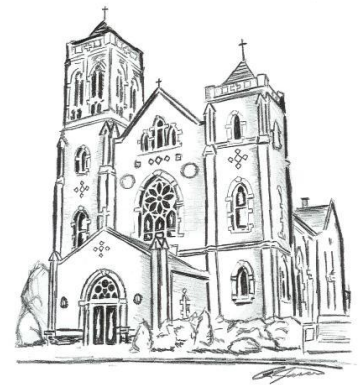




*The Baptism of the Lord  
January 11, 2026*



**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](http://www.stbernardandstdamian.org)

**BISHOP OF BELLEVILLE:**

**PASTOR:**

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

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATE & DRE:**

*Deacon Glenn Netemeyer*  
Email: [deaconglen36@gmail.com](mailto:deaconglen36@gmail.com)  
Cell Phone: 618-772-9343  
Office at St. Damian

**PERMANENT DEACON:**

*Deacon Kevin Templin*  
Email: [deaconkevin18@gmail.com](mailto: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 or email at:  
Email: [stdamian1861@gmail.com](mailto:stdamian1861@gmail.com)  
Email: [st.bernard@charter.net](mailto: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](mailto:hispanicministrymg@gmail.com)

**CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTER:**

*Michelle "Shelly" Schuetz*  
Email: [maschuetz@hotmail.com](mailto:maschuetz@hotmail.com)  
Cell Phone: 618-401-6007

**MASS SCHEDULE:**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 12<sup>th</sup>**

*Prayer Service*  
7:45 am @ St. Damian

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 13<sup>th</sup>**

*Prayer Service*  
7:45 am @ St. Bernard

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14<sup>th</sup>**

*Mass in St. Damian Church*  
7:45 am @ St. Damian  
For the People

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 15<sup>th</sup>**

*Mass in School*  
7:45 am @ St. Bernard  
Mgr. Dan Jurek

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 16<sup>th</sup>**

***NO MASS/NO SERVICE***

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 17<sup>th</sup>**

*Mass in Church-St. Damian Ministries*  
4:00 pm @ St. Damian  
Bob Innes

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 18<sup>th</sup>**

*Mass in Church-St. Bernard Ministries*  
9:30 am @ St. Damian  
Dennis Rickhoff

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

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

**Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7; Acts 10: 34-38; Matthew 3: 13-17**

Isaiah's words may be echoing in our heads now, as we have heard them nearly every Sunday throughout Advent and Christmas. Isaiah foresaw the Messiah, God's chosen one, who, filled with God's spirit, would open the eyes of the blind, rescue those imprisoned in darkness, and establish justice on the earth. Peter attests that Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit and power, and Matthew tells of how the Holy Spirit appeared as a dove descending from the heavens when Jesus was baptized. Filled with the Holy Spirit in baptism, let us allow the words of scripture to move us with their power.

### **HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:**

**Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>**

***Mass in Church – St. Bernard Ministries***

9:30 am @ St. Damian Church

***Hispanic Mass in Church***

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

**Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>**

***Prayer Service***

7:45 am @ St. Damian Church

**Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>**

***Prayer Service***

7:45 am @ Albers School

**Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>**

***Mass In Church***

7:45 am @ St. Damian

***Eucharistic Adoration***

6:00 pm @ St. Damian

**Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup>**

***Mass in School***

7:45 am @ Albers School

**Friday, January 16<sup>th</sup>**

***NO MASS/SERVICE***

**Saturday, January 17<sup>th</sup>**

***Mass in Church – St. Damian Ministries***

4:00 pm @ St. Damian

**Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>**

***Mass in Church – St. Bernard Ministries***

9:30 am @ St. Damian Church

***Hispanic Mass in Church***

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

***“THE LORD WILL BLESS HIS PEOPLE  
WITH PEACE.”***

**The Edge Middle School Youth Ministry hosted a "Baby Shower for Jesus"** at their last gathering. As a service project, we will be collecting new or gently used baby items for a local pregnancy center from now until Epiphany. Please put donations in the designated bin in the back of church. Thank you in advance for your support. Contact Tina Wuebbels, Lacey Arentsen, Kati Schwierjohn, or Kristy Richter with questions.

### **JOINT PARISH MASS INFORMATION**

Renovations have begun. All Weekend, Holy Day and Holiday Masses will be held at St. Damian Church. What we will be doing as far as ministry schedules is if you are scheduled for a Mass in either parish, you will be serving your ministry as shown on the schedule at St. Damian Church. (February & April Saturday Masses will be considered the St. Bernard Mass for the purpose of Ministries...so if you are a St. Bernard parishioner and you are scheduled for a ministry, you will be serving that ministry at St. Damian church during the month of February & April). Weekday Masses for St. Bernard will be held at the school gym with Faith Formation Prayer Service on Tuesday mornings at 7:45 and Mass on Thursday mornings at 7:45.

**St. Bernard PSR Students are selling St. Louis Cardinals calendars to support the St. Bernard's Faith Formation program.** The calendars are \$20 each, with a portion donated back to St. Bernard's. Please reach out to any Faith Formation student or text Janel Zurliene (402-2869) if you would like a calendar.

**REMINDER TO ALL...IF THERE IS NO  
SCHOOL DUE TO INCLEMENT  
WEATHER, THERE WILL BE NO MASS  
OR PRAYER SERVICE THAT DAY!!!**

## **ST. DAMIAN PARISH CONCERNS:**

### **CHURCH SUPPORT: January 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Loose: \$176.25+ Envelope (12): \$465.00  
+ Spanish New Years: \$969.00 + Spanish Mass: \$956  
+ Christmas: (3) \$1,300.00  
+ ACH For January 2<sup>nd</sup>: \$1,215.00            \$5081.25  
Budget for week:                                \$3,536.00  
Fiscal year-to-date collected:                \$93,571.25  
Fiscal year-to-date budget:                    \$91,936.30  
Over (under) year-to-date budget:            \$1,635.25  
Fiscal year (7/24-6/25) budget:              \$183,900.00  
(Reminder: The fiscal year budget does not include the \$80,000.00 transferred from: Savings, Building Fund, & Picnic Checking Accounts, which is needed in order to balance the budget.)

### **MINISTRY SCHEDULE – January 17<sup>th</sup>**

Ministers: Kristy Richter, Pete Toennies, Mech Toennies  
Ushers: Bud Jansen & Ron Horstmann  
Servers: Henry & Charlie Sauer, Nolan Hemker  
Reader: Mary Innes  
Cantors: Kathy Gonsalves  
Organist: Chris Brandmeyer  
Coll. Counters: Anita Rakers, Gwen Toennies  
Thank you for being ministers of your parish!

**St. Damian Parish is asking for people (men and women) who are willing to donate their time and or equipment to assist with the snow removal at the church to contact Dave Kassen at 618-248-5676.** I will start a text group so I can reach out to the individuals when snow removal is necessary.

### **THE MAINTENANCE POSITION IS FILLED.**

The maintenance position has been filled. We ask parishioners to direct all maintenance requests to Angie or Emily Schirmer, please refrain from personally reaching out to the maintenance individual. Going forward, snow removal will not be part of our maintenance position's duties. A group of parishioners have volunteered to cover snow removal. If you would like to help, please reach out to Dave Kassen. With St. Damian hosting both weekend masses this winter, as much help as possible would be appreciated.

### **ST. DAMIAN LADIES SODALITY MEXICAN FISH FRY**

will be held on Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. Please mark your calendars for that date and look for more information to be sent out in the near future.

## **ST. BERNARD PARISH CONCERNS:**

### **CHURCH SUPPORT: January 1<sup>st</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>**

Loose: \$252.00+Envelopes: (30) \$3,862.00  
+ Christmas: (6) \$1,285.00 + Paypal: \$96.52  
+ ACH For January 2<sup>nd</sup>: \$2,495.00            \$7,990.52  
Budget for week:                                \$3,385.00  
Fiscal year-to-date collected:                \$83,784.19  
Fiscal year-to-date budget:                    \$88,010.00  
Over (under) year-to-date budget:            (\$4,225.81)  
Fiscal year (7/24-6/25) budget:              \$176,000.00  
(Reminder: The fiscal year budget **does not** include the \$52,929.00 transferred from: Men's Club & Fund Raiser Checking Accounts, which is needed in order to balance the budget.)

### **MINISTRY SCHEDULE – January 18<sup>th</sup>**

Ministers: Lynette Huegen, Robbin Netemeyer, Tina Wuebbels  
Reader: Sean Kennedy  
Ushers: 2 Volunteers  
Servers: Kayle Reinhardt, Jack & Sam Reynolds  
Coll. Count: James Williams, Tina Wuebbels, Dana Lake  
Thank you for being ministers of your parish!

### **ST. BERNARD'S CHURCH RENOVATIONS**

**ARE WELL UNDER WAY.** Thanks to all who have returned their Letters of Intent. It is truly appreciated! Checks are being cashed; and for those who wish to do monthly auto ACH payments, they can now be set up upon request. ACH monthly payments can now be set up and will begin on January 22. ACH forms have been emailed to those who requested monthly automatic debits and are also available under St. Bernard on the parish website. Please return forms by as soon as possible to assure we get them set up correctly. For those who wished to send their payment at beginning of construction, please feel free to send your payments marked Church Reno. Donation amounts will remain anonymous. There will be a donation plaque at the end of the project; it will include names only, along with names of those whom their donations were pledged in memory of or in honor of. Please continue to pray for the success of our ongoing Capital Campaign as we begin to transition to the renovation project itself. Thank you!  
***MANY THANKS TO ALL THAT HAVE DONATED AND PLEDGED FOR THIS PROJECT! WITHOUT ALL OF YOU THIS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE!***

**St. Bernard Church has an old organ that is likely 100 years old.** If a parishioner is interested in the antique, please call Steve at 618-973-8860

**The Breese Knights of Columbus will have a Pork Sausage Breakfast, Sunday January 11 from 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM.** Proceeds from the breakfast will be donated to local PSR programs. \$15.00 per person. \$8.00 for youth ages 5 – 12. 4 and under are free

**Chicken Dinner at Albers Legion, Sunday January 18th, 4:30 to 7. Adults \$15.00, \$7.00 Kids 5-12, under 5 free.** Adults carry outs available. Serving 1/2 fried chicken, mash potatoes & gravy, green beans, slaw, bread & butter and dessert.

**LADIES, ARE YOU RESOLVING TO GROW IN FAITH IN 2026?** Start the new year with an inspiring 60-minute presentation by Sr. M. Karolyn Kunes, FSGM, on Thursday, January 22 at the Bartelso School Cafeteria. The evening starts at 7:00 p.m. in the Bartelso Elementary School, 306 S Washington Street and will include a talk by Sr. M. Karolyn on Spiritual Motherhood, guided prayer, and a Q & A session. Sr. M. Karolyn is a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George, based in Alton. This event is sponsored by the St. Cecilia Ladies Sodality, Bartelso IL. Join us and take the next step in your faith journey! Please RSVP to [judyglen@outlook.com](mailto:judyglen@outlook.com) or text/call 618-920-0239. Reservations are not required but appreciated.

**9 DAYS FOR LIFE-PRAY TO PROTECT HUMAN LIFE.** Join us in praying for the legal protection of all human life, from conception to natural end...and for the protection of the most vulnerable. January 16-24,2026.

**The KC Hall/Columbian Club is having a drive thru chicken dinner on Jan 25, 2026. 11:00am-1:30pm** Chicken Dinner \$15 per meal, drive thru only. 4 pieces of chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans and applesauce.

**ST. DAMIAN LADIES SODALITY MEXICAN FISH FRY,** Friday, February 13 at St. Damian Gym. Mark your calendar and save the date.

**RESPECT LIFE CORNER** “O Blessed Mother, at the angel’s word you went in haste to the aid of your cousin Elizabeth. Although pregnant yourself, you placed her needs before your own. By your example of radical solidarity, teach us to reverence and protect those in need, without conditions or expectations... Obtain for us the grace to bring Christ to any expectant mother who is alone and afraid.” Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in the annual Respect Life novena *9 Days for Life*, Friday, January 16 – Saturday, January 24. Get daily intentions, brief reflections, and more by email or text message. Sign up at [9daysforlife.com](http://9daysforlife.com)!

**VOCATION CORNER.** Our Gospel for today tells of Jesus beginning his public life by being baptized in the Jordan. He accepts His “call” from the Father to evangelize and ultimately save us from our sins. “This is my Beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” Our mission is to follow our own call to evangelize. This may be through the priesthood, sisterhood, marriage, or the single life. We need to step up to accept our mission so the Father can say of us “with whom I am well pleased.”

**St. Anne Cradle of Hope Coat Sponsor Drive for \$25.** Sponsor a coat for \$25.00. Or drop off a gently used coat at your local Pregnancy Care Center. Our send check to Molly King, Diocese of Belleville, 222 South Third Street, Belleville, IL 62220. More information at [www.stannecradleofhope.org](http://www.stannecradleofhope.org).

**Catholic Service & Ministry Appeal:** The Society of St. Vincent de Paul truly serves the poorest of the poor through its Cosgrove’s Soup Kitchen, SVDP Thrift Store, Help Center and Night Drop-In Center. Men, women and children are provided the basic necessities of life – food, clothing and shelter – and the hope and the tools they need for a better tomorrow. Help St. Vincent de Paul serve those who have no place else to turn. Please make **your gift** to the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal today.

**CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY (HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS):** Find the latest information at <http://www.stbernardandstdamian.org/catholic-youth-ministry.html>