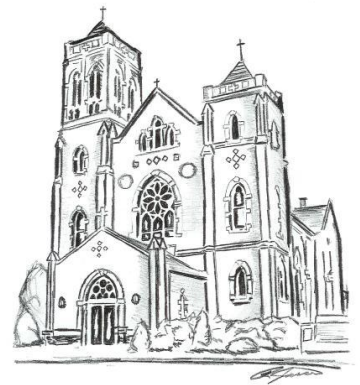
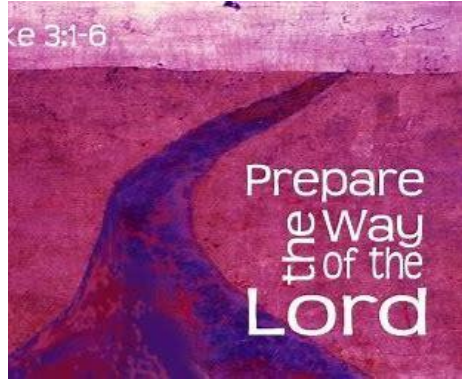




SECOND SUNDAY OF  
ADVENT  
DECEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024



**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](http://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](mailto:deaconglen36@gmail.com)  
Cell Phone: 618-772-9343  
Office at St. Damian

**PERMANENT DEACON:**  
*Deacon Kevin Templin*  
Email: [deaconkevin18@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:stdamian1861@gmail.com)  
Email: [st.bernard@charter.net](mailto: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](mailto:hispanicministrymg@gmail.com)

**CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTER:**  
*Michelle "Shelly" Schuetz*  
Email: [maschuetz@hotmail.com](mailto:maschuetz@hotmail.com)  
Cell Phone: 618-401-6007

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St. Bernard and St. Damian



**MASS SCHEDULE:**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 9<sup>th</sup>**  
**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS in Church**  
7:45 am @ St. Damian  
**Immaculate Conception Prayer Service**  
7:45 am @ St. Bernard

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**FAITH FORMATION RECONCILIATION SERVICE**  
7:45 am @ St. Bernard

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**Prayer Service in Church**  
7:45 am @ St. Damian

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**Mass in Church**  
7:45 am @ St. Bernard  
For the People

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**FAITH FORMATION RECONCILIATION SERVICE**  
7:45 am @ St. Damian

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**Mass in Church**  
**4:00 PM @ St. Bernard**  
Kurt & Jordan Huegen  
Ray & Alvina Huegen  
Teresa Kruse Kollmann

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**Mass in Church**  
**9:30 AM @ St. Damian**  
Bernard Heimann  
Louis Korte  
Aloys & Estella Heimann  
William & Clara Korte  
Kevin Gagen

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

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### **Baruch 5: 1-9; Philippians 1: 4-6, 8-11; Luke 3: 1-6**

Who better than John the Baptist to guide us during this season of preparation for Jesus' coming? Today we see John travel throughout the region proclaiming a baptism of repentance and recalling the prophecy of Isaiah. Baruch's prophecy, which we hear in the first reading, echoes Isaiah as well. All three trumpet God's mercy and forgiveness as they envision the coming of the Lord. Let us heed their call.

### **HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:**

#### **Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>**

##### ***Youth Choir Practice***

8:30 am @ St. Damian

##### ***Mass in Church***

9:30 am @ St. Damian

##### ***Hispanic Mass in Church-Lady of Guadalupe***

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

##### ***Immaculate Conception Mass***

5:00 pm @ St. Bernard Church

#### **Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>**

##### ***Mass in Church for Immaculate Conception***

7:45 am @ St. Damian

#### **Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**

##### ***PSR Reconciliation Service***

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

##### ***St. Damian Adult Choir Practice***

7:00 pm @ St. Damian Church

#### **Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**

##### ***Mass in Church***

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 12<sup>th</sup>**

##### ***Mass in Church***

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

#### **Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**

##### ***PSR Reconciliation Service***

7:45 am @ St. Damian

##### ***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 14<sup>th</sup>**

##### ***Mass in Church***

4:00 pm @ St. Bernard

##### ***Church Decorating***

8:00 am @ St. Damian

5:00 pm @ St. Bernard

#### **Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**

##### ***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

### ***THE LORD HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR US; WE ARE FILLED WITH JOY!***

**TODAY!! IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASS** will be held on Sunday, December 8 @ 5:00 pm at St. Bernard's Church and Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:45 am at St. Damian and 7:45 am Prayer Service at St. Bernard.

**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.

**EDGE NIGHT!** our next Edge Night will be Sunday, Dec 15 from 5:30-7 at the Damiansville Gym. All 5th-8th graders are welcome!

**COMMUNITY GIVING TREE!** St. Damian Church will be the collection point for hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, socks and house slippers for children, teens, women & men. The items will be collected from Nov 16 thru Dec 8, and donated to the BCMW Organization in Breese. They will distribute them as Christmas presents to local families. BCMW serves Bond, Clinton, Marion & Washington Counties. Items can be brought to St. Damian Church and put under or hung on the Giving Tree in the gathering space from Nov 16 thru Dec 8. Your generous donations will help make the holidays a little warmer for those in need. Any questions, please call Geri Varel at 618-444-5073. Thanks in advance for your support!

**Once again it is time for the Christmas "Giving Tree" drive at St. Bernard.** This year all donated items through the St. Bernard Giving Tree event will be donated to the Coping For Life program. The tree is located in the back of church filled with Christmas cards listing the item to purchase. We ask that each family take a card, purchase the requested gift, and place the items with the card and yarn attached, unwrapped, under the tree no later than Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support for those less fortunate. May God bless you! If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Netemeyer at 248-5602, or Marilyn Venhaus. Thank you.

### **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!

## ST. DAMIAN PARISH CONCERNS:

### CHURCH SUPPORT: November 30<sup>th</sup>

Loose: \$178.00+ Envelopes: (17) \$835.00  
+ Mass in Spanish: \$328.00  
+Thanksgiving (4): \$445.00  
+ACH for December 2<sup>nd</sup>: \$1,310.00      \$3,096.00  
Budget for week:      \$3,212.00  
Fiscal year-to-date collected:      \$70,109.86  
Fiscal year-to-date budget:      \$70,664.00  
Over (under) year-to-date budget:      **(\$554.14)**  
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 15<sup>th</sup>

Minister: Ruth Jansen, Sharon Kalmer, Mech Toennies  
Ushers: Brent Goebel, Garry Kalmer  
Servers: Randy, Ryan & Jacob Oros  
Lector: Joe Cleeton  
Cantor: Rosann Horstmann  
Organist: Jan Hitch  
Coll. Counters: Gwen Toennies, Sandy Kramer  
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!!

The 7/8 grade Faith Formation class is going "Caroling For Caritas" on Friday, December 13 from 5:30-7:30. Please welcome them into your home and enjoy the voices of the season.

### ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES AVAILABLE:

December 8	St. Mary, Centralia	1:00 pm
December 10	St. Rose	7:00 pm
December 11	St. Mary's, Trenton	7:00 pm
December 12	St. Augustine, Breese	7:00 pm

## ST. BERNARD PARISH CONCERNS:

### CHURCH SUPPORT: December 1<sup>st</sup>

Thanksgiving Day: Loose \$16.00  
+Thanksgiving Day Env (11) \$725.00  
Loose: \$93.00+Envelopes: (25) \$1,115.00  
+Thanksgiving Envelopes (1) \$25.00  
+ Paypal Donation: \$96.52  
ACH For December 2<sup>nd</sup>: \$2,495.00      \$4,565.52  
Budget for week:      \$3,385.00  
Fiscal year-to-date collected:      \$66,131.79  
Fiscal year-to-date budget:      \$74,470.00  
Over (under) year-to-date budget:      **(\$8,338.21)**  
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.)

### MINISTRY SCHEDULE – December 14<sup>th</sup>

Ministers: Steve Schomaker, Ken & Liz Nussbaumer  
Lector: Gregory Kassen  
Ushers: Kent & Kati Schwierjohn  
Servers: Westin & Levi Schwierjohn, Kynley Barth  
Coll. Counters: James Williams, Tina Wuebbels, Lynn Athmer  
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.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS DRAWING

WINNERS. October winners: \$400 Madi and Colten Wuebbels: \$60 Craig Albers and T J Rensing  
December winners: \$400 Max Toennies  
\$60 Brenda Kassen and Dan Kloeckner

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.

### 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 Wurstmarkt's. Apologies for any inconvenience.

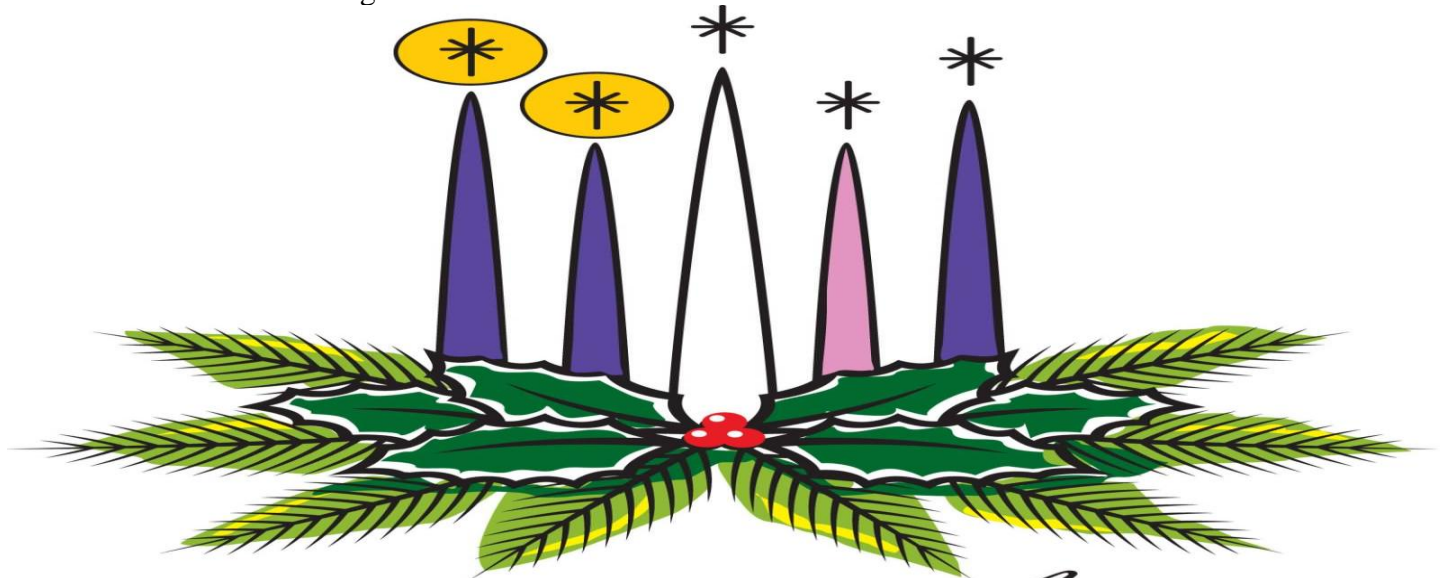
**Metro East Community Chorale Christmas Concert**, Sunday, December 8 at 3:00 at St. Paul UCC, 115 W. B Street, Belleville. Free Admission.

**Night of Prayer for Life** On Tuesday, December 10th, St Anthony Church in Beckemeyer is hosting a Night of Prayer for Life from 6:00-10:00PM. Fighting the scourge of abortion with prayer and eucharistic adoration under the banner of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Catholics from all parts of America will again kneel in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament for four hours, The four prayer hours will be divided into segments as follows: 6-7pm, St Dominic Church; 7-8pm St Augustine Church; 6-9pm, St Anthony Church; and 9-10pm, Knights of Columbus. The evening will end with Benediction. The Clinton County Citizens For Life welcomes everyone to join in all or part of this event.

**Memorial Mass for Archbishop Keleher.** The Diocese of Belleville will host a Memorial Mass for Archbishop Emeritus James P. Keleher who died on November 9. Archbishop Keleher served as the sixth Bishop of Belleville (1984-1993). Bishop McGovern will offer Mass at 12:10 PM on Wednesday, December 11, in the Cathedral of St. Peter, 200 W. Harrison Street, Belleville, IL. Everyone is invited to pray together for the repose of Archbishop Keleher's soul.

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter** presents weekend experiences for married couples to rekindle romance, enhance meaningful communications, and deepen and renew commitment. Below are listed our upcoming dates. Sign up now as space is limited. For more info, go to [wwme.org](http://wwme.org) or call Terry & Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317. 1/31-2/2, 4/4-4/6 in St. Peters, Mo.

**The Aviston Sons of American Legion 2024 Black Tie and Talent Show** will be on **Sat. Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>, 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.



**2ND SUNDAY** OF *Advent*

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