

ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

HECKER, ILLINOIS 62248

REV. LINUS UMOREN, ADMINISTRATOR

PARISH OFFICE 473-2217 FAX 473-9141

E-MAIL ADDRESS: staug@htc.net

PARISH WEBSITE: <https://www.staugustineofcanterburyhecker.com>

To contact Father Linus Umoren, CM when not in Parish Office: Cell 618/666-2217

St. Vincent de Paul Help Line 618/792-4059

House of Neighborly Service Help Line 618/939-8680

Parish Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Closed from 12 noon to 1:00 pm for lunch.

VOL. 56 NO. 1 – JANUARY 3rd, 2021

THEME FOR THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD: All nations are invited to sing the Lord's praises for they have been called to hear the good news and worship the long awaited Messiah and King with the gift of their lives.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat. 1-2 5:00 pm -- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's
Sun. 1-3 8:30 am – For Deceased Priests or Religious from or
Assigned to St. Augustine's, Deceased Holy Name
Members and Deceased KC Members

Sat. 1-9 5:00 pm – Bonnie Casey, Ray Maurer, and A Special Intenti
Sun. 1-10 8:30 am -- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's



DON'T FORGET TO CALL 473-2217 OR EMAIL staug@htc.net THE PARISH OFFICE NO LATER THAN 3PM ON THURSDAYS TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS FOR THE WEEKEND MASSES. THIS SYSTEM WILL BE IN PLACE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

PARISH COUNT: Christmas -- 236

OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD:

Youth (3) - \$5.00

Christmas Year to Date - \$3,200.00

Christmas Loose - \$105.00

PARISH COUNT: 71

OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD: 12-27-20

Sunday Envelopes (77) - \$2,115.00

Loose – \$15.00

Youth (2) - \$6.00

Scholarship Fund - \$485.00

(Total Donated since 8/1/2020)

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, January 9th; 5pm

Set Up: Elaine Biffar

Lector: Charlie Harbaugh

Greeter: Sr. Angela

Usher: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sanitizers: Lori Amann & Mary Schaltenbrand

Sunday, January 10th, 8:30am

Set Up: Donna Rheinecker

Lector: Donna Rheinecker

Greeter: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Usher: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sanitizers: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Please pray for the following:

Darlene Frisch, John & Ellen Daniels, Alice Krysnoski, Jeanelle Dinan, Marge Abel, Cheryl Zanders, Madalyn Killebrew, Stephanie Amann Stosberg, Bill Cowell, Dave Bruss, Ruth Cortner, Aria Wagner, Vickie Van de Riet Minden, Carol Grohmann, Joyce Koetting, Mary Harbaugh Neisler, Ed Weiler, Joe Gregson, Ryan Mueth, Lisa Davenport, Penny Hofstetter, Linda Lehmann, and Dylane & Julie Doerr.

Please call the Parish Office 473-2217 to submit names for the prayer list.



Each week on Thursday afternoons, I will put the bulletins inside the mailboxes & at the beginning of the month the Word Among Us will also be available.

St. Augustine's will be live streaming Masses at 5pm on Saturdays and 8:30am on Sundays. See St. Augustine's Facebook Page.

FROM THE PASTOR...

FR. LINUS UMOREN, C.M.

Reflection for the Solemnity Epiphany

The word epiphany means manifestation or being able to see something that was once hidden from view. The Solemnity of the Epiphany is about three things: God's self-revelation, the Magi, and the gift of universal salvation.

The story of the Magi and the star leading them to Bethlehem is unique to Matthew's Gospel. In this narrative, Matthew doesn't call the Magi kings – nor does he give their names. He does not say how many they were – nor does he tell us which country they came from. But traditionally people have assumed that the Magi were three because they offered three gifts – gold, frankincense, and myrrh to the Christ child. The Magi were willing to follow the star they saw into unknown territory. Their journey took them outside their country and their comfort zone. They also risked the consequences of disobeying Herod by returning to their country in another way. Often than not, the Christian journey is an off-road excursion. It is increasingly becoming the road less traveled. Only a few people are willing to go that way. Herod and his cohort possessed the knowledge of the scripture, but they did not follow it. They did not walk in the light of the scriptures. The magi, on the other hand, saw the star and followed it to worship the new-born king. Worship involves making an exodus from the greatest bondage: slavery to oneself. It means making God sit at the center of our life and making his plans more important than our time, entitlement, or space (Pope Francis).

The beautiful part of the story emerges when we peel off the romantic layers that tradition has added to it. It reveals the inclusiveness of all people in the plan of salvation. It also reveals God's self-revelation, who He is, and how he takes the first step to love us.

The feast of the Epiphany is the feast of faith. It is a feast of seeking and recognizing Jesus, coming to him, and worshiping him. The Epiphany can be understood as a symbol for our pilgrimage through life to Christ. Thus, the feast invites us to see ourselves as images of the Magi, a people on a journey to Christ.



DIOCESAN EVENTS

RESPECT LIFE CORNER

“Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow.” Today we celebrate the manifestation of Christ to the Magi, in the first reading from Isaiah, the glory of God calls all people from all places to Jerusalem to seek the Christ Child. The Magi, or Kings, were Gentiles from the East in search of the Good News. They found it in the humble manager and carried the special message of love and salvation back to their homelands, careful not to see Herod. Their light of love burned brightly and their message of hope was shared and shared again. **Learn, Act, Connect and Pray-**It’s a New Year and a new you! It’s time for all of us to separate ourselves from selfish, sinful or prideful attitudes that keep us from becoming the light Christ wants each one of us to be. We must love each other and serve each other to serve Christ. Let’s join the Magi today and bow before Christ our savior in prayer. Let’s pray for unity in an understanding of what the church teaches on life issues: a respect for life in all its stages is what we are called to live by. We must seek paths that lead us far from abortion, racism, euthanasia, as well as anything that undermines the dignity of life in every situation. We must choose unity and care for those who are vulnerable. Communication and sharing ideas of help and hope show love and respect. By standing with each other, our light can shine brightly for those to see and hence, be a path for others to follow in Christ.

DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE LAUNCHES *PROJECT RACHEL*

Project Rachel is an active ministry in the Diocese of Belleville!!! While we have been home under our stay at home orders, Planned Parenthood has continued 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>.





What a wonderful Gospel account of the Magi traveling to meet the Lord. They followed the star – their “call” -- to come and offer their gifts to the Lord. But the question arises as to how the Magi noticed a star at “night” and no one else really did. Perhaps we need to embrace the “night”, stillness, to “see and hear” our call. How are we doing in discerning our call to Holiness in living our vocation as man, woman, or child; married or single; priesthood or religious of being called to something beyond



HAVE YOU HEARD OF SERRA CLUB? The Serra Club of St. Clair County is an organization of Catholic men and women, dedicated to foster and affirm vocations to the Priesthood and vowed religious life. Our purpose is to inform our community of the need for all vocations. We honor our religious with an annual Nuns Luncheon, a Deacon Dinner, a Priest Picnic and a new Priest Dinner. We pray for our seminarians and help them celebrate their birthdays. For more information please contact Marvin Winkeler (402-214-1155) or Mel Lucash (618-531-4244).
PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!

St. Anthony's Parish, Lively Grove, is offering a monthly Quilt and Cash raffle from August 2020 thru July 2021. Each month a lucky winner will receive a hand stitched, queen-sized quilt or \$300. Winning tickets will go back in the raffle and be eligible for all remaining raffles. Ticket cost is \$40. Please contact Cheryl Hentges, clhentges@yahoo.com or at (618)824-6637 for tickets. Check out our Facebook page to see the quilts. St. Anthony's is sponsoring this raffle as a way to help fill the financial void left by cancellation of our annual picnic due to COVID-19 restrictions.

“QUILT OF THE MONTH” – January –December 2021

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Renault

\$20 per ticket; drawing last Sunday of each Month

Winner need not be present to win

Visit their Facebook page to view the quilts

Our Lady of Good Counsel@OLGC.Renault

Questions, contact 618-458-7710

If interested, some tickets are available in Parish Office at St. Augustine's.

St. Michael's Paderborn is sponsoring a Quilt of the Month Raffle. Raffle begins January 2021 through December 2021. A beautiful queen-sized hand-made quilt will be given away each month. Tickets are \$20 each & give you 12 chances to win. Tickets are available in the Parish Office at St. Augustine's. If you have additional questions, call Sue Walsh at 473-2798, St. Michael's Parish Office.

NEWS FROM GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL...

Raffle-Mania Time! -- It's Gibault's Raffle-Mania time! With a purchase of a \$25 ticket, you are entered for: \$30 Daily Drawings on Monday-Friday from January 1 - May 31, 2021; \$100 Bonus Winner the last day of each month (January - April); GRAND PRIZES in May for \$2,000, \$1,000, \$500, and \$250! If your ticket is pulled for a prize, it goes right back in, so you have the chance to win again! You can buy your ticket online at www.GibaultRaffle.givesmart.com.

Virtual Band Concert -- Our virtual band concert is available online. Let our talented students fill your home with the sounds of the season. Visit our YouTube channel at <http://bit.ly/GCHSYouTube> to enjoy performances by our concert band, jazz band, chorus, and Hawkappellas.

Enrollment News -- Our placement exam for the Class of 2025 is rescheduled for Saturday, January 16, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. Please RSVP to Susan Mackin at smackin@gibaulthawks.com.

We are currently scheduling Private Tours for families who are interested in Gibault. Private Tours include a tour of our campus and a meeting with our Director of Enrollment, Kelly Day, to answer any questions you may have about life as a Hawk. To schedule your tour, contact Kelly Day at kday@gibaulthawks.com.



**Society of St. Vincent de Paul
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Conference**

We are a Catholic lay organization providing service to the needy and suffering. Our Conference includes the parishes of:

- St. Augustine of Canterbury-Hecker
- St. Mary-Valmeyer
- St. Patrick-Tipton
- Saints Peter & Paul-Waterloo

Telephone numbers are 939-0605 and 618-792-4059

Mailing address is P.O. Box 443, Waterloo, IL 62298

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at Adult Faith Formation House at 7:00 PM. New members are always welcome

SEXUAL ABUSE HOTLINE:

Anyone wishing to report an allegation of sexual misconduct by a priest or other diocesan personnel please call the hotline:

800-640-3044.

Purchase SPPCS “Scrip Cards” for your shopping and gift giving needs!

Scrip cards make great gifts and in addition, consider purchasing “scrip cards” to use in place of cash, checks or credit cards for purchases you make.

How does that help St. Augustine families? Each SPPS student family is required to earn \$250 each year in fund raising. Plus, each student must pay \$400 registration and book fees. Then the tuition begins. At the end of each month the rebates from scrip sales are tabulated and applied to the family’s account. You may designate a particular family or St. Augustine students as a group in which case it will be equally divided. Order forms are located in magazine rack in front vestibule of church. Please consider trying this program and perhaps add an item each month to help our parish support the SPPS/St Aug. families with absolutely no cost to you. Order forms may be returned in collection basket with check or given to Betty or Annette Schreder or any SPPS student family. Any questions may be directed to same people.

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Email: subscribe@bellevillemessenger.org

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2620 Lebanon Ave.
Belleville, IL 62221

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www.bellevillemessenger.org