

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. 61 NO. 31 August 3rd, 2025

Theme for the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Listen carefully to the voice of the Lord, set your heart on what will last forever. We only fool ourselves if we believe that our possessions will bring us happiness and life. Instead, "grow rich in the sight of the Lord."

MASS INTENTIONS:

Friday, 8/01	8:00am- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's
Saturday, 8/02	5:00pm- Wally Amann, Joe Jung
Sunday, 8/03	8:00am- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's
Friday, 8/08	8:00am- Norbert Wittenauer
Saturday, 8/09	5:00pm- Ralph & Lucille Recker
Sunday, 8/10	8:00am- Jerry & Duane Mollet

OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 6/29/2025:

Weekly Envelopes- \$3287.00
Loose- \$129.00
Youth- \$

Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-24)-
\$3,220.14

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

Saturday, August 9th, 2025, 5pm

Set Up: Cindy Grohmann

Servers: Mehrmanns

Lector: Kevin Schreder

Extraordinary Minister: Gary Wittenauer

Extraordinary Minister (W): Marvin Parker

Extraordinary Minister (W): Angie Parker

Camera:

Sunday, August 10th, 2025, 8am

Set Up: Arnie Eckart

Servers: Lucas Gregson

Lector: Kay Haudrich

Extraordinary Minister: Dale Haudrich

Extraordinary Minister (W): Betty Schreder

Extraordinary Minister (W): Ruth Wittenauer

Camera:



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.

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



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

Did you know **YOUR GIFT** to the 2025 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal can be made online? Visit your Belleville Diocese's website at www.diobelle.org and click on "Giving".

It's that simple! Every donation – large or small – is needed to continue our diocesan ministry to those in need. We are counting on **YOU**. Please visit www.diobelle.org today!

PLEDGES TO DATE: 28 88 % OF OUR GOAL MET

\$5,955.00 pledged of 8/3/2025 \$6,718.00 is the Parish Financial Target

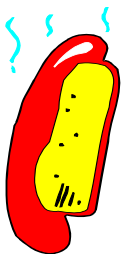
Reflection for 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time year C

The first reading today comes from one of the wisdom books in the Old Testament sometimes called by the Hebrews as Qoheleth which the Greek translated as Ecclesiastes. It reminds us of the passing nature of things which were described as vanity. In Hebrew, the word vanity means something that is without value or substance. The author seems to have enjoyed all the pleasures of life and yet none of them offered him lasting satisfaction. The author concludes by advising everyone not to be too attached to things of this world while we enjoy each day as it comes. The book was written at a time when the Jews had no clear knowledge and faith to the idea of reward and punishment, heaven or hell.

Nevertheless, Jesus in the gospel offered a clearer answer to the question of essence of life and the attitude man need to have in regard to things of this world. Jesus called the rich farmer a fool because he never saw beyond himself and was aggressively self-centered. He thought he had everything he needed in life. He was rich in earthly things but not in the Lord. The implication of being called a fool is the fact that he had a limited thinking and sense of value. In the second reading today St Paul admonished that we should think of what is in heaven and not just what is on earth. Jesus condemned the action of the rich farmer and warns him to stay alert and ward off all kinds of greed which can covet money, power, sex, fame, etc. Greed can be an endless search for more material things and ends up in no satisfaction. It is one of the capital sins and can give rise to cheating, lying, stealing, fighting etc. Jesus is not saying that success and riches are bad. But when our focus is just to get rich by all means and build our security on it and have cold heart towards the suffering of others.

The rich farmer never saw beyond this world. He forgot he was not in control. He never thought of the future that one day he would leave all his wealth behind. He failed to consider the third commandment which tells us to worship God and honor Him with all we have. Secondly, he failed to use his money to help those in need. 1Cor 4:7 says, "what do you have that you did not receive from God and if you have received them, why are you so proud". We need to love God and our neighbor and keep the balance.

Family inheritances today could also have destructive effects as they did in the past. Brothers and sisters of the same family could go to war over their parents' estate. They hire lawyers and grab at each other in squabbles over material wealth and property. Jesus is asking all to look beyond material benefits and thank God for the give of life and remember those who are less privileged than us.



PICNIC



We are looking to fill the chairperson position of the dessert stand at the dinner for next year's Kirchenfest. The current chairperson is retiring after this year. You could work in the dessert stand this year and learn the procedures. Keep in mind, this job is in the air-conditioned hall. If you are interested in chairing the dessert stand, please contact the parish secretary or Aaron Eckart.

Kid's Games

The Chairperson of the kids' game Plinko is asking for \$10 toys for the stand, 1 for boys and 1 for girls. No need to make a basket, the stand chairperson will put these items together in a plastic bag. You can drop the toys off at Laurel Jung's house, the church, or the parish office. Bags will also be provided on the table in the back of church.

Also needed for the Plinko stand are workers, 8th grade or high school to help the day of the picnic. Good for service hours. Call Laurel for more information 618-340-1906

Dressing Prep and Dressing Making

There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church on the table for volunteers needed to help make dressing for the Kirchenfest dinner. Dressing prep will take place at the Community Center on Wednesday August 13 at 6:00 pm. Making the dressing will take place at the Community Center on Friday August 15th after mass.

Please realize many volunteers are needed to make our picnic a success.

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

“We thank you, heroic mothers, for your invincible love! We thank you for your intrepid trust in God and in his love. We thank you for the sacrifice of your life” (EV 86).

Pope Saint John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae* © 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana.
Used with permission. All rights reserved.



“My family taught me the value of sacrifice. As I grew up, watching Mom give of herself to raise us boys and Dad lay down his life to provide for our needs, I observed that true love is sacrificial love. When I left home at 18 to work, I chose to continue to practice my Catholic faith. In addition to attending Sunday Mass, I decided to read sacred Scripture and pray the rosary regularly. Eventually, this led to the discipline of going to daily Mass. That was when I started to fall in love with Jesus in the Eucharist. Over the next several years, my heart began to revolve around Our Lord. Though I desired to be married and raise a family, I wanted more than anything to fulfill the Father’s will. The stage was thus set for the call to the priesthood I received at the age of 28. Though the sacrifice of leaving human ambitions behind was tough, I responded out of love.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Father Linus will be traveling to Nigeria to visit his family from July 11- August 19th, 2025.

Blessing of the sick is this weekend after Saturday evening 5:00 mass and after Sunday morning 8:00 mass.

The Kirchenfest is planned for Saturday, August 16th, 2025! Save it on your calendar!

Raffle tickets can be turned in anytime. You can put them in the collection basket or drop them off at the parish office or bring them to the raffle stand, the day of the Kirchenfest.

Silent auction items can be dropped off at the parish office as well as baskets or bags for the adult and kids' basket stand.

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

YOU have the opportunity to support the four men who have answered "YES" to God's call to serve in the Priesthood of Jesus Christ in our Belleville Diocese. The annual cost for each of our seminarians is over \$50,000. Funding from the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal helps support the expenses of our seminarians and Vocation Office; **your pledge or one-time gift** is truly an investment in our faith and the life of the Church here in southern Illinois. Please continue to pray for vocations and consider making your gift today!