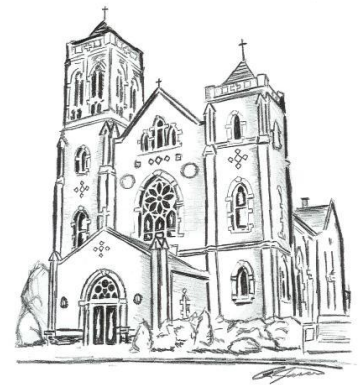
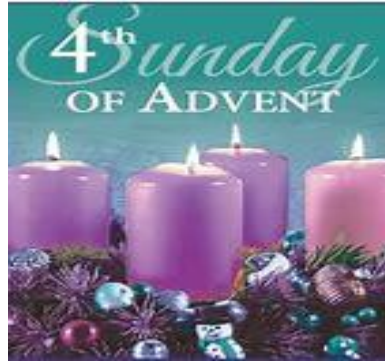




**FOURTH SUNDAY OF
ADVENT
DECEMBER 22nd, 2024**



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

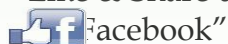
PERMANENT DEACON:
Deacon Kevin Templin
Email: deaconkevin18@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 314-660-3976

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

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St. Bernard and St. Damian

MASS SCHEDULE:
MONDAY, DECEMBER 23rd
NO MASS/SERVICE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24th - CHRISTMAS EVE

Mass in Church
4:00 pm @ St. Damian
Lindy, Florence & Lynn Horstmann, Sean Howard
Albin Toennies
David Pingsterhaus
Bob Innes & All ALS Sufferers
Alvin Toennies & Tom Reis

Mass in Church
10:00 pm @ St. BERNARD
Doris Kloeckner
Robert Kloeckner

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25th – CHRISTMAS DAY

Mass in Church
9:30 am @ St. Damian
For the People
Hispanic Mass in Church
11:00 am @ St. Damian

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26th
NO MASS/SERVICE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27th
NO MASS OR SERVICE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28th
Mass in Church
4:00 PM @ St. Bernard
Alphonse, Margaret & Mark Schomaker

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29th
Mass in Church
9:30 AM @ St. Damian
Clarence Goebel
Special Intention-FJ
Hispanic Mass in Church
11:00 AM @ St. Damian

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Micah 5:1-4a; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

Drawing closer to Christmas, we sing, "Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved." Micah turned to Bethlehem and saw the face of the Messiah. Elizabeth saw and heard her pregnant cousin and recognized the face of the Lord. Even John the Baptist in his mother's womb turned to Mary's voice and leaped for joy. May we see the face of God in God's word, in the spirit of the season, and in the people we know and love.

HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:

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

Monday, December 23rd

NO MASS/SERVICE

Tuesday, December 24th-Christmas Eve

Mass in Church

4:00 pm @ St. Damian

10:00 pm @ St. Bernard

Wednesday, December 25th-Christmas Day

Mass in Church

9:30 am @ St. Damian

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 am @ St. Damian

Thursday, December 26th

NO MASS/SERVICE

Friday, December 27th

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 28th

Mass in Church

4:00 pm @ St. Bernard

Sunday, December 29th

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

"LORD, MAKE US TURN TO YOU; LET US SEE YOUR FACE AND WE SHALL BE SAVED."

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.

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 Wurstmarts. Apologies for any inconvenience.

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!

Thank you so much for all your support to the Giving Tree event. All items and proceeds went to the Coping for Life program. They truly appreciate your kindness and generosity for those less fortunate. May God bless you! Merry Christmas!

ST. DAMIAN CHRISTMAS CAROLING!! Thank you to all who took the time to listen and donate to our Christmas Caroling for Caritas. We appreciate each and every one of you for your support. Even though many people were out on Friday evening, we were able to raise \$200 for Caritas. Thank you all and have a blessed Christmas.



ST. DAMIAN PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: December 15th

Loose: \$134.00+ Envelopes: (25) \$1,694.00
+ Mass in Spanish: \$268.00
+Thanksgiving (2): \$250.00 Christmas (2) \$125.00
+ ACH For December 16th: \$550.00 \$3,021.00
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 24th

Minister: Kristy Richter, Sharon Kalmer, Arlene Korte
Ushers: Sign up Sheet volunteers
Servers: Sign up sheet volunteers
Lector: Denise Luitjohan
Cantor: Jackie Toennies & Childrens Choir
Organist: Geri Varel

Christmas Day-December 25th

Ministers: Deb Santel and 2 volunteers
Ushers: Norm Horstmann & 1 Volunteer
Servers: Miranda Richter & 2 volunteers
Lector: Anita Rakers
Cantor: Adult Choir
Organist: Chris Brandmeyer
Coll. Counters: Anita Rakers, Dave Kassen, Volunteer

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – December 29th

Ministers: Ken Mank, Rosann Horstmann, Denise Luitjohan
Ushers: Cole & Jared Horstmann
Servers: Charlie Sauer, Brant Horstmann & Volunteer
Lector: Jackie Toennies
Cantor: Shannon Sanders & Lindsey Mitchell
Organist: Geri Varel
Collection Counters: Kathy Gonsalves & Pete Toennies

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. BERNARD PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: December 14th

Loose: \$101.00+Envelopes: (28) \$1,085.00
+ Paypal Donation (1) \$193.53
+ ACH for December 16th: \$2,680.00 \$4,059.53
Budget for week: \$3,385.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$71,887.32
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$81,240.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: **(\$9,352.68)**
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

Christmas Eve-December 24th

Ministers: Kristen Templin, Lynette Huegen, Greg Kassen
Ushers: Volunteers
Servers: Cole Huegen, Liam Jung, Jacob Cannaday
Lector: Dana Lake

Coll. Counters: VOLUNTEERS PLEASE

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – December 28th

Ministers: Steve Schomaker, Ken & Liz Nussbaumer
Ushers: Janel Zurliene
Servers: Nick & Kathy Friederich
Lector: Trigg, Tucker & Levi Goestenkors
Collection Counters: Phyllis Albers, Lynn Athmer, Dana Lake
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. Lord Jesus Christ, you chose to share our human nature and redeem all people. We ask for help for our brothers and sisters who are ill. Support them with your power and shelter them from sadness. Keep them firm in faith and serene in hope. Also help those who assist the sick and care for them in their time of illness. Inspire our society to resist the temptation of assisted suicide for the elderly, the sick, the vulnerable and all your people. May life's beauty and sanctity be respected among all our brothers and sisters. All this we ask in your holy name. Amen.

JUBILEE YEAR 2025. Pope Francis will open the Jubilee Year 2025 by opening the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome on Christmas Eve. Join Bishop Michael McGovern in opening the celebration of the Jubilee Year in our diocese at the 10:30am Mass at the Cathedral of St. Peter (200 W. Harrison, Belleville) on Sunday December 29. Our theme for the Jubilee Year is Pilgrims of Hope. For more information visit www.diobelle.org.

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.

Keep Christ in Christmas Poster contest:

Congratulations to the following who won 1st and 2nd place in the Parish. Thanks to the Knights of Columbus for sponsoring this annual event. Special thanks for coordinating this project with the DRE and all the religion teachers involved. Below are the winners for 2024. Thank you to all who participated. The names in bold print will be advancing to the Diocesan Poster Contest.

St. Bernard in Albers:

1. Rece Hubert, Maclin Short
2. **Abby Boeckmann**, Emery Athmer
3. Lyla Schroeder, Max Gauch
4. Aften Boeckmann, Madison Athmer
5. Kennedy Porterfield, Sawyer Winkeler
6. **Lydia Wuebbels**, Sadie Pingsterhaus
7. Aubrey Winterbottom, Denym Laux
8. Kailey Engelmann, Dylan Wuebbels

St. Damian in Damiansville:

- K. Lennon Tonnies, Breck Richter
1. Brody Stiebel, Quinn Borkowski
 2. Olivia Borkowski, Ellie Richter
 3. Blakelyn Stiebel, Emily Jansen
 4. **Alexis Toennies**, Alexa Contreras
 5. Eli Skelton, Evelyn Cleeton
 6. Connor Arentsen, Betzy Contreras
 7. Dylann Netemeyer, Reid Toennies
 8. **David Aparicio**, Lincoln Arentsen

**During this Christmas Season,
we wish each of you the Peace and Joy of Christmas!**

Fr. Matthew Elie, Deacons Glenn Netemeyer & Kevin Templin, and Angie Toennies

Merry 
Christmas 

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