



Saint Henry Catholic Church

5315 W. Main St., Belleville, IL 62226



4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy;
I came so that they might have life and have it more
abundantly." - Jn 10:9-10

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

April 26, 2026
4th Sunday of Easter
John 10:1-10

"I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." John 10:11

My most boring job was working at an insurance company as a college student. My main task? Filing. Now imagine if I had told my supervisor, "I just want you to know, I'm willing to die for these files." She would have called a psychiatrist — or at least security.

There is something absurd in Jesus' words in today's Gospel: "**I am the good shepherd... I lay down my life for the sheep.**" (John 10:11) It sounds noble, until you think about it. No one dies for sheep. Not a hired hand. Not even a good shepherd. Sheep are important, sure, but not worth a human life.

And yet, Jesus insists: *I will die for them.* The crowd understandably responds: "**He is out of his mind.**"

C.S. Lewis once said that Jesus does not leave us the option of calling him merely a good teacher. If someone speaks like him, he is either lying, crazy, or telling the truth. John's Gospel won't let us stay sentimental. Jesus means it. He reveals a love that surpasses logic — a love that measures worth not by strength or success, but by the willingness to suffer unto death.

The Good Shepherd's madness is mercy. His cross makes no earthly sense and yet it makes divine sense. He lays down his life not for kings or saints but for sheep — for the ordinary, the unworthy, for you and me.

Think of someone who may feel unworthy of love. Do something simple and generous for them, not because they deserve it, but because Jesus did the same for you.

— Father John Muir

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PASTOR - (618) 233-2423
Very Reverend Kenneth J. York

DEACON
Deacon Gerald Bach
dcaon1948@charter.net

Deacon James Law - (618) 406-5709 or
deaconjlaw@gmail.com

Organist & Choir
Robert Wojcik - (618) 610-0121

Parish Secretary
Dawn Partington - (618) 233-2423 or
Email : sthenryc@peaknet.net

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

Creative Learning Center
Jennifer Campbell - Director
Nicole Hettenhausen - Assist. 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
May 2nd Saturday, 4:00 PM	Maureen Reed	Ramona Effinger Janis LeChein	Mary Jo Hanvey Need Volunteer	Sue Kaltenbronn Jeannette Yelinek	Mark Denton Kevin Effinger
May 3rd Sunday, 8:30 AM	Karen O'Dell	Gayle Bibee	Joyce Dierkes	Kathy Pajares Alvina Tippy	Daniel Broeckling Paul Schwartzhoff
May 3rd Sunday, 10:30 AM	Beth Regensberger	Jerry Ahrens	Sue Bolen	Bobby Elam Marilyn Elam	Chris Knee Carol Tyler

Respect Life Corner

“Suicidal individuals—with or without a terminal illness—typically do not want to die; they want to escape what they perceive to be an intolerable situation, and they inaccurately believe that suicide is their only way out. 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

Today we acknowledge the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Will you make a special effort to ask the Lord for vocations to the priesthood and religious life? Pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and dead. Encourage your children, grandchildren, or other young people to consider a vocation as a priest or religious brother, or sister. Pray a rosary for more young men and women in our diocese to respond to God’s call. To quote Pope Francis, “Each one of us is called – whether to the lay life in marriage, to the priestly life in the ordained ministry, or to a life of special consecration – in order to become a witness of the Lord, here and now.”

Resources:

<https://worlddayofprayerforvocations.com/>
<https://www.usccb.org/committees/clergy-consecrated-life-vocations/world-day-prayer-vocations>

<https://www.vocationministry.com/vocation-day/vocation-days/world-day-of-prayer-for-vocations/>

Bulletin Images:

<https://worlddayofprayerforvocations.com/social-media/>

READINGS OF THE WEEK

Readings for the week of April 26, 2026

Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10
Monday: Acts 11:1-18/ Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4/Jn 10:11-18 (second choice)
Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/ Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 10:22-30
Wednesday: Acts 12:24-13:5a/ Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/Jn 12:44-50
Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/ Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27/Jn 13:16-20
Friday: Acts 13:26-33/ Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab/Jn 14:1-6
Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/ Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 14:7-14
Next Sunday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12

Observances for the week of April 26, 2026

Sunday: 4th Sunday of Easter; World Day of Prayer for Vocations
Monday:
Tuesday: St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr; St. Louis Grignon de Montfort, Priest
Wednesday: St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
Thursday: St. Pius V, Pope
Friday: St. Joseph the Worker; National Day of Prayer
Saturday: St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday: 5th Sunday of Easter

Mass Intentions for the week of April 26, 2026

SUN 4/26	8:30 AM 10:30 AM	For the People Michael Lintzenich
MON 4/27	8:00 AM	Fr. Gene Neff
TUES 4/28	8:00 AM	Quentin Lauer
WED 4/29	8:00 AM 10:20 AM	Wayland Downen ACHS
THUR 4/30	8:00 AM	Anna Marie Eckmann
FRI 5/1	8:00 AM	Memorial Donors
SAT 5/2	8:00 AM 4:00 PM	Velda Bringaze Canbree York, Elmer & Agnes Rettle
SUN 5/3	8:30 AM 10:30 AM	Walter & Cecelia Turner, & Sr. Diane Marie For the People

**(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC-
BENEATH THE SURFACE**

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini reflection:

We can recognize what is real by where it comes from. What it sounds like. This ability to discern truth is written into our souls. We can ignore it, if we want. Suppress it. We can follow the stranger. But where will he lead?

The Devil’s Long Con

The algorithm on my streaming service has been suggesting a lot of romantic scam documentaries lately. If you’re not familiar, romantic scams are a particularly cruel form of “the long con.”

Some man presents himself to some woman as Prince Charming. He wines her. He dines her. He charms her mom and makes her friends jealous. Little red flags pop up here and there, but she shrugs them all off. She accepts convenient explanations.

She just wants to be happy.

And then one day, Prince Charming vanishes, along with the contents of the woman’s savings account. Every victim says the same thing: “I should have known better, but I wanted it to be real.”

I think the reason I’m so drawn to these shows is that I identify with these women. No, I’ve never been the victim of a romantic scam (if my husband married me thinking he would gain access to some kind of fortune, he’s the one who got scammed). But we have all told ourselves that something is right because it feels right. We have shrugged off doubts about a choice, a relationship, a habit.

We have accepted easy answers that don’t pass the sniff test — because we really, really wanted an answer, and we really, really wanted it to be easy.

The devil is a romantic scammer. A third-party retailer hawking knock-off joy and fulfillment. A wolf in sheep’s clothing. A false prophet. A thief, a robber who has climbed the fence, knowing the gate will not admit him.

These are all different ways of saying the same thing: we can recognize what is real by where it comes from. What it sounds like. This ability to discern truth is written into our souls. We can ignore it, if we want. Suppress it. We can follow the stranger.

But where will he lead?

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Humility, Explained!

“If anyone wishes to be first,” Christ told the Apostles in the Gospel of Mark, “he must become the last of all and the servant of all.” (Mark 9:35).

True humility does not require us to ignore, underestimate or hide our gifts — it merely demands that we use these gifts rightly, with the knowledge that they are from our Creator and meant for His glory, not our own. “Man is a beggar before God,” said St. Augustine.

The Blessed Mother is the perfect model of this, and her Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) is a blueprint for a life lived in joyful humility.

Humility, says the Catechism, is also the key to a fruitful prayer life: “Humility is the foundation of prayer. Only when we humbly acknowledge that ‘we do not know how to pray as we ought,’ are we ready to receive freely the gift of prayer.” (CCC 2559) ©LPi

Blessing of the Good Shepherd

Dear Jesus,
Be the Good Shepherd in my life. Help me to know your voice and to respond. Help me to find your fold and the paths on which you lead. Bless me with verdant pastures and restful waters. Refresh my soul. Amen. ©LPi

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

“The sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice,” Jesus says. Do we know the voice of Jesus when he speaks to us? Have we spent time in conversation with him? This week, listen for the voice of Jesus in your life, and follow where it leads. ©LPi



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."

Addison	Gansam Family	Linda
Barb	George	Mary
Bill	Ginny	Mike
Blair	Gould / Cissell Families	Nicole
Cathy	Griffin	Pat
Chris	Heilig & Garcia Families	Peggy
Dan	Jane	Renee
Debra	Joann	Sandi
Don	Jordan	Sara
Dorothy	Karen	Sue
Doug	Kathleen	Susan
Evan	Leslie	Tanya
Fred		

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.



All parish support listed is from the week's collections, mailed in, and online donations.

April 19, 2026

Envelopes/Loose	\$ 3,652.15
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 981.00
Guatemala	\$ 90.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$ 95.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 100.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 30.00
Easter Offering	\$ 100.00
Holy Land/ Good Friday	\$ 5.00

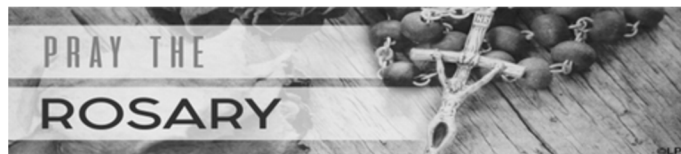
THANK YOU

to everyone who supports our parish through donations, prayer, and or service!



April 26, 2026

Sunday	8:30 AM Mass Live Stream 8:30 AM Mass 10:30 AM Mass
Monday	8:00 AM Mass
Tuesday	8:00 AM Mass
Wednesday	8:00 AM Mass Eucharistic Exposition 2:30-4:30 pm
Thursday	8:00 AM Mass
Friday	8:00 AM Mass
Saturday	8:00 AM Mass 4:00 PM Mass
Sunday	8:30 AM Mass Live Stream 8:30 AM Mass 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)

Weekly	Year to Date	Grand Total
152	2,485	19,233

Next Week Blest Art

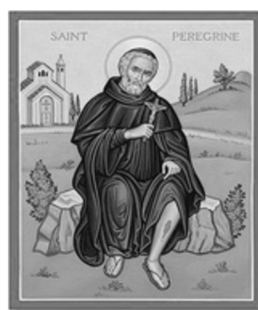


Blest Art will be visiting your parish on behalf of the Christian families in Bethlehem, Palestine. Our mission is to support those families in the Holy Land. When Blest Art visits your parish, we will have hand-carved nativity sets, statues, crosses, rosaries, and many other pieces of beautiful olive wood art.

Saturday & Sunday - May 2nd and 3rd, after Mass.
We gladly accept cash, checks, and all major credit cards.

Next Week Seminarian Education Collection

Our diocese is currently blessed with five (5) seminarians and this collection helps in meeting the needs of their formation. The cost for tuition, books, room and board and other expenses is over \$50,000 per year for each seminarian. Contributions to the Seminarian Education Collection are truly an investment in our faith and the life of the Church here in southern Illinois.

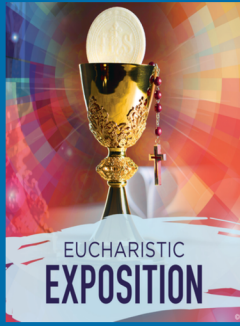


St. Peregrine Laziosi, Patron Saint of Cancer Patients Cure For Cancer Prayer Day

As we continue our 27th year of St. Peregrine Devotions in Belleville, Illinois, we look forward to our 22nd Annual "Cure for Cancer Prayer Day" on Thursday, May 7, 2026. The day begins with our 8:15 AM Mass and Devotion as celebrated on the first Thursday of

every month at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church. It will be followed for the month of May, St. Peregrine's feast month, by Adoration of the Eucharist until 1:00 PM. Great strides are being made in cancer research, but more prayers are needed... for those in need of healing, for those who love them, for those who care for them, and for those searching for a cure. We wholeheartedly welcome everyone to participate in this Prayer Day, in person or in spirit, "so that we may soon cry out: 'A cure at last!'"

There is a sheet on the tables in back of church for you to add a special intention petition for the **Cure For Cancer Prayer Day**.



The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is the most powerful prayer a person can say to obtain God's mercy! If you have never experienced The Chaplet in song then you are in for an amazing experience. Eucharistic Exposition every Wednesday from 2:30-4:30.

BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Ronald Eiskant 4/27 | Patricia Timmer 4/29 |
| Mallory Dauphin 4/28 | Thomas Morr 4/30 |
| Dave Stroot 4/28 | Eric Shreeman 4/30 |
| Carol Eiskant 4/29 | Nancy Spencer 4/30 |
| Tristan Kujawa 4/29 | Lila Vick 4/30 |

St Augustine of Canterbury Parish

Annual Buildings & Grounds

BBQ

St. Augustine Parish

Kuhl Hall

May 2nd, 2026

11:00 AM - Until sold out

Cash/Check
(Credit Card +3% surcharge fee)

Plates (includes 2 sides)

- Pork Steak (1lb) \$14
- ½ Chicken (1.5lb) \$14
- Bratwurst (1/4lb) \$8

Sandwiches

- Pork Steak (1lb) \$11
- ½ Chicken (1.5lb) \$11
- Bratwurst(1/4lb) \$5

Sides- \$2.50/each

Cole Slaw, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, French Fries

**** BEVERAGES AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ****

Proceeds pay for Parish Improvement Projects

Catholic Home Missions Appeal

Support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal today! Over 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are considered mission territories because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities needed in their communities. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States, including in our own Belleville Diocese. Please be generous. More information can be found at www.usccb.org/home-missions.



All are invited to join Father Godfrey for the Spring Farm Blessing which will be held on Tuesday, April 28th at 1:00 P.M. at the Ryan Peter Family Farm, 7755 Highway 15, Mt. Carmel, IL.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS - (FROM THE

BELLEVILLE AREA - HEADING EAST ON I-64)

Take I-64E toward Mt. Vernon (59.3 Miles) Keep Left on I-64 toward Louisville (51.3 Miles)
At Exit 130: Head toward IL-1 /Grayville/Carmi/Mt. Carmel Turn Left onto S. Court Street (IL-1) (12.9 Miles)
Turn Left onto E 700RD (CR-5/CR-700) toward Maud (1.2 Miles) Turn Right onto E 700 RD (CR-5/CR-700) (2.1 Miles)
Turn Right onto Hwy 15 (IL-15) (0.8 Miles)

"Farm Blessing" signs will guide you along the way. Those attending are invited to bring seeds, farm animals, farm equipment and machinery to be blessed.

You are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items to be donated to the local food pantry. We look forward to having you join us!



As we journey through winter and prepare for spring, we set new goals dedicated to strengthening our church's community. Faithfulness in giving allows us to share the gifts that God has given us, so our spiritual home may thrive. That is why our church offers Online Giving as an option to support our ongoing mission and ministries.

Online Giving helps support our church by allowing you to make donations, payments, and pledges via your mobile phone, smart device, or computer to our church.



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