

# **LITURGY OF THE WORD:**

The image of sheep dominates the Readings: Acts 2:14a, 36-41; 1 Peter 2:20b-25; John 10:1-10. The early church was just an inexperienced flock when Peter's testimony inspired thousands to "*repent and be baptized*". Later, Peter commends the sheep for returning to the care of the shepherd after they had gone astray. In the Gospel, Jesus begins the story of the Good Shepherd. "*The sheep hear His voice*" and follow Him. Let us listen for His voice and follow Him.

"The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want."

HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:

Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> *Live Streamed* Mass 9:30 am @ St. Bernard Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> Live Streamed Eucharistic Adoration 7:00-8:00 pm @ St. Damian Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> *Live Streamed Mass* 4:00 pm @ St. Damian Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup> *Live Streamed Mass* 9:30 am @ St. Bernard MASSES & EUCHARISTIC ADORATION will be live streamed at: www.facebook.com/stbernardalbers.

You can also find Masses on the television at EWTN or on St. Bernard & St. Damian website at www.stbernardandstdamian.org.

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# **VOCATION CORNER:**

Today, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, is World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The purpose of the *World Day of Prayer* for Vocations is to publically fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:38; Luke 10:2). As a climax to a prayer that is continually offered throughout the Church, it affirms the primacy of faith and grace in all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life. While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate), to the Religious life in all its forms (male and female, contemplative and apostolic), to societies of apostolic life, to secular institutes in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life, in the particular sense of mission "ad gentes".

(From the USCCB website)

**MATER DEI INFORMATION:** 

<u>Mega Raffle Tickets</u>: Want a chance to win cash while supporting Mater Dei? Purchase a Mega Raffle ticket (\$100) online via the link provided on our home page (www.materdeiknights.org), or by contacting the office (526-7216), a Fathers & Friends member, or a School Board member. A \$10,000 grand prize winner, as well as winners of two - \$2,500 prizes, three - \$1,000 prizes, and twenty \$100 prizes, will be drawn at the Golf Classic, which has been rescheduled for June 27<sup>th</sup>. As always, thank you for your support!

Mater Dei Golf Classic has been rescheduled for Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. This event is an opportunity for the Mater Dei community – alumni, parents, friends, administration, faculty, and staff - to enjoy a day of golf and fellowship in support of Mater Dei Catholic High School. The six-person team scramble tournament offers two shotgun starts (7:30 am and 1:00 pm) and three divisions (men, women, couples). The fee (\$100 per golfer) includes green fees (18 holes), cart rental, mulligans, refreshments and food during play, and a dinner and awards presentation in the evening. To join us, please submit the 2020 Golf Classic Registration Form, with payment by June 15<sup>th</sup>. The registration form is available on our website (www.materdeiknights.org) or by contacting the office (526-7216). Please note that reservations are accepted on a first-come first-served basis. We hope to see you on the golf course!

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER:

**"I Am the Gate"** Doorways and gates can protect those within. This is the image of Jesus today – gate and protector, shepherd and guide. Let Psalm 23 *"The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want*" fill your prayer every day this week.

- Because I am protected by the Good Shepherd, whom will I protect this week? How will I do it?
- On what right paths will I let myself be guided?
- What goodness and kindness will shine through my thoughts and actions this week?

# ST. DAMIAN PARISH CONCERNS:

<u>CHURCH SUPPORT: April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020</u>	
Envelopes: \$545.00 =	\$545.00
Budget for week:	\$3,038.46
Fiscal year-to-date collected:	\$116,928.28
Fiscal year-to-date budget:	\$130,653.78
Over (under) year-to-date budget:	(\$ 13,725.50)
Fiscal year (7/16-6/17) budget:	\$158,000.00
( <b>Reminder</b> : The fiscal year budget <u>does not</u> include the	
\$59,675.00 transferred from: Savings, Building Fund,	
Cemetery & Picnic Checking Accounts, which is	
needed in order to balance the budget.)	
Catholic Service & Ministry Appeal (CSMA):	
Total: \$5,295.00 (29)	Goal: \$7,455.00 (190)
End of Month Totals:	
Bldg./Maint. Collection: \$460.00	Total: \$33,853.90
Sister Parish:	\$5.00
Catholic Relief Services:	\$5.00
Holy Land:	\$335.00
Catholic Home Missions:	\$10.00

Thank you for your faithful and generous support!

# **QUILT COMMITTEE INFORMATION:**

The first quilt for the Ladies Sodality **quilt raffle will be drawn** as follows: July 11<sup>th</sup> at the picnic, Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> and a Christmas quilt on **Dec 11<sup>th</sup>**. **Tickets can be returned by: 1**) calling Donna Fuehne 618-604-3275 or Kay Maue 618-973-2498 for in town to let them know you will be putting the tickets in their front doors; **2**) return the tickets when you drop off your quilt donation for the picnic (will send out a date for quilt drop-off once it is safe); or **3**) return the tickets at the picnic. Please don't hesitate to call one of the quilt committee officers if you have a question, Donna Fuehne - 618-604-3275 Tammy Haselhorst - 618-401-1910 Shannon Fuehne - 618-520-2386 Gina Rakers - 618-304-6703

# We All Count

### **CENSUS 2020**:

Please file your information as soon as possible! The Census is taken to help get grants and funding for your Village, Schools, Roads, Organizations and many other outlets. Go to the website <u>https://my2020census.gov/</u> and start the questionnaire. If you need help with your Census because you do not have a computer or smart phone call the Village Hall, leave your name and a good phone number.

# ST. BERNARD PARISH CONCERNS:

#### <u>CHURCH SUPPORT: April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020</u> Envelopes: \$1,240,00 + Easter: \$86,00

Envelopes: \$1,240.00 + Easter: \$86.00	
+ Paypal: \$180.00 (\$6.42 Fees) \$173.58 = \$1,499.58	
Budget for week:	\$3,134.14
Fiscal year-to-date collected:	\$126,669.59
Fiscal year-to-date budget:	\$134,768.02
Over (under) year-to-date bud	dget: (\$ 8,098.43)
Fiscal year (7/19-6/20) budge	et: \$162,975.00
( <b>Reminder</b> : The fiscal year budget <u>does not</u> include	
the \$41,250.00 transferred from: Men's Club,	
Ladies Sodality, & Fund Raiser Checking Accounts,	
which is needed in order to balance the budget.)	
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Total Heating System:	\$1,910.00
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Total Heating System: Catholic Service & Ministry	\$1,910.00 y Appeal (CSMA):
<b>Total Heating System:</b> <b>Catholic Service &amp; Ministry</b> Total: \$4,075.00 (23)	\$1,910.00 y Appeal (CSMA):
Total Heating System: Catholic Service & Ministry Total: \$4,075.00 (23) End of Month Totals:	\$1,910.00 y Appeal (CSMA): Goal: \$7,967.00 (241)
<b>Total Heating System:</b> <b>Catholic Service &amp; Ministry</b> Total: \$4,075.00 (23) <b>End of Month Totals:</b> Sister Parish:	\$1,910.00 y Appeal (CSMA): Goal: \$7,967.00 (241) \$410.00
<b>Total Heating System:</b> <b>Catholic Service &amp; Ministry</b> Total: \$4,075.00 (23) <b>End of Month Totals:</b> Sister Parish: Catholic Relief Services:	\$1,910.00 y Appeal (CSMA): Goal: \$7,967.00 (241) \$410.00 \$90.00
Total Heating System: Catholic Service & Ministry Total: \$4,075.00 (23) End of Month Totals: Sister Parish: Catholic Relief Services: Holy Land:	\$1,910.00 y Appeal (CSMA): Goal: \$7,967.00 (241) \$410.00 \$90.00 \$110.00

Thank you for your faithful and generous support!

# **SUPPORT**:

Although we are unable to attend Mass on weekends, the parishes will continue to be there to support you. *We will also need your support!* You can support your parish in one of these ways:

- Mail in your contributions to: St. Bernard 202 N. Broadway-PO Box 10 – Albers, IL 62215-0010 or St. Damian – One West Main Street – Damiansville, IL 62215-1313.
- Fill out an ACH form located on the website (www.stbernardandstdamian.org) under St. Bernard & St. Damian and scan in or send back to your parish. Use the form for your parish.
- Donate from the website
  (www.stbernardandstdamian.org) by clicking the "Donate Now" button. Instructions on how it works are above the buttons.
- 4) If you *Bank Online*, have a check sent directly to your parish.
- 5) Contributions can also be dropped in the *Envelope Drop Boxes* located by the front door of each rectory. The lock boxes are secure and waterproof.

Thank you and God bless you for your continued support!

# CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY (HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS):

Find the latest information at http://www.stbernardandstdamian.org/catholic-youth-ministry.html.

# **OPERATION RICE BOWL**:

**Please return your 'Operation Rice Bowl'!** Please count the money in your containers and write a check or place cash in an envelope and drop it in the **envelope drop box** on the front porch of each rectory. Please be sure to mark your envelope "*Operation Rice Bowl*." On behalf of people struggling locally and globally, thank you for your efforts to donate to the *Catholic Relief Service (CRS) Rice Bowl*! We know it is a strain on your budget also, especially during this global pandemic. Your contributions will help people struggling globally & locally. Your gift will help reach 127 million people with lifesaving health, nutrition, and education support. In this time of distress **your gift is more important than ever!** 

# **BELLEVILLE COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:**

The *Belleville Council Office of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul* **NEEDS YOUR HELP** in providing essentials to the poor they serve. At the present time there is a desperate need for **gently-used blue jeans** (men's, women's and children's in all sizes).

Also, **SVDP's Night-Time Drop-In Center** has been operating at full capacity every night, housing homeless men, women and children...many more people during the current COVID-19 pandemic. If you are able to help during this uncertain time – <u>or anytime in the future</u> -- sack lunch items (<u>individually packaged</u>) are always needed: cookies, fruit cups, tuna and chicken snack packs, chips, crackers, cheese sticks, yogurt, cereal, Pop Tarts, breakfast bars, soup or pasta in a cup and bottled water; luncheon meat/cheese for sandwiches is also appreciated.

**Items can be dropped off** at: St. Vincent de Paul Office - 13 Vieux Carre Drive, East St. Louis (across from the Save-A-Lot store on Hwy. 157) on **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 9:00 am-2:30 pm**. OR SVDP Thrift Store/Soup Kitchen - 3718 State Street, East St. Louis on **Monday-Friday 9:00 am-1:30 pm; Saturday 9:00 am-12 Noon**.

If you have questions or need additional information, please call the Council office at 618-394-0126.

YOUR DONATIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE AND WILL BE A BLESSING FOR SOMEONE IN NEED! THANK YOU SO MUCH.

THE MESSENGER:

**Memorial Day** is fast approaching, and we hope to do a story related to this holiday. If anyone in your parish has a "*heart-warming*" story to tell about someone they knew or a relative who died during a war, please let us know. Send any information to <u>editor@bellevillemessenger.org</u>.

We also print the names of service members who were **Killed in Action** (WWII onward) in The Messenger. We have a list from years past, but if we have missed anyone, please send that person's name, rank if it is known, and the war in which they served and died.

In addition, we would like to include a list of service people who are **presently serving** in harm's way, asking for prayers for their safe return home. If your parishioners or loved ones served in Iraq or Afghanistan or Syria and have **returned home**, we would be happy to list their names among those who receive our prayerful support, as well.

Please submit the information to The Messenger by May 6<sup>th</sup>.

# WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER



# Great Marriages Don't Just Happen, Couples Make Them!

I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly. Live your married lives "more abundantly" by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next weekends are **August 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>** and **September 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>** at the Courtyard Marriot in St. Peters, MO. To register go to <u>https://stl-wwme.org/schedule.php</u> or call/text 314-649-7317.

**<u>Project Rachel</u>:** There is free, confidential counseling to heal from an abortion. Contact the staff from Project Rachel of the Diocese of Belleville by confidential helpline (618-722-5068) or projectrachel@diobelle.org. For additional information go to: www.diobelle.org/respectlife/project-rachel: www.hopeafterabortion.org.