

MARCH 2022 NEWSLETTER

Faith Formation

Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith, you will receive.

-Matthew 21:22

THE DEACON'S CORNER

What is meant by "Carry the Cross"?

Jesus meant something far deeper than this when He told His disciples to carry their cross. He said to them, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me" (Luke 9:23). In Jesus' day, a cross wasn't just a symbol of pain and suffering; it was mainly a symbol of death. What Jesus was telling them is that they needed to put to death their own plans and desires, and then turn their lives over to Him and do His will every day.

You see, Jesus doesn't simply call us to believe that He existed, or even to believe that He can save us. He calls on us to commit our whole lives to Him alone for our salvation, and then to follow Him as His disciples. He said, "Anyone who does not carry his cross and follow me cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:27).



Is Christ the master of your life? Have you put to death your own plans and committed yourself to His will for your life? Don't be satisfied with anything less, for there is no greater joy in life than following Christ every day. (Billy Graham; Feb. 20, 2006)

Just an added note of the **importance of the children coming to Mass regularly on weekends with their families.** On weekdays they attend Mass during Faith Formation sessions, but the children need to pray with their moms and dads at Mass also on the weekends. Praying together strengthens a family in more ways than we'll ever realize!!!! **Joshua says', "as for me and my house, we will serve God."**

Thank you for bringing the children to Mass!

-Deacon Glenn

"May you always be doing those good, kind things that show you are a child of God." Phil 1:11



UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 10

Palm Sunday-April 9/10th

- 4:00 pm Mass at St. B (Sat)
- 9:30 am Mass at St. D (Sun)
- 11:00 am Hispanic Mass at St. D (Sun)

Procession of Palms starts at school (weather permitting)

APRIL 14

Holy Thursday

- 7:00 pm at St. D

APRIL 15

Good Friday

- 2:00 pm at St. B
- Watch the bulletin for more info

APRIL 16

Easter Vigil

- 8:00 pm at St. B
- Watch the bulletin for more info

APRIL 17

Easter Sunday

- 9:30 am Mass at St. B w/Fr. Beatty
- 9:30 am Mass at St. D w/Fr. Allen
- 11:00 am Hispanic Mass at St. D w/Fr. Allen

ST. DAMIAN FAITH FORMATION

Ministers at Mass

The Faith Formation students at St. Damian are invited to be ministers at Mass on Sunday, April 3. They will be the lector, choir, greeters, servers and possibly gift bearers. All students in St. Damian Faith Formation are welcome and encouraged to participate.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD PRAYERS

On Saturday, April 2, St. Damian and St. Bernard have reserved a half-day at Planned Parenthood in Fairview Heights to pray for an end to abortion, and to pray for the unborn and the mothers considering abortion. Jackie Toennies' is inviting all Faith Formation students to accompany her during her prayer time which is from 11:00 am to Noon. Parents are also VERY welcome to come and pray with us 🙏.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

The Way of the Cross is at 7:00 pm on Friday nights after the Fish Fry. Watch the bulletin for the location.



LENTEN BIBLE STUDY



Lenten Bible study is on Monday nights at 7:00 pm in the St. Damian Rectory meeting room.

Please come join us.

LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

St. Bernard & St. Damian 2022 LENTEN FOOD DRIVE

Thank you for helping our neighbors in Cairo, IL,
served by Daystar Community Programs
and the Diocese of Belleville by...

'Meating the Needs of Others!'



Canned and/or packaged meats, poultry
and/or fish are being collected

Wednesday, MARCH 02 – Wednesday, APRIL 13, 2022
at Albers Village Hall, St. Bernard Church or St. Damian Church.

- ✓ Canned and/or packaged meats, poultry and/or fish NOT REQUIRING REFRIGERATION will be accepted.
- ✓ **\$\$\$ donations also accepted!** Checks may be made payable to "St. Bernard & St. Damian Needy Fund" or "Daystar Community Programs". (Eligible for a tax credit)

The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor. ~ Proverbs 22:9

St. Bernard Catholic Church
202 N. Broadway Street, Albers, IL 62215
Phone: (618) 248-5112

www.stbernardandstdamian.org

St. Damian Catholic Church
One West Main Street, Damiansville, IL 62215
Phone: (618) 248-5134

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES RICE BOWLS

CRS Rice bowls are available in the back of both churches. All donations go to Catholic Relief Services. Please consider donating to this service.

RECONCILIATION OPPORTUNITIES

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March 27 – St. Mary, Carlyle 3:00 PM

March 31 – St. Dominic, Breese 7:00 PM

March 31 – St. Mary, Centralia 12:30 PM

April 3 – St. Lawrence, Sandoval 2:00 PM

April 3 – St. Francis, Aviston 3:00 PM

April 13 – St. Mary, Mt. Vernon 6:00 PM

MATER DEI SCHOLARSHIPS

Attention Eighth Graders!

Mater Dei High School Scholarship forms are available at Mater Dei, or at this link on the parish website:

<https://www.stbernardandstdamian.org/mater-dei-scholarship-forms.html>

40 DAYS OF LIFE – PLEASE SIGN UP

OUR PRO-LIFE MINISTRY NEEDS YOU!

From March 2 through April 10th, you are invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life-40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. During the 40-Day vigil, Christians stand outside abortion clinics and peacefully pray.

St. Bernard and St. Damian's Catholic Churches have adopted a half day to peacefully pray outside the Planned Parenthood at 331 Salem Place in Fairview Heights, IL, on Saturday, April 2 from 7 am – 1 pm. Members of the Parishes are asked to please sign up to pray at the Planned Parenthood for at least one hour that day. You can sign-up at the back of Church after Mass, or call/text Kati Schwierjohn at 618.954.8169. Help us be a vital partner in offering prayers for life and helping bring an end to abortion. You can also sign-up online sign-at:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/4090C48ABA82AA5F94-stbernardst>

Saturdays are unfortunately typically a really busy day at PP, so I'm hoping we can have a good showing of parishioners outside the clinic to pray for those sweet and innocent unborn babies and their moms.

-Katie M. Schwierjohn