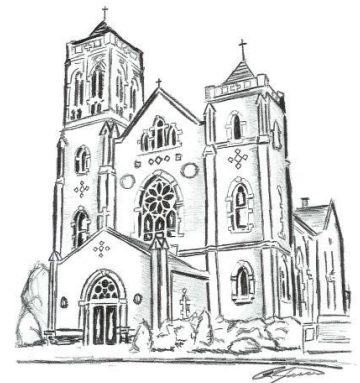
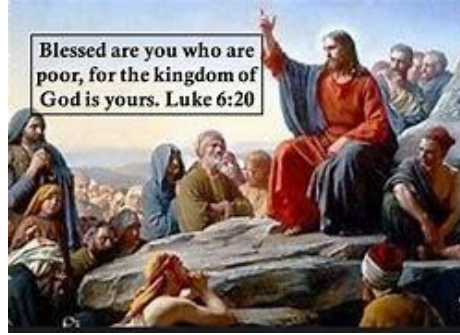




SEVENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
FEBRUARY 23rd, 2025



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



St. Bernard and St. Damian

MASS SCHEDULE:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24th
Prayer Service in Church
7:45 am @ St. Damian

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25th
Prayer Service in Church
7:45 am @ St. Bernard

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26th
Mass in Church
7:45 am @ St. Damian
For the People

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27th
Mass in Church
7:45 am @ St. Bernard

Intentions of the Catholic Extension Service Donors

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28th
NO MASS OR SERVICE

SATURDAY, MARCH 1st
Mass in Church
4:00 PM @ St. Damian
Clara Schneider
Eugene Pingsterhaus
Lucille Cooper
Jerome Koerkenmeier

SUNDAY, MARCH 2nd
Mass in Church
9:30 AM @ St. Bernard
Vince & Leona Eilering
Edwin & Eileen Bietelspacher
Sr. Marciana Heimann

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

LITURGY OF THE WORD

1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; 1 Corinthians 15:45-49; Luke 6:27-38

Love your enemies, Jesus teaches his disciples. Bless them when they curse you, give more to them when they take from you, turn the other cheek when they strike you. Luke doesn't tell us how the disciples react, but this is a radical teaching. However, we get to see mercy practiced in the first reading, when David chooses to spare his enemy, Saul, when given the chance to slay him. Listening to today's readings, let us consider why we should choose mercy over getting even.

HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:

Sunday, February 23rd

Mass in Church

9:30 am @ St. Damian

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

Monday, February 24th

Prayer Service in Church

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Tuesday, February 25th

Prayer Service in Church

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

St. Damian Adult Choir Practice

7:00 pm @ St. Damian Church

Wednesday, February 26th

Mass in Church

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Eucharistic Adoration with Benediction

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

Thursday, February 27th

Mass in Church

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

Friday, February 28th

NO MASS OR SERVICE

St. Damian Mexican Fish Fry

4:30-7:30 pm @ St. Damian Gym

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, March 1st

Mass in Church

4:00 pm @ St. Damian

Lorelei Fuehne Baptism w/Deacon Glenn

5:00 pm @ St. Damian

Bensen Norrenberns Baptism w/ Deacon Art

5:00 pm @ St. Bernard

Sunday, March 2nd

St. Damian Youth Choir Practice

8:30 am @ St. Damian Church

Mass in Church

9:30 am @ St. Bernard

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

THE LORD IS KIND AND MERCIFUL.

ST. DAMIAN & ST. BERNARD. ALSO, if anyone is interested in signing up for online donations, please contact Angie at either rectory and we can get those set up for you. THANK YOU ALL FOR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF ST. DAMIAN & ST. BERNARD PARISHES.

RESPECT LIFE CORNER. "We often assume parenthood happens easily after 'I do,' but for many married couples, it does not. For some, the joy of conception never happens. Others suffer repeated miscarriages. Still others experience secondary infertility... If you experience difficulty bringing a child into your family, know that you are not alone. God is with you, and his Church desires to walk with you... God has a beautiful plan for your life as a married couple." **40 Days for Life - Granite City: The Spring 2025** Campaign is approaching. The Campaign starts Wednesday, March 5th and ends Sunday, April 13th. *Open registration has begun! Select your day early. It's time again for groups to hear the call to give testimony to the most important issue of our time.*

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTERS!

Let Jesus Feed Your Marriage in 2025! Renew your Sacrament, deepen your communication, strengthen your relationship, and rekindle your romance by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience this year! The following upcoming weekends are available in 2025. Sign-up now as space is limited! For more information or to apply, go to wwme.org, or call Terry & Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317. **4/4/2025 - 4/6/2025, St. Peters, MO. 6/13/2025 - 6/15/2025, St. Peters, MO**

Singles Upper 50s and Above: Are you looking for a renewed sense of purpose & belonging? Register today for a life-changing RENEW weekend retreat at the Pallottine Retreat Center (30 min from downtown St. Louis), on March 28-30, 2025. Take a chance and get involved... www.RenewRetreats.org, renewretreat.stl@gmail.com, or call (314) 703-1002 for details.

ST. DAMIAN PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: February 16th

Loose: \$136.00+ Envelopes: (13) \$920.00
+ Mass in Spanish: \$424.00
+ ACH For February 16th: \$550.00 \$2,030.00
Budget for week: \$3,212.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$116,265.29
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$102,784.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: \$13,481.29
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.)

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – March 1st

Ministers: Ruth & Diana Jansen, Arlene Korte
Ushers: Brad & Kristy Richter
Servers: Randy, Ryan & Jacob Oros
Lector: Beth Brandmeyer
Cantor: Chris Brandmeyer
Organist: Geri Varel
Collection Counters: Gwen Toennies, Kathleen Hodges
Thank you for being ministers of your parish!

ST. DAMIAN MEXICAN FISH FRY will be held on Friday, February 28th, from 4:30-7:30 at St. Damian Gym. Workers List are available on the parish website, Facebook and printed copies are in church. Also, we would appreciate if people could make a dessert the does not require refrigeration to serve with the meal. Thank you!

IT'S ALMOST YOUTH CHOIR TIME! Youth Choir practice, in preparation for Holy Week & First Communion, will be on Sundays at 8:30am. All youth in Grades 3-12 are welcome to participate. The Youth Choir will sing for Palm Sunday on April 13 at 9:30am, for the Easter Vigil Mass on Saturday, April 19 at 8pm, and for First Communion on Sunday, April 27 at 9 am. If kids or parents have any questions, please call Jackie at 618-335-9562 or Geri at 618-444-5073. We are looking forward to seeing lots of smiling faces at practices beginning Sunday Feb 16 at 8:30am! Thanks in advance for your commitment and for sharing your musical talents & gifts which add so much to the liturgies. **YOUTH CHOIR IS AWESOME!!**

The St. Damian Adult Choir will practice for Holy Week and Easter beginning Tuesday, February 25 at 7:00 pm in Church. Please consider joining us to ensure that we are able to continue to provide this ministry. We look forward to seeing you there! If you have any questions, please contact Chris Brandmeyer at 618-792-2676.

ST. BERNARD PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: February 15th

Loose: \$138.00+Envelopes: (28) \$2,035.00
+ ACH For Feb. 16th: (20) \$2,680.00 \$4,853.00
Budget for week: \$3,385.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$118,061.32
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$111,705.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: \$6,356.32
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 – March 2nd

Ministers: Robbin Netemeyer, Tina Wuebbels, Kristen Templin
Lector: Jackie Farrar
Ushers: Ken & Dana Lake
Servers: Cole Huegen, Liam Jung, Carter Eubanks
Collection 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.

Albers/Damiansville Youth League registration is now open until February 23.

A separate form will need to be completed for each player. Please reach out to Lynn at 618-514-1426 with any questions!

T-Ball Registration Form. (Players currently in Kindergarten or entering Kindergarten in August 2025):

<https://forms.gle/DRpmUZXoRNpexyPW6>

Baseball/Softball Registration Form. (Players currently in Grades 1st-6th for the 2024-2025 School Year):

<https://forms.gle/LNPaMCJkA7GfhPvY7>

UPDATE ON PHOTO DIRECTORIES

We just wanted to give you all a little update on the directories. We finally received a copy of it and have submitted the changes necessary. We will then be receiving another copy with the changes and they will then be published. We are hoping for very soon! We apologize for the delay and appreciate your patience with Universal Directories on making these changes and printing.

BARTELSON KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Drive thru Chicken Dinner, Sunday, February 23 from 11-5 at St. Cecilia Parish Center in Bartelso. Pull through bowling alley parking lot behind the school for the drive thru line.

ST. DAMIAN MEXICAN FISH FRY will be held on Friday, February 28th, from 4:30-7:30 at St. Damian Gym. Plates available Cod Plate with Fries & Slaw, Fish Tacos w/ Rice & Beans. Ala carte. Chips & nacho Cheese, Fresh Hot Tamales and Fries. Big Bottom Margaritas and canned beer & soda available. Mariachi Band 5-7 pm. Dine in and carryout available. One night and cash only.

Albers American Legion Breakfast Dine in or carry out. Sunday, March 2nd, 8:00am to 11:00am. Sausage, Ham, Pancakes, Eggs, Fried Potatoes and Biscuits & gravy. Adults \$13.00, Kids 5 -12 \$6.00, Under 5 free

Mater Dei Baseball Camp: March 2. Mater Dei Baseball will host their baseball camp (grades 3 – 8) on Sunday, March 2, from 12 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. The cost is \$40 for an individual camper and \$60 for two or more campers from the same family. Detailed information and registration forms (online and printable) are available on the Mater Dei website: www.materdeiknights.org/camp-baseball

Breese Lion's Club Chicken Dinner. Sunday, March 2, from 11-6 at the Breese American Legion. \$15 at the door and \$13 in Advance.

Drive-Through CHICKEN DINNER (Limited Indoor Seating Available) Immaculate Conception Church PIERRON, ILLINOIS Sunday, March 2 Served 11:00a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ALL DINNERS. \$15.00 Each dinner includes ½ chicken (wing, breast, thigh & leg) Mashed potatoes & gravy, Green Beans, Dressing & Cake

St. Augustine's Holy Name Consignment Auction is Saturday, March 8 at 9:00am gym opens at 7:00am for viewing. Auction setup begins on Monday, February 24th at 5:30pm at the St. Augustine Parish Center located at South 3rd & South Main in Breese. Items will be accepted Monday – Friday 5:30-8:00pm after the start date until full. Please call Mark Huelskamp at 618-410-0774 for more information or to arrange for item(s) pickup.

St. George Parish, New Baden, DRIVE-THRU CHICKEN DINNER, Sunday, March 9, 2025, 3:30 P.M. TO 6:30 P.M. All Dinners will include: ½ Fried Chicken (breast, thigh, leg and wing), Mashed Potatoes, Dressing, Gravy, Green Beans, Coleslaw, & Chocolate Texas Cake. {Green Beans, Gravy, Coleslaw and Cake will be in separate containers.} Price per carry out: \$15.00

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.

National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows – Visitors Center. 3-part Scripture Series: God's Justice in the Bible

Presenter: Mark Etling, PhD. Saturdays, March 1, March 8 and March 15, 2025, from 10:00-Noon.

Justice is one of the attributes of God that isn't talked about nearly enough. Yet it is fundamental to the understanding of the nature and character of the Christian and Jewish God. God is love – and one of the most important ways God's love becomes real in the world is through justice. In this three-part series we will examine the justice of God. First, in the Old Testament, or Hebrew Scriptures. Second, through the message of Jesus and his Reign of God movement. Third, we will see how the early Christian movement began to back away from the practice of justice as it cozied up to the Roman Empire. Cost: \$15 per session / \$45.00 for the series. Register online snows.org/marketing or call 618-394-6281.

The Vicariate Healing Mass is at St. George, New Baden on March 18 with Confessions at 6:00 PM and Mass at 7:00 PM. Please come and pray for those with cancer and other illnesses.

Save the date for St. Damian Holy Name Wurstmarkt which will be held on Sunday, March 23 at St. Damian Gym. Pork Sausage, Sauerkraut, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans and Dessert. Dine in or carryout available.

Looking for a good way to enhance your Lenten Season? Please join the *2025 Catholic Women's Prayer Breakfast*. Guest Speaker: Bishop Thomas John Paprocki. **Saturday, March 22, 2025 at St. Paul Catholic Church, Highland**, 1411 Main Street | Highland, IL 62249. **8:00 AM - noon** (Adoration - 7am, Rosary - 7:30am, Mass - 8am). Mass | Catered Breakfast | Speaker. * **Pre-Registration is Required for breakfast meal** * **Download form or register online at www.stpaulhighland.org. Space is limited!** Register before March 1, 2025, to reserve your spot and meal ticket. For more information, email: womensbreakfast2025@gmail.com or text Rose Wascher at 847-274-3916

Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, January 15-20, 2026. Hosted by Catholic Relief Services in the Diocese of Belleville. Registration will soon be open for a 6-day pilgrimage to Mexico to visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe and to witness the work that Catholic Relief Services does on our behalf. Pilgrimage leaders will be Fr. Bob Flannery, a retired priest in the Diocese of Belleville, and Cheryl Sommer, Diocesan Animator for Catholic Relief Services. To be put on a list to receive the brochure and registration when available, email crsdiobelle@gmail.com

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