

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. 11- March 17th, 2024

THEME FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT: The grain of wheat must die to produce fruit. Such dying must be cultivated by obedience and by our covenant with God, rooted in love and forgiveness.

MASS INTENTIONS:

- Fri. 3/15 8:00am- Marvin Eckart and Charlette Tritley
- Sat. 3/16 5:00pm- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's
- Sun. 3/17 8:00am- Roy Schreder, Jerry Mollet, and A Special Intention
- Fri. 3/22 8:00am- Lois Papenberg
- Sat. 3/23 5:00pm- A Special Intention, Norbert Wittenauer, and John Rheinecker
- Sun. 3/24 8:00am- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's



**5th
Sunday
in
Lent**

OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 3/10/2024:

Envelopes (53)- \$2275.00

Loose-\$111.00

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

Scholarship Fund - \$2579.00 (Total

Donated since 8/1/2023)

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

(Palm Sunday) Saturday, March 23rd, 5pm

Set Up: Kevin Schreder

4 Servers: Mehrmanns (2)

Lector/ Narrator: Kevin Schreder

Voice: Elaine Rader

Extraordinary Minister: Gary Wittenauer

Extraordinary Minister (W): Annette Schreder

Extraordinary Minister (W): Angie Kern

Camera: Dana Mehmman

Palm Sunday, March 24th, 8am

Set Up: Margie Holle

4 Servers: Doerrs

Lector/ Narrator: Jonella Donius

Voice:

Extraordinary Minister: Kyle Doerr

Extraordinary Minister (W):

Extraordinary Minister (W): Betty Schreder

Camera: Mike Karban



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, Gary Rist, A Special Intention, and Delbert Wittenauer.

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



Welcome back Father Linus! We are so glad you were able to visit family and friends...we are thankful for travel mercies and thankful to have you back in our parishes!



**ANNOUNCEMENT FOR ALL MASS SERVERS:
EASTER PRACTICE FOR ALL MASS SERVERS ON FRIDAY, MARCH 22nd,
6:30-7:30pm**

FROM THE PASTOR...

Father John Igwe

INTRO TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

Today as we celebrate the 5th Sunday of Lent, we are drawing close to our destination and to the most important moments in our journey this season. This fact is reflected in all the readings of this Sunday. Christ is ready to offer everything for our salvation. So, we too must be willing to offer all for him and for others.

REFLECTION FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B

In the first reading from the book of Jeremiah, we hear of the promise of a new covenant that God will make with His people. It is a covenant of like the old one, but one that is written on hearts, a covenant of love, forgiveness, and reconciliation. This reminds us that God is ready to set aside a relationship that was destroyed by infidelity because He is always faithful to His promises. He wishes to restore a broken relationship. On our part, we must be ready to accept this new covenant with God. The new covenant offers us salvation and life. God desires a close relationship with each one of us.

In the second reading, we are presented with the example of Jesus, who loud cries and tears. Despite His suffering and anguish, Jesus remained obedient to the will of the Father. He submitted to His father's will so humbly that His prayer was heard, and was ultimately glorified through His resurrection. This serves as a powerful reminder for us to trust in God's plan for our lives, even in times of difficulty and uncertainty. In time of suffering, we too ought to remember that Jesus personally keeps on praying for us to strengthen us in every single tribulation. All we have to do is to add our prayers to His, and we shall come out victorious just as he did.

In the gospel, we hear the familiar passage where Jesus speaks of His impending death and resurrection. He uses the analogy of grain of wheat falling to the ground and dying to bear much fruit. Through His sacrifice on the cross, Jesus offer us the promise of eternal life and redemption. This passage challenges us to embrace the cross in our own lives to die to our selfish desires, and to follow Christ wholeheartedly. As we reflect on these readings, let us ask ourselves: Are we willing to enter into a new covenant with God, allowing His love to transform our hearts? Are we willing to offer ourselves as living sacrifice, trusting in God's plan for our lives? Are we willing to pick up our cross and follow Jesus, even when the path is difficult? Let us pray for the grace of God upon us to allow the thought of Christ suffering, death and resurrection to strengthen us daily.



ST. AUGUSTINE'S ANNOUNCEMENTS



- **Stations of the Cross is held weekly on Wednesday evenings at 7pm and following Friday 8am Mass.**
- We need Usher volunteers for Easter Mass and volunteers for Holy Thursday Washing of Feet...please let the parish office know by emailing staug@HTC.com or calling 618-473-2217. Also, students in Confirmation or 1st communion are encouraged to serve during Holy week Masses. Thank you to those that have volunteered!
- Next 200th Year Committee meeting is set for Thursday April 4th @ 7pm inside the Parish Center
- Lenten Rice Bowls are now available for your participation. Feel free to pick up if you are lead to. Please pick up at the parish office.
- If you need a copy of the 2024 Parish Directory, there are more copies here in the parish office.
- Please be sure to turn in your flower envelopes if you wish to honor a loved one this Easter with flowers on the altar.
- Ss. Peter and Paul Fish Fry Friday March 22nd, 4:30-7pm

The 2024 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

"Serve the Lord with gladness" -Psalm 100

On behalf of Bishop Michael McGovern and diocesan ministries and programs, a most heartfelt thanks to all those who have already responded with a gift to The 2024 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. If you have not done so as yet, there's still plenty of time. One-time donations or pledges – **in any amount** – are needed and can be made through your parish or at www.diobelle.org (click on "Giving to the Diocese"). Your generosity supports 17 agencies and programs that daily serve thousands of people. Please consider making your gift today or at any time you are able in the coming months. We also ask for your prayers for the success of this year's appeal and all those we serve. Thank you and may God bless you always.

**ST. AUGUSTINE'S
PLEDGES TO DATE: 18**

67% OF OUR GOAL MET!!!

News from Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church

From the Deacon's Desk

The Diocese of Belleville will be hosting the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage Delegation (aka Eucharistic Procession) on July 7th and 8th and tentative details are starting to trickle in. Bishop McGovern has declared these to be our Emmaus Days and that we will take full advantage of this unique and wonderful opportunity for revival in our Diocesan community. The delegation will be with us for twenty-two action-packed hours. Tentatively, on the afternoon of July 7 the Eucharistic Pilgrimage Delegation will arrive at St Augustine of Hippo in East St Louis for a brief procession and adoration. There will be concurrent afternoon activities at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows for all ages. The Eucharistic Pilgrimage Delegation will then arrive at the Shrine that evening with a Solemn Eucharistic Procession through Stations of the Cross to the amphitheater where there will be Adoration and Reconciliation, followed by Benediction and a candlelight procession with all night Adoration in Christ the King Chapel. On July 8, there will be Mass at Cathedral followed by short Eucharistic Procession and then Bishop McGovern and Bishop Paprocki will be at Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Collinsville for the passing of the Blessed Sacrament to the Springfield Diocese. Please stay tuned for more details and spread the word about the pilgrimage. You can see an interactive map of this pilgrimage with this QR code or this link will take you to it

<https://www.eucharisticpilgrimage.org/st-junipero-serra-route>

-Deacon Tom Helfrich





NEWS FROM GIBAULT HIGH SCHOOL

7th Grade Shadow Program

Parents of 7th Graders!! Spring is a great time for your student to visit Gibault Catholic! Your 7th grader 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! 7th grade shadows are welcome to come back as 8th graders for another Shadow Visit, too!

Future Hawk Events

Save the date for these fun events! More info to come!

7th & 8th Grade Scavenger Hunt – April 5 from 6-8 p.m.

5th & 6th Grade Future Hawk Hangout – April 12 from 6-8 p.m.

Future Hawk Baseball Tailgate – May 1 at 4:30 pm.

Spring Rummage Sale

The Gibault Catholic Women's Club Rummage Sale is Sat. Apr. 13, from 8 a.m.— 2 p.m. (1/2 price and bag sale after noon.) Donations can be dropped off April 8 & 9 from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. and April 10 & 11 from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

GIBUALT WOMEN'S CLUB RUMMAGE SALE

Sat. Apr. 13, 2024

8 a.m.— 2 p.m.

(1/2 price and bag sale after noon)

Donation drop-off at the front entrance:

Mon. Apr. 8: 8 a.m.- 6 p.m.

Tues. Apr. 9: 8 a.m.- 6 p.m.

Wed. Apr. 10: 8 a.m.- 8 p.m.

Thurs. Apr. 11: 8 a.m.- 8 p.m.

Early drop-offs by appointment only

(call 618-719-9419 to schedule)

- We will be accepting clean donations of any kind. (Large furniture, exercise equipment, tvs, and computers will be accepted at our discretion.)
- All items should be recently cleaned.
- Please try to have like items bagged together when dropping off donations in order to help our volunteers. (ex. Men's small, Women's dresses XL, sheets (including sizes,) knick-knacks, kitchen tools, baby boy (include sizes), etc.



DIOCESAN INFORMATION

RESPECT FOR LIFE CORNER

“To celebrate the Gospel of life means to celebrate the God of life, the God who gives life... In every child which is born and in every person who lives or dies we see the image of God’s glory. We celebrate this glory in every human being, a sign of the living God, an icon of Jesus Christ” (*The Gospel of Life* 84).

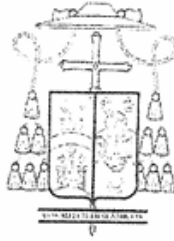
DIocese OF BELLEVILLE -- PROJECT RACHEL

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 DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE

March 11, 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I write to you asking your support for this year's Pontifical Good Friday collection. Traditionally, your generosity helps the Franciscan Friars in the Holy Land to continue their work of providing hope to Christians and maintaining the sacred shrines in Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and throughout the region.

Today, much hope is needed for Christians of the Holy Land. The tragic events that started on October 7, 2023, have brought many disastrous consequences. The Christian minority needs support for everything, including medicine and health care, food and school tuition. Despair is very strong, to the point that many Christians are thinking of leaving the country. Christians now represent less than 2% of the population, down from 23% a century ago.

Each year the Holy Father asks every Catholic parish around the world to take up a collection on Good Friday to support a Christian presence in the Holy Land. Your donation will go to supporting the work of the Franciscans in providing formation and education in communities and schools and caring for the basic needs of people while maintaining the sacred shrines and parishes. During such a difficult time, your gift to this collection is essential to the Franciscan ministry which is a light of hope to those living in the Holy Land.

Please join me in making a generous gift to assist our brothers and sisters as we walk together in Jesus's footsteps through the Cross to the Resurrection.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael McGovern".

Most Reverend Michael McGovern
Bishop of Belleville



Thank
you

Thank you for supporting the Life Network Baby Bottle drive... St. Augustine's was able to raise \$359.74 to help Life Network of Waterloo!! Their sweet thank you note is hanging on the bulletin board as you walk inside the front of church. Thank you for supporting them!!!

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS- *UPDATED 3-7-24!!*

- **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
- **Thursday, April 11th, 2024- St. James Parish Center, 405 W. Madison, Millstadt, IL Presents Born in the USA (A Noon Luncheon Experience)** \$15/person, 12-2:30pm;
Menu: Pulled pork, vegetables, hash brown casserole, coleslaw, Jello salad, and apple pie; Featuring basket raffle, sweet shoppe, quilt/cash raffle, bingo, attendance prizes; Paid RSVP's are required in advance. Doors open at 10:00am; Call Jane Kuester @ 618-476-1395 to RSVP.



On Tuesday of this week, we celebrate the feast of St. Joseph. “When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him.” (Matt 1:24) “It was grace that moved Joseph to embrace his vocation as the guardian of Israel’s Messiah. It’s the same grace that empowers us to accept God’s call and wisdom for our lives. Joseph’s yes in faith changed the world. God also has a plan for your life. You don’t know where your yes might lead and how God might use it. Ask Joseph to help. Then, like Joseph, go out in faith to be a “doer of the word” (James 1:2d2d).” (The Word Among Us)

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**



Kings House at the
NATIONAL SHRINE of
OUR LADY of the SNOWS

Kings House at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows Visitors Center – I Want to See You

Presenters: Fr. Salvador Gonzalez, OMI, Karen and Scott Seaborn

Friday, April 19 at 4:00 pm through Sunday, April 21, at 2:00 pm

Our couples retreat allows you to experience our “I Want to See You” silent retreat while encompassing your togetherness as a couple. This retreat centers on the story of the man born blind. Come and share the experience of being noticed by Jesus, touched, healed and called to witness to the new sight God’s love provides.

Cost: \$400.00 per couple (includes lodging and meals).

Register online at <https://kh.snows.org/events/> or call 618-397-0584.

HOLY LAND COLLECTION

Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Holy Land Collection which will be held on Good Friday. Your support helps the Church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools and offer religious education to our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land. The collection also helps to preserve the sacred shrines. In times of crisis, the Pontifical Holy Land Collection also provides humanitarian aid to refugees. When you contribute to the collection, you become an instrument of peace and join with Catholics around the world in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. Please be generous.

3-part Ecospirituality Series - Caring for Our Common Home

Presented by The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows

Sunday, April 7, with Mark Etling, PhD; Sunday, April 14, with Maxine Pohlman, SSND and

Sunday 21, 2024, with Galen Gritts, Cherokee Nation

Ecospirituality refers to the connection between ecology and spirituality. It is a way of living that

reveals a deep respect for our fragile planet Earth and makes us willing, caring guardians of it.

Through his encyclical *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis has attempted to reignite a reverent awareness

of our common home and calls us to a shared responsibility to protect it.

Resurrect your sense of wonder and awe of creation as you expand your vision of our connectedness to

the natural world and learn how we can develop a more compassionate stewardship of our planet.

Cost: \$10.00 each session or \$30.00 for the series

For more information, call 618-394-6281 or visit our website at <https://snows.org/ourcommonhome>

KIDS KORNER

Sharing the Gospel

Whenever the Israelites touched the rod with a snake on it in Moses' hand, they were healed. In the same way, Jesus wants everyone to be healed from sin. Clean up your bedroom. Set the table. Take out the trash. Pull the weeds from the garden. Pray for the sick on your street. When you do good things, everyone will know how much you love God and everyone God made.

Prayer

Holy Spirit, show me how to be helpful to my family and friends.

Something to Draw

Draw a rod with a snake wrapped around it. Draw Jesus on the cross.

Mission for the Week

I will give thanks to God in the morning, at lunch, and at bedtime.



2024 SCHEDULE FOR LENT, TRIDUUM, EASTER
FOR OUR PARISH OF ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY- HECKER

- **WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT:**
St. Augustine Stations of the Cross held at 7pm
- **FRIDAYS DURING LENT:**
St. Augustine - Mass at 8 am followed with 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



2024 SCHEDULE FOR LENT, TRIDUUM, EASTER
FOR PARTNER PARISHES OF Ss. PETER & PAUL and St. MARY'S
(Valmeyer)

- March 24, Palm Sunday
Ss. Peter and Paul, Waterloo, 8 a.m. *10 a.m. *Procession with Donkey
St. Mary's, 10 a.m.
- March 28, Holy Thursday
Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
Ss. Peter and Paul, Waterloo, 7 pm; St. Mary's 7 p.m.
- March 29, Good Friday
Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Ss. Peter and Paul, Waterloo, 7 p.m.; St. Mary's 7 p.m.
Stations of the Cross
Ss. Peter and Paul, Waterloo 3 p.m
- March 30, Holy Saturday
Easter Vigil in the Holy Night
Ss. Peter and Paul, Waterloo, 8pm; St. Mary's 8 p.m.
- March 31, Easter Sunday
Ss. Peter and Paul, Waterloo, 8 a.m. 10 a.m.; St. Mary's 10 a.m.

Prayer Opportunities

- Living Stations of the Cross, SSPPCC
Wednesday, March 27, 8 p.m.

Adoration

- XLT Adoration
Wednesday, March 20, 7 p.m.

Reconciliation- SSPPCC

- Wednesday, March 6, 6:45 p.m, PSR Reconciliation
- Monday, March 18, 6:30 p.m., Parish Reconciliation
- Wednesday, March 20, 10 a.m.-noon, School Reconciliation

Ss Peter and Paul Catholic Church Parish Fish Fry Date-
Friday, March 22nd 4:30-7p.m.