

WELCOME TO ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

HECKER, ILLINOIS 62248

REV. LINUS UMOREN, ADMINISTRATOR

PARISH OFFICE 618-473-2217 E-MAIL ADDRESS: 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. 13 March 29th, 2026

Theme for Palm Sunday Passion of the Lord

Jesus humbling himself out of love for us did not shield his face from buffets and spitting but offered his life on the cross. He relied on His Father's love.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Friday 03/27	8:00 am- Sue Parker
Saturday, 03/28	5:00 pm – Mary Rettinghouse
Sunday, 03/29	8:00 am- For the Parish of St. Augustine
Friday, 04/03	No Friday Mass
Saturday, 04/04	5:00pm- For the Parish of St. Augustine
Sunday, 04/05	8:00am- Easter - For the Parish of St. Augustine



OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 03-15-26:

Weekly Envelopes- \$1693.00

Loose- \$233.00

Youth- \$4.00

*Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-25)-
\$3185.30*

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND



Holy Thursday April 2nd 2026 7:00pm

Set Up: Kevin Schreder
Servers: Doerr's, Mehrmann's, Lucas Gregson
Lector: Jonella Donius
Extraordinary Minister: Kyle Doerr
Extraordinary Minister (W): Marvin Parker
Extraordinary Minister (W): Angie Parker
Camera:

Good Friday April 3rd, 2026, 7:00 pm

Set Up: Kevin Schreder
Servers: Mallory Kern, Lucas Gregson
Servers: Anne & Oliver Karban
Lector: Shelly Fizer
Narrator: Shelly Fizer
Voice: Cindy Grohmann
Extraordinary Minister: Kevin Schreder
Camera:

Easter Vigil Saturday, April 4th, 2026, 7:00pm **Easter Sunday April 5th, 2026, 8:00 am**

Set Up: Kevin Schreder
Servers: Kevin, Lucas Gregson, Nolan Snell, Blake Koester
Lector: Elaine Rader
Lector: Kay Haudrich
Extraordinary Minister: Dale Haudrich
Extraordinary Minister (W): Raeleen Neary
Extraordinary Minister (W): Annette Schreder
Camera:

Set Up: Elaine Biffar
Servers: Anne & Oliver Karban
Lector: Ryan Grohmann
Extraordinary Minister: Betty Schreder
Extraordinary Minister (W): Shelly Fizer
Extraordinary Minister (W): Dennis Biffar
Camera:



**Rice bowls are due back
on Holy Thursday**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Parish Reconciliation will be available on Friday March 27th starting at 5:00 at St. Augustine's.**
- **There will be no 8:00 am mass on Good Friday, April 3rd, 2026.**
- **Please let us know if you need someone to take palms to a homebound person.**
- **Our 5th Sunday Collection for 2026 will be March 28th and 29th with the donations going to St. Vincent de Paul in Waterloo.**
- **There will be a basket in the back church for your Lenten rice bowls. Please turn them in by Holy Thursday.**
- **No votive candles are to be lit on Holy Saturday.**
- **Anointing of the sick will be April 11 and 12 since the first Sunday is Easter weekend.**





Pray for Vocations

As we begin Holy Week, we see Jesus following the will (call) of the Father. He will complete His call even to the Cross. Are we willing to follow our call – even if it means giving of ourselves totally in service to the Lord? Everyone has their unique call. Everyone needs to respond to the will of the Father – priesthood, sisterhood, married life, single. Take some quiet time during this sacred week and listen, in our innermost being, to what the Lord really wants us to be.

Respect Life Corner

“With great openness and courage, we need to question how widespread is the culture of life today among individual Christians, families, groups and communities in our Dioceses. With equal clarity and determination, we must identify the steps we are called to take in order to serve life in all its truth”

(The Gospel of Life 95).

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:

Reflection for Fifth Sunday of Lent-Year A

A Reflection for Palm Sunday

As we prepare to enter the holy week, it is essential to reflect on who Christ is in our life. The liturgy of Palm Sunday would be an excellent place to start. Palm Sunday marks the entry into Holy Week, balancing the joy of Christ's entry into Jerusalem with the shadow of the Passion. It calls believers to move beyond surface-level faith, embracing a servant's humility in a turbulent world while trusting that the cross leads to resurrection.

What is the most striking aspect of the Palm Sunday celebration? Is it the blessing of the palms or the procession to the Church? What about the long passion narrative that recounts the story of Jesus' death? It could be any of these or all of these aspects. The drama of Palm Sunday portrays Jesus as the non-violent innocent victim of the unwarranted hatred and vicious desire of the political authorities of his time. Although He is welcome into Jerusalem with a hosanna song, He soon becomes the victim of a conspiracy. Jesus willingly offered himself. He accepted death—even death on the cross. Why did God stoop so low? Why would He undergo death in such a cruel way? What is very clear for anyone reading the narrative in the 21st century is that this happened because his death was expiatory.

Jesus' passion reveals something beyond his suffering. It unveils the injustice, cruelty, and violence in our society. It exposes the hypocrisy, the betrayal, the abuses, and the infidelities in our world.

To enter the holy week with him, we need to reflect on the meaning of the cross. The cross is not intended to be a logical explanation for why suffering exists. Instead, it is understood as a symbol of divine solidarity—the idea that God does not watch pain from a distance but enters into it alongside with us. But how is Christ present with the broken, the humiliated, and the marginalized members of our community? Christ's suffering unveils the evil of our world where innocent people suffer abuses, and poor people are denied justice. Thus, the cross is the sign of God's faithfulness. However, if the cross is the symbol of our faith, we must find Christ present in the place of suffering, and we must stand with Christ in transforming all sorts of oppression into freedom. And when we unite our brokenness with Christ's passion vulnerability become redemptive. St. Paul captures this transformation well when he says “I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.”(Galatians 2:20).

A Message from Ryan Grohmann our Trustee at St. Augustine's

We are excited to welcome Father Bala to our parish and living in our historical rectory. While the building is solid, it has been many years since we had someone living there full time so there is some updating that is needed to make it more welcoming for Father Bala and any guests. We are looking for any support you can provide with your time or treasure to help facilitate these improvements. The list below is what is already identified, we expect to add a few things to this list in the next week or two. If you have new or like new items to cover these needs, have the skills to help with labor noted, wish to donate to cover the cost of some of these items, or have questions please contact Barb at the Parish office, or reach out to trustees Ryan Grohmann or Larry Schaltenbrand. Some of these tasks below will need to be addressed right away, but others may take a month or two to coordinate and get all the supplies. We are anxious to get the place ready for move in day! Let us know if you're able and willing to help out. Thank you

- Someone to do a deep cleaning of the house
- A few sets of bath towels
- Ceiling fan with light - possible replacement
- Smart, flat screen TV (or 2)
- Lighting in the office, fixture very old
- There are other lighting fixtures that could be updated.
- The kitchen flooring needs replacement - currently linoleum, maybe go to vinyl flooring(?)
- Dishwasher in the kitchen is not functional - very old, replacement needed
- Stove in kitchen mostly works, but it too is very old and a replacement will likely be needed soon
- Carpeting on main floor and up the steps needs to be replaced
- Longer term we will need to be addressing the Rectory roof and condition of the Dormers, but they are in good enough shape for a few years yet.



2026 SCHEDULE FOR LENT, TRIDUIM, 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, no Mass on April 3rd.**
- **PALM SUNDAY, March 28th and March 29th, 2026
Saturday Mass 5pm, Sunday Mass 8:00am**
- **HOLY THURSDAY, April 2nd, 2026
7:00 PM Mass, ST. AUGUSTINE**
- **GOOD FRIDAY, April 3rd, 2026
6:30 PM STATION OF THE CROSS FOLLOWED BY
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE @ 7:00pm, ST. AUGUSTINE**
- **EASTER VIGIL, SATURDAY, April 4th, 2026
7:00 PM Mass, ST. AUGUSTINE**
- **EASTER SUNDAY, April 5th, 2026
8:00AM Mass, ST. AUGUSTINE**



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.

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 34% OF OUR GOAL MET

\$2335.00 Pledged as of 3/22/2025 \$6,856.00 is the Parish Financial Target

Lighting the Way

Life Network of Southern Illinois

Invites you to our 2026 Spring Fundraiser

Thursday April 9, 2026

The Falls Reception Center, 300 Admiral Weinel Blvd,

Columbia, IL 62236

Guest Speaker is Rebekah Hagan

Doors open at 5:30, Event begins at 6:30

RSVP by March 30th, 2026