

WELCOME TO ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

HECKER, ILLINOIS 62248

REV. LINUS UMOREN, ADMINISTRATOR

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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. 07 February 15th, 2026

Theme for The Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In Jesus is revealed a new wisdom, a new law, a new way of living. Happy are they who choose to keep His commandments and follow His ways.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Friday 02/13 8:00 am- For the Parish of St. Augustine

Saturday, 02/14 5:00 pm – David Bruss

Sunday, 02/015 8:00 am- For the Parish of St. Augustine

Wednesday, 02/18 8:00 am – For the Parish of St. Augustine

Wednesday, 02-18 7:00 pm – For the Parish of St. Augustine

Friday, 02/20 8:00am- For the Parish of St. Augustine

Saturday, 02/21 5:00pm- Mary Rettinghouse

Sunday, 02/15 8:00am- For the Parish of St. Augustine



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

Weekly Envelopes- \$6475.00

Loose- \$211.00

Youth- \$4.00

*Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-25)-
\$2858.30*

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 18th, 2026, 8 am

Set Up: Donna Rheinecker
Servers: Lucas Gregson
Lector: Ruth Wittenauer
Extraordinary Minister: Betty Schreder
Extraordinary Minister (W): Barb Bruss
Extraordinary Minister (W): Donna Rheinecker
Camera:

Wednesday February 18th, 2026, 7 pm

Set Up: Kevin Schreder
Servers: Kevin Schreder
Lector: Kay Haudrich
Extraordinary Minister: Dale Haudrich
Extraordinary Minister (W): Marvin Parker
Extraordinary Minister (W): Angie Parker
Camera:

Saturday, February 21ST, 2026, 5pm

Set Up: Kevin Schreder
Servers: Mallory Kern
Lector: Kevin Schreder
Extraordinary Minister: Angie Kern
Extraordinary Minister (W): Barb Bruss
Extraordinary Minister (W): Annette Schreder
Camera:

Sunday, February 22ND, 2026, 8am

Set Up: Sr. Joan Weiler
Servers: Doerrs
Lector: Jonella Donius
Extraordinary Minister: Kyle Doerr
Extraordinary Minister (W): Lucas Gregson
Extraordinary Minister (W): Dale Haudrich
Camera:



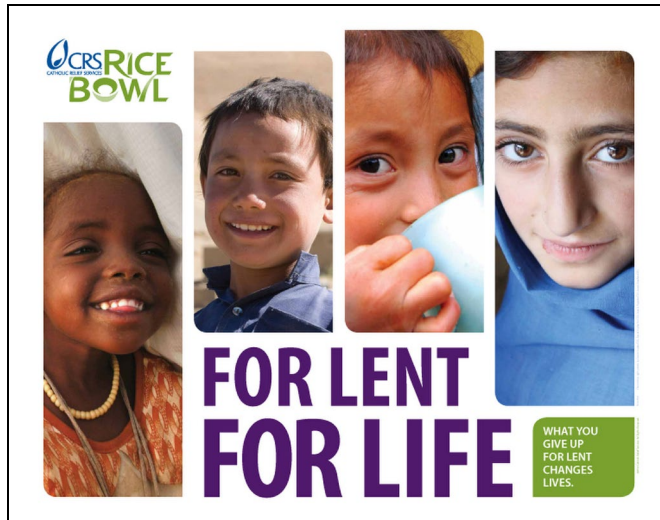
Please pray for the following:

Darlene Frisch, Jeanelle Dinan, Madalyn Killebrew, Kenny Kern, Ricky Wittenauer, Ava Kern, Nancy Grohmann, Jim & Joanne Cowell, Helen Parker, Mike Rheinecker, Evelyn Kelley Marquart, 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026, Mass times are 8:00 am and 7:00 pm.**
- **Stations of the Cross will take place on Friday mornings after 8:00 am mass beginning on February 20th and on Wednesday evenings starting on February 25th at 7:00 pm. If anyone could help with Stations of the Cross on Wednesday evenings, please contact Kevin Schreder at 618-406-7037**



Once again, during this upcoming Lenten Season, the Rice Bowls will be available for those who wish to participate. Boxes will be located at each entrance of Church once Lent begins. We ask that you return your filled bowls prior to Holy Thursday, April 2nd, 2026.

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>.



“When I was little, I remember a teacher asking me, “What do you want to be when you grow up?” Right away, I envisioned myself drawing buildings and houses. I wanted to become an architect. That dream became real but in a different way, for God had another blueprint for my life – to help build his kingdom. When I was 25 years old, I attended a “Come and See” retreat with the Missionaries of the Holy Spirit, not knowing what to expect. During that retreat, I realized I liked living in community, and I also love centering everything around the Eucharist. Letting go of my dreams of becoming an architect and of getting married was difficult, but I sensed a deep fire within me that could not be contained. I thought, “This is something I could happily see myself doing.” Now, 20 years after joining the congregation, I’m blessed to serve as vocations director and a spiritual director. In this way, I firmly believe I am building God’s kingdom as an architect for the Lord.”

Bro. Lucio Galicia; Missionaries of the Holy Spirit; *Columbia Magazine*, Sept 2025.

Thank You!

A Big Thank You to all who helped with the Bingo on Super Bowl Sunday! Thank you for all the donations and raffle tickets sold, and hard work. With out everyone’s help we could not have had such a successful fund raiser for the parish. Great Teamwork!

Reflection for the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

A Sunday school teacher was teaching her five and six-year-olds about the Ten Commandments. After explaining the commandment to "honor thy father and thy mother," she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" One little boy answered without hesitation, "Thou shall not kill."

"Man know thy self" is one of the most used religious and psychological injunctions from the Ancient Greeks. This directive is intended to promote self-discovery and the journey toward self-mastery. The longer we live, the more we realize that life presents us with a series of choices. Obedient people choose what they are told to do, but wise people choose what they should do. In the first reading this weekend, Sirach draws the readers' attention to true wisdom. The wisdom tradition assumes that there is a basic order in creation and life, but it does not make the human being a predetermined subject. The human person can choose to follow the order of life, which is wisdom, or he can choose to ignore it, which is foolishness. At one end of the spectrum is freedom, and at the other end is choice. Consequently, true wisdom calls for us to choose life and whatever enhances it. Moreover, true wisdom, which is a gift of the Holy Spirit, will enrich our lives and makes us to know that Christ who proclaims the excellence of the law also fulfills it for us. The gospel reading this weekend describes this enriching insight: "You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, 'You shall not kill, and whoever kills will be liable to judgment.'" But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment, and whoever says to his brother, 'Raqa,' will be answerable to the Sanhedrin, and whoever says, 'You fool,' will be liable to fiery Gehenna" (Matt. 5: 21-22 NAB). In this text, Jesus explains several Jewish teachings from the point of view of the new law and the demands of the kingdom of God. He presents a standard of living that goes beyond Moses' law, (that is, do's and don'ts). Against this backdrop He says, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribe and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

The new vision of righteousness Jesus offers is based on love and not merely on the letters of the law. Therefore, Jesus' invitation is to live the law in a new way; not just as a law that protects against the danger of sin but as a law that expresses the meaning of the reign of God's Kingdom. Where love and charity abide; there God is found. Therefore, when we choose to act lovingly toward others, we will grow in love and righteousness and make the kingdom of God reign.

Respect Life Corner

“We often assume parenthood happens easily after ‘I do,’ but for many married couples, it does not. For some, the joy of conception never happens. Others suffer repeated miscarriages. Still others experience secondary infertility... If you experience difficulty bringing a child into your family, know that you are not alone. God is with you, and his Church desires to walk with you... God has a beautiful plan for your life as a married couple.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

“Seven Considerations While Navigating Infertility”

respectlife.org/navigating-infertility

PURSE BINGO

St. Agatha Parish is hosting a designer Purse Bingo on March 1st in the Parish Hall. Doors open 11:30 am, Bingo starts at 12:30. Advanced registration is \$40.00, Cost at the door is \$50.00. This includes bingo cards, daubers and drinks. BYO snacks. There will extra 50/50 games, lightening rounds, and Basket raffle. For advanced registration contact Debbie Matzenbacher 618-210-3318 or Glo-Bingo.com/events.



Gibault Update

5th-8th Graders are invited to participate in our annual AMPLify contest on March 5th - Show off your Art, Math and Poetry skills! Email pkueker@gibaulthawks.com to sign up. We are still taking applications - Go to <https://gibaulthawks.com> and click “APPLY” to apply. Tuition Assistance Applications are also being accepted until February 28, 2026. All 7th and 8th graders can schedule a shadow visit and spend the day with one of our Student Ambassadors. Go to <https://gibaulthawks.com> and click “INQUIRE” to request more information. Questions can also be emailed to our Admissions Coordinator, Pam Kueker at pkueker@gibaulthawks.com. We want to welcome your student Home at Gibault!



LENTEN REGULATIONS 2026

The season of Lent extends this year from Ash Wednesday, February 18th, 2026 to the Mass of the Lord's Supper, Holy Thursday, April 2nd, 2026, inclusive.

1. Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays of Lent.
2. Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 years of age is also bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
3. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is allowed. The other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's needs, but altogether they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed.
4. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the obligation of the law is modified. Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant and nursing women. In all cases, common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting.

St. Peter and Paul Catholic Cemetery - Semi-Annual Cleanup

Please be advised that the semi-annual cemetery clean-up will take place on **Sunday, March 1, 2026**. In preparation for this maintenance, we ask that families and friends remove all decorations, flowers or ornaments they want to keep. Anything not removed by Sunday, March 1 will be removed. You may put decorations back on Tuesday, March 3.

HOUSE OF NEIGHBORLY SERVICE

The House of Neighborly Service is requesting items for the Summer Lunch Program. Most needed items are Canned Chicken, Peanut Butter and Shelf Stable Milk. The House of Neighborly Service is also in great need of paper products and cleaning supplies. If anyone wishes to donate, these items can be dropped off at 217 West Mill Street in Waterloo, Monday – Friday 8:30 to 3:00.

Winners for the Super Bowl Raffle

1. Quilt – Yvonne Murry
2. \$150.00 – Patricia Kennedy
3. \$100.00 – Ann Haubrich
4. \$50.00 – Tammy Peeler
5. Grocery Gift Card – Judy Kreidler
6. Grocery Gift Card – Andrea Sutter
7. Grocery Gift Card – Dale Haudrich
8. Grocery Gift Card – Bernita Maurer
9. Grocery Gift Card – Angela Voss

