



Saint Henry Catholic Church

5315 W. Main St., Belleville, IL 62226



22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**"For you will be repaid at the
resurrection of the righteous." - Lk 14:14**

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

August 31, 2025
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Luke 14:1, 7-14

Once I was invited to a group meeting with Pope Francis. Entering the room, I paused, eyeing the seats next to the Pope's fancy chair. Someone saw my paralysis and invited me to sit in the seat farthest from what I wanted. Hiding my disappointment, I sat. We waited. To our surprise, an aid pointed out that those seats were still empty and invited me and another to have them. We calmly but gleefully strode across the room and sat. Pope Francis entered, and we enjoyed two hours of amazingly uplifting conversation.

Jesus says this week to us: **"When you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, 'My friend, move up to a higher position.' Then you will enjoy the esteem of your companions at the table"** (Luke 14:10). This is not about how to score free seat upgrades. Rather, it is a wise pattern for the whole of life. It is how to live free from the anxiety of constantly grasping for status and recognition.

Jesus perfectly embodies his seat-taking advice. He eschews his glorious throne for the lowest: death on a cross, that lonely chair we all deserve. In his resurrection, he calls us up higher to his marvelous banquet seats. This week, perhaps we should look for opportunities to choose the lowest seat. We'll be pleasantly surprised when we do.

— *Father John Muir*

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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 6th Saturday, 4:00 PM	Michelle Kujawa	Ramona Effinger Janis LeChein	Mary Jo Hanvey Nick Kujawa	Virginia Miller Jennifer Roberts	Kacie Denton Susan O'Malley
September 7th Sunday, 8:30 AM	Joyce Dierkes	Gayle Bibee	Cathy Lugge	Bernadette Gadu Alvina Tippy	Daniel Broeckling Paul Schwartzhoff
September 7th Sunday, 10:30 AM	Sue Bolen	Marilyn Elam	Chris Knee	Lynne Fulte Lois Parent	Jerry Ahrens <i>Need Volunteer</i>

Respect Life Corner

If you or someone you know has had an abortion, be assured that it is never too late to seek God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Additionally, other confidential, compassionate help is available. Select "Find Help" from the menu on www.hopeafterabortion.org to find the diocesan Project Rachel Ministry near you.

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities,
"Bridges of Mercy for Healing after Abortion"
www.usccb.org/bridges-of-mercy

Vocation Corner

Both the Book of Sirach and the Gospel of Luke today stress that we should live our lives in humble fashion. WOW! What a challenge. Yet, we are called each day to use our talents to glorify the Lord and spread His word. Are we humble enough to recognize the talents that we truly have? Are we also humble enough to set aside our egos and hear what God is truly calling us to do? Can we clean up after our kids without grumbling? Can we rise for work with a willing spirit? Can we set down our phone and pray for a moment that a young person might pursue a religious vocation?

LIVE THE LITURGY INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

"When you hold a banquet, invite the poor," Jesus instructs. "Blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you." Each of us has our own banquet to offer, our own gifts to share. Who will we invite?
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Prayer for Humility

Dear God,
Mold my heart after Yours. Help me to see myself as You see me: surrounded by Your love. Help me to see others as You see them as well. Give me knowledge of your ways, today and always. Amen.

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READINGS OF THE WEEK

Readings for the week of August 31, 2025

Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 (1a)/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14
Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13/Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday: Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10, 11/Lk 4:38-44
Thursday: Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11
Friday: Col 1:15-20/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 5:33-39
Saturday: Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8/Lk 6:1-5
Next 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

Observances for the week of August 31, 2025

Sunday: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: Labor Day
Tuesday:
Wednesday: St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church
Thursday:
Friday:
Saturday:
Next Sunday: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparents' Day
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Mass Intentions for the week of August 31, 2025

SUN 8/31	8:30 AM	For the People
	10:30 AM	Sr. Diane Marie Turner SSND
MON 9/1	8:00 AM	Catholic Extension Intentions
TUE 9/2	8:00 AM	Shirleen Spehn Dressler
		Raymand Spehn & Ken Dressler
WED 9/3	8:00 AM	Catholic Extension Intentions
	10:20 AM	Jeannette Barks
THUR 9/4	8:00 AM	Catholic Extension Intentions
FRI 9/5	8:00 AM	Memorial Donors
SAT 9/6	8:00 AM	Barbra Schwarz
	4:00 PM	Michael O'Malley, Dolores Gantt
SUN 9/7	8:30 AM	Betty Sandy
	10:30 AM	For the People



Sunday, August 31, 2025 | Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - BENEATH THE SURFACE

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini reflection: I think, if we're being really honest, we all expect "payment" for being a good person. We want God to give us what we ask. We want people to treat us a certain way. But what if we expected absolutely nothing?

What Did You Expect?

Moms have a lot of jobs, and it's usually the case that none of them pay very well.

My work as a chef? Zero compensation, and my clientele are very rarely pleased with my efforts. My role as a teacher, a maid, a chauffeur, a therapist — same deal. Ironically, these jobs consume so much of my time that I am constricted in my work as a writer — the only sphere where I do actually garner any earnings.

It is so easy to grumble about all of this, and I do it all the time. Because despite the fact that I know better, I expect repayment for my good deeds. Deep in my soul, I expect it.

That's a huge problem.

In my defense, I don't think this is a very uncommon thing. I think, if we're being really honest, we all expect "payment" for being a good person. We want God to give us what we ask. We want people to treat us a certain way. We want our day to go smoothly. We expect these things as a matter of course; we feel entitled to them, and we become grumpy when we are denied them. *I worked so hard. I gave so much. What was it all even for?*

But what if we expected absolutely nothing?

When you hold a banquet, Jesus said, invite those who cannot return the favor. Give not just without the expectation of repayment, but without the possibility of it.

Think about that for a minute. What does that even *look* like — no possibility of payment?

I know what that looks like in my own life. It's giving more to the literal poor, yes, but it's also giving more — and more happily, more lovingly — when I cook and clean and drive and write and console. It's not lamenting that no one appreciates me — it's actually hoping no one does.

It's learning to love the lowest place at the table. Because in the lowest place, we are closest to God.

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Imago Divina, Explained!

Imago divina (Latin for "divine image") is an extension of the ancient practice of *lectio divina* ("divine reading"). *Imago divina* is, in a sense, praying with one's eyes, or using the medium of artwork to assist in lifting the mind to God.

Believers have always connected with the divine through visual representations of faith. This can be seen in the frescoes that adorn the walls of the catacombs, in the glory of Rococo architecture, and in the stained glass windows of a simple country church. "Art is capable of making visible our need to go beyond what we see and it reveals our thirst for infinite beauty, for God," said Pope Benedict in 2011.

In practicing *imago divina*, just like with *lectio divina*, the faithful "read" (or view), reflect, respond and rest with the image, inviting the Holy Spirit to move them accordingly. ©LPi



THE CORNERSTONE
Catholic Scripture Study

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!



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."

Ann	Doug	Pat
Barbara	Frances	Patricia
Bob	Heidi	Patti
Bob and Mary	Jennifer and family	Rose
Charlie	John and Barb	Scott
Chris	Leslie	Shauna
Declan	Lois	Tom

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.



Sunday, August 31, 2025 | Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

August 24, 2025

Envelopes/Loose	\$ 4,411.27
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 598.25
Guatemala	\$ 45.00
100 Year Jubilee Celebration Donations	\$ 75.00
Assumption of Mary	\$ 10.00
Gaza Collection	\$ 1,876.00

THANK YOU



This Week

August 31, 2025

Sunday

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

Monday

- Parish Office Closed

Tuesday

-

Wednesday

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

Thursday

-

Friday

-

Retired Diocesan Priests Collection

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)

Weekly	Year to Date	Grand Total
93	4,616	14,654

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.

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.



Kim Ahrens 09/01
Carol Lesko 09/01
Kymani Palma 09/01
Lawrence Rutledge 09/01
Myra Jackson 09/02

Deborah McPherson 09/03
Deborah Borger 09/04
Joan Handley 09/06
David Brutto 09/07



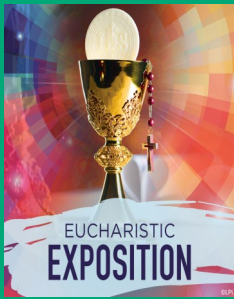
St. Henry Ladies Club is participating in the Box of Joy program. If you would like to help us, please grab a box and list to sponsor a child behind the pews in the back of church. Pick

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



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.



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!



MIKE HARTMAN BENEFIT

TRIVIA NIGHT!

DONATIONS
& ROUND
SPONSORS
WELCOME!



SAT OCT 11, 2025 7PM, DOORS 6PM

\$200 PER TABLE

Tables of 8 or \$25 per person
Reservations/Purchase Tickets:
aritson@geoweber.com



ST. AUGUSTINE
SCHOOL GYM
1900 W. BELLE ST.
BELLEVILLE, IL
62226

***50/50 *MULLIGANS *HEADS/TAILS
*SURVIVOR ROUND *SILENT AUCTION *CASH BAR
CASH PAYOUTS 1ST - \$300 2ND - \$200 3RD - \$100**

For over 35 years, Mike was a trusted mechanic at George Weber Chevrolet. He was always generous & willing to lend a hand to anyone. In late '24, on top of auto-immune diseases, tests revealed stage 4 lung cancer that spread to his liver - a shocking diagnosis for someone who'd never smoked. Mike endured multiple hospital stays, radiation treatments & serious complications. Sadly, he succumbed to his illness May 7, 2025. Struggling to stay afloat, Mike had been unable to work & his wife Laura is disabled & cannot work. With no income, the family is overwhelmed with mounting medical bills & daily living expenses. Mike was always there for others & now it's our turn to be there for the Hartman family!

**HOSTED BY THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL
1028 BELLEVILLE, IL**



PEOPLE SHOULD
EAT AND DRINK
AND ENJOY THE
FRUITS OF THEIR LABOR,
FOR THESE ARE GIFTS FROM GOD.

HAPPY LABOR DAY!

-ECCLESIASTES 3:13

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

A Journey of Faith

"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.



WAY OF LIGHTS 2025

Mark your calendars!

November 21 through December 31, 2025

Way of Lights 5k Run and 1.5-mile Fun Walk on January 1, 2026

More information coming soon!



The Way of Lights attracts tens of thousands of visitors each year. Check out the flyer in the back of church or visit the Website <https://snows.org/> for more information. (singers, wreath makers, and or sponsors)



WAY of LIGHTS

Sponsor the Way of Lights and support our community!

Email info@snows.org or call 618-397-6700.

Christmas is right around the corner and with it, the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snow's beautiful Way of Lights display!

By supporting the Way of Lights community, you can help us provide a community service and assist the poor and abandoned, both materially and spiritually, in the United States and around the world.

We'd be grateful if you would consider partnering with us as a sponsor to help make our work possible.

For more information, please contact Beth Mertz at 618-394-6425 or at bmertz@snows.org




Attention Performers!

Share your musical talents with thousands of visitors during the Way of Lights!

Learn More

The Way of Lights attracts tens of thousands of visitors each year, bringing an immersive Christmas experience to families with its lights, activities, and community performances. Don't miss out – come showcase your talents and make your ensemble part of the Way of Lights experience this year!

Contact information: snows.org/wolchoir/ or call 618-397-6700



We're seeking volunteers to create beautiful, handcrafted wreaths for our silent auction to benefit the Way of Lights and the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate. Your time and talent in making wreaths would directly support The Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows. Would you be interested in donating your time to create a wreath for this event?

November 21 – December 17, 2025

Your name and wreath designs will be viewed by over 160,000 people!

- Silent auction open to the public
- You may enter more than one wreath
- Photos of your wreath(s) will be posted on the Shrine website: snows.org/wreaths

– Each entry is tax-deductible

Please note we cannot accept live wreaths or wreaths over 36" in diameter. If you have questions, please contact Gina or Beth at 618-397-6700 or at wreaths@snows.org



**DIOCESE OF BELLEVILLE
OFFICE OF THE DIOCESAN ADMINISTRATOR**

August 21, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Can't we all here in our Belleville Diocese easily recall a time when our lives have been positively impacted by a diocesan priest? Whether baptizing our children, listening to our concerns in the Sacrament of Penance, witnessing marriage vows, or praying with us and comforting us in times of sickness or when the Lord calls a loved one home, the dedicated ministry and lives of service of our priests bring us closer to God.

On September 6-7, you will have an opportunity to express your gratitude to our priests and celebrate their presence among us through your gift to the Retired Diocesan Priests Collection which will be taken up in all parishes. The proceeds from this collection are used only to provide quality health care for our current and future retired priests, long-term care in nursing facilities, Medicare supplemental insurance, and prescription medications. At present, the Belleville Diocese has 60 diocesan priests: 34 are currently retired and 26 are in active ministry. Of those 26 in active ministry, 11 are retirement age or over.

Our goal is to safeguard the professional and personal dignity of those who are now retired as well as those who will retire in the future. Your gift to the Retired Diocesan Priests Collection will ensure adequate retirement and health coverage for them and thank them for their many years of faithful service. Our diocesan priests do not benefit from the national collection for retired religious which is held in December, so your support to our diocesan collection is vital.

Please consider a gift to the collection if you are able. Please remember all the priests who serve our Belleville Diocese – both retired and active – in your daily prayers as we remember you and your loved ones in ours.

Peace –

Fr Godfrey Mullen OSB

Very Reverend Godfrey Mullen, OSB
Diocesan Administrator