

ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

HECKER, ILLINOIS 62248

REV. LINUS UMOREN, ADMINISTRATOR

PARISH OFFICE 618-473-2217 FAX 618-473-9141

E-MAIL ADDRESS: staug@htc.net

PARISH WEBSITE: <https://www.staugustineofcanterburyhecker.com>

To contact Father Linus Umoren, CM; when not in Parish Office,

Cell #618-666-2217/ Father John Igwe cell #618-504-7005

St. Vincent de Paul Help Line 618-792-4059

House of Neighborly Service Help Line 618-939-8680

Confessions: heard each Saturday night from 4 to 4:45 pm

Parish Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm.

VOL. 59 NO. 6- February 11th, 2024

THEME FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Jesus manifests the powerful, healing love of God by curing the leper who was forced to live under severe restrictions by Jewish legislation. He turned to Jesus in his need and was filled with joy. We are called to imitate the healing and compassionate Jesus.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Fri. 2/9 8:00am- Delmar & Wylma Wachtel, Ruth Cortner, and Norbert Wittenauer

Sat. 2/10 5:00pm- Roy Schreder, Cletus & Agnes Gregson, and Mary Rettinghouse

Sun. 2/11 8:00am- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's

8:00am- Delmar and Wylma Wachtel

Wed. 2/14 7:00pm- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's

Fri. 2/16 8:00am- Lois Papenberg

Sat. 2/17 5:00pm- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's

Sun. 2/18 8:00am- John Link



OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 2/4/2024:

Envelopes (42)- \$2,184.00

Loose- \$140.00

Youth-\$11.00

Parking Lot/Resolution Projects Donations-**\$2,700.00**

*Scholarship Fund - \$1,960.00 (Total
Donated since 8/1/2023)*

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Ash Wednesday, February 14th, 8:00am

Set Up: Donna Rheinecker

Servers:

Lector: Elaine Rader

Extraordinary Minister: Ruth Wittenauer

Extraordinary Minister (W):

Extraordinary Minister (W):

Ash Wednesday, February 14th, 7:00pm

Set Up: Kevin Schreder

Servers: Lucas Gregson

Lector: Kevin Schreder

Extraordinary Minister: Dale Haudrich

Extraordinary Minister (W): Annette Schreder

Extraordinary Minister (W): Donna Rheinecker

Saturday, February 17th, 5:00pm

Set Up: Kevin Schreder

Servers: Mehrmanns

Lector: Kevin Schreder

Extraordinary Minister: Annette Schreder

Extraordinary Minister (W): Elaine Rader

Extraordinary Minister (W): Angi Kern

Camera:

Sunday, February 18th, 8:00am

Set Up: Margie Holle

Servers: Doerrs

Lector:

Extraordinary Minister: Margie Holle

Extraordinary Minister (W): Kyle Doerr

Extraordinary Minister (W): Tiffany Gregson

Camera:

Please pray for the following:

Darlene Frisch, Jeanelle Dinan, Marge Abel, Madalyn Killebrew, Kenny Kern, Marcia Rheinecker, Ricky Wittenauer, Ava Kern, Nancy Grohmann, Jim & Joanne Cowell, Helen Parker, Mike Rheinecker, Evelyn Kelley Marquart, Roger Cortner, Frank Kohler, Josh Middendorf, Ethel Mae Kreher, Shirley Wittenauer, Annette Lovelace, Mel Parker, Geri Griffin, Melissa Stellhorn, Rhonda Mehring-Smith, and Gary Rist.

For Active Service Personnel: Justin S. Bushong, United States Coast Guard, Austin Grohmann, United States Marine Corps, and Austin Gregson, United States Marine Corps.



FROM THE PASTOR...

FR. LINUS UMOREN. C.M.

Reflection for the Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

A businessman needed a million dollars to finalize a significant business transaction. He decided to go to church and pray for the money. While praying, he knelt next to another man who was also praying. This man was praying for a hundred dollars that he urgently needed to pay off a debt. The businessman took out his wallet and gave the other man a hundred dollars. The man was overjoyed and left the church. The businessman then closed his eyes and prayed, "And now, Lord, I have your undivided attention...."

Today, we live in a divided world. The threat of domestic and external terrorism, social inequality, and loss of confidence in politics and politicians contribute to increasing social and political polarization, populism, and extremist ideologies. But this is not God's intention for the world. The ministry of Jesus was dedicated to reconciling and bringing people together.

This weekend, the story of the cure of the man with leprosy in the gospel is very moving. This leper feels inadequate. He knows he is breaking the rules. In that feeling of worthlessness and total exclusion from society, Jesus shows incredible compassion. He connects with the man by stretching out his hand to touch him. Jesus' action is like a long, warm hug on a day when one is depressed or frustrated. I have encountered people in isolation in the hospital; I have seen people who live in their trucks or are homeless and have minimal contact with other people. Jesus reaching out and touching this man was a profound symbol of acceptance, an opportunity for restoration, validation, and inclusion. Jesus' interest in inclusion, rehabilitation, and breaking barriers leaves much to be desired.

Sometimes, we imagine that we can separate ourselves from those different from us—less healthy, less privileged, and less successful. This weekend's gospel is about not setting up barriers too casually. It is about looking at any human face and seeing the image of God.

We all inhabit the same planet, and each person's life (the sick, healthy, woman, man, or child) connects with the lives of others. Whenever we choose to pull a note out of the symphony of life through exclusion and lack of compassion, we ruin the beautiful music of life. It is a myth to think that we are much better when we become overly self-protective.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Augustine's Parish ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Super Bowl Bingo, Sunday, February 11, 2024, Lunch served 10:30-1pm, Bingo 1:30pm
- 200th Year Committee Meeting, Thursday, February 15th @7pm- Parish Center
- The Knights of Columbus Meeting has moved to Wednesday, February 21st to accommodate Ash Wednesday.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR LIFE NETWORK BABY BOTTLES!!!! THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THEM!!!!



Please note that Father Linus will be traveling to Nigeria from February 16th, 2024 thru March 13th, 2024. During that time, Father John will be available for any assistance you may need. Father Linus will have email and you can also use the "WhatsUp App" to be able call/text him as well.

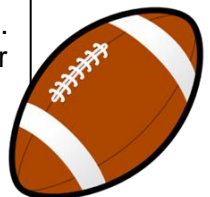




The Hecker Community Center is looking for a volunteer to work with the American Red Cross in coordinating the blood drives held at the Hecker Community Center. There are three blood drives per year and requires about six hours the day of the blood drive and minimal time in between. Interested people please contact Kevin Schreder at 618-473-2925 or 618-406-7037.

Super Bowl Bingo Reminders...Please, if you can, for the dinner we will need **2 PIES OR 1 "9X13" DESSERT (NO CAKES) from all parishioners if possible.** Desserts can be dropped off the morning of **February 11th** at the **HCC backdoor after 9am** and **Mary Kujawski will be there to accept them.** Additionally, all parishioners are also asked to bring **non-perishable items** for the **Attendance Prizes** (one or two) valued at \$5.00.

Some ideas for attendance prizes are dish towels, candles, puzzles, small crafts, card games, crosswords, etc...

Thank you for your continued support at our annual Super Bowl Bingo and





**ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH
HECKER, ILLINOIS**
(15 miles South of Belleville on State Route 159)

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY



QUILT/CASH BINGO

FEBRUARY 11th, 2024

**Hecker Community Center
Hecker, Illinois
Smoke Free Facility**



Lightning Round Prior to Bingo



BINGO 1:30 P.M.

No one under 18 allowed in hall during bingo. BL #50884

Attendance Prizes – Raffle – Pot of Gold

Fried Chicken & Pork Sausage Plates

Serving 10:00 am-1:00 pm





NEWS FROM GIBAULT HIGH SCHOOL

Visit Gibault!

It's a great time to visit Gibault! Your 7th or 8th grader or current high school student can spend the day at Gibault as a Shadow Visitor. Shadows will be matched with a current student with similar interests and together, they'll attend classes, meet teachers, enjoy lunch in our cafeteria, and more! We also offer Private Tours for the whole family. See our campus and get your questions answered by our Director of Enrollment. Get started at: <https://bit.ly/GCHSInquire>




Winter Play

The Gibault Theatre Department presents *Poe: Dreams of Madness*. Performances Wednesday, February 7, at 7 p.m.; Thursday, February 8, at 7 p.m.; Saturday, February 10, at 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, February 11, at 1:30 p.m. (No performance on Friday, February 9.)

Taste of the Region

Join the Gibault Women's Club on March 2 for Taste of the Region. For full event info or to purchase tickets, visit: <https://givebutter.com/TasteoftheRegion>.

Math & Poetry Contest



**Math, Poetry, &
Art Contest**

March 14 - Pi Day

Show off your skills!



DIOCESAN INFORMATION

RESPECT FOR LIFE CORNER

World Marriage Day

“Married love differs from any other love in the world. By its nature, the love of husband and wife is so complete, so ordered to a lifetime of communion with God and each other, that it is open to creating a new human being they will love and care for together.”

USCCB, Married Love and the Gift of Life

[2024-nmw-social-media-2_0.jpg \(1600x1600\) \(usccb.org\)](#)

DIocese of Belleville -- PROJECT RACHEL

Project Rachel is an active ministry in the Diocese of Belleville!!! Planned Parenthood continues to see women (some report one woman every 20 minutes six days a week). It is so vital that we be there for these women to offer free and confidential help in their time of need. It is our hope to continue to foster a sense of compassion in our communities making them a safe place to welcome those who suffer after an abortion and encourage reconciliation and healing in Jesus Christ. Those in need of help and counseling can confidentially contact someone by phone or email. Here's a link to Project Rachel on the diocesan website with additional information: <https://www.diobelle.org/respectlife/project-rachel>.

To stay informed of Pro-Life events in our Diocese, like and follow our FaceBook page,
Respect Life Apostolate – Belleville

2024 VARIOUS QUILT OF THE MONTH RAFFLES IN THE AREA

- **St. Michael, Paderborn – January thru December 2024. \$20 per ticket. 12 Chances to win!! Picture of quilts available inside Parish office. Contact Sue Walsh 473-2798. Limited number of tickets available in Parish Office at St. Augustine's.**
- **St. Patrick's Ruma – January thru December 2024; \$20 per ticket; tickets available in the Parish Office at St. Augustine's. Questions call Kathy Schmidt at 618/284-7274.**
- **St. James, Millstadt – Quilt-A-Rama, Tickets drawn the first Monday of every month during 2024. Tickets are \$25.00 each. See your Parish Office for tickets or contact St. James, 618/476-3513.**
- **Our Lady of Good Counsel Renault Quilt of the Month!
Tickets are \$25.00 each for the year of drawings. Winner goes back into the box for a chance to be drawn next month. Please call Phyllis at 618-458-6854 or text Lisa 618-444-5544 to purchase a ticket.**
- **Holy Trinity Catholic Church- St. Ann's CCW, Quilt of the Month Raffle 2024
Tickets are \$25.00 each, drawings are held 2nd Wednesday of each month; Contact Carol Geluck for more info! 618-792-9439.**

The 2024 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

“Serve the Lord with gladness”

-Psalm 100

From the Pastor's Desk . . .

This weekend our parish, along with all other parishes in the diocese, will conduct our Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. The CSMA provides a convenient way for all of us, no matter what our time limitations, to take an active role in the mission of our diocesan Church. If you did not receive a pledge card in the mail or forgot to bring it, please use one of the reply envelopes that are available. Please be as generous as you are able.

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS- *UPDATED 2-8-24!!*

- **Queen of Hearts Drawing-** Benefitting Ss. Peter & Paul Catholic School
Tuesdays, Outsiders in Waterloo, IL,
Ticket sales end @6:30pm, drawings are held @ 7pm
- **NEW! Queen of Hearts Drawing-**Benefitting Freeburg High School Athletics
Wednesdays, 6:30pm ticket sales, drawings held at 7pm
- **St. Barbara's Catholic Church- Parish Hall**
2nd and 4th Thursday of each month
305 N Front St, Okawville, IL 62271, Doors open @5pm, Bingo @ 6pm
Food, drinks, and desserts for purchase- All games pay out \$50.00
- **Saturday, February 10th, 2024- St. Mary Catholic Church Chicken & Fish Dinner**
7362 Shawneetown Trail, Ellis Grove, IL. Serving 3:30-8pm; 4 sides, desserts and drinks; Adults \$15.00; Mass @ 4pm; Sponsored by St. Mary's Holy Name Society.
- **Saturday, February 24th, 2024- Hecker Community Center Chicken & Beer**
Dance...Musci by Freefall. Call 618-473-2970 for ticket information.
- **Saturday, February 24th, 2024- St. Michael's Church (Paderborn) Euchre**
Euchre Tournament- doors open @ 6pm; Tickets \$25.00/person; All you can eat fried chicken dinner; all you can drink beer and soda; 6 rounds of Euchre; Contact Rich Kreher @ slark4@yahoo.com or call/text 314-341-4904 for reservations.
- **Sunday, March 3rd, 2024- St. Augustine (Belleville) Building and Grounds**
All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast- 8-12:30pm; Parish Hall; Adults \$ 10.00, Children ages 4-12 \$5.00; Families pay no more than \$30.00; Pancakes, Scrambled eggs, sausage, fruit cocktail, coffee, orange juice, and milk.
- **Sunday, March 3rd, 2024-St. Agatha Purse Bingo-**207 S. Market, New Athens
Doors open 11:30am, bingo starts at 12:30; Cost in advance is \$40.00n or \$50.00 at the door; Price includes 10 games, dabber and drinks; Bring your own snacks; Contact Debbie Matzenbacher 618-210-3318 or register online at Glo-Bingo.com/events.
- **Tuesday, March 5th, 2024- Lunch and Card Party- St. Luke's Parish Center**
226 North Church St, Belleville, IL; Doors Open 10:30am, Lunch served @ noon, event ends @ 3pm, Tally \$10.00, includes lunch, play cards or bingo; bring canned goods for pantry.

A sage once wrote that a good marriage is like a fire around which others come to warm themselves. So, as we celebrate **World Marriage Day on this Sunday**, we realize that no matter our station in life - married, single or religious - we have benefited from this sacred covenant relationship whether through the example of our parents, grandparents, and other role models or through our own stewardship of the marriage covenant. For the Catholic steward, marriage goes far beyond the legal or societal agreement that our culture might define. Marriage brings us countless blessings but is met with many obstacles. Busy schedules, the challenges of parenthood, the strains of finances, mortgages, issues of health, and aging – all of these tests the bonds of even the finest unions.



The Serra Club of St. County is an organization of Catholic men and women dedicated to foster and affirm vocations to the Priesthood and vowed religious life. Our purpose is to pray for vocations and inform our community the need for vocations. We provide many social events for our Priests, Deacons and Nuns. We sponsor occasional visits to the Seminaries for our grade and high students guided by a priest or a seminarian. Our group meets every first and third Friday of the month at Corpus Christi Parish Hall 206 Rasp St. Shiloh, IL 62269. We begin Mass at 11:00 am, follow by lunch and a brief meeting, and a prominent speaker. Additional information please call Marvin Winkeler (402 214-1155 or Mel Lucash 618-531-4244 [Serra has a new web page: serrastclair.org](http://serrastclair.org)



The
Season
of
Lent



Ss. Peter and Paul, Waterloo

FISH FRY

Fundraiser

Join us this Lent for our annual Parish Fish Fry.

All proceeds will benefit our Youth Faith Formation Programs

Friday, March 1
Friday, March 22
4:30 - 7:30 PM

Ss. Peter and Paul Gym | 217 W. Third St. Waterloo, IL

Take-Out and Sit-Down Options Available!



Jesus and the Eucharist Study

Every parish across the country is invited to host this exciting study. This 7-session series produced by the National Eucharistic Revival

Team (free of charge to parishes) will be held here at Ss. Peter and Paul. This will replace any other 2024 Lenten series offered by the AFF Commission.

Starts First Sunday of Lent

Sessions will be held after Sunday 10 am Mass (@11:15-12:45), and also on Thursday mornings from 9-10:30 and Thursday evenings from 7:00-8:30 in AFF House:

Session 1: Sun Feb 18th or Thurs Feb 22nd

Session 2: Sun Mar 3rd or Thurs Mar 7th

Session 3: Sun Mar 10th or Thurs Mar 14th

Session 4: Sun Mar 17th or Thurs Mar 21st

Session 5: Sun Apr 14th or Thurs Apr 18th

Session 6: Sun Apr 21st or Thurs Apr 25th

Session 7: Sun Apr 28th or Thurs May 2nd

If you forget to register and still want to attend one of these sessions, you are most welcome!

Contact Joyce Springer at
jspringer@sspcc.org by **Feb 13th** to register for Sunday or Thursday sessions.

SSPPCC NEWS



Wurstmarkt 2024
SPPCS Cafeteria
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Dine-In or Carry-Out

\$15/Plate Dinner:

*Pork Sausage, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy,
Sauerkraut, Green Beans, Bread, Dessert &
Drink*

BINGO in SPPCS Gym

1 - 4 p.m.

Letters from Mary & Martha with more info and raffle tickets will be mailed. Drop your Raffle Tickets in weekend Offerings, during Wurstmarkt or mail to: 204 W. Mill Street. Winners drawn on Feb. 25 @ 2 p.m.

Volunteers are needed in multiple capacities. Please view the link below and sign-up to help:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050D4BA5AD29A7F94-47167479-wurstmarkt>

Questions? Contact Jennifer Richards at (618) 977-3481



LENTEN REGULATIONS 2024

The season of Lent extends this year from Ash Wednesday, February 14th, to the Mass of the Lord's Supper, Holy Thursday, March 28th, inclusive.

1. Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays of Lent.
2. Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 years of age is also bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
3. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is allowed. The other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's needs, but altogether they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed.
4. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the obligation of the law is modified. Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant and nursing women. In all cases, common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting.

**2024 SCHEDULE FOR LENT, TRIDUIM, EASTER
ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY- HECKER**

- **ASH WEDNESDAY, February 14th, 2024.**
Masses at St. Augustine 8:00am & 7:00pm
Ash Wednesday Masses at SSPPCC 8 am, 10 am, and 7pm
- **WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT:**
St. Augustine Stations of the Cross held at 7pm
- **FRIDAYS DURING LENT:**
St. Augustine - Mass at 8 am followed by
Stations of the Cross
- **PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 23rd and 24th, 2024**
Saturday Mass 5pm, Sunday Mass 8am
- **HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 28th, 2024**
7:00 PM Mass, ST. AUGUSTINE
- **GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29th, 2024**
7:00 PM STATION OF THE CROSS FOLLOWED BY
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE, ST. AUGUSTINE
- **EASTER VIGIL, SATURDAY, MARCH 30th, 2024**
7:00 PM Mass, ST. AUGUSTINE
- **EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31st, 2024**
8:00AM Mass, ST. AUGUSTINE

SSPPCC and St. Mary's (Valmeyer) Lenten schedule of Masses, Reconciliation, Stations of the Cross, and Holy Week will be published soon