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. 31 August 2nd, 2026

Theme for The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus has pity on the crowd and miraculously feeds them in his compassion, the Lord answers all our needs, thus renewing his covenant of love with us. Nothing can ever separate us from the love of Christ.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Tuesday 07/28	8:00am- For the Parish at St. Augustine
Friday 07/31	8:00 am – Eugene Toenjes
Saturday, 08/01	5:00 pm – For the Parish at St. Augustine
Sunday, 08/02	8:00 am – Wally Amann
Tuesday 08/04	8:00 am – Geri Griffin
Friday, 08/07	8:00 am – For the Parish at St. Augustine
Saturday, 08/08	5:00pm- Arline Wittenauer, Clarence Hamilton
Sunday, 08/09	8:00am- For the Parish at St. Augustine

OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 07-26-26:

Weekly Envelopes- $1045.00
Loose- $199.00
Youth-$3.00
Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-25)- $4971.30
Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

Saturday August 8, 2026, 5:00pm

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

Sunday August 9, *2026, 8:00 am*

Set Up: Margie Holle
Servers: Doerrs
Lector: Kay Haudrich
Extraordinary Minister: Kyle Doerr
Extraordinary Minister: Dale Haudrich
Extraordinary Minister: Margie Holle
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, Josh Middendorf, Ethel Mae Kreher, Annette Lovelace, Melissa Stellhorn, Rhonda Mehring-Smith, Sydney Furman, Dorothy Christiansen, Andy Amann, Vickie and Tim Grant, 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.

PRAY FOR Patricia Stock, Sister of Margie Holle, who died and was buried this past week. Please remember her and her family in your prayers. May her soul and all souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Anointing of the sick will take place this weekend, Saturday August 1 and Sunday August 2 after masses.**

- **The homily is being printed for anyone who might be having difficulty understanding Fr. Bala's accent. A copy will be printed in the bulletin and on paper in the back of church by the bulletins.**

- **Our Kirchenfest, on August 15, 2026, will be here in a couple of weeks. Please plan to work and help out that day. Also invite your family and friends to come and enjoy our picnic. We are also asking for participants for the Tiki Trot. Please help to advertise our yearly Kirchenfest.**

- **Plastic Bags have been placed at the entrances of church to be used for the Adult Basket Stand and the Kids Basket Stand. Once you made your baskets you can drop them off at the parish office or contact Vicki Wittenauer for Adult Baskets at 815/922-3769 and Laurel Jung for the Kids Baskets at 618/340-1906.**

Pray for Vocations

"Growing up on the east coast of Canada, I was involved in my family's parish, but my faith remained lukewarm. A vocation to the priesthood never crossed my mind. Instead, my attention was captured by the insights in the natural world provided by science, which eventually led me to pursue a doctorate in chemistry at a university in California. During my Ph.D. research, the Holy Spirit led me to ask deeper questions that could not be answered by chemistry alone. As a result, I came to believe the Catholic faith firmly and sought to live it intentionally. During this time, I sensed an unexpected call to the priesthood. The priests serving in campus ministry helped my discernment, and in time I heard God calling me home as a diocesan priest. After my doctorate, I entered seminary and was ordained in 2016.
Fr. James Fleming; Archdiocese of St. John's, Torbay Newfoundland and Labrador Columbia Nov 2025

The 2026 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal
Those who are kind to the needy honor Him.

Did you know **YOUR GIFT** to the 2026 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: 24 60% OF OUR GOAL MET

$4160.00 Pledged as of 7/26/2026 $6856.00 is the Parish Financial Target

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 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

In today's readings, God speaks to a hungry people. In the first reading, the Lord invites the thirsty to come and receive without money, because God's gifts cannot be bought. In the Gospel, Jesus feeds the crowd with five loaves and two fish, showing that his compassion is greater than human need. The message is simple: when we bring what we have to Christ, he can transform it into enough for many.

The crowd in the Gospel comes looking for Jesus, and they find more than they expected. They come with physical hunger, but Jesus also feeds their hearts with his presence and mercy. He does not send them away; he gathers them, blesses, breaks, and shares. This is the pattern of the Christian life: we receive from Christ what we cannot produce by ourselves, and then we become instruments of that same generosity for others.

Many of us know what it means to feel "not enough." We may feel our time is not enough, our strength is not enough, our resources are not enough, or our faith is not enough. Yet the Gospel teaches us that God works precisely through what seems small. Five loaves and two fish placed in Jesus' hands become abundance. What matters is not the size of our offering, but the openness of our hearts.

St. Paul reminds us that nothing can separate us from the love of Christ. That is the deepest truth behind the miracle. Jesus feeds the crowd because he loves them; he feeds us because he knows our hunger; he remains faithful even when our faith is weak. When we trust that love, we stop living in fear and begin living in gratitude, sharing, and hope.

This Sunday also challenges us to become part of the miracle for others. There are still many hungry people in the world: hungry for bread, but also hungry for dignity, peace, friendship, and hope. Christ asks us to bring our small offerings to him—our time, our compassion, our generosity, our prayer. In his hands, even the little we have can become a blessing for many.

Respect Life Corner

A Trinity of Love: Where God Enters the Picture

Soon-to-be beatified Archbishop Fulton Sheen used a simple image of a triangle to describe marriage: husband and wife are two points at the base, but God is the third point at the top, and their love for one another must first rise toward Him before it can bear fruit between them. When a couple struggles with infertility, it can feel like that fruitfulness is being withheld, and that pain is real; it is rightly called a cross. But even here, God remains in the midst of the marriage, and the "children" born of a couple's love don't always take the form expected. Sometimes they are spiritual children, works of mercy, or a fruitfulness the couple could not have planned. This month, we begin exploring Restorative Reproductive Medicine, a faithful, medically sound path that seeks healing for couples facing these crosses. Join us as we walk through it together.

Q R Code

Women's ACTS Retreat

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.