

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)

Parish Office Hours: Mondays and Thursdays, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm (Hours subject to change)

VOL. 60 NO. 9- March 2nd, 2025

Theme for the Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time: The fruit of our speech and actions will wither and die unless we first recognize the plank in our own eye. By humbly admitting our own sins, we can more fruitfully persevere in the work of the Lord.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Friday, 2/28	8:00am- Shirley Wittenauer
Saturday, 3/1	5:00pm- Joe Wittenauer
Sunday, 3/2	8:00am- For our Parish at St. Augustine's
Ash Wednesday 3/5	8:00am- Ervin Eckart 7:00pm- For our Parish at St. Augustine's
Friday, 3/7	8am- Jerry Mollet and Duane Mollet
Saturday, 3/8	5:00pm- Don Braun
Sunday, 3/9	8:00am- For our Parish at St. Augustine's



OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 2/23/2025:

Weekly Envelopes (28)- \$1,156.00
Loose- \$276.00
Youth- \$3.00

Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-24)-
\$2,272.14

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

Saturday, March 8th, 2025, 5pm

Set Up: Cindy Grohmann
 Servers: Mallory Kern
 Lector: Cindy Grohmann
 Extraordinary Minister: Kevin Schreder
 Extraordinary Minister (W): Angi Kern
 Extraordinary Minister (W): Annette Schreder

Sunday, March 9th, 2025, 8am

Set Up: Arnie Eckart
 Servers: Doerrs
 Lector: Ryan Grohmann
 Extraordinary Minister: Kyle Doerr
 Extraordinary Minister (W): Lucas Gregson
 Extraordinary Minister (W): John Kaiser

****The liturgical/set-up schedule is located on the bulletin board in both entrances to church and inside the Priest Sacristy ****

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 Debbie Harbaugh.

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
Season
of
Lent*



Anointing of the Sick will be held following both Masses THIS weekend.



	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Pot of Gold	\$916.00	\$970.00

FROM THE PASTOR...

Father Linus Umoren, C.M.

Reflection for the Eighth Sunday in Ordinary time , Year C

There is an Arabian quote that go this way: He who knows not, and knows not that he knows not, is a fool; shun him. He who knows not, and knows that he knows not, is a student; Teach him. He who knows, and knows not that he knows, is asleep; Wake him. He who knows, and knows that he knows not, is Wise; Follow him.

This weekend, Jesus takes us through the route of self-awareness exercise. Consequently, he warns everyone about the danger of following false Prophets, the danger of self-righteousness, the hypocrisy and the danger of a deceived heart.

Humor often uses the element of surprise or reversal. Jesus' use of humor in the parable this weekend leaves us with a great surprise and insight to what real righteousness looks like. His comparison about the blind leading the blind provides us with a fantastic mental picture of two helpless people. And the idea of someone with a plank in his eye trying to take a splinter out of another person's eye sounds like a wonderful performance by a clown. Here we can't miss Jesus' humor and simple teaching. Now, when Jesus warned his disciples about the danger of being led by the blind, he had the Pharisees in mind. This was because the Pharisees prided themselves on being experts in the Scripture and the law. They lived with the arrogance of being qualified and able to tell other people how to live their live. But Jesus who knew the law and who was in fact a fulfilment of the law, and the prophet experienced them over and over, and concluded that they were blind. There's nothing in the world that is more dangerous than devoted ignorance. To be led along the path of life by falsehood is a tragedy, and to say the least, it is a thousand times worse than being in a hopeless situation.

Although the Pharisees were teachers of the law, they did not apply it either to their life or to their relationship with God and others. Therefore, they failed to see Jesus as the prophesied Messiah. However, they were good at condemning others for not observing the letters of the law. Today we can appear like the Pharisees every time we do not reflect on our life.

Did it ever happen that you realized you were trying to condemn someone for their faults and then realized that your own faults were just as many or more? This is exactly the point that Jesus makes. Failure to see the log in my eye and the ability to see the speck in other's eye is a sign of arrogance and lack of self-awareness. Although it is just human to be like that, the ability to recognize one's shortcomings can be a sign of growth.

Therefore, Jesus' call to self-knowledge is a path to humility. In other words, to be aware of our spiritual blindness and how it hinders our lives with others is a sign of spiritual Maturity.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



-Please let the Parish office know if your child will be making their First Communion here at St. Augustine's this Spring. Email staug@htc.net.



-We are looking for a Tiki Trot Chairman for Kirchenfest...please reach out to Aaron Eckart if you are interested @ (618) 920-5258.



- Gathering to pray the Rosary will be **THIS** weekend before Sunday 8am Mass, March 2nd @ 7:40am. Contact Scott Gregson if you would like to volunteer. Scott can be reached at 618-581-3368.



Stations of the Cross will be held every Wednesday evening @ 7pm during Lent- beginning Wednesday, March 12th. Anyone interested in assisting with this, please contact Kevin Schreder at 618-406-7037.

CRS
RICE
BOWL



**FOR LENT
FOR LIFE**

WHAT YOU
GIVE UP
FOR LENT
CHANGES
LIVES.

The Lenten Rice Bowls will be available for those who wish to participate. Boxes will be located at each entrance of Church beginning this Ash Wednesday, March 5th, 2025. We ask that you return your filled bowls prior to Holy Thursday, April 17th, 2025.

Ash Wednesday Services, Wednesday, March 5th, 2025

St. Augustine's-Hecker- 8am and 7pm

Ss. Peter and Paul- Waterloo- 8am, 12:30pm, and 7pm

St. Mary's- Valmeyer- 7pm



Gibault Catholic High School News

We are still scheduling shadows and accepting 2025-26 applications. All Financial Assistance applications for the 2025-26 school year are due **no later than February 28th – we cannot accept applications after this date, so please don't delay!** Due to a scheduling conflict with one of our feeder schools, 2025-26 Freshman Registration has been moved to **April 2 and 3**. A sign-up genius will be sent out in the coming weeks, and course recommendations will be sent out by mail very soon. Any questions or concerns can be sent directly to Pam Kueker, Admissions Coordinator, by calling the school at 618-939-3883, or email: pkueker@gibaulthawks.com.

Stay warm this week – it's COLD outside!

2025 SCHEDULE FOR LENT, TRIDUUM, EASTER
ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY- HECKER

- **ASH WEDNESDAY, March 5th, 2025.**
Masses at St. Augustine 8:00am & 7:00pm
- **WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT Beginning March 12th:**
St. Augustine Stations of the Cross held at 7pm
- **FRIDAYS DURING LENT:**
St. Augustine - Mass at 8 am followed by
Stations of the Cross
- **PALM SUNDAY, April 12th and April 13th, 2025**
Saturday Mass 5pm, Sunday Mass 8am
- **HOLY THURSDAY, April 17th, 2025**
7:00 PM Mass, ST. AUGUSTINE
- **GOOD FRIDAY, April 18th, 2025**
6:30 PM STATION OF THE CROSS FOLLOWED BY
GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE @ 7pm, ST. AUGUSTINE
- **EASTER VIGIL, SATURDAY, April 19th, 2025**
7:00 PM Mass, ST. AUGUSTINE
- **EASTER SUNDAY, April 20th, 2025**
8:00AM Mass, ST. AUGUSTINE

SSPPCC and St. Mary's (Valmeyer) Lenten schedule of Masses, Reconciliation, Stations of the Cross, and Holy Week will be published soon

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

The Gospel of Life is “meant to be a precise and vigorous reaffirmation of the value of human life and its inviolability, and at the same time a pressing appeal addressed to each and every person, in the name of God: respect, protect, love and serve life, every human life! Only in this direction will you find justice, development, true freedom, peace and happiness!”

(The Gospel of Life 5).

The 2024 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

Serve the Lord with gladness.

-Psalm 100

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul truly serves the poorest of the poor through its Cosgrove's Soup Kitchen, SVDP Thrift Store, Help Center and Night Drop-In Center. Men, women and children are provided the necessities of life – food, clothing and shelter – and the hope and the tools they need for a better tomorrow. Help St. Vincent de Paul serve those who have no place else to turn. Please make your gift to The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal today.

PLEDGES TO DATE: 32

(\$6,445.00 Pledged as of 2/8/2025)

98% OF OUR GOAL MET!!!

(\$6,569.00 is the Parish Goal)



I grew up in Kerala, India, where my Syro-Malabar Catholic family planted faith in my heart at a young age. Ever since I can remember, we prioritized family prayer and the rosary, as well as going to daily Mass and weekly charismatic prayer meetings. My faith continued to grow after my family moved to Houston, and later when I went to college. It was during a silent retreat in college that I received my call from Jesus to become his bride. That night changed everything. I no longer wanted to belong to the world; I longed to be with him who gave peace and joy to my heart. After a few years of discernment, I came to know the Disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ and was attracted to the community's charisms of prayer, praise and evangelization, and its love for the cross. To anyone discerning...my advice is to give your whole life to Jesus. He is worth it all.

Sr. Paula Marie Babu

Disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ; Columbia Magazine June 2024



Serra International is a worldwide organization of Catholic men and women who promote vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Religious Life. Our local club, the **Serra Club of St. Clair County**, works to affirm our Priests and Religious, educates our youth on listening for the call to this life, and prays to increase each member's personal holiness. Would you like to join this important work of the Church? We meet the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month for Mass and a meeting at Corpus Christi Parish Center in Shiloh, IL. Contact Marvin Winkeler at 402-214-1155 or mewinkel51@gmail.com or visit our website at www.serrastclair.org for information.



2025 VARIOUS QUILT OF THE MONTH RAFFLES IN THE AREA

- **St. James, Millstadt – Quilt-A-Rama, Tickets drawn the first Monday of every month during 2025. Tickets are \$25.00 each. See your Parish Office for tickets or contact St. James, 618/476-3513.**
- **Our Lady of Good Counsel Renault Quilt of the Month! Tickets are \$25.00 each for the year of drawings. Winner goes back into the box for a chance to be drawn next month. Please call Phyllis at 618-458-6854 or text Lisa 618-444-5544 to purchase a ticket.**
- **Holy Trinity Catholic Church- St. Ann's CCW, Quilt of the Month Raffle 2025 Tickets are \$25.00 each, drawings are held 2nd Wednesday of each month; Contact Carol Geluck for more info! 618-792-9439.**



THE DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE

February 14, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

During Lent, we're invited to reform our lives and ask God to unite our hearts to him through the Catholic tradition of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. CRS Rice Bowl – Catholic Relief Services' Lenten faith-in-action program – invites us to encounter God and our global family by practicing these Lenten pillars.

This year, CRS Rice Bowl celebrates its 50th anniversary. This is a moment for us to recommit to serving our global family where millions of our most vulnerable sisters and brothers are facing life-threatening levels of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition. Seventy-five percent of alms collected through CRS Rice Bowl supports CRS programs around the world. Twenty-five percent stays here in our Belleville Diocese to help fight hunger and poverty.

During this Jubilee Year, the Church calls us to participate in works of mercy. The CRS Rice Bowl collection begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the CRS Rice Bowl collection during this Lenten season. Together, we can respond to Christ's call to help people in need and encourage everyone to reach his or her God-given potential.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Michael McGovern
Bishop of Belleville





LENTEN REGULATIONS 2025

The season of Lent extends this year from Ash Wednesday, March 5th, to the Mass of the Lord's Supper, Holy Thursday, April 17th, inclusive.

1. Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays of Lent.
2. Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 years of age is also bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
3. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is allowed. The other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to one's needs, but altogether they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices are allowed.
4. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the obligation of the law is modified. Those that are excused from fast and abstinence outside the age limits include the physically or mentally ill including individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also excluded are pregnant and nursing women. In all cases, common sense should prevail, and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting.