

**ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY**

**HECKER, ILLINOIS 62248**

**REV. LINUS UMOREN, ADMINISTRATOR**

**PARISH OFFICE 473-2217 FAX 473-9141**

**E-MAIL ADDRESS: [staug@htc.net](mailto: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**

**Confessions:** are heard each Saturday night from 4 to 4:45 pm and  
each Sunday from 8 to 8:20 am.

**Parish Office Hours:** Mondays and Thursdays, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.

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

**VOL. 58 NO. 11 – MARCH 12th, 2023**

**THEME FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT:** Jesus satisfies our thirst for eternal life. Through his Spirit his grace has been poured into our hearts. God satisfies the thirst of the Israelites whose hearts had become hardened and rebellious.

**MASS INTENTIONS:**

- Sat. 3-11 5:00 pm – For Our Parish at St. Augustine's  
Sun. 3-12 8:30 am – David Braun
- Fri. 3-17 8:00 am – John Rheinecker
- Sat. 3-18 5:00 pm – Esther Eckart; Denny Karban; & Wylma Wachtel  
Sun. 3-19 8:30 am – For Our Parish at St. Augustine's



**OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD: 2-26-2023**

Sunday Envelopes (45) -\$2,085.00  
Loose – \$184.00  
Youth- \$9.00

*Scholarship Fund - \$1,563.50  
(Total Donated since 8/1/2022)*

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

**OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD: 3-5-2023**

Sunday Envelopes (125) -\$7,749.95  
Loose – \$202.00  
Youth- \$0  
Scholarship- \$35.00

*Scholarship Fund - \$1,598.50  
(Total Donated since 8/1/2022)*

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

## SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

**Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 5pm**

**Set Up:** Elaine Rader

**Lector:** Ruth Wittenauer

**Servers:**

**Extraordinary Minister:** Elaine Rader

**Camera:**

**Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>; 8:30am**

**Set Up:** Arnie Eckart

**Lector:** May Stellhorn

**Servers:**

**Extraordinary Minister:** Bernadette Gregson

**Camera:**

### **Please pray for the following:**

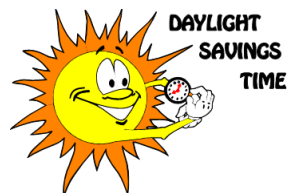
Darlene Frisch, Jeanelle Dinan, Marge Abel, Madalyn Killebrew, Joe Gregson, Walter Krysnoski, Kenny Kern, Marcia Rheinecker, Ricky Wittenauer, Lois Papenberg, Ava Kern, Nancy Grohmann, Damon Stapleton, Jim & Joanne Cowell, Helen Parker, Mike Rheinecker, Gary Brinkman, Doris (Neff) Firnkes, Evelyn Kelley Marquart, Roger Cortner, Frank Kohler, Josh Middendorf, and Ethel Mae Kreher.

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

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



**Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup> – Bishop McGovern has dispensed the abstinence from meat for today only!**



**REMEMBER TO SPRING FORWARD THIS WEEKEND...SUNDAY, MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup>...CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS!!!!**

# FROM THE PASTOR...

**FR. LINUS UMOREN, C.M.**

## *Reflection for the Third Sunday of Lent - A*

*A father wanted to read a magazine but was being bothered by his little girl. She wanted to know what the United States looked like. Finally, he tore a sheet out of his new magazine on which was printed the map of the country. Tearing it into small pieces, he gave it to her and said, "Go into the other room and see if you can put this together. This will show you our whole country today." After a few minutes she returned and handed him the map, correctly fitted and taped together. The father was surprised and asked how she had finished so quickly. "Oh," she said, "on the other side of the paper is a picture of Jesus. When I got all of Jesus back where He belonged, then our country just came together."*

Up to this point, we have been reading the Gospel of Matthew. Nevertheless, the next two Sundays, we will be reading from the Gospel of John. Consequently, this weekend reading is centered on Baptism and new life. We read these readings in Lent because many people are preparing to be baptized during the Easter Vigil and Christ invites them to drink the living water and be refreshed.

The dialogue between Jesus and the woman from Samaria in the Gospel is among the lengthiest and most theological discourse found in Scripture. The most surprising part of the conversation is that famous Jews like Jesus were supposed to avoid talking to women in public. Furthermore, the animosity between the Jews and the Samaritans should have prevented the conversation. The woman herself references the break from tradition when she says: "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" Yet, Jesus does not just talk to the woman; he also asks her to share her drinking vessel, which is against Jewish law. Although the woman understands the importance of water, she does not understand what the living water means. Moreover, she would only appreciate Jesus' gift of the water only if she will not be thirsty again or come to draw water from the well anymore. Notably is the fact that this woman has had more than five divorces. Therefore, her life seems to be a broken experience. She appears lonely given the fact that she goes to the well at noon. The women of the town would have traveled to the well in the early morning. Surprisingly, Jesus does not turn away from this woman. He engages her, takes her seriously and spends several days in her community. Thus, the woman and her community become an important issue for Jesus. On the other hand, the woman becomes a witness to Christ. The heart of this story is the dramatic transformation of the woman. However, we also see the toughness and tenderness of Jesus at work. He is both unyielding and compassionate. In the same way, Jesus supports us as we move towards Him and when we have Him where he belongs, He helps our whole life fall into place better.

## 2023 SCHEDULE FOR LENT, TRIDUIM, EASTER

- **WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT:**  
**St. Augustine Stations of the Cross held at 7pm**
- **FRIDAYS DURING LENT:**  
**St. Augustine - Mass at 8 am followed by Stations of the Cross**  
Ss. Peter & Paul -- Stations of the Cross following the 8am Mass and at 6:30pm through March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- **MONDAY, MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup> - Reconciliation at 7:00 pm—Ss. Peter & Paul**
- **Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup> – Reconciliation Service 7:00 pm – St. Augustine**
- **Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup> – Bishop McGovern has dispensed the abstinence from meat for today only!**
- **FRIDAY, MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup> – Fish Fry 4:30-7:30pm – Ss. Peter & Paul**
- **HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 6<sup>TH</sup>**  
**7:00 PM MASS, ST. AUGUSTINE**  
Ss. Peter & Paul - 7:00 pm Mass
- **GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**7:00 PM STATION OF THE CROSS FOLLOWED BY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE, ST. AUGUSTINE**  
Ss. Peter & Paul - 3pm Stations of the Cross and 7:00 pm Service
- **EASTER VIGIL, SATURDAY, APRIL 8<sup>TH</sup>**  
**7:00 PM MASS, ST. AUGUSTINE**  
Ss. Peter & Paul -- 8:00 PM Mass
- **EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**8:30AM MASS, ST. AUGUSTINE**  
Ss. Peter & Paul - 8:00 am and 10:00 am Mass



**Congratulations to Janella Neary on being selected as the 2023 Illinois 4-H Emerald Clover Award Winner in the area of Leadership! Janella will receive \$75 gift certificate to select Illinois 4-H merchandise from the State 4-H Office. Janella is an active member of the Clover Friends 4-H Club, 4-H Federation, 4-H Teen Teachers and is an Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team representative.**



# CONGRATULATIONS



This month's WHS Character Award goes to students who are Destined for Success. We look forward to working with these students as they continue to experience success during their time at WHS and into their futures. **Our very own Emma Day & Cailee Mudd are among this group!!! We are so proud of you!!!!** Congratulations, and keep up the excellent work! The WHS Renaissance Student of Character Award is given each month to deserving students nominated by a teacher.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## COMING EVENTS

**(Flyers, if available, are located in 3-ring binder at front entrance to church if you are looking for additional details)**

**Mar. 19<sup>th</sup>** – Meat Raffle, benefits St. Patrick's Ruma; held at The Bale Out, 7533 Rt. 154, Baldwin; 2pm

**Mar. 25<sup>th</sup>**- St. Boniface Euchre Tournament, Knights of Columbus Hall, Evansville, Sign-up @6pm, play starts 7pm, \$10.00 per person, no partner needed.

**Mar. 26<sup>th</sup>** – Designer Purse Bingo; St. Agatha's Parish Hall New Athens; Opens 11:30am; Bingo at 12:30; \$40 in advance or \$50 at door. Price includes 10 games, dabber & drinks; bring own snacks; Contact Debbie Matzenbacher 618/210-3318.

*Edith Barber from St. John the Baptist, Smithton, is forming a small group for a prayer gathering outside Planned Parenthood on March 30<sup>th</sup>, 3pm. For more information, please contact her at [barbeream@gmail.com](mailto:barbeream@gmail.com).*

Gibault Women's Club  
**Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup>**  
5:00 - 9:00 \$30/person



**Enjoy an evening of food and drink tastings  
from our local vendors.**

Entertainment by the Gibault Jazz Band and Lanny and Julie

- scan the QR code for details and to purchase tickets online
- visit <https://ghs-womensclub.square.site>
- tickets can be purchased by cash or check at the school office 8:00-3:00 M-F
- Tickets will also be available to purchase at the door.



## **St. James' Spring Quilt/Cash Bingo**

Sunday, March 26th, 2023  
Held in the Parish Center  
423 W. Madison St.

Millstadt, IL 62260

Doors open at 10:30AM

Bingo starts at 1:00PM

*Beautiful Handmade Quilts*

*Basket Boutique*

*Fried Chicken Dinner &*

*Refreshments*

We will **not** be accepting canned goods.

**\*\*Bring your own covers.**

Please check our website at

**[www.stjamesmillstadt.com](http://www.stjamesmillstadt.com)**

for updates.

See you there!



## VARIOUS QUILT OF THE MONTH RAFFLES IN THE AREA

- Our Lady of Good Counsel, Renault – January-December 2023. \$20 per ticket; Call 618/458-7710; Limited number of tickets available in Parish Office at St. Augustine's.
- St. Michael, Paderborn – January thru December 2023. \$20 per ticket. Contact Sue Walsh 473-2798. Limited number of tickets available in Parish Office at St. Augustine's.
- St. Liborius Parish, St. Libory – March 2022 thru February 2023. \$40 each; Limited tickets available in Parish Office at St. Augustine's.
- St. Patrick's Ruma – January thru December 2023; \$20 per ticket; tickets available in the Parish Office at St. Augustine's. Questions call Kathy Schmidt at 618/284-7274.
- St. James, Millstadt – Quilt-A-Rama, Tickets drawn the first Monday of every month during 2023. Tickets are \$25.00 each. See your Parish Office for tickets or contact St. James, 618/476-3513.



Once again, this Lenten Season, the Rice Bowls are available for those who wish to participate. Some are located at each entrance of Church. We just ask that you return your filled bowls prior to Holy Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.



### Save the Date

**March 21, 2023, in Springfield, IL**

- 10:00 am** Mass at Sangamon Auditorium, 1 University Plaza
- 12:00 pm** Rally at the Capitol Building, 401 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street
- 12-5:30 pm** Eucharistic Adoration, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception 524 E. Lawrence Ave.
- 1:00 pm** March around the Capitol Building



## NEWS FROM GIBALT HIGH SCHOOL.....

**Junior High Mixer** Glow Crazy at our Glow Volleyball night on March 31 from 6-8 p.m. at the Gibault gym! All 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to play or watch. Reserve your space at: <https://bit.ly/gchsglow>

### **Enrollment News**

It's the perfect time to visit Gibault Catholic! Your 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grader or current high school student can spend the day living like a Gibault Hawk during a Shadow Visit. You can also bring the whole family for a Private Tour! See our campus and have your questions answered by our Director of Enrollment. Get started at: <https://bit.ly/GCHSInquire>.

Still enrolling for the Class of 2027! Visit <https://bit.ly/GCHSApply>.

### **Post Prom Fundraiser**

Pick up a treat at Scooter's AND help support Gibault Catholic's Post Prom! On Wednesday, March 15, the Waterloo Scooter's location, locally owned and operated by the Schwartz family, is donating 10% of total sales to our post prom! Scoot on over from 5:30 a.m. until 8 p.m. and help our students have a great post prom!

### **Taste of the Region**

Join the Gibault Women's Club for Taste of the Region - Saturday, March 18, 2023!

**We're #gibaultproud of: our Academic Challenge Team** for winning their Sectional competition!







# DIOCESAN INFORMATION

## RESPECT LIFE CORNER

“We are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the ‘culture of death’ and the ‘culture of life’. We find ourselves not only ‘faced with’ but necessarily ‘in the midst of’ this conflict: we are all involved and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life” (*The Gospel of Life* 28).

### 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>.

### ***Journey to Justice Retreat:***

***Catholic Reflections on Our Call to Address Racial Inequity***

**Developed by the Catholic Campaign for Human Development**

**Sponsored by the Belleville Diocesan Racial Justice and Equity Committee**

**Saturday, April 22, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

**(Continental Breakfast Available at 8:30 a.m.)**

**Cabrini Hall, Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church**

**104 N. 17th St., Herrin, IL**

**Cost: \$15 (Includes Lunch and Continental Breakfast)**

## The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal 2023

*"The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord" (Psalm 15).*

### THE 2023 CSMA CAMPAIGN HAS BEGUN...

The initial mailing from the Diocese has been sent to you directly...you may return your pledge card & monies in our collection at the weekend Masses.

*Our goal is 169 pledges for a total of \$6,403.00*

**Pledges to Date: 19**

**\$2,840.00**

**44% of our goal**



“Father Pat York is the Dean of Students and Vice-Rector at Conception Seminary College. Father Pat recalls he considered the priesthood during his eighth grade year. He credits his parents as having the biggest influence on his priestly vocation. They encouraged their children to be open to God’s call as a priest or religious in the Church. The seed of his vocation took root in his family and grew from there. He would ask his parishioners, “Pray for the priests of our diocese. Support your parish priests. Pray fervently to the Lord for more religious vocations.” Fr. Pat also encourages parents to set an example for their children in practicing their faith, “do not treat it as a burden or obligation, but as a gift that is enriching.” (The Tower Topics, by Fr. Paul Sheller, O.S.B.)

**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 pray for vocations & 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. Our club meets every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month at the Shrine of our Lady of the Snows. There is a Mass at 11:45am; lunch, a brief meeting & a prominent speaker. For more information, please contact Marvin Winkeler (402-214-1155) or Mel Lucash (618-531-4244). **PRAY FOR VOCATIONS!** We have a new webpage: [serrastclair.org](http://serrastclair.org)





**St. George Parish  
200 N. Third St, New Baden, IL 62265**

**FISH DINNER**

**Friday, March 31, 2023**

**3:00 P.M. TO 6:30 P.M. All Dinners will include:** 2 Cod Fried Loins,  
Fried Potatoes, Mac-N-Cheese, Green Beans, Stewed Tomatoes, Coleslaw,  
& Cake.

**Dinner Served in St. George Community Life Center  
317 East Maple St., New Baden, IL**

**Cost:** \$15.00 for adults  
\$ 7.00 for children 6-12  
Children 5 & under are free



**Ss. Peter and Paul Fish Fry**

**Friday, March 31**

**4:30 – 7:30 pm**

**Food – Fun – Fellowship**



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*St. Joseph's Fish Fry- Freeburg*

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**FRIDAYS DURING LENT  
SERVING 4PM TO 7PM  
DINE-IN OR CARRY-OUT  
COME IN TO ORDER  
OR CALL 618-539-4720**

## DID YOU KNOW...

### *Why do we give up meat during Lent?*

To begin, Lent is a penitential season, a season when we deny ourselves certain pleasures in order to grow in holiness, and abstaining from meat on Fridays is one such sacrifice. Now, we do these kinds of things for a few reasons:

- 1) We do it to express sorrow and atone for our sins.
- 2) It's like spiritual exercise. It builds up our willpower so that when we're faced with temptations to sin, we're strong enough to resist them.
- 3) It helps to keep our focus on God. By giving up earthly things, it helps to make sure that we don't get overly attached to them to the point that we begin to forget about God. Essentially, it reminds us that as great as earthly things may be, we live for something greater.

So when the Church tells us that we can't eat meat on Fridays during Lent, it's simply imposing a mandatory sacrifice to make sure that we practice at least some self-denial. The Church could've told us to give up anything, but she chose meat on Fridays. The important thing is that we make some sort of sacrifice during these forty days, and by making us abstain from meat on Fridays, the Church is making sure that we do.

**Why Friday?** But that's not to say that there's no rhyme or reason behind this particular sacrifice at all. There is. For one, we do penance on Fridays because that's the day when Jesus died. As he says in the Gospels, "The days will come, when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast" (Matthew 9:15). In this saying, Jesus is the bridegroom, the day when he's taken away is the day of his death, and the "they" who will fast are his followers.

In context (the entire story is Matthew 9:14-17), Jesus is explaining that his disciples didn't fast during his earthly ministry because he was still with them, but they would fast after he was taken away at his death. So to commemorate Jesus' death, the Church today still practices self-denial on Fridays, the day he died.

**Why Meat?** And why do we give up meat specifically? This is where it gets tricky. I've heard multiple reasons for this, and since it's outside my area of expertise, I can't give a definitive answer. However, as far as I can tell, the reason seems to be that in the ancient world, meat was eaten at festive occasions. For example, in the parable of the prodigal son, when the prodigal son finally comes home, his father throws a banquet to celebrate, and he kills "the fatted calf" for the feast (Luke 15:23).

The early Christians didn't think it was right to eat festive foods on the day Jesus died, so abstaining from meat on Fridays became a common practice. This also explains why seafood is okay. When people would eat meat at these celebrations, the meat was that of land animals, not sea creatures, so the Church abstained from the meat of land animals but not from seafood.

Admittedly, this reasoning doesn't really apply to our culture today. We can easily substitute fish for meat, and we don't normally view one as more festive than the other. Nevertheless, this practice can still serve as a legitimate sacrifice for us. For example, you might go out to a restaurant that has a meat dish you absolutely love, and you'll have to get something else. Granted, it's not the biggest sacrifice in the world, but it's still a sacrifice.