

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. 60 NO. 21 May 25th, 2025

Theme for the Sixth Sunday of Easter: By listening attentively to the Spirit promised by Jesus, the early Church resolves the question whether Gentile converts need to observe certain Jewish ritual practices. All are called to dwell in the heavenly Jerusalem, founded on the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Friday, 5/23	8:00am- Roy Schreder and Noel & Agnes Roscow
Saturday, 5/24	5:00pm- Ronnie Kelley, Lois Papenberg, and A Special Intention
Sunday, 5/25	8:00am- For All the Graduates
Friday, 5/30	8:00am- Don Braun
Saturday, 5/31	5:00pm- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's
Sunday, 6/1	8:00am- Mel Parker and Annabelle Hoffarth



**Anointing of the Sick
will be held following
both Masses the
weekend of June 7th
and June 8th.**

OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 5/18/2025:

Weekly Envelopes - \$2,638.00

Loose- \$308.00

Youth- \$

*Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-24)-
\$3,175.14*

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

Saturday, May 31st, 2025, 5pm

Set Up: Cindy Grohmann

Servers: Mehrmanns

Lector: Cindy Grohmann

Extraordinary Minister: Marvin Parker

Extraordinary Minister (W): Angie Parker

Extraordinary Minister (W): Barb Bruss

Camera: Dana Mehrmann

Sunday, June 1st, 2025, 8am

Set Up: Elaine Biffar

Servers: Lucas Gregson

Lector: Vicky Biffar

Extraordinary Minister: John Kaiser

Extraordinary Minister (W): Shelly Fizer

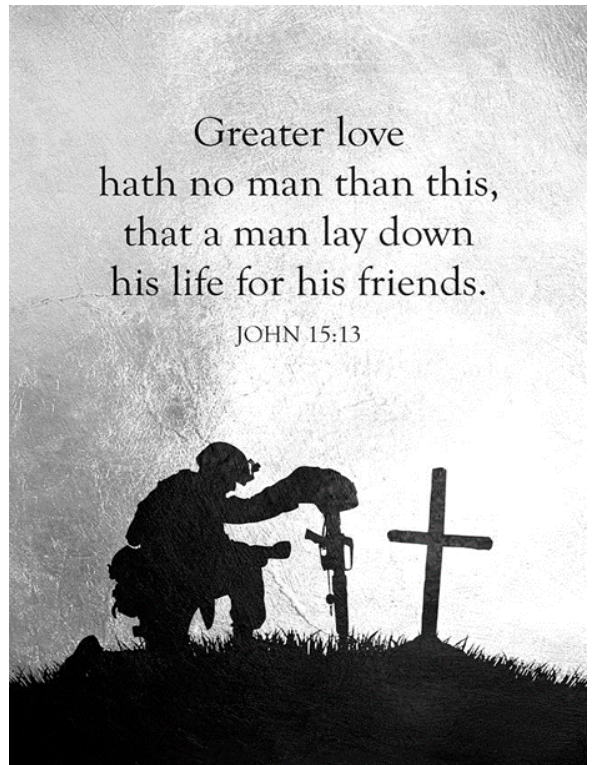
Extraordinary Minister (W): Dennis Biffar



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.



FROM THE PASTOR...

Father Linus Umoren, C.M.

Reflection for Sixth Sunday in Easter

At his first Mass, the new priest had a pitcher of water and a glass on the pulpit. As he preached, he drank until the pitcher was completely empty. On the way out, someone asked one older parishioner what she thought of the new pastor. "He's great," she said with a smile. "But he's the first windmill I ever saw that ran on water.

Conflict and crisis are two words most people are familiar with. If it is not a conflict between nations, it is a conflict between members of the same family. Conflict is often a result of a misunderstanding, misinformation, or disinformation. However, conflict can lead to renewal and growth.

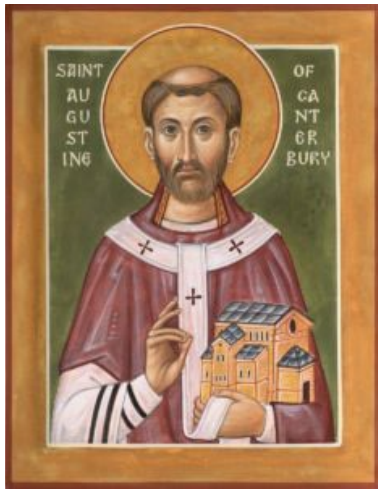
The early Church navigated through some turbulence which resulted in the growth of the Church. The crisis became more when the Apostles tested the Christian message outside the Jewish culture.

In the first reading this weekend, "Some who had come down from Judea were instructing the brothers, "unless you are circumcised according to the Mosaic practice, you cannot be saved." Paul, who was sensitive to the culture of the Gentiles did not entirely agree with this idea. His determination to evangelize the Gentile culture led him to argue for a culture-neutral Christian discipline. At this time, Christianity was perceived as an internal Jewish renewal movement, and the Jewish Christians continued to observe the religious practices of their Jewish culture. For example, circumcision, Sabbath fellowship, customary purification, etc. Unfortunately, some of these practices became criteria for Christian membership. Two main factors brought this issue to a crisis point. 1) Paul allowed his Gentile convert to be free from the Jewish religious practices, and this "dispensation" seemed to have brought a lot of Gentiles to the faith. 2) Some conservative Jewish believers feared that Paul presented a "watered-down" Christianity to the Gentiles. Hence, the Gentiles were dangerously taking over the Christian faith they knew very little about. This divide provoked division among the early Apostles, the first bearers of Christ's message. Therefore, they sent some men to Jerusalem to clarify this matter.

The decision of the elders not to burden the Gentile convert with the Jewish religious practices brought renewal to the early Church.

But above all, it opened up Christianity to other cultures. Thus, in Christ, there is neither Jew nor Greek.

But what must we do to be saved? Nicodemus posed this question to Jesus earlier, and people still ask this question today. To be saved, we must first believe in God, love Him, and love our neighbor as ourselves. Love and faith are the essential ingredients in living the Christian message. The change in requirement for Christian membership or way of worship does not diminish the effect of our religious worship. Besides, the spirit continues to give life to the Church even in the least of all cultures.



A Special Mass has been added for the Feast of Saint Augustine this Tuesday, May 27th, 2025 @ 8am, here at St. Augustine's-Hecker.



Gathering to pray the Rosary will be NEXT weekend before Sunday 8am Mass, June 1st, 2025 @ 7:40am. Contact Scott Gregson if you would like to volunteer. Scott can be reached at 618-581-3368.

Students from Gibault will speak at both Masses this weekend about their experiences on their recent mission trip!!





***The Parish Family of
St. Augustine's of
Canterbury wishes to extend to
all our family members, friends
and neighbors our
congratulations on your
graduation!!***

Kings House at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows Visitors Center – God First Loved Us

Starting September 12, 2025, through May 1, 2026.

Retreat begins on Friday at 4:00pm through Sunday's at 1:00pm

The new quiet retreat of King's House at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows delves into Pope Francis' la

test encyclical, *Dilexit Nos* (meaning "He loved us"), a beautiful meditation on the human and divine love of Christ. Using the heart as a symbol of the core of the person, this retreat will explore the Holy Father's description of Sacred Heart devotion, focusing on how we can find healing, comfort, inspiration and community in our contemplation of the love emanating from the Heart of Jesus.

Minimum Donation: \$250.00 per person (includes lodging and meals).



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: 17 58% OF OUR GOAL MET

\$3,910.00.00 Pledged as of 5/23/2025 \$6,718.00 is the Parish Financial Target

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

“Even the weakest and most vulnerable, the sick, the old, the unborn and the poor, are masterpieces of God’s creation, made in his own image, destined to live forever, and deserving of the utmost reverence and respect.”

**USCCB Respect Life flyer quoting Pope Francis’ “Day for Life Greeting”
© 2013 Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.**

Jesus prepares the apostles for his return to His Father in heaven. He gives us His peace. Unfortunately, peace has not always been upon us. This weekend, we gratefully and prayerfully remember all those who sacrificed their lives serving our country. This ultimate giving of oneself, as Christ did, is the most selfless act of love we humans perform. That raises the question - are we that giving of our spiritual selves? Today provides an opportunity for us to take a moment to reflect on how well we are fulfilling our vocation in life – ordained, married, consecrated, or single. Perhaps a prayer of recommitment is appropriate as we give thanks for those who have sacrificed so much for us.



SS PETER & PAUL CHURCH PICNIC

LIVE MUSIC, HOT FOOD, COLD BEER,
INDOOR BINGO & GAMES FOR ALL AGES

PICNIC STARTS AT 4:00 PM EACH NIGHT | CHICKEN DINNER (SAT ONLY) 3:30-6:30 IN SPPCS GYM

PROUDLY WELCOMING WATERLOO SINGERS CO - SATURDAY @ 5:30

**FRIDAY,
JUNE 6**

FEATURING

WHITE STONE REVIVAL

**FISH FRY &
BURGER STAND**

BINGO @ 7:00

IN AIR CONDITIONED GYM

**SATURDAY,
JUNE 7**

FEATURING

BRYAN TOBEN BAND

**CHICKEN DINNER
& BURGER STAND**

BINGO @ 7:00

IN AIR CONDITIONED GYM

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Conference**

We are a Catholic lay organization providing service to the needy and suffering. Our Conference includes the parishes of:

- St. Augustine of Canterbury-Hecker
- St. Mary-Valmeyer
- St. Patrick-Tipton
- Saints Peter & Paul-Waterloo

Telephone numbers are 939-0605 and 618-792-4059

Mailing address is P.O. Box 443, Waterloo, IL 62298

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at Adult Faith Formation House at 7:00 PM. New members are always welcome

SEXUAL ABUSE HOTLINE:

Anyone wishing to report an allegation of sexual misconduct by priest or other diocesan personnel please call the hotline:

800-640-3044.

**Purchase SPPCS “Scrip Cards” for your shopping
and gift giving needs!**

Scrip cards make great gifts and in addition, consider
purchasing “scrip cards” to use in place of cash, checks or
credit cards for purchases you make.

How does that help St. Augustine families? Each SPPS student family is required to earn \$250 each year in fund raising. Plus, each student must pay \$400 registration and book fees. Then the tuition begins. At the end of each month the rebates from scrip sales are tabulated and applied to the family’s account. You may designate a particular family or St. Augustine students as a group in which case it will be equally divided. Please consider trying this program and perhaps add an item each month to help our parish support the SPPS/St Aug. families with absolutely no cost to you.

St. Augustine’s contact for the Scrip Program is Angi Kern.
You may reach her at 618/973-7580 (call or text) or email her at 51014wedding@gmail.com.

**Have The Messenger
delivered to your door.
Subscribe Today!**

Call: 618-235-9601

Email:
[subscribe@belleville
messenger.org](mailto:subscribe@bellevillemessenger.org)

Mail your request:
The Messenger
2620 Lebanon Ave.
Belleville, IL 62221

Meet us on the web:
[www.bellevillemessenger.](http://www.bellevillemessenger.com)



There is a new cremains section addition inside the St. Augustine's Cemetery. Please see the fee list for updated non-parishioner and parishioner costs. Please see someone on the St. Augustine Cemetery Committee for any questions or concerns you may have.

<u>(casket) Parishioner Fees:</u>	
1 Grave	\$450.00
2 Graves (1/2 Lot)	\$900.00
4 Graves (1 lot)	\$1,800.00
<u>(casket) Non-Parishioner Fees:</u>	
1 Grave	\$850.00
2 Graves (1.2 Lot)	\$1,700.00
4 Graves (1 Lot)	\$3,400.00
<u>(cremains) Parishioner Fees:</u>	
Single for cremains	\$700.00
Double for cremains	\$1,000.00
<u>(cremains) Non-Parishioner Fees:</u>	
Single for cremains	\$800.00
Double for cremains	\$1,200.00
<u>Ground Opening Fees for Graves:</u>	
Casket-	\$650.00
Cremains-	\$350.00