



St. Aloysius
18925 E 1350 Rd. • P.O. Box 577
Paris, IL 61944



St. Mary
528 N. Main St. • P.O. Box 577
Paris, IL 61944



St. Michael
205 Center St. • Hume, IL 61932
P.O. Box 577 • Paris, IL 61944

THE GOOD NEWS

The Holy Family
December 31, 2023

Parish Mission Statement

We are Baptized and Confirmed members called to serve in the Catholic Church to reach out to our own and to others by prayer, sacrifice and service all for the praise and Glory of God.

Welcome

Anyone new to the community or not yet officially registered, we welcome you to call or stop by the Parish Office during office hours to register.



THE HOLY FAMILY

The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.
- Lk 2:40

CHURCH CENTRAL OFFICE

528 N. Main Street P.O. Box 577
Paris, IL 61944
Phone Number: (217) 466-3355
Fax Number: (217) 466-5215

Website: www.stmaryschurchparis.org

Pastor: Father Aloysius Okey Ndeanaefo

Email: anaefoaloymelody@yahoo.com

For Appointment & Emergency only:

Please text (217) 412-4344

PARISH STAFF

Business Mgr. & CRE: Juliana Koutsoumpas
jkoutsoumpas@stmaryschurchparis.org

Custodian: Misty Elsberry

Music: Mary Ann Sullivan
gma.sullivan80@gmail.com

RCIA: Scott Hall
stmarysrcia@stmaryschurchparis.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday — Friday: 9:00 am — 4:00pm
(Closed on Holidays and Holy days)

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass: Tue-Fri 8am at St. Mary's
Saturday Vigil at St. Mary's: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Mass at St. Aloysius: 7:00 a.m.
Sunday Mass at St. Michael's: 8:30 a.m.
Sunday Mass at St. Mary's: 10:15 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

St. Mary's: Saturdays: 4-5pm or by appointment

MINISTRY TO HOMEBOUND

Anointing of the sick and communion calls are provided regularly for those who so desire. Please keep us informed of the needs of those who are ill.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Please, call 6 months in advance of desired wedding date.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday, January 2

No Mass

Wednesday, January 3

8:00 am †Memorial Mass

Thursday, January 4

8:00 am †Fr. Meehling

Friday, January 5

8:00 am †Raquel Hernandez

Saturday, January 6

5:30 pm †Fr. Michael Genzales

Sunday, January 7

7:00 am Cash & Estes Families

8:30 am Living & Deceased Parishioners

10:15 am †James Stagg

Mass Intention Requests

Submit requests to the Parish Office:

jkoutsoumpas@stmaryschurchparis.org

Mass stipend is \$10 /Mass.

Please make checks payable to St. Mary's.

Parish Council & Committee Chairs

St. Michael's

Pastoral Council

Dave Smith

dsmith.tke718@gmail.com

Finance Council

Brian Smith

tstsmith36@gmail.com

St. Mary's

Pastoral Council

Doug Happ

dough@pchs.k12.il.us

Finance Council

Dave Sullivan

sullivanandavid52@gmail.com

Building & Grounds Committee

Pat Catanzariti

p.catan71@gmail.com

Deacon

Bruce Scott

bscott@dio.org

217-264-3113



January 6/7, 2024

St. Mary's: 5:30 pm (Sat. Vigil)

LECTOR: Volunteer

EMS: Lugene Joines, Jim Moore & Volunteer

SERVERS: Doug Happ

St. Aloysius: 7:00 am (Sun.)

LECTORS: Tom Morrissey

EM: Linda Hahn

SERVERS: Scott Neal

GIFTS: Keys Family

St. Michael's: 8:30 am (Sun.)

LECTORS: Brian Murphy

EMS: Scott Hall, Mary Liz Wright & Christi McClain

SERVERS: Santi Rea

St. Mary's: 8:30 am (Sun.)

LECTORS: Kevin Smith

SERVERS: Lily Brown/Abner Wood

GIFTS: the Wood Family

Our Dearly Departed

Pray for the soul of James Stagg

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. ~Amen~



Christmas decorations at St. Mary's will be taken down next Sunday, Jan. 7th after the 10:15am Mass. Many people will lighten the load.

Please try to be there to help.

THANK YOU!!

2023/2024 Fiscal Year Diocesan 10% Tithing

St. Aloysius Parish

-November Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$472.00

-Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$2,422.00

St. Michael's Parish

-November Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$512.00

-Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$2,861.00

St. Mary's Parish

-November Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$2,919.00

-Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$13,176.00



Our Stewardship

Weekly Offertory

December 23/24 & Christmas

ST. ALOYSIUS

Sunday \$1,640.00

Weekly Goal: \$962.00

Over/(**Under**) Goal: **+ 678.00**

ST. MICHAEL'S

Sunday \$685.00

Online Giving \$175.00

Christmas \$820.00

Children's Home \$400.00

Weekly Goal: \$1,269.00

Over/(**Under**) Goal: **+ \$410.00**

ST. MARY'S

Sunday \$8,581.00

Building Fund \$560.00

Food Pantry \$825.00

Christmas Flower \$20.00

Christmas \$2,595.00

Retired Religious \$50.00

Children's Home \$75.00

Weekly Goal: \$7,365.00

Over/(**Under**) Goal: **+ \$4,316.00**

Thank you for your support!

Will and Estate Planning

Have you remembered St. Mary's Church in your Will and Estate planning? We have been privileged to receive many Estates/Wills over the years from devoted parishioners and supporters of St. Mary's Church. Some are large and others are small but all helps to keep the legacy of our parish. *Let us remember to pray for all of our benefactors living and deceased.*



Prayer Requests

Let us pray for healing and strength of those who are experiencing illness!

David Yates

Isaac Hayes

Colette Bernard

Colette Kamalosky

Katherine Lentz

Theo Brink

Rita Brink

Josiphen Pedigo

Kay Barrett

Donnie Farris

Dan Bruner

Pearl Wallace

Jean Kramer

Garry Williamson

Michael Nugent-Dolan

Lucas Edmonds

Kile McKee

Donna Woodyard

Diana Haupt

Marie Hibner

Michael Ndeanaefo

Theresa Ndeanaefo

Ross Lanter

Cory Ring

Bob Joines

George Furnish

***Our Military:** Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us.*

Trent Senczyszyn

Jeff Walsh

Nathan Gatlin

Caleb Machuca

Simon Holzer

Joe Jenness

Richard Scott

Justin Vice

Joe Kachmar

Zack Lueken

Joseph Livesay

Raynell Kahala

Shelly Johns

Long Term Prayer List

Damon Scoggin

Jean Wilcox Hibben

Bobbie Turner

Ian McDonald

Nelson Zucker

David Volk

Pam Shoot

Donna Keys

Kaylee Kelleher

Sheila Brothers

Maxi Fitzjarald

Joan Stirek

Doris Bernard

Amber Hall

Julia McGowen

Mary Lou Hollowell

Jeri Ingram

Kevin Wamsbley

Michael Shelkey

Gerry Scott

Janet Mullen

Jeff Moore

Tom Greenwood

Richard Rennie

Joyce Bouslog

Ronnie Strow

Katie Lenz

Roger Wolfe

Peter David

Bryan Albert

Nancy Wrede

Kehlin Crawford

Joseph Finch

Sean Bradley

Christa Swinford

Payton Holzer

Jack Livesay

Mary Jo Thompson

Mike Elledge

Mike Duke

Roseann Tate

Patricia Wilson

Marc Wolf

Danielle Fox Lindsey

Kevin Farris

Steve Osborne

Lincoln Downing

Rosie & Bill Myers

Lois White

Announcements, Events and Activities

Birthdays & Anniversaries



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

January 5
Mike David

January 11
Dennis Joines
Caleb Lawson

January 6
Kyle Kenney

January 8
JJ Keske

January 10
Dan Bruner
Joan McCulley



January 3
Martin & Rosana Rea

Reminders

January 9: KC Meeting-STM Annex - 7:00 pm

January 10: Prayer Lunch at St. Mary's at noon

January 12: KC hosting Spaghetti Dinner at the Parish Hall from 4:30 - 7:00pm fundraiser for Choices

January 23: KC Meeting-STM Annex - 7:00 pm

January 23: St. Mary's Pastoral Council Meeting in the meeting room at 5:00pm

January 30: St. Michael's Finance Council Meeting at 6:30pm

February 6: St. Mary's Finance Council Meeting at 5:00pm

Dates & Events

Monday, January 1 (Solemnity of Mary)

7:00 am Mass - St. Aloysius

8:30 am Mass - St. Mary's

Tuesday, January 2

No Mass

Adoration 5:00 am - 5:00 pm—At St. Mary's

Wednesday, January 3

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary's

Thursday, January 4

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary's

6:30 pm OCIA (Formerly RCIA)-St. Mary's Mtg. Rm.

Friday, January 5

8:00 am Mass & Adoration- St. Mary's

Saturday, January 6

5:30 pm Mass - St. Mary's

Sunday, January 7

7:00 am Mass - St. Aloysius

8:30 am Mass - St. Michael's

10:15 am Mass - St. Mary's

Saint of the Week

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton | January 4

The patron saint of Catholic schools, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (August 28, 1774 – January 4, 1821) was born in New York City to a prominent family of the Episcopal faith. When she turned 19, she married a wealthy businessman with whom she had five children. He later died of tuberculosis in 1803, leaving her a young widow. After discovering the Catholic faith in Italy, where her husband had died, she returned to New York and converted to Catholicism in 1805.

After several years struggling as a single mother, Elizabeth moved in 1809 to Emmitsburg, Maryland, where she founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph, the first community for religious women established in the United States. She also began St. Joseph's Academy and Free School, which started a chain reaction of Catholic-based education in the United States that continues today.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton was canonized September 14, 1975 in St. Peter's Square by Pope Paul VI and was the first citizen born in the United States to be given the title of "saint."

The Epiphany of the Lord



Just as the three kings laid their gifts before the Christ child, so too we bring our gifts to the one who overcame all darkness and sin.

Saints down through the ages have continued the work for the Magi and have made this Christ child known through the generations.

It is now our responsibility to continue the work of Epiphany and make Christ known to the world. Have we spoken of Christ to our friends and neighbors, to our children and family, to ourselves?

who do not yet know Christ; for the depressed and despairing who have lost the ability to feel inspired; for each of us that we may take the time to stop and notice the miracles around us each and every day.

Let us remember the gifts of the Magi: That we may be like frankincense, burning with the compassion of God; That we may be like gold, reflecting the glory of God; That we may be like myrrh, reverencing the sacredness of life; That we may be gifts for the world, wrapped and adorned in the virtues of faith, hope, and love.

As we begin the year 2024, let us pray for those

Christmas Flower Remembrance

8:00 am Mass on Wednesday January 3, 2024 will be offered for those names listed on the Christmas Flower envelopes:

In Memory of

Anna Partenheimer
Arthur & Mildred Englum
Bernard & Georgia Barrett
Bernard J. Barrett
Butch Parrish
Charles Englum
Chuck Bierman
Cyril McCauley
Deceased members of the Bruner family
Deceased members of the Reilly family
Diane Hall
Don & Glenda Goodwin
Earl & Polly Anderson
Floyd & Anna Mae Reeley
Frances & Herb Peterson
Francis & Eileen Smith
Fr. Zimmerman
Gene Partenheimer
George & Freda Williams
Harry & Fran Parrish
Harry & Kate Farris

Helen Langford
Ivan & Joan Crandell
James E. Bandy
Jane H. Jurey
Jim Mattingly
Jim Stephens
Jodi Bosch
Joe Bosch
Joe, Marie, Joseph Vaught
John & Mary Englum
John & Mary Secondino
John McNary
John Sullivan
Joseph & Dorothy Barrett
Joseph Bosch
June Ann Curtis
Kathleen Fitzgerald
Kathy Hennegan
Ketner Parents
Ketner Siblings
Lawrence & Georgia Barrett
Leo & Martha Aydt
Leslie Speicher
Louise Brewster

M. W. & Mattie Hunter
May & Marguerite Lenderman
Melissa Keller
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Bierman
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Bernard
Paul & Rose Maloney
Pauline Egan
Pete & Sue Secondino
Ray & Charlotte Crippes
Roger & Mary Fruin
Rosemarie Maloney
Susan Stephens
Thomas Mattingly
Tom & Mary Jane Rhodes
Tom Sullivan
Veronica Englum
Vic & Gerry Wagner

In Honor of

Bates Family
Bosch Family
Descendants of Jeremiah & Mary (Logue) Fitzgerald

Wishing you *a blessed* New Year

THANK YOU!!!

To Rose Marie Ketner & DeAnn Cash for keeping the Altar Linens washed and ironed.

To all the lectors, servers, Eucharistic Ministers and Sacristans.

To Anita Rhodes and Karen Todd for beautifying our church all year long.

To all who helped with Christmas decorations for our churches.

To our organists, Jerri Rickets, Priscilla Hutton, Teresa Hoecherl and Ruth Ann Smith, and to Mary Ann Sullivan for directing St. Mary's choir, and to our choir members. We appreciate the many hours you spent practicing for Masses. Music adds joy to our celebrations.

To all who serve on Councils, committees, and ministries in all our churches.

To the members of the Knights of Columbus who support the parish whole heartedly by doing anything needed to be done around St. Mary's.

To all the church ladies who shared their time and talents by cooking, baking, and serving our community.

To Stewart and Carroll Funeral Home for providing every family with a beautiful 2024 calendar.

To the loyal group of parishioners who fold and stuff our bulletins each week.

To all those who count our collections every week.

To Leonard Waller & Spencer Hall for assembling the outside crib, so that we might wish all who travel Main St. a Merry Christmas and remind them of the reason for the season.

To Scott Neal and Misty Elsberry for setting up St. Mary's Christmas sign at the park.

To each member of St. Mary's, St. Michael's and St. Aloysius who help financially to meet the obligations of the parishes.

To all the dedicated volunteers who help with our Religious Education programs.

To all who donate food to our food pantry and Thanksgiving Baskets so that we can reach out to those in our community who need assistance.

To those who donate and volunteer at the Compassionate Clothing Closet.

To those who keep our church grounds tidy and neat, our grass mowed and trimmed this summer.

To Mary Ann Magers and Marian Mattingly for sharing their time and talents in arranging the Angel Tree for the Children in need.

To Anita Rhodes, those helped and those who made cookies for the Fellowship Meal on Christmas Day at St. Mary's Parish Hall to reach out to those in need.

Thank you!!!

Pastoral Reflections

The Holy Family

My dear parishioners,

God is Good!!! All the time!!! And all the time!!! God is Good!!!

Sirach's respect for the law of God as the source of all wisdom is plainly evident in this reading. Sirach here draws a number of valuable lessons from the fourth of the Ten Commandments. By tradition, this wise teacher collected his teachings into a single work so that later generations would find them a reliable guide for their spiritual journeys.

Honor. Three times the word “honor” appears in this relatively brief reading. Parents should be held in honor because it is by a special gift from God that they bring children into the world. Man and woman are made in God's image and likeness and by God's grace this likeness continues in the generations that follow. Thus, it truly is God who confirms the authority of parents over their children. When children honor their parents, they receive blessings only God can give. Their prayers are heard and their sins forgiven.

The Gospel for the feast of the Holy Family is taken from Luke 2:22–40. A careful reading of the text shows that it is about more than just the tiny family from Nazareth: Mary, Joseph, and Jesus. This Gospel is also about the family of Israel as well as the greater family of the world. This is all part of Luke's favorite theme of universalism.

The tiny family of Nazareth. The story begins in Jerusalem where Mary, Joseph, and Jesus are depicted as fulfilling the law regarding purification (Lev 12:2–8) as well as the consecration of the firstborn (Ex 13:1–2). The focus is on the traditional piety of this family. They are faithful Jews observing the teachings of the Torah. At this point in the narrative there is nothing strange or unusual—a pious family being faithful.

Simeon sees the Christ. The focus shifts when a man named Simeon enters the story. He is portrayed as righteous and devout, awaiting the consolation of Israel. The Holy Spirit was upon him. The Holy Spirit had revealed to Simeon that he would not die before he had seen the Christ. The moment he sees the child Jesus, Simeon knows his desire has been realized. The centerpiece of the whole Gospel is Simeon's response (Lk 2:29–32). He has seen the universal light for revelation to the gentiles and glory for the people Israel. This extends the Holy Family in two ways: it now includes Israel as well as the whole world. It shows how Jesus will be the fulfillment of God's promises which extend back as far as Abraham. But Jesus has come for the salvation of all peoples. Ultimately it will be the world that is the family of Jesus

Excerpts from “Sunday Homily Helps”, is used by permission of Franciscan Media. www.FranciscanMedia.org

*Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. Aloysius*



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Paris Council #860**

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A PRAYER FOR OUR NATION

Gracious and loving God, we come to you in humble prayer for the United States of America.

Bless our President. Give him wisdom and strength to serve the American people and lead our country in ways that are pleasing to you.

Bless the Congress. Instill in them knowledge and understanding to enact laws that protect the sanctity of life - from the unborn to the elderly; and promote the good of all people.



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Bless the people of the United States. Make us aware of our responsibility as citizens to uphold the principles of life, liberty, justice, and equality.

Send your Holy Spirit upon our beloved country. Make us people of faith in time of uncertainty. Make us people of hope in times of trouble. Make us people of compassion with those who are less fortunate. Make us people of peace in our homes, our communities, our country and our world.

*We ask this through Jesus Christ,
Our Lord and Savior. Amen.*

THE MEMORARE

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known,
that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help,
or sought thy intercession was left unaided.
Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee,
O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come;
before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful.
O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions,
but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.



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★ ★ ★

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