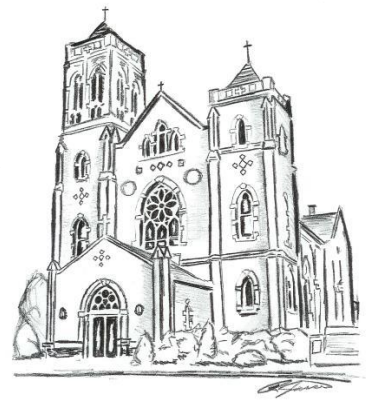




Fourth Sunday of Advent December 20th, 2015



St. Damian Parish

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



When God
is involved
the least
likely things
happen - so
expect the
unexpected.

St. Bernard Parish

Founded 1908
202 N. Broadway - Box 10
Albers, Illinois 62215
Phone: (618) 248-5112
Fax: (618) 248-5595

WEBSITE:

www.stbernardandstdamian.org

BISHOP OF BELLEVILLE:

The Most Rev. Edward K. Braxton, Ph.D., S.T.D.

PASTOR:

Fr. Jack Joyce

Email: frjack@charter.net

Residence / Office at St. Bernard

CATECHETICAL MINISTRY DIRECTOR:

Deacon Glenn Netemeyer

Email: stdamians@wisperhome.com

Personal Email: gnetemeyer@msn.com

Cell Phone: 618-772-9343

Office at St. Damian

NC VICARIATE HISPANIC MINISTER:

Roberto Rapp

Email: robertorapp@yahoo.com

Cell Phone: 314-780-2795

Office / Residence at St. Damian

SECRETARY:

Jeanne Langenhorst

Email: st.bernard@charter.net

CLC Office Phone: 618-588-4323

Cell Phone: 618-979-5933

Monday (8 am to 5 pm) @ St. Bernard or St. Damian;

Tuesday & Wednesday (9 am to 4 pm);

Thursday (9 am to 12 noon) @ CLC, New Baden;

Friday (OFF) Christmas Day, Dec. 25th.

CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTER:

Michelle "Shelly" Schuetz

Email: maschuetz@hotmail.com

Cell Phone: 618-401-6007

MASS SCHEDULE:

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21ST

8:30 pm Mass @ St. Damian

For All Parishioners

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22ND

8:30 am Mass @ St. Bernard

For All Memorial Donors

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23RD

Eucharistic Adoration

9 am-12 noon @ St. Damian

1:00-3:00 pm @ St. Bernard

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

5:00 pm Mass @ St. Damian

Mary Toennies

Adella Wombacher

10:00 pm Mass @ St. Bernard

For All Parishioners

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

9:00 am Mass @ St. Bernard

Dorothy Rensing

Lorraine & Cyril Schniers

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26TH

5:00 pm Mass @ St. Bernard

Kevin Kehrer

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27TH

8:30 am Mass @ St. Damian

Vince Arentsen

Louis Korte

Cliff Kolb

10:00 am Mass @ St. Bernard

Lawrence & Virginia Kalmer

11:00 am Mass @ St. Damian

Mass in Spanish

LITURGY OF THE WORD:

Hope can be dramatic and powerful, but is often very simple encouragement in the reality of daily life. Today's psalm refrain can be our prayer: **"Lord, make us turn to You; let us see Your face and we shall be saved."** As we hear God's holy word, let us indeed turn to the Lord and see our loving God's face in the small town of Bethlehem, in young Mary and her cousin Elizabeth, and in all those whose lives intersect with ours every day. Mary brings Christ and hope to another person in that simple gesture, and it's more than enough. **How can we bring Christ and hope to others?** It doesn't take much.

**"Lord, make us turn to You;
let us see Your face and we shall be saved."**

"KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS"

Congratulations to the following who won 1st and 2nd place in the parish competition poster winners:

St. Bernard:

- Gr. 1** – Esmerelda Ramirez-Cruz & Chloe Engelmann
- Gr. 2** – Wyatt Jung & Taylor Holsapple;
- Gr. 3** – Hayley Lucas & Ashlyn Hodges;
- Gr. 4** – Jillian Kloeckner & Jordyn Schiefer;
- Gr. 5** – Makenna Lake & Sophia Kennett;
- Gr. 6** – Austyn Jansen & Tyler Robertson;
- Gr. 7** – Mallory Toennies & Kyle Athmer;
- Gr. 8** – Jacey Wieter & Allison Rickhoff.

St. Damian:

- Kind.** – Kiley Hitch & Lyla Koch;
- Gr. 1** – Natalie Lynch & Edwin Oros;
- Gr. 2** – Kennedy Toennies & Saul Contreras;
- Gr. 3** – Reid Koch & Nolan Goebel;
- Gr. 4** – Genesis Contreras & Makenna Budde;
- Gr. 5** – Julia Korte & Ethan Toennies;
- Gr. 6** – Stephanie Aparicio & Evelyn Fuehne;
- Gr. 7** – Martha Aparicio & Saul Ruiz;
- Gr. 8** – Caleb Gonsalves & Meredith Innes.

Thanks to the *Knights of Columbus* for sponsoring this annual event. **Special thanks** to *Deacon Glenn Netemeyer* for coordinating this project and to *all religion teachers* involved.

Congratulations to the following whose posters were selected for further Diocesan competition:

- Gr. 1 & 2:** Kennedy Toennies
- Gr. 3 & 4:** Genesis Contreras
- Gr. 5 & 6:** Julia Korte
- Gr. 7 & 8:** Jacey Wieter

Thank you for your participation!

HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:

Sunday, December 20th

Children's Liturgy of the Word

- 8:30 am @ St. Damian Church
- 10:00 am @ St. Bernard Church

Santa Claus Visit

- After 8:30 am Mass @ St. Damian Gym

St. Damian Youth Choir Practice

- 9:30 am @ St. Damian Church

Pre-School Sunday School Classes

- 10:00 am @ Albers Elementary School

Stations of the Crib

- 6:00 pm @ St. Bernard Church

Posada 6:30 pm @ St. Anthony Church, Beckemeyer

Monday, December 21st

Posada 6:30 pm @ St. Dominic Church, Breese

Tuesday, December 22nd

English as Second Language (ESL) Classes

- 5:30-8:30 pm @ St. Damian Mtg. Room

St. Bernard Mixed Choir Practice

- 7:00 pm @ St. Bernard Church

Wednesday, December 23rd

Faith Formation Teachers Breakfast

- 7:30 am @ Good Ol' Days

Posada 6:30 pm @ St. George Church, New Baden

NO Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA)

Thursday, December 24th

Christmas Eve Masses:

- 5:00 pm @ St. Damian Church
- 10:00 pm @ St. Bernard Church
- Mass in Spanish* 9:00 pm @ St. Damian Church

Friday, December 25th

Christmas Day Mass: 9:00 am @ St. Bernard Church

Sunday, December 27th

Children's Liturgy of the Word

- 8:30 am @ St. Damian Church
- 10:00 am @ St. Bernard Church

St. Damian Youth Choir Practice

- 9:30 am @ St. Damian Church

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULES:

- ❖ *Christmas Eve* – 5:00 pm @ St. Damian & 10:00 pm @ St. Bernard.
- ❖ *Mass in Spanish* – 8:00 pm @ St. Damian.
- ❖ *Christmas Day* – 9:00 am @ St. Bernard (**ONLY ONE MASS**).
- ❖ *New Year's Eve* – 4:00 pm @ St. Bernard; & *New Year's Day* – 9:00 am @ St. Damian.

CHANGE IN MASS SCHEDULE:

On **Monday & Tuesday, Dec. 28th & 29th**, there will be **NO MASS**. *Prayer Service with Communion* will be held at 8:00 am on **Monday** @ St. Damian Church & **Tuesday** @ St. Bernard Church.

ST. DAMIAN PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: December 13th, 2015

Envelopes: \$ 1,675.00 + Loose: \$79.00

+ Mass in Spanish: Hispanic Minister Salary =

\$1,754.00

Budget for week: \$2,755.77

Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$55,538.24

Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$66,138.48

Over (under) year-to-date budget: **(\$10,600.24)**

Fiscal year (7/15-6/16) budget: \$143,300.00

(**Reminder:** The fiscal year budget **does not** include the \$58,000.00 transferred from: Savings, Building Fund, Cemetery & Picnic Checking Accounts, which is needed in order to balance the budget.)

Hispanic Minister Salary (St. Damian): \$153.75

Hispanic Minister Salary (Mass in Spanish): \$564.25

Hispanic Minister Salary (Hispanics): \$152.00

Thanks for your faithful and generous support!

ST. DAMIAN LADIES SODALITY

Bi-monthly Dec. Quilt Winner – Rosann Horstmann

PARISH DIRECTORY NEWS:

For those who did not have their photo taken by LifeTouch, but submitted a photo instead, please mail your \$10 fee (cash or check) as soon as possible to Geri Varel, 106 N. Church St. – Damiansville, IL 62215. Checks should be made payable to St. Damian Parish. The \$10 fee is payment for your copy of the directory when they come in. **Thanks!**

ST. DAMIAN MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Thursday, Christmas Eve @ 5:00 pm

Eucharist Ministers — Deacon Glenn Netemeyer, Sharon Kalmer, Ken Mank, Pete Toennies, Ange Wobbe, Rosann Horstmann, Erin Korte

Reader — Denise Luitjohan

Ushers — Norm, Ron, Cole & Jared Horstmann,

Volunteer

Servers — Kevin Heimann, Ethan Toennies, Caleb Gonsalves, Ben Kassen

Organist — Geri Varel

Sunday, December 27th, 2015 @ 8:30 am

Eucharist Ministers — Arlene Korte, Pete Toennies, *Kristy Richter*

Reader — Jackie Toennies

Ushers — Jerry Arentsen, Marvin Toennies

Servers — Cole & Abby Arentsen, Kaylee Netemeyer

Organist — Geri Varel

Collection Counters — Kristy Richter, Pete Toennies, Kathleen Hodges

Children's Liturgy — Gwen Toennies, Kevin Heimann

ST. BERNARD PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: December 12th/13th, 2015

Envelopes: \$2,026.00 + Thanksgiving: \$75.00

+ ACH (16th): \$865.00 + Loose: \$97.92 = \$3,063.92

Budget for week: \$2,916.25

Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$59,767.54

Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$69,990.00

Over (under) year-to-date budget: **(\$10,222.46)**

Fiscal year (7/15-6/16) budget: \$151,645.00

(**Reminder:** The fiscal year budget **does not** include the \$32,000.00 transferred from: Men's Club, Ladies Sodality, Capital Fund, Cemetery & Fund Raiser Checking Accounts, which is needed in order to balance the budget.)

Hispanic Minister Salary Collection: \$281.00

Thanks for your faithful and generous support!

ST. BERNARD MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Thursday, Christmas Eve @ 10:00 pm

Eucharist Ministers — Deacon Glenn Netemeyer, Lynette Huegen, Dan & Lee Love, Steve & Deb Schomaker, Randy Netemeyer, Cole Schomaker

Reader — Kellen Lake

Ushers — Ed Broeckling, Dan & Rita Poettker, Ken Lake

Servers — Ryan Gill, Mallory Toennies, Nolan Winkeler, Brian Zurliene

Friday, Christmas Day @ 9:00 am

Eucharist Ministers — Deacon Glenn Netemeyer, Kevin Templin, Ken & Liz Nussbaumer,

2 Volunteers (Choir Host & Cup)

Reader — Lynne Huelsmann

Ushers — Ed & Sharon Wuebbels, **2 Volunteers**

Servers — Reagan Rickhoff, Jordan & Jacey Wieter

Collection Counters – 3 or 4 Volunteers

Saturday, December 26th, 2015 @ 5:00 pm

Eucharist Ministers — Melissa Netemeyer, Steve Schomaker, Liz Nussbaumer

Reader — Clint Morris

Ushers — Jim & Mary Norrenberns

Servers — Ed Netemeyer, Brian Zurliene, Brenda Morris

Sunday, December 27th, 2015 @ 10:00 am

Eucharist Ministers — *Michelle Kennedy*, Roman Kloeckner, Lynn Athmer, Ray Gill

Reader — Lynette Huegen

Ushers — Brian & Nolan Winkeler, Dan & Rita Poettker

Servers — Ryan Gill, Alysa Winkeler, Sophia Kennett

Collection Counters — Lynn Athmer, Sean Kennedy, Pat Litteken

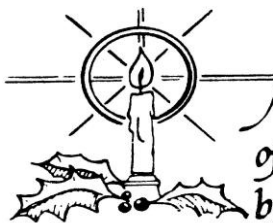
Children's Liturgy — Meg Schiefer, Carolyn Timmons

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:

- **Stations of the Crib on Sunday, Dec. 20th** at 6:00 pm @ St. Bernard Church. We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help. Needing at least 9 men and 3 women and children as well. **All our welcome!** If interested contact Ray Gill at rjp.gill@gmail.com.
- Wishes to install an **Automatic Door Opener** at the handicap entrance @ St. Bernard Church. If anyone would like to contribute to this much needed improvement to the church, please contact Luke Niemeyer at 618-973-2601 or Steve Schomaker at 618-973-8860.

ALBERS 125

- Richard Backes will be at the Albers City Hall on **Saturday & Sunday, Dec 19th & 20th** after the 5:00 pm & 10:00 am Mass @ St Bernard to collect or scan pictures/articles/family history for the **Albers 125 History Book**. He will also be taking information on Albers past and present military members for the **Albers 125 Military Recognition Ceremony**. As well, this will be the first collection for the Albers 125 time capsule. Richard will be available up to one hour after services or for as long as needed.
- **T-shirts:** Show your Albers pride and purchase one today! Regular t-shirts: \$10, dry-fit t-shirts: \$15. Contact Al Loepker at 618-806-9360.
- **Cookbooks** make great last minute Christmas gifts! Prices: 1 cookbook is \$20; 2 cookbooks are \$18 each; and 3 or more cookbooks are \$15 each. Available for purchase at Village Hall and most businesses in town or contact Jan Reinhardt @ 248-5140.



*May the blessings
of this Holy Season
be with you always.*

Thank You

- ✓ The **2016 St. Louis Cardinal Calendars** have arrived and we have extra to sell. If you are still needing a few for yourself or needing a Christmas present or two, there are some in the back of church to purchase or you can contact Diane Winkeler at 248-5361 to purchase them. The price is \$15 per calendar. If you are needing to write a check, please make it payable to St. Bernard Parish. **Thank you for your support!!**
-- St. Bernard Parish Faith Formation Program
- ✓ **Sincere thank you** to everyone who helped us with our **Group-Family Confirmation Project** by donating shoes for Logan. Thanks to your generosity, we collected over **850 pairs of shoes**, and Logan is that much closer to getting his service dog. We could not have done this without all of you. **Thanks again, and God bless all of you.**
-- Schrage, Kalmer, and Jansen Families
- ✓ **Thank you** to all who opened your door for our **Caroling Confirmation Students** (and their parents) on Sunday night. Because of your generosity, they raised **\$133.33** for *Fontabella* which supports mothers and babies in need. **Thanks again and have a blessed Christmas!**
- ✓ **Thank you to St. Bernard & St. Damian Faith Formation** for your help with this year's *Thanksgiving Food Drive*. It is with your efforts that we can feed the poor. We appreciate all you do to help our local food pantry. **God Bless!!**
-- St. Vincent De Paul Society,
St. Boniface Conference
- ✓ **Thank you** to everyone for generously donating to our **Adopt-A-Family Program & St. Bernard & St. Damian Giving Tree Items!** All items collected will help those less fortunate receive much-needed items for Christmas! **Christmas Blessing to all!**

Village Of Albers Residents: All are invited to decorate your yard and homes for our **2015 Christmas Lights Contest** sponsored by the *Albers Commercial Club*. Please have displays lit from **Sunday, Dec. 20th to Thursday, Dec. 31st** from 6:00-9:00 pm for judging.

Veterans Tribute New Year's Day Poker Run: The American Legions of Albers, Beckemeyer, Breese, Germantown, and New Baden are hosting a **New Year's Day Poker Run** with the proceeds benefiting the *Veterans Tribute* located at Kaskaskia College. Participants can sign up at any of the above Legion locations starting a **11:00 am on New Year's Day 2016**, you must register at all five Legions, and arrive at Breese Legion **no later than 5:00 pm**. This is **OPEN TO ALL VEHICLES** and best hands will receive cash and other prizes. All qualifying participants will be eligible for great attendance prizes that will be drawn at the end of the Poker Run (Breese Legion). This event not only supports the Veterans Tribute at Kaskaskia College it is also a great way to support local Legion's in the county. Hope to see you there. If you have any questions—please contact one of the participating Legions for more information.