAY)

High School Youth Group - meets every Sunday at 6:00 p.m.  
during the school year

#### • ST. AUGUSTINE SAINTHOOD SEEKER (SASS)

Middle School Youth Group - meets bi-weekly on Wednesdays,  
7:00-8:00 p.m. during the school year

PRAYER CHAIN ~ Please contact the Parish Office



### *Christmas 2025*

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God,  
that we, who are gladdened by  
participation in the feast of our  
redeemer's Nativity, may through an  
honorable way of life become  
worthy of union with him.

May the hope and joy of His Birth Fill  
your hearts & flood your soul!  
Remembering you and your family  
at my Christmas Masses - *Fr. Jerry*

**BULLETIN DEADLINE - Tuesday noon**

*"Saints in the Making" ★★ ★★ "Living and Sharing our Faith"*

## Merry Christmas 2025...

This Advent we have experienced the coming of Jesus; in the coming at the end of time, now we get to experience his second coming again, as the New Born Christ Child, and his 3<sup>rd</sup>. coming is the coming into our daily lives.

Good news of great joy comes to us again this Christmas. The Son of God, the Word Made Flesh, Our Savior, has been born into the world. May we always gather to celebrate this great gift with total appreciation. May our joy reflect this Christmas the true and glorious reality of the Christ Child among us. Yes, Christmas is yesterday... today, and tomorrow. Christmas is each day, a day to understand that the gift of God Himself is our Christmas present. He's a gift we don't have to unwrap... we don't have to guess about. No, the Christ Child is a gift we come to appreciate.

The Child is the present His Father gives us, that we might never feel alone and never despair, but always have hope running before us. May our love for each other and our care for each other, and our faith, not only in God but in each other, moving along to the good and certain day when he comes again, in all his glory, will be for all mankind.

Let this Christmas joy erupt within you and allow the Christmas infant to touch the very depths of your souls. Don't be rushed... slow down because it's time to experience what it's all about. Yes, ***"To us is born the Prince of Peace who brings light and life to the ends of the earth."*** He is the Light of the World who brings an end to sin and death. *The people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light.* Christmas becomes a new transformation.

We are God's holy people... so says Isaiah the prophet. How is Jesus calling you and I personally this Christmas? In what ways do we see Jesus' saving mission in the Christmas story? How can we exercise our eyes of faith? *May the Christ Child dwell within and continue to pour out his blessing on you and your love ones.*  
**God's Christmas Blessing.** - Fr. Jerry

### Ministries for the Sunday Liturgies

**Saturday, December 27, 2025** 4:30 p.m.

Lector: Becky Hilvers  
Servers: Lucy Brink, Jade Gonzalez  
Extraordinary: Ginny Bauer, Mary Steingass,  
Min. of Com.: **Volunteers (3)**  
Ushers: Will Wagner, Volunteer

**Sunday, December 28, 2025** 8:00 a.m.

Lector: Mike Weber  
Servers: Jeremy and Jacob Weber  
Extraordinary: Benton Collins, Gwen Howe-Gebers,  
Min. of Com.: Joe Krueger, Shari Smith, Volunteer  
Ushers: Noah and Miya Weber

**Sunday, December 28, 2025** 10:30 a.m.

Lector: Suzanne Badenhop  
Servers: Taylor Glanz, Jade Gonzalez,  
Charles Pollock  
Extraordinary: Mary Hoops, Mark Meyer, Lori Sicclair,  
Min. of Com.: Lindsay and Nanci Westhoven  
Ushers: Jeff Burkhardt, Brad Westhoven

**Eucharistic Ministers: Week of December 22, 2025**

**Nursing Home/Homebound:** Jane Conry

*Are you still traveling? If so, please pick up a bulletin from a church you visit and drop it off in the office. We are always looking for new ideas!*

### Mass Intentions for the Week

**Saturday, December 20, 2025**

4:30 p.m. - Carolyn Schwab

**Sunday, December 21, 2025**

8:00 a.m. - Kari Shortridge

10:30 a.m. - Elizabeth Jackson

**Monday, December 22, 2025**

No Service

**Tuesday, December 23, 2025**

8:45 a.m. - Ernie Tobias

**Wednesday, December 24, 2025 (Christmas Eve)**

10:00 a.m. - Mass at Genacross Lutheran Home

4:30 p.m. - Michael Cochran

11:00 p.m. - Lawrence and Eleanor Irving

**Thursday, December 25, 2025 (Christmas Day)**

9:00 a.m. - Carol Hoeffel

**Friday, December 26, 2025**

8:45 a.m. - Lynn Speiser

**Saturday, December 27, 2025**

4:30 p.m. - Jeanne Lytle

**Sunday, December 28, 2025**

8:00 a.m. - Dick Denny

10:30 a.m. - Jay Agler

**Tellers: December 29, 2025** - Viv Dominique,  
Chris Peddicord, Jan Westhoven

*Show thanks to God for all gifts you have received*



## Save the Date

March 2026

St. Pat's Auction — 14th

### ST. AUGUSTINE ADVENT RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

December 20th, Saturday

3:30 - 4:15

December 21st, Sunday "Day of Grace"

11:30 - 12:30

December 24th, Wednesday "Day of Grace"

11:30 - 12:30 (Last Call)

2025 Catholic Appeal - **"Together For Good"** - We would like to thank all of our Parishioners who have joined together in pledging their gift to this year's Annual Catholic Appeal. If you have not made your commitment, today would be a convenient opportunity to do so. Pledge cards are available in the back of church. Once completed, kindly place your pledge card in the offertory basket. Every gift is so significant. Our parish goal is \$30,090.74. **We are encouraging 100% participation!** Thank you for your generosity! We are currently at 83%.

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When sending in your **LIVING CHRIST** payments, you can send them directly to: Pastoral Center, Diocese of Toledo, ATTN: Living Christ Campaign, 1933 Spielbusch Ave., Toledo, OH 43604 or directly to the Processing Company: Living Christ Campaign, Diocese of Toledo, P.O. Box 7293, Kensington, CT 06037.

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**NEW MINISTRY SCHEDULE** - We will be preparing the next ministry schedule, which will be for February through May. Please log onto the Ministry Scheduler Pro website to update your profile and to list any dates you are not available to volunteer for this schedule. Please do this by December 30th.

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**Christmas House is looking for a Cookie Maker** - Amy Morman is looking to take a step back from cookie making, this being her 13th year. She is willing to guide and assist in 2026, but she doesn't wish to oversee the entire process. If you would like to learn a little more about Christmas House cookies, please reach out to her (419.966.4168) or contact Laurie Brubaker at the church office.

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**GOING ON VACATION** - Please use Online Giving to catch up on offertory contributions. Go to [www.staugie.net](http://www.staugie.net) and click on the Online Giving link, it's quick and easy.

## Youth Ministry

Providing a space for our youth to encounter and grow in relationship with our Lord and Christ centered relationships



High School Youth Group



Middle School Youth Group

### St. Augie's Youth (SAY) High School Youth Group

#### Upcoming Events:

- SAY will be on break but will pick back up on Jan. 4th

### St. Augustine Sainthood Seekers (SASS) Middle School Youth Group

Now starting large group events on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 5-6:30pm! Join us for fun games and faith opportunities. We will end the night with an optional dinner at 6:30 in the Ministry Center with SAY. Open to kids grades 6-8.

#### Upcoming Events:

Now on the second Sunday! Next event will be Jan. 11th.

## 2025 Christmas House is complete!

We would like to thank everyone for their help and unwavering support of your St. Augustine fundraiser. An extra special mention of thanks to Chris Peddicord, Laurie Brubaker, Jess Green, Rita Small, Brenda Piasecki, Megan Balt, Jodi Stover, Emily Nemire & the Speiser Family, Amy Morman, Mary Gunter, Denise Short, Laurie Gilson, Yolanda Morrin, Deb Hoops, Carolyn Heinrichs, Amanda Mazur, Anne Taylor, Julie Saputo, Jen Roth & thanks to Laurie Nahrwold (who would love a Co-Chair). A big thanks to all those volunteers who organized, decorated, baked, donated baked goods, served meals, helped customers, hauled boxes & cleaned up. Your time is very appreciated and made this event happen. Additional thanks to all those who came and enjoyed the food, shopping & fellowship.

God Bless &

Merry Christmas to all!





## Mary, and the

### Pains of childbirth...

Many had the opportunity to watch the recent movie... ***"The First Christmas"***... Maybe we need a more accurate account. In the wake of the first (human) sin of Adam and Eve, God spoke directly to our original parents and indirectly to all mankind concerning some of the far-reaching consequences of that sin: physical death and disorder would be the lot of all mankind until the end of time. Indeed, in some sense, all of creation was changed for the worse as a result of this cataclysmic sin. But for our purpose, we want to focus on Genesis 3:16 and one particular effect of original sin:



To the woman [the Lord God] said, ***"I will greatly multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children."***

Scripture teaches that as a result of original sin, God would ***"greatly multiply"*** the pains of labor not only for Eve, but for all women. But... many Fathers of the Church and theologians down through the centuries deemed it fitting that Mary alone would be exempt from such pains as a sign of her unique holiness. Thus, Mary's freedom from the pains of labor is one of many reasons for our belief in her immaculate conception. It has been taught that Mary remained an ***"intact"*** virgin in giving birth to Jesus. A miracle birth for a miracle child. However, we should note the fact that it has been taught on the level of the ordinary Magisterium and that it was taught by many Fathers of the Church. This is significant.

I argue it to be most fitting as a ***sign of hope*** for the entire body of Christ. All can see in this unique gift to Mary a sign of the ultimate deliverance from all bodily pain and suffering that awaits the Church through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In Mary we see the fullness of the grace of Easter incarnated in a human person. Analogous to God preserving Mary in virginal integrity in giving birth to our Lord, his preserving her from the pains of delivery demonstrates in a more profound way the truth of the Immaculate Conception and the saving power of Christ in preserving her from this effect of original sin. **Let's look at Sacred Scripture.** In a chapter laden with references to the coming of the New Covenant, or ***"the new heavens and the new earth,"*** as we see in Isaiah 66:22—a text referenced in Revelation 21:1—we find this startling prophecy:

*Listen, an uproar from the city! A voice from the temple! The voice of the Lord, rendering recompense to his enemies! Before she was in labor she gave birth; before her pain came upon her she was delivered of a son. Who has heard such a thing? Who has seen such things?*

Not only do we find many of the Fathers of the Church referencing this text as referring to the miraculous birth of Christ, but we find it difficult to apply it in its fullest sense to anything else.

**A Miraculous Birth... for a Miraculous Child!**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Sun., Dec. 21 Confessions 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
St. Vincent de Paul Collection  
Wed., Dec. 24 Confessions 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
Thur., Dec. 25 **A BLESSED CHRISTMAS**  
Sat., Dec. 27 Confessions 3:30 p.m.  
Rosary 3:55 p.m.

**Holiday Office Hours**

Dec. 24 - Closing at 12:00 Noon  
Dec. 25 & 26 - Office Closed  
Dec. 31 - Closing at 12:00 Noon  
Jan. 1 - Office Closed  
Jan. 2 - Office Open

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE  
PARISH OFFERTORY**

Sunday Collection	\$	4,199.00
On-Line	\$	2,267.00
Holy Day	\$	11.00
Christmas	\$	1,250.00
School	\$	83.00
Sunday collection year-to-date	\$	185,575.76

To use the convenient online giving option, please visit:

[www.staugie.net](http://www.staugie.net) and select online giving from the side menu.

**MAY THEY REST IN PEACE**

Franklin M. "Huffy" Hoffman (94) - 12/22/01  
Vincent J. Minsel (90) - 12/23/07  
Louis E. Recker (63) - 12/24/06  
Donna Russell (92) - 12/25/15  
Linda Palmer (63) - 12/26/15  
Helen Leona Sworden (86) - 12/28/05

Remember those who have gone before us. Please pray for them. Due to space we are listing only the past 25 years. If you would like a parishioner listed who passed away longer than 25 years ago, please contact the office.

**Ministries for Christmas Liturgies**

**Wednesday, December 24, 2025 4:30 p.m.**

Lector: Gene Grime  
Servers: Juan and Jade Gonzalez  
Extraordinary Deacon Jon Gotttron, Vicki Delventhal  
Min. of Com.: Lori Siclair, Lindsay and Nanci Westhoven

Ushers: Ruth Like, Paul Martin

**Wednesday, December 24, 2025 11:00 p.m.**

Lector: Richard Fisher  
Servers: Allyssa Borck, Henry Dotson  
Extraordinary Doug Burgei, Vivian Dominique,  
Min. of Com.: Mary Hoops, Joe Keller, Volunteer

Ushers: Volunteers (2)

**Thursday, December 25, 2025 9:00 a.m.**

Lector: Becky Hilvers  
Servers: Santi Funes, Jade Gonzalez  
Extraordinary Volunteers (5)  
Min. of Com.:  
Ushers: Larry Hilvers, Will Wagner

**FROM THE SCHOOL**

The students of St. Augustine Catholic School beautifully shared the true spirit of the season during our joyful Old-Fashioned Christmas Concert! It was a blessing to present this special program to our school and parish community within the sacred beauty of our church. The evening opened with our Preschool and Kindergarten students sweetly singing "Away in a Manger." Our First and Second graders followed with a tender rendition of the beloved carol "Silent Night." The Third and Fourth graders then offered a heartfelt performance of "O Little Town of Bethlehem." Our Fifth through Eighth graders lifted their voices in the timeless hymns "The First Noel" and "O Come, All Ye Faithful." To conclude this festive celebration, the entire school joined together in a joyful chorus of "Joy to the World" and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas." A heartfelt thank you to Miss Ali Roth for thoughtfully selecting the beautiful music for our concert, and to our dedicated teachers and families for practicing alongside our students and helping them learn each song with confidence and joy.

May you be blessed with a heart that knows love to let baby Jesus teach you to pass your blessings to all those around you. I pray you have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!!

Blessings to your family,  
Ginny Minnick, Principal

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

12/22 - Tim Barry, Claire Egan, Genevieve Gilson  
12/23 - Chad Ball, David Gilliland, Nelda Irving  
12/24 - Tanyon Creager  
12/25 - Nicholas Badgley, Olivia Boehm,  
Holly Sifuentes  
12/26 - Mark Myers, Tala Theisen  
12/27 - Isaac Herman, Matthew Huber, Matthew Reiser  
12/28 - Candance Bruback, Allissa Hunter,  
Michael Lavin

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**IN MEMORIAM**

We would like to extend our heartfelt sympathy to Joan Steed and her family following the death of her son, Kevin. May Kevin now be at peace with our Heavenly Father.

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**FRIDAY ADORATION** will take place each First Friday of the month after 8:45 Mass until 5:30 p.m. We will have a sign-up sheet in the back of the church and would appreciate folks filling the day so that our Lord is not exposed on the altar without anyone present. If you are not able to come for your hour of adoration, please call Jane Recker at 419-508-0711. The day will end with Benediction at 5:30 p.m.

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Meetings on 3rd Wednesday of the Month

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