

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. 03 January 18th,2026

Theme for The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus, the Lamb of God is the light of the nations who came to do the Father's will.
In Christ we have been called to be a holy people.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Friday 01/16	8:00 am- Wally Amann, Special Intention
Saturday, 01/17	5:00 pm – For Our Parish of St. Augustine
Sunday, 01/18	8:00 am- For Our Parish of St. Augustine
Friday, 01/23	8:00am- Michael Amann
Saturday, 01/24	5:00pm- David Bruss
Sunday, 01/25	8:00am- For Our Parish of St. Augustine

OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 01-11-25:

Weekly Envelopes- \$4215.00

Loose- \$161.00

Youth- \$5.00

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

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

Saturday, January 24th, 2026, 5pm

Set Up: Cindy Grohmann
Servers: Mallory Kern
Lector: Cindy Grohmann
Extraordinary Minister: Angie Kern
Extraordinary Minister (W): Marvin Parker
Extraordinary Minister (W): Angie Parker
Camera:

Sunday, January 25th, 2026, 8am

Set Up: Sister Joan
Servers: Doerr's
Lector: Alex Birkner
Extraordinary Minister: Kyle Doerr
Extraordinary Minister (W): Ryan Grohmann
Extraordinary Minister (W): Betty Schreder
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

- **A Special Thank You to Dawn Grohmann and all the adults and children who help set up and take down the Christmas decorations. Your help is truly appreciated. Our church looked so beautiful for the Christmas Season.**
- **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.**
- **Please feel free to take a poinsettia or two after mass for yourself or for someone you may know that would like a poinsettia. They are still so pretty.**

Gibault Update

We are excited to celebrate our Class of 2030 on Friday, January 16 – it is shaping up to be a great class already! We are still taking applications - Go to <https://gibalthawks.com> and click “APPLY” to apply. Tuition Assistance Applications are also being accepted until February 28, 2026. All 7th and 8th graders can schedule a shadow visit and spend the day with one of our Student Ambassadors. Go to <https://gibalthawks.com> and click “INQUIRE” to request more information. Questions can also be emailed to our Admissions Coordinator, Pam Kueker at pkueker@gibalthawks.com. We want to welcome your student Home at Gibault!

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>.



“When I was 6 years old, I told my mom I could never be a nun – I’d get too hot in a habit, I said, and faint. Thank God never stops drawing our hearts to himself! The Lord led me to religious life through experiences of serving the poor with my family. My dad, an optometrist, organized annual eye care missions in underserved countries; we accompanied him several times. In middle school, I read a book about Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Her deep spirituality and witness of love and truth struck a chord in me. She became for me a model of a life wholly given to God through service to the poor. When the Lord made my call to religious life clear to me, it was to this life of love and service.”

Sister Lilia Rose – Missionaries of Charity, Kolkata (Calcutta), India.
Columbian Jul/Aug 2025

Respect Life Corner

Each year on January 22, all dioceses in the United States are called to observe a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. January 22 is the anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decisions that legalized abortion throughout our nation. Since then, over 60 million lives have been lost. That’s more than the size of Italy’s population. On June 24, 2022, the Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization decision overturned Roe v. Wade. While God, in His mercy, ended the nearly fifty-year nationwide regime of abortion on demand, state and federal laws, in many instances, are still hostile to preborn children. So, great prayer and advocacy is very needed. This coming Thursday, we set aside a day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life. It is also a day of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion. We are each called to observe this day through the penitential practices of prayer, fasting, and/or giving alms.

<https://www.usccb.org/resources/rlp-20-action-guide-roe-anniversary.pdf>

Reflection for Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Some years ago, I was preparing two new converts to the Catholic faith in the OCIA Order of Christian Initiation class. They were from the Baptist faith tradition. One day, after one of the sessions on faith, one of them said to me, "can I ask you a question that is outside but related to what we have been talking about?" I said yes, you could ask your question, and I will explain it to you if it is what I know. "Do you have a personal relationship with God?" He asked.

I looked at him and appreciated his background as a former Baptist Christian. He wanted to know the source of my authority as a teacher of faith. He offered me an opportunity to testify and to make faith personal. More so, I guess, he was not asking about how I understood my Catholic belief. He wanted to know my relationship with God.

We are used to talking about God and Jesus, theologically and intellectually, in the Catholic Church. This time, if I would help my RCIA candidate, I had to distinguish where I was personally with God from the teaching on faith. I needed to testify that I have an experience of God through my faith. The point was to share how it feels like to have faith. What is my true faith story in my Christian journey?

In the gospel, this weekend, John the Baptist testifies, "I did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.' Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God" (John 1: 33 NAB). Testimony derives from an adventure of faith. A presupposition for testimony is the ability to be congruent with our internal and external experiences and retrieve how they have been challenging, how they have changed, and developed. So, we can say from our hearts that I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God.

If I were to ask, why do you come to the Church, and what are you looking for? What will be your answer? Do you come out of obligation because you would feel guilty for not coming? Do you come because it is a family tradition? Those reasons may get you here, but they may not get you beyond the church building. The most important reason we are here every weekend is that we want to know God, love him, and serve him. We gather that we may identify with a God who first introduced himself to us through his son. Therefore, we celebrate and testify to this relationship in all of our worship. Now, what is your faith story?

At *The Messenger*, we love bringing you Catholic News from Southern Illinois. Support your Catholic faith and parishes in southern Illinois by subscribing to *The Messenger*. To subscribe online for the Paper or E-edition go to: www.bellevillemessenger.org or **Call 618-233-8670.**

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