

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)

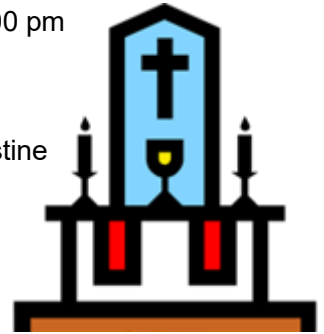
VOL. 62 NO. 14 April 5th, 2026

Theme for Easter Sunday The Resurrection of the Lord

On this day of days, we offer a joyful sacrifice of praise to the Father 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:

Friday 04/03	8:00 – No Mass – Good Friday Service at 7:00 pm
Saturday, 04/04	7:00 pm – For the Parish of St. Augustine
Sunday, 04/05	8:00 am- Easter - For the Parish of St. Augustine
Friday, 04/10	8:00 am – Wally & Michael Amann
Saturday, 04/11	5:00pm- Ruth Cortner
Sunday, 04/12	8:00am- For the Parish of St. Augustine



OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 03-30-26:

Weekly Envelopes- \$2105.00

Loose- \$177

Youth-

Fifth Sunday Collection -\$337.00

Donated to St. Vincent de Paul Society

Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-25)-

\$3185.30

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

Saturday April 11th, 2026, 5:00pm

Set Up: Kevin Schreder
Servers: Mallery Kern & Blake Koester
Lector: Kevin Schreder
Extraordinary Minister: Marvin Parker
Extraordinary Minister (W):Angie Parker
Extraordinary Minister (W):Annette Schreder
Camera:

Sunday April 12th, 2026, 8:00 am

Set Up: Elaine Rader
Servers: Doerr's
Lector: Elaine Rader
Extraordinary Minister: Kyle Doerr
Extraordinary Minister: Shelly Fizer
Extraordinary Minister: Ryan Grohmann
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, Sydney Furman, Dorothy Christiansen, Arline Wittenauer, Andy Amann.



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 2026 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

Serve the Lord with gladness.

-Psalm 100

“Each year the faithful of our Belleville Diocese are asked to help the works of Christ continue and grow through their support of the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. By making a gift you are helping build up the Body of Christ in our various ministries and providing help for the poor and vulnerable.”

-Bishop Michael McGovern

Please consider a gift to the appeal today!

PLEDGES TO DATE: 17 35% OF OUR GOAL MET

\$2435.00 Pledged as of 3/29/20256 \$6856.00 is the Parish Financial Target

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Anointing of the sick will be April 11 and 12 since the first Sunday is Easter weekend.**
- **A Kirchenfest Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 13, 2026, at 7:00 at the Parish Center. This meeting is for Stand Chairmen and anyone from the parish who is interested in helping to plan the Kirchenfest for 2026.**
- **Extra palms are being stored in the confessional in the back of church. Please help yourself.**
- **Please turn in your rice bowl, It is not too late.**
- **Let the office know if you would like to donate items or cash to the rectory project for our new Priest, Fr. Bala.**

Lighting the Way

**Life Network of Southern Illinois
Invites you to our 2026 Spring Fundraiser
Thursday April 9, 2026
The Falls Reception Center, 300 Admiral Weinel Blvd,
Columbia, IL 62236
Guest Speaker is Rebekah Hagan
Doors open at 5:30, Event begins at 6:30**



Pray for Vocations

Hallelujah! He is Risen! All our souls have been redeemed. What a wonderful legacy! Mary Magdalen's sorrow is soon changed to great joy! She ran to tell the Apostles and again back to the tomb. She saw and believed. This Resurrection story is what we are charged with sharing 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. Our daily witness to this fact is our goal - 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.

Respect 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.)

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:

A Reflection for Easter Sunday

Christmas or Easter, which is more important to Christians? While many people in our world celebrate Christmas with a big dinner and party, it is mainly Christians who celebrate the Lord Resurrection each year. And because Easter is not a big commercial event, many Christians, including Catholics, consider Easter as a celebration with a “lesser” dignity or importance. So, this begs the question: is Christmas actually more important than Easter?

The first premise to this question is that Easter and Christmas are the highest rank feasts on the Church’s calendar. Although many traditions hold Easter as the most important day in the entire liturgical year, the two celebrations are part of one redemptive story. At Christmas, the incarnation of Christ begins the story 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 power. 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. That is why we would miss the meaning of the power of God if we reduce Easter to the metaphor of the spring event. Let us put it this way: 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. When we gather at the bed of a dying loved one, the 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.

Make no mistake! Easter is not just a celebration of the resurrection of Christ, which happened two thousand years ago. Rather, it celebrates our participation in Christ's resurrection through our baptism. Thus, at Easter our faith in the resurrection of the dead and the new life to come is renewed. Moreover, the empty tomb of Jesus challenges us and rallies our spirits. It points us to God who is both alive and present in every situation and for every person. Therefore, our celebration of Easter renews our faith in God, who regularly breaks into our personal histories, challenge our assumptions and point us to something other than what we are familiar with. Finally, at Easter we see the triumph of God's power over our challenging experiences. Therefore, we remain an Easter people because Christ has risen, and the tomb is and remains empty.

A Message from Ryan Grohmann our Trustee at St. Augustine's

We are excited to welcome Father Bala to our parish and living in our historical rectory. While the building is solid, it has been many years since we had someone living there full time so there is some updating that is needed to make it more welcoming for Father Bala and any guests. We are looking for any support you can provide with your time or treasure to help facilitate these improvements. The list below is what is already identified, we expect to add a few things to this list in the next week or two. If you have new or like new items to cover these needs, have the skills to help with labor noted, wish to donate to cover the cost of some of these items, or have questions please contact Barb at the Parish office, or reach out to trustees Ryan Grohmann or Larry Schaltenbrand. Some of these tasks below will need to be addressed right away, but others may take a month or two to coordinate and get all the supplies. We are anxious to get the place ready for move in day! Let us know if you're able and willing to help out. Thank you

- Someone to do a deep cleaning of the house
- A few sets of bath towels
- Ceiling fan with light - possible replacement
- Smart, flat screen TV (or 2)
- Lighting in the office, fixture very old
- There are other lighting fixtures that could be updated.
- The kitchen flooring needs replacement - currently linoleum, maybe go to vinyl flooring(?)
- Dishwasher in the kitchen is not functional - very old, replacement needed
- Stove in kitchen mostly works, but it too is very old and a replacement will likely be needed soon
- Carpeting on main floor and up the steps needs to be replaced
- Longer term we will need to be addressing the Rectory roof and condition of the Dormers, but they are in good enough shape for a few years yet.

SPRING FARM BLESSING

All are invited to join Father Godfrey for the **Spring Farm Blessing** which will be held on Tuesday, April 28th at 1:00 P.M. at the Ryan Peter Family Farm, 7755 Highway 15, Mt. Carmel, IL.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS – (FROM THE BELLEVILLE AREA - HEADING EAST ON I-64)

Take I-64E toward Mt. Vernon (59.3 Miles)
Keep Left on I-64 toward Louisville (51.3 Miles)
At Exit 130: Head toward IL-1/Grayville/Carmi/Mt. Carmel
Turn Left onto S. Court Street (IL-1) (12.9 Miles)
Turn Left onto E 700RD (CR-5/CR-700) toward Maud (1.2 Miles)
Turn Right onto E 700 RD (CR-5/CR-700) (2.1 Miles)
Turn Right onto Hwy 15 (IL-15 (0.8 Miles)

“Farm Blessing” signs will guide you along the way. Those attending are invited to bring seeds, farm animals, farm equipment and machinery to be blessed.

You are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to be donated to the local food pantry. We look forward to having you join us!





**DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE
OFFICE OF THE DIOCESAN ADMINISTRATOR**

March 26, 2025

Dear Priests and Deacons:

The annual "Spring Farm Blessing" will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2026, at 1:00 PM, at the Ryan Peter Family Farm at 7755 Highway 15, Mt. Carmel, IL.

I, along with Deacon Mark Kabat, Rural Life Ministry Coordinator, and the Peter family, extend an invitation to all the families of the Diocesan parishes, especially all farmers, to join in this blessing.

I encourage Priests and Deacons and, if possible, local school children to be present to support our farmers and all those who are engaged in agriculture. Please feel free to bring seeds, farm animals, and farm equipment and machinery to be blessed. You are also encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to be donated to the local food pantry. Please encourage your parishioners via bulletin and pulpit announcements to attend this blessing on April 28th. There will be food and fellowship following the Blessing.

An invitation to you and the people of the Diocese will also be printed in *The Messenger*.

Peace ~

Fr Godfrey Mullen O.S.B.

Very Reverend Godfrey Mullen
Diocesan Administrator