

# INCARNATE WORD REACH OUT MINISTRY

On the third Sunday of each month, the Incarnate Word Reach Out Ministry asks our parishioners to donate to a special collection that benefits three local St. Louis area parishes in need.

This month, all donations deposited in the Reach Out wooden collection boxes at the entrances to church will benefit:

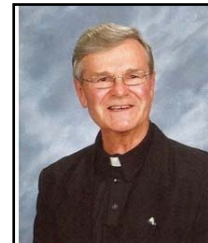
**St. Augustine Church**... is a parish formed in 1992 when five north St.



Louis parishes merged into one. Monsignor Robert "Father Bob" Gettinger is the pastor of this north city parish located in Wellston, which is about two miles north of Forest Park close to the intersection of Skinker and Delmar Blvd. The neighborhood that surrounds this parish is not predominantly catholic, but is low income with high unemployment. St. Augustine has two main ministries that support the community:

1. **Wellston Center**- operates a **thrift store** and a **food pantry**. The thrift store is open on Friday and Saturday mornings and sells donated clothing and furniture items to the public. The money generated by the thrift store funds the purchase of food for the food pantry, which feeds 400 families per month. Both the thrift store and the food pantry operate out of a small gymnasium facility that is too small for all that they are doing! *This ministry needs our donations of money, food, toiletries, clothes and furniture.* IW currently has a weekly canned food/personal care item drive that benefits the Wellston Center. All donated items can be left in the vestibule of church by the elevator. Donations can also be dropped off at 1705 Kienlen in Wellston, or contact Sister Mary Beckman at (314) 382-7158 to arrange a pick-up. Our parish had a furniture and clothing drive for Wellston Center last spring, 2010 that was very successful and we plan to do it again in the near future.

2. **Utilities assistance program**- assists the residents of the parish with their utility bills each month. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings after the 8am mass, Father Bob writes a \$50 check to the first 30 people that show up at mass with an unpaid utility bill. This is a blessing to the recipients of this assistance, keeping them warm in the winter and able to maintain their homes. *Our cash donations will assure that this ministry can continue.*



Father Bob Gettinger

For more information about St. Augustine Parish, their website is [www.st-augustine-stl.com](http://www.st-augustine-stl.com) or call (314) 385-1934.