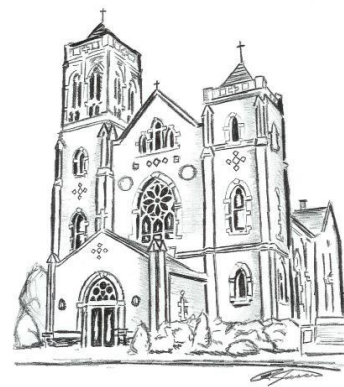




*Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time
February 8, 2026*



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:
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9th
Prayer Service
7:45 am @ St. Damian

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10th
Prayer Service
7:45 am @ St. Bernard

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11th
Mass in St. Damian Church
7:45 am @ St. Damian
Frank & Christine Beckmann

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12th
Mass in School
7:45 am @ St. Bernard
For the People

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13th
NO MASS/NO SERVICE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14th
Mass in Church-St. Bernard Ministries
4:00 pm @ St. Damian
Clarence & Rita Netemeyer
Matthew & Marcia Netemeyer

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15th
Mass in Church-St. Damian Ministries
9:30 am @ St. Damian
Vince & Florence Arentsen
Healing for Sr. Joan Stoverink
Pat Fuehne

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

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Isaiah 58: 7-10; 1 Corinthians 2: 1-5; Matthew 5:13-16

Light binds together today's scripture readings. Isaiah preaches that when we share what we have with those in need, light will drive out the dark. In the psalm we sing that the one who acts with justice is a light in the darkness. Paul tells the Corinthians that the power of the Holy Spirit has enlightened their faith. In the Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples to let their light shine, so the world can see the good that they do. As we listen to the words of scripture, let us appreciate the metaphor of light in expressing what God asks us to do.

HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:

Sunday, February 8th – Faith Formation Sings

Mass in Church – St. Damian Ministries

9:30 am @ St. Damian Church

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

Monday, February 9th

Prayer Service

7:45 am @ St. Damian Church

Tuesday, February 10th

Prayer Service

7:45 am @ Albers School

St. Damian Adult Choir Practice

7:00 pm @ St. Damian Church

Wednesday, February 11th

Mass In Church

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Eucharistic Adoration

6:00 pm @ St. Damian

St. Damian Wurstmart Meeting

6:30 pm @ Damiansville Village Hall

Thursday, February 12th

Mass in School

7:45 am @ Albers School

Friday, February 13th

NO MASS/SERVICE

Saturday, February 14th

Mass in Church – St. Bernard Ministries

4:00 pm @ St. Damian

Sunday, February 15th

Baptism of Veronica Rensing

8:30 am @ St. Damian Church

Mass in Church – St. Damian Ministries

9:30 am @ St. Damian Church

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

***“THE JUST MAN IS A LIGHT IN DARKNESS
TO THE UPRIGHT.”***

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.



Renew your Sacrament, deepen your communication, strengthen your relationship, and rekindle your romance by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. The following upcoming weekend experiences are available. Sign-up now as space is limited. Wwme.org or call Terry Engholm at 314-649-7317. 4/17/26-4/19/26, 6/12/26-6/14/26 at St. Peters, MO, or 7/31/26-8/2/26 at Cape Girardeau, MO.

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

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. 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

ST. DAMIAN PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: January 31st

Loose: \$246.00+ Envelope (33): \$1,969.00
+ Spanish Mass: \$884.00
+ ACH For Feb. 2: \$1,215.00 \$4,314.00
Budget for week: \$3,536.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$99,699.25
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$106,080.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: (\$6,380.75)
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 – February 15th

Ministers: Chris Brandmeyer, Pete Toennies, Ken Mank
Ushers: Cole & Jared Horstmann
Servers: Harper Kalmer, Tessa Siverly, Nolan Hemker
Reader: Anita Rakers
Cantors: Lindsey Mitchell & Shannon Sanders
Organist: Geri Varell
Coll. Counters: Mech Toennies, Tina Tonnie

ATTENTION ST. DAMIAN YOUTH CHOIR! Practice for Easter will begin on Sunday, Feb 22 at 8:30am (before Sunday mass). All youth in grades 3-12 and college-age youth are encouraged to join the youth choir. All voices welcome! St. Damian Youth Choir will sing on Easter Sunday morning, April 5, at 9:30am mass. If kids or parents have any questions, please call Jackie at 618-335-9562 or Geri at 618-444-5073. We look forward to seeing lots of smiling faces on Feb 22 at 8:30am!! :-)

TODAY!! ATTENTION ST. DAMIAN FAITH FORMATION STUDENTS! All St. Damian Faith Formation students are invited to come sing in the church balcony at the 9:30am mass at St. Damian on Sunday Feb 8! (Youth Mass!!) Hope to see you there!

The St. Damian Adult Choir will begin rehearsals for Palm Sunday on Tuesday, February 10 at 7:00. New members are always welcome and are definitely needed. Practices are held on most Tuesdays at 7:00 and usually last less than 1 hour. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Brandmeyer at 618-792-2676.

WURSTMARKT MEETING! We will be having the village wide Wurstmarkt meeting on Wednesday, February 11 at 6:30pm at the village hall. Everyone welcome to attend.

The St. Damians Altar Sodality Mexican Fish Fry is Friday, February 13, 2026. We are asking people to bring a dessert that does not require refrigeration. Items such as cookies, cake, brownies are popular items. Only 1 is needed from each family. Your donation is appreciated. Dessert items can be dropped off at the gym on Thursday from 3:30pm until 6:00pm or Friday after 12:30 pm. The worker's list has been sent out. If you are not scheduled but would like to help please contact Jan Hitch at 618-540-9974.

ST. BERNARD PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: February 1st

Loose: \$45.00+Envelopes: (33) \$1,712.00
+ ACH For Feb 2nd: \$2,495.00 \$4,252.00
Budget for week: \$3,385.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$95,357.52
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$101,550.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: (\$6,192.48)
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 14th

Ministers: Melissa Netemeyer, Liz Nussbaumer,
Kathy Engelmann
Reader: Janel Zurliene
Ushers: Kent & Kati Schwierjohn
Servers: Kyler & Elise Von Bokel, Owen Gauch
Coll. Count: Sean Kennedy, Phyllis Albers, Lynn Athmer

THANK YOU to everyone for supporting our 2026 St. Bernard Soup Social! It was a big success thanks to our very generous community! Congrats to our 2026 GOLDEN LADLE WINNER, Janel Zurliene, for her Jalapeño Popper Soup! And a BIG THANK YOU to all our chefs! *50/50 Winner - Congratulations Frank Fuehne of Damiansville! Frank took home \$273 of the \$546 jackpot!
AND A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO BRENDA MORRIS & JANEL ZURLIENE for leading this event. These two women are always coming up with wonderful ways to help support our parish. We are so thankful for their constant support and dedication to St. Bernard Parish!

ST. BERNARD'S CHURCH RENOVATIONS

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 began 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!

TODAY!! Breakfast at Albers Legion, Sunday February 8th, 8 to 11, Adults \$15.00, \$7.00 Kids 5-12, under 5 free.
Adults carry outs available. Serving sausage, ham, pancakes, eggs, fried potatoes and Biscuit & gravy, milk & orange juice.

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 Michael's Men's Club of Paderborn is sponsoring a Euchre Tournament on Saturday, February 28 at 7:00 PM. Doors open at 6:00 PM. All you can drink beer and soda and all you can eat fried chicken at the end of the last round. Text Rich Kreher 314-341-4904 with any questions

ST. DAMIAN LADIES SODALITY MEXICAN FISH FRY, Friday, February 13 at St. Damian Gym. Mark your calendar to save the date. Workers' list have been sent out. Fish tacos, nachos, margaritas, and so much more.

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.

HEARTS AFLAME, an evening to celebrate and deepen love for couples married 10 years or less, March 7 at Corpus Christi Church in Shiloh, IL. Cocktails at 5:30 with dinner at 6:15. Tickets are \$50 a couple and include dinner, drinks, talks and blessing by Fr. Robert Flannery, dance lesson and babysitting. Email Molly King at mking@diobelle.org or Please RSVP to www.diobelle.org/life-marriage-family/events. QR code on parish website.

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: "Married love differs from any other love in the world. By its nature, the love of husband and wife is so complete, so ordered to a lifetime of communion with God and each other, that it is open to creating a new human being they will love and care for together." USCCB, Married Love and the Gift of Life

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. Send check to 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.**

VOCATION CORNER! A sage once wrote that a good marriage is like a fire around which others come to warm themselves. So, as we celebrate World Marriage Day on this Sunday, we realize that no matter what our station in life - married, single or religious - we have benefited from this sacred covenant relationship whether through the example of our parents, grandparents, and other role models or through our own stewardship of the marriage covenant.

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