

WELCOME TO ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

HECKER, ILLINOIS 62248

REV. LINUS UMOREN, ADMINISTRATOR

PARISH OFFICE 618-473-2217 E-MAIL ADDRESS: staug@htc.net

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

To contact Father Linus Umoren, CM, please call Parish Office

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

House of Neighborly Service Help Line 618-939-8680

Confessions: Heard Saturdays from 4:30 to 4:50 pm (When priests are available)

VOL. 60 NO. 16 April 20th, 2025

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord: On this day of days, we offer a joyful sacrifice who raised his Son from the dead. Let us be intent upon the life Christ offers us, Christ our Passover who has been sacrificed.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Easter Vigil, Saturday, 4/19
Easter Sunday, 4/20

7:00pm- For our Parish at St. Augustine's
8:00am- Don Braun, Ronnie Kelley, and Michael Amann

Friday, 4/25

8:00am- Norma Reichman, Joe Wittenauer, and
A Special Intention

Saturday, 4/26
Sunday, 4/27

5:00pm- For our Parish at St. Augustine's
8:00am- Jerry & Duane Mollet, and
Shirley & Urban Wittenauer



OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 4/13/2025:

Weekly Envelopes (112) – \$3,691.00

Loose- \$275.00

Youth- \$3.00

Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-24)-
\$2,973.14

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

Saturday, April 26th, 2025, 5pm

Set Up: Cindy Grohmann
Servers: Mallory Kern
Lector: Cindy Grohmann
Extraordinary Minister: Angi Kern
Extraordinary Minister (W): Marvin Parker
Extraordinary Minister (W): Angie Parker

Sunday, April 27th, 2025, 8am

Set Up: Sister Joan
Servers: Doerrs
Lector: Betty Schreder
Extraordinary Minister: Dale Haudrich
Extraordinary Minister (W): Raeleen Neary
Extraordinary Minister (W): Margie Holle

Please pray for the following:

Darlene Frisch, Jeanelle Dinan, Madalyn Killebrew, Kenny Kern, 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, Annette Lovelace, Geri Griffin, Melissa Stellhorn, Rhonda Mehring-Smith, Gary Rist, Sydney Furman, Delbert Wittenauer, Dorothy Christiansen, Gary Wittenauer, Debbie Harbaugh, Jerry Castens, and Robin Booth.

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



Welcome to St. Augustine's of Canterbury! Whether this is your first time, or you have been here for years, you are warmly welcomed to the BEST little parish with the biggest heart!

We hope you enjoy today's Easter Mass, and we hope you and your family are blessed this holiday weekend! We would love to see you return!

FROM THE PASTOR...

Father Linus Umoren, C.M.

Reflection for Easter Sunday

Happy Easter! Did you know that Easter is the greatest of all Sundays? It is the core mystery of our Christian faith.

Young Ernie and his family were invited to have Easter Sunday lunch at his grandmother's house. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When Ernie received his plate, he started eating straight away. 'Ernie, wait until we say grace,' demanded his father. 'I don't have to,' the five-year-old replied. 'Of course you do, Ernest,' his mother insisted rather forcefully. 'We always say a prayer before eating at our house.' 'That's at our house,' Ernie explained, 'but this is Grandma's house, and she knows how to cook.'

One question I always like to reflect on during Easter is: Christmas and Easter, which is more important to Christianity? The answer is arguable, depending on what we deem essential. However, the two celebrations are part of the mega redemption story. Christ's incarnation at Christmas begins the tale of the loving action of God, which came to its peak on the Cross. Therefore, the wood of the Cross becomes the transitional symbol of hope and triumph. St. Paul would say, "the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God" (I Cor 1:18 NAB). This power of God is made manifest at the resurrection of Christ. At times Easter has been associated to springtime event because of the concept of new life, but if we reduce Easter to the metaphor of the springtime event, we miss the meaning of the power of God.

Moreover, Easter reveals to us that life is stronger than death. It teaches us that love is more significant than hate or separation and that mercy overcomes judgment. Whenever we gather at the bed of a dying loved one, the hope of resurrection reminds us that this life's sufferings, pains, and difficulties are transient, though painful; for sure, they do not have the last word and cannot represent the final experience.

Additionally, at Easter, we do not just celebrate the resurrection of Christ, which happened two thousand years ago. Rather we reenact our participation in Christ's resurrection through our baptism. Thus, Easter renews our faith in the resurrection of the dead and the new life to come. The empty tomb of Jesus challenges us and rallies our spirits. It points us to a living and presents God in every situation and every person. To celebrate Easter is to renew our faith in God, who regularly breaks into our personal histories, challenges our assumptions and points us to something other than what we are familiar with. Finally, to celebrate Easter is to see the triumph of God's power over our challenging experiences. Friends, Christ has risen! Alleluia and the tomb remain empty! Alleluia.



EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS IN Memory of...

Charles Macke; Clem Orlet; Eugene & Teresa Triller and
Kenny Grohmann; Virgil Gregson; Stellhorn & Roscow Families;
Powell & Huss Families; Jerry & Duane Mollet; Roy Schreder;
Dale Griffin; Cyril and Emma Haudrich;
Don Haudrich & the Leo Toenjes Family;
Judy Fizer & Teddy Reaka, Sr.; James Neary;
Amie Gregson & Quentin & Veronica Gregson;
Deceased Members of the Bushong & Warnecke Families;
Lois Papenberg, Victor & Elizabeth Papenberg,
and Edward & Helen Kohler;
Amann and Voellinger Families;
Vincent Harter, Marvin Eckart, and Edmund & Esther Eckart;
and Ervin Eckart.

Announcements:

-Finance Committee meeting will be held next Thursday, April 24th beginning at 6:30pm followed by Parish Council Meeting @ 7:30pm.

-The Kirchenfest Committee is looking for a Tiki Trot Chairman- please reach out to Aaron Eckart if you are interested @ 618-920-5258.

- **Rice bowls are due back!**



First Communion at St. Augustine's is Sunday, May 4th, 8am Mass. First Communicant will be Forrest Doerr.

Gibault Catholic High School News

The 24-25 School Year is very quickly winding down! We are still scheduling shadow visits – this is a great time for 7th graders to check out what life like a Hawk is all about! Our Glow Game Night for 6th-8th graders starts at 6pm tonight, in the school cafeteria.

Students can be dropped off and picked up by the gym door. Come have some Glow in the Dark fun with us! Our sports teams are gearing up for summer camps! Our student actors are working hard to present “Little Women”. The show will be open from April 24-27.

Hope you can join us!

The 2025 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal *Hope in the Lord*



Easter Blessings

We pray that God may bless you and your loved ones with the peace, the hope and the love that the Lord gave to us all through the Resurrection of Jesus.

**Bishop Michael McGovern
and the
Ministries and Agencies Funded by
The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal**

Please consider a gift to the appeal today!

PLEDGES TO DATE: 17 58% OF OUR GOAL MET

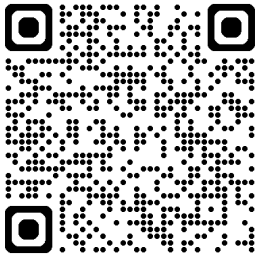
\$3,910.00.00 Pledged as of 4/19/2025 \$6,718.00 is the Parish Financial Target

Special Presentation at the National Shrine

Please join the Association of the Miraculous Medal for a special presentation, “The Logic of Being Catholic,” by Dr. Ray Guarendi on Saturday, May 3, at 6:30 p.m. at the National Shrine in Perryville, Missouri. Dr. Ray is a Catholic father of ten, clinical psychologist, author, professional speaker, and national radio and television host. His radio show, “The Doctor Is In,” can be heard on over 440 stations and SiriusXM® channel 130. His EWTN television series, “Living Right With Dr. Ray,” is aired in 142 countries. He captivates audiences with his compelling, humor-laced presentations, providing practical advice and proven techniques.

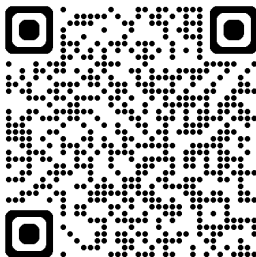
From the Deacons Desk

As you probably know by now, Bishop McGovern has been appointed Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Omaha Nebraska. He will be installed as Archbishop of Omaha on May 7. Here's a link and a QR code to his letter to the people of the Diocese of Belleville <https://www.diobelle.org/our-bishop/writings/2494-throughout-the-years>



This of course raises many questions for all of us, one of which is when we will get a new Bishop and how long will it take. The process begins in our diocese with the Bishop, then recommendations go to Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago (our province), then to the Papal Nuncio to the United States in Washington DC, then goes to the Dicastery for Bishops in the Vatican, and finally the Pope decides. This often takes six to eight months—and sometimes longer—from the time a diocese becomes vacant until a new bishop is appointed. The following is a link and a QR code to information from the US Bishops with all the details of the process.

<https://www.usccb.org/offices/general-secretariat/appointing-bishops>



-Deacon Tom

DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE INFORMATION

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

RESPECT FOR LIFE CORNER

“Like us, Christ entered the world through the womb of a woman. He willingly experienced the fullness of human suffering. He breathed his last on the Cross at Calvary in order that He might save us. Therefore, ‘God is the foundation of hope: not any god, but the God who has a human face and who has loved us to the end’ (*Spe salvi* 31).”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

“Respect Life Reflection: Christ Our Hope in Every Season of Life” (citing Pope Benedict XVI, *Spe salvi* © 2007, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.)

Hallelujah!! He is Risen! All our souls have been redeemed. What a wonderful legacy! We need to share this Redemption story with others – our Calling as Catholics. This is what we commemorate through each celebration of the Eucharist which allows us to receive our Lord in Holy Communion. We need to witness to this fact through our daily lives – talking with our classmates, taking care of our spouses and children, engaging with our friends and family, with our co-workers – in all we do! This is our vocation - a Call to Holiness.





NATIONAL SHRINE *of* OUR LADY *of the* SNOWS

Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate

National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows – Visitors Center

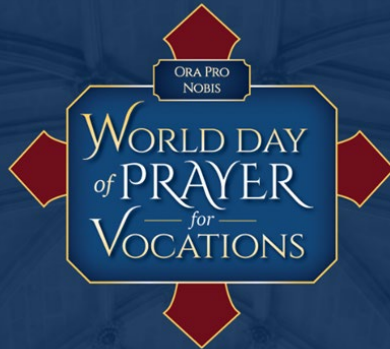
Memorial and Traditional Planting- Starting May 29, 2024

As Pope Francis noted in his book *Laudato si'*, “Nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves or as a mere setting in which we live. We are part of nature, included in it and thus in constant interaction with it”.

The Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows is a very beautiful oasis in Belleville, IL., hosting not only many devotional sites, but an abundance of trees, flowers, bushes, and plants to honor God’s creations. We love to share our beautiful gardens and nature with thousands of visitors each year and are beginning this program to honor your loved ones or to start a family tradition for your future generations.

For information on pricing, plants and location, please go to <https://snows.org/memorial-and-traditional-planting/> or call 618-397-6700.

PRAY FOR THOSE CALLED TO PRIESTHOOD & RELIGIOUS LIFE



SUNDAY, MAY 11, 2025

WORLDDAYOFPRAYERFORVOCATIONS.COM

BELLEVILLE TEC (TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST)

Do you remember the Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) Catholic retreat program? Are you a teenager or young adult (age 17 or older) who is looking for an opportunity to strengthen your relationship with Jesus Christ? Have you ever experienced a TEC retreat and would like one of your loved ones to have the same opportunity? Are you a youth leader who is looking for a retreat program to offer to your Christian youth community? Are you just looking for an opportunity to help share your faith with the young people of the Belleville Diocese? If you answered yes to any of these questions, please contact the Belleville Diocesan TEC board for additional information about upcoming retreat weekends. Belleville.tec@gmail.com or contact bellevilletec.org to apply.



HAPPY EASTER!!!

Sharing the Gospel

Mary Magdalene was surprised when she found the empty tomb of Jesus. She ran and told Peter and John that his body was gone. Peter and John ran to the tomb. They found no body, just strips of cloth. One piece was the cloth that covered the face of Jesus. Peter and John knew that Jesus was not in the grave, even though they did not understand what it meant to rise from the dead.

Prayer

Jesus, you died and rose from the dead so I can share your life on earth and in heaven. Thank you.

Something to Draw

Draw Mary, Peter, and John looking inside the empty tomb.

Mission for the Week

I will tell someone that Jesus is alive.



Easter Sunday • John 20:1-9

Diocesan Spring Farm Blessing

All are invited to join Bishop McGovern for the Spring Farm Blessing which will be held on Wednesday, April 23, 2025, at 1:00 P.M. at the Ruppert Family Farm, 597 Tulip Road, Coulterville, IL 62237

Travel Directions:

FROM BELLEVILLE:

Take Rt 15 East going through Marissa - (55 min-41mi)

In Marissa: Turn LEFT onto E. Lyons St

In 4.2 miles turn LEFT onto IL-13 E (toward Tilden)

In 6.5 miles turn RIGHT onto County Line Rd

In 2.3 miles turn LEFT onto Tulip Rd

In 1.2 miles turn LEFT to arrive at the farm

(The farm will be on your left. Turn in the second driveway by the mailbox)

FROM PINCKNEYVILLE:

In Pinckneyville: At the roundabout, take the first exit onto Kennedy Dr. - Route 13

In 11 miles turn LEFT onto Snapdragon Rd

In 1.7 miles turn RIGHT onto Tulip Rd

In 1.0 miles turn RIGHT to arrive at the farm

(The farm will be on your right. Turn in the first driveway by the mailbox)

“Farm Blessing” signs will guide you along the way. Those attending are invited to bring harvested grain, fruit, vegetables and garden produce in sealed, marked containers along with animals and farm machinery to be blessed.

Bring marked containers along with animals and farm machinery to be blessed. Non-perishable food items for the needy of the area will be collected. We look forward to having you join us!



**Society of St. Vincent de Paul
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Conference**

We are a Catholic lay organization providing service to the needy and suffering. Our Conference includes the parishes of:

- St. Augustine of Canterbury-Hecker
- St. Mary-Valmeyer
- St. Patrick-Tipton
- Saints Peter & Paul-Waterloo

Telephone numbers are 939-0605 and 618-792-4059

Mailing address is P.O. Box 443, Waterloo, IL 62298

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at Adult Faith Formation House at 7:00 PM. New members are always welcome

SEXUAL ABUSE HOTLINE:

Anyone wishing to report an allegation of sexual misconduct by priest or other diocesan personnel please call the hotline:

800-640-3044.

**Purchase SPPCS "Scrip Cards" for your shopping
and gift giving needs!**

**Scrip cards make great gifts and in addition, consider
purchasing "scrip cards" to use in place of cash, checks or
credit cards for purchases you make.**

How does that help St. Augustine families? Each SPPS student family is required to earn \$250 each year in fund raising. Plus, each student must pay \$400 registration and book fees. Then the tuition begins. At the end of each month the rebates from scrip sales are tabulated and applied to the family's account. You may designate a particular family or St. Augustine students as a group in which case it will be equally divided. Please consider trying this program and perhaps add an item each month to help our parish support the SPPS/St Aug. families with absolutely no cost to you. **St. Augustine's contact for the Scrip Program is Angi Kern. You may reach her at 618/973-7580 (call or text) or email her at 51014wedding@gmail.com.**

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2620 Lebanon Ave.
Belleville, IL 62221

Meet us on the web:
[www.bellevillemessenger.](http://www.bellevillemessenger.com)

APRIL

Is Child Abuse Prevention Month



Did you know... Did you know... What is happening in the diocese to protect children?

- Training is provided for all adults and youth to identify warning signs and develop strategies for maintaining a safe environment for all.
- A designated Review Board Administrator and Victim Assistance Coordinator is available to receive reports and accompany victims through their journey.
- A volunteer independent Review Board assists the bishop in the review of cases and makes recommendations for moving forward.
- A Safe Environment Coordinator assists parish and school personnel with training and background screenings for anyone who may have access to children.
- An audit is conducted by an independent firm to evaluate the implementation of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. Findings are incorporated with those of other dioceses and made available in an Annual Report.