



WELCOME

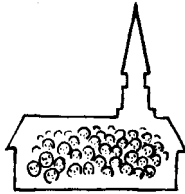
ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY PARISH

Welcome To Our Parish Family

We welcome you as a new member of St. Augustine of Canterbury Parish and our Faith Family. Enclosed in this packet is information about our parish, our organizations, and our hopes for the future. Although this is a time of change for the parishes in the city of Belleville, we are looking forward with prayerful faith that our parish will continue to thrive and progress.

In order for our parish and school to sustain and grow the faith of our members, we will need the full support both physically and financially of our parishioners. We request that you use your weekly envelopes faithfully and that you become an active member of one or more of our parish organizations.

Current information about parish events is contained in our Sunday bulletins. We encourage you to pick one up each Sunday and read it to stay informed. A monthly mailing in which various parish organizations publish newsletters, flyers regarding upcoming events and other noteworthy information will come to you about the middle of each month. The School has a weekly bulletin called 'St. A's News Notes' which is to be found on a table in the vestibule. If you are interested in what's happening in our school, please take one home.



Our Parish History

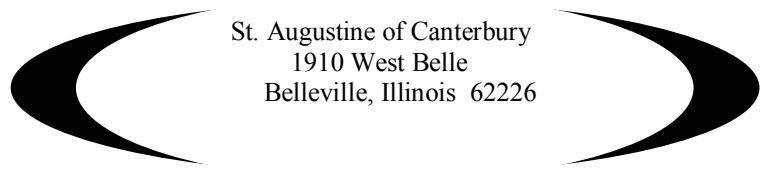
St. Augustine of Canterbury parish was founded on August 18, 1955 and Father Urban B. Kuhl, who served as an associate at St. Peter's Cathedral for 10 years, was appointed founding pastor. The site was ten acres of land purchased from Mr. & Mrs. August Vernier.

The first Mass in the new parish was held in the St. Clair County Highway Garage on September 4, 1955. This was our home for 14 months. At this time we had 180 families on the parish roster.

St. Augustine's grade school opened in September 1956. The abandoned School at St. Albert the Great was used until we moved into our own new building in December 1956. We started with an enrollment of 200 children in grades 1 through 8 but in about 5 years our facility was overcrowded and 4 new classrooms were added in March 1960.

In January 1965 our parish was out of debt and planning for a church began. Construction started in March 1968 and on May 9, 1969 we had a real church. 1977 saw the old convent converted into the present rectory. The next major project was an addition to the auditorium in 1988 which included a new kitchen, restrooms and cafeteria.

For nearly half a century, St. Augustine of Canterbury has existed as a home to Catholics of all ages. We are looking forward to celebrating our Golden Anniversary in 2005.



St. Augustine of Canterbury
1910 West Belle
Belleville, Illinois 62226

St. Augustine's Facilities are the site of a host of parish and community events all year long. All Parishioners are asked to make a commitment to join together to make these events successful. These festivities not only are a major source of funding for the parish but also add to the fellowship and community among our people. We encourage you to attend them all and volunteer your time and talents to those that you find most interesting. The following calendar of events is not date specific but does give the month that they will be held. The weekly bulletin will give more pertinent information closer to the event.

Ladies Quilting every Thursday except Third Thursday
Noon Luncheon & Card Party every Third Thursday except July/Dec.
Bingo every Friday night for the benefit of the school

February: *Mid-Winter Bar-B-Que* **September:** *Parish Picnic*
March: *Ash Wednesday Fish Fry* **November:** *Wurstmarkt*
April: *Easter Celebration* **December:** *Celebrate Christ's Birth with us*
June: *Quilt/Cash Bingo*

**THANK YOU FOR JOINING
ST. AUGUSTINE'S PARISH**
If we can ever be of assistance to you in any way, please don't hesitate to call the rectory. We are a family in a fine sense of the word and as family, we are all to be here for each other and to help each other know the love of God.