



Saint Henry Catholic Church

5315 W. Main St., Belleville, IL 62226

September 7, 2025
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Luke 14:25-33

One hot Arizona summer afternoon my car ran out of gas. I phoned the parish office and begged for help. My secretary came and helped me fill the gas tank. She chided me, "If you can't manage getting your car from A to B, how can we expect you to guide the parish where it needs to go?" Point taken, Julie. I vowed to always make sure I have plenty of gas in my car.

The Lord Jesus chides us in this week's Gospel, too. He uses the two images of a man building a tower and a king marching soldiers into war to make this single point: acquire what is needed to follow him or look ridiculous. We rightly mock the builder who lacks money for his tower and the king with a short-handed army. But our mocking boomerangs back on us. How do we expect to follow Jesus to the end with insufficient detachment from our possessions and divided hearts?

The good news is, there is still time. Jesus is building a great tower to heaven—his own body. So we renounce all and give ourselves to him as his precious stones. Jesus is waging a battle against our enemy. So we forsake all and swear allegiance and march under his banner. In this way, we will finish what has begun in our discipleship. Or better put, our Lord will have the stones and soldiers required to see his great work through.

— *Father John Muir*

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23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple." - Lk 14:33

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPi

PASTOR - (618) 233-2423

Reverend Kenneth J. York

DEACON

Deacon Gerald Bach dcaon1948@charter.net
Deacon James Law - (618) 406-5709 or
deaconjlw@gmail.com

PARISH SECRETARY

Dawn Partington - sthenryc@peaknet.net

Organist & Choir

Robert Wojcik - (618) 610-0121

Parish Office Hours

Mon.-Fri. 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Lunch 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

P. S. R. Director

Kim Ahrens - (618) 540-8383

CREATIVE LEARNING CENTER

Judy Shovlin, -Director
Nicole Hettenhausen - Assistant Director
www.sthenryclc.com (618) 234-6061

ST. HENRY'S PRAYER CHAIN

Carol Lesko (618) 698-5838

Weekday Masses

Monday-Saturday 8:00 a.m.

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Liturgical Ministers	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Greeter	Gift Bearer	Usher
September 13th Saturday, 4:00 PM	Need Volunteer	Mark Denton Trish Denton	Bobby Elam Marilyn Elam	Betty Cerulli Sue Kaltenbronn	Need Volunteer Nick Kujawa
September 14th Sunday, 8:30 AM	Peggy Hassel	George Mehochko	Kathy Pajares	Bernadette Gadu Alvina Tippy	Daniel Broeckling George Mehochko
September 14th Sunday, 10:30 AM	Beth Regensberger	Jerry Ahrens	Lynne Fulte	Pat King Dawn York	Chris Knee Need Volunteer

Respect Life Corner

“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

Vocation Corner

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?

Prayer of Simplicity

Dear God,
In my desire for You, take away anything that keeps me from knowing You, myself, or my mission here on earth. Help me to remember what is truly important, and to seek and treasure that.
Amen.

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READINGS OF THE WEEK

Readings for the week of September 7, 2025

Sunday:	Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17 (1)/Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33
Monday:	Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
Tuesday:	Col 2:6-15/Ps 62:6-7, 9/Lk 6:12-19
Wednesday:	Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-11, 12-13ab/Lk 6:20-26
Thursday:	Col 3:12-17/Ps 150:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 6:27-38
Friday:	1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 11/Lk 6:39-42
Saturday:	1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7/Lk 6:43-49
Next Sunday:	Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

Observances for the week of September 7, 2025

Sunday:	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparents’ Day
Monday:	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tuesday:	St. Peter Claver, Priest
Wednesday:	
Thursday:	Patriot Day
Friday:	The Most Holy Name of Mary
Saturday:	St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday:	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

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Mass Intentions for the week of September 7, 2025

SUN 9/7	8:30 AM	Betty Sandy
	10:30 AM	For the People
MON 9/8	8:00 AM	Shirleen Spehn Dressler
TUE 9/9	8:00 AM	Catholic Extension Intentions
WED 9/10	8:00 AM	June Wuller
	10:20 AM	ACHS
THUR 9/11	8:00 AM	Catholic Extension Intentions
FRI 9/12	8:00 AM	SVDP Members, Donors, & Volunteers
SAT 9/13	8:00 AM	Catholic Extension Intentions
	4:00 PM	For the People
SUN 9/14	8:30 AM	Patricia Erwin
	10:30 AM	Judith Marchand

Retired Diocesan Priests Collection Today

Today you will have an opportunity to contribute to the annual Retired Diocesan Priests Collection. All monies collected will be used only for long-term nursing care, Medicare supplemental insurance and prescriptions for our retired diocesan priests. Your gift is a wonderful way to show your gratitude to the priests who have and continue to serve us so faithfully. Please be as generous as you are able.

Sunday, September 7, 2025 | Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - BENEATH THE SURFACE

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini reflection: For someone who talks about love so much, it seems weird that in today's Gospel Jesus is calling us to hatred. It makes us question everything we think we understand about him, about God, about discipleship.

How to Hate the Christian Way

When I was a kid, we had the Dumb Stupid Hate Chair.

It was a chair in my parents' foyer where an offending child had to sit for five or ten minutes if they uttered the words "dumb," "stupid" or "hate." The rules in my house growing up were very clear. We don't call anyone stupid. We don't call anyone dumb. And we hate no one and nothing.

Well, today, Jesus has to sit in the Dumb Stupid Hate Chair.

For someone who talks about love so much — for whom love is a legacy and a commandment — it seems weird that in today's Gospel Jesus is calling us to hatred. It makes us question everything we think we understand about him, about God, about discipleship.

I'll let you guess which of the kids in my family spent the most time in the Dumb Stupid Hate Chair (Hi! It was me). But I didn't really think my sister was stupid, and I didn't really hate my brother. Those were just the words I used, even though they were strictly forbidden — maybe *because* they were strictly forbidden. They were the strongest words I knew, and you need strong words for strong feelings.

Jesus knew that hate is a really strong word. It's a word that gets people's attention. And I think what he wants to do today, more than anything, is get our attention. He wants to force us to consider the ways in which our attachments to this world — and even to other people — supersede our attachment to God. He wants us to radically evaluate what (and who) we love and how we love it and how much of our souls, our lives, ourselves we have let this love consume.

It's a tough assignment, and we don't like it. Maybe we kind of hate it. That's okay: hate has its place. So take a seat in the chair and give it a ponder.

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LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Today, Jesus tells us the cost of true discipleship — and it turns out, it's everything. We must reject the world in order to love God. What attachments are holding us back from the relationship we could have — we *should* have — with our Lord?

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Lectio Divina, Explained!

Lectio divina ("divine reading") is a practice of praying through the reading of Scripture, opening oneself to the inspiration and communication of the Holy Spirit.

The practice of *Lectio divina* dates to ancient monastic communities, but it has gained popularity in modern times as a way to meaningfully engage with the word of God.

The formula for *Lectio divina* is simple and follows four steps. The text of the Scripture is read (*lectio*) multiple times, and the reader takes note of any words or phrases that resonate with him in a particular way. The reader then reflects deeply on the passage (*meditatio*) and the words that he noticed, turning them over in his mind. Following this, the reader prays with the passage (*oratio*), and dialogues with God, inviting him to illuminate the reader's understanding of the text. Finally, there is rest and contemplation (*contemplatio*).

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The 2025 Catholic Service and 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 make this experience possible. Partner with Newman's students and staff by making **your gift** to The Appeal today!



PRAYER REQUESTS

"Heavenly Father, we offer all the prayer requests on our prayer chain to you. We ask that you would hear and answer each one according to your perfect will. We trust in your love, your power, and your grace. May your peace reign in our hearts and in the

lives of those we are praying for."

Barbara	Heidi	Patricia
Bob	Jennifer and family	Patti
Bob and Mary	John and Barb	Rose
Chris	Kathleen	Scott
Declan	Leslie	Shauna
Dottie	Lois	Tom
Doug	Pat	The Annunciation School and Parish communities
Frances		

Please keep in your prayers all who are ill, specially those listed below, their families and their caregivers.

To add names to the Prayer List, please contact Carol Lesko by phone at 618-698-5838. If she unavailable to take your call please leave a message.

Names will be published for 4 weeks unless we are notified to retain them longer.

MEN'S CLUB The Men's Club will hold its monthly meeting this Tuesday, September 9, at 7 pm in the Knights of Columbus hall. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

All men of the parish are welcome.

St. Henry Parish is looking for a full time MAINTENANCE /CUSTODIAN PERSON.

Benefits include paid vacation, health plan, retirement plan and more. Please call The office (618) 233-2423 or email sthenryc@peaknet.net.

Due to an Early Bulletin Deadline the Weekly contributions for the weekend of August 31st will be printed in the September 14th bulletin.

This Week

September 7, 2025

Sunday - 8:30 am Mass
Live Stream Mass 8:30 am
- 10:30 am Mass

Monday -

Tuesday - Men's Club 7:00 pm

Wednesday - Eucharistic Exposition 2:30-4:30 pm

Thursday -

Friday -

Saturday - 4:00 pm Mass

Sunday - 8:30 am Mass
Live Stream Mass 8:30 am
- 10:30 am Mass



The Parish Rosary Program. Each week parishioners are requested to either email to the church secretary sthenryc@peaknet.net or drop a slip of paper in the collection basket with the number of rosaries they prayed this week. (started February 12, 2023)

Due to an Early Bulletin Deadline Rosary totals will be in the next bulletin

Ladies

To all the ladies of St. Henry. Please join your sister parishes of the Metro-East Vicariate in the MEV CCW Fall Day of Prayer/ Meeting to be held at St. Mary Parish Center, 116 W. Wood Ridge, Valmeyer, IL 62295 on Thursday, October 2. Registration is open at 8:30am. Fr. Linus Umoren C.M. will celebrate Mass. Our speaker will be Fr. Sebastian Ukoh C.M.. A brief meeting will follow lunch that is included in the registration fee of \$15. Registrations are required by **September 22**. For any questions, please call the president of your ladies' organization or Zoe Ann Schwarze, at 618-920-6546.

Please text or call Marilyn if you want to attend, The Ladies Club will pay your registration.



The Book of Acts of the Apostles

The Cornerstone Catholic Scripture Study, Study. Connect. Transform. These words describe the mission of The Cornerstone Catholic Scripture Study. We invite you to join us at St Clare of Assisi Catholic Church on Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:30 am for our upcoming study of The Book of ACTS of the Apostles, "Holy Boldness in the Church" beginning September 24 for a Visitors Session.

This study is for adults who wish to deepen their faith through an increased knowledge of the inspired Word of God, which can transform your heart and mind. Weekly meetings will be held from September 2025 thru April 2026.

For more information about our upcoming study please contact Cheryl 618-420-6800 or Marcia 618-977-2537 or see our website at www.thecornerstonescripturestudy.org
Childcare provided!



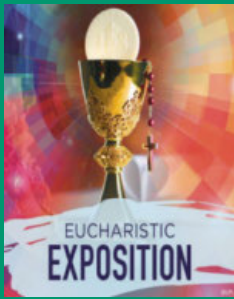
St. Henry Ladies Club is participating in the Box of Joy program. If you would like to help us, please grab a box and list to sponsor a child behind the pews in the back of church. Pick

up your boxes early and take advantage of all the Back-to-School sales. School supplies and clothing (t-shirts, blouses, & simple dresses) are "high priority" items. We will take care of the postage. The filled boxes may be dropped off to the Ladies Club meeting on September 16th or placed in the collection box in the vestibule in the back church by September 21st. The Boxes of Joy are being shipped on September 25th.

A Box of Joy is a Christmas shoebox that is donated and packed with toys, clothing, school supplies and other treasured items by U.S. parishes, schools and groups. Each child who receives a Box of Joy also receives a rosary and a booklet in their own language that tells The Story of Jesus. Box of Joy provides hope to children in need, each gift represents Christ's love and may be the only Christmas gift they receive.

We need a company or individuals to help pay the cost of \$9.00 per box for shipping.

Thank you for your support! If you have any questions, please contact Marilyn 618-604-6340



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Eucharistic Exposition every
Wednesday from 2:30-4:30.



GRANDPARENTS
Day



2025 Fall Family Festival
Saturday, September 20th
after the 4:00 pm Mass

Please join Fr. Ken and members of St. Henry's, in the
Msgr. Voss Parish Center, for a time of great food,
socializing, and the best ice cream in town!
The festival will immediately follow the 4:00 p.m. Mass.

Free hotdogs, hamburgers, bratwursts, baked beans,
and more!!

No reservations needed!



**AN INVITATION TO
COME AND SEE
ABOUT
"BECOMING
CATHOLIC"**

"Becoming Catholic" gatherings will be starting soon! Now is the
time, and it's never too late, to engage with those who have
expressed interest in, or feel called to the Catholic Church. We
invite those from our parish to an informational discussion to
"Come and See" what a journey of faith toward the Catholic
Church looks like. The gathering dates are as follows:

**Thursday, September 18th, at 7:00 PM and Thursday,
September 25th, at 7:00 PM**, in the Cathedral Undercroft.
Located at 200 W. Harrison St. Belleville, IL, 62220, (at the
corner of South Garfield & Third Street). Formation sessions will
begin on **Thursday October 2, at 7:00 PM**, in the Undercroft.

If someone in your life has expressed interest in the Church,
please invite them to "Come and See" how an everyday walk
with Jesus enhances our lives and the lives of those around
us. You or the inquiring person may contact us at (618) 233-2423
or email sthenryc@peaknet.net.
Please share this information with those you know.

May we join these inquiring pilgrims on this journey of faith
through hospitality and prayer. **We encourage parishioners to
take part in these gatherings.** In this way we share the joy we
find in our friendship with Christ, enhance our own
spiritual growth, and welcome those coming to the Church as our
Brothers and Sisters in faith.

RETIRED DIOCESAN PRIESTS COLLECTION SEPTEMBER 6 & 7

Our priests dedicate their lives to further the mission of the Church, bringing each of us
closer to Christ. They celebrate the Holy Eucharist in our parishes, baptize our children,
witness marriage vows, listen to our problems and comfort us in times of sickness and sorrow.
On both ordinary and extraordinary days, our priests have walked with us on our life's journey.

Our Belleville Diocese currently has

60 diocesan priests:

34 currently retired,

26 in active ministry

but 11 of whom are of retirement age.

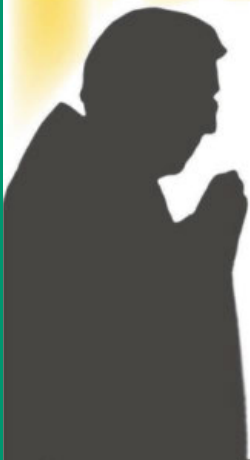
With this large number of retirement-age priests and escalating
health-care costs, we are asking for your support to help
provide for our retired priests now and in the years ahead.

Your gift to the Retired Diocesan Priests Collection
will be used for long-term nursing care,
Medicare supplemental insurance and prescription medications.

Your donation to the collection is a wonderful opportunity to say
"thank you" to our priests who have so faithfully served and
given us so much.

OUR DIOCESAN PRIESTS DO NOT RECEIVE ANY FUNDING FROM
"THE RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS COLLECTION" HELD IN DECEMBER.

Help support those who have so faithfully served us.



Please give generously at your parish or donate by mail:
Catholic Diocese of Belleville | 222 South Third Street | Belleville, Illinois 62220

SEPTEMBER 11
NEVER FORGET

BIRTHDAYS

Margaret Wells 09/08
Robert Brutto 09/10
Michael Case 09/10
Kelsey Douglas 09/10
Sue Guetterman 09/10
Frank Vollmer 09/10
Dawn York 09/10
Jason Arnold 09/11

Harrison Jackstadt 09/11
Dorothy Marchand 09/11
Joseph Strube 09/11
Stacy Rampenthal 09/12
Daniel Reed 09/13
Antonio Santos 09/13
Jean Gebhart 09/14

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