

**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. 05 February 1<sup>st</sup> ,2026**

**Theme for The Forth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Blessed are the humble of the earth, blessed are the poor in spirit! Such are the ones  
God has chosen to confound the strong of this world.

**MASS INTENTIONS:**

Friday 01/30	8:00 am- Roy Schreder
Saturday, 01/31	5:00 pm – Norbert Wittenauer
Sunday, 02/01	8:00 am- For Our Parish of St. Augustine
Friday, 02/06	8:00am- Ruth Cortner
Saturday, 02/07	5:00pm- For the Parish of St. Augustine
Sunday, 02/08	8:00am- Gary Rist, Cletus & Agnes Gregson

**OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 01-25-25:**

Weekly Envelopes- \$  
Loose- \$  
Youth- \$

*Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-25)-*  
**\$2793.30**

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

## SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

### Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 5pm

Set Up: Donna Rheinecker  
Servers: Mallory Kern  
Lector: Donna Rheinecker  
Extraordinary Minister: Angie Kern  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Barb Bruss  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Gary Wittenauer  
Camera:

### Sunday, February 8<sup>st</sup>, 2026, 8am

Set Up: Arnie Eckart  
Servers: Anne & Oliver Karban  
Lector: Alex Birkner  
Extraordinary Minister: Ryan Grohmann  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Betty Schreder  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Elaine Rader  
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, Joan Wittenauer, 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.



## **Messenger Subscription Renewal Weekend Feb. 7-8, 2026**

Please stay connected with your Diocese through a subscription to *The Messenger* Catholic Newspaper. Payments can be made via your Messenger envelope or by credit card at [www.bellevillemessenger.org](http://www.bellevillemessenger.org) and click **SUBSCRIBE** or call 618-722-5045 during business hours for phone payment. The cost for a 1-year subscription is \$40 for printed, home-delivery, \$35 for digital access and \$45 for both.

**Please make checks payable to The Messenger and make sure to include your e-mail address if digital subscription is selected.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Blessing of St. Blaise will take place after mass on January 31, 2026, and February 1, 2026.**

**Anointing of the sick will be also take place after mass on January 31, 2026, and February 1, 2026, after the blessing of the throats.**

- **There is a basket in the back of church to put last year's palms which will be used for ashes on Ash Wednesday.**
- **Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026, Mass time is to be determined.**

**Super Bowl Bingo Reminders...**our event is fast approaching!! Please, if you can, for the dinner we will need **2 PIES OR 1 "9X13" DESSERT (NO CAKES) from all parishioners if possible.** Additionally, all parishioners are also asked to bring **non-perishable items** for the **Attendance Prizes** (one or two) valued at \$5.00. Some ideas for attendance prizes are dish towels, candles, puzzles, small crafts, card games, crosswords, etc.

Thank you for your continued support at our annual Super Bowl Bingo and Dinner.

## **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>.



In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2<sup>nd</sup> (Candlemas Day). Let us make it a point to begin saying "THANK YOU" to our Sisters and Brothers who have made sacrifices for us by accepting God's call. Let them know how important they are in the life of your church and how they help you to honor and pray to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

### **Respect Life Corner**

"A society is all the more human to the degree that it cares effectively for its most frail and suffering members, in a spirit of fraternal love. Let us strive to achieve this goal, so that no one will feel alone, excluded or abandoned."

Pope Francis, Message for the 29th World Day of the Sick 2021 © 2020, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

## Reflection for Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time A

A man died, and he ran into Saint Peter when he got to heaven's gate. He also sees a bunch of clocks on the wall. "What are all those clocks for?" the man asked. "Well," said Saint Peter, "Those clocks move every time someone lies, see that clock over there? That one belongs to Mother Teresa. It has never moved. "Well, what about that one?" asked the man. "That one belongs to Pope John Paul II; it never moves," said Saint Peter. "Where's my clock then?" asked the man. Saint Peter replied, "It's in Jesus's office. He likes to use it as a fan."

Matthew's gospel continues to give us a key to knowing who Jesus Christ is and what he does for our world. Jesus is the man of the beatitudes this weekend. Thus, he provides an understanding of how God relates to the world. Lessons from the Beatitudes show us how the Kingdom of God works.

For St. Mathew, the heart of Jesus' Good News is the Beatitude. Today, the Gospel of the Mass returns to the essential good news. "Blessed are the poor in spirit, blessed are they who mourn, blessed are the meek." Therefore, the Kingdom of God is not just about avoiding sin but also about living a good life. That is a life rooted in God. For example, to thirst for righteousness is a consistent disposition to the love of justice, respect, and tender loving care. Jesus gives the Beatitude to expand our religious horizon. It gives us a clear path in following Jesus. In the Beatitude, Jesus is not inviting his listeners to an admirable attempt at earning salvation by choosing poverty or a mournful life. Instead, Jesus' Beatitudes are statements of grace for those who, of no fault of their own, find themselves in this situation. Also, the Beatitude is not merely an eschatological blessing or what will happen in the next life. Instead, people also experience these blessings in the present life.

However, the grand implication is that the kingdom of God is present for even the unlikely people because the kingdom of God is primarily God's grace before it becomes what we can claim.

There will be a marriage enrichment event on March 7, 2026, to celebrate couples that have been married for ten years or less. It will be held at Corpus Christi Parish in Shiloh, IL. The event will include Mass (optional), dinner, a presentation and renewal of vows by Fr. Robert Flannery, and then dancing (with a lesson from professional dance instructors).

This is not a free event, the cost will be \$50 per couple to help defray the cost of dinner, drinks and babysitting, so everyone will have to register and pay.

Please contact the office by phone, (618) 473-2217 or email at [staug@htc.com](mailto:staug@htc.com) if you are interested in attending.

## 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](http://Glo-Bingo.com/events).



## Knights of Columbus Council #14851

St John the Baptist, Smithton

**2026 Annual Card Social**

Friday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

St John the Baptist Munier Center

111 South Julia Street

Smithton, IL 62285

\$15.00 donation to Play – Beverages Included with Entry

Sandwiches available for purchase.



**ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH  
HECKER, ILLINOIS**

(15 miles South of Belleville on State Route 159)

# **SUPER BOWL SUNDAY**



# **QUILT/CASH BINGO**

**FEBRUARY 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

**Hecker Community Center  
230 E. Washington Street, Hecker, Illinois  
Smoke Free Facility**



**Lightning Round Prior to Bingo**

**BINGO 1:30 P.M.**

No one under 18 allowed in hall during bingo. BL #50884

Attendance Prizes – Raffle – Pot of Gold

**Fried Chicken & Pork Sausage Plates**

Serving 10:00 am-1:00 pm





**Super Bowl Bingo Help/ Workers Needed!**

John Kaiser needs help moving bingo equipment to the Hecker Community Center and help with bingo equipment set-up- if you can help in any way, please meet at the Parish Center on Sunday, February 8<sup>h</sup> @ 8:00

If you would like to help work bingo during the Super Bowl event, please let John know. Bingo begins at 1:30pm, please be at the HCC by 1:15pm to help.

Clean-up crew needed at HCC to take down tables and take bingo equipment back to the Parish Center. We will meet at the Hecker Community Center @ 4:15pm.

We would appreciate any help; it will not take long if we have plenty of it.

Thank you- John Kaiser

