

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)

Parish Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm (Hours subject to change)

VOL. 60 NO. 4- January 26th, 2025

The theme for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time: Ezra proclaims the word of the Lord which gives spirit and life. Jesus proclaims himself the fulfillment of the Law and the prophets. In him we have become one body with many members.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Friday, 1/24	8:00am- Shirley Wittenauer and Dave Bruss
Saturday, 1/25	5:00pm- For our Parish at St. Augustine's
Sunday, 1/26	8:00am- Judy Fizer, Jerry Mollet and Duane Mollet
Friday, 1/31	8:00 am- Roy Schreder and Shirley Wittenauer
Saturday, 2/1	5:00pm- Helen Schulte
Sunday, 2/2	8:00am- For our Parish at St. Augustine's



OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 1/19/2025:

Weekly Envelopes (57) - \$2,317.00

Loose- \$94.00

Youth- \$13.00

Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-24)-
\$2,240.14

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

Saturday, February 1st, 2025, 5pm

Set Up: Kevin Schreder
Servers: Mehrmanns
Lector: Kevin Schreder
Extraordinary Minister: Alice Kuehn
Extraordinary Minister (W): Annette Schreder
Extraordinary Minister (W): Ruth Wittenauer
Camera:

Sunday, February 2nd, 2025, 8am

Set Up: Arnie Eckart, Sr.
Servers: Doerrs
Lector: Kay Haudrich
Extraordinary Minister: Dale Haudrich
Extraordinary Minister (W): Raeleen Neary
Extraordinary Minister (W): Kyle Doerr
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.



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

2025 5TH SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

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

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

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

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

FROM THE PASTOR...

Father Linus Umoren, C.M.

Reflection for Third Sunday in Ordinary Time of the year C

A child asked his father, "How were people born?" So his father said, "Adam and Eve made babies, then their babies became adults and made babies, and so on." The child then went to his mother, asked her the same question and she told him, "We were monkeys then we evolved to become like we are now." The child ran back to his father and said, "You lied to me!" His father replied, "No, your mom was talking about her side of the family."

The gospel of Luke which we read this weekend describes one of the liturgical practices of the Jews. It is Sabbath and people go to the synagogue to pray and to hear the reading from the Torah and the book of the Prophets. The Rabbi read and explained the words of the scripture. Whoever reads the second text would usually do the explanation or sermon on the text.

In the context that we read this weekend, Jesus a young Rabbi does the reading. And people are willing to hear the word of God. So, Jesus takes the opportunity to launch his message.

The chosen text is from the prophet Isaiah: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me ... He has anointed me to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and new sight to the blind; to free the oppressed and to announce the Lord's year of mercy." Interestingly, Jesus proclaims that the text is fulfilled in their hearing because he (Jesus) is the primary "minister of the divine favor." Christians believe that through Jesus Christ, God's promise to destroy the evils of the world, to eradicate injustice, hatred and oppression has already begun. We believe that God has not only promised to do it but he is doing it right now in our time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The 2025 Parish Directory is available at both entrances to church.
- Ladies Sodality will meet Tuesday, February 4th @ 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 13th 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.
- Ash Wednesday this year is Wednesday, March 5th, 2025. Mass TBA.



Super Bowl Bingo Reminders...our event is fast approaching!! 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 9th @ 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



St. Agatha Designer Purse Bingo

St. Agatha Parish in New Athens will be hosting a Designer Purse Bingo on Sunday, March 2nd, 2025

in the Parish Hall 207 S. Market St., New Athens

Doors open 11:30am, bingo starts at 12:30.

Cost is \$40.00 in advance and \$50.00 at the door.

Price includes:

10 games, 6 paper cards per game, dabber and drinks.

**For advance sales contact Debbie Matzenbacher 618-210-3318
or online at glo-bingo.com.**

Bring your own snacks.

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

Many people are unaware that someone they know personally is silently suffering from participation in abortion. If a friend confided in you tomorrow that she had an abortion, would you be able to respond in a way that brings

her closer to healing? Learn how in
“How to Talk to a Friend Who’s Had an Abortion”:

<http://bit.ly/friend-had-abortion>

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)



My parents gave me and my siblings a joyful and loving childhood where the beauty of the Catholic faith shone brightly. They sent us to a school in Madrid operated by the sisters of the Company of the Savior, whose charism is to cooperate with parents by providing a strong education in a faithful catholic environment. The joy, devotion and dedication of the sisters immediately attracted me. During my last years of high school and my first year of college, I was tempted by new experiences and friendships based on different ideals than those of my youth. It was Mary who opened my eyes to see deeper. She brought me back to the heart of Jesus. Eventually, I embraced His loving call to be only his and joined the Sisters of the Company of the Savior.

Sr. Maria Alguacil; Sisters of the Company of the Savior; Columbia, Sept. 2021



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 1st and 3rd 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 or visit our website at 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 2nd 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 9th, 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



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

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

Make checks payable to The Messenger

Students will speak next weekend at the end of both Masses on Saturday, February 1st and Sunday February 2nd about this amazing opportunity!!

INTERNATIONAL MISSION TRIP

**2025 SENIOR SERVICE PROJECT
GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**



**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**



DID YOU KNOW...?

St. BLAISE

The Blessing of the Throats that take place on this day. Two candles are blessed, held slightly open, and pressed against the throat as the blessing is said. Many Catholics might remember Saint Blaise's feast day, February 3, because of the Blessing of the Throats that take place on this day. Two candles are blessed, held slightly open, and pressed against the throat as the blessing is said. ***The Blessing of the Throats will take the place of the anointing of the sick usually held the first weekend of the month in February.***

Very few facts are known about Saint Blaise. It is believed he was a bishop of Sebastea in Armenia who was martyred under the reign of Licinius in the early fourth century. The legend of St. Blaise tells us that he was born into a rich and noble family who raised him as a Christian. He became a bishop. Later, a new persecution of Christians began. He received a message from God to go into the hills to escape persecution. Hunters discovered a cave surrounded by wild animals who were sick. Blaise walked among them unafraid, curing them of their illnesses.

The hunters recognized Blaise as a Bishop, so they captured him to take him back for trial. On the way back, he talked a wolf into releasing a pig that belonged to a poor woman. When Blaise was sentenced to be starved to death, the woman, in gratitude, sneaked into the prison with food and candles. Finally, the governor had Blaise killed.

Saint Blaise is the patron of physicians, sick cattle, wax- chandlers, wool combers, and of wild animals because of his care for them and of those with throat maladies. He is invoked against afflictions of the throat (Bentley, Roeder). (www.vaticansite.com/prayer-saint-blaise)

