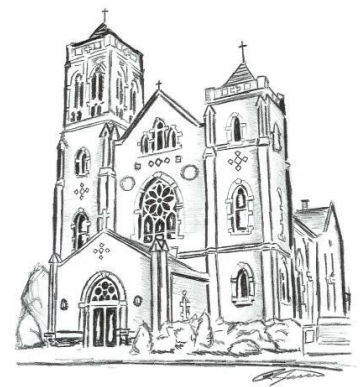




**EIGHTH SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME  
MARCH 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025**



**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](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, MARCH 3<sup>rd</sup>**

*Prayer Service in Church*  
7:45 am @ St. Damian

**TUESDAY, MARCH 4<sup>th</sup>**

*Prayer Service in Church*  
7:45 am @ St. Bernard

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5<sup>th</sup> - Ash Wednesday**

*Mass in Church*  
7:45 am @ St. Damian  
Frank, Minnie & Ralph Heimann  
*Prayer Service in Church*  
7:45 am @ St. Bernard  
*Hispanic Mass*  
5:00 pm @ St. Damian  
*Mass in Church*  
7:00 pm @ St. Bernard

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

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

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

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

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

*Mass in Church*  
**4:00 PM @ St. Damian**  
Henry, Lucille, Allen, Glennon & Marvin Albers  
Ralph Brandmeyer Family  
Bob Innes  
All ALS Sufferers

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

*Mass in Church*  
**9:30 AM @ St. Bernard**  
Ed & Norma Jansen

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

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### Sirach 27: 4-7; 1 Corinthians 15:54-58; Luke 6:39-45

We begin our journey into God's word today with some ancient proverbs, collected by Sirach to teach morality. What we say and what we do reveal the kind of person we are. Paul explains that because of Jesus, sin has been defeated and death cannot win in the end. In the Gospel, Jesus warns his disciples about being blind to one's own sins while at the same time judging others for theirs. May today's readings lead us to examine our words and actions and reflect on what they reveal to others.

### HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:

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

*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

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

*Prayer Service in Church*

7:45 am @ St. Damian

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

*Prayer Service in Church*

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

*St. Bernard Finance Council Meeting*

6:15 pm @ St. Bernard Rectory

*St. Damian Adult Choir Practice*

7:00 pm @ St. Damian Church

**Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday**

*Mass in Church w/ Ashes*

7:45 am @ St. Damian

*Prayer Service in Church w/ Ashes*

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

*Mass in Church*

7:00 pm @ St. Bernard

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

*Mass in Church*

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

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

**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

*Stations of the Cross*

7:00 pm @ St. Damian

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

*Mass in Church*

4:00 pm @ St. Damian

**Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup>**

*St. Damian Youth Choir Practice*

8:30 am @ St. Damian Church

*Mass in Church*

9:30 am @ St. Bernard

*Stetson Weiss Baptism w/ Deacon Kevin*

*Hispanic Mass in Church*

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

*"LORD, IT IS GOOD TO GIVE THANKS TO YOU."*

### CATHOLIC SERVICE & MINISTRY APPEAL

**2025 BEGINS MARCH 1 & 2.** Be on the lookout for

the pledge and donation card and envelope to come to your home via mail. Donations can be put in the collection basket in the envelopes they sent. Thank you for considering your donations for this fund. The CSMA funds help to pay for many things in our Diocese and they would appreciate your support.

### ST. BERNARD & ST. DAMIAN DATES FOR

### FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION

St. Bernard First Communion: Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>

St. Bernard Confirmation: Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>

St. Damian First Communion: Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>

St. Damian Confirmation: Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>

### LENT BEGINS ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5<sup>th</sup>.

Our Ash Wednesday Schedule is listed. There are plenty of opportunities for Mass/Ashes. Way of the Cross/Stations are held on Friday evenings at 7:00 pm alternating weeks. The first week, March 7<sup>th</sup>, will be held at St. Damian's. Lenten Reconciliation Service will be held on Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup>.

### RESPECT LIFE CORNER.

"The essence of our identity is that we are created in God's image and likeness and loved by Him. Nothing can diminish the priceless worth of any human life. Every person is cherished." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities  
Respect Life Reflection: Cherished, Chosen, Sent

### **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.*

## ST. DAMIAN PARISH CONCERNS:

### CHURCH SUPPORT: February 23<sup>rd</sup>

Loose: \$106.00+ Envelopes: (24) \$1,334.00  
+ Mass in Spanish: \$1,269.00 \$2,709.00  
Budget for week: \$3,212.00  
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$118,974.29  
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$105,996.00  
Over (under) year-to-date budget: \$12,978.29  
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.)

*Thank you for your faithful and generous support!*

### MINISTRY SCHEDULE – March 8<sup>th</sup>

Ministers: Chris Brandmeyer, Mech Toennies, Kevin Toennies  
Ushers: Roger Toennies & Volunteer  
Servers: Charlotte & Evelyn Cleeton, Alexa Contreras  
Lector: Rosann Horstmann  
Cantor: Lauren Cleeton  
Organist: Jan Hitch  
Collection Counters: Kristy Richter & Tina Tonnie  
Thank you for being ministers of your parish!

**ST. DAMIAN MEXICAN FISH FRY** was a huge success thanks to all those that took the time to volunteer to help with this event and to all those that supported our event. It would not be successful without our officers in charge of the event and all those who take the time to help out. Your support is truly appreciated.

**HUGE THANKS!** Thanks to everyone who showed up on short notice and to those who brought their equipment to the St. Damian parish grounds to help clean up the dead tree limbs in the church yard. Many hands made the work go smoothly and quickly. Your help is greatly appreciated!

**YOUTH CHOIR NOTES!** Between now and Easter, the Youth Choir will practice at St. Damian every Sunday at 8:30am (unless advised otherwise). 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 St. Damian First Communion on Sunday April 27 at 9am. If kids or parents have any questions, please call Jackie at 618-335-9562 or Geri at 618-444-5073. Thanks in advance for your commitment and for sharing your musical talents which add so much to the liturgies! When we sing, we pray twice! 🎵

**The St. Damian Adult Choir** will practice for Holy Week and Easter has begun on Tuesdays 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 22<sup>nd</sup>

Loose: \$186.00+Envelopes: (28) \$1,730.00  
+Paypal (\$100--\$3.48 fee+ \$96.52) \$2,012.52  
Budget for week: \$3,385.00  
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$120,073.84  
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$115,090.00  
Over (under) year-to-date budget: \$4,983.84  
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 9<sup>th</sup>

Ministers: Kati Schwierjohn, Jackie Farrar, Lynn Athmer  
Lector: Ray Gill  
Ushers: John & Linda Majchrzak  
Servers: Riley, Gabrielle & Kelsie Rolves  
Collection Counters: Phyllis Albers, James Williams, 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.

### 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.

### 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](http://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 8/1/2025 - 8/3/2025, Cape Girardeau, MO**

**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

**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

**ALBERS/DAMIANSVILLE FRIENDS OF THE COUGARS FISH FRY** will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 5 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.

**HSHS ST. JOSEPH'S, BREESE CRAM THE CAR** for the BCMW Community Services Food Pantry. Wednesday, March 5, from 10 am – 2 pm. Collecting non-perishable food items for the food pantry. Donations can be dropped off at the HSHS Home Care Car parked near the Healing Garden gazebo. The Auxiliary at HSHS St. Joseph-Breese will host their annual Used Book Fair & Bake Sale Thursday-Saturday, March 6-8 at the Breese KC Hall. Thursday, March 6, open 10 am to 7 pm, \$6 admission until 11 am, \$3 admission until close; Friday, March 7, open 10 am to 7 pm with everything half-price after 3 pm & Bake Sale until sold out; Saturday, March 8, open 10 am to 5 pm with half-price until 2 pm, \$3/bag (provided) 2-4 pm and free 4 pm until close. Contact 618-526-5351 or christine.gebke@hshs.org with questions.

**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 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm at the St. Augustine Parish Center located at South 3<sup>rd</sup> & 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.

**Bartelso Fire Department Annual Wurstmarkt.** Sunday, March 9, from 11-5 at Bartelso School. Pork Sausage, Sauerkraut, Green Beans, Mashed potatoes & gravy and dessert.

**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

**Aviston Legion is hosting their Spring Pork Sausage and Roast Beef dinner on Sun Mar 16 from 10:30AM-6:00PM.** Carryout dinners made to order with sit-down dining available.

**St. Cecilia Ladies Sodality Spring Quilt Bingo.** Cake, pie, soda and water available. Thursday, March 20, 2025. @ 7:30 pm, doors open at 6:30 St. Cecilia Parish Center, South Washington St. Bartelso IL 62218. BL-50014

**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](http://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.

**Mater Dei Mothers and Friends Dinner Auction: Havana Knights.** Join us for a night of fun, fellowship, and fundraising at the Mater Dei Mothers and Friends Dinner Auction on April 12, 2025 at Mater Dei High School! Doors open at 5:00 PM. The theme for the evening is Havana Knights, so come dressed for a night of Cuban flair, delicious food, and exciting auction items. Tickets for the dinner auction and raffles can be purchased by scanning the QR code. Raffle forms are also in the back of church, available to mail in.

**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](http://www.RenewRetreats.org), [renewretreat.stl@gmail.com](mailto:renewretreat.stl@gmail.com), or call (314) 703-1002 for details.

**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](mailto:crsdiobelle@gmail.com)

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