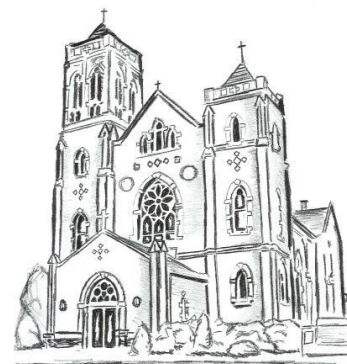




*Second Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday
April 12th, 2026*



St. Damian Parish

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

WEBSITE:

www.stbernardandstdamian.org

St. Bernard Parish

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

BISHOP OF BELLEVILLE:
Bishop Godfrey Mullen, OSB

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, APRIL 13th

Prayer Service
7:45 am @ St. Damian

TUESDAY, APRIL 14th

Prayer Service
7:45 am @ St. Bernard

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15th

Mass in Church w/ Refreshments after
7:45 am @ St. Damian
For The People

THURSDAY, APRIL 16th

Mass in Church
7:45 am @ St. Bernard
Ben & Honey Brueggemann

FRIDAY, APRIL 17th

NO MASS/NO SERVICE

SATURDAY, APRIL 18th

Mass in Church
4:00 pm @ St. Bernard
Hermina Kollmann
Franklin & Marian Eversgerd
Rich Hacker

SUNDAY, APRIL 19th

Mass in Church
9:30 am @ St. Damian
Frank, Minnie & Ralph Heimann

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

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Acts 2: 42-47; 1 Peter 1: 3-9; John 20: 19-31

Today's readings capture the wonder and joy of the early church as they celebrate the new life they have found in the risen Lord. In the first reading, the disciples come together to listen to the teaching of the apostles, to pray, and to break bread, much as we are doing right now. The first letter of Peter extols the gift of salvation, which animates a "living hope" in us. The risen Lord gifts the apostles with the Holy Spirit and the power to forgive sins in his name. Let us listen and imagine ourselves alongside the earliest members of the infant church.

HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:

Sunday, April 12th

Mass in Church

9:30 am @ St. Damian Church

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

Monday, April 13th

Prayer Service

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Tuesday, April 14th

Prayer Service

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

Wednesday, April 15th

Mass In Church

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Eucharistic Adoration

6:00 pm @ St. Bernard Church

Thursday, April 16th

Mass in Church

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

Friday, April 17th

NO MASS/SERVICE

Saturday, April 18th

Jenna Toennies & Grant Kueper Wedding

Mass in Church

4:00 pm @ St. Bernard

Sunday, April 19th

Mass in Church

9:30 am @ St. Damian Church

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

The Albers/Damiansville Knights of Columbus

Council 9768 will be holding their monthly meeting on Thursday, April 16th. We will be starting at 6:30 this month and will have pizza for everyone. All members are welcome to join us for a fraternal benefit night.

"GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR HE IS GOOD, HIS LOVE IS EVERLASTING."

ST. BERNARD FIRST COMMUNION is

Saturday, April 25th at 4:00 pm.

ST. DAMIAN FIRST COMMUNION is Saturday,

May 2nd at 4:00 pm.

The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal -

Commitment Weekend. On behalf of Father Godfrey Mullen, Bishop Elect, and diocesan ministries and programs, a most heartfelt thanks to all those who have already responded with a gift to the 2026 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. If you have not done so as yet, there's still plenty of time. One-time donations or pledges – in any amount – are needed and can be made through your parish or at www.diobelle.org (click on "Giving to the Diocese"). Your generosity supports 17 agencies and programs that daily serve thousands of people. Please consider making your gift today or at any time you are able in the coming months. We also ask for your prayers for the success of this year's appeal and all those we serve. Thank you and may God bless you always.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026 WILL BE HELD JUNE 8-12 AT ST. DAMIAN.

This year will be **Cathletics...Training to be Champions for Christ.** Sign up sheet are available in church. Please consider signing up your child or volunteering to help the week of bible school. Sign up sheets are available in church and online.

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO STEVE SCHOMAKER!!

We would like to take this time to say a special thank you to Steve Schomaker! From the beginning until the end of this renovation, Steve took the initiative to GET IT DONE!! He was our leader on this project from start to finish. From getting the bids, to making the changes needed, getting volunteers lined up, meeting with our contractors, feeding the workers, checking in several times a day every day to be sure what was needing to be done, answering all the questions we had for him, and making sure each and every detail of this project was completed! We cannot say thank you enough Steve! All the time you give to our parish is truly appreciated by all of us! God Bless You!

ALSO, MANY THANKS TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU WHO HELPED IN ANY WAY WITH THE RENOVATIONS. WITHOUT EACH OF YOU, THIS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE. GOD BLESS EACH AND EVERY ONE OF OUR VOLUNTEERS AND DONORS!

ST. DAMIAN PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: April 5th:

Loose: \$518.00+ Envelope (14): \$670.00
+ Spanish Mass: \$1,236.00
+ Easter Env: (45) \$3,400.00
+ ACH For April 2nd: \$1,215.00 \$7,039.00
Budget for week: \$3,536.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$128,544.77
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$134,368.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: (\$5,823.23)
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.)

Thank you for your continued support!

CSMA- 20 for \$2,821.00 of \$9,262.00 Goal

ST. BERNARD PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: April 4 & 5

Loose: \$662.00+Envelopes: (19) \$1,225.00
+ Easter Env (43) \$4,165.00
+ ACH for April 2nd: \$2,370.00 \$8,422.00
Budget for week: \$3,385.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$129,311.15
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$128,630.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: \$681.15
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!

CSMA-13 for \$1,872.50 of \$10,275.00 Goal

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – April 19th

Ministers: Julie Langenhorst, Beth Brandmeyer, Kevin Toennies
Ushers: Garry Kalmer, Bill Jansen Sr.
Servers: Crew, Collins & Delaney Horstmann
Reader: Lori Jansen
Cantors: Charlotte Cleeton
Organist: Geri Varel
Coll. Counters: Kathleen Hodges, Gwen Toennies
Thank you for being ministers of your parish!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – April 18th

Ministers: Ken & Liz Nussbaumer, Melissa Netemeyer
Reader: Kathy Friederich
Ushers: Brian & Janel Zurliene
Servers: Kyler & Elise Von Bokel, Andrew Strubhart
Coll. Count: Phyllis Albers, James Williams, Janel Zurliene
Thank you for being ministers of your parish!

ST. DAMIAN LADIES SODALITY. There will be an appreciation brunch for all ladies on Sunday, May 3 at 10:30am hosted by the St Damian's Ladies Sodality. This brunch is to recognize all the efforts the ladies have made to help make our events successful. The place will be determined based on the response. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church or RSVP to Jan Hitch at 618.540.9974 by April 20 if you would like to attend. This will help to plan the menu best.

ST. DAMIAN PICNIC COMMITTEE

MEETING will be held on Wednesday, April 29 at 6:30 pm at St. Damian Rectory. Asking all picnic committee and stand chairs to attend if possible. Anyone else with ideas welcome to attend.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WINNERS

Feb. Winners \$400 Lynette Huegen
\$60 Luke Neimeyer and Andy Wuebbels
March Winners
\$400 Greg Haas Grandkids
\$60 Dale Gall and Lenny Rolves

MASS WILL BE BACK AT ST. BERNARD BEGINNING SATURDAY, APRIL 11TH!!

We will have refreshments and snacks to celebrate the completion of the renovations after the 4:00 Mass on Saturday, April 11!

Please continue to send your monthly/quarterly/annual payments and for anyone who would like to donate, please submit it in an envelope marked Renovations and drop in drop box or collection.

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 or honor of.

SO MANY THANKS TO ALL THAT HAVE DONATED AND PLEDGED FOR THIS PROJECT! WITHOUT ALL OF YOU, THIS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE!

Vietnam Veterans all you can eat spring breakfast will be held on Sunday, April 12, 2026 at Germantown American Legion from 8:00AM - 11:30AM. Breakfast includes sausage, pancakes, scrambled eggs, potatoes, biscuits and gravy. Wheelchair accessible. Carry-outs available. Proceeds to benefit local food pantries and Veterans in need.

Chicken Dinner at Albers Legion, Sunday April 12th, 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.

All are invited to join Father Godfrey for the Spring Farm Blessing which will be held on Tuesday, April 28th at 1:00 P.M. at the Ryan Peter Family Farm, 7755 Highway 15, Mt. Carmel, IL. We encourage everyone to come to this blessing a bring a nonperishable food item for donation.

CORPUS CHRISTI, SHILOH, IL CHICKEN & PASTA DINNER, Sunday, April 26th from 3-6:30 pm. All you can eat Fried Chicken, Mostaccioli, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Stuffing, Green Beans, Corn, Slaw, Rolls & Desser. \$15/person, 5-10 years-\$10/child, Under 5 free.

RESPECT LIFE CORNER: “On the Second Sunday of Easter, the Church celebrates the Sunday of Divine Mercy. It provides an important opportunity to share Christ’s message of mercy, especially with those who suffer because of their participation in one or more abortions. By the age of 45, as many as 1 in 3 women have had an abortion, and a similar number of men and family members have been involved. Many feel that abortion is “the unforgivable sin.” They need to hear that, through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, God forgives every sin of a repentant heart, even the sin of abortion. In fact, Jesus’ message to St. Faustina is that the greater the sinner, the greater the right to His mercy.

VOCATION CORNER: Hallelujah! He is Risen! All our souls have been redeemed. What a wonderful legacy! Mary Magdalen’s sorrow is soon changed to great joy! She ran to tell the Apostles and again back to the tomb. She saw and believed. This Resurrection story is what we are charged with sharing with others – our Calling as Catholics. This is what we commemorate through each celebration of the Eucharist, which allows us to receive our Lord in Holy Communion. Our daily witness to this fact is our goal - talking with our classmates, taking care of our spouses and children, engaging with our friends and family, with our co-workers – in all we do! This is our vocation - a Call to Holiness.

Mater Dei Class of 2030 Registration Continues. Families who were unable to attend “opening day” of registration for Mater Dei’s Class of 2030 are invited to contact Mrs. Maria Zurliene to schedule an appointment (mzurliene@materdeiknights.org or 618-526-7216). While there is no deadline for registration, the application for scholarships is due May 1. Applications for memorial grants are accepted on a continual basis.

VILLAGE OF ALBERS & DAMIANVILLE SPRING YARD SALES, Saturday, May 9, 7:00 am – 2:00 pm. Details on Village of Albers Facebook Page. Sellers Include address and information on our Facebook page.

Blest Art will be visiting St. Bernard & St. Damian on April 25 & 26th on behalf of the Christian families in Bethlehem, Palestine. Our mission is to support those families in the Holy Land. When Blest Art visits your parish, we will have hand-carved nativity sets, statues, crosses, rosaries, and many other pieces of beautiful olive wood art. **We gladly accept cash, checks, and all major credit cards.**

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