

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 23rd, 2025



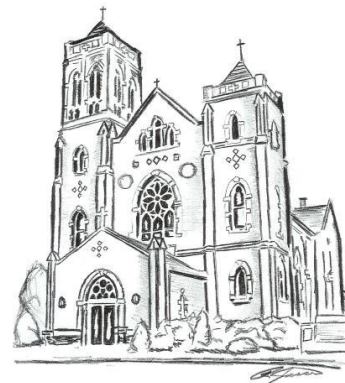
St. Damian Parish

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



WEBSITE:

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
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
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CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTER:
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St. Bernard and St. Damian

MASS SCHEDULE:

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

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26th
Mass in Church
7:45 am @ St. Damian
Marian Eversgerd

THURSDAY, MARCH 27th
Mass in Church
7:45 am @ St. Bernard
For All Parishioners

FRIDAY, MARCH 28th
NO MASS OR SERVICE
Way of the Cross/Stations
7:00 pm @ St. Bernard

SATURDAY, MARCH 29th
Mass in Church w/ Anointing of the Sick
4:00 PM @ St. Damian
Kathie Heimann
Tom Eversgerd

SUNDAY, MARCH 30th
Mass in Church w/ Anointing of the Sick
9:30 AM @ St. Bernard
Kyle Von Bokel
For the family of Fulton Louis Schwierjohn

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

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15; 1 Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12; Luke 13: 1-9

“I am who am,” God proclaims to Moses from the burning bush. In saying this, God claims to be existence itself—as the one who simply is. Jesus further reveals his Father in the parable we hear in the Gospel: God is prepared to cut down the unfruitful fig tree but is also willing to give it another chance to bear fruit. We sing of this aspect of God in the responsorial psalm: “The Lord is kind and merciful.” Let this refrain comfort us as we hear of those who were unexpectedly and tragically struck down.

HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:

Sunday, March 23rd

St. Damian Youth Choir Practice

8:30 am @ St. Damian Church

Mass in Church

9:30 am @ St. Bernard

St. Damian Holy Name Wurstmart

10:30-5:30 @ St. Damian Gym

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

Monday, March 24th

Prayer Service in Church

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Tuesday, March 25th

Prayer Service in Church

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

Stations of the Cross lead by 7th & 8th Graders

7:45 am @ St. Damian

St. Damian Adult Choir Practice

7:00 pm @ St. Damian Church

Wednesday, March 26th

Mass in Church

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Eucharistic Adoration

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

Thursday, March 27th

Mass in Church

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

Friday, March 28th

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. Bernard

Saturday, March 29th

First Communion Mini Retreat

9-11:30 at St. Bernard Parish Center

Mass in Church

4:00 pm @ St. Damian

Sunday, March 30th

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

Joint Parishes Reconciliation Service

1:00 pm @ St. Bernard Church

THE LORD IS KIND AND MERCIFUL.

CATHOLIC SERVICE & MINISTRY APPEAL.

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. Goals for our parishes are as follows:

St. Damian - \$ 9,133.00

St. Bernard - \$10,446.00

ST. BERNARD & ST. DAMIAN DATES FOR FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION

St. Bernard First Communion: Saturday, April 26th

St. Bernard Confirmation: Tuesday, April 29th

St. Damian First Communion: Sunday, April 27th

St. Damian Confirmation: Wednesday, April 30th

RESPECT LIFE CORNER. “There is an everyday heroism, made up of gestures of sharing, big or small, which build up an authentic culture of life... Part of this daily heroism is also the silent but effective and eloquent witness of all those ‘brave mothers who devote themselves to their own family without reserve, who suffer in giving birth to their children and who are ready to make any effort, to face any sacrifice, in order to pass on to them the best of themselves’... We thank you, heroic mothers, for your invincible love! We thank you for your intrepid trust in God and in his love. We thank you for the sacrifice of your life”

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Radical Ride on the Wings of Prayer 2025 for ages 4-10 will be held June 9-13 at St. Damian’s. Contact Denise Luitjohan at (618) 973-1913 for more information and to register by May 10.

On Tuesday, March 25, the 7th and 8th grade St. Damian Faith Formation students will lead the Stations of the Cross at 7:45am. They will be praying the beautiful, poetic version which was composed by Mrs. Pat Brandmeyer. Please come and join us.

ST. DAMIAN PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: March 15th

Loose: \$87.00+ Envelopes: (15): \$1,474.00
+ Mass in Spanish: \$1600.00
+ ACH For March 16th: \$550.00 \$3,711.00
Budget for week: \$3,212.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$128,367.81
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$115,632.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: \$12,735.81
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 29th

Ministers: Julie Langenhorst, Pete Toennies, Chris Brandmeyer
Ushers: Norm Horstmann & Brad Richter
Servers: Miranda Richter, Bryn & Reed Wuebbels
Lector: Denise Luitjohan
Cantor: Kristy Richter
Organist: Jan Hitch
Collection Counters: Mech Toennies, Dave Kassen

ST. DAMIAN HOLY NAME WURSTMARKT is today Sunday, March 23rd from 10:30-5:30. You can make a donation by getting a check to one of the Holy Name officers. Kevin Toennies, our treasurer, has set up a Venmo account. Simply make a donation to the Kevin Toennies – St Damian’s account. This account can only be used for donations and not for meals. Also, work list have been emailed and are available on the website. **WE ARE ALSO ASKING EACH FAMILY TO BRING A PIE OR OTHER DESSERTS.** Please bring pies or other desserts to the gym the morning of the Wurstmarkt. Please no refrigerated items.

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.

CHURCH CLEANING AT ST. DAMIAN WILL BE ON THURSDAY, APRIL 3rd.

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. **Sign-up sheets for Holy Week** are also in the back of church. Please sign up for your ministry. Thank you!

St Damian’s Faith Formation students are holding another food drive for Daystar.

You are all very welcome and encouraged to participate by sending items with a student or bringing things to church and putting them in the back of the pews and we will collect them. Any non-perishable food items, cleaning products, baby products, water/ non-alcoholic drinks, etc. are appreciated. Whatever you do for the least of my brothers and sisters....” Thank you!

Confirmation for St Damian 7th and 8th grade

Faith Formation class will be on Wednesday, April 30 at 7:00. Please pray for our 10 candidates. There is a box in the back of church with first and last names, Confirmation saint names, and home addresses for our Confirmation class. I invite/urge you to take one of the names, pray for that person from now until their Confirmation and send him/her a card or note to let them know they are being prayed for and supported as they continue to prepare for the sacrament. It takes a community to raise a young Christian 🙏

ST. BERNARD PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: March 16th

Loose: \$90.00+Envelopes: (31) \$1,075.00
+ ACH For March 16th: \$2,680.00 \$3,845.00
Budget for week: \$3,385.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$129,342.84
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$125,245.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: \$4,097.84
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.)

MINISTRY SCHEDULE – March 30th

Ministers: Kati Schwierjohn, Jackie Farrar, Lynn Athmer
Lector: Sean Kennedy
Ushers: John & Linda Majchrzak
Servers: Kellan & Jaxon Hubert, Kennedy Porterfield
Collection Counters: James Williams, Dana Lake Tina Wuebbels
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.

TODAY!! St. Damian Holy Name Wurstmarkt. March 23 at St. Damian Gym. Pork Sausage, Sauerkraut, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans and Dessert. Dine in or carryout.

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.

Bartelso Knights of Columbus Fish Fry will be held on Fridays during Lent from 5-7 pm at the new KC Hall in Bartelso. Dine in or Carryout. Bring your own drinks. Serving fish fry fish, cod, shrimp, fries and slaw.

Chakota's 13th Annual "The Mane Event" fundraiser: Join us at the Albers American Legion on Saturday, March 29th, 2025 for a fun night to raise money for your local non-profit equine therapy center! Tickets are \$35 per person in advance, or \$40 per person at the door. Includes a happy hour, great dinner, and dessert. Doors open at 4:00 pm, happy hour from 4:30 to 6 and dinner and silent auction are from 5 to 7 pm followed by a live auction and music/dancing. Contact Jan Reinhardt at 618-604-6994 for tickets or to donate an item for the auction.

"Suffered Under Pontius Pilate: Lenten Reflections on the Gospel Accounts of the Passion and Death of Jesus Christ". The lecture will be presented by The Most Reverend Edward K. Braxton, Ph.D., S.T.D., on Sunday, March 30, at 2:00 pm, at the Cathedral of St. Peter.

Breese Lions Club is having an Easter Storytime and Egghunt at the Germantown Public Library on Saturday, April 5th at 10:00 - 11:00 AM. Please RSVP at breeselionsocial@gmail.com."

The North Central Vicariate Council of Catholic Women (NCVCCW) and the ladies of St. Mary Parish in Trenton welcome all ladies to the NCV CCW Spring Meeting & Day of Spiritual Reflection. This event will be on Wednesday April 9, 2025 from 8:00 – 2:00PM in St. Mary's Parish Center. The day includes a presentation by Sister M. Karolyn Nunes, FSGM **Growing in Holiness as a Woman in the Church: Our Feminine Identity as Daughters, Sisters, Brides, and Mothers**, Mass and parish sharing. Cost \$20, includes lunch. Plan to join your sisters in Christ for a joyful, inspiring and spiritual day. The registration form is available from your parish office or CCW/ Sodality President. Looking forward to seeing you.

King's House at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows – Visitors Center Creating SABBATH SPACE in Our Lives – 5-week Spring Video Study featuring Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI, Facilitator: Fr. Mark Dean, OMI. Tuesdays, April 8, 15, 22, 29, May 6, 2025 from 10:00 am – 12 Noon. Do we take the time to rest, to ponder, to reflect on what is important to us and gives us joy? Allow Fr. Ron Rolheiser, OMI to lead us on a journey of refreshing our souls by creating "Sabbath Space." Cost: \$25 for series; \$5 per session. For more information, call 618-397-0584 or register online at <https://kh.snows.org/events/deanvideo-spring2025/>

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

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, 8/1/2025 - 8/3/2025, Cape Girardeau, MO**

Growth Therapy offers virtual sessions for adults who are experiencing anxiety or depression or couples who are struggling with communication between the two of them with Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors based in Illinois. We have been in the counseling field since 2009 and have worked with a variety of people throughout those years. You can reach us through our website at: If you are struggling in any way, please contact us <https://provider.growththerapy.com/provider/aghl45igfhdw/nicole-kough>.

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