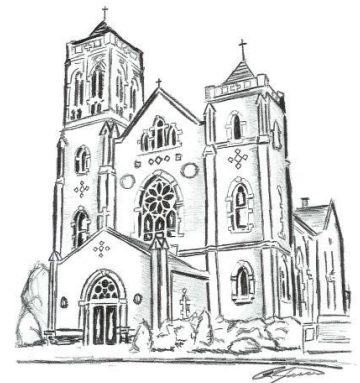




*Thirty-third Sunday
November 16th, 2025*



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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17th

Prayer Service
7:45 am @ St. Damian

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18th

Prayer Service
7:45 am @ Albers School Gym

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19th

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

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20th

Mass in Church
7:45 am @ Albers School Gym
For the Intentions of all Catholic Extension Donors

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21st

NO MASS/SERVICE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd

Mass in Church
4:00 pm @ St. Damian
Edwin & Mary Hitpas
Elmer & Katie Loepker
Albin Toennies
Henry & Leona Fuehne

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd

Mass in Church
9:30 am @ St. Damian
Leo, Pat & Glenn Litteken
Len Shields
Alice Book
Hispanic Mass in Church
11:00 AM @ St. Damian

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Malachi 3:19–20a; 2 Thessalonians 3:7–12; Luke 21:5–19

Malachi sets the mood for today's readings in a matter of seconds, warning that the day of judgment is coming, when the world will be reduced to stubble and God will show no mercy to the wicked. Paul reproves those in the Christian community in Thessalonica who have given up and grown lazy and disorderly. Jesus warns the people gathered in the temple that the day will come when all they see around them will be destroyed, but that God will protect those who persevere in the faith. Let us pray that we can truly welcome that day when God comes to rule the earth with justice

HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:

Sunday, November 16th- Fr. Matthew Birthday

Youth Choir Practice

8:30 am @ St. Damian Church

Mass in Church

9:30 am @ St. Bernard

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

Monday, November 17th

Prayer Service

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Tuesday, November 18th

Prayer Service

7:45 am @ Albers School Gym

Legion of Mary

5:00 in English @ St. Damian

5:00-8:00 Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament

6:00 in Spanish @ St. Damian

St. Damian Adult Choir Practice

7:00 pm @ St. Damian Church

Wednesday, November 19th

Mass in Church

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Eucharistic Adoration

6:00-7:00 pm @ St. Damian

St. Bernard Choir Practice

7:00 pm @

Thursday, November 20th

Mass in Church

7:45 am @ Albers School Gym

Friday, November 21st

NO MASS/NO SERVICES

Saturday, November 22nd

Mass in Church – St. Damian Ministries

4:00 pm @ St. Damian

Sunday, November 23rd

Youth Choir Practice

8:30 am @ St. Damian Church

Mass in Church – St. Bernard Ministries

9:30 am @ St. Damian Church

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

"THE LORD COMES TO RULE THE EARTH WITH JUSTICE.

COMMUNITY GIVING TREES: St. Damian Church will be the collection point for hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, socks & house slippers for children, teens, women & men. The items will be donated to BCMW Organization in Carlyle and distributed as Christmas presents to local families. BCMW serves Bond, Clinton, Marion & Washington counties. Items can be brought to St. Damian Church and hung on the Giving Tree in the gathering space from Nov 15 - Dec 8. Your generous donations will help make the holidays a little warmer for those in need. Any questions, please contact Geri Varel at 618-444-5073. Thanks in advance for your generous support!

Christmas "Giving Tree" drive at St. Bernard. This Advent all donated items through the St. Bernard Giving Tree event will be donated to the Coping 4 Kids program. Instead of gifts this year, we will be requesting gift cards and the drop box for these gift cards will be at St. Damian Church. A suggested list of gift cards will be listed in future bulletins. If you have any questions, contact Melissa Netemeyer 618-691-9413 or Marilyn Venhaus.

JOINT PARISH MASS INFORMATION

The last Mass prior to renovations will be held on Sunday, November 16, 2025. Renovations will begin on Monday, December 8, 2025. We will need several weeks to remove benches, kneelers, statues, etc. All Weekend, Holy Day and Holiday Masses will be held at St. Damian Church beginning Saturday, November 22.

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. (December & February 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 December, February).

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. DAMIAN PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: November 8th

Loose: \$100.00+ Envelope (25): \$1,545.00
+ Mass in Spanish: \$269.00 \$2,039.00
Budget for week: \$3,536.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$53,836.00
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$63,648.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: (\$9,812.00)
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.)

CSMA RESULTS: \$5,071 Pledged (23) of \$9,133 Goal

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – November 22nd

Ministers: Kristy Richter, Ken Mank, Beth Brandmeyer
Ushers: Norm Horstmann & Volunteer
Servers: Connor, Lincoln & Silas Arentsen
Reader: Joe Cleeton
Cantors: Chris Brandmeyer
Organist: Jan Hitch
Coll. Counters: Anita Rakers, Sandy Kramer
Thank you for being ministers of your parish!

WE'RE EXCITED! IT'S YOUTH CHOIR TIME!

Youth Choir practice for Advent and Christmas seasons is happening at St. Damian on Sunday mornings at 8:30 am. All youth in Grades 3-12 and college-age youth are welcome to participate and "Make a Joyful Noise!" If there are 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 Sunday mornings at 8:30am! Thanks in advance for your participation! **NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO YOUTH CHOIR PRACTICE ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30!**

The St. Damian Adult Choir began practicing for Christmas on Tuesday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m. in church. Practices will be held each Tuesday and last about 1 hour. If you have some time to give, we would love to see you there. We are always looking for new members to join us. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Brandmeyer at 618-792-2676.

LADY OF GUADALUPE RAFFLE. Maria is asking if anyone is interested in donating prizes for a raffle to raise funds for the Lady of Guadalupe. If you would like to donate a gift basket or gift card to be put on the raffle, please contact Maria Giminez. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

ST. BERNARD PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: November 9th

Loose: \$88.00 +Envelopes: (30) \$1,435.00
\$1,523.00
Budget for week: \$3,385.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$50,482.52
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$60,930.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: (\$10,447.48)
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.)

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – November 23rd

Ministers: Kati Schwierjohn, Jackie Farrar, Lynn Athmer
Reader: Kelly Jansen
Ushers: John & Linda Majchrzak
Servers: Lilly Behrmann, Maverick & August Richter
Coll. Count: Phyllis Albers, James Williams, Lynn Athmer

ST. BERNARD'S CHURCH IS PROCEEDING WITH THE MUCH-NEEDED RENOVATIONS.

Thanks to all who have returned their Letters of Intent. It is truly appreciated! There are still letters of support in the entryway of Church. Checks are being cashed; and for those who wish to do monthly auto ACH payments, they can now be set up upon request. 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. ACH monthly payments can now be set up and will begin on December 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 December 1 to give time 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. Thank you!

CHURCH PREPARATION SO RENOVATIONS CAN START ON DECEMBER 8th.

We ask for volunteers on November 17 to remove pews and all other furniture. We will start at 9:00 am and again at 5:30 pm on that day. **We will work again on November 18 & 19** to finish what we don't complete on the 17th. With a lot of help, we can have everything ready to move the pews to storage on November 24 & 25. We would like to have the work completed by November 25th so we can enjoy Thanksgiving. Any questions, please contact Steve at (618) 973-8860.

Albers American Legion Breakfast, Sunday, November 16th from 8-11 am. Sausage, ham, pancakes, eggs, fried potatoes, biscuits & gravy. Dine in or carryout. \$14 for adult meal & carryouts.

THE KNIGHT OF COLUMBUS WILL BE HOLDING A CASH RAFFLE AT PETE'S BAR & GRILL on Wednesday, November 26, starting at 7:00 pm. All proceeds will go towards the St. Bernard Church Renovations.

RESPECT LIFE CORNER: Please contact Governor Pritzker to VETO SB 1950 – Legalizing Assisted Suicide At 2:54 AM on Oct. 31, the Illinois State Senate narrowly passed SB 1950. The State House narrowly passed the bill in the spring. The bill is now on the Governor's desk. This is the last chance to stop assisted suicide from becoming law in Illinois. Please call Gov. Pritzker and inform him: people with disabilities, the poor, and marginalized fear coercion and abuse under assisted suicide laws, suicide rates increase in states where assisted suicide is legal, and there are possible cost savings to insurance companies if assisted suicide is legal, as they can provide cheaper lethal drugs instead of lifesaving treatment. Go to www.ilcatholic.org or email links, or call the Governor's office directly at 312-814-2121.

Catholic Service & Ministry Appeal On behalf of the ministries and programs funded by the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal and those they serve, we thank you for your prayers and continued generosity to the 2025 campaign. May you and your families feel the warmth of God's love and the comfort of His peace at Thanksgiving and always.

National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows – Shrine Grounds and Visitors Center from November 21 through December 31, 2025, 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Indoor activities are closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day. The Way of Lights Display, using over 1.5 million beautiful lights, depicts the journey of Mary and Joseph as they travel to Bethlehem. With new and beautiful colored lights, we celebrate the birth of Jesus and continue to offer activities for all to enjoy! Cost: No charge for display; donations accepted; additional charges for some activities. For more information, call 618-397-6700 or visit our website at <https://snows.org/wayoflights>

VOCATION CORNER. “My vocation to the Dominican Order and to the priesthood was carefully formed by God through the many people he placed in my life. First and most influential was my Syro- Malabar Catholic family, from whom I learned both the meaning of my faith and how to live it out. More than anyone else, my parents helped shape me as a man of faith and taught me to see everything in light of God's providence. Everywhere I have lived –including in India, Calif., Missouri, Ohio and Alaska – friends, teachers, priests and others supported me and, most importantly, prayed for me. This constant stream of graces continues to sustain me through my formation as a Dominican friar. It is impossible to be a saint on one's own.” Bro. Antony Augustine Cherian; Dominican Friars of the Province of the Most Holy Name of Jesus, Anchorage, Alaska. Columbia Magazine December 2023

POSITION AVAILABLE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO BISHOP EDWARD K. BRAXTON, BISHOP EMERITUS The Diocese of Belleville is seeking a part-time (25 hours per week) Administrative Assistant to Bishop Edward K. Braxton. Duties include, but not limited to, calendar management and schedule appointments, organize electronic and paper files, proofread documents including manuscripts, greet guests, assist with local errands, and provide occasional transportation. The salary is \$17.50 per hour. Benefits include 403(b) Retirement plan and paid time off. Essential qualifications include a minimum of a high school diploma, associate degree preferred, or equivalent experience; and 3+ years' experience in a related role providing administrative/clerical support. Candidate must be highly organized and have excellent verbal and written communication skills. Must be proficient with Microsoft Office and maintain a high level of confidentiality. To Apply: Send cover letter, résumé, and references to Human Resources, Diocese of Belleville, 222 South Third Street, Belleville, Illinois 62220 or email humanresources@diobelle.org. Deadline: December 5, 2025.

The Faith Formation students at St. Bernard will be collecting new, unwrapped toys as well as new winter hats, gloves & scarves that will be donated to Toys for Tots and Coping 4 Kids to aid in providing some Comfort & Joy this holiday season! Flyers with additional information were sent home this week detailing which grades will be collecting what items - Jr. High students will be collecting toys - primary grades will collect hats, gloves & scarves. If you prefer, a monetary can be accepted and used to purchase additional items. All donations should be sent to Faith Formation classes starting Monday, November 3 and will be accepted through Sunday, December 7. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!! Any questions, please contact Robbin Netemeyer, Grade 4 catechist at gnetemeyer@msn.com.

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