



BELLEVILLE DIOCESE *flocknote*



A MESSAGE FROM FR. GODFREY MULLEN



Parish Assignment Changes

This weekend will be the last weekend in the parish for many of our priests as they prepare to move to new assignments. Some are staying in one place and adding another. Let's support with our prayers the parishes and priests who are experiencing this time of change. Let's also increase our prayers for priests in our diocese. During this Jubilee of Hope, let us hope in the Lord, who provides every good gift.

Hospitality

Hospitality is often called "the Benedictine charism." Monasteries are typically known for their hospitality. But hospitality is also a basic Christian charism. Often, we think of hospitality as

serving doughnuts or the industry of hospitality. But for the Christian disciple, hospitality is founded in the very first days of creation. As we read the first chapter of Genesis, we see darkness welcoming the light, the sea welcoming the land, the land welcoming the plants, the plants welcoming the animals, and the animals stepping aside enough for the human beings to find a place. Hospitality is the welcoming spirit that is hard-wired into all of us because of creation. Disciples of Jesus learn, as adults, to transcend the mindset of stranger-danger and to embrace openness, especially for the least of our brothers and sisters. How are our parishes at welcoming others? Do we all see ourselves as ministers of hospitality, not only at Mass, but all week long?



Video Message of the Holy Father to the young people of Chicago and the whole world.



The Bishop's Chair at the Cathedral of St. Peter awaits the announcement of the 10th Bishop of Belleville.

How are bishops selected?

In the Catholic Church, the process of assigning a new bishop is formal, hierarchical, and typically takes several months. Here's how it generally works:

1. Vacancy or Need Identified

A new bishop is needed when:

- A bishop retires (usually at age 75, as required by canon law),
- A bishop dies,
- A new diocese is created,
- A diocese is split or reorganized,

- A current bishop is transferred to another post.

2. Apostolic Nuncio's Role

The **Apostolic Nuncio** (the Pope's ambassador in a given country) plays a central role. He:

- Consults with local bishops, clergy, and sometimes laity for recommendations,
- Gathers information about potential candidates (priests or existing bishops),
- Assesses the needs and unique characteristics of the diocese.

3. Terna (List of Three Candidates)

The nuncio submits a "**terna**"—a confidential list of three recommended candidates—along with his own detailed reports and evaluations to the **Congregation for Bishops** in Rome (or the **Dicastery for Bishops**, as it's now known).

4. Review by the Dicastery for Bishops

The dicastery:

- Reviews the terna,
- May request additional information or suggest alternate candidates,
- Votes on the recommendation,
- For non-Latin Rite bishops, a different dicastery may be involved (e.g., Eastern Churches).

5. Pope Makes the Final Decision

The **Pope** personally reviews the recommendation and makes the final appointment. He may choose someone from the terna, ask for a new list, or select someone else entirely.

6. Announcement and Ordination

Once the Pope has made his decision:

- The candidate is contacted (and can decline, though it's rare),
- A public announcement is made (usually simultaneously by the Vatican and the local diocese),
- If the new bishop is not already ordained as a bishop, a consecration (episcopal ordination) is scheduled.



“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.” – Matthew 11:28
On June 27 celebrate the boundless love and mercy of Jesus, poured out from His Sacred Heart. May we draw closer to Him and trust in His compassionate heart.



Our Lady of Guadalupe Pilgrimage

January 15-20, 2026

Cost: \$2994

Hosted by Catholic Relief Services in the Diocese of Belleville

Registration Deadline: June 30, 2025

Join us for a 6-day pilgrimage to Mexico to visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe and to witness the work that Catholic Relief Services does on our behalf. Pilgrimage leaders will be Fr. Bob Flannery, a retired priest in the Diocese of Belleville; Cheryl

Sommer, volunteer for Catholic Relief Services; and Sue Huett Asbeck, retired Director of Liturgy for the Diocese of Belleville. Register at gocatholictravel.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Sommer-2026-Mexico-Brochure.pdf or email crsdiobelle@gmail.com.

Hispanic Youth Day



Peregrinos de Esperanza: Going forth with joy!

Rain or shine, it's jubilee time! On Saturday, June 14th, 2025, middle schoolers and high schoolers from around the diocese of Belleville gathered at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows for a fun retreat day. The program included a dynamic presentation by Fr. Byron Macias, CMF, and a chance for the youth to reflect on their own lives and

relationship with God. In the afternoon, Raul Arteaga, a sports announcer for Telemundo of St. Louis, gave his personal testimony with the theme of sports and faith. A soccer tournament was planned for the kids, but after a rainy morning, the plan changed and the kids participated in other fun activities. The sun came out in the afternoon, making possible a Marian pilgrimage on the beautiful shrine grounds, led by Dcn. Mateusz Garstecki, OMI, with other volunteers. Finally, everyone joined for a Mass at the end of the day, celebrated by Fr. Byron, concelebrated by Fr. Victor Manuel, OMI, and Fr. Luis Ignacio, OMI, our Superior General. Thanks to all the volunteers, and especially to Lucy Barragan, Director of Hispanic Ministry of the Diocese of Belleville, who led and hosted the event!

Happy Fourth of July!

Wishing everyone in our diocese a fun, safe, and meaningful day. Let's take a moment to be thankful and keep our communities in prayer.





Diocese of Belleville
**YOUNG ADULTS
PRESENTS**

BIBLES AND BREWS

**WEDNESDAY,
JULY**

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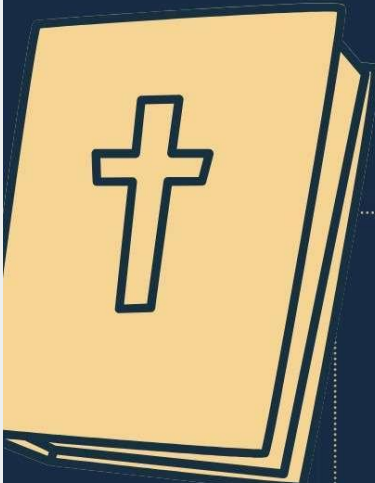


With Shea Christensen,
Spiritual and Mental Health Advocate
Topic: Mental Health and Faith - Where is
God When It Hurts?

**FOR YOUNG ADULTS
AGES 21 - 35**

Location: Eckert's Cider Shed
951 S Green Mt Rd, Belleville, IL 62220

**6:30-7:00PM SOCIAL
7:00-8:30PM EVENT**



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Diocese of Belleville Young Adults

