

## 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)

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

**VOL. 60 NO. 10- March 9th, 2025**

**Theme for the First Sunday of Lent:** Moses recounts great events of salvation history, which find their fulfillment in Jesus Christ. We confess him to be Lord, for God raised him from the dead. He is ever faithful, resisting temptation to forsake his Father's mission, trusting in God's love.

### **MASS INTENTIONS:**

Friday, 3/7	8:00am- Jerry Mollet, Duane Mollet, and a Special Intention
Saturday, 3/8	5:00pm- Don Braun and a Special Intention
Sunday, 3/9	8:00am- For our Parish at St. Augustine's
Friday, 3/14	8am- Deceased Members of the Knights of Columbus and Charlette Tritley
Saturday, 3/15	5:00pm- For our Parish at St. Augustine's
Sunday, 3/16	8:00am- Jerry Mollet, Duane Mollet, and A Special Intention

The  
Season  
of  
Lent



### **OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 3/2/2025:**

Weekly Envelopes (50)- \$1,670.00  
Loose- \$176.00  
Youth- \$

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

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

**SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND**

**Saturday, March 15th, 2025, 5pm**

Set Up: Donna Rheinecker  
Servers: Mehrmanns  
Lector: Donna Rheinecker  
Extraordinary Minister: Alice Kuehn  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Barb Bruss  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Ruth Wittenauer

**Sunday, March 16th, 2025, 8am**

Set Up: Margie Holle  
Servers:  
Lector: Jonella Donius  
Extraordinary Minister: Raeleen Neary  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Bernadette Gregson  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Margie Holle

**\*\*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, Debbie Harbaugh 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.



**Tuesday, March 25, 2025**

**1PM-5PM: Red Cross Blood Drive at Hecker Community Center**

# FROM THE PASTOR...

**Father Linus Umoren, C.M.**

## Reflection for First Sunday of Lent-Year C

*A Catholic priest spied a parishioner enjoying some tasty smoked sausage on Friday during Lent. The priest, being a pragmatic soul, told the man for his penance he was to bring a load of lumber to the church to help repair the roof. The man grumbled but went off to do his penance. He arrived at the church on the next Friday and proceeded to dump a huge load of sawdust into the parking lot. "What's this?" the priest wanted to know. "I told you your penance was a load of lumber, not sawdust." The man replied coolly, "Well Father, if that sausage I ate was meat, then this sawdust is lumber."*

After Jesus' baptism, he went into the desert, where he put himself into the experience of fasting and praying. It is essential to understand that the desert was not a romantic place. There were probably various dangerous animals present there. Besides resources would have been limited and the desert was considered the habitat of evil.

The temptation of Jesus offers an insight into the physical and mental state of Jesus in the desert. He is under attack. There is nothing more intense like having a conversation with the devil. A conversation with the devil can be likened to a paranormal experience because it breaks the routine of what we are used to. Although he faced such attack, unlike the kings and some prophets before him, Jesus did not fall under the weight of his temptation. Instead, He let the Holy Spirit direct him. He grounded himself in the word and the authority of the scripture to rebuke the devil's words and confessed confidence in God's protection and faithfulness.

The central theme of the Season of Lent is submission to the will of God. Anything that draws us to submit to other forces is a temptation. Jesus' attitude before the devil gives us a clue to navigating through our daily attractions and fascinations. As we start our journey through Lent, it is good to know that submission to God is more than silver or gold. In God, we trust.

## 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](mailto: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.

-Please do not use any faucets or toilets in the rectory while sewer maintenance is underway. Thank you.



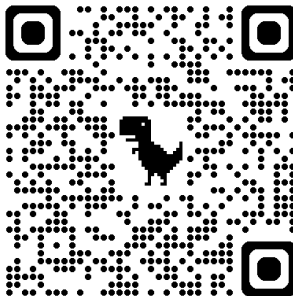
**Stations of the Cross** will be held every Wednesday evening @ 7pm during Lent- beginning **this** Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in assisting with this, please contact Kevin Schreder at 618-406-7037.

Stations of the Cross will also take place every Friday following 8am Mass during Lent.

## *From the Deacon's Desk...*

At the start of Lent, I always like to pass along info to help you with your Lenten prayer, sacrifice, and almsgiving. From Dynamic Catholic “Lent is an invitation to rearrange your priorities—to focus on what matters most and leave behind what matters least. Lent is the season where the Church prepares for Easter. ... Lent spans 40+ days until Holy Thursday. In the fourth chapter of Matthew, Jesus spends 40 days in the desert, fasting, praying, and preparing for his mission. Lent is your opportunity for that same focus. Lent is your invitation to take your spiritual life seriously. Lent is the perfect time to form life-giving habits and abandon self-destructive habits. Lent is your chance to discover the abundant life Jesus invites us to at Easter. Take these 40 days to explore God’s dream for your life and it will change everything.” There are many daily Lenten prayer and reflection aids available from the National Eucharistic Revival, Dynamic Catholic, Ascension, Hallow, Word on Fire, etc. etc. In addition, there are The Word Among Us and the Little Black Books that we make available to you. As we continue our Lenten journey and think about how we will prepare for Easter, if you need help with Lenten prayer I recommend you avail yourselves to one of the many resources available. This link <https://aleteia.org/2025/02/04/worried-about-getting-lent-right-heres-a-better-way> or the QR code will take you to an article with some additional thoughts titled ‘Worried about getting Lent right? Here’s a better way’. Let me know if you have any questions or need any help finding resources to help you.

-Deacon Tom Helfrich





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

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

# 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

“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).

**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)



As we enter our Lenten season, we witness in the Gospel reading Satan tempting our Lord. Jesus final response to Satan's challenges is "You shall worship the Lord, your God, and him alone shall you serve."

Those powerful words remind each of us of our individual call to "serve." Encourage each other to live our vocation, especially those considering a choice of religious life.



**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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:mewinkel51@gmail.com) or visit our website at [www.serrastclair.org](http://www.serrastclair.org) for information.

## 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAYS IN 2025

**March 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> - St. Vincent de Paul (Waterloo)**

**June 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> - St. Vincent de Paul (East St. Louis)**

**August 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> – Life Network- Waterloo**

**November 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> -- HNS Outreach for Thanksgiving & Christmas**

# 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 NOW!

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](mailto:pkueker@gibaulthawks.com).

Stay warm and dry this week!

## **BELLEVILLE TEC (TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST)**

Do you remember the Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) Catholic retreat program? Are you a teenager or young adult (age 17 or older) who is looking for an opportunity to strengthen your relationship with Jesus Christ? Have you ever experienced a TEC retreat and would like one of your loved ones to have the same opportunity? Are you a youth leader who is looking for a retreat program to offer to your Christian youth community? Are you just looking for an opportunity to help share your faith with the young people of the Belleville Diocese? If you answered yes to any of these questions, please contact the Belleville Diocesan TEC board for additional information about upcoming retreat weekends. [Belleville.tec@gmail.com](mailto:Belleville.tec@gmail.com) or contact [bellevilletec.org](http://bellevilletec.org) to apply.

## News from Ss. Peter and Paul Catholic Church

### **XLT Adoration**

**Please join us in church for our next XLT Adoration on Wednesday March 19 from 7 – 8 pm. It will be a great addition to your Lenten prayer. This form of Adoration includes contemporary Christian music, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Eucharistic procession in church, reading and reflection on the Eucharist, a brief period of quiet Adoration, and Benediction.**

