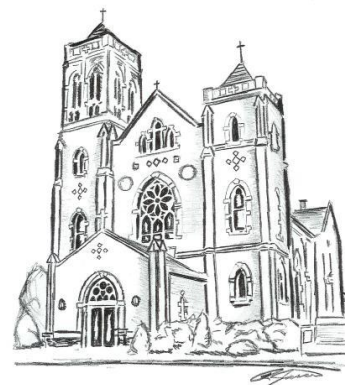




*Third Sunday of Ordinary Time
Catholic Schools Week
January 25, 2026*



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

BISHOP OF BELLEVILLE:

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 or email at:
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

MASS SCHEDULE:

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

MONDAY, JANUARY 26th

Prayer Service

7:45 am @ St. Damian

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27th

Prayer Service

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28th

Mass in St. Damian Church

7:45 am @ St. Damian
Dawn Schomaker

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29th

Mass in School

7:45 am @ St. Bernard
For the People

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30th

NO MASS/NO SERVICE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31st

Mass in Church-St. Damian Ministries

St. Blaise Blessing of Throats

4:00 pm @ St. Damian
Christine Netemeyer

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1st

Mass in Church-St. Bernard Ministries

St. Blaise Blessing of Throats

9:30 am @ St. Damian

For the Intentions of the Catholic Extension Donors

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 AM @ St. Damian

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Isaiah 8:23—9:3; 1 Corinthians 1:10–13, 17; Matthew 4:12–23

As we begin this final week of January, it does our hearts good to hear that a great light has shone through darkness and gloom. We realize, though, that Isaiah is speaking of the Lord, especially after Matthew writes in the Gospel that Jesus fulfills this passage. He is the light of the world, shining throughout Galilee, preaching repentance, calling disciples, proclaiming the gospel, and healing the sick. We also hear Paul urge the Corinthians to unity. In Christ, we have enlightenment, unity, and salvation. On this Sunday of the Word of God, may God's word light our way.

HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:

Sunday, January 25th

Mass in Church – St. Bernard Ministries

9:30 am @ St. Damian Church

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

Monday, January 26th

Prayer Service

7:45 am @ St. Damian Church

Tuesday, January 27th

Prayer Service

7:45 am @ Albers School

Wednesday, January 28th

Mass In Church

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Eucharistic Adoration

6:00 pm @ St. Damian

Thursday, January 29th

Mass in School

7:45 am @ Albers School

Friday, January 30th

NO MASS/SERVICE

Saturday, January 31st -St. Blaise Blessing

Mass in Church – St. Damian Ministries

4:00 pm @ St. Damian

Sunday, February 1st -St. Blaise Blessing

Mass in Church – St. Bernard Ministries

9:30 am @ St. Damian Church

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

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

***"THE LORD IS MY LIGHT
AND MY SALVATION."***

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.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK **JANUARY 25-JANUARY 31, 2026**

Thank you to all our Catechist who take the time to teach our children the Catholic Faith so that we can continue our Parish School of Religion Program. Thank you also to all the parents who encourage and educate their children in the Catholic Faith.

St. Bernard's Soup Social & Golden Ladle Competition. Join us for an afternoon of food, friends, and community! Come out to visit with friends and neighbors, play cards, and enjoy a variety of delicious soups while supporting a great cause. Sample a wide selection of soups and help us determine the champion! We are seeking donations for soup tastings, with proceeds benefiting the St. Bernard's Renovation Fund. **Sunday, February 1, 2026, from 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM** at Albers Jaycee Building, 301 Jaycee Drive, Albers, IL. **Who Will Win the GOLDEN LADLE? We are looking for volunteers to donate Bake Sale items or their favorite soup for the competition. Contact Brenda Morris (618-698-3804) or Janel Zurliene (618-402-2869) for info. The GOLDEN LADLE will be awarded at 6:00 PM.** · 50 / 50 Raffle: Try your luck and win big! Venmo Brenda to enter the raffle or buy them on 2/1, 6 for \$5 or 30 for \$20 and VENMO Brenda-Morris-67, Bake Sale: Pick up some delicious homemade treats, Cards & Socializing: Bring your friends for a relaxing afternoon of games. **ALL ARE WELCOME!** Your participation helps support the vital renovations needed for St. Bernard's Church. We look forward to seeing you there!

ST. DAMIAN PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: January 17th

Loose: \$196.00+ Envelope (9): \$590.00
+ Spanish Mass: \$619.00
+ ACH For January 16th: \$550.00 \$1955.00
Budget for week: \$3,536.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$95,385.25
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$99,008.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: (\$3,622.75)
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 31st

Ministers: Kevin Toennies, Mech Toennies, Denise Luitjohan
Ushers: Jerry Arentsen, Ron Horstmann
Servers: Miranda Richter, Bryn & Reed Wuebbels
Reader: Beth Brandmeyer
Cantors: Charlotte Cleeton
Organist: Jan Hitch
Coll. Counters: Dave Kassen, Adam Fuehne
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 Rectory also has a hutch and old dining table they are looking to get rid of. If you have any interest, please reach out to Angie.

ST. DAMIAN LADIES SODALITY MEXICAN

FISH FRY will be held on Friday, February 13th. 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 18th

Loose: \$119.00+Envelopes: (26) \$1,573.00
+ ACH For January 16th: \$2,950.00 \$4,642.00
Budget for week: \$3,385.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$91,054.00
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$94,780.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: (\$3,726.00)
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.)

Thank you for your continued support!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – February 1st

Ministers: Lynn Athmer, Lynette Huegen, Robbin Netemeyer
Reader: Jackie Farrar
Ushers: John & Linda Majchrzak
Servers: Jaxson Hubert, Carter Eubanks, Kennedy Porterfield
Coll. Count: Phyllis Albers, James Williams, Janel Zurliene

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 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 Clin Clair Fire Department is hosting their Mouse Races on Jan 31 @ Albers American Legion. Tickets \$40 a person includes chicken, roast pork and sides & cash drawing. Open Bar 5-7, Dinner at 5:30, Mouse Races from 7-9 and Live Wire DJ 5 – Midnight. For tickets call Brian at 410-0428 or Cole 210-6721.

The Albers/Damiansville Knights of Columbus Council #9768 would like your children to join us as we host the annual free throw contest in the Albers Grade School Gym at 11:00 A.M. on Sunday, February 1st for ages 9 through 14. We hope to see you there.

St. Bernard's Soup Social & Golden Ladle Competition. Join us for an afternoon of food, friends, and community!

Come out to visit with friends and neighbors, play cards, and enjoy a variety of delicious soups while supporting a great cause. Sample a wide selection of soups and help us determine the champion! We are seeking donations for soup tastings, with proceeds benefiting the St. Bernard's Renovation Fund. **Sunday, February 1, 2026, from 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM** at Albers Jaycee Building, 301 Jaycee Drive, Albers, IL. **Who Will Win the GOLDEN LADLE? We are looking for volunteers to donate Bake Sale items or their favorite soup for the competition. Contact Brenda Morris (618-698-3804) or Janel Zurliene (618-402-2869) for info. The GOLDEN LADLE will be awarded at 6:00 PM.** 50 / 50 Raffle: Try your luck and win big! Venmo Brenda to enter the raffle or buy them on 2/1, 6 for \$5 or 30 for \$20 and VENMO Brenda-Morris-67, Bake Sale: Pick up some delicious homemade treats, Cards & Socializing: Bring your friends for a relaxing afternoon of games. **ALL ARE WELCOME!** Your participation helps support the vital renovations needed for St. Bernard's Church. We look forward to seeing you there!

February 1, 2026 from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm. Carlyle KC Hall, 1471 Fairfax St., Carlyle, IL. Chicken Dinner \$15 per meal, drive thru only. Includes 4 pieces of chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans and apple sauce.

Chakota Therapeutic Riding Center will be hosting their annual Trivia Night on Friday, Feb 6, 2026 at the Breese KC Hall. \$100 per team (up to 8 players per team). Call 618-224-4236 ext 9 or send an email to info@Chakota-trc.org to reserve your table. Doors open at 6 p.m. and Trivia starts at 7. All drinks must be purchased at the bar but you are welcome to bring your own snacks. We welcome businesses to sponsor a round of trivia. For a \$50 donation, your name and/or logo will appear on the answer sheet and on the projector screen for that round, receive a verbal mention, and a shoutout on Facebook. Thanks for your support!

BASKET BINGO, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8th. CARLYLE KC HALL--KC 1382 BINGO LICENSE # BL-346
DOORS OPEN 11:00 A.M. BINGO STARTS AT 1:00 P.M. 6 CARDS FOR \$6.00.24 THEMED FILLED BASKETS
25th GAME BLACKOUT FOR 50/50. IN THE EVENT OF TIE GAMES, TOWELS WILL BE GIVEN OUT. A VALENTINES BASKET WITH CASH IS THE ATTENDANCE PRIZE SEPARATE TICKETS WILL BE SOLD FOR A QUILT, AFGHANS, CUTTING BOARD AND KNIFE SET, AND BATH AND BODY WORKS BASKET. SANDWICHES AND DESSERTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE. THERE WILL ALSO BE A BAKE SALE WITH CAKES, COOKIES, AND PIES. ALL PLAYERS MUST BE 18 YEARS.

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

St. Mary Parish invites you to our Last One Standing Reverse Raffle on Saturday, February 21, 2026, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1471 Fairfax Street, Carlyle, IL 62231. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. with dinner from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Tickets are twenty dollars and admit one person with a chance at great cash prizes, including two \$1,000 for first prize, or \$2500 if you are present. Enjoy music, games, silent and live auctions, and a cash bar. All are welcome for a fun night in support of St. Mary Parish.

Mater Dei Mothers and Friends Dinner Auction: A Knight at the Derby. Join us for a night of fun, fellowship, and fundraising at the Mater Dei Mothers and Friends Dinner Auction on March 21st, 2026 at Mater Dei High School! Doors open at 5:00 PM. The theme for the evening is A Knight at the Derby, so come dressed for a night of derby fun! Tickets for the dinner auction and raffles can be purchased by scanning the QR code. Raffle forms are also in the back of the church, available to mail in. Don't miss out on this special event and opportunity to support Mater Dei. See you there! Auction Tickets and Raffle Tickets, please visit: MDDERBY.givesmart.com

RESPECT LIFE CORNER. 40 Days for Life - Granite City: **The Spring 2026 Campaign is approaching. The Campaign starts Wednesday, February 18th and ends Sunday, March 29th. Open registration has begun! Select your day early. It's time again for groups to hear the call to give testimony to the most important issue of our time. You can help END THE DEMAND FOR ABORTION WHERE YOU LIVE! More information or to sign up, go to: <https://www.40daysgc.com/peaceful-vigil/calendar-to-adopt-a-day>**

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.

The Messenger Newspaper Subscription Renewal Weekend is Feb. 7-8. Please stay connected with your Diocese through a subscription to *The Messenger* Catholic Newspaper. Payments can be made via your Messenger envelope or by credit card at www.bellevillemessenger.org and click SUBSCRIBE or call 618-722-5045 during business hours for phone payment. The cost for a 1-year subscription is \$40 for printed, home-delivery, \$35 for digital access and \$45 for both.

Please make checks payable to The Messenger and make sure to include your e-mail address if digital subscription is selected.

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