

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. 18 May 4th, 2025

Theme for the Third Sunday of Easter: Jesus appears to seven of his disciples, among them Peter who proclaims his unfailing love for the Lord. Jesus commissions him to feed the sheep. Later, in face of persecution, Peter and the apostles proclaim the name of Jesus, the Lamb who was slain and who rescues us from death.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Friday, 5/2	8:00am- Dennis Holle
Saturday, 5/3	5:00pm- Norbert Wittenauer
Sunday, 5/4	8:00am- For All First Communicants
Friday, 5/9	8:00am- Jerry & Duane Mollet, Jimmy Neary, and Lawrence Biffar & Arlene Klinkhardt
Saturday, 5/10	5:00pm- For All Mothers of the Parish
Sunday, 5/11	8:00am- For All Mothers of the Parish



OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 4/27/2025:

Weekly Envelopes (38)- \$1,580.00

Loose- \$249.00

Youth-

Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-24)-

\$2,975.14

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

Saturday, May 10th, 2025, 5pm

Set Up: Cindy Grohmann
Servers: Mallory Kern
Lector: Cindy Grohmann
Extraordinary Minister: Angie Kern
Extraordinary Minister (W): Marvin Parker
Extraordinary Minister (W): Angie Parker

Sunday, May 11th, 2025, 8am

Set Up: Margie Holle
Servers: Doerrs
Lector: Ryan Grohmann
Extraordinary Minister: Kyle Doerr
Extraordinary Minister (W): Margie Holle
Extraordinary Minister (W): Betty Schreder



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, Jerry Castens, and Robin Booth.

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



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



Gathering to pray the Rosary will be THIS weekend before Sunday 8am Mass, May 4th, 2025 @ 7:40am. Contact Scott Gregson if you would like to volunteer. Scott can be reached at 618-581-3368.

FROM THE PASTOR...

Father Linus Umoren, C.M.

Reflection for Third Sunday of Easter Year C

Sr. Anita was teaching Sunday school class. The topic for the day: Easter Sunday and the Resurrection of Christ. "What did Jesus do on this day?" she asked. There was no response, so she gave her students a hint: "It starts with the letter R." One boy yelled, "Recycle!"

The Easter story is more astonishing than the Nativity story because it is easier to proclaim that Jesus was born of a woman than to say He rose from the grave. Even Jesus' disciples, who were closest to him and spent the most time with him, had difficulty understanding the resurrection. For example, when the women first brought the message that they went to the grave and did not find His body but that an angel told them that He rose, Jesus' disciples did not jump up to sing alleluia. Instead, they dismissed the women's testimony as a piece of idle talk.

The Gospel narrative this weekend incorporates two stories: the appearance of Jesus to the disciples at the seashore and the rehabilitation of Peter. Jesus continued to surprise the disciples whenever he appeared. Shortly before Jesus' appearance in this narrative, Peter announces to the other disciples, "I am going fishing." This statement seems to indicate frustration with the way events unfolded after the crucifixion of Jesus. Evidently, some disciples were disappointed that what they invested their lives in did not work out.

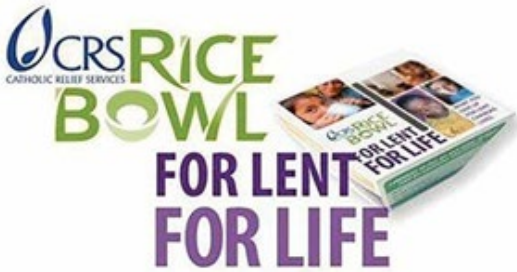
How frustrated are we because the people in our life are not what we want them to be? We want our God to be there when we most need Him; We want our spouses or children to be motivated, understanding, and attentive. But they often fall short and appear distant from our problems and needs. So, we want to give up.

Additionally, like the disciples of Jesus who do not quickly recognize Jesus as he stands close by, we feel helpless. Our wounded hearts blind us from recognizing how God comes to walk with us in our distress; and our misery makes us see nothing but a dark tunnel. However, when we realize God is standing by us, He takes our minds away from our fate and directs us to our destiny. Then, finally, we can say, "it is the Lord."

Announcements:

-The Kirchenfest Committee is looking for a Tiki Trot Chairman- please reach out to Aaron Eckart if you are interested @ 618-920-5258.

-Graduation Mass request forms are now available at all church entrances and on the Parish Office door. They are also available on our website www.staugustineofcanterburyhecker.com. They are due back NTL May 15th, 2025.



Because of your generous collections and donations of CRS Rice Bowl during Lent, St. Augustine's was able to make a \$264.46 donation to Catholic Relief Services!

Thank you!



**Congratulations to First Communicant, Forrest Doerr!!
Many blessings to you from your
St. Augustine Parish Family!!**



Diocese of Belleville

Dear Friends in Christ,

On March 31, our Holy Father Pope Francis appointed me the new Archbishop of Omaha. As I will soon conclude my ministry as Bishop of Belleville, I thank all of you for your prayers and for sharing your faith with me throughout the past five years. I enjoyed being your Bishop and have seen many signs of hope for the future of our diocese. I hope that the seeds we have planted will, with God's blessing, come to fruition in the years ahead. For more reflections on these years, please read our Diocesan newspaper, *The Messenger*, April 24, 2025.

I ask for your prayers during this time of transition. Also, please keep the intention of a new bishop in your daily prayers as the diocese awaits the Holy Father's appointment of a new shepherd.

After May 1, you may write me at the Archdiocese of Omaha, 2222 N. 111th St., Omaha, NE 68164-3817

With gratitude in the love of Christ,
Bishop Michael McGovern

Graduate's Mass Request Form

For those students graduating from Pre-School, Kindergarten, Grade School, Junior High School, High School, Trade School, or College/University, we will recognize you on your efforts at Masses on May 24th & 25th. To be sure you are recognized, we will need to have this **form completed and returned ASAP but no later than May 15th, 2025.**

Student Name:

Names of Parents & Grandparents:

School:

Degree (If applicable): _____

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

A special thanks to everyone who has so generously supported the 2025 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal – we are most grateful.

If you haven't had an opportunity to make a gift as yet, we hope you will prayerfully consider doing so now. Gifts can be made through your parish or by visiting www.diobelle.org and clicking on "Giving".

Seventeen (17) ministries and programs and all those they so faithfully serve are counting on **YOU**.

Please make your contribution today!

PLEDGES TO DATE: 17 58% OF OUR GOAL MET

\$3,910.00.00 Pledged as of 5/2/2025 \$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

“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.



Today's Gospel story is the powerful question of Jesus to Peter: “Do you love me?” Then Jesus charges him to “Feed my Sheep”. This charge is given to each and every one of us. We are all called to tend to the flock in our Parish but also to those who are not among us. We must fulfill this through the living out our own vocation – single, married, religious or ordained. We must encourage and support each other to the max to live our calling. Prayerfully we ask for help to discern our call, perhaps even to the priesthood or religious life.

St. Patrick's Church, Ruma Annual Strawberry Festival

Rt. 3 South, Turn Right
at the "Y" in Ruma, IL

**Sunday,
May 18, 2025**

11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.



Sunday Mass—8:00 a.m.

Dinner Includes Fried
Chicken &
all the Fixins'
Plus
Strawberries & Ice
Cream!

Carry Outs Available
No Drive Thru

- Large Country Store
- 50/50 Raffle
- Strawberries & Ice Cream Stand

Featuring the Balloonatic!



Lunch & Card Party

Tuesday, May 6, 2025

St. Luke's Parish Center

226 North Church St., Belleville, IL



Play Cards or a Board Game of your choice & BINGO

Doors Open-10:30am, Lunch Served-Noon, Event Ends-3pm

Delicious Lunch! Have fun & support St. Luke's Parish!

Menu: Sliced Ham, Potatoes au Gratin,
JELLO with Fruit

Cake, Coffee, hot tea, iced tea & water

Tally: \$10 (includes lunch or lunch carryout)

Cards & BINGO with prizes

Bring canned goods
for the Food Pantry



In case of bad weather, an post will be made on the parish website.