



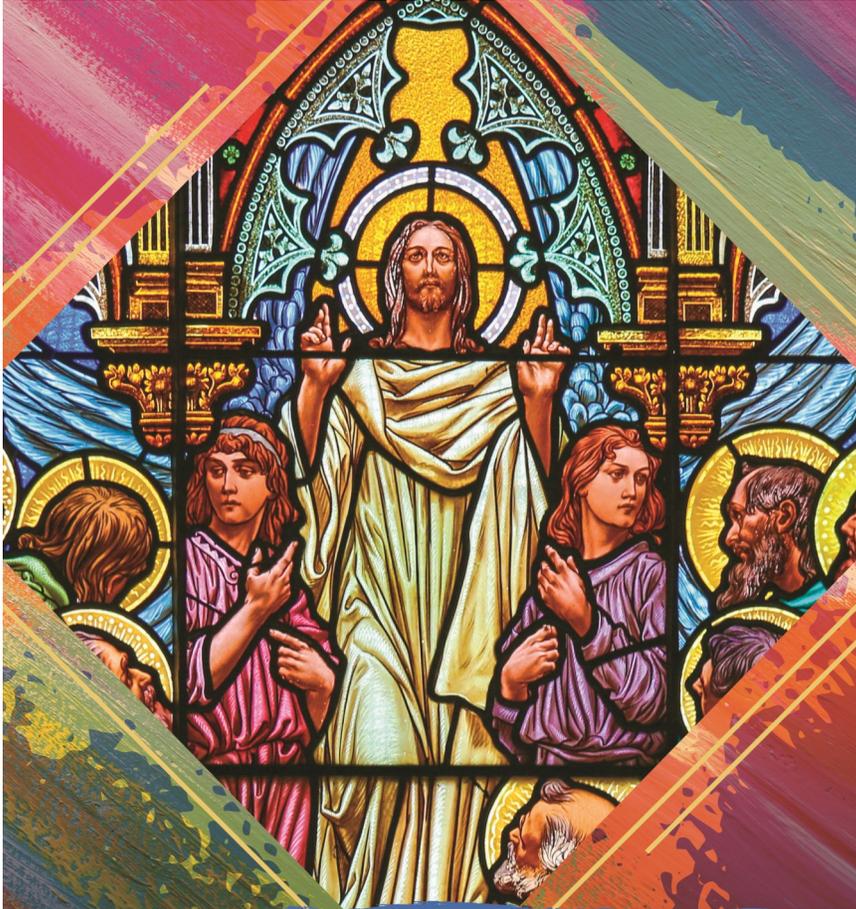
Saint Henry Catholic Church

5315 W. Main St., Belleville, IL 62226

February 15, 2026

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Matthew 5:17-37



6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother
will be liable to judgment.” - Mt 5:22a

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

A few years into my priesthood, I hit a wall. I had taken on too many commitments: Masses, meetings, ministries, projects. I couldn't keep up. I was double-booking, forgetting things, running late, and letting people down. My boss at the time, a wise priest, and our shared secretary, noticed. For my birthday, the two gave me a stack of 100 flashcards, each with one word printed in a different language: “NO.” It was funny, but also painfully true. If I couldn't say no, my yes was in danger.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says, “**Let your ‘Yes’ mean ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No’ mean ‘No.’ Anything more is from the Evil One**” (Matthew 5:37). He's not just giving advice about polite speech. He's showing us something about the freedom of Christian discipleship. The follower of Christ is called to speak clearly, simply, and honestly. There is joy in that kind of freedom.

The Church Fathers often linked this kind of straightforward truthfulness with spiritual maturity. The devil is the father of lies, but Jesus is the Word made flesh. When we hedge, flatter, exaggerate, or avoid, we open space for the shadows to creep in. That little stack of flashcards reminded me that God does not want us enslaved to the expectations of others or to the fear of disappointing them. He wants us to enjoy the peace of saying yes and meaning it, and saying no, and meaning it, too.

Lenten Challenge: Practice one moment of honest, peaceful speech this week. Maybe it's a sincere “yes” to something important, or a humble “no” to something you cannot do. Let it be a quiet step into the freedom Jesus offers.

— *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
deaconjlaw@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

Jennifer Campbell - 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
February 21st Saturday, 4:00 PM	Trish Denton	Betty Cerulli Jeannette Yelinek	Nick Kujawa Michelle Kujawa	Sue Kaltenbronn Tristan Kujawa	Mark Denton Susan O'Malley
February 22nd Sunday, 8:30 AM	Lynne Fulte	George Mehochko	Joyce Dierkes	Kathy Pajares Alvina Tippy	Daniel Broeckling Paul Schwartzhoff
February 22nd Sunday, 10:30 AM	Sue Bolen	Dawn York	Need Volunteer	Bobby Elam Marilyn Elam	Chris Knee Carol Tyler

Respect Life Corner

“We often assume parenthood happens easily after ‘I do,’ but for many married couples, it does not. For some, the joy of conception never happens. Others suffer repeated miscarriages. Still others experience secondary infertility... If you experience difficulty bringing a child into your family, know that you are not alone. God is with you, and his Church desires to walk with you... God has a beautiful plan for your life as a married couple.”

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities
“Seven Considerations While Navigating Infertility” respectlife.org/navigating-infertility

Vocation Corner

“When I was little, I remember a teacher asking me, ‘What do you want to be when you grow up?’ Right away, I envisioned myself drawing buildings and houses. I wanted to become an architect. That dream became real but in a different way, for God had another blueprint for my life – to help build his kingdom. When I was 25 years old, I attended a ‘Come and See’ retreat with the Missionaries of the Holy Spirit, not knowing what to expect. During that retreat, I realized I liked living in community, and I also love centering everything around the Eucharist. Letting go of my dreams of becoming an architect and of getting married was difficult, but I sensed a deep fire within me that could not be contained. I thought, ‘This is something I could happily see myself doing.’ Now, 20 years after joining the congregation, I’m blessed to serve as vocations director and a spiritual director. In this way, I firmly believe I am building God’s kingdom as an architect for the Lord.”

Bro. Lucio Galicia; Missionaries of the Holy Spirit; Columbia Magazine, Sept 2025.



Weekly Readings



Readings for the week of February 15, 2026

Sunday: Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34/1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37
Monday: Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76/Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19/Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25
Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32
Next Sunday: Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

Observances for the week of February 15, 2026

Sunday: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: Presidents’ Day
Tuesday: The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order
Wednesday: Ash Wednesday
Thursday:
Friday:
Saturday: St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday: 1st Sunday of Lent

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Mass Intentions for the week of February 15, 2026

SUN 2/15	8:30 AM	For the People
	10:30 AM	Walter & Cecelia Turner & Sr. Diane Marie
MON 2/16	8:00 AM	Lynne Schwartzhoff
TUE 2/17	8:00 AM	Rita & Jim Pajares, Bill Stroot
WED 2/18	8:00 AM	Eileen O’Brien
	10:20 AM	ACHS
	6:30 PM	Anna Marie Eckmann
THUR 2/19	8:00 AM	Fr. Ronald Weber
FRI 2/20	8:00 AM	Joe Grunewald
SAT 2/21	8:00 AM	Clifford Colmer
	4:00 PM	For The People
SUN 2/22	8:30 AM	William Pranaitis
	10:30 AM	Judith Marchand

SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS
— OF THE SERVITE ORDER —



Sunday, February 15, 2026 | Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC -
BENEATH THE SURFACE**
By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini reflection: The law of Moses was like a good deck, admirably built. You could say “*Raga*,” your heart filled with anger, and the law didn’t break. But that anger treads heavily. Over time, it becomes too much to bear. And that board — that law, that heart — it’ll break. Just you wait.

The Carpenter and the Law

My husband and I couldn’t believe our luck: our new house had a deck. It was more than a couple of broke millennials had ever dared to dream. Lounging in our patio furniture drinking coffee and watching the cars drive past, we felt like Kennedys at Hyannis Port. We had arrived.

Well, until it started falling apart.

To be fair, my husband knew this was going to happen all along, because he’s a person who uses words like “joist” and “weight-bearing” correctly. He took one look at the deck at the open house and knew it wasn’t up to code. “We’re going to have to reinforce this at some point,” he told me. “Whatever!” I replied, daydreaming about twinkle lights and porch parties.

Sure enough, our second summer in the house, he had to rip the rotting surface boards off. The biggest issue was that the joists were too far apart; when we stepped on the boards, they bowed and almost cracked, lacking adequate support beneath. But we weren’t going to redo the whole deck — we’re not *actually* Kennedys. We (okay, *he*) simply ripped the surface boards off, added the necessary joists, and replaced the decking with newer, better, stronger wood.

Simply put, my husband did not come to abolish the deck, but to fulfill it.

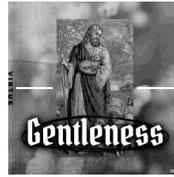
The law of Moses was like a good deck, admirably built. You could say “*Raga*,” your heart filled with anger, and the law didn’t break. But that anger treads heavily on boards not adequately supported. Over time, the anger becomes too much to bear. And that board — that law, that heart — it’ll break. Just you wait.

And when it does, you’ll see why: there wasn’t anything beneath, holding it up.

So God sent a Carpenter to reinforce the law. The Carpenter crafted joists from prudence, fortitude, justice and temperance — strong virtues that can withstand a lifetime of battery, if properly maintained.

And the law still holds.

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Gentleness, Explained!

As followers of Christ, we are commanded to “always be prepared to offer an explanation ... to justify the hope that is in you.”

But the success of that evangelism hinges entirely on the very next instructions this passage contains: “However, do so with gentleness and respect” (1 Peter 3:15).

The word “gentleness” has come to be associated with softness and fragility — but there is no virtue that requires greater strength. As one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit, gentleness disposes us to receive the inspirations of the Spirit, who “reveals to men who Jesus is” (CCC 152). In cultivating a spirit of gentleness, we more closely resemble Christ, who was unfailingly gentle, even in the face of violence and death.

“Every virtue is a good thing, but most of all gentleness and meekness,” said St. John Chrysostom. “This shows us men; this makes us to differ from wild beasts; this fits us to vie with Angels.” ©LPi

FAT TUESDAY CELEBRATION



Blessing of Love

Heavenly Father, Ignite us with Your love. Reveal to us Your will, guide us in Your path. Pour Your blessings upon us, You who are the giver of every good thing. Help us to live, work, act, and speak in ways that bring honor and glory to You. 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."

Andy	Jean	Renee
Carol	Jim	Tanya
Carolyn	Joe	Tracy
Cathy	Kathy	Ultiss Family
Christy	Kelly	Vera
Dakota	Leslie	
David and Elissa	Louise	Participants in Right to Life program in D.C.
Debbie	Mary	
Domenica	Patrick	

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.****

February 9, 2025

Envelopes/Loose	\$ 6,050.27
St. Vincent de Paul	\$ 353.25
Guatemala	\$ 70.00
Black & Indian Missions	\$ 10.00

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



LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Jesus does not want us to live within the law — he wants the law to live within us. God's law, fulfilled by His Son, is rich soil. We must let it nourish the words and the decisions of our Christian life — only then will it flow forth into the world.

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Singles Late 50s and Above: Are you looking for a renewed sense of purpose & belonging? Register today for a life-changing RENEW weekend retreat at the Pallottine Retreat Center (30 min from downtown St. Louis), on April 10-12, 2026. Take a chance and get involved... you won't regret it! Visit www.RenewRetreats.org, e-mail renewretreat.stl@gmail.com, or call (314) 703-1002 for details.



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
112	1,120	17,868

Weekly Schedule

February 15, 2026

- Sunday** - 8:30 am Mass
Live Stream Mass 8:30 am
- 10:30 am Mass
- Monday** -
- Tuesday** - Ladies Club Mtg 5:00 pm
- Wednesday** - 8:00 am Mass
- 10:20 am Mass
- Eucharistic Exposition
2:30-4:30 pm
- 6:30 pm Mass
- Thursday** -
- Friday** -
- Saturday** - 4:00 pm Mass
- Sunday** - 8:30 am Mass
Live Stream Mass 8:30 am
- 10:30 am Mass

Next Week

Black and Indian Mission Collection

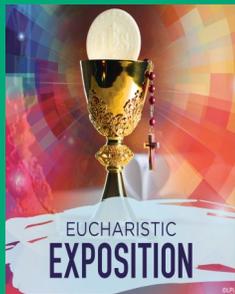
Next week, our parish will take up the 142nd annual national Black and Indian Mission Collection. Our support for this collection helps build the Church in African American, Native American, and Alaska native communities from coast to coast. Schools, parish religious education programs, and diocesan ministries depend on your generosity to help them spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

GOD BLESS AMERICA

PRESIDENTS' DAY

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LADIES' CLUB The Ladies' Club will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 5:00 pm . We will have soup.
 * We will need a few salads and desserts.
 * We are having a mini retreat lead by Sr. Cecilia, Sr. Jan, & Sr. Jane.
 * We are collecting items for the Pregnancy Care Center so please bring your donations.
ALL ladies of the parish are welcome.



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

Janet Baechle	2/16	Kelly Morrell	2/18
Renee Fussell	2/17	Jenny Prindable	2/20
Christy Schlechter	2/17	Ivan Tepen	2/20
Deborah Suarez	2/17	Elizabeth Stookey	2/22
Bernadette Gadu	2/18	Patti Vickery	2/22
Wayne Fuhrman	2/18		



Lenten fish fries, hosted by the Men's Club and the Ladies of St. Henry, are back beginning this **Friday, February 20, from 4:00 to**

7:30 pm in the Msgr. Voss Parish Center. Enjoy our hand-cut fried cod, baked salmon, shrimp, and many side items.

Homemade or store-bought items are always needed for our dessert table. If you would like to donate a dessert item, please bring it to the parish center on Friday afternoon.

Thanks for your support.

Contribution Statements for 2025

Contribution statements will be sent out **BY REQUEST** again this year. If you would like a contribution statement for your taxes, please let Dawn know at 618-233-2423 or email sthenryc@peaknet.net.



Ending Hunger With CRS Rice Bowl This Lent, our community will participate in CRS Rice Bowl—connecting our prayers, fasting and almsgiving to encounter God through our global family. We'll meet, pray for and learn from families in Ghana, Guatemala and Timor-Leste who are rising above the challenges of hunger and malnutrition. Pick up your rice bowl from the back of church. Then, visit crsricebowl.org/join to share your Lenten prayer intentions

Lenten Regulations

PRAYER "For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing both trial and joy." -St. Therese of Lisieux (CCC 2558) During Lent, we are asked to devote ourselves to seeking the Lord in prayer and reading Scripture, to service by giving alms, and to practice self-control through fasting. Dive into God's word in Scripture this Lent or pray the rosary with your family.

FASTING Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are **obligatory days of fasting and abstinence for Catholics**. In addition, **Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence**. For members of the Latin Catholic Church, **the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59**. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. **The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards**. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.

ALMSGIVING The foundational call of Christians to charity is a frequent theme of the Gospels. During Lent, we are asked to focus more intently on "almsgiving," which means donating money or goods to the poor and performing other acts of charity. As one of the three pillars of Lenten practice, almsgiving is "a witness to fraternal charity" and "a work of justice pleasing to God." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2462). **Particular Opportunities for Almsgiving during Lent:** There are several special opportunities for almsgiving through donations to Church ministries for which collections are conducted during the Lenten season including: Collection for the Church in Central & Eastern Europe, National Black and Indiana Mission Collection, Catholic Relief Services Collection, Pontifical Good Friday Collection for Care for Christians in the Holy Land, CRS Rice Bowl.