

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. 61 NO. 40 October 5th, 2025

Theme for the Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Faith is a gracious gift from God. It can neither be earned nor bought, only responded to with works of love and service. A vibrant faith can make us strong, loving, and wise, confident that God will guard us from all harm. God is the Rock of our salvation.

MASS INTENTIONS:

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Friday, 10/03 | 8:00 am- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's |
| Saturday, 10/04 | 5:00pm- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's |
| Sunday, 10/05 | 8:00am- Jerry & Duane Mollet, Gary Rist |
| Friday, 10/10 | 8:00am- Lawrence Schaltenbrand |
| Saturday, 10/11 | 5:00pm- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's |
| Sunday, 10/12 | 8:00am- Cletus & Agnes Gregson, Special Intention |

OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 9-28-25:

Weekly Envelopes- \$1555.00

Loose- \$162.00

Youth- \$

Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-25)-
\$715.30

Thank you very much for your generosity!

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

Saturday, October 11th, 2025, 5pm

Set Up: Kevin Schreder
Servers: Merhmann's
Lector: Kevin Schreder
Extraordinary Minister: Gary Wittenauer
Extraordinary Minister (W): Marvin Parker
Extraordinary Minister (W): Angie Parker
Camera:

Sunday, October 12th, 2025, 8am

Set Up: Margie Holle
Servers: Lucas Gregson
Lector: Kay Haudrich
Extraordinary Minister: Dale Haudrich
Extraordinary Minister (W): Raeleen Neary
Extraordinary Minister (W): Margie Holle
Camera:

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, Sydney Furman, Delbert Wittenauer, Dorothy Christiansen, Joan Wittenauer, Arline Wittenauer.

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 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: 28 88 % OF OUR GOAL MET

\$5,955.00 pledged of 8/3/2025 \$6,718.00 is the Parish Financial Target

Reflection for the Twenty-Seventh Sunday of the Year C

A devout Catholic woman, Maria, in her sixties, had desired to travel to Rome for her vacation. But she was afraid of flying. However, she summoned courage and bought a ticket. Maria always wore a cross as a pious act and a symbol of security. When she climbed the plane and took her seat, she noticed four bishops on the aircraft, traveling to Rome. As a devout Catholic, the presence of these Bishop gave Maria much confidence. The flight departed the airport on schedule. But after three hours in the air, there was an announcement about a faulty engine. On hearing this, Maria screamed, "So we're going to die!" However, the captain assured everyone that although they had lost an engine, they could complete the flight and safely land on three engines. However, the message did not still make Maria feel safe. She kept on screaming: "We're going to die!" Finally, the crew members came over to calm her. Suddenly one of the crew members noticed her cross and decided to apply religious therapy for her to calm down. "Ma'am," she said, "Please relax. God is with us. You do not need to fear. We still have three engines; four bishops are on the plane." Maria responded, "I'd rather have four engines than four bishops." The letter to the Hebrews defines faith as "the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen" (Heb 11:1 NAB). Faith is an experience of the heart. Like love, it is an intimate experience but can also hurt at the same time. Faith becomes an intimate experience when a person cultivates a deeply personal, trust-based relationship with God through consistent practices like prayer, leading to a profound sense of God's presence and love. Hurts in faith often stems from painful experiences within religious communities or a profound crisis of belief. Moreover when life's circumstances, such as a major loss, illness, or unanswered prayer, do not align with one's expectations of God, faith can feel like a source of pain.

Faith is complicated when we experience it within the framework of logic. What does it mean when Jesus says "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this Mulberry tree be uprooted and cast into the sea, and it would obey you." Humanly speaking, if faith can move things literally, as expressed in the Gospel, many of us would be wonder-workers because things will definitely happen whenever we make any command. Reacting to Jesus statement, the disciples ask Jesus to increase their faith. This is where Jesus clarifies between quantitative and qualitative faith. He uses the imagery of the Mustard seed which is one of the smallest seeds to drive this point home.

Quantitative faith involves measuring the amount or number of religious practices or focusing on "doing things right" in terms of quantity. In contrast, qualitative faith emphasizes the nature, meaning, and depth of a person's belief and practice, focusing on "doing the right things" and transforming one's being. Therefore, from Jesus' perspective, the disciples didn't need to procure more faith in quantity. Rather, they needed a living faith that can stand the test of time. It is dangerous to measure our faith merely with our works or religious practices

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Finance Committee will meet on Monday October 6th at 6:30 in the parish office.
- Parish Council will meet on Monday, October 6th at 7:30 in the Parish Center.
- Ladies Sodality Meeting October 7, 2025, at 7:00 in the Parish Center.

The Knights of Columbus would like to thank the parishioners of St. Augustine for their generous support of our Intellectual Disabilities Drive which took place Sept. 20 & 21, 2025

THANK YOU!

All Souls' Remembrance Mass Sunday, November 2nd -8:00 am Mass

We will be remembering those who have died since All Souls' Day 2024 during the 8:00 am Mass on Sunday, November 2nd, 2025.

Please call the Parish Office 618-473-2217 to let us know your loved one's name or send an email to staug@htc.net.

We are planning to have the procession prior to the start of Mass where you carry a candle in remembrance of your loved one.

Thank you.

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

“We are called to be signs of hope to all people, especially those whose goodness, value, and dignity are undermined. As members of the Body of Christ, we carry this hope with us as we continue Jesus’ mission on earth... We have been entrusted with a message of hope for the woman who finds herself unexpectedly pregnant or for the man diagnosed with a terminal illness. At these challenging moments, we must bring God’s presence, witnessing to His love, and inspiring a renewal of hope in those whose hearts are burdened.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities Respect Life Reflection: “Life: Our Sign of Hope”



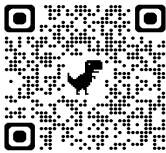
Vocations

Wherever there are consecrated people...there is always joy!” These words of Pope Francis reflect my own experience since I was a child. Through my parish, I had the opportunity to meet many religious sisters from different communities, and each time I was amazed at the contagious joy of these women who had given up everything to follow Jesus. I began to recognize in my heart a desire to do the same. When I was in grade school, my parish opened a perpetual adoration chapel, and my parents and I would pray there an hour each week. In this quiet time of prayer...my desire to become a bride of Christ continued to grow. During my senior year of high school, I spent time visiting the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecelia. I entered the community in 2013 and made my final profession in 2020. The Lord has continued to fill my heart with his peace and joy!”

Sr. Rose Dominic Daily; Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia; Columbia Magazine Oct. 2022

From the Deacons Desk

This installment focuses on our First Saturday Adoration, reconciliation, and Mass. Why do we do this? The Five First Saturdays Devotion is a request made by Our Lady of Fatima. The Blessed Mother promised to assist at the hour of death with the graces necessary for salvation all who, as an act of reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, on the first five Saturdays of consecutive months: go to confession, receive Holy Communion, say five decades of the rosary, keep Mary company for fifteen minutes meditating on the fifteen mysteries of the rosary. The sacramental confession can be received within twenty days either before or after the reception of Communion, as the Holy See's Apostolic Penitentiary has decreed, provided the communicant is in a state of grace for Communion. Reception of Holy Communion must take place within twenty-four hours of the first Saturday. The reception of Communion need not be part of participating in a Mass. The fifteen minutes of meditation are in addition to the recitation of the Rosary. Here's a link <https://fatima.org/first-saturday-devotion/> and a QR code that will take you to more resources about this from The Fatima Center.



Deacon Tom

The 2025 Catholic Services and Ministries Appeal

The homebound, sick and seniors living in the southernmost part of the state are assured they will have food to eat thanks to **Daystar Community Program's** mobile food pantry, which delivers groceries on a regular basis to those not able to visit Daystar's on-site food pantry. **YOUR GIFT** to the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal makes Daystar's truly life-saving ministry possible. If you haven't already done so, please donate today and help Daystar to serve truly the poorest of the poor; they are counting on **YOU!**

PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS...

**ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL
ELECTIONS...will be held THIS weekend,
October 4th & 5th, 2025. If you are 18 years or
older and a registered parishioner at St.
Augustine's, you are eligible to vote. Please
vote for one (1) woman and one (1) man on
the election ballot when the Ushers pass
them out after Communion. Thank you!**

Nominees for the Parish Council Election

Aaron Eckart

Brice Griffin

Dana Mehrmann

Shelly Fizer

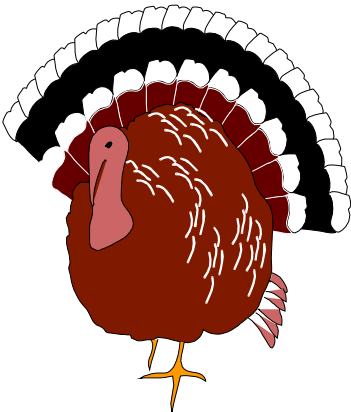
Please Vote!

Anniversary Mass

St. Augustine's Parish would like to congratulate those couples who were recognized for milestone anniversaries during a mass at St. Peters Cathedral on September 28th, 2025

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Mr. and Mrs. Edward Stellhorn | 65 Years |
| Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kaiser | 62 Years |
| Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Powell | 40 Years |
| Mr. and Mrs. James Rader | 25 Years |
| Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Koester | 20 Years |
| Mr. and Mrs. Michael Murphy | 20 Years |
| Mr. and Mrs. Scott Williams | 20 Years |
| Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Litteken | 10 Years |

Congratulations!



**ST. AUGUSTINE'S HOLY NAME
MENS SOCIETY
MEAT SHOOT -Free Mulligan
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19th, 2025
12 PM to ??
HECKER COMMUNITY CENTER**