WELCOME TO ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

HECKER, ILLINOIS 62248
REV. BALAIAH ERY, Administrator
PARISH OFFICE 618-473-2217 E-MAIL ADDRESS: staug@htc.net
PARISH WEBSITE: https://www.staugustineofcanterburyhecker.com
To contact Father Balaiah Ery, 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 4:15 to 4:45 pm

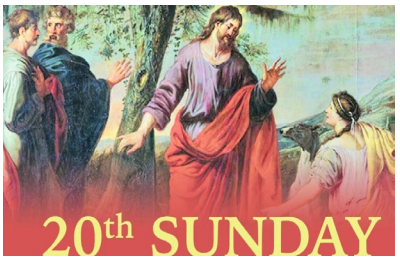
VOL. 62 NO. 33 August 16th, 2026

Theme for The Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

All people are invited to worship the Lord and to know His ways. Gods' gifts and His call are to Jew and Gentile alike. Jesus recognizes the university of God's call in granting the request of the Canaanite woman.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Tuesday 08/11	8:00 am- For the Parish at St. Augustine
Friday 08/14	8:00 am – Pat & Ray Mavers
Saturday, 08/15	5:00 pm – For a Successful Kirchenfest
Sunday, 08/16	8:00 am – Don Braun, Gary Rist
Tuesday 08/18	8:00 am – For the Parish at St. Augustine
Friday, 08/21	8:00 am – For the Parish at St. Augustine
Saturday, 08/22	5:00 pm-Cletus & Agnes Gregson
Sunday, 08/23	8:00 am- Ray Mavers



OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 08-09-26:

Weekly Envelopes- $2664.00
Loose- $191.00
Youth-$
Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-25)- $5022.30
Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

Saturday August 22, 2026, 5:00pm

Set Up: Cindy Grohmann
Servers: Mallory Kern & Blake Koester
Lector: Cindy Grohmann
Extraordinary Minister: Angie Kern
Extraordinary Minister (W):Kevin Schreder
Extraordinary Minister (W):Angie Parker
Camera:

Sunday August 23, *2026, 8:00 am*

Set Up: Margie Holle
Servers: Doerrs
Lector: Kay Haudrich
Extraordinary Minister: Kyle Doerr
Extraordinary Minister: Margie Holle
Extraordinary Minister: Dale Haudrich
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, Frank Kohler, Ethel Mae Kreher, Annette Lovelace, Melissa Stellhorn, Rhonda Mehring-Smith, Sydney Furman, Dorothy Christiansen, Andy Amann, Walter Krysnoski.

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
Those who are kind to the needy honor Him.

The homebound, sick and seniors living in the southernmost part of the state are assured they will have food to eat thanks to **Daystar Community Program**'s mobile food pantry, which delivers groceries on a regular basis to those not able to visit Daystar's on-site food pantry. **YOUR GIFT** to the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal makes Daystar's truly life-saving ministry possible. If you haven't already done so, please donate today and help Daystar to serve truly the poorest of the poor; they are counting on **YOU**!

PLEDGES TO DATE: 24 60% OF OUR GOAL MET

$4160.00 Pledged as of 8/09/2026 $6856.00 is the Parish Financial Target

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Welcome to all the guests attending our special 3:00 Mass at St. Augustine's. We hope you enjoy attending our Kirchenfest along partaking in the delicious dinner and picnic activities. Thank you for your support!**

- **We are in need of someone to take over the mowing of the cemetery grounds starting in the spring of 2027. This is a paid position and would be utilizing the parish's cemetery lawn mower. Please contact the parish office for more information.**

- **Father Bala will be anointing and bringing communion to the homebound on the 2nd Friday morning of the month. If you are interested in having Fr. Bala come to your house or know someone who would like a visit from Fr. Bala, please contact the parish office at: 618-473-2217.**

- **Please notice, the new Prolife Memorial/ Mediation Garden on the Northwest corner of the church property. This area was constructed by the Knights of Columbus with the help of Aaron Eckart.**

Pray for Vocations

"When I was 7, my older sister joined the Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity and took the name Sister Celine. This sparked in me a deep curiosity about her religious vocation, which eventually led me to spend several weeks with her community in a remote island mission in the Bicol region of the Philippines. The conditions were stark; the area lacked electricity and clean water. Yet, I discovered extraordinary richness in the lives of the people. And, undiminished by material poverty, the SOLT sisters radiated joy that stemmed from their faith and dedication to serving others. During my stay, I felt an unprecedented sense of peace, as if enveloped by God's love. I saw Jesus in the faces of those we served, each interaction revealing the transformative beauty and power of faith. Now, as a SOLT sister, I find fulfillment in living the Gospel's message, witnessing to hope and the miracle of faith in action."
Sr. Mary Louis Granadillos; Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity; Columbia Magazine April 2025

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:
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Homily for the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today's readings reveal the wideness of God's mercy. Isaiah announces that God's house is to be "a house of prayer for all peoples"; Saint Paul marvels at God's mercy toward both Jew and Gentile; and Jesus, in the Gospel, responds to the persistent faith of a Canaanite woman. The first reading from Isaiah speaks to people who may have felt excluded or distant. God promises that foreigners who love the Lord, serve him, and hold fast to his covenant will be welcomed. This is a striking promise: God does not reserve his love for a small circle. His desire is to gather people from every nation, language, background, and condition of life into communion with him.

The Gospel puts this promise into a very human story. A Canaanite woman approaches Jesus, crying out for mercy for her suffering daughter. She is a foreigner; she belongs to a people traditionally viewed with suspicion by many Israelites. Yet she addresses Jesus with faith: "Lord, Son of David." She sees in him the Savior. At first, Jesus seems silent. Then the disciples want to send her away. Finally, his words test her faith. But she does not walk away offended, discouraged, or bitter. She remains humble and bold: even the little dogs, she says, receive crumbs that fall from the master's table. Her answer is not a demand for privilege; it is a confident plea for mercy.

Jesus responds: "O woman, great is your faith!" Her daughter is healed. This woman teaches us what faith looks like when life is difficult. Faith is not merely believing when answers arrive quickly. Faith is continuing to call on the Lord when he seems silent. It is refusing to give up when doors appear closed. It is trusting that even a small share of God's mercy is more than enough to bring healing, freedom, and new life. Saint Paul deepens this message in the second reading. He speaks of God's mercy reaching beyond every boundary. No one should despair of God's love, and no one should presume to control whom God may welcome. The mercy that found us is the same mercy we are called to show others.

So today the Lord asks us: whom do we quietly exclude? Who do we judge as unworthy of our attention, forgiveness, welcome, or prayer? It may be someone in our family who has hurt us, someone of a different culture or faith, someone struggling with poverty, addiction, loneliness, or doubt. The Canaanite woman reminds us that the person we overlook may possess a faith that humbles and teaches us. Our parish, our homes, and our hearts must reflect God's promise: a house of prayer for all peoples. This does not mean ignoring truth or pretending differences do not exist. It means meeting every person with the mercy, patience, and dignity that Christ has shown us.

When we come to the Eucharist, we come not because we have earned a place at God's table, but because Christ has invited us. Having received such mercy, let us become

people who make room: room for the stranger, room for the wounded, room for the searching, and room for those whose faith is still only a cry for help.May the Lord give us the humility of the Canaanite woman, the courage to persevere in prayer, and hearts wide enough to welcome all whom God loves

Respect Life Corner

Real Answers, Not Just an Alternative

What if infertility isn't just something to work around, but a signal your body is asking you to listen to? Restorative Reproductive Medicine, including NaProTechnology, does exactly that: it identifies and treats the root causes behind infertility, from hormonal imbalances to endometriosis to cycle irregularities, often restoring a couple's natural fertility altogether. This isn't the Church's consolation prize for those who won't pursue IVF. It's genuine, evidence-based medicine that treats both body and marriage with dignity, working with a woman's cycle instead of overriding it. For many couples, it succeeds where other approaches couldn't, because it heals rather than bypasses. This week, we invite you to see RRM not as a "no," but as a hopeful and faithful "yes." If you or someone you love is walking this road, follow the QR code to learn more about RRM and find doctors in our area who can help.

St. Michaels – Paderborn
Luncheon and Picnic
August 30, 2026

Serving starts at 11:00 am
Hamburgers, Cheeseburgers, Brats, Fries and Desserts
Carry-outs Available

Quilt & Cash Bingo starting at 1:00 in the air-conditioned hall.

St. John the Baptist Catholic School
Smithton, IL
Harvest Fest
Saturday, September 26, 2026
5-9 PM

Event Includes:
BBQ, Music, Carnival Games, Blow up, Obstacle course.
Fun for all ages