

## 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. 2- January 12th, 2025**

**The 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 glory and praise!

### **MASS INTENTIONS:**

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Friday, 1/10   | 8:00am- Annabelle Hoffarth and Shirley Wittenauer         |
| Saturday, 1/11 | 5:00pm- Jerry Mollet and Duane Mollet, and Howard DuChene |
| Sunday, 1/12   | 8:00am- For our Parish at St. Augustine's                 |
| Friday, 1/17   | 8:00 am- Norbert Wittenauer                               |
| Saturday, 1/18 | 5:00pm- Shirley Wittenauer's Months' Mind                 |
| Sunday, 1/19   | 8:00am- For our Parish at St. Augustine's                 |



### **OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 1/5/2025:**

Weekly Envelopes - \$412.00

Loose- \$57.00

*Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-24)-  
\$1,934.14*

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

## SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

### Saturday, January 18th, 2025, 5pm

Set Up: Kevin Schreder  
Servers: Mehrmanns  
Lector: Kevin Schreder  
Extraordinary Minister: Alice Kuehn  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Angie Parker  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Marvin Parker  
Camera:

### Sunday, January 19th, 2025, 8am

Set Up: Elaine Biffar  
Servers: Doerrs  
Lector: Ryan Grohmann  
Extraordinary Minister: Dennis Biffar  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Betty Schreder  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Dale Haudrich  
Camera:

**\*\*The liturgical/set-up schedule is located on the bulletin board in the front entrance 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 Stellinghorn, 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.



**Anointing of the Sick  
will be held after  
Sunday Mass only  
THIS weekend.  
(Due to Mass  
cancellation last  
Sunday)**

*Gathering to pray the Rosary will be THIS weekend before Sunday 8am Mass, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025, @ 7:40am. (Making up from Mass cancellation last weekend)  
Contact Scott Gregson if you would like to volunteer.  
Scott can be reached at 618-581-3368.*

# FROM THE PASTOR...

Father Linus Umoren, C.M.

## Reflection on the Baptism of the Lord

*There is a joke about a Pentecostal baptismal service. A drunk stumbles across a Pentecostal baptismal service on Sunday afternoon down by the river. He proceeds to walk down into the water and stand next to the preacher. The minister asks the drunk, "Mister, are you ready to find Jesus?" The drunk says, "Yes, I am."*

*The minister then immerses the man under the water and pulls him right back up. The preacher asked, "Have you found Jesus?" The drunk said, "No, I didn't!" The preacher then dunks him under for quite a bit longer, brings him up and says, "Now, brother, have you found Jesus?" The man replied, "No, I did not." The preacher in disgust holds the man under for at least 30 seconds this time then brings him out of the water and says in a harsh tone, "My God, have you found Jesus yet?" The drunk wipes his eyes and says to the preacher... "Are you sure this is where he fell in?"*

The story of Jesus' baptism, which we read in the gospel of Luke this weekend, is closely linked to the epiphany. However, Jesus' baptism event is strange given the fact that Jesus is God and was conceived of the Holy Spirit. John the Baptist describe Jesus as the one who will be baptized with water, and the Holy Spirit and fire. Although before the baptism of Jesus, John did not speak so much about the Holy Spirit Jesus' baptism witnessed the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Him. God himself proclaims the identity of Jesus. Jesus' baptism thus, transforms the Christian baptism from a mere ritual act for the forgiveness of sin to actual participation in the divine life of Christ. To participate in all that is human, the Son of God also participated in the cleansing waters of baptism; but subsequently, offers the gift of a new life and adoption through faith. It is that gift of adoption through faith that we renew as we celebrate the baptism of Christ this weekend. Note also that the celebration of the baptism of Christ brings the Christmastide to an end. Henceforth, we return to the ORDINARY TIME of the Church's year C.

## ST. AUGUSTINE'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

-The 2025 Parish Directory is available at both entrances to church.

-Ladies Sodality will meet 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.

-Choir will not meet for practice until February.

### 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**

# 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

“When we encounter Christ, experience his love, and deepen our relationship with him, we become more aware of our own worth and that of others. His love for each person is cause for great joy, and growing understanding of this priceless treasure motivates us to share his love with others. Our lives are often changed by the witness of others; so too, others’ lives may be changed by our witness and authentic friendship with them.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

### **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 1/3/2025)

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

(\$6,569.00 is the Parish Goal)



“Though I was raised in a Catholic family and blessed with good priests throughout my life, the priesthood did not attract me when I was young. In fact, during college, I didn’t even practice the faith. The Lord eventually led me back to the Church, and when he began to call me to the priesthood, I was both terrified and excited. He was asking me to sacrifice my will and to trust and follow him. This meant breaking up with the girl I was dating and placing my desires for fatherhood and family into his hands. Had I been called when I was younger, I wouldn’t have been mature enough in my faith to answer with the generosity and trust that let me to the priesthood.”

Father Jonathan Schnobrich, Diocese of Burlington, Vt.  
*Columbia Magazine October 2020*



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 Winkeler 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.**
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- **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.



**ST. AUGUSTINE CHURCH  
HECKER, ILLINOIS**

(15 miles South of Belleville on State Route 159)

# **SUPER BOWL SUNDAY**



# **QUILT/CASH BINGO**

**FEBRUARY 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**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



# You're Invited to the 2025 Women's ACTS Retreat!

## Deepen your faith and renew your spirit!

- **When:** February 6-9, 2025
- **Where:** Our Lady of the Snows Shrine, Belleville, IL
- **Hosted by:** Saints Peter & Paul Catholic Church, Waterloo, IL

## What to Expect:

- The ACTS weekend is a time for inspiration, encouragement, and spiritual growth
- You'll connect with other faith-filled women
- Lodging, meals, and transportation are included in your registration
- Scholarships are available

## Register today!

- Contact: Anita Toth (618-719-7925) or Suzan Knese (314-703-1365)
- Online: [www.sppcc.org](http://www.sppcc.org)

*Take a leap of faith, step away from daily demands  
and spend quality time with Jesus.*

**"Here I Am, Lord! Send Me."**

*(Isaiah 6:8)*

Ss. Peter & Paul  
**HOLY NAME**  
SOCIETY

## 17th Annual Euchre Tournament

Friday, January 31st, 2025  
SPPS Grade School Gym, Waterloo  
Doors open at 6:30 PM  
Tournament starts at 7 PM

Prizes awarded for top 3  
places in 2 flights at a  
minimum.

Tickets are \$25 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 please  
contact:  
Tim Huels (618-406-6399)  
Josh Phelps (618-978-4048).

Young Adult

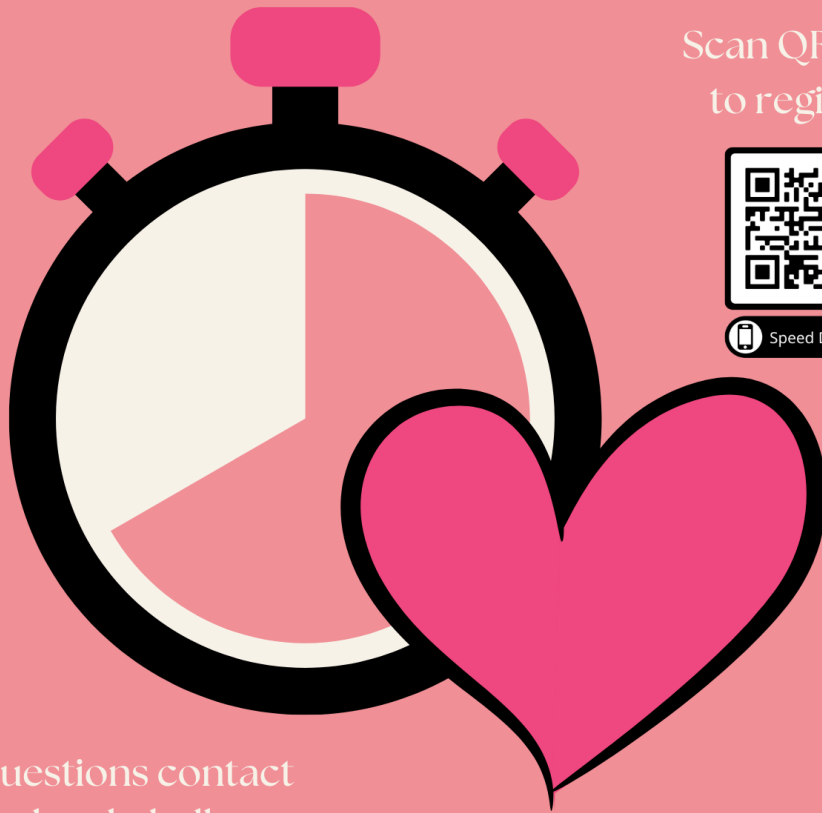
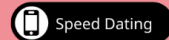
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# Catholic Speed Dating

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Ages 21-33

Scan QR code  
to register



For questions contact  
[mksorch@diobelle.org](mailto:mksorch@diobelle.org)

Thursday, February 27th, 2025

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Check in 6:30 PM, Event 7:00-9:30 PM

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Holy Trinity Parish, Fairview Heights, IL



Catholic  
*Single Moms*

**Faith Sharing and Fellowship**

Bringing single Catholic moms together  
for faith and support! For all mom ages  
... come with or without kids!

**Sunday, Jan 19, 2025 2-4 pm**

**St. Clare of Assisi Parish  
1411 Cross St. O'Fallon IL  
Babysitting provided**

For more info:  
[mking@diobelle.org](mailto:mking@diobelle.org)

