

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. 02 January 11th,2026

Theme for The Baptism of the Lord

Jesus is the beloved Son of the Father. He is the light of the nations and Lord of all creation. To Him be all the glory and praise.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Friday 01/09	8:00 am- For Our Parish of St. Augustine
Saturday, 01/10	5:00 pm – Ruth Cortner
Sunday, 01/11	8:00 am- For Our Parish of St. Augustine
Friday, 01/16	8:00am- Wally Amann
Saturday, 01/17	5:00pm- For Our Parish of St. Augustine
Sunday, 01/18	8:00am- For Our Parish of St. Augustine



OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 01-04-25:

Weekly Envelopes- \$3095.00

Loose- \$171.00

Youth- \$

Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-25)-

\$2783.30

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

Saturday, January 17th, 2026, 5pm

Set Up: Kevin Schreder
Servers: Mehrmanns
Lector: Kevin Schreder
Extraordinary Minister: Gary Wittenauer
Extraordinary Minister (W): Barb Bruss
Extraordinary Minister (W): Annette Schreder
Camera:

Sunday, January 18th, 2026, 8am

Set Up: Arnie Eckart
Servers: Anne & Oliver Karban
Lector: Kay Haudrich
Extraordinary Minister: Dale Haudrich
Extraordinary Minister (W): Elaine Rader
Extraordinary Minister (W): Raeleen Neary
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.



In case you've been wondering...YES, WE ARE PLANNING TO HAVE OUR ANNUAL SUPER BOWL SUNDAY DINNER, BINGO & RAFFLE!!!

You should receive your raffle tickets and letter with detailed information about a month before the event on **Sunday, February 8th, 2026!** Please put that date on your calendar and plan to volunteer to help that day!!!

KIRCHENFEST 2025 – will be held on **Saturday, August 15th, 2026!!!** Please write this date on your calendars now!!!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Christmas decorations will be taken down after the 8:00 am mass on Sunday January 11th. Please plan to stay after mass and lend a hand.**
- **A BINGO Caller is needed for our Bingo on Feb. 8th, 2026. It would be for half of the games. We have one Bingo caller now but need another. Please call the office, 618-473-2217 or John Kaiser at 618-971-7591 if you can help that day.**
- **If you changed your phone number or address, please let us know, so we can update our parish list for the new year.**
- **There are still a few of the 2026 envelope boxes in the back of church that are ready for pickup.**

Sister Joan would like to thank the St. Augustine Choir for their dedication attending practices and for the magnificent Christmas performances they sang for our congregation! Thank you for all your talents and love displayed for all to enjoy.

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>.



Our Gospel for today tells of Jesus beginning his public life by being baptized in the Jordan. He accepts His “call” from the Father to evangelize and ultimately save us from our sins. “This is my Beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” Our mission is to follow our own call to evangelize. This may be through the priesthood, sisterhood, marriage, or the single life. We need to step up to accept our mission so the Father can say of us “with whom I am well pleased.”

Respect Life Corner

Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in the annual Respect Life novena

9 Days for Life, Friday, January 16 – Saturday, January 24. Get daily intentions, brief reflections, and more by email or text message. Sign up at 9daysforlife.com!

Bulletin Images: <https://www.respectlife.org/9-days-image-gallery>

A Reflection for the Feast of Baptism of the Lord

Have you ever really thought about why we get baptized as Christians? The feast of the Baptism of the Lord calls us to reflect on our baptism, and our relationship with Christ. Baptism is not just a tradition of Christianity but a doorway to life in Christ. Christians are baptized to be united with Christ, forgiven, filled with the Spirit, welcomed into the Church, and sent to live as God's beloved children.

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus steps into the waters of the Jordan not because He needs repentance, but because He chooses solidarity with sinners, with the poor, with every human story. As He rises from the water, the heavens open, the Spirit descends, and a voice declares: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." Jesus did not need to be baptized but he went into the waters of baptism to show us the way of reconciliation with the Father. He sanctified the waters of Baptism that all who are baptized in the name of the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit may participate in his life.

Therefore, Baptism is not simply a ritual memory rather it is an identity we live from every day. In Baptism, God speaks over us: You are my beloved. Which means before we succeed or fail, before we prove anything, God claims us as His own.

The Spirit who descended on Jesus also rests upon us, sending us into the ordinary places of our lives as witnesses to mercy, justice, and hope. To live our Baptism is to walk as Jesus walked that is choosing humility over pride, compassion over indifference, obedience over self-centeredness.

This feast invites us to return to the waters in our hearts: Where do we need to remember we are God's beloved? Where is the Spirit calling us to reflect Christ more clearly? May we hear the Father's voice again — and allow it to shape the way we love, serve, and belong.

Note that the Feast of Baptism of the Lord brings us to the end of the Christmas Season. We now return to the Ordinary time of the Church.

Make *The Messenger* a part of your New Year's Resolution! *The Messenger* brings you the stories of real people quietly living their faith through compassion and good works. Inspirational stories that show our Catholic faith is alive and well in southern Illinois. Subscribe to *The Messenger* at 618-233-8670.

To subscribe online go to www.bellevillemessenger.org

The 2025 Catholic Services and Ministry Appeal

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.

St. Peter & Paul Holy Name Society 17th Annual Euchre Tournament

Friday, January 30th, 2026

SPPS Grade School Gym, Waterloo

Tickets are \$30.00 and include.

7 rounds of Euchre (12 hands per round)

Beverages (soda, water, and beer)

All you can eat fried chicken (at the end of the last round).

For Information or questions, contact

Tim Huels 618-406-6399

Josh Phelps 618-978-4048