

ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY CATHOLIC CHURCH
310 N. MAIN STREET; PO BOX 126
HECKER, IL 62248
618-473-2217
SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2020

Dear St. Augustine family,

I hope and pray that you and your loved ones are healthy and have the resources you need amidst the current restrictions. We know these measures are designed to protect our wellbeing and that of our broader community and world.

As I mentioned in my letter last week, we have an opportunity to make this a Lent we will remember, not just for the Corona virus, but for drawing closer to God our Father and our Lord, Jesus Christ, through our prayer and Bible reading, as individuals, households, couples, and families.

Though our family at St. Augustine Parish may be physically separated from one another right now, we are blessed to be able to unite with the larger Catholic world in prayer and devotion as well.

In addition to the Eternal World Television Network (EWTN) on cable and satellite, streamed and live-streamed Masses are available from local parishes and larger churches in our country. Please see the list on the opposite side of this sheet. I am exploring the possibility of streaming the private Masses that I say here at Saint Augustine Church, although the production quality will not be as good as other sources.

Our website (www.staugustineofcanterburyhecker.com) and our Facebook page (search for St. Augustine of Canterbury Catholic Church, Hecker, IL) have been updated, by our parishioner, Angi Kern, to include prayer sites and resources for adults, children, and families. Please check these out. Thanks, Angi!

Cancellation of Mass has led to a decrease in our offertory income this past week. I am sure that many of you are experiencing a decrease in income and added expenses, because of the Stay-at-Home order, as well. Our parish will still be paying our school subsidies to Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Grade School and Gibault Catholic High School, as well as the payments to Saints Peter and Paul that assist our school families with tuition. If you are able, please consider continuing to donate to our parish, even in this time when we do not have public Masses.

Please give by check. Please mail your check to St. Augustine Parish, PO Box 126, Hecker, IL 62248, rather than leaving it in the Parish Office Drop Box.

The fact that this pandemic is occurring during our Lenten journey offers each of us important reminders about the role of God, in whom we place our trust, in our daily lives. This is a time for us to remember that God loves us and wants each of us to grow more in love with him through our prayer, Bible reading, and support of and care for each other.

If you have any concerns, please contact the Parish Office at 618-473-2217 or via email at staug@htc.net.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support of St. Augustine of Canterbury Parish.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Von C. Deeke, Pastor