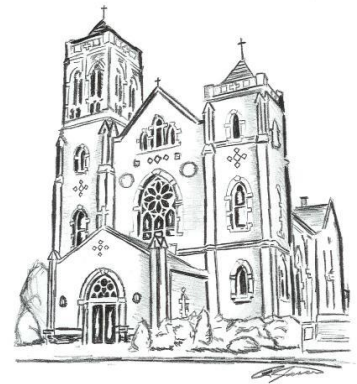




SECOND SUNDAY OF
ADVENT
DECEMBER 10th, 2023



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:

Most Rev. Michael McGovern

PASTOR:

Father Matthew Elie
Office Phone: (618) 248-5112

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE & DRE:

Deacon Glenn Netemeyer
Email: deaconglenn36@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
Email: stdamian1861@gmail.com
Email: st.bernard@charter.net

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



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St. Bernard and St. Damian
Catholic Churches

MASS SCHEDULE:

MONDAY, December 11th

7:45 AM @ St. Damian
Prayer Service

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12th

7:45 AM @ St. Bernard
Faith Formation Reconciliation Service

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13th

7:45 am Mass @ St. Damian
For the People

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14th

7:45 am Mass @ St. Bernard
For the People

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15th

7:45 am @ St. Damian
Faith Formation Reconciliation Service

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16th

Mass in Church
4:00 PM @ St. Bernard
Delmond, Eleanor & Cynthia Huegen
Marcel Korte
Dennis Behrmann

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17th

Mass in Church
9:30 AM @ St. Damian
Bernard Heimann
Living & Deceased of the Cletus & Rita Fuehne
Family
Duck Netemeyer & Alfred Spihlmann

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

LITURGY OF THE WORD:

Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11; 2 Peter 3: 8-14; Mark 1: 1-8

In today's first reading, it is in the desert that Isaiah imagines a way of the LORD will be prepared. In the Gospel, it is from the desert that John the Baptist appears on the scene. Hearing these prophets today, let us contemplate our own spiritual deserts and listen for John's call for repentance. May we heed that call as we prepare for the Lord with the holiness and devotion, we hear called for in the second reading, devoting ourselves to making holy our lives and our world in preparation for his coming.

HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:

Sunday, December 10th

Children's Choir Practice

8:30 am @ St. Damian

Mass in Church

9:30 am @ St. Damian

Baptism of Demi Kaye Kalmer w/ Deacon Glenn

@ St. Bernard

Hispanic Mass in Church-Lady of Guadalupe

10:00 am Guadalupe March begins in Albers

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

Monday, December 11th

Prayer Service in Church

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Tuesday, December 12th

Faith Formation Reconciliation Service

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

Eucharistic Adoration

7:00-8:00 @ St. Bernard

St. Damian Adult Choir Practice

7:00 pm @ St. Damian Church

Wednesday, December 13th

Mass in Church

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Thursday, December 14th

Mass in Church

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

Friday, December 15th

Faith Formation Reconciliation Service

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Saturday, December 16th

Mass in Church

4:00 pm @ St. Bernard

Sunday, December 17th

Children's Choir Practice

8:30 am @ St. Damian

Mass in Church

9:30 am @ St. Damian

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

**LORD, LET US SEE YOUR KINDNESS,
AND GRANT US YOUR SALVATION.**

CHRISTMAS MASSES will be held on Christmas Eve at 4:00 pm at St. Damian, 10:00 pm at St. Bernard, Christmas Day at 9:30 am at St. Bernard, and 11:00 Hispanic Mass at St. Damian. Ministry sign-up sheets will be in the back of both churches for those who wish to volunteer.

LOCAL ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

12/10/23 – 3:00 pm – St. Mary, Carlyle

12/10/23 – 5:00 pm – St. Boniface, Germantown

12/11/23 – 6:30 pm – St. Mary, Centralia

12/13/23 – 12:30pm – St. Mary, Mt. Vernon

12/13/23 – 7:00 pm - St. George, New Baden

12/14/23 – 12:30 pm – St. Mary, Centralia

12/14/23 - 7:00 pm – St. Anthony, Beckemeyer

12/17/23 - 3:45 pm – St. Charles, Dubois

12/17/23 – 3:00 pm – St. Francis, Aviston

ST. BERNARD & ST. DAMIAN PARISHIONERS

If you are currently not donating on-line but wish to do so, please contact Angie at (618) 248-5112 and she will help you get set up for this. Thank you!

The 2023 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal
*The one who does justice will live in the presence
of the Lord - Psalm 15*

Your contribution to The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal enables the Office of Education to impact the lives of over 9,500 students at 25 Catholic grade schools, three Catholic high schools and in PSR (Parish School of Religion) classes throughout our Belleville Diocese. If you haven't already done so, we prayerfully ask you to consider making a gift to the 2023 Appeal today...no amount is too large or too small! Thank you.

THANK YOU FROM DAYSTAR! Daystar & The Kitchen Table received your very generous food and household essentials donations. We cannot begin to thank you enough for your kindness. Thank you so very much for choosing our organization again this year to share your blessings. We were overwhelmed by your love and the number of items you collected. Your constant support allows us to serve a great number of those in need. Peace and love to each and every one of you. Amy Conaway, Daystar Program.

ST. DAMIAN PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: December 3rd

Loose: \$146.00+ Envelopes: (26) \$2,565.00
+ Mass in Spanish: \$635.00 +ACH for 2nd: \$1,230.00
+Thanksgiving: (4) \$460.00 \$5,036.00
Budget for week: \$3,121.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$68,081.10
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$71,783.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: **(\$3,701.90)**
Fiscal year (7/23-6/24) budget: \$162,300.00

(Reminder: The fiscal year budget **does not** include the **\$71,350.00** transferred from: Savings, Building Fund, & Picnic Checking Accounts, which is needed in order to balance the budget.)

Thank you for your faithful and generous support!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – December 17th

Euch. Ministers: Ruth Jansen, Deb Santel, Ken Mank
Ushers: Steve Kalmer & Volunteer
Servers: Brant & Paislyn Horstmann, Volunteer
Lector: Denise Luitjohan
Cantor: Rosann Horstmann
Organist: Jan Hitch
Collection Counter: Sandy Kramer, Kristy Richter
Thank you for being ministers of your parish!

ST. DAMIAN LADIES SODALITY will be collecting personal care items for the nursing home residents of the parish until December 17th. Items needed are lotion, body wash, shaving cream, deodorant, after shave, shampoo and conditioner. If you have a family member in the nursing home, please call Jan Hitch at (618)540-9974.

ST. DAMIAN CHOIR INFORMATION:

The St. Damian Adult Choir will practice on Tuesday evenings in November at 7:30 pm. We are in need of volunteers to keep this musical ministry thriving in our parish. Anyone high school age or older is invited to join. Contact Chris Brandmeyer at 618-792-2676 with questions.

WE'RE EXCITED! IT'S YOUTH CHOIR

TIME! Youth Choir practices have begun and will continue on Sunday mornings at 8:30. All youth in Grade 3-12 and college age students are welcome to participate and "Make a Joyful Noise! If kids or parents have any questions, please call Jackie at 618-335-9562 or Geri at 618-444-5073. Looking forward to seeing lots of smiling faces.

ST. BERNARD PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: December 2nd

Loose: \$34.00 +Envelopes: (33) \$1,939.00
+Thanksgiving:(33) \$595.00 + Christmas:(1)\$25.00
+ ACH for 2nd: \$2,370.00
+ Paypal (2): \$160-\$5.76 fee=\$154.24 \$5,117.24
Budget for week: \$3,502.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$68,251.98
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$80,546.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: **(\$12,294.02)**
Fiscal year (7/22-6/23) budget: \$182,100.00

(Reminder: The fiscal year budget **does not** include the **\$35,300.00** transferred from: Men's Club & Fund Raiser Checking Accounts, which is needed in order to balance the budget.)

Thank you for your faithful and generous support

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – December 16th

Euch. Ministers: Kathy Engelmann, Coryn
Toennies, Deb Schomaker
Reader: Ken Nussbaumer
Ushers: Brian & Janel Zurliene
Servers: Dylan & Lydia Wuebbels, Kinley Toennies
Coll. Counters: Keith Richter, Sean Kennedy,
Dana Lake

Thank you for being ministers of your parish!

ST. BERNARD'S CHOIR INFORMATION! **SING!! MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE!!**

If you have ever thought of joining the choir, now is the time. We are looking for new members to join us in this important ministry for our church - come to rehearsal. Give it a chance. Just contact Joni or any of the choir members for more information!

CHOIR DIRECTOR FOR ST. BERNARD.

St. Bernard Parish is still looking for a choir director. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Joni Kloeckner or Deacon Glenn.

RESPECT LIFE CORNER

"Perhaps one of your friends has become pregnant unexpectedly. As someone who has been there, I encourage you to support your friend in her new journey of being a mother." Learn how at respectlife.org/support-her. USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities. "10 Ways to Support Her When She's Unexpectedly Expecting"

TODAY! HSHS St. Joseph's Hospital in Breese is hosting a drive-thru live Nativity scene in the main parking lot near the hospital's front entrance, as well as other festivities such as carolers, children's activities, and hot chocolate and cookies in the hospital's front lobby on Sunday, December 10 from 4 – 6 p.m. This event is being held in celebration of the 800th year anniversary of St. Francis of Assisi beginning the tradition of commemorating the birth of Christ with a live Nativity near the city of Greccio, Italy on Christmas Eve in 1223.

VILLAGE OF ALBERS 2023 HOLIDAY LIGHTS CONTEST. Sponsored by the Albers Commercial Club. Top 5 entries PLUS Mayor/s Choice Award. CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council will be recognizing one home in each Albers AND Damiansville best displaying "Keep Christ in Christmas". \$25 prize to one home in each town. Judging will be Sunday, December 17th, from 6-9 pm.

National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows The Way of Lights – Shrine Grounds and Visitors Center through December 31, 2023, 5:00pm to 9:00pm. Indoor activities closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. *The Way of Lights Display depicts the journey of Mary and Joseph as they travel to Bethlehem using over 1.5 million beautiful lights. This year, we have added colored lights to celebrate the birth of Jesus and continue to offer activities for young and old alike!* Cost: No charge for display, donations accepted and additional charges for some activities. For more information, call 618-397-6700 or visit our website at <https://snows.org/wayoflights>.

SEEK 2024, January 1-5, 2024 at America's Center in St. Louis. SEEK24 is put on by FOCUS, a Catholic outreach organization targeted towards college students and young adults. SEEK is a national conference with numerous universities as well as young adults from across the country attending. There will be keynote speakers such as Fr. Mike Schmitz, Mass, a concert, breakout sessions, adoration, confessions, vendors, and fellowship throughout the week. Age would be at minimum 18, 17-year-olds can attend but with a parent chaperone. Please see attached flyer for more information on this program. Contact Mark Loyet at Diocese of Belleville for more information.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Night-Time Drop-In Center continues to operate at full capacity every night, providing shelter and helping homeless men, women and children survive the dangers of the city streets. In addition, Cosgrove's Soup Kitchen serves an ever-growing number of hungry people each day. We humbly ask for your prayers for St. Vincent de Paul staff and clients and, if you are able, to once again provide any of these much-needed items" Individually packaged cookies, fruit cups, tuna and chicken snack packs, chips, crackers, cheese sticks, yogurt cups, cereal, Pop Tarts, breakfast bars, soup or pasta in a cup, bottled water and other individual-serve drinks. In addition, laundry detergent pods, paper towels, toilet paper and tissues are always in short supply. Items can be dropped off Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., at: St. Vincent de Paul Office, 8800 West Main Street, Belleville, Illinois 62223 (across from Blessed Sacrament Church). SVDP Thrift Store/Soup Kitchen, 3718 State Street, East St. Louis 62205. If you have questions or need additional information, please call the SVDP Council office at 618-394-0126. Thank you and God bless you for your generosity which enables our ministry to the very poorest among us.

COINS FOR CARING

Join us on the journey of advent by bringing coins and cash donations to St. Bernard & St. Damian Churches Saturday, November 25-Sunday, December 23! Donations to Coins for Caring benefit the Metro East Diaper Bank and Coping 4 Life. Faith Formation students can bring their donations to class or Mass.

