

## 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)

Parish Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm (Hours subject to change)

**VOL. 60 NO. 7- February 16th, 2025**

**Theme for the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time:** Blest are they who trust in the Lord. Blest are they who are poor and who endure insult, for their reward shall be great: eternal life.

### **MASS INTENTIONS:**

Friday, 2/14	8:00am- Jerry Mollet and Duane Mollet, Delmar & Wilma Wachtel, and A Special Intention
Saturday, 2/15	5:00pm- Dave Bruss and a Special Intention
Sunday, 2/16	8:00am- For our Parish at St. Augustine's
Friday, 2/21	8:00 am- Annabelle Hoffarth
Saturday, 2/22	5:00pm- For our Parish at St. Augustine's
Sunday, 2/23	8:00am- Jerry Mollet and Duane Mollet

### **OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 2/9/2025:**

Weekly Envelopes- \$2,158.00  
Loose- \$215.00  
Youth- \$3.00

*Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-24)-*  
**\$2,240.14**

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

## SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

### Saturday, February 22nd, 2025, 5pm

Set Up: Cindy Grohmann  
Servers: Mallory Kern  
Lector: Cindy Grohmann  
Extraordinary Minister: Donna Rheinecker  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Angi Kern  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Ruth Wittenauer  
Camera:

### Sunday, February 23rd, 2025, 8am

Set Up: Sr. Joan Weiler  
Servers:  
Lector: Shelly Fizer  
Extraordinary Minister: Lucas Gregson  
Extraordinary Minister (W): John Kaiser  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Bernadette Gregson  
Camera:

**\*\*The liturgical/set-up schedule is located on the bulletin board in both entrances to church and inside the Priest Sacristy \*\***

### **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, Gary Rist, Sydney Furman, Delbert Wittenauer, Dorothy Christiansen, Gary Wittenauer, and Debbie Harbaugh.

For Active Service Personnel: Justin S. Bushong, United States Coast Guard, Austin Grohmann, United States Marine Corps, and Austin Gregson, United States Marine Corps.



**Stations of the Cross** will be held every Wednesday evening @ 7pm during Lent- beginning Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in assisting with this, please contact Kevin Schreder at 618-406-7037.

# FROM THE PASTOR...

**Father Linus Umoren, C.M.**

## **Reflection for the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*The pastor visited the parish school. He walked into a fourth-grade class, where the children were studying the states, and asked them how many states they could name. They came out with about forty names. He jokingly told them that students knew the names of all the states in his days. One of the students raised his hand and said, "Yes, but there were only 13 states then."*

Have you ever wondered about the future of the Catholic Church? What about the dwindling number of church attendance especially in our diocese? Have you ever thought of the possible cause for the falling-apart of Christianity and its teachings among our youth? Today, the second-largest denomination in North America seems to be the "Dones" and the "Nones." The "Dones" are those who were baptized by for one reason or the other, they stop attending Church; while the "Nones" are those who claim that they do not belong to any organized religion although they profess being spiritual. Really? Today many values and practices of Christian origin are being questioned and sometimes people fight to do away with them as irrelevant. But one may ask, where do we go from here? I am not sure how many people notice a continuous increase of Moslems, Hindus and Jewish populations in our world. There is nothing wrong with the surge of other religious groups. However, our concern should be about the increasing number of Christians who are not practicing their faith.

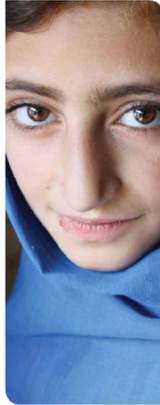
While our first reading this weekend began with caution against not trusting in God, the gospel pronounces blessings upon those who do God's will. The beatitude is a great invitation to a life of virtue and surrender to God's will. Although Mathew presents the beatitude as spoken from the MOUNTAIN TOP, Luke presents it as said from the PLAINS. This difference between Mathew and Luke's claims about the site is significant for their audience. Mathew presents Jesus as another Moses giving the law from the mountain top. In the contrary the plain ground puts Jesus alongside the disciples and the crowd. Thus, Luke claims that Jesus' authority though from God, was for and with the people. He is God among us. However, whenever we listen to the beatitudes, they sound as if God will condemn those who are wealthy or have food or laugh, and on the other hand, abundant blessing awaits those who are poor or have no food or are hurting. What if I say that Jesus is not addressing a social class but rather vices? A close reading of the beatitude reveals that Jesus is warning people against avarice, inordinate attachment to worldly things, gluttony, empty joy, general self-indulgence, flattery, and disordered desire for human glory. At the end, he invites us to link Christian blessedness to humility, openness to God's providence, hope and commitment to the will of God. There is abundant evidence that what we search for in life is found in embracing the teaching of Christ. Self-rejection, unwillingness to forgive our past and present mistakes, biases and hurts are the real obstacles to the ability to appreciate the message of the Kingdom of God.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Quilting Ladies meet every Tuesday (weather permitting) from 12:30pm-4:30pm inside the Parish Center. Please contact Margie Holle if you have any questions.

-Please let the Parish office know if your child will be making their First Communion here at St. Augustine's this Spring. Email [staug@htc.net](mailto:staug@htc.net).

OCRS RICE BOWL  
CATHOLIC RELIEF FUND



**FOR LENT  
FOR LIFE**

WHAT YOU  
GIVE UP  
FOR LENT  
CHANGES  
LIVES.

**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 17th, 2025.**

# BINGO

**2025 Super Bowl Bingo was a HUGE SUCCESS THIS YEAR!!!  
A BIG THANK YOU to ALL the volunteers!!!**

*Thank you to all the parishioners who donated desserts and to all  
the ladies that worked with us at the dessert table.*

*Thanks, Mary Kujawski*

**Bingo Players: 453**

**Attendance Prizes: 94**

**ADULT DINNERS SERVED: 561**

**KID DINNERS SERVED: 23**

**Super Bowl 2026**

**Sunday, Feb 8th**

## **SUPER BOWL RAFFLE WINNERS!! CONGRATULATIONS!!**

- 1. Quilt- Marilyn Haudrich**
- 2. Quilt Rack- Barb Carrico**
- 3. Floral Basket- Rita Orlet**
- 4. \$50.00- Mary Walters**
- 5. Grocery Gift card- Laurita Stellyes**
- 6. Grocery Gift card- Pat Stock**
- 7. Grocery Gift Card- Marcia Tyler**
- 8. Grocery Gift Card- Judy Gavin**



# Gibault Catholic High School News

We are still scheduling Shadow Visits through the end of April. We have a great start for our 2025-26 Freshman Class so far – and we are still taking [applications](#)! As a reminder, every student must submit an application, even if they have an older sibling who is a current or former student of Gibault. Scholarship Applications are due no later than March 31, 2025. Registration forms will be coming home later this month – Registration will be March 25-27. A signup genius will be sent out soon. Tuition Assistance Applications are due no later than February 28, 2025. Please email Pam Kueker at [pkueker@gibaulthawks.com](mailto:pkueker@gibaulthawks.com) for more information.

In previous bulletins we introduced the 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope, here's a brief summary of opportunities in our diocese during this Jubilee Year. On January 12 Bishop McGovern issued his Decree for the Jubilee Year which established Jubilee Pilgrimage Sites (e.g. Cathedral of St. Peter, Log Cabin Chapel, National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows and more) in each of our vicariates. Everyone is invited to



make pious pilgrimages to one or more of these Jubilee Pilgrimage Sites to receive a Jubilee Indulgence by participating in Mass or another liturgical service (e.g. Morning or Evening Prayer, Stations of the Cross, pray the Rosary, etc.) at the Jubilee Pilgrimage Site, and making a Sacramental Confession, and receiving Holy Communion, and praying for the Pope's intentions. For the faithful who cannot participate in various

solemn celebrations, or make pious pilgrimages for serious reasons, there are ways that they too can obtain the Jubilee Indulgence. All the details regarding opportunities in our diocese during this Jubilee Year, where to go, what to do, what is the Jubilee Indulgence, how to obtain the Jubilee Indulgence, etc. etc. can be found here <https://www.diobelle.org/news/2433-jubilee-2025> or use the QR code.

*-Deacon Tom Helfrich*

# DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE INFORMATION

## 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>.

To stay informed of Pro-Life events in our Diocese, like and follow our FaceBook page,  
Respect Life Apostolate – Belleville

### RESPECT FOR 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”

### **The 2024 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal**

***Serve the Lord with gladness.***

***-Psalm 100***

***The Society of St. Vincent de Paul truly serves the poorest of the poor through its Cosgrove's Soup Kitchen, SVDP Thrift Store, Help Center and Night Drop-In Center. Men, women and children are provided the basic necessities of life – food, clothing and shelter – and the hope and the tools they need for a better tomorrow. Help St. Vincent de Paul serve those who have no place else to turn. Please make your gift to The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal today.***

**PLEDGES TO DATE: 32**

(\$6,445.00 Pledged as of 2/8/2025)

**98% OF OUR GOAL MET!!!**

(\$6,569.00 is the Parish Goal)



"I was born in El Salvador and came to the United States when I was 12. My family faced many challenges: civil war, immigration, a new language, and culture. Our faith held us together and provided solace during the hard times. After I was confirmed in 2011, I felt a deeper call to be active in the Church, and I began to teach catechism at my parish. One evening, I went out to measure a building for my job with an insurance company...and I got lost. Turning into another building, I went inside, where a receptionist welcomed me to Holy Trinity Seminary. I knew I couldn't keep running from my desire to give more. I ... entered seminary that summer. Being embraced by divine providence in my call to priesthood and through all the challenges of my life allows me to cry out with confidence: Viva Cristo Rey!

Fr. Elmer Herrerea-Guzman, Diocese of Dallas;  
Columbia Magazine, March 2023



**Serra International** is a worldwide organization of Catholic men and women who promote vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Religious Life. Our local club, the **Serra Club of St. Clair County**, works to affirm our Priests and Religious, educates our youth on listening for the call to this life, and prays to increase each member's personal holiness. Would you like to join this important work of the Church? We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of the month for Mass and a meeting at Corpus Christi Parish Center in Shiloh, IL. Contact Marvin Winkeler at 402-214-1155 or [mewinkel51@gmail.com](mailto:mewinkel51@gmail.com) or visit our website at [www.serrastclair.org](http://www.serrastclair.org) for information.



### **2025 VARIOUS QUILT OF THE MONTH RAFFLES IN THE AREA**

- **St. James, Millstadt – Quilt-A-Rama, Tickets drawn the first Monday of every month during 2025. Tickets are \$25.00 each. See your Parish Office for tickets or contact St. James, 618/476-3513.**
- **Our Lady of Good Counsel Renault Quilt of the Month! Tickets are \$25.00 each for the year of drawings. Winner goes back into the box for a chance to be drawn next month. Please call Phyllis at 618-458-6854 or text Lisa 618-444-5544 to purchase a ticket.**
- **Holy Trinity Catholic Church- St. Ann's CCW, Quilt of the Month Raffle 2025 Tickets are \$25.00 each, drawings are held 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month; Contact Carol Geluck for more info! 618-792-9439.**

Robert Mueller's 100th Birthday  
Please join us to celebrate this  
milestone!

Open House  
Sunday, March 2, 1-4 PM  
Hecker Community Center  
230 E. Washington St.  
Hecker, IL

No gifts please.

# Fat Saturday

**Saturday, March 8, 2025**

**3:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.**

**St. Mary's Catholic Church**

**7362 Shawneetown Trail, Ellis Grove, IL**

**All you can eat  
Chicken and Fish  
dinners  
with 4 sides and  
dessert and drinks  
included**

**THERE WILL BE A  
MASS AT  
4:00 P.M. THAT  
EVENING**



***Children under 6 Eat Free  
Children 6 to 12- \$10.00  
Over 12- \$15.00***

**Sponsored by St. Mary's Holy Name Society**