

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. 9- March 3rd, 2024

THEME FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT: The law liberates and leads us to freedom. It is to be trusted for it is a source of wisdom. Jesus speaks of the ultimate freedom to be won for us by his being raised up. He is the sign of the power and wisdom of God.

MASS INTENTIONS:

- Fri. 3/1 8:00am- Delmar and Wylma Wachtel
- Sat. 3/2 5:00pm- Joe Wittenauer and Ervin Eckart
- Sun. 3/3 8:00am- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's
- Fri. 3/8 8:00am- Deceased Members of the Knights of Columbus
- Sat. 3/9 5:00pm- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's
- Sun. 3/10 8:00am- Don Braun, Mary Rettinghouse, and Sydney Furman



OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 2/25/2024:

Envelopes (77)- \$5,823.47

Loose-\$211.00

Youth-\$11.00

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

*Scholarship Fund - \$2339.00 (Total
Donated since 8/1/2023)*

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, March 9th, 5:00pm

Set Up: Donna Rheinecker
Servers: Patrick Murphy
Lector: Donna Rheinecker
Extraordinary Minister: Gary Wittenauer
Extraordinary Minister (W): Angie Parker
Extraordinary Minister (W): Marvin Parker
Camera: Joan Powell

Sunday, March 10th, 8:00am

Set Up: Sr. Joan Weiler
Servers: Doerrs
Lector: Ruth Wittenauer
Extraordinary Minister: Bernadette Gregson
Extraordinary Minister (W): Ryan Grohmann
Extraordinary Minister (W): Lucas Gregson
Camera: Andrew Donius

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, and Sydney Furman.

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



Anointing of the Sick will be THIS weekend following both Masses.

Stations of the Cross is held weekly on Wednesday evenings at 7pm, and following Friday 8am Mass.

Father Linus has traveled to Nigeria and will be away until March 13th, 2024. During this time, Father John will be available for any assistance you may need. Father Linus has email, and you can also use the "WhatsUp App" to call/text him as well. Many travel prayers and blessings to you Father Linus!!! Enjoy your family!!

FROM THE PASTOR...

FR. JOHN IGWE

INTRO TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

As we continue our journey this third Sunday of Lent we are called to reflect on the ten commandments to keep paying our allegiance to God, to be loyal, obedient and respect God. It is important also to re-dedicate ourselves to Christ this is because he is the fulfillment of God's commandments.

REFLECTION FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

In our first reading from Exodus, God gave the Law to Moses for Israel. The Law was given to Israel to help them become wiser. It was also given to them in order to strengthen their relationship with God and to help them organize their social and religious life.

Hence, the commandments of God are meant to form us into a sacred community. That is, a community rooted in the genuine worship of God. A community that lives in justice and peace with one another. Therefore, we are to live as neighbors, respecting one another. The ultimate and remote purpose of this, is also to know, respect and worship only one God our creator.

While the old Law was given through Moses, the new Law (Covenant) given through, and in Christ fulfills it. God reveals Himself precisely in His commandment. Hence, as the fullness of God's commandments, Christ is the channel through which God receives and loves us.

In our second reading, Paul reminds us that Christ is: "The fullness of God's wisdom." The Greeks searched for this wisdom. Unfortunately, they ignorantly rejected Him. So, instead of benefiting from Him, they were misled by the wisdom of this world. According to Paul, Christ is the fullness of the law and the wisdom of God. So, whoever finds and receives him, will be filled with wisdom, and will never walk in ignorance.

"Whoever receives him will never walk in darkness again" (Jn 8, 12). Darkness is opposed to wisdom. So, whoever has not received Christ the fullness of wisdom, even though, he walks according to the wisdom of this world, lives in darkness.

In today's gospel, John narrates Jesus' encounter with those profaning God's Sanctuary. His action simply demonstrates that He is actually God's wisdom and the fullness of the Law. His zeal distinguished Him, from the authorities. Instead of representing God's interest, they represented their selfish economic and social interests. It also, distinguishes Him from temple pilgrims who simply visited the temple without real devotion to God.

What do we learn from today's gospel? First, we are not supposed keep quiet or remain indifferent while things go wrong. This is especially in the house of God, our homes, offices or any place at all. Also, we must not allow our personal destroy the sanity of our church, family, state, or country. The Church is the house of God and a place of worship. We must keep it holy and respect it. Also, it reminds us that our body, and the body of Christ is the Temple of God. So, we must not defile it.

SAVE
THE
DATES
July 7
July 8



Bishop Michael McGovern
and The Diocese of Belleville
Invite you to
Emmaus Days

Come encounter Jesus, the Bread of Life, as the
Diocese of Belleville celebrates the Eucharistic Revival.

Sunday, July 7
National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows

Bible Stories and Craft for Kids
Retreat for Teens and Talks for Adults
Adoration
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Eucharistic Procession

Monday, July 8
Cathedral of St. Peter

Mass at St. Peter Cathedral
Adoration
Procession to Collinsville

Bibles & Bourbon
March 17 6:30 pm
AFF House

Save the date!

Bourbon tasting with short bible study sessions
between tasting. Light snacks provided. You may
want to bring your favorite palate-cleansing beer.
If you are planning on attending, please call or text
David or Nathan for planning purposes; however,
reservations are not required.

David Miskel
618-406-4250

Nathan Higginson
618-980-9078



QUILT AND CASH BINGO

SUNDAY, MARCH 17,

2024

*St. Joseph Parish Center
6 North Alton Street
Freeburg, IL 62243*

*Lightning Raffle – 12:30 p.m.
Quilt and Cash Bingo – 1:30 p.m.
License #BL-52634*

No one under 18 permitted to play bingo.

*All prize quilts are hand quilted by the St. Joseph's Quilting
Ladies Group.*

Quilt Raffle – 50/50 – Theme Basket Raffle... Plus
More!

Doors Open at 9:30 a.m.

Lunch – 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

*Sloppy Joes, Pork Sausage Sandwiches,
Chips, Fruit Cups, and Desserts*

Snacks and drinks served all afternoon



***Cash Only; No Debit or Credit
Cards.***

We Appreciate Your Business!



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!

If your 8th grader or current high school student is interested in shadowing, there are visit days open for them. 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>

Spring Sports

Spring sports begin soon! Come cheer on our Softball, Baseball, Girls' Soccer, Boys' Volleyball, and Track Teams. Visit www.gibalthawks.com/calendar for full schedules! Go Hawks!

GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

GRADES 6-8

AMPLIFY

ART, MATH AND POETRY CONTESTS

A **ART CONTEST**
Categories: Drawing, Painting, Other 2D Art
Submit work to your school office by 3pm on Friday, March 1st. Mrs. LeSaulnier will collect it.

M **MATH CONTEST**
3:30-3:45 Check-in 4:45-5:30 Break/Trivia
3:45-4:00 Welcome 5:30-5:45 Awards
4:15-4:45 Testing *Register at QR code below*

P **POETRY CONTEST**
Submit an original poem, 40 line maximum, to Haley Kovarik at hkovarik@gibalthawks.com by 3pm on Friday, March 1st.

Awards for All Contests Presented on
THURSDAY, MARCH 14TH
5:30PM



DIOCESAN INFORMATION

RESPECT FOR LIFE CORNER

The Gospel of Life is “meant to be a precise and vigorous reaffirmation of the value of human life and its inviolability, and at the same time a pressing appeal addressed to each and every person, in the name of God: respect, protect, love and serve life, every human life! Only in this direction will you find justice, development, true freedom, peace and happiness!” (*The Gospel of Life 5*).

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

Thank you to the households that have already pledged to support the mission of the Church to teach, preach, minister, and serve in the name of Jesus through their financial support of The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. So far **\$3,070.00** has been pledged by our parish members. If you have not yet responded, please make every effort to do so. Thank you for your consideration and generosity!

PLEDGES TO DATE: 15

47% OF OUR GOAL MET!!!

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS- UPDATED 2-29-24!!

- **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
- **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 3, 2024-St. Charles Church, DuBois, IL; 10:30 AM Polka Mass**
Polish food served at parish hall from 10 AM till gone. Raffles, 50/50 drawing, baskets, silent auctions, and Polka dancing will be available. The big parade starts at 1 PM down main street DuBois.
- **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.
- **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.



Maris Stella once served her country. Her military career began at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis. Her initial assignment was as gunnery officer on a destroyer off the coast of South America in pursuit of drug traffickers. “I served in the Navy, and I tasted many of the good things that this world has to offer but I knew my heart was made for something more.” When I met the Sisters of Life, it was everything in my heart being lived out in a joyful way...offering support and resources to pregnant women and mothers and helping women who suffer after abortion. She entered the Sisters of Life in 2006 and in 2015, she moved to Denver to start a new convent “because women in college are very vulnerable...”

Sr. Maris Stella; Denver Sisters of Life *Catholic War Veterans Magazine; March 2024*



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**

The **Serra Club of St. Clair County** is hosting an evening with Bishop Michael McGovern on “*Promoting Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life*”.

Who: Any adult wanting to promote vocations

Where: St. Nicholas Parish, O’Fallon Il.

When: Tuesday, March 5th, 2024

6:00 P.M. - Mass celebrated by Bishop McGovern in the Parish Chapel

6:30 P.M.— Light dinner and drinks in Parish Hall

7:00 P.M.— Remarks by Bishop McGovern on encouraging Vocations. The evening is **free**. We ask for an RSVP to ensure we have enough dinner/refreshments.

Contact Marvin Winkeler for more info— mewinkel51@gmail.com or call/text 402-214-1155.

Or RSVP from our website—www.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: Br. Pat McGee, OMI and Virginia Herbers

Weekends in March and April, March 8, 9 and 10; March 15, 16 and 17; March 22, 23 and 24; April 5, 6 and 7; April 12, 13 and 14, 2024. Starts on Friday at 4:00pm through Sunday's at 2:00pm

Our women's retreat allows you to experience our "I Want to See You" retreat while encompassing your inner light. 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. Spend the weekend learning the realization – no matter where we are or what we're doing, Jesus sees us.

Cost: \$200.00 per person (includes lodging and meals).

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

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.

Spring Event Weekend at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal in Perryville, Missouri. Saturday, March 16: A Relic Display featuring new relics of St. Patrick, St. Frances Cabrini, St. Anthony, St. Timothy, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, and fragments of the True Cross and the Last Supper Table will be on exhibit from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Two priests will be available from 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. A musical performance by "The Dining Room Consort" will take place at 3:00 p.m.

On Sunday, March 17, at 1:00 p.m., a presentation titled "Transforming Hearts" will be given by best-selling author Marge Steinhage Fenelon.

The relics will be on exhibit from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. For more information regarding upcoming events, please contact us at 1-800-264-6279 or visit our website at www.amm.org.