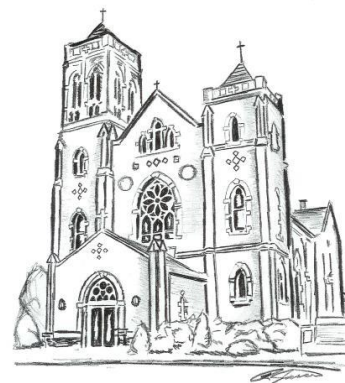
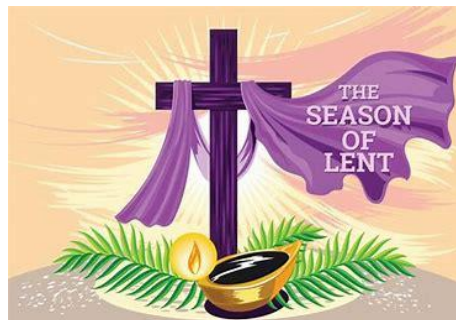




**SECOND & THIRD SUNDAY  
OF LENT  
FEBRUARY 25<sup>th</sup> & MARCH 3<sup>rd</sup>**



**St. Damian Parish**

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

**WEBSITE:**

[www.stbernardandstdamian.org](http://www.stbernardandstdamian.org)

**St. Bernard Parish**

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

**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)

**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



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

**MASS SCHEDULE:**  
**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26<sup>th</sup>**

*Prayer Service*  
7:45 AM @ St. Damian

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27<sup>th</sup>**

*Prayer Service*  
7:45 AM @ St. Bernard

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28<sup>th</sup>**

*Mass in Church*  
7:45 AM @ St. Damian  
For All Parishioners

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29<sup>th</sup>**

*Mass in Church*  
7:45 AM @ St. Bernard  
Intentions of the  
Catholic Extension Donors

**FRIDAY, MARCH 1<sup>st</sup>**

**NO MASS/SERVICE**  
7:00 PM @ St. Damian  
Stations of the Cross

**SATURDAY, MARCH 2<sup>nd</sup>**

*Mass in Church*  
4:00 PM @ St. Damian  
Virgil Heckenkemper  
Clara Scheider

**SUNDAY, MARCH 3<sup>rd</sup>**

*Mass in Church*  
9:30 AM @ St. Bernard  
Vince & Leona Eilering  
Edwin & Eileen Beitelspacher  
St. Marcian Heimann

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

**MASS SCHEDULE:**  
**MONDAY, MARCH 4<sup>th</sup>**

*Prayer Service*  
7:45 AM @ St. Damian

**TUESDAY, MARCH 5<sup>th</sup>**

*Prayer Service*  
7:45 AM @ St. Bernard

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6<sup>th</sup>**

*Mass in Church*  
7:45 AM @ St. Damian  
For All those Battling Cancer

**THURSDAY, MARCH 7<sup>th</sup>**

*Mass in Church*  
7:45 AM @ St. Bernard  
For All Parishioners

**FRIDAY, MARCH 8<sup>th</sup>**

**NO MASS/SERVICE**  
7:00 PM @ St. Bernard  
Stations of the Cross

**SATURDAY, MARCH 9<sup>th</sup>**

*Mass in Church*  
4:00 PM @ St. Damian  
Deceased Members of the  
Henry & Lucille Albers Family  
Eugene Schneider

**SUNDAY, MARCH 10<sup>th</sup>**

*Mass in Church*  
9:30 AM @ St. Bernard  
Living & Deceased Members of the  
Vince & Bernice Poettker Family  
Kimberly Dull

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

### **HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:**

**Sunday, February 25<sup>th</sup>**

***Mass in Church***

9:30 am @ St. Damian

***Hispanic Mass in Church***

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

**Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup>**

***Prayer Service***

7:45 am @ St. Damian

**Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>**

***Prayer Service***

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

***Eucharistic Adoration***

7-8 pm @ St. Bernard

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

7:00 pm @ St. Damian Church

**Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**

***Mass in Church***

7:45 am @ St. Damian

***St. Bernard Choir Practice***

7:00 pm @ St. Bernard Church

**Thursday, February 29<sup>th</sup>**

***Mass in Church***

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

**Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**

**NO MASS/NO SERVICE**

***Stations of the Cross***

7:00 pm @ St. Damian

**Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>**

***Mass in Church w/ Blest Art Available***

4:00 pm @ St. Damian

**Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>**

***Mass in Church w/Blest Art Available***

9:30 am @ St. Bernard

***Jett Schomaker Baptism After Mass w/ Deacon Kevin***

***Hispanic Mass in Church***

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

### **FIRST COMMUNION DATES 2024.**

St. Damian-Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 am

St. Bernard-Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm

### **HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:**

**Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>**

***Mass in Church w/Blest Art available***

9:30 am @ St. Bernard

***Jett Schomaker Baptism After Mass w/ Deacon Kevin***

***Hispanic Mass in Church***

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

**Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>**

***Prayer Service***

7:45 am @ St. Damian

**Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>**

***Prayer Service***

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

***Vacation Bible School Planning Meeting***

6:00 pm @ St. Damian Rectory Meeting Room

***St. Bernard Finance Meeting***

6:15 pm @ St. Bernard Rectory

***Eucharistic Adoration***

6:30-7:30 pm @ St. Damian

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

7:30 pm @ St. Damian Church

**Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**

***Mass in Church***

7:45 am @ St. Damian

***St. Bernard Choir Practice***

7:00 pm @ St. Bernard Church

**Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**

***Mass in Church***

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

**Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>**

**NO MASS/NO SERVICE**

***Stations of the Cross***

7:00 pm @ St. Bernard

**Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> – Anointing of the Sick**

***Mass in Church***

4:00 pm @ St. Damian

**Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> – Anointing of the Sick**

***Mass in Church***

9:30 am @ St. Bernard

***Hispanic Mass in Church***

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

***Lenten Penance Service***

1:00 pm @ St. Bernard Church

### **2024 SPRING DIAPER DRIVE HOSTED BY THE METRO-EAST DIAPER BANK**

Diapers & Pull-Ups may be shipped to: Albers Village Hall, 206 W. Dwight St, Albers, IL 62215 via Walmart, Target, Amazon, etc. Cash donations also accepted. Checks payable to “Metro East Diaper Bank”. Contact Brenda at (618) 248-5154 or [villageofalbers@yahoo.com](mailto:villageofalbers@yahoo.com) with questions.

**ST. BERNARD & ST. DAMIAN LENTEN FOOD DRIVE!** The shelves are almost empty at the Daystar Community Program in Cairo and we need your help. Please join us and the Diocese of Belleville by donating. Donations are being accepted Wednesday, February 14-Wednesday, March 27 at Albers Village Hall, American Legion, and at both churches. All non-perishable food items accepted. No glass no expired food. Checks will also be accepted. The March Needy Collection will also benefit this food drive. Please make checks payable to St. Bernard & St. Damian Needy Fund.

### **BLEST ART WILL BE IN BOTH PARISHES THE WEEKEND OF MARCH 2 & 3**

Blest Art will be visiting your parish on behalf of the Christian families in Bethlehem, Palestine. Our mission is to support those families in the Holy Land. When Blest Art visits your parish, we will have hand-carved nativity sets, statues, crosses, rosaries, and many other pieces of beautiful olive wood art. We gladly accept cash, checks, and all major credit cards.

## **ST. DAMIAN PARISH CONCERNS:**

### **CHURCH SUPPORT: February 18th**

Loose: \$334.00+ Envelopes: (18) \$910.00  
+ Mass in Spanish: \$1,166.00 \$2,410.00  
Budget for week: \$3,121.00  
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$114,604.88  
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$106,114.00  
Over (under) year-to-date budget: \$8,490.88  
Fiscal year (7/23-6/24) budget: \$162,300.00  
(**Reminder:** The fiscal year budget **does not** include the **\$71,350.00** 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 – March 2nd**

Ministers: Virgil & Marilyn Jansen, Diana Jansen  
Ushers: Dave Albers, Norm Horstmann  
Servers: Tessa Siverly, Dylann Netemeyer & Isaiah  
Lector: Jackie Toennies  
Cantor: Kathy Gonsalves  
Organist: Chris Brandmeyer

Collection Counter: Anita Rakers, Tina Tonnies

### **MINISTRY SCHEDULE – March 9th**

Ministers: Mech Toennies, Erin Korte, Monica Koch  
Ushers: Roger Toennies & One Volunteer  
Servers: Lyla Koch, Charlie Sauer, Miranda Richter  
Lector: Denise Luitjohan  
Cantor: Chris Brandmeyer  
Organist: Gere Varel  
Collection Counter: Gwen Toennies, Pete Toennies

### **CHURCH CLEANING AT ST. DAMIAN WILL BE ON MONDAY, MARCH 18th.**

There will be a 1:00 & 6:00 time slot. If you are able to help, please sign up in the back of church or text or call Jan Hitch at (618) 540-9974.

### **ST. DAMIAN'S LADIES SODALITY NEWS**

Please look for tickets for 2024 in the back of church soon. In 2024, 4 winners will be drawn at the picnic.

**ST. DAMIAN HOLY NAME NEWS.** Please be on the lookout for workers list for the Wurstmarkt which is 3/24.

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PLANNING**

**MEETING.** We are going to have a VBS planning meeting on Tuesday, March 5th at 6:00 pm in the parish meeting room at St. Damian Rectory.

### **CHURCH DIRECTORY HELP NEEDED.**

St. Damian parish is looking to arrange a church directory. The parish is looking for volunteers to help with the organizing and planning of the directory. If you are interested in helping with any role, please contact Emily Schirmer (618) 978-5806 or Beth Brandmeyer (618) 973-8476. All help is greatly appreciated Thank you."

**The St. Damian Adult Choir** are practicing for Holy Week and Easter on Tuesdays at 7:00 pm in church. Practices will be held every Tuesday in February at 7:00 and every Tuesday in March at 7:30. Please feel free to join us for some or all of the practices. New voices are *always welcome*. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Brandmeyer at 618-792-2676.

**IT'S YOUTH CHOIR TIME!** Youth Choir will begin practicing on Sunday, February 25 at 8:30am. The Youth Choir will sing for the Palm Sunday Vigil Mass on Saturday, March 23, 4pm. All youth in Grade 3-12 and college age students are welcome to participate and "Make a Joyful Noise! If kids or parents have any questions, please call Jackie at 618-335-9562 or Geri at 618-444-5073. Looking forward to seeing lots of smiling faces.

## **ST. BERNARD PARISH CONCERNS:**

### **CHURCH SUPPORT: February 17th**

Loose: \$43.00+Envelopes: (30) \$1,615.00  
\$1,658.00  
Budget for week: \$3,502.00  
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$115,758.50  
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$119,068.00  
Over (under) year-to-date budget: **(\$3,309.50)**  
Fiscal year (7/22-6/23) budget: \$182,100.00  
(**Reminder:** The fiscal year budget **does not** include the **\$35,300.00** 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 3rd**

Ministers: Robbin Netemeyer, Tina Wuebbels, Kristen Templin  
Reader: Jackie Farrar  
Ushers: Ken & Dana Lake  
Servers: Cole Huegen, Liam Jung, Cayden Loepker  
Coll. Counters: Keith Richter, Sean Kennedy, Janel Zurliene  
**MINISTRY SCHEDULE – March 10th**  
Ministers: Kati Schwierjohn, Jackie Farrar, Lynn Athmer  
Reader: Ray Gill  
Ushers: John & Linda Majchrzak  
Servers: Riley, Gabrielle & Kelsie Rolves  
Coll. Counters: Phyllis Albers, James Williams, Tim Schroeder

Thank you for being ministers of your parish!

**ST. BERNARD'S CHOIR PRACTICE!** We will have practices every Wednesday night at 7 p.m.  
**EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO COME SING!**

### **WE WELCOME TO GOD'S FAMILY**

***Jett Stephen Schomaker***, son of Cole & Taylor (Rakers) Schomaker, who was baptized on Sunday, March 3 at St. Bernard. May the Good Lord Bless You and Keep you Safe in His Everloving Care!



**The Albers/Damiansville Knights of Columbus Council #9768 recently held the annual free throw contest.** The winners of the contest were Sawyer Winkeler, Alex Litteken, Collins Horstmann, Dominic Cannaday, Victoria Wellen, Tucker Goesten Kors, Kynley Barth, Koltyn Santel, Adelyn Wuebbels, Trigg Goesten Kors, Lilly Behrmann, and Kyler VonBokel. Congratulations shooters and good luck at the district championship.

**March 1, 2024: Chakota Volunteer Recruitment Open House at Homestead Event Venue in Bartelso.** Drop in between 6:00 and 8:00 pm to speak to current volunteers about how they impact the lives of Chakota riders. Our biggest need for volunteers involves just one hour a week and that is to assist with riding sessions as a side-walker, horse leader, or instructor. Other opportunities include, but are not limited to, barn chores, horse grooming, grounds maintenance, marketing, graphic design, office work, and fundraising. Hope to see you there!

**Albers American Legion Breakfast**, Dine-in or carry out. Sunday, March 3rd, 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

**ALBERS/DAMIANSVILLE FRIENDS OF THE COUGARS FISH FRY** will begin on *Ash* Wednesday, February 14 and every Friday during Lent from 4:30-7:00 at Albers Legion. Fish Choices are Cod Chunks, Catfish Filets and Jumbo Shrimp. Chicken Strips also available. Sides include baked potatoes, fries, hush puppies, slaw, macaroni salad, applesauce and dessert. Large & small plates and individual items available for dine in or carryout.

**BREESE LIONS CLUB ANNUAL CHICKEN DINNER**, Sunday, March 3 from 11-6 at Breese American Legion. Carry-outs only. At Door: \$15, In Advance: \$13.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT BECOMING A PRIEST. Bishop Michael McGovern will host a St. Andrew Dinner** for young men interested in learning more about the Catholic priesthood on Sunday, March 10. The St. Andrew Dinner will be held at Gibault Catholic High School in Waterloo. All young men ages 14-32 are invited to attend; parents or guardians are also welcome to join us. The event will begin at 4:30 PM with gathering and introductions and Evening Prayer and will be followed by dinner and conversation. This is a terrific opportunity to gather information for discerning a call to the priesthood; there will also be time for questions and conversation with Fr. Joel Seipp, Vocation Director. Please contact Judy Hoffmann at (618) 722.5003, or email to: [jhoffmann@diobelle.org](mailto:jhoffmann@diobelle.org) **by March 5** to RSVP or obtain more details.

**ST. DAMIAN ANNUAL HOLY NAME WURSTMARKT**, Sunday, March 24, at St. Damian's Gym. Dine in or Carryout. 10:30-5:30 in the St. Damian Gym. 50/50 Raffle. Pork Sausage, Sauerkraut, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Green beans & Dessert.

**STUKENBERG-EILERMANN AMERICAN LEGION POST 1026 SCHOLARSHIP**. The Legion and its Auxiliary are each awarding a \$750 scholarship. Applicant must be a son, daughter, grandchild, or great-grandchild whose parent, grandparent, or great-grandparent or legal guardian (living or deceased) is or was a member of Stukenberg-Eilermann Post 1026 Legion or Auxiliary. Applications may be picked up at the Albers' Legion, Monday – Friday from 9-11 a.m. and Sundays from 1-5 p.m., or by calling the Scholarship Chairman, Sandra Netemeyer at (619) 841-5393. Submit a complete application to Stukenberg-Eilermann Post 1026, 600 N. Bertha St, Albers, IL 62215 or [sandra.netemeyer@gmail.com](mailto:sandra.netemeyer@gmail.com) no later than Monday, April 1.

**T-Ball Registration NOW OPEN!** Register your current kindergartener or 2024-2025 kindergartener for a summer of fun! Practices start after Mother's Day. Games start in June and will be played Thursdays and/or Fridays at Albers Lehrter/JC Park or Damiansville Park. Coaches are needed for all grades!

**Baseball & Softball Registration NOW OPEN!** Register for your current 1st-6th grader for a season of fun! Practices will start in April. Games will start in May. Coaches are needed for all grades! Use the link below

**The Cupboards Are Bare -- Society of St. Vincent De Paul Needs Your Help!**

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Belleville Council reports record numbers of people staying at its OverNite Center and 300+ people per day coming for meals at Cosgrove's Kitchen. With these increased numbers, there is an urgent need for food. We humbly ask for your prayers for SVDP and its clients and, if you are able, your donation of food (all kinds) that will be cooked and served at the soup kitchen and/or individually packaged food items (cookies, fruit cups, tuna and chicken snack packs, chips, crackers, cheese sticks, yogurt, cereal, instant oatmeal, Pop Tarts, breakfast bars, soup or pasta in a cup) to distribute at the OverNite Center. Items can be dropped off at: St. Vincent de Paul Council Office, 8800 West Main Street, Belleville, Illinois 62223 (across from Blessed Sacrament Church). Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. or SVDP Thrift Store/Soup Kitchen, 3718 State Street, East St. Louis, Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; Saturday 9:00 a.m.-12 Noon, For additional information contact Joe Hubbard or Pat Hogrebe at 618-394-0126. Thank you and God. bless you for your generosity which enables St. Vincent de Paul's ministry to the poorest among us.

**ANGIE WILL BE ON VACATION FROM FEBRUARY 25<sup>th</sup> through MONDAY, MARCH 4<sup>th</sup>.**

She would appreciate no calls or text to her cell phone as she will not be available to answer and would appreciate being able to enjoy her time away without disruption. IF THERE IS AN EMERGENCY, PLEASE CONTACT DEACON GLENN. All request or information can be emailed to the following emails; [stdamian1861@gmail.com](mailto:stdamian1861@gmail.com) or [st.bernard@charter.net](mailto:st.bernard@charter.net) and she will answer them when she returns the following week. Thank you for understanding. We will also have a combined two-week bulletin while she is out.