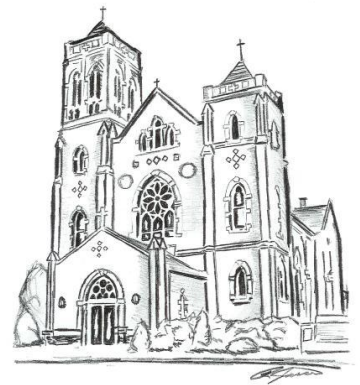
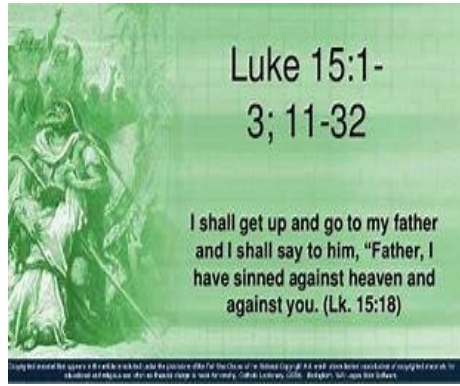




**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
MARCH 30th, 2025**



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

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
 Facebook"
St. Bernard and St. Damian



MASS SCHEDULE:
MONDAY, MARCH 31st
Prayer Service in Church
7:45 am @ St. Damian

TUESDAY, APRIL 1st
Prayer Service in Church
7:45 am @ St. Bernard

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2nd
Mass in Church
7:45 am @ St. Damian
For All Parishioners

THURSDAY, APRIL 3rd
Mass in Church
7:45 am @ St. Bernard
Mueth Family

FRIDAY, APRIL 4th
NO MASS OR SERVICE
Way of the Cross/Stations
7:00 pm @ St. Damian

SATURDAY, APRIL 5th
Mass in Church
4:00 PM @ St. Bernard
Franklin & Marian Eversgerd
Deceased Members of the Ed & Clara Billhartz Family

SUNDAY, APRIL 6th
Mass in Church
9:30 AM @ St. Damian
Frank, Minnie & Ralph Heimann
Kevin Gagen
Paul & Margaret Kniepmann
Betty Duco
Deceased Members of the Lindy Horstmann Family
Deceased Members of the Robert Kalmer Family

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

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Joshua 5:9a, 10–12; 2 Corinthians 5:17–21; Luke 15:1–3, 11–32

On the plains of Jericho, the Chosen People finally reach a fertile land that can produce food for them to eat. Paul extols God's goodness, for God reconciled the world through Christ. In the Gospel story of the prodigal son, the father is so overjoyed at his wayward son's return that he throws a huge feast, serving the choicest food and insisting his son wear the household's finest clothes. From beginning to end, we can, as we sing in the responsorial psalm, "Taste and see the goodness of the Lord."

HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:

Sunday, March 30th

St. Damian Youth Choir Practice

8:30 am @ St. Damian Church

Mass in Church w/ Anointing of the Sick

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

Monday, March 31st

Prayer Service in Church

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Tuesday, April 1st

Prayer Service in Church

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

St. Bernard Parish Council Meeting

7:00 pm @ St. Bernard Rectory

St. Damian Adult Choir Practice

7:00 pm @ St. Damian Church

Wednesday, April 2nd

Mass in Church

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Eucharistic Adoration

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

St. Bernard Choir Practice

7:00 pm @ St. Bernard Church

Thursday, April 3rd

Mass in Church

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

St. Damian Church Cleaning at 1:00 & 6:00

Friday, April 4th

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, April 5th

Mass in Church

4:00 pm @ St. Bernard

Sunday, April 6th

St. Damian Youth Choir Practice

8:30 am @ St. Damian Church

Mass in Church

9:30 am @ St. Damian

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

TASTE AND SEE THE GOODNESS OF THE LORD

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, Tamara Farrington at (618) 841-5393. Submit a complete application to Stukenberg-Eilermann Post 1026, 600 N. Bertha St, Albers, IL 62215 or legionalbers@gmail.com by April 25.

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. "With great openness and courage, we need to question how widespread is the culture of life today among individual Christians, families, groups and communities in our Dioceses. With equal clarity and determination, we must identify the steps we are called to take in order to serve life in all its truth" (*The Gospel of Life* 95).

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.

ST. DAMIAN PARISH CONCERNS:

CHURCH SUPPORT: March 22nd

Loose: \$121.00+ Envelopes: (18): \$1,100.00
+ Mass in Spanish: \$613.00 \$1,834.00
Budget for week: \$3,212.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$130,201.81
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$118,844.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: \$11,357.81
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 – April 6th

Ministers: Ken Mank, Deb Santel, Erin Korte
Ushers: Brent Goebel & Jerry Arentsen
Servers: Dylann & Emerson Netemeyer, Isaiah Jourdan
Lector: Susan Lynch
Cantor: Jackie Toennies
Organist: Chris Brandmeyer
Collection Counters: Gwen Toennies, Kristy Richter
Thank you for being ministers of your parish!

ST. DAMIAN HOLY NAME WURSTMARKT. Thank you to all the committee, workers, those who donated cash and pies and cakes. To all that supported our Wurstmart, THANK YOU!! Our parish is thankful for everyone who helped or supported in any way.

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 Quilt Raffle Tickets are available in the back of church. Please pick up and return via the drop box at the rectory or the collection basket. Thank you for supporting St. Damian's Parish

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 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 7th 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 23rd

Loose: \$37.00+Envelopes: (30) \$2,020.00
+ Paypal (\$200-\$6.47 fee): \$193.53 \$2,250.53
Budget for week: \$3,385.00
Fiscal year-to-date collected: \$131,593.37
Fiscal year-to-date budget: \$128,630.00
Over (under) year-to-date budget: \$2,963.37
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 – April 5th

Ministers: Kathy Engelmann, Steve & Deb Schomaker
Lector: Janel Zurliene
Ushers: Ed Broeckling, Ryan Wuebbels
Servers: Quinten & Kailey Engelmann, Adrienne Rakers
Collection Counters: Keith Richter, Sean Kennedy, 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.

ST. DAMIAN WURSTMARKT THANK YOU to all who helped in any way, donated desserts, purchased dinners, or made a donation. We truly appreciate all of your help and without all of you it would not have been successful. Many thanks. **You can still 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.**

ST DAMIAN PICNIC MEETING! There will be a picnic meeting Wednesday, April 23rd, at 6:30 pm in the rectory meeting room. Please join us in discussing new ideas or strategies. All are welcome. We would like all picnic stand chairs to be there. We desperately need 2 women to complete our committee. The parish picnic is so vital to our financial well-being and success as a community so PLEASE consider taking on this role if you are at all able. Please contact Phyllis Kassen or Barb Wobbe. If you have any ideas or questions, please contact Phyllis Kassen (618) 806-7495, Barb Wobbe (618) 578-0176, Roger Toennies (618) 792-5364, Kevin Kalmer (618) 210-0393, or Bender Wobbe (618) 334-2470

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.

St. George Parish, 200 N. Third St, New Baden, IL 62265. Drive-Thru FISH DINNER, Friday, April 4, 2025

3:30 P.M. TO 6:30 P.M. All Dinners will include: Fried Cod Fish, Fried Potatoes, Mac-N-Cheese, Green Beans, Stewed Tomatoes, Coleslaw & Cake. {Stewed Tomatoes, Coleslaw and Cake will be in separate containers.} \$15 per carry out.

DO YOU FEEL CALLED? Are you discerning the possibility of serving the Lord as a priest, consecrated sister or brother, missionary or permanent deacon? If you are looking for guidance about how to discern answering the Lord’s call, please join Fr. Godfrey Mullen, OSB, and Bishop Michael McGovern for a Day of Recollection. We will gather at St. Nicholas Parish in O’Fallon on Saturday, April 5 from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. The day includes morning Mass, two talks, reflection questions, group discussion and a period of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Lite breakfast and lunch will be provided. This gathering is open to young men and women in High School to age 30. For more information or to RSVP by April 3, contact Ms. Martina Skorch (mskorch@diobelle.org) or by phone at (618) 722-5043

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

ALBERS LEGION CHICKEN DINNER: Sunday, April 6th, 4:30pm to 7:00pm. Fried chicken, mash potatoes &/or gravy, green beans, slaw, and dessert. Adults \$14, Kids (5-12) \$6, under 5 Free. Bingo Players will receive \$2 off their meal. Adult Carry outs Available

St. Teresa Church, Marydale DRIVE-THRU Chicken Dinner. Sunday, April 6, 2025. Serving 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. \$15.00 per Meal. Packaged meal includes: ½ Fried Chicken (4 pieces), Dressing, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Green Beans, Slaw
Handmade Quilt Raffle. Located six miles north of Carlyle on Route 127. Follow the signs

CHICKEN DINNER: St. Felicitas Church, Beaver Prairie, 13322 Church Road, Carlyle, IL, Palm Sunday, April 13, 2025. 11:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Drive-thru only. \$15. (Look for signs on New Rt. 50 west of Carlyle and on Rt. 127 six miles north of Carlyle.)

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

Position: Full Time Administrative Assistant Benefits through Diocese of Belleville. Salary Range: \$36,000 - \$40,000 (Final salary will be determined by relevant skills, education, and experience). The Diocese of Belleville is seeking an Administrative Assistant who is mission-driven. The person in this position is responsible for providing administrative support to ensure efficient operation within the office of their current assignment. This role involves handling a wide range of administrative tasks, from managing schedules to handling communications, and organizing events. The initial assignment for this position will support the Offices of Education and Faith Formation & Youth Ministry as well as the front reception area. Essential qualifications include a minimum of a high school diploma, associate degree preferred, or equivalent experience; at least 3 years’ experience in a related role, plus knowledge in Microsoft Office and other computer programs/applications. A practicing Catholic preferred with thorough knowledge and understanding of Catholic teachings, practices, and organizational structure. To apply: Send cover letter and résumé to Catholic Diocese of Belleville at humanresources@diobelle.org or by mail at 222 South Third Street, Belleville, Illinois 62220. Application deadline: April 11, 2025.

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