

## 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)

**VOL. 61 NO. 35 September 7th, 2025**

### **Theme for the Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Humility and self-knowledge go hand in hand. Those who conduct their affairs with humility shall be exalted, while those who exalt themselves shall be humbled. The humble shall rejoice and exalt before God in the assembly of the heavenly Jerusalem.

### **MASS INTENTIONS:**

Friday, 8/29	8:00 am- Michael Amann
Saturday, 8/30	5:00pm- Jerry & Duane Mollet
Sunday, 8/31	8:00am- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's
Friday, 9/05	8:00am- Philip Rheinecker, Jenny Carpenter
Saturday, 9/06	5:00pm- For Our Parish at St. Augustine's
Sunday, 9/07	8:00am- For a Special Intention

### **OUR SACRIFICE MADE TO GOD FROM 8-17-25:**

Weekly Envelopes- \$1950.00

Loose- \$189.00

Youth- \$3.00

*Scholarship Fund (beginning 8-1-25)-  
\$350.00*

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

## SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK/ WEEKEND

### Saturday, September 6th, 2025, 5pm

Set Up: Kevin Schreder  
Servers: Mallory Kern  
Lector: Kevin Schreder  
Extraordinary Minister: Angie Kern  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Annette Schreder  
Extraordinary Minister (W):  
Camera:

### Sunday, September 7th, 2025, 8am

Set Up: Arnie Eckart / Elaine Rader  
Servers: Doers  
Lector: Elaine Rader  
Extraordinary Minister: Kyle Doer  
Extraordinary Minister (W): Raylene Neary  
Extraordinary Minister (W): John Kaiser  
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, Gary Rist, Sydney Furman, Delbert Wittenauer, Dorothy Christiansen.

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](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!

**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-second Sunday of the Year C

Recently I was returning from Nigeria after some weeks' vacation. I met a young man at the airport in Lagos who was also flying to United States. Since it was only Delta flight leaving from Lagos to Atlanta that morning, I concluded that we would be on the same flight. After we got through the immigration screening, we seemed to get along fast. While waiting at our gate, we had a cup of coffee together. Everything was good. We had a wonderful conversation that covered practically everything about each of us. At one point, he asked me to guess his age. I said 40. I saw the light drain out of his eyes. He said he was 40, how could my guess be so exact. He attempted to guess mine, but got it wrong by five years less. He thought I looked younger than my age. He admires Catholic priests, but he was not Catholic. In fact, he does not go to Church, but he claims to be spiritual and believes in Christ. As we talked, we were becoming friends. When his confidence in me had grown, he asked me about my sexual orientation. I was caught off guard. No one had asked me such a question before. But not to drop the ball, I asked why? And told him that I was heterosexual. He smiled and said he was homosexual in his orientation. Then he went further to ask me how I cope with my sexual feelings as a priest and if I ever had any sexual attraction to a woman and felt like getting involved. He confessed that he was in a relationship with another man.

Although our conversation made me very uncomfortable, I was honest with him as I believe he was honest to me. When we arrived at Atlanta and about to get our connecting flights, I was headed to St. Louis, Missouri, he was headed to Kansas City Missouri, he asked if I would still keep in touch with him now that I know that he is gay. It was a soul-stirring question. I responded in the affirmative. He further added that he was scared that because he is gay I would be uncomfortable being his friend. I responded that I loved him as a person, and I imagine the challenges he faces as a gay person, and I admired him for his courage to share his struggles with me. Since I came back, I have been thinking about this interaction and the simple lesson it has taught me. Today our present society is so polarized. We have different kinds of people, the poor, the rich, gays and straight, black and white. It is often hard to navigate effectively around people without hurting their feelings or reminding them of their life's tragedies. Many of us have grown up with the understanding that birds of the same feather flock together, you are safer when you stick to your group or color.

But today's gospel put us in an uncomfortable situation to invite people from "highways and the byways" to dine with us. "When you hold a lunch or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or your wealthy neighbors, Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind." Amid our divided society, Republican vs democrats, white vs black, immigrant vs native, homosexual vs heterosexual, the gospel challenges us to move beyond boxes of identity that potentially cage us. It invites us to live the freedom of seeing all people as created in the image of God. It leaves us with the question of who are we more comfortable to invite into our lives or be willing to respond to their invitation without fear? It takes courage to act out of the box. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God (Micah 6:8).

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday collection will take place on this weekend, August 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup>. The money collected will go to Life Network in Waterloo.
- Ladies Sodality will meet on Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2025, at 7:00pm
- Blessing of the sick will take place next Saturday September 6 and Sunday September 7.

## **The 2025 Catholic Service & Ministry Appeal**

### ***Hope in the Lord***

Do you remember your or your children's or, perhaps, your grandchildren's first time away from home attending college? While greatly anticipated, it can also be a challenging, sometimes overwhelming experience. Today hundreds of young adults find a comfortable, secure, faith-based home during their college years as a "family" member of the **Newman Catholic Student Center at Southern Illinois University**. Your contribution to The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal helps makes this experience possible. Partner with Newman's students and staff by making **your gift** to The Appeal today!

## **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**

“Suicidal individuals—with or without a terminal illness—typically do not want to die... The patient requesting assisted suicide is often asking, ‘Does anyone want me to be alive, or care enough to talk me out of this request and support me through this difficult time?’” USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, “Every Suicide is Tragic” [usccb.org/every-suicide-tragic](http://usccb.org/every-suicide-tragic)

### **Vocations**

Did you know that there are special seminaries for men entering the priesthood later in life, seminaries where students range from ages 25 to 60? Many of these men have thought about being a priest at one time or another but, for whatever reason, pushed the idea to the back of their minds. They are men who have made a career change to a second vocation, the priesthood. They are ordinary people, men who have been electricians, teachers, barbers, police officers, social workers, businesspeople, farmers, dentists. Some are widowers, even grandfathers. Diverse though their backgrounds may be, they now share one aim in life: to become a priest and serve God's people. Could you be one of them?



We would like to thank everyone in our parish family for their prayers and condolences during my husband, Gary Rist, long battle with cancer. He loved our community and family more than anything. May he rest in peace in heave and continue to watch over us.

Sincerely  
Kay Rist and Family

### **At. Michaels Quilt-A-Rama Paderborn, IL**

Monday September 22 and Wednesday September 24, 2025  
In the Parish Hall from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
Lunch will be provided.

Please text or call Linda Meyer at 618-520-6350 Or  
Diane Ruhmann at 618-698-3785 by September 17 if you plan  
to attend.

### **Winners from the Kirchenfest Raffle:**

- |                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| ○ Granite Coffee Table | May Stellhorn     |
| ○ \$500 Check          | Bernadete Gregson |
| ○ Handmade Quilt       | Kevin Schoenborn  |
| ○ \$150 Check          | Servio Garcia     |
| ○ \$100 Check to       | Teresa Donjon     |

**Congratulations to all the winners!**

# Parish Council Nominations...



The annual Parish Council Elections will be conducted at the weekend Masses on **October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

Nomination slips are attached to the bulletins this weekend (August 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>) and next weekend (September 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>) and are due back **the weekend of September 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

**Aaron Eckart & Dana Mehrmann are completing their first terms and ARE ELIGIBLE for re-election.**

The following **are not eligible** for nomination because they are already members of the Parish Council, Finance Committee, officers in parish organizations, Parish Trustees. Please do not nominate the following:

**Ryan Grohmann-Trustee  
Mary Schaltenbrand-Sodality  
Annette Schreder-Sodality  
David Williams-Cemetery Rep.  
Scott Gregson- Parish Council  
Clinton Mudd-Finance  
Mike Karban – Parish Council  
Aaron Litteken – SSPPCS Board Rep.**

**Larry Schaltenbrand-Trustee  
Ralph Eckart-Holy Name  
Chuck Wagner-Holy Name  
John Kaiser-Holy Name  
Carrie Koester-Finance  
Dawn Grohmann – Parish Council  
Kay Rist- Parish Council**

At this time, registered members (18 years and older) will be asked to submit their nominations for election. Please write the names of two (2) women and two (2) men on the nomination slips that will be **attached to the bulletin this weekend and next weekend. Please take the nomination slips home, fill them out and return in the collection basket the weekend of SEPTEMBER 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>.**

If you have any questions, please contact the office at 618- 473-2217.

# Parish Council Nominations...



The annual Parish Council Elections will be conducted at the weekend Masses on **October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

Nomination slips are attached to the bulletins this weekend (August 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>) and next weekend (September 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>) and are due back **the weekend of September 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

**Aaron Eckart & Dana Mehrmann are completing their first terms and ARE ELIGIBLE for re-election.**

The following **are not eligible** for nomination because they are already members of the Parish Council, Finance Committee, officers in parish organizations, Parish Trustees. Please do not nominate the following:

**Ryan Grohmann-Trustee  
Mary Schaltenbrand-Sodality  
Annette Schreder-Sodality  
David Williams-Cemetery Rep.  
Scott Gregson- Parish Council  
Clinton Mudd-Finance  
Mike Karban – Parish Council  
Aaron Litteken – SSPPCS Board Rep.**

**Larry Schaltenbrand-Trustee  
Ralph Eckart-Holy Name  
Chuck Wagner-Holy Name  
John Kaiser-Holy Name  
Carrie Koester-Finance  
Dawn Grohmann – Parish Council  
Kay Rist- Parish Council**

At this time, registered members (18 years and older) will be asked to submit their nominations for election. Please write the names of two (2) women and two (2) men on the nomination slips that will be **attached to the bulletin this weekend and next weekend. Please take the nomination slips home, fill them out and return in the collection basket the weekend of SEPTEMBER 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>.**

If you have any questions, please contact the office at 618- 473-2217.