WELCOME TO ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

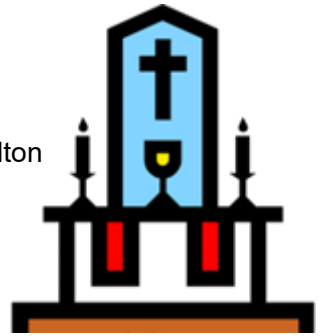
HECKER, ILLINOIS 62248
REV. BALAIAH ERY, Administrator
PARISH OFFICE 618-473-2217 E-MAIL ADDRESS: staug@htc.net
PARISH WEBSITE: https://www.staugustineofcanterburyhecker.com
To contact Father Balaiah Ery, please call Parish Office
St. Vincent de Paul Help Line 618-792-4059
House of Neighborly Service Help Line 618-939-8680
Confessions: Heard Saturdays from 4:15 to 4:45 pm

VOL. 62 NO. 32 August 9th, 2026

Theme for The Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the midst of our trials and tribulations, the Lord extends his hands to us. He calms our frightened hearts through His quiet presence. May our faith in the Lord draw Gods chosen people to the new covenant in Christ.

MASS INTENTIONS:



Tuesday 08/04	8:00am- Geri Griffin
Friday 08/07	8:00 am – Special Intention
Saturday, 08/08	5:00 pm – Arline Witternauer, Clarence Hamilton
Sunday, 08/09	8:00 am – Arline Klinkhardt, Lawrence Biffar
Tuesday 08/11	8:00 am – For the Parish at St. Augustine
Friday, 08/14	8:00 am – Ray Mavers
Saturday, 08/15	5:00pm- For the Parish at St. Augustine
Sunday, 08/16	8:00am- Don Braun, Gary Rist

OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 08-02-26:

Weekly Envelopes- $3513.00
Loose- $140.00
Youth-$
Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-25)- $4992.30
Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

Saturday August 15, 2026, 3:00pm
Kirchenfest

Set Up: Donna Rheinecker
Servers: Mehrmanns
Lector: Donna Rheinecker
Extraordinary Minister: Alice Kuehn
Extraordinary Minister (W):TBD
Extraordinary Minister (W):Denis Biffar
Camera:

Sunday August 16, *2026, 4:00 pm*

Set Up: Kevin Schreder
Servers: Doers
Lector: Kevin Schreder
Extraordinary Minister: Kyle Doerr
Extraordinary Minister (W):Annette Schreder
Extraordinary Minister (W):TBD
Camera:

Sunday August 16, *2026, 8:00 am*

Set Up: Arnie Eckart
Servers: Karbans
Lector: Alex Birkner
Extraordinary Minister: Ryan Grohmann
Extraordinary Minister: Betty Schreder
Extraordinary Minister: Lucas Gregson
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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **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.**

- **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, is on August 15, 2026, which is next weekend. Please plan to work and help out that day. Also invite your family and friends to come and enjoy our picnic. We are 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**

Pray for Vocations

Whenever there's a mountain involved in Scripture, it is a moment to pay close attention to. The Lord has brought Elijah here for a "close encounter." Leaving the shelter of the cave, Elijah stands outside waiting because "the Lord is passing by." A strong wind that crushes rocks and then an earthquake, followed by fire, all do not contain the Lord's voice. The Lord revealed himself to Elijah in a "tiny whispering sound". This story tells us that to hear God's call, we must find time for silence in our lives; a quiet, peaceful time to hear what our call in life is to be – maybe a vocation to the priesthood, diaconate, or religious life.

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 8/01/2026 $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 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The readings today speak about God's presence in the midst of fear, uncertainty, and life's storms. They remind us that God does not always come in dramatic or extraordinary ways. Often, He comes quietly, gently, inviting us to trust Him.

In the first reading, the prophet Elijah was discouraged and exhausted. He expected to find God in the powerful wind, the earthquake, or the fire. Instead, God revealed Himself in a gentle whisper. Elijah discovered that God is closest when we quiet our hearts and listen with faith. In our noisy and busy world, we often search for spectacular signs, yet God continues to speak through prayer, Scripture, the Eucharist, and the quiet movements of our conscience.

The Gospel presents another powerful image. The disciples were caught in a storm while Jesus came walking toward them on the sea. Terrified, they thought He was a ghost. But Jesus immediately reassured them: "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter's response is both courageous and human. At Jesus' invitation, he stepped out of the boat and walked on the water. As long as his eyes remained fixed on Jesus, he did the impossible. But when he focused on the wind and the waves, fear took over, and he began to sink.

How often this happens in our own lives. We begin with confidence and faith, but difficulties, sickness, financial worries, family problems, or personal disappointments distract us from Christ. We become overwhelmed by the storms around us instead of trusting the One who has power over them.

Yet the most comforting part of the Gospel is not that Peter sank—it is that Jesus immediately reached out His hand and caught him. God's mercy is always quicker than our failure. Whenever we cry out, "Lord, save me," Jesus never abandons us.

In the second reading, St. Paul expresses deep sorrow for those who have not yet accepted Christ. His love reminds us that genuine faith is never selfish. We are called not only to strengthen our own relationship with God but also to pray and work for the salvation of others. When we keep our gaze on Christ, fear loses its power. The storms may not disappear immediately, but we discover that we are never alone. Jesus is in the boat with us, guiding us safely through every trial until we reach our eternal home.

May our response be like that of the disciples after witnessing the miracle: "Truly, you are the Son of God."

Respect Life Corner

Last week we talked about God entering into the cross of infertility so why wouldn't we also promote IVF or surrogacy as a path forward? Because IVF treats infertility as something to work around rather than a symptom to understand and heal, and the process itself raises serious ethical questions the Church takes seriously, including how it handles the many embryonic lives created along the way. It also asks a great deal of women's bodies, carries real medical risks, and comes with steep costs, all for success rates lower than many people realize. Underneath these concerns is a beautiful truth: every child, however they came to be, is deeply loved by God and a gift to their family—and we believe children deserve to be conceived through an act of love, not a medical procedure. See the QR code below to dive deeper into these truths. Next week, we'll return to the loving, life-respecting path we introduced last time—one that treats both the couple and their future children with the dignity they

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.