

# WELCOME TO ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

HECKER, ILLINOIS 62248

REV. LINUS UMOREN, ADMINISTRATOR

PARISH OFFICE 618-473-2217 E-MAIL ADDRESS: [staug@htc.net](mailto: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. 11 March 15th, 2026**

## **Theme for The Fourth Sunday in Lent**

Samuel does not see as God sees in the choice of David, who is anointed with oil. As Jesus cures the blind man, so too are we brought from darkness into light through the grace of baptism.

### **MASS INTENTIONS:**

Friday 03/13	8:00 am- For the Parish of St. Augustine
Saturday, 03/14	5:00 pm – Ruth Cortner
Sunday, 03/15	8:00 am- For the Parish of St. Augustine
Friday, 03/20	8:00am- Norbert Wittenauer
Saturday, 03/21	5:00pm- For the Parish of St. Augustine
Sunday, 03/22	8:00am- Philip and John Rheinecker



### **OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 03-08-26:**

Weekly Envelopes- \$1448.00

Loose- \$109.00

Youth- \$4.00

*Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-25)-*  
**\$3128.30**

**Thank you very much for your generosity!**

**SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND**

**Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026, 5:00pm**

Set Up: Cindy Grohmann  
Servers: Mallory Kern  
Lector: Cindy Grohmann  
Extraordinary Minister: Angie Kern  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Angie Parker  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Marvin Parker  
Camera:

**Sunday March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2026, 8:00 am**

Set Up: Sr. Joan  
Servers: Doerr's  
Lector: Jonella Donius  
Extraordinary Minister: Kyle Doerr  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Raeleen Neary  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Shelly Fizer  
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 Stelhorn, 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: 5 8% OF OUR GOAL MET**

**\$600.00 Pledged as of 3/09/20256 \$6,856.00 is the Parish Financial Target**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Stations of the Cross will take place on Friday mornings after 8:00 am mass and on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm during lent. If anyone could help with Stations of the Cross on Wednesday evenings, please contact Kevin Schreder at 618-406-7037**
- **We are in need of Volunteers for the washing of feet on Holy Thursday. Please call the parish at 618-473-2217 if you are available.**
- **Rice Bowls are available for the Lenten Season. They can be picked up in the back of church.**
- **Please turn in your Easter Flower Offering if you plan to Remember or Honor a loved one with an Easter Flower.**



## **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>.



This Thursday, (March 19th), is the feast of the Solemnity of St. Joseph. "When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him." (Matt 1:24). It was grace that moved Joseph to embrace his vocation as the guardian of Israel's Messiah. It's the same grace that empowers us to accept God's call and wisdom for our lives. Joseph's yes in faith changed the world. God also has a plan for your life. You don't know where your yes might lead and how God might use it. Ask St. Joseph to help. Then, like Joseph, go out in faith to be a "doer of the word" (James 1:22).  
(The Word Among Us)

## **Respect Life Corner**

"To celebrate the Gospel of life means to celebrate the God of life, the God who gives life... In every child which is born and in every person who lives or dies we see the image of God's glory. We celebrate this glory in every human being, a sign of the living God, an icon of Jesus Christ"  
(The Gospel of Life 84).

## Reflection for Fourth Sunday of Lent-Year A

*One day two blind men started fighting. Pretty soon a crowd surrounded them. Then one of the members of the crowd yelled out "I bet 10 bucks on the one with the knife." Both men ran away.*

The story of the man born blind is the second of three long narratives from the Gospel of John, which we read on the Sundays of Lent. Last Sunday, we read the story of the Samaritan woman at the Well. In these stories, we observe the development and the resultant new life of the principal characters. At the end of these stories, the readers come to the appreciation of the experience of the principal characters.

I know someone who was born blind. I also know someone who has a physical disability right from childhood because of polio. My honest description of these two people is that their life is precious and full, and both of them in different ways move and joyfully function in that life. Perhaps you also know someone who is physically disabled but full of life.

When we encounter these people who are different yet joyful, the critical question is how are they able to live and move among others whose experience of the world is radically different? However, how can we understand their world and describe ours to them? Sometimes we must place ourselves there—in a world and in an experience that is different from the one we know to have a close imagination.

The man born blind in the story knew how different he was, but he was overwhelmed with the tremendous miracle of sight, which was for him like the gift of new life. The moment he began to see, people tried to convince him about who Jesus was. They said Jesus was a sinner and that he didn't observe the Sabbath. The man insisted, "I know one thing. I was blind, and now I see." I imagine him chanting the "Amazing Grace Song." From this experience, we can say that God's amazing grace does not pass over the body without leaving permanent marks. When we experience God's grace in an exceptional way, people may want to control our narrative. They may not want to believe our experience because it's subversive and unmerited. If we can see and experience God's love and hold on to that confession, it will be everything for us in the new world of faith. That is all that Jesus asks from us.

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

On behalf of Father Godfrey Mullen, Diocesan Administrator, and diocesan ministries and programs, a most heartfelt thanks to all those who have already responded with a gift to the 2026 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. If you have not done so as yet, there's still plenty of time. One-time donations or pledges – **in any amount** – are needed and can be made through your parish or at [www.diobelle.org](http://www.diobelle.org) (click on "Giving to the Diocese"). Your generosity supports 17 agencies and programs that daily serve thousands of people. Please consider making your gift today or at any time you are able in the coming months. We also ask for your prayers for the success of this year's appeal and all those we serve. Thank you and may God bless you always.

### **Gibault Update**

Join the Gibault Women's Club for Taste of the Region – Come out and enjoy delicious food and beverages from local restaurants and vendors. For more information go to [igfn.us/form/G6dn3A](https://igfn.us/form/G6dn3A).

Calling ALL 6th-8th graders! Join us for a Junior High Party on the Patio on April 17th from 6-8pm. Go

to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B44AAAC28A5FEC16-62702280-junior> to sign up. Come hang out with our student ambassadors and have some fun!

We are still taking applications - Go to <https://gibaulthawks.com> and click "APPLY" to apply. Freshman Scholarship Applications are due by March 31, 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](mailto:pkueker@gibaulthawks.com). We want to welcome your student Home at Gibault!



**2026 SCHEDULE FOR LENT, TRIDUUM, EASTER**  
**ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY- HECKER**

- **WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT St. Augustine Stations of the Cross held at 7:00pm**
- **FRIDAYS DURING LENT:  
St. Augustine - Mass at 8:00 am followed by  
Stations of the Cross**
- **PALM SUNDAY, March 28<sup>th</sup> and March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
Saturday Mass 5pm, Sunday Mass 8:00am**
- **HOLY THURSDAY, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026  
7:00 PM Mass, ST. AUGUSTINE**
- **GOOD FRIDAY, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026  
6:30 PM STATION OF THE CROSS FOLLOWED BY  
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE @ 7:00pm, ST. AUGUSTINE**
- **EASTER VIGIL, SATURDAY, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
7:00 PM Mass, ST. AUGUSTINE**
- **EASTER SUNDAY, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
8:00AM Mass, ST. AUGUSTINE**



St. Teresa Church, Marydale DRIVE-THRU Chicken Dinner

Sunday, March 22, 2026

Serving 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

\$15.00 per Meal

Packaged meal includes: ½ Fried Chicken (4 pieces), Dressing,  
Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Green Beans, Slaw

Handmade Quilt Raffle

Located six miles north of Carlyle on Route 127

Follow the signs

(Follow us on Facebook @MarydaleStTeresa)

**Singles Late 50s and Above:** Are you looking for a renewed sense of purpose & belonging? Register today for a life-changing RENEW weekend retreat at the Pallottine Retreat Center (30 min from downtown St. Louis), on April 10-12, 2026. Take a chance and get involved... you won't regret it! Visit [www.RenewRetreats.org](http://www.RenewRetreats.org), e-mail [renewretreat.stl@gmail.com](mailto:renewretreat.stl@gmail.com), or call (314) 703-1002 for details.