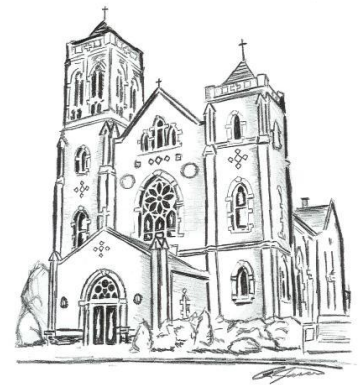




**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 15th, 2024**



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: 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
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

"Like & Share us on
 Facebook"
St. Bernard and St. Damian



MASS SCHEDULE:
MONDAY, DECEMBER 16th

Prayer Service in Church
7:45 am @ St. Damian

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17th
Prayer Service in Church
7:45 am @ St. Bernard

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18th
Mass in Church w/ Refreshments After
7:45 am @ St. Damian
Steve Mueth

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19th
Mass in Church
7:45 am @ St. Bernard
For the People

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20th
NO MASS OR SERVICE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21st
Mass in Church
4:00 PM @ St. Bernard
Marian Eversgerd
Deceased Members of the
Harry & Margaret Huegen Family

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22nd
Mass in Church
9:30 AM @ St. Damian
Bill & Cecilia Jansen

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

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Philippians 4: 4-7; Luke 3: 10-18

We hear Paul say, "The Lord is near," in the second reading today and we can count so many ways this is so. We're just ten days away from Christmas, for one. In a little while we will receive the Lord in the Eucharist. The Lord is here when two or more gather in his name. The Lord is near to us always, by virtue of our baptism. Right now, the Lord is here in the form of God's word. Warmed by the Lord's presence, let us listen for his voice in the words of scripture.

HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:

Sunday, December 15th

Youth 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

Edge Night at St. Damian Gym

4:00-5:30 pm @ Damiansville Gym

Monday, December 16th

Prayer Service in Church

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Tuesday, December 17th

Prayer Service in Church

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

St. Damian Parish Council Meeting

7:00 pm @ St. Damian Rectory

St. Damian Adult Choir Practice

7:00 pm @ St. Damian Church

Wednesday, December 18th

Mass in Church w Refreshments in Rectory

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Eucharistic Adoration

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

St. Bernard Choir Practice

7:00 pm @ St. Bernard Church

Thursday, December 19th

Mass in Church

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

Friday, December 20th

NO MASS OR SERVICE

Legion of Mary

5:00 in English @ St. Damian

5:00-8:00 Exposition of the

Blessed Sacrament

6:00 in Spanish @ St. Damian

Saturday, December 21st

Mass in Church

4:00 pm @ St. Bernard

Sunday, December 22nd

Youth 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

***CRY OUT WITH JOY & GLADNESS;
FOR AMONG YOU IS THE GREAT &
HOLY ONE OF ISRAEL!***

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. Damian, and 11:00 Hispanic Mass at St. Damian. Ministry sign-up sheets will be in the back of both churches soon for those who wish to volunteer.

TONIGHT IS EDGE NIGHT! our next Edge Night will be Sunday, Dec 15 from **4:00-5:30** pm at the Damiansville Gym. All 5th-8th graders are welcome!

CHRISTMAS DECORATING AT CHURCH

St. Damian – Saturday, December 14 at 8:00 am

St. Bernard – Saturday, December 14 at 5:00 pm

Any and all help appreciated in both parishes!

The Catholic Diocese of Belleville will once again host its annual Christmas dinner on Christmas Day at St. Henry's Parish Center, Belleville, for all those who are in need or will be alone on Christmas Day. Meals can also be delivered in Belleville to the disabled homebound. The dinner will be served at 11:30 A.M. on Christmas Day, December 25, in the Msgr. Bernard Voss Parish Center of St. Henry Parish, 5303 West Main Street in Belleville. To make your reservations or request a meal delivery, please return this form or call 618-722-5024 **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 16th**. Please mail requests to: Christmas Dinner Reservations Catholic Diocese of Belleville, 222 South Third Street, Belleville, IL 62220.

ST. DAMIAN & ST. BERNARD WEEKLY DONATIONS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED THRU THE MEN'S CLUB VENMO ACCOUNTS.

Unfortunately, we cannot receive donations through Venmo as there is a fee for businesses that use Venmo on a daily basis. The Venmo accounts are for the men's clubs only at both parishes for the sole use for the Wurstmarkts. Apologies for any inconvenience.

Thank you to everyone who donated to the St. Bernard's Giving Tree! Coping 4 Kids truly appreciate your generosity! Your gift of giving is a true example of the Spirit of Christmas! God bless you and may all have a Merry Christmas!

ST. DAMIAN PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: December 8th

Loose: \$223.00+ Envelopes: (26) \$3,014.00
+ Mass in Spanish: \$970.68
+Thanksgiving (7): \$190.00 \$4,397.68
Budget for week: \$3,212.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$74,507.54
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$73,876.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: \$631.54
Fiscal year (7/24-6/25) budget: \$167,000.00

(**Reminder:** The fiscal year budget **does not** include the **\$70,875.00** 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 22nd

Minister: Rosann Horstmann, Chris Brandmeyer, Arlene Korte
Ushers: Bud Jansen, Ron Horstmann
Servers: Collins, Delaney & Paislyn Horstmann
Lector: Susan Lynch
Cantor: Jackie Toennies
Organist: Chris Brandmeyer
Coll. Counters: Mech Toennies, Kathleen Hodges
Thank you for being ministers of your parish!

YOUTH CHOIR UPDATE! The Youth Choir meets for practice on Sunday mornings at 8:30am. Youth in Grades 3-12 and college-age students are welcome to participate. The Youth Choir will sing at Christmas Eve mass at St. Damian on Tues, Dec 24 at 4pm. Thanks to the choir members for their commitment and for sharing their musical gifts which adds so much to the liturgies! Any questions please contact Jackie at 618-335-9562 or Geri at 618-444-5073. **The St. Damian Adult Choir** practices for Christmas on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Practices will be held on most Tuesdays until Christmas. New members are always welcome. Even if you can make just a few of the practices, please consider joining us. Any questions, please contact Chris Brandmeyer at 618-792-2676.

ST. DAMIAN CHRISTMAS CAROLING!!

Thank you to all who took the time to listen and donate to our Christmas Caroling for Carnitas. We appreciate each and every one of you for your support.

THANKS SO MUCH! To everyone who hung items on this year's "Community Giving Tree" The items were brought to BCMW for their annual Christmas distribution. Your kindness and generosity helped to make Christmas a little warmer for many families during this Christmas season. Jesus is the Reason for the Season!

ST. BERNARD PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: December 7th

Loose: \$65.00+Envelopes: (31) \$1,426.00
+Thanksgiving Envelopes (5) \$205.00 \$1,696.00
Budget for week: \$3,385.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$67,827.79
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$77,855.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: **(\$10,027.21)**
Fiscal year (7/24-6/25) budget: \$176,000.00

(**Reminder:** The fiscal year budget **does not** include the **\$49,525.00** 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 21st

Ministers: Kathy Engelmann, Melissa Netemeyer, Deb Schomaker
Lector: Ken Nussbaumer
Ushers: Brian & Janel Zurliene
Servers: Dylan & Lydia Wuebbels, Colten Wuebbels
Coll. Counters: Keith Richter, Sean Kennedy, Janel Zurliene
Thank you for being ministers of your parish!

ST. BERNARD'S CHOIR PRACTICE will be held on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm at Church. New members are welcome to join us in making beautiful music for our parish.

Respect Life Corner Sunday. ASSISTED SUICIDE SENDS A MESSAGE TO PEOPLE THAT THEY ARE BURDENSOME. In Oregon, where assisted suicide has been legal for years, data shows people request suicide drugs not for pain but because they cannot do the same activities that they could before, such as control bodily functions. They feel they've lost dignity or that they are a burden. Assisted suicide can also promote the view that elderly relatives are not persons to be loved but burdens to be managed. Suicide drugs are not the answer. Everyone deserves loving, supportive care, affirmation of their dignity, and to know that they are never a burden. Visit www.ilcatholic.org for additional information.

CARDINALS CALENDARS FUNDRAISER. Pre-order your 2025 St. Louis Cardinal calendar by contacting Janel Zurliene (618) 402-2869. The calendars are \$20 and should arrive in early December. All funds raised support the St. Bernard's Faith Formation program. Please let Janel know as soon as possible.

Village of Albers 2024 Holiday Lights Contest. Top 5 entries PLUS Mayor's Choice Award will be awarded! Christ in Christmas-KC's will be recognizing one home in each Damiansville and Albers for best display representing "Keep Christ in Christmas." Judging will be Sunday, December 15 from 6-9 pm.

The 2024 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal. Serve the Lord with gladness. -Psalm 100. The true joy of Christmas is in the everlasting love of Christ. May you find His peace, love and joy now and in the coming new year. With deepest gratitude for your prayers and generosity, -*Bishop Michael McGovern and Ministries and Programs Funded by The Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal.*

Give the Gift that keeps on Giving...The Messenger! To subscribe online for Family or Friends go to: www.bellevillemessenger.org or Call 618-233-8670. Merry Christmas from *The Messenger!* Don't forget to Subscribe by calling *The Messenger* at 618-233-8670. To subscribe online go to www.bellevillemessenger.org. Tax-deductible donations are also appreciatively received.

St. Vincent de Paul Needs Coats! Cold winter weather has definitely arrived and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Belleville Council desperately needs coats to distribute to those in need. Gently-used or new coats of all types in all sizes for all ages – toddlers, children, teens and adults (men and women) are being requested. Items can be dropped off at the St. Vincent de Paul office located at 8800 West Main Street, Belleville, across from Blessed Sacrament Church, or call Joe Hubbard or Pat Hogrebe at 618-394-0126 for additional information. Warm your heart by keeping someone. Stay warm and donate a coat today! Thank you very much.

The Aviston Sons of American Legion 2024 Black Tie and Talent Show will be on **Sat. Jan. 11th, 2025** @ 5:00 pm at the Hidden Lake Winery in Aviston IL. This formal event is a talent and glamour contest where we give away over \$8000 in scholarships to (8) college bound contestants. We are selling tickets for the event at \$50.00 each. Ticket includes: happy hour, 4-course meal, talent contest, late night entertainment. Interested contestants can tryout at a **down select** competition at Aviston Legion at 6:00 pm on **Friday, Dec 20th**. A 3-minute speech on a topic of contestant's choice and a talent demonstration is required. Any Clinton County residents who will attend college or trade school in 2025 can enter contest. For tickets or entry info text: Jim Kues 618-973-5688 or Craig Timmermann 618-830-7737.



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