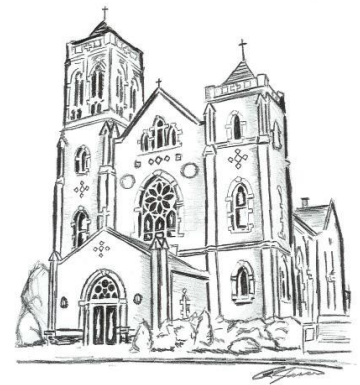
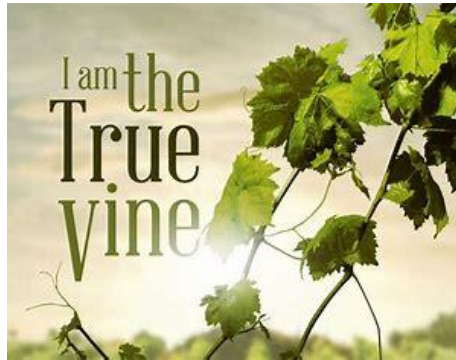




**FIFTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER
APRIL 28th, 2024**



St. Damian Parish
Founded 1861
One West Main Street
Damiansville, Illinois 62215
Phone: (618) 248-5134

St. Bernard Parish
Founded 1908
202 N. Broadway – Box 10
Albers, Illinois 62215
Phone: (618) 248-5112

WEBSITE:
www.stbernardandstdamian.org

BISHOP OF BELLEVILLE:
Most Rev. Michael McGovern

PASTOR:
Father Matthew Elie
Office Phone: (618) 248-5112

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE & DRE:
Deacon Glenn Netemeyer
Email: deaconglen36@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 618-772-9343
Office at St. Damian

PERMANENT DEACON:
Deacon Kevin Templin
Email: deaconkevin18@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 314-660-3976

SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER:
Angie Toennies
Hours: Mon-Thursday 8:00-4:00
Office Location Varies-Call and Leave a Message
Email: stdamian1861@gmail.com
Email: st.bernard@charter.net
St. Bernard 248-5112 or St. Damian 248-5134

HISPANIC MINISTER
Maria Gimenez
Cell Phone: (618) 708-1487
Email: hispanicministrymg@gmail.com

CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTER:
Michelle "Shelly" Schuetz
Email: maschuetz@hotmail.com
Cell Phone: 618-401-6007

 "Like & Share us on
Facebook"
St. Bernard and St. Damian

MASS SCHEDULE:
MONDAY, APRIL 29th

Prayer Service
7:45 AM @ St. Damian

TUESDAY, APRIL 30th
Prayer Service
7:45 AM @ St. Bernard

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1st
7:45 AM @ St. Damian
Bernard Heimann

THURSDAY, MAY 2nd
Mass in Church
7:45 AM @ St. Bernard
Virgil Heimann

FRIDAY, MAY 3rd
7:45 AM @ St. Damian
"Pass the Candle" Rosary

SATURDAY, MAY 4th
Mass in Church
4:00 PM @ St. Damian
Pat, Randy & Mark Toennies
Bones Toennies
Marilyn Fiedler
Lavergne Breiner

SUNDAY, MAY 5th
Mass in Church
9:30 AM @ St. Bernard
Dennis Rickhoff

Hispanic Mass in Church
11:00 AM @ St. Damian

LITURGY OF THE WORD:

Acts 9: 26-31; 1 John 3:18-24; John 15: 1-8-In the first reading, we catch a glimpse of Saint Paul (still called Saul) at a unique time. Just recently converted, he is intent on speaking boldly in Jesus' name. John tells us that believing in Jesus' name and loving one another are the ways to remain in him. Finally, we hear Jesus ask his disciples to remain in him as branches remain on a vine. In doing so, he assures them, they will bear fruit abundantly. Let us hear how we can become such disciples ourselves.

HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:

Sunday, April 28th

Mass in Church

9:30 am @ St. Damian

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

Monday, April 29th

Prayer Service

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Tuesday, April 30th

Prayer Service

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

Eucharistic Adoration

7:00-8:00 pm @ St. Bernard

Wednesday, May 1st

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Thursday, May 2nd

Mass in Church

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

Friday, May 3rd

Pass the Candle Rosary @ 7:45 am @ St. Damian

Saturday, May 4th

St. Damian Parish Clean-up/Work Day

7:00 am at the Church Grounds

Mass in Church

4:00 pm @ St. Damian

Sunday, May 5th - Deacon Glenn's Birthday!!

Mass in Church

9:30 am @ St. Bernard

Hispanic Mass in Church-Confirmation Mass

And Blessing of Lady of Guadalupe Canvas Picture

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

Edge Meeting

5:30-7:00 pm @ St. Damian Rectory

**I WILL PRAISE YOU, LORD, IN THE
ASSEMBLY OF YOUR PEOPLE!**

EMMAUS DAYS!! Bishop Michael McGovern and the Diocese of Belleville invite you to **Emmaus Days**. Come encounter Jesus, the Bread of Life, as the Diocese of Belleville celebrates the Eucharistic Revival. **Sunday, July 7** – National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows, **Monday, July 8** – Cathedral of St. Peter. Eucharistic Pilgrimage. We will greet the Eucharistic Delegation at St. Augustine in East St. Louis the afternoon of July 7 for an adoration service. We will then move to the Shrine where we will host a major event. At 6:00 pm we will begin our solemn Eucharistic Procession through the Stations of the Cross and hold an adoration service and conclude with a candlelight procession. Sacrament of reconciliation will be available throughout the day. On Monday, the 8th, we will celebrate Mass at the Cathedral at 10:00 with a brief procession to follow. Next, we will proceed to SS Peter & Paul in Collinsville. At 1:00 pm, Bishop McGovern will pass the Blessed Sacrament on to Bishop Paprocki of the Diocese of Springfield. There we will have adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. This is a Diocesan Event. Please make plans to join us.

CHURCH DIRECTORY HELP NEEDED.

St. Damian & St. Bernard Parishes are looking to arrange a church directory. The parish is looking for volunteers to help with the organizing and planning of the directory. If you are interested in helping with any role, please contact Emily Schirmer (618) 978-5806 or Beth Brandmeyer (618) 973-8476. All help is greatly appreciated.

RESPECT LIFE CORNER. “Virgin of Guadalupe, Patroness of unborn children, we implore your intercession for every child at risk of abortion. ... Guide our public officials to defend each and every human life through just laws. Inspire us all to bring our faith into public life, to speak for those who have no voice. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is Love and Mercy itself. Amen.”

NOTES FROM THE BISHOP. Support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal today! Over 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories are considered mission territories because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities needed in their communities. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States, including in our own Belleville Diocese. Please be generous. More information can be found at www.usccb.org/home-missions.

ST. DAMIAN PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: April 21st

Loose: \$229.00+ Envelopes: (18) \$1,460.00
+ Mass in Spanish: \$1,069.00 \$2,758.00
Budget for week: \$3,121.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$145,723.75
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$134,203.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: \$11,520.75
Fiscal year (7/23-6/24) budget: \$162,300.00

(**Reminder:** The fiscal year budget **does not** include the **\$71,350.00** transferred from: Savings, Building Fund, & Picnic Checking Accounts, which is needed in order to balance the budget.)

Thank you for your faithful and generous support!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – May 4th

Ministers: Mech Toennies, Arlene Korte, Sharon Kalmer
Ushers: Roger Toennies & Volunteer
Servers: Lincoln & Connor Arentsen, Miranda Richter
Lector: Joe Cleeton
Cantor: Kathy Gonsalves
Organist: Chris Brandmeyer
Collection Counter: Dave Kassen, Kathleen Hodges
Thank you for being ministers of your parish!

PICNIC INFORMATION!

RAFFLE DONATION FORMS were emailed and will also be available in church and on the parish website for those who would like to donate a basket or such for the picnic raffle. Our parish picnic will be held on Saturday, July 13, 2024. Save the date!!

ST. DAMIAN LADIES SODALITY QUILT RAFFLE TICKETS ARE IN THE BACK OF CHURCH. Please pick them up at your earliest convenience and thanks for supporting St. Damian Church.

ST. DAMIAN CHURCH CLEANUP DAY

There will be a parish cleaning day on Saturday, May 4th starting at 7am. Any and all help appreciated! Please mark your calendars.

PART-TIME PARISH CUSTODIAN NEEDED.

The parish is looking for a part time custodian. 8-12 hours a week if anybody would be interested, please contact Adam Fuehne (618) 520-3637.

ST. DAMIAN PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES are available on the tables in the back and side entrances of church.

ST. BERNARD PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: April 20th

Loose: \$54.00 +Envelopes: (29) \$1,624.00
+Easter Env (1) \$300.00 \$1,708.00
Budget for week: \$3,502.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$147,879.03
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$150,586.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: **(\$2,706.97)**
Fiscal year (7/22-6/23) budget: \$182,100.00

(**Reminder:** The fiscal year budget **does not** include the **\$35,300.00** transferred from: Men's Club & Fund Raiser Checking Accounts, which is needed in order to balance the budget.)

Thank you for your faithful and generous support

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – May 5th

Minister: Dan & Lee Love, Lynette Huegen
Reader: Jamie Jung
Ushers: Cory & Andra Goestenkors
Servers Jacob & Dominic Cannaday, Austin Hemker
Coll. Counters: James Williams, Tina Wuebbels, Tim Schroeder
Thank you for being ministers of your parish!

Get your WINNING Albers Hootenanny Raffle

Ticket TODAY! Stop by Village of Albers or Venmo @Brenda-Morris-67 for your tix!
1st Prize - \$1,000 / 2nd Prize - \$500 / 3rd Prize - \$250. \$500 Attendance Drawing
PLUS \$100 Monthly Drawing April - August
SAVE THE DATE: See you at our Albers Hootenanny at Lehrter/JC Park
Sunday, September 01, 2024!
Sponsored by Albers Commercial Club

THANK YOU FROM DAYSTAR

COMMUNITY PROGRAM IN CAIRO! "Daystar Community received your gift of foods and monetary donations with much gratitude. We thank you so very much for the collecting, sorting and transporting of the items. Those of you made the trip, I hope you enjoyed the visit to our tiny town and will possibly return sometime in the future. Currently, we are serving eight counties. We help with rent, utility bills, water bills, etc. The needs of others this year has been great and it is only April. The food pantry and soup kitchen are open every day as well to those who are needing food and hot meals. Your donations allow us to continue this mission. We thank you so very much for choosing our organization again this year to share your blessings during this Lenten season. And we ask you to keep us and those we serve in your prayers."

MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST at ALBERS LEGION. Sunday, May 12th, 8:00am to Noon. Sausage, Ham, Pancakes, Eggs, Fried Potatoes and Biscuits & gravy. Adults \$13.00, Kids 5-12 \$6.00, Under 5 Free. Dine In or Carry out.

DRIVERS NEEDED to deliver meals to seniors in Albers and Damiansville! Our seniors are depending on these meals and we're asking YOU to help! **We have an URGENT NEED for FRIDAY drivers! ** Please call Western Clinton Senior Services (WCCSS) TODAY at 618-224-9913 to volunteer!

ALBERS/DAMIANSVILLE VILLAGE-WIDE GARAGE SALES! Sat, MAY 11, 7am-2pm. All residents are welcome to participate. Set up in your own garages & driveways. Feel free to open your sales for more than one day and set your own hours. No maps will be printed, but if you would like to list your address and hours, feel free to post your info on the Village of Albers OR Damiansville, IL Facebook pages.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024 will be held June 10-14 at St. Damian's. Vacation Bible School is in the planning stages and all help is appreciated. Please contact Denise Luitjohan at denise_luitjohan@yahoo.com with questions. Registration is under way, there are forms in the back of both Parishes and will also be available on the parish website.

Could you use \$20,000??? **Mater Dei is once again holding their Mega raffle** in coordination with their annual golf tournament which is scheduled for June 1st, 2024. Details of the raffle: Grand prize is \$10,000, plus (2) \$2,500, (3) \$1,000, and (20) \$100 prizes. The price is \$100 per ticket. If interested, contact Brent Goebel at 248-5416 or bgoebel5@yahoo.com. Payments can be in form of cash, check, or Venmo (@Brent-Goebel-1). On behalf of Mater Dei, THANK YOU for your continued support and good luck!

Getting ready for parish picnics? St. Anthony, Beckemeyer is having a quilt sale. Please call Rosemary at 618-444-1942, Florence at 618-526-4466, or Betsy at 618-978-2058 for quilt availability & pricing. **ALSO...** Need a quilt for the church picnic? The Auxiliary at HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital in Breese has full-size and baby quilts in a variety of colors available for purchase. For details, contact Volunteer Services at (618) 526-5351 or christine.gebke@hshs.org.

OUR SHARED JOURNEY OF LOSS AND GRIEVING: How Does Our Faith Inform, Influence and Inspire Us? May 3-5, 2024, to be held at the Shrine. Friday check-in at 4:00 pm at the Shrine Guesthouse- Sunday Noon. Retreat lead by Gary Behrmann. Call Gina or Amanda at 618-397-0584 for more information. During this three-day retreat, we will identify our many losses as we age and how we grieve these losses in healthy and unhealthy ways.

St. Anthony's Church Rummage and Bake Sale is May 2, 3, & 4th at St. Anthony's Parish Center 451 West Third Street, Beckemeyer IL. **Hours are:** Thursday May 2nd - 9am - 8pm (Full Price), Friday - May 3rd -9am - 8pm (1/2 Price), Saturday-May 4th - 9am - 12pm (\$3 Bag).

Metro-east Community Chorale Spring Concert. Sunday, May 5 at 3pm. St Paul United Church of Christ, Belleville. Free concert.

King's House at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows – Visitors Center. Summer Directed Retreats. July 8 through July 15, 2024. The 7-day summer Directed II Retreat is a primary way to hear the voice of God through the people and events of daily experiences. The goal of the directed retreat is to allow you to go deeper into your relationship with God while savoring what is happening in your life. The retreat includes daily meetings with your own Spiritual Director and a period of personal prayer, using scripture. Also available are optional periods for group Centering Prayer experiences, Eucharist, and Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please visit kh.snows.org/events/directed-2-2024, or for more information, call 618-397-0584.

Pilgrimage to Greece: In the Footsteps of Paul. December 1-11, 2024. Retreat Leaders: Fr. Jim Buerster, Deacon John Gomez, and Cheryl Sommer. Hosted by Catholic Relief Services in the Diocese of Belleville. Cost: \$3999. Registration Deadline: June 1, 2024. By traveling in the footsteps of St. Paul as he organized churches throughout new territory, pilgrims will be invited to reflect on what their own knowledge of Christ is calling them to do and what it means to be part of the Church today. We will also see the ministry that Catholic Relief Services does on our behalf with migrants and refugees in southern Greece. Pilgrimage sites include: Thessalonica, Corinth, Philippi, Athens, and more.

To receive more information and a registration brochure, contact CRS Diocesan Animator, Cheryl Sommer at crsdiobelle@gmail.com.

MATER DEI SCHOLARSHIPS: Below are several scholarships to assist 8th grade students wishing to attend Mater Dei High School. If you are interested and did not receive a scholarship form, please contact Deacon Glenn or go on the www.stbernardandstdamian.org website as all forms are available on that Website.

- ⇒ **Ralph & Delores Netemeyer Scholarship** is a \$500 scholarship to a St. Bernard 8th grader. The student must type an essay describing their goals for the future and how their Catholic faith will help them on their journey to reach these goals. In the essay, they are also to explain how Albers School has prepared them to accomplish these goals. **Due by May 2nd.**
- ⇒ **Rademacher-Foppe Scholarship** will apply \$300 tuition assistance to any St. Bernard 8th grade student wishing to attend MD for the freshmen year only. The student must submit a 100-word essay on why they wish to attend MD, include a listing of parish, school, and community activities in which they participate and have their principal or current teacher complete a recommendation. **Due by May 2nd.**
- ⇒ **Knights of Columbus Scholarship** is a \$500 scholarship in tuition assistance to one student from Albers & one from Damiansville. The student must submit a typewritten essay based on the subject, **"My Catholic Faith"**. In the essay, they must describe how their faith has influenced different areas of their life up till now and how it will help with the challenges in the future. Include information about participation in parish activities, community volunteerism and how attending a catholic high school will help achieve your goals in the future. **Due by May 2nd.**
- ⇒ **Scholarships to Mater Dei Catholic High School are available through St. Bernard and St. Damian Parishes.** Those administered through the Church are on the Website and there are still those administered directly from Mater Dei such as: **Randy Toennies Memorial** and **Bob Innes Memorial** from St. Damian and **Jansen Memorial** from St. Bernard. Please contact Mater Dei High School directly at (618) 526-7216 to apply for these scholarships.