

## 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)

**VOL. 62 NO. 01 January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

### **Theme for The Epiphany of the Lord**

All nations are invited to sing the Lords 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:**

Friday 01/02	8:00 am- For Our Parish of St. Augustine
Saturday, 01/03	5:00 pm – For Our Parish of St. Augustine
Sunday, 01/04	8:00 am- Gary Rist
Friday, 01/09	8:00am- For Our Parish of St. Augustine
Saturday, 01/10	5:00pm- Ruth Cortner
Sunday, 01/11	8:00am- For Our Parish of St. Augustine



**Epiphany Worship**

#### **OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 12-28-25:**

Weekly Envelopes- \$1208.00

Loose- \$222.00

Youth- \$4.00

Christmas Loose- \$388.00

Christmas Envelopes - \$8070.00

*Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-25)-*  
**\$2533.30**

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

**SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND**

**Saturday, January 10th, 2026, 5pm**

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

**Sunday, January 11th, 2026, 8am**

Set Up: Margie Holle  
Servers: Doerrs  
Lector: Ryan Grohmann  
Extraordinary Minister: Kyle Doerr  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Margie Holle  
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 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026!** Please put that date on your calendar and plan to volunteer to help that day!!!

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **Anointing of the sick will take place this weekend after the Saturday, 5:00 pm mass and after the Sunday 8:00 am mass.**
- **If you changed your phone number or address, please let us know, so we can update our parish list for the new year.**
- **The 2026 envelopes are ready for pickup and are in the back of church.**

### **Gibault Updates**

The 2026-27 New Student Application deadline to be included in our January 16 Acceptance Day event is Monday, January 5, 2026. Go to [8:00](#) and click “APPLY” to apply. 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](mailto:pkueker@gibalthawks.com).

## **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**

How do we live out the message of Christmas in the New Year, rather than pack it away with the ornaments? Each year, the Octave Day of Christmas falls on the first day of the New Year, on which we also celebrate the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God. Her open heart and courageous “yes” to God show us how to live year-round—with hearts open to the Lord, following where He leads. We are called to place our trust in Him, to enter compassionately into the suffering of others, and to love one another as Christ loves us. Like Our Blessed Mother welcomed Jesus, we are called to cherish and protect the gift of human life, at every stage and in every circumstance. Copyright © 2024, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C. Reprinted with permission. All rights reserved.

## Reflection for the Feast of Epiphany

*A husband read an article to his wife about how women use 30,000 words a day to a man's 15,000. The wife replied, "That's because we have to repeat everything to men." The husband turned to his wife and said, "What?"*

This weekend we celebrate the solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana. Perhaps that is why Saint John Paul categorized most of these manifestations as a luminous mystery.

We can compare Epiphany to such expressions as *eureka* or *our Aha, moments*. In other words, that which was hidden or not well known is now revealed. In the epiphany story, the Magi occupy a significant place. The Magi are presented to us as the people through whom the mission of Christ is revealed.

We know little about the personalities of the Magi. Nevertheless, what we know about them is enough to help us read their moves. First, the Magi came from the East to Bethlehem. They followed the guidance of the star. Therefore, they were likely astrologers who understood the movement of the stars. Although the Gospel does not say precisely how many Magi paid homage to Jesus, tradition has assumed them to be three based on their three gifts: Myrrh, Frankincense, and Gold. Each of these gifts meant something to the revelation of the person of the child king. Gold symbolized the kingship of Christ, Frankincense represented the divinity and the eternal priesthood of Christ, and Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, symbolized the saving death of Jesus Christ. Consequently, these gifts revealed the true mission of Christ as Priest, Prophet and King. And these are who we become at Baptism.

It is noteworthy that the Magi were willing to follow the star to an unknown territory. The journey took them outside their country and their comfort zone. Additionally, they risked the consequences of disobeying Herod, who had told them to come by his place after they found the king. They were truly wise because they knew and interpreted divine signs and understood the dubious intention of Herod. To where does our star lead us? How do we interpret our daily experiences?

**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](http://www.bellevillemessenger.org) or **Call 618-233-8670.**

## **The 2025 Catholic Services and Ministry Appeal**

May God's blessings pour upon you and grant you and your loved ones a healthy, prosperous and joyful new year. Heartfelt thanks to all of you for your support of the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal and our Belleville Diocese in the past year. You are remembered always in our prayers.

Ministries and Programs Funded by  
The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

### **St. Peter & Paul Holy Name Society 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Euchre Tournament**

Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 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