



Saint Henry Catholic Church

5315 W. Main St., Belleville, IL 62226



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"
Simon Peter said in reply, "You are the Christ,
the Son of the living God." - Mt 16:15-16

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

August 23, 2026
Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
Matthew 16:13-20

The first time I stood inside St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, its majesty overwhelmed me. The sheer beauty of Michelangelo's dome seemed to lift my soul right out of my body. Later, I joined the Scavi tour that winds below the basilica, down into the ancient pagan cemetery where Peter was buried. There, in the dim light and narrow passageways, I found myself looking at the bones of a murdered Jewish fisherman, his feet cut off so his crucified body could be taken down more easily.

What a paradox. Above me, the most glorious church ever built. Beneath me, the remains of a backwater fisherman. But this man dared to answer Jesus' question, "Who do you say that I am?" And crowning that immense dome above his tomb are the words from today's Gospel, "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church."

Within you and me is the drama of the lowest and the highest. Every time we confess Christ, humbly, imperfectly, maybe even trembling, we enter that same mystery. The dust of our humanity, touched by the splendor of heaven. God's presence and our dry bones together. Humility and glory. May our lives embrace both the lowest and the highest, like that great basilica, as we profess Jesus.

— 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
deaonjlaw@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 Minister	Lector	Eucharistic Minister	Greeter	Gift Bearer	Usher
August 29th Saturday, 4:00 PM	Trish Denton	Betty Cerulli Janis LeChemin	Michelle Kujawa Keith Painter	Kathleen Dinan Terry Starwalt	Kacie Denton Kevin Effinger
August 30th Sunday, 8:30 AM	Lynne Fulte	Joyce Dierkes	Kathy Pajares	Bernadette Gadu Alvina Tippy	Daniel Broeckling George Mehochko
August 30th Sunday, 10:30 AM	Beth Regensberger	Marilyn Elam	Sue Bolen	Dawn York Need Volunteer	Jerry Ahrens Chris Knee

Respect Life Corner

Walking With Those Who Wait

"When are you guys going to have kids?" It's a question asked with love, but for couples facing infertility or recurrent miscarriages, it can quietly reopen a wound. This week, we invite you to learn how to accompany them well instead of offering advice or platitudes. For couples walking this road, know you're not alone. Enkindle Ministry, located in St. Louis and Springs in the Desert, offers community, prayer, and support for exactly this kind of struggle. Let us all commit to praying for these couples and their marriages, trusting that even here, God is writing a story of hope. Whether you're in the wait or walking beside someone who is, you can scan the QR code for resources.



LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

"Who do you say that I am?" Jesus asks his apostles. Peter is the first to answer. He knows who Jesus is. Do we? In everything we do and everything we are, let us say together with Peter: "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God."

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READINGS OF THE WEEK

Readings for the week of August 23, 2026

Sunday: Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2a, 2b-3, 6 and 8/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20
Monday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51
Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/Mt 25:1-13
Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21/Mk 6:17-29
Next Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

Observances for the week of August 23, 2026

Sunday: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Bartholomew, Apostle
Tuesday: St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest
Wednesday:
Thursday: St. Monica
Friday: St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Saturday: The Passion of St. John the Baptist
Next Sunday: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
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Mass Intentions for the week of August 23, 2026

SUN	8/23	8:30 AM 10:30 AM	Robert Jones Jean Gass
MON	8/24	8:00 AM	Catholic Extension Donor Intentions
TUES	8/25	8:00 AM	Curtis L. Wiley Jr.
WED	8/26	8:00 AM 10:20 AM	Catholic Extension Donor Intentions ACHS Mass
THURS	8/27	8:00 AM	Maria Pezzuto
FRI	8/28	8:00 AM	Catholic Extension Donor Intentions
SAT	8/29	8:00 AM 4:00 PM	Fr. Gene Neff Quentin Lauer, Elmer & Agnes Rettle
SUN	8/30	8:30 AM 10:30 AM	Joan Wilbret For The People

Sunday, August 23, 2026 | Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC- RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Only Peter Has the Answer

“What do you think of the Pope?”

After the election of Pope Leo XIV in 2025, all my non-Catholic friends texted me this question. The result of the papal conclave was dominating the news cycle, and everyone was curious about this man who would now be so prominent on the world stage, making me temporarily popular with people who apparently need more (and better) Catholics in their lives.

In today’s Gospel, we see Jesus entrust Peter and his heirs with the stewardship of the kingdom here on earth, creating an unbroken line of authority which stretches through the millennia all the way to our current Pope — whoever he is at the time you are reading this.

I don’t know if you like the Pope. The same goes for your local bishop and your pastor. If a friend texted you, “What do you think of him?” I have no idea how you would respond.

All I know is this: it doesn’t really matter. What really matters is what we would say if a friend texted us the same question about Jesus Christ: “What do you think of him, and why?”

In today’s Gospel, Jesus doesn’t ask his disciples to take an IQ test. He doesn’t try to find out which one is the nicest, the hardest worker, the most humble, or even the holiest.

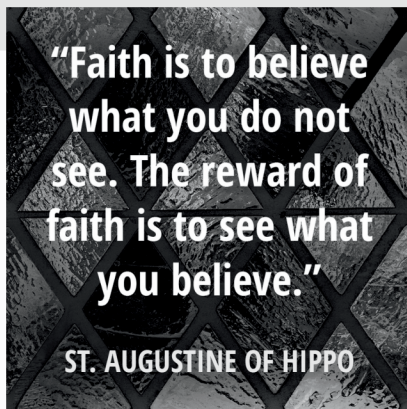
He asks a very simple question: “Who do you say that I am?”

Peter has the answer.

I am not Catholic because I like the Pope. I am not Catholic because the human representatives of the Church have anything to offer me (they often do, but this is beside the point).

I am Catholic because only Peter has the answer.

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Valor, Explained!

Though valor itself is not a cardinal or theological virtue, as a Latin-based word that means “strength,” we often associate it with the gift of fortitude. Specifically, it conjures an image of fortitude on the battlefield — of fidelity to the good fight, regardless of the coming attack.

When Christ presides at the Last Supper in the Gospel of John, he speaks to his Apostles of the persecutions that will soon be suffered by him and by them. He also speaks of the Advocate (the Holy Spirit) who will “guide you to all truth” — a significant choice, since fortitude is not only a virtue, but a gift of the Holy Spirit.

“Behold, the hour is coming...when each of you will be scattered...and you will leave me alone,” Christ tells them. “But I am not alone, because the Father is with me.”

In the world, he concludes, there will be pain and suffering. “But take courage, I have conquered the world.” (John 16:13-33).

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Prayer for the Pope

Dear God,

Be with Our Holy Father in his ministry. Bless, anoint, and protect him in his comings and goings. Inspire his words, direct his interactions, guide his prayer.

Amen.

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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."

Alice	Douglas	Nikolas
Barb	George	Pat
Betty	Helen	Patrick
Cathy	John	Peggy
Cathy	Jones Family	Quinn
Dale	Judy	Rosalie
Dan	Linda	Tanya
Dorothy	Lon	

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.

August 16, 2026

Envelopes/Loose	\$ 4,035.85
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 373.75
Guatemala	\$ 125.75
Assumption of Mary	\$ 324.00

THANK YOU

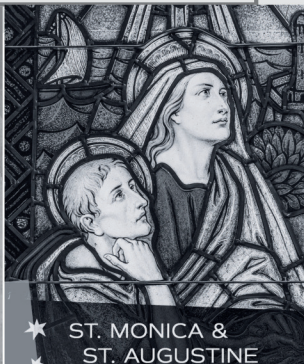
to everyone who supports our parish through donations, prayer, and or service!



August 23, 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 10:20 AM ACHS 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

NOTHING
is far from
GOD
-St. Monica-



Sunday, August 23, 2026 | Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time



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
191	4,508	21,256

St Henry's Ladies Club is sponsoring an INDOOR YARD SALE.

Event times: September 11th 5-8pm, 12th 8-4pm. &, 13th 8-12pm

A seller fee of \$20 per family to participate.

Tables are provided until all are taken.

Address: Msgr. Bernard L. Voss Parish Center,
5303 West Main, Belleville, IL 62226

Setup can be Thursday afternoon and Friday.

Your area must be oversaw by yourself or one of your family member at all times.

Unsold items must be removed at the end of the sale.

Questions: Please call Marilyn Elam - 618-604-6340

Vocation Corner

"In early 2020, I returned to the United States from a visit to Ghana. My family stayed behind, and I expected them to follow a week later. But the next day, the airports closed due to the onset of COVID-19. As I prayed for their safe and swift return, I grappled with the fear of the unknown in my work as a registered nurse. Amid daily silence at home, I turned to Jesus, whom I knew had the answers. My relationship with Him deepened, and I invited Him into every aspect of my life. I will always cherish my first "date" with Jesus – setting the table for two and sharing a delightful supper. That evening, the Holy Spirit led me to watch a film about Venerable Henriette DeLille, who founded the Sisters of the Holy Family. Moved by her courage and perseverance, I discerned a call to religious life and entered the community in 2021. I now serve at the oldest Catholic nursing home in the country.

Sr. Seyram Mary Adzokpa; Sisters of the Holy Family, New Orleans, Columbia Dec. 2025

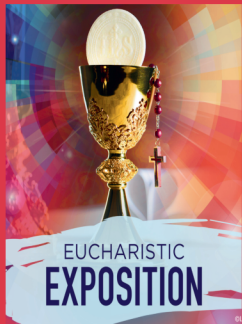
St. Henry Ladies Club 2026 Box of Joy program

St. Henry Ladies Club will be participating in the 2026 Box of Joy program. Box of Joy is a ministry of Cross Catholic Outreach. Boxes, Gift suggestions list and rubber bands will be available to be picked up in the back of church. Filled boxes need to be returned by September 15th.

Monetary donations will be appreciated and please put in envelopes with St. Henry's Ladies Club.

Thanks for your participation.

Questions: Please call Marilyn Elam at 618-604-6340



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.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Charles Fitzpatrick 08/24

Janis LeChien 08/24

Reta Schellinger 08/24

William Wuller 08/24

Bailey Martin-Giacalone 08/25

Kory Schilling 08/25

Jennifer Miller 08/26

Paul Schwartzhoff 08/26

Andrew Wells 08/26

Bernadine Case 08/27

Mark Denton 08/27

Gerald Maxim 08/27

Carlene Kapshandy 08/29

Rita Morr 08/29

Kent Naumann 08/29

Amy Young 08/29

Everett Bovinette 08/30

Jackie Poletti 08/30

Joseph Sandy 08/30

Parish Council 2 positions open!

The St. Henry Parish Council is seeking 2 parishioners willing to serve a 3 year term on the Parish Council. The Council meets every other month on the 4th Monday of the month. No experience needed. Qualifications: a love of God and his people, interest in parish activities and a willingness to share ideas for solving issues that come before the Council. **Self nominations accepted!**

Please contact Dawn or Father Ken in the parish office if you have any questions. 618-233-2423



“ God has
promised
forgiveness
to your
repentance,
but He has
not promised
tomorrow
to your
procrastination.”

ST. AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO

This could be Our Lord calling you to serve!

The Liturgy Committee wants to expand Communion at each Weekend Mass to include the Precious Blood. To make this happen, we need to train and schedule more Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist. Each Mass would require 4 Extra-Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist.

Training is provided! Serving Our Lord in this capacity is an honor and a privilege and a commitment to a closer relationship with Our Lord. **"Draw Near to God and He will Draw near to you." James 4:8**

Please speak to Father Ken or call the parish office to be included 618-233-2423.



Planning is well underway for "Becoming Catholic" gatherings which will begin soon! Many inquirers are seeking to know, and are invited to "Come and See," what a relationship with Jesus through the Catholic Church looks like. Through sharing our Catholic faith, Holy Scripture, and personal witness of an everyday walk with Jesus, inquirers will come to know the Joy of "Becoming Catholic."

Inquiry gatherings will be offered on Thursday evenings in the Cathedral of St. Peter Undercroft at 7:00 PM on September 17 and again on September 24, 2026. Formation will begin on Thursday October 1, 2026.

These gatherings offer a perfect opportunity for anyone who has expressed interest in coming to the Church, wishing to complete their sacraments, or simply looking to learn more about our faith. Please contact Deacon Jim Law with questions regarding "Becoming Catholic."



Sunday, August 23, 2026 | Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

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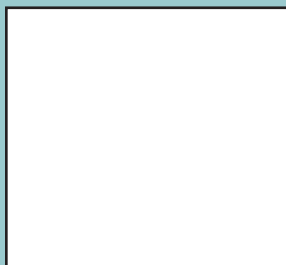


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Sunday, August 23, 2026 | Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Suicide Prevention Training and “We Remember You” Candlelight Vigil for Those Lost to Suicide
Presented by The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows
and the St. Clair County Suicide Prevention Alliance
Wednesday, September 9, 2026**

Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Suicide Prevention Training at 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm at the Shrine Visitors Center
“We Remember You” Candlelight Vigil at 7:00 pm at the Shrine Church & Glow Garden of Hope, dedicated to those lost to suicide, on the church plaza

If you or someone you know is concerned for another or has been affected by suicide, please join us for our Suicide Prevention Training and/or Candlelight Vigil to honor those we have lost to suicide.

Cost: No Charge, but please register to assure seating availability.

For more information, call 618-394-6281 or visit our website at <https://snows.org>

A Gathering of Prayer, Formation, and Fellowship



“EVEN JUST ONE OF THESE CHILDREN”



SEPTEMBER 26, 2026 ✦ 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM



**CATHEDRAL OF ST. PETER UNDERCROFT
200 W. HARRISON STREET BELLEVILLE, IL 62220**

Bishop Godfrey warmly invites all the faithful to join us as we mark National Migration Week, reflecting on the Church's call to welcome, protect, accompany, and serve migrants and immigrants, especially children and families.

Featuring:

- ✦ Prayer & Reflection
- ✦ Personal Testimonies
- ✦ Putting Faith in Action
- ✦ Catholic Social Teaching on Migration
- ✦ Closing Prayer Service

Special Invitation

Clergy, religious, diocesan and parish leaders, social service agencies and ministries, and all who accompany and serve Hispanic and immigrant communities are especially encouraged to attend.

Cost: \$10 per person
Includes light breakfast and lunch
For more information, please contact:
Lucia Barragan 618-722-5050
Lbarragan@diobelle.org



To register scan QR code
or go to:

<https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=YxxChb>

Scholarships available



222 South Third St.
Belleville, IL 62220
(618) 233-8670
messenger@diobelle.org

Dear Parish members:

Every fall The Messenger celebrates Priesthood Sunday and our diocesan priests with a special PRIEST APPRECIATION ISSUE. This year's Priesthood issue falls on Oct. 8, 2026.

Our priests' pastoral ministries affect people's spiritual and personal lives in many ways, often at significant times: the baptism of children or adults; first Eucharist, confirmation, young couples preparing to be married in the church; visitations to a parishioner in the hospital or nursing home, receiving the anointing of the sick, a family funeral liturgy. These are all emotional times that can be made more meaningful or less difficult when a priest walks alongside a family or individual.

To celebrate the ministry of priests in our diocese, The Messenger invites parishioners to comment on how priests' pastoral ministries affect their spiritual and personal lives or the parish community.

Please send brief comments to: editor@bellevillemessenger.org. We will do our best to accommodate all comments but, as always, space is limited and we cannot guarantee to include all comments.

Deadline: 5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17

Please note: The comments are free and separate from the Priest Appreciation paid advertisements. For Priest Appreciation paid advertisements contact Alyssa at The Messenger at 618-722-5047 or by email at advertising@bellevillemessenger.org.

Gratefully,
David Wilhelm
Editor

The 2026 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal

Those who are kind to the needy honor Him

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. **YOU'R 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!**

Teutopolis Monastery Museum

Tours of the Teutopolis Monastery Museum will be available on Sunday, September 6, 2026. The Museum, located behind St. Francis Church in Teutopolis, IL, is housed on the second floor in the former Franciscan Novitiate building. An elevator is available for visitors who have difficulty with stairs. A collection of articles used by the early pioneers of the area and the Franciscan Friars can be viewed. This year is the 175th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of St. Francis Church. It is also a Special Year of St. Francis of Assisi, marking the 800th anniversary of his death. The Museum offers a guided tour through the Church as part of its Sunday tour.

Admission fee is \$5.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children. The Museum is open on the first Sunday of the months April thru November from 12:30 to 4:00 p.m., except holidays. Private group tours can also be scheduled. For more information go to the parish website: www.stfrancischurch.com or to the town website at www.Teutopolis.com and click on "Our Community"; or call (217) 961-6404 ext. 236.