

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. 61 NO. 28 July 13th, 2025

Sunday: Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The great commandment of love is not something “mysterious” or “remote”. Indeed, it is “very near” to us. Yet how difficult is it to fulfill, being neighbor to whomever is in need. But if we seek God we must “go and do the same,” for we have been created in, and for, and through Christ.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Friday, 7/11	8:00am- Virgil Gregson, Michael Amann, Special Intention
Saturday, 7/12	5:00pm- Jerry & Duane Mollet, John Link, Deceased Members of the Eckart Family
Sunday, 7/13	8:00am- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's
Friday, 7/18	8:00am- Marvin Eckart, John Rheinecker, Ruth Cortner
Saturday, 7/19	5:00pm- Lawrence & Marie Kaiser, John & Eleonora Wittenauer
Sunday, 7/20	8:00am- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's

OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 6/29/2025:

Weekly Envelopes- \$3890.00

Loose- \$370.00

Youth- \$4.00

Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-24)-
\$3,220.14

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

Saturday, July 19th, 2025, 5pm

Set Up: Kevin Schreder

Servers: Mallory Kern

Lector: Kevin Schreder

Extraordinary Minister: Ruth Wittenauer

Extraordinary Minister (W): Gary Wittenauer

Extraordinary Minister (W): Annette Schreder

Camera:

Sunday, July 20th, 2025, 8am

Set Up: Margie Holle

Servers: Doers

Lector: Vicki Biffar

Extraordinary Minister: Kyle Doerr

Extraordinary Minister (W): Lucus Gregson

Extraordinary Minister (W): Margie Holle

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, Gary Rist, Sydney Furman, Delbert Wittenauer, Dorothy Christiansen.

For Active Service Personnel: Justin S. Bushong, United States Coast Guard, Austin Grohmann, United States Marine Corps, and Austin Gregson, United States Marine Corps.



The 2025 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal *Hope in the Lord*

Did you know **YOUR GIFT** to the 2025 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal can be made online? Visit your Belleville Diocese's website at www.diobelle.org and click on "Giving".

It's that simple! Every donation – large or small – is needed to continue our diocesan ministry to those in need. We are counting on **YOU**. Please visit www.diobelle.org today!

PLEDGES TO DATE: 24 81 % OF OUR GOAL MET

\$5,455.00 pledged of 7/6/2025 \$6,718.00 is the Parish Financial Target

FROM THE PASTOR...

Father Linus Umoren, C.M.

A man dies and goes to heaven. St. Peter meets him at the Pearly Gates and says, "Here's how it works. You need 100 points to make it into heaven. You tell me all the good things you've done, and I give you a certain number of points for each item, depending on how good it was.

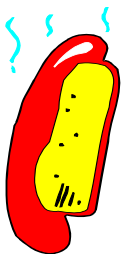
When you reach 100 points, you get in." "Okay," the man says, "I was married to the same woman for 50 years and never cheated on her and loved her deep in my heart." "That's wonderful," says St. Peter, "that's worth two points!" "Only two points?" the man says. "Well, I attended church all my life and supported its ministry with my tithes and service."

"Terrific!" says St. Peter. "That's certainly worth a point." "One point!?! I started a soup kitchen in my city and also worked in a shelter for homeless veterans." "Fantastic, that's good for two more points," St. Peter says. "Two points!?!?" Exasperated, the man cries, "At this rate, the only way I'll get into heaven is by the grace of God who loves us unconditionally." 'Bingo! 100 points! Come on in!'"

This weekend's readings present us with stunning challenges: prejudices, cultural fixation, and the conflict between knowing the law and having the right spirit.

In the first reading, Moses reminds the people that the law is for the common good. He encourages people not to make the rules more complicated than they are. Further, he encourages them to listen to God's spirit in their hearts and allow the laws to lead them to the care of others. In the same direction, the parable of the Good Samaritan, which stands out in the gospel reading, makes three invitations: to set aside our prejudice, show love and compassion for others and act by faith more than cultural bigotry.

The Jews and the Samaritans were enemies. For the Jews, the Samaritans were outcasts. They neither understood the Mosaic law nor followed it outright. However, Jesus condemns this prejudice and highlights how it underrates God's presence in the OTHER. Every human possesses God's spirit in them, and the same applies to God's law. The laws lead us to the love of God. However, the problem is in interpreting the movement of God's spirit in the different regulations. Thus, the correct interpretation is in being compassionate and merciful, and we don't need to read it from books or order it. Instead, it must originate from our hearts; we learn it daily by doing it. Obeying God's law, therefore, comes down to simply showing love whenever and wherever, like praying for someone or giving a get-well card to the sick.



PICNIC



We are looking to fill the chairperson position of the dessert stand at the dinner for next year's Kirchenfest. The current chairperson is retiring after this year. You could work in the dessert stand this year and learn the procedures. Keep in mind, this job is in the air-conditioned hall. If you are interested in chairing the dessert stand, please contact the parish secretary or Aaron Eckart.

Kid's Games

The Chairperson of the kids' game Plinko is asking for \$10 toys for the stand, 1 for boys and 1 for girls. No need to make a basket, the stand chairperson will put these items together in a plastic bag. You can drop the toys off at Laurel Jung's house, the church, or the parish office. Bags will also be provided on the table in the back of church.

Also needed for the Plinko stand are workers, 8th grade or high school to help the day of the picnic. Good for service hours. Call Laurel for more information 618-340-1906

Dressing prep and Dressing Making

There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church on the table for volunteers needed to help make dressing for the Kirchenfest dinner. Dressing prep will take place at the Community Center on Wednesday August 13 at 6:00 pm. Making the dressing will take place at the Community Center on Friday August 15th after mass.

Please realize many volunteers are needed to make our picnic a success.

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

“Adopting Andrew has made us more aware of God's power and of his love for us. We realize that he always has a perfect plan for our lives.” Read more at www.bit.ly/AdoptionLoveStory.



“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart... and your neighbor as yourself.” How powerful are the two Great Commandments we need to live by to “inherit eternal life.” How do you do that in your vocation? First, are you truly living your vocation – are you called to something greater? Are you bringing souls to Christ through your spousal vocation – through your single vocation – through your daily life? Hopefully, we are imitating the Good Samaritan and tending to others. Take some quiet time to pray and listen to what the Lord has intended for you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Father Linus will be traveling to Nigeria to visit his family from July 11- August 19th, 2025.

The Kirchenfest is planned for Saturday, August 16th, 2025! Save it on your calendar!

Thank You!

I would like to extend a special thank you for all who sent birthday cards, gifts, and wishes my way for my 94th Birthday. I was overwhelmed with joy by how many people contacted me, on my special day. Thank you all so much and may God bless you.

Sincerely
Arline Wittenauer

St. John the Baptist – Red Bud Parish Picnic

St. John the Baptist, Red Bud will have their annual church picnic on Sunday July 13.

Doors open and lunch begins at 11:00 am
24 Game BINGO starting at 1:00 pm