

## 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. 5- February 2nd, 2025**

**The theme for the Presentation of the Lord:** Jesus, the King of glory, yet like us in all things, comes to his temple to be a light for all the nations.

### **MASS INTENTIONS:**

Friday, 1/31 8:00am- Roy Schreder, Shirley Wittenauer and A Special Intention

Saturday, 2/1 5:00pm- Helen Schulte

Sunday, 2/2 8:00am- For our Parish at St. Augustine's

Friday, 2/7 8:00 am- A Special Intention

Saturday, 2/8 5:00pm- For our Parish at St. Augustine's

Sunday, 2/9 8:00am- Cletus & Agnes Gregson and Lois Papenberg



## Presentation



### **OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 1/26/2025:**

Weekly Envelopes- \$1,226.00

Loose- \$323.00

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 8th, 2025, 5pm

Set Up: Donna Rheinecker  
Servers: Mehrmanns  
Lector: Donna Rheinecker  
Extraordinary Minister: Kevin Schreder  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Barb Bruss  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Angi Kern  
Camera:

### Sunday, February 9th, 2025, 8am

Set Up: Margie Holle  
Servers: Lucas Gregson  
Lector: Jonella Donius  
Extraordinary Minister: Margie Holle  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Shelly Fizer  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Betty Schreder  
Camera:

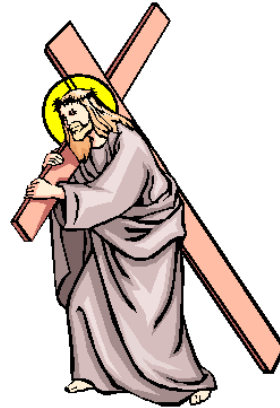
**\*\*The liturgical/set-up schedule is located on the bulletin board in both entrances to church and inside the Priest Sacristy \*\***



### **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, and Gary Wittenauer.

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



**THIS weekend, Blessing of the Throats will take place following both weekend Masses.**

**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 Feast of the Presentation of the Lord**

This weekend we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the temple which reminds us of the Jewish practice of the purification of the mother after childbirth and the presentation of the child in the Temple. According to Jewish law, every firstborn male child must be presented in the Temple forty days after birth, where the mother undergoes a ritual purification and the child is symbolically "redeemed" by offering a sacrifice to God, typically a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons if the family was poor; this practice is based on the idea that the firstborn son belongs to God and is to be "bought back" by the parents. Thus on the feast of presentation we reflect on how Mary and Joseph, in accordance with Mosaic law, took the tiny Jesus to the temple of Jerusalem to offer him to the Lord (cf. Lk 2: 22). However, the unique thing about the presentation of Jesus is that during the event, Simeon and Anna who were faithful Jews and had waited all their lives for the Messiah recognized Jesus as the Promised One. Simeon proclaimed the identity and mission of Jesus in words that expressed his life's fulfillment. Anna on the other hand gave thanks to God for the revelation of his love to the world of which she was a participant. Celebrating this event with candlelight procession is to make us relive the majestic entrance of the Child king, to the temple. Christ comes as the light of the world and salt of the earth. His mission is to bring redemption to the world. Therefore, Christ fulfills this through a life of liberating solidarity with human beings. While still a Child, he sets out on the path of obedience that he was to follow to the very end. St Paul Describes this path thus, "though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name" (Philippians 2:5-11). On the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, we also celebrate the Day of Consecrated Life. Consecrated life is a gift of God. In response to this gift, we thank God for the men and women who are consecrated for the service of God in the churches mission and ministries. The commitment of the consecrated life points to the Kingdom of God that subsist in the church of God. On the like this it is important to remember all the religious men and women who were our teachers and spiritual guidance. We pray for them and unite with them in spreading the gospel of Christ, so that the work of so many past Christian heroes will not be in vain.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Ladies Sodality will meet THIS Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm inside the Parish Center. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Schaltenbrand.

-The next Finance and Parish Council meetings are planned for Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:30pm with Finance and 7:30pm for Parish Council. These meetings may change.

-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.

-Ash Wednesday this year is Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Mass TBA.

-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).



**Super Bowl Bingo Reminders...** 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.



### **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 9<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30am.

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

### **2025 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY COLLECTIONS**

**March 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> - St. Vincent de Paul  
(Waterloo)**


**June 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> - St. Vincent de Paul  
(East St. Louis)**

**August 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> – Life Network  
(Waterloo)**

**November 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> -- HNS Outreach for  
Thanksgiving & Christmas**

# Gibault Catholic High School News

Our Freshman Class is starting to come together! Acceptance Day may be complete but we are still accepting applications! If you missed the Acceptance Day deadline you can still complete the [application](#) for the 25-26 school year. Financial Assistance Applications are due no later than February 28<sup>th</sup>. If you need information on the this, please reach out to Pam Kueker at [pkueker@gibaulthawks.com](mailto:pkueker@gibaulthawks.com). Scholarship applications are due no later than March 31, 2025. Reach out to Pam Kueker with any questions. Placement Test scores are in and currently being reviewed to determine course recommendations. These will be sent out very soon! And we are still scheduling Shadow Visits – It's a great time to see what it is like to be a Hawk!



**FOR 1-8 GRADE GIRLS**

# GIBAULT SOCCER CAMP


**FEBRUARY 1, 8, 15 & 22**

**9:00-10:00AM: 1-4 GRADE**  
**10:00-11:00AM: 5-8 GRADE**

**FR. ED HUSTEDDE GYMNASIUM**  
**@ GCHS**

**\$60 for 4 SATURDAYS**  
**CAMP T-SHIRT INCLUDED**

**REGISTER HERE**



<https://igfn.us/form/0te35A>

**WHAT TO EXPECT:**

- TRAIN W/ HIGH SCHOOLERS & HEAD COACH
- TECHNICAL TRAINING
- FRIENDLY COMPETITION GAMES
- SPEED & AGILITY

**TENNIS OR TURF SHOES**  
**NO SOCCER CLEATS**

# 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

“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 29<sup>th</sup> World Day of the Sick 2021

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### **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: 31**

(\$6,285.00 Pledged as of 2/1/2025)

**96% OF OUR GOAL MET!!!**

(\$6,569.00 is the Parish Goal)



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.



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, educate our youth on listening for the call to this life, and pray to increase our own 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 Winkler at 402-214-1155 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.**

**King's House at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows – Day of Reflection**

***“The Mirror of Consciousness: Seeing the Divine in All Things”***

**Presenter: Paul Coutinho, PhD**

**February 12, 2025, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Shrine Visitors Center**

**Cost: \$60.00 (lunch included)**

Join us for a Day of Reflection to embark on a transformative journey to uncover the profound connection between Ultimate Reality and daily life. Through this exploration, discover how to see God reflected in all creation and embrace a deeper sense of divine connection in daily living. Experience the beauty of the sacred in every moment and learn to live a life rooted in divine awareness. Step into the mirror of consciousness and embrace the infinite presence of the Divine in all things.

Paul Coutinho is a recognized international scholar, speaker and spiritual guide who blends spirituality with psychology and Eastern wisdom with Western spirituality. He regularly conducts workshops, retreats and spiritual direction sessions, addressing the heart's relentless quest for the Divine and the desire to live life to its fullest. Paul has pursued doctoral studies in Psychology and holds a doctorate in Historical Theology from Saint Louis University, where Ignatian Spirituality was at the core of his studies.

**For more information, call Reservations at (618) 397-0584 or register online at**

**<https://kh.snows.org/events/coutinho2025/>**

## Messenger Subscription Renewal Weekend is February 1-2, 2025



Please stay "connected" through  
a subscription to  
***The Messenger***  
Payments can be made in  
The Messenger envelope, or on-line at  
**[www.bellevillemessenger.org](http://www.bellevillemessenger.org)**

**SUBSCRIPTION COST: Print - \$40 | Electronic - \$35 | Both - \$45**

**Make checks payable to The Messenger**

# **EUCHRE TOURNAMENT**

## **SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22 AT 7:00 PM**



(Doors open at 6:00)

Sponsored by St. Michael's Men's Club

- 6 Rounds of Euchre; 12 hands per round
- Partners randomly rotated each round
- Team Points follow player for all rounds
- All you can drink beer and soda
- All you can eat fried chicken (at end of last round)
- Prizes awarded for top 3 places
- Tickets = \$25 per person

Location: St. Michael's Church (Paderborn) Parish Hall  
4576 Buss Branch Road  
Waterloo, IL 62298

Contact for reservations: Rich Kreher at [slark4@yahoo.com](mailto:slark4@yahoo.com)  
or call/text 314-341-4904

*Students will speak THIS weekend at the end of both Masses about this amazing opportunity!! There will be a special collection as well.*



**THE CLASS OF 2025 WILL BE SENDING 11 SENIORS TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC ON A MISSION TRIP IN FEBRUARY, 2025**

**WE WILL PARTNER WITH BLUE MISSIONS, A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT CONNECTS FAMILIES IN LATIN AMERICA TO CLEAN, FRESH WATER SOURCES AND INSPIRES YOUNG PEOPLE TO LEAD THE WAY TO A WATER-SECURE FUTURE**

**FINANCIAL DONATIONS MAY BE MADE VIA QR CODE OR BY SENDING A CHECK TO GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL (501 COLUMBIA AVENUE WATERLOO ILLINOIS 62298) WITH MISSIONS IN THE MEMO**



HOUSE OF NEIGHORLY  
SERVICE

# PIE DAY FUNDRAISER

FEATURING ECKERT'S PIES AT \$25 EACH

ECKERT'S FLAVORS: DOUBLE CRUST APPLE, DUTCH APPLE,  
CHERRY, PEACH, PECAN, PUMPKIN, & STRAWBERRY RHUBARB

ORDERS & PAYMENT DUE FEBRUARY 27TH



PLACE YOUR ORDER AT: [WWW.GIVEBUTTER.COM/HNSPIEDAY](http://WWW.GIVEBUTTER.COM/HNSPIEDAY)

ST. ANN'S NASHVILLE, IL CATHOLIC YOUTH GROUP (CYM) MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER

## Valentine Dinner

*Candlelight Dinner with Full Service & Live Entertainment*

*featuring* **Musical Guest "Twilight"**

**MENU:** Salad, Roast Beef, Roast Pork, Baked Potato, Vegetables, Roll & Dessert,  
Tea, Lemonade, Water & Coffee *with Complimentary Wine & Beer*

**Saturday, February 8th**

**DOORS OPEN 5:30PM**

**DINNER AT 6:00PM**

**\$15 person/ \$30 couple - Pay at the door**

Please place reservations by calling the Parish Office at

**618-327-3232 (Juliann)**

Monday-Friday 9:00am-1:00pm,

Last day for reservations is Monday, February 3rd





Diocese of Belleville  
Young Adults Presents

# BIBLES AND BREWS

**Wednesday, February 12**

Speaker: Fr. Michael Caruso, SJ  
Director of Education/  
Superintendent of Schools  
*Topic - Pray Like a Pro:  
Jesuit Spirituality for Everyone*



**FOR YOUNG ADULTS  
AGES 21 - 35**

**Location: Bennie's Pizza Pub**

113 East Main Street, Belleville, IL 62220

6:30 - 7:00PM SOCIAL

7:00 - 8:30PM EVENT

**Follow Us:**



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[Diocese of Belleville Young Adults](#)





## Monroe County House of Neighborly Service - Monroe County, Illinois

January 27 at 1:50 PM · 🌐

❄️ It may be January and cold outside, but we're already thinking about summer! 🌞

Here at Monroe County House of Neighborly Service, we're kicking off our fun themed collections for the year to prepare for our Summer Lunch Program. January's theme is Cozy Comfort Foods – perfect for the season!

🛒 We're looking for the following item: 28oz cans of baked beans, canned chicken, boxes of mac & cheese (not individual cups), soups (creamed), and 13.5 oz bags of instant potatoes. So far, donations have been a little light this month, and we'd love your help!

📍 Donations can be dropped off at the HNS office Monday-Friday, 9 AM-3 PM.

Thank you for your kindness and support in helping us ensure no child goes hungry this summer. ❤️

