

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. 25 June 22nd, 2025

Sunday of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi):

Melchizedek, priest of God Most High, offers bread and wine as a blessing upon Abram. Jesus fulfills this offering, giving us his own Body and Blood under the forms of bread and wine. Thus is our hunger satisfied in abundance as we make our pilgrim way to the heavenly banquet feast.

MASS INTENTIONS:

- Friday, 6/20 8:00am- Arline Wittenauer's 94th Birthday
- Saturday, 6/21 5:00pm- Joan & Gary Wittenauer's 50th Wedding Anniversary,
Jerry & Duane Molle, Joe Wittenauer, and
Cletus & Agnes Gregson
- Sunday, 6/22 8:00am- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's
- Friday, 6/27 8:00am- Jimmy Neary
- Saturday, 6/28 5:00pm- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's
- Sunday, 6/29 8:00am- Urban and Shirley Wittenauer



OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 6/15/2025:

Weekly Envelopes (83)- \$3,125.00
Loose- \$480.00
Youth- \$4.00

Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-24)-
\$3,535.14

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

Saturday, June 28, 2025, 5pm

Set Up: Cindy Grohmann

Servers: Mallery Kern

Lector: Cindy Grohmann

Extraordinary Minister: Barb Bruss

Extraordinary Minister (W): Marvin Parker

Extraordinary Minister (W): Angie Parker

Sunday, June 29, 2025, 8am

Set Up: Sister Joan Weiler

Servers: Lucas Gregson

Lector: Jonella Donius

Extraordinary Minister: Dale Haudrich

Extraordinary Minister (W): John Kaiser

Extraordinary Minister (W): Kyle Doerr



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, Gary Wittenauer, and Jerry Castens.

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: 20 59% OF OUR GOAL MET

\$3,985.00.00 Pledged as of 6/20/2025 \$6,718.00 is the Parish Financial Target

FROM THE PASTOR...

Father Linus Umoren, C.M.

Reflection on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

A four-year-old went to church with the parents. During communion she joined the line. When it got to her turn, the priest wanted to bless her but she requested for communion. His mother leaned over and told her that she was not old enough to partake in the Communion. She did not like that explanation, but she kept quiet.

The following Sunday she went to church again. This time when the collection basket came by, she ignored it. Her mother again leaned over and tried to coax the dollar out of her. She steadfastly refused, stating, "If I can't eat, I'm not paying."

The Solemnity of the most Holy Body and Blood of Christ brings us back to the core teaching of Christ, "do this in memory of me."

At the center of every gathering in the early Church was the breaking of bread. This practice encompassed both communal meals and the Lord's Supper (Communion). Whenever they shared in the breaking of bread and wine, it brought them to the memory of Jesus' sacrifice, and a tangible expression of unity among believers.

In 1 Corinthians 11:20-24, St. Paul writes, "when you meet in one place, then, it is not to eat the Lord's supper, for in eating, each one goes ahead with his own supper, and one goes hungry while another gets drunk. Do you not have houses in which you can eat and drink? Or do you show contempt for the church of God and make those who have nothing feel ashamed? What can I say to you? Shall I praise you? In this matter I do not praise you. For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over, took bread, and, after he had given thanks, broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Several times, people have asked me to explain the word "Transubstantiation" to them.

Transubstantiation is the doctrine that teaches that the bread and the wine after the prayer of consecration by the priest at Mass, substantially assume a new spiritual essence—the body and blood of Christ.

However, like the disciples of Jesus, many people have difficulty understanding and believing in this spiritual essence or new reality. In John's gospel chapter 6, Jesus teaches about the bread of life by explicitly talking about "eating his flesh" and "drinking his blood." Many were disturbed by his words. "When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?" But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, "Do you take offense at this?... The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life (John 6:60-70 NAB).

The bread and wine become a real presence of Jesus in the community of believers celebrating the Eucharist. This happens through the power of the words spoken by the priest, just as he commanded them to do. There the Eucharist is meant to transform us when we receive it. Consequently, each time we celebrate the Eucharist, we remember the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross, we give thanks for such great gift, and we commune together at a common meal, also around Jesus who is actively present through the Eucharistic sacrifice. The Eucharist is a "symbolic reality" of Christ continuous presence in the Church. Whenever we eat the bread and wine at the Eucharist celebration (or brought to us at home or the hospital), we receive into ourselves the very life of Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-There will be a Kirchenfest meeting this Monday, June 23rd @ 7:30pm, inside the Parish Center. Please contact Aaron Eckart if you have any questions/concerns.

-Both Finance and Parish Council Meetings will be on Thursday, July 3rd, 2025, beginning with finance @ 6:30pm followed by Parish Council @ 7:30pm, both meetings inside the Parish Center.

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

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

*Special
Offering*

**Our next 5th Sunday
Collection will be NEXT
weekend, June 28th/29th
for St. Vincent de Paul
(East St. Louis)**

12th Annual LIFE NETWORK BABY BOTTLE COLLECTION

***If you took a bottle, please RETURN them by THIS weekend!
You can leave them at the church entrances near the
bulletin holders or bring to the Parish office...thank you for
supporting Life Network of Waterloo!!!***



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

“Christ’s blood reveals to man that his greatness, and therefore his vocation, consists in the sincere gift of self. ...It is from the blood of Christ that all draw the strength to commit themselves to promoting life.

It is precisely this blood that is the most powerful source of hope, indeed it is the foundation of the absolute certitude that in God’s plan life will be victorious.”

Pope Saint John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae* © 1995,
Libreria Editrice Vaticana.

Today we celebrate the gift of Eucharist. This gift is what truly defines us as Catholics. We rejoice that Jesus gave His Body and Blood for our redemption. This is the remembrance we commemorate during each Liturgy. This is only possible through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass which is celebrated by a priest. We are challenged to pray for more priests; we are also challenged to encourage those who may have a calling to Holy Orders. Pose the question: “Have you ever considered being a priest?”





Society of St. Vincent De Paul Needs Your Help!

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Belleville Council reports record numbers of people staying at its OverNite Center to escape summer's heat and 300+ people per day coming for meals at Cosgrove's Kitchen. With these increased numbers, there is an urgent need for your help. We humbly ask for your prayers for SVDP and its clients and, if you are able, your donation of:



❖ Bottled Water

❖ Gatorade or similar drinks

❖ Individually packaged food items:
cookies, fruit cups, tuna and chicken snack packs
chips, crackers, cheese sticks
cereal, instant oatmeal, Pop Tarts, breakfast bars
soup or pasta in a cup



❖ Food of All Types

Items can be dropped off at:

St. Vincent de Paul Council Office

8800 West Main Street, Belleville, Illinois 62223 (across from Blessed Sacrament Church)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

or

SVDP Thrift Store/Soup Kitchen

3718 State Street, East St. Louis

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; Saturday 9:00 a.m.-12 Noon

For additional information contact Joe Hubbard or Pat Hogrebe at 618-394-0126. Thank you and God bless you for your generosity which enables St. Vincent de Paul's live-saving ministry to the poorest among us.