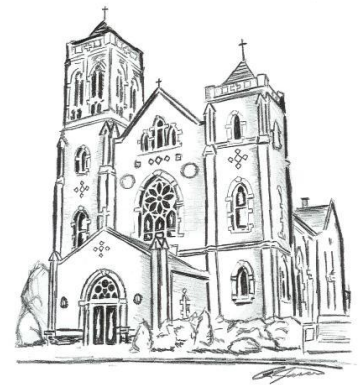
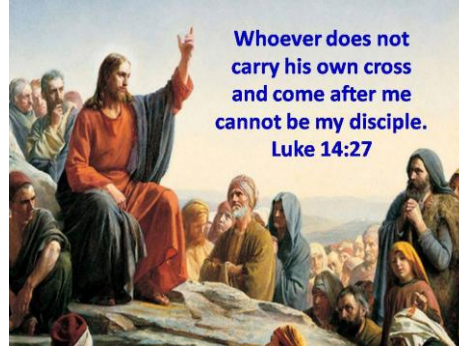




*Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 7th, 2025*



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:
PASTOR:
Father Matthew Elie
Office Phone: (618) 248-5112

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE & DRE:
Deacon Glenn Netemeyer
Email: deaconglen36@gmail.com
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Office at St. Damian

PERMANENT DEACON:
Deacon Kevin Templin
Email: deaconkevin18@gmail.com
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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:
Michelle "Shelly" Schuetz
Cell Phone: 618-401-6007 Email: mascshuetz@hotmail.com
"Like & Share us on Facebook"
St. Bernard and St. Damian

MASS SCHEDULE:
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th
Prayer Service
7:45 am @ St. Damian

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th
Prayer Service
7:45 am @ St. Bernard

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th
Mass in Church
7:45 am @ St. Damian
Bishop Stanley Schlarmann

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11th
Mass in Church
7:45 am @ St. Bernard
For all Parishioners
Pro-Life Hour of Prayer
7:00 pm @ St. Bernard Church

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th
NO MASS/SERVICE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th
Mass in Church
4:00 pm @ St. Damian
Frank, Minnie & Ralph Heimann
Elmer & Katie Loepker
Albin Toennies

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th
Mass in Church
9:30 am @ St. Bernard
Doris Kloeckner

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

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Wisdom 9:13–18b; Philemon 9–10, 12–17; Luke 14:25–33

Jesus, our teacher, offers lessons today on being a disciple. These lessons can be difficult—we must carry our own crosses, we must renounce all our possessions, we even must hate our own family—but we gather as a family of faith in this place to hear them and reflect on them. The words of Wisdom may help, as they point out that as much as we try, we cannot possibly conceive the mind of God. Therefore, with faith and humility, let us listen to God's word.

HAPPENINGS/MEETINGS:

Sunday, September 7th

Mass in Church

9:30 am @ St. Bernard

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

Monday, September 8th

Prayer Service

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Tuesday, September 9th

Prayer Service

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

Legion of Mary

5:00 in English @ St. Damian

5:00-8:00 Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament

6:00 in Spanish @ St. Damian

Wednesday, September 10th

Mass in Church

7:45 am @ St. Damian

Eucharistic Adoration

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

Thursday, September 11th

Mass in Church

7:45 am @ St. Bernard

Pro-Life Hour of Prayer

7:00 pm @ St. Bernard Church

Friday, September 12th

NO MASS/NO SERVICES

Saturday, September 13th

Mass in Church

4:00 pm @ St. Damian

Sunday, September 14th

Mass in Church

9:30 am @ St. Bernard

Hispanic Mass in Church

11:00 am @ St. Damian Church

***"IN EVERY AGE, O LORD,
YOU HAVE BEEN OUR REFUGE."***

ONLINE DONATIONS AND GIVING

- On line giving is available for both St. Damian and St. Bernard Parishes.
- Donations can be made on the 2nd or 16th of the month or both if you choose.
- Donations can be split between accounts such as Sister Parish and General Account at St. Bernard's and Building Fund, Sister Parish or General Account at St. Damian's.
- You can still receive envelopes for special collections if you choose to.
- Please contact Angie if you have any questions or go on the parish website to find the form for ACH (Online Giving)

St. Bernard's Children's Liturgy of the Word

will be returning on Sunday, September 7th and will continue during the Sunday masses through May. Children in grades pre-k -4th grade are encouraged to participate. Father will gather the children in the front of the altar after the opening prayer. The children and leader will proceed to the church library. Children will listen to the First Reading, Psalm, and Gospel proclaimed from the Children's Lectionary. An age-appropriate reflection on the Word is shared by the adult leader. Children are encouraged to share their thoughts and ideas. Children will pray their Prayers of Intercession and will proceed back to their family at the Presentation of Gifts. If you would like to be a leader or helper, please contact Karen Schroeder (618-691-9038). **St. Damian's Children's Liturgy of the Word** will begin on Sunday, October 5th and will follow the same guidelines as St. Bernard.

Retired Diocesan Priests Collection Today

Today you will have an opportunity to contribute to the annual Retired Diocesan Priests Collection. **All monies collected will be used only for long-term nursing care, Medicare supplemental insurance and prescriptions for our retired diocesan priests.** Your gift is a wonderful way to show your gratitude to the priests who have and continue to serve us so faithfully. Please be as generous as you are able.

ALBERS/DAMIANSVILLE VILLAGE-WIDE GARAGE SALES! *Sat, Sept 13, 7am-2pm.* All residents are welcome to participate. Set up in your own garages & driveways. Feel free to have your sales open on Thursday and Friday too. Set your own hours and put your own signs along the road. No maps will be printed. If you would like to list your address and hours, feel free to post your info on the Village of Albers and Damiansville, IL Facebook pages.

YOU ARE INVITED. parishioners, families, young and old to OPEN HOUSE at HINCKE-SENSE RESIDENCE FOR RETIRED PRIESTS Sunday, September 21 from 3:00 to 6:00 PM. Please join us for a tour and refreshments and visit with your retired priests. 2620 Lebanon Avenue Belleville, IL 62221.

CHICKEN DINNER: St. Felicitas Church, Beaver Prairie. 13322 Church Road, Carlyle, IL, Sunday, Sept. 21. 11:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Drive-thru only. \$15.

8th Annual Mental Health Awareness & Memorial Walk In Memory of Sydney Irizarry, Friday, September 25, 2025 @ Lehrter/JC Park. Proceeds benefit 'Swing for Sydney Foundation'. SIGN UP TODAY at <https://runsignup.com/Race/IL/Albers/MentalHealthAwarenessandMemorialWalk>. \$25 Early Registration until Friday, September 19 @ 11:59p.m. / \$30 On Site Registration

ST. BERNARD'S ANNUAL WURSTMARKT. Sunday, September 28th, 10:30-5:30 at St. Bernard Parish Center. Pork Sausage, Pork Roast, Sauerkraut, Mashed Potatoes/gravy, green beans, applesauce, and dessert. Drive thru & walk up carry-outs available. Small dine-in area in parish center available to sit and eat your carryout.

ALS Golf Scramble – 5th Annual Tee'd Off with ALS Golf Scramble, Saturday, Oct 4 at Roland Barkau Memorial Golf Course, Okawville, IL. All proceeds go to the Tim Miller Research Lab, Washington University to find a cure. Ways to support this cause include golfing, sponsors, monetary donation, or a memorial sign with mum in the memorial garden. Also, this year the reverse drawing is a cash raffle with 7 chances to win! Last ticket picked wins \$5000 and other winners are 4 - \$1000 and 2- \$500. Tickets are \$100 each. For more information go to FB page Tee'd Off with ALS or contact Melissa Netemeyer @ 618-691-9413

Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) retreats for 2025/2026. The Belleville Diocese is providing 2 TEC retreat weekends for the 2025/2026 academic school year. TEC is a 3-day Catholic retreat weekend designed for young adults, juniors and seniors (or older) in high school, who are looking for an opportunity to develop a stronger relationship with God and/or their fellow Christians. If you, or someone you know, are looking for an opportunity to enhance your relationship with Jesus Christ or experience your Catholic faith in a dynamic and fun-filled setting, then a TEC retreat may be just what you are looking for. The TEC weekends are scheduled for October 11-13 at Mater Dei High School in Breese and January 17-19 at Immaculate Conception School in Columbia. To learn more, or attend a TEC weekend, please visit our website at bellevilletec.org. If you've attended a TEC weekend in the past and would like to attend one of the reunions, please visit bellevilletec.org for additional details.

Clerical Assistant Wanted. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Belleville Council is seeking a person to join their dedicated staff: **Position:** Outreach Clerk. **Work Schedule:** Part-time -- Monday through Friday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (four (4) hours daily). **Work Requirements:** self-directed person who likes working with files and telephone calls. For additional information please contact Patricia Hogrebe, Executive Director, 618-394-0126 or 618-799-8505.

We're seeking volunteers to create beautiful, handcrafted wreaths for our silent auction to benefit the Way of Lights and the Missionary Oblates of Marv Immaculate. Your time and talent in making wreaths would directly support The Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows. Would you be interested in donating your time to create a wreath for this event? November 21 - December 17, 2025. snows.org/wreaths. Your name and wreath designs will be viewed by over 160,000 people! Silent auction open to the public. You may enter more than one wreath. Photos of your wreath(s) will be posted on the Shrine website: snows.org/wreaths. Each entry is tax-deductible. Please note we cannot accept live wreaths or wreaths over 36" in diameter. If you have questions, please contact Gina or Beth at 618-397-6700 or at wreaths@snows.org or visit snows.org/wreaths.

The new quiet retreat of King's House at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows delves into Pope Francis' latest encyclical, *Dilexit Nos* (meaning "He loved us"), a beautiful meditation on the human and divine love of Christ. Using the heart as a symbol of the core of the person, this retreat will explore the Holy Father's description of Sacred Heart devotion, focusing on how we can find healing, comfort, inspiration and community in our contemplation of the love emanating from the Heart of Jesus. For the 2025-2026 schedule, contact us at 618-397-0584 or kh.snows.org

RESPECT LIFE CORNER: "If you or someone you know has had an abortion, be assured that it is never too late to seek God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Additionally, other confidential, compassionate help is available. Select "Find Help" from the menu on www.hopeafterabortion.org to find the diocesan Project Rachel Ministry near you. USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, "Bridges of Mercy for Healing after Abortion" www.usccb.org/bridges-of-mercy

VOCATION CORNER. Did you know that there are special seminaries for men entering the priesthood later in life, seminaries where students range from ages 25 to 60? Many of these men have thought about being a priest at one time or another but, for whatever reason, pushed the idea to the back of their minds. They are men who have made a career change to a second vocation, the priesthood. They are ordinary people, men who have been electricians, teachers, barbers, police officers, social workers, businesspeople, farmers, dentists. Some are widowers, even grandfathers. Diverse though their backgrounds may be, they now share one aim in life: to become a priest and serve God's people. Could you be one of them?

Catholic Service & Ministry Appeal. *The Messenger*, our diocesan newspaper, brings local, national and international news of our Catholic faith right into your home through its print and online editions. Your gift to the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal helps to support *The Messenger*. If you haven't done so, subscribe to *The Messenger* today and also make your gift to the Appeal! Thank you for your generosity.

JustFaith Program – Faith & Poverty: A Solidarity Response. Join us for this small-group series from the JustFaith program, which explores local poverty and provides participants with practical tools and insights to respond with compassion and action. This 8-week course will meet on Thursday evenings from 7:00–9:00 PM, beginning September 14, in the Mater Dei High School Library. The sessions will be facilitated by Deacon Jay Fowler (618-973-3162) and Helen Essenpreis (618-980-1875). Please contact them if you are interested in participating.

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