

**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, 8:15 am to 3:00 pm.

**VOL. 58 NO. 21– May 21st, 2023**

**THEME FOR SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER: ASCENSION OF THE LORD.**

**MASS INTENTIONS:**

- Sat. 5-20 5:00 pm –For Our Parish at St. Augustine's  
Sun. 5-21 8:30am – Quentin & Veronica Gregson, Frank Gregson, and Clem Orlet
- Fri. 5-26 8:00 am –John Rheinecker, Norbert Wittenauer, and Eileen Wagner
- Sat. 5-27 5:00 pm – For All Graduates and Veterans in the Parish  
Sun. 5-28 8:30 am – For All Graduates and Veterans in the Parish



**Ascension**

**OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD: 5-14-2023**

Envelopes (44)- \$2,698.00

Loose- \$256.00

Scholarship- \$1,120.00

*Scholarship Fund - \$3,275.50  
(Total Donated since 8/1/2022)*

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

## SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

**Saturday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 5pm**

**Set Up:** Joan Powell

**Lector:** Sr. Angela Laquet

**Servers:**

**Extraordinary Minister:** Gary Wittenauer

**Extraordinary Minister of Wine:**

**Camera:**

**Sunday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am**

**Set Up:** Elaine Rader

**Lector:** Jonella Donius

**Servers:**

**Extraordinary Minister:** Elaine Rader

**Extraordinary Minister of Wine:** John Kaiser

**Camera:** Mike Karban

***\*\*Please let us know by June 1<sup>st</sup> if you would like yourself or your loved one to remain or removed from the prayer list...we will be beginning a new prayer list.\*\****

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

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

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

*Please call the Parish Office 618-473-2217 to submit names for the prayer list.*



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

- Hecker Volunteer Fire Department BBQ Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> 11am-??
- Community Blood Drive Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> Hecker Community Center 1-5pm
- Memorial Day Service Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> 9am- Ss Peter and Paul Cemetery
- Deadline to sign up for the Annual Hecker Village Yard Sale is May 26<sup>th</sup> if you want to be added to the sales map! See flyer in your last water bill.

# FROM THE PASTOR...

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

**Reflection for the Seventh Sunday of the Easter (Ascension of the Lord)**

*During a Sunday school lesson, a child learned about how God created human beings. The child became especially focused when the teacher explained how Eve was created from Adam's ribs. Later in the week, the boy's mother saw him lying down on the floor, so she asked him what was wrong. His reply was priceless: "Mom, I have a pain in my side—I think I'm getting a wife."*

The ascension of the Lord is celebrated 40 days after the resurrection of Christ. The feast of Ascension sustains the hope that one day, we shall be where Christ is. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), "... Jesus Christ, the head of the Church, precedes us into His Father's glorious kingdom, so that we the members of his body may live in the hope of one day being with him forever" (CCC 665-667).

The Biblical accounts of the ascension focus not so much on the event's details as on the mission Jesus gave to his disciples. One would notice, for example, that Luke places the location of the ascension in Jerusalem while Mathew and Mark say that it took place in Galilee. However, what is essential in these narratives is the substance that the Lord Jesus ascended to heaven, and his disciples witnessed it. More so, Luke is interested in indicating that the earthly presence of Jesus came to an end at a specific time. Consequently, before He departed, Jesus gave the divine instruction to the apostles, "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait there for what the Father has promised." The promise of the father had a purpose.

As long as we live, our lives will change. Things will change around us. The Greek philosopher Heraclitus is credited with the idea that the only constant in life is change. Thus, no one can avoid change. It comes in different form and, sometimes, when we are not prepared for it. When things change, we grieve the loss. And like the disciples, we look up and worried about what we once had, which now is no more. Moreover, we become restless about where we go from there and what happens to us next. When Jesus ascended to heaven, while in the state of perplexity, the Angel spoke to the disciples, saying, "This Jesus who has been taken up to heaven will return again in the same way that you saw him go." One way we can understand this is that when things change, it opens the door for new possibilities and opportunities. This is where Jesus' instructions to his disciples makes sense: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait there for what the Father has promised." The promise of the father is to make all things new. The mission of the Holy Spirit is to transform our human condition and direct us to the eternal plan of God. Therefore, when things change, we must look for those places where new possibilities emerge. For example, when someone we love walks away from us or leaves us through death, the way forward is not to stand there looking up in despair but to pick up the pieces and trust that there is a new way to live, a new path to joy, and new relationships to support us. However, we would need to discover this path through the power of the Holy Spirit.



## THE DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE

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Dear Friends in Christ,

I am inviting the faithful in our area to gather for Mass on the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, May 31, at 6:00pm at St. Clare Church in O'Fallon. The Visitation celebrates the meeting of the Blessed Mother with her cousin St. Elizabeth as recorded in the Gospel of Luke (1:39-56). This beautiful encounter of two women, each expecting a child, moves us to marvel with them at the gracious goodness of God who is the Author of all life.

In this time when the sanctity of human life is often disregarded, it is important for us to pray together for an increase in respect for human life at all of its stages, with all of its vulnerabilities. Relying on the power of God, we affirm that every human life should be cherished and respected from conception until natural death; hospitals and healthcare agencies should remain committed to preserving life, not ending it; and that the consciences of healthcare workers should be respected and protected so that they are never coerced into actions that violate their spiritual core.

Please join with me at St. Clare on May 31 at 6:00pm. May Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life give us the strength we need to share the Gospel of Life with our families, friends and neighbors.

In Christ,  
Bishop Michael McGovern  
Diocese of Belleville



## THE DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE

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May 11, 2023

Dear Priests and Deacons:

Bishop Michael McGovern is pleased to announce that he has called the following candidates to the Order of the (Permanent) Diaconate:

Mr. Jay Fowler  
Mr. Brad Haar  
Mr. Anthony Kellerman  
Mr. James Keepes  
Mr. Daniel Kimutis  
Mr. Daniel Laquet  
Mr. Douglas Lugge  
Mr. David Mills  
Mr. David Miskell  
Mr. William Mueller  
Mr. Leonard Ratajczyk  
Mr. Tom Ritzheimer  
Mr. Fred Sterns  
Mr. Justin Wolfslau

The Ordination will take place on Saturday, June 3, 2023, at 10:00 AM, in the Cathedral of St. Peter, 200 W. Harrison Street, Belleville, IL.

You are invited to participate in the ordination liturgy. Please bring your alb and diocesan vestments. Designated concelebrants and deacons are asked to vest in the sacristy. Other concelebrants and deacons will vest in the Undercroft of the Cathedral. Parking is available on the playground of Notre Dame Academy.

A reception will be held immediately following in the McCormick Center.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Very Reverend Steven L. Beatty  
Vicar General



## Memorial Day

Mt. Carmel Cemetery will be celebrating our annual Memorial Day "Rose" Mass at 10101 West Main St, Belleville at the outdoor altar area on Monday, May 29, 2023 at 9 am. Holy Cross Cemetery at 9409 Holy Cross Road, Fairview Heights, will celebrate Mass at 11:00 am. You may pre-purchase a rose for your loved one to be placed on the altar by coming in to the office at Mt. Carmel or mailing in a payment.

## 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. 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.



# DIOCESAN INFORMATION

## RESPECT LIFE CORNER

“The Lord says to us, ‘Do not fear: I am with you’ (Isaiah 41:10). He speaks these words not as one who merely observes our pain, but as one who experienced immense suffering. And the very wounds that bear witness to his suffering indicate the essence of our identity and worth: we are loved by God. Reflecting on the healed wounds of the Risen Christ, we see that even our most difficult trials can be the place where God manifests his victory. He makes all things beautiful. He makes all things new.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, “Be Not Afraid”

NABRE © 2010 CCD. Used with permission.

## 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

## The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal 2023

***The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord - Psalm 15***  
***Our goal is 169 pledges for a total of \$6,403.00***

Did you know YOUR GIFT to The 2023 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal can be made online? Visit your Belleville Diocese's website at [www.diobelle.org](http://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](http://www.diobelle.org) today!

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

**Pledges to Date: 25**

**\$5,115.00.00**

**80% of our goal**



“There was never a dull moment growing up with seven siblings. Little did I know that this experience would prepare me well for Benedictine life, a life of stability in community lived in the enclosure of the monastery. Would I have become a monk if my grandmother had not prayed that one of her grandsons would become a priest; if my dad had not told me, ““It doesn’t hurt to give God the first option””; Nothing is more beautiful than encountering Christ. I didn’t lose my family when I entered the monastery; I joined a family much larger than 10. I belong to God’s family.”

*Fr. Caesarius Marple, OSB; Westminster Abbey, Mission, British Columbia; Columbia Magazine April 2020*



**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)



## **NEWS FROM GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**



### **Enrollment News**

There's still time to become a Gibault Hawk! We are accepting students for the Class of 2027 as well as transfer students for Fall 2023. Get started at: <https://bit.ly/GCHSApply>.

Interested in learning more about Gibault Catholic? Contact Kelly Day at [kday@gibalthawks.com](mailto:kday@gibalthawks.com) for information on all things Gibault or to schedule a private tour of our campus.

### **Summer Golf Classic**

Save the date for our Summer Golf Classic on June 16. Register your team or learn about sponsorship opportunities online at [www.bidpal.net/gibaultgolfclassic](http://www.bidpal.net/gibaultgolfclassic). You may also contact Desiree at 939-3883 or [dfrasure@gibalthawks.com](mailto:dfrasure@gibalthawks.com).

### **Summer Camps**

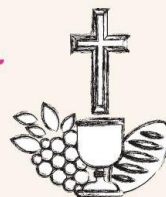
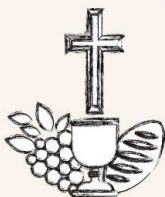
Register your student for our summer camps! Boys' Basketball, Girls' Basketball, and Girls' Volleyball camp registration forms are available at <https://gibalthawks.com/summer-camps-2023/>

We're #gibaultproud of: **Drew Schmoll (Immaculate Conception Parish)** and **Annie Alvarez (St. John the Baptist Parish – Smithton)** who were crowned Prom King and Queen.

Class of  
2023



**VOCATION FIESTA**  
**CELEBRATING OUR**  
**BELOVED DEACONS**



**DAVE MISKELL & TOM HELFRICH**

**Sunday, June 4, 2023**

**SPPCS Outdoor Campus**

(Weather Back Up - A/C Gym)

**Welcome ~ 5:00**

(Dinner and Dancing To Follow)



**Outdoor Movie - Encanto - 7:30**

(Bring Blankets/Lawn Chairs)

**Volunteers Welcome**

(Visit The SignUp Genius on the Parish Website)



**NO RSVP Necessary**

Questions? Contact Lauren Niebruegge (618) 917-6606

**Faith, Fellowship & Fun**



# **Annual Picnic and Homecoming**

**Saturday, July 1, 2023**

**St. Michael's Paderborn, IL**

**“All You Can Eat” Fried Chicken Dinner  
Serving from 3-7pm in our air-conditioned Hall**

**“Hand-Stitched” Quilt/CASH Bingo  
6pm-???**

**(In case of inclement weather,  
play will move into the air-conditioned Hall at 8pm)**

## **Masses**

**3:30PM and 5:00PM**

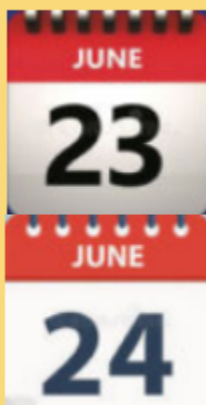
## **\*\*\* RAFFLE PRIZES \*\*\***

- |                                  |                              |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1) \$500 Cash                    | 5) Samsung Chromebook        |
| 2) Hand Stitched Quilt           | 6) Onn 32" Smart TV          |
| 3) Chefman Air Fryer & Oven      | 7) Eufy G32 Pro Robot Vacuum |
| 4) Pressure Washer & Wet Dry Vac | 8) \$100 Cash                |

**Paderborn is located:**

**3 miles off Route 159 / 4 miles South of Smithton, IL  
3 miles North of Hecker, IL / 8 miles South of Millstadt, IL  
On Floraville Road . . . *(watch for the signs)***





## RUMMAGE SALE: June 23 & 24

**Item donations accepted on  
June 17, 19, 20 and 21.**

***Watch the bulletin for more  
details to follow!***

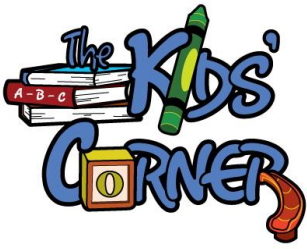


## 2023 GOLD RUSH RAFFLE

The Gold Rush raffle fundraiser opened up in April, and 115 tickets have already been sold! All details can be found on the [e.givesmart.com](https://e.givesmart.com) website. The first 2 drawings will be held on Saturday night of the parish picnic, June 10, and run through the 4 final drawings in October. We are adding a couple of surprises so look for that as well. We will not sell more than 550 tickets so chances of winning one of the 9+ drawings of \$1,000 or more are great since your ticket is put back in each of the drawings! We appreciate your generosity, and we look forward to a successful fundraiser. The amount we raise is split evenly between the parish and the school.

Questions can be directed to **Staci Wittenauer** at:  
[wittens@mac.com](mailto:wittens@mac.com) or 618-791-7131

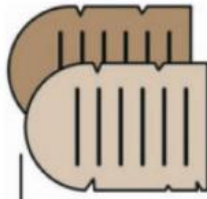
Use this link to buy your tickets now:  
<https://GoldRush2023.givesmart.com>



**JESUS  
LOVES THE  
LITTLE  
CHILDREN**



**of  
the WORLD**



4. Sabbath 3. Name 8. Steal 9. False  
10. Desire 5. Father 2. Idols 6. Kill  
7. Adultery 1. Lord

## TEN COMMANDMENTS

Fill in the blanks with the words on the left of page.

1. I am the \_\_\_\_\_ God. You will have no other gods before me.
2. You shall make no \_\_\_\_\_.
3. You shall not take the Lord's \_\_\_\_\_ in vain.
4. Remember the \_\_\_\_\_ and keep it holy.
5. Honor your \_\_\_\_\_ and mother.
6. Do not \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Do not commit \_\_\_\_\_.
8. You shall not \_\_\_\_\_ from people.
9. Do not give \_\_\_\_\_ testimony against your neighbor.
10. Do not \_\_\_\_\_ other people's things.



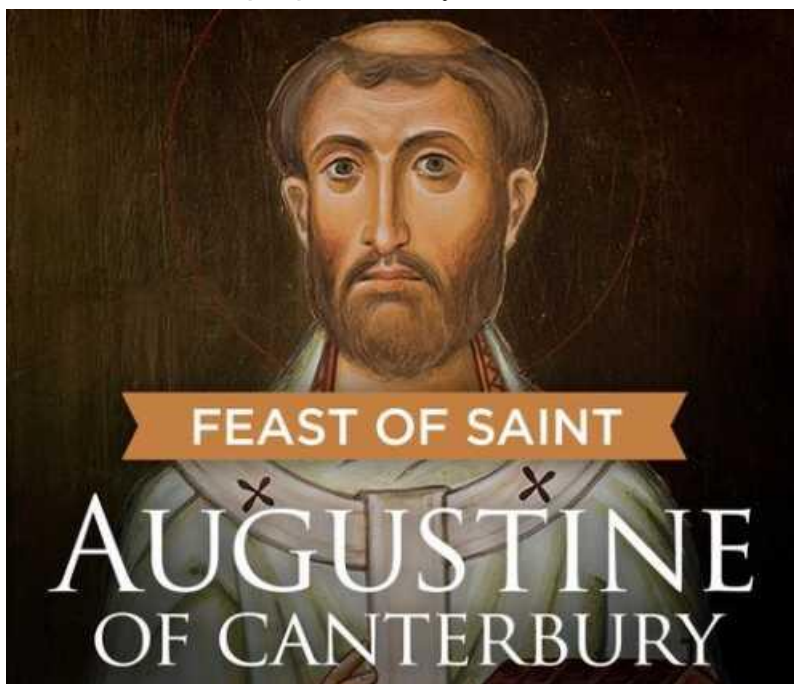
**TRUST IN GOD.**

We can only see a little bit down  
the road, but God can see  
around  
every curve.



Little Church Mouse  
© Ged Backland / Hutch 2016

*DID YOU KNOW...*



**MAY 27<sup>TH</sup>- Feast of St. Augustine of Canterbury**

Augustine of Canterbury comes across today as a very human saint, one who could suffer like many of us from a failure of nerve. For example, his first venture to England ended in a big U-turn back to Rome. He made mistakes and met failure in his peacemaking attempts with the Briton Christians. He often wrote to Rome for decisions on matters he could have decided on his own had he been more self-assured. He even received mild warnings against pride from Pope Gregory, who cautioned him to “fear lest, amidst the wonders that are done, the weak mind be puffed up by self-esteem.” Augustine’s perseverance amidst obstacles and only partial success teaches today’s apostles and pioneers to struggle on despite frustrations and be satisfied with gradual advances.