



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
5th Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024

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 to 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.



**5TH SUNDAY
OF EASTER**

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit." - Jn 15:1-2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LP

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: 9:00am ~ 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 ~ 4:45pm 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, April 30

5:00 pm † Fr. Meehling

Wednesday, May 1

8:00 am † Virginia Sullivan

Thursday, May 2

8:00 am Patsy Jared

Friday, May 3

8:00 am † Tim Yates

Saturday, May 4

5:30 pm † Jim Englum

Sunday, May 5

7:00 am † Mr. & Mrs. Jack Bernard

8:30 am Living & Deceased Parishioners of our parishes

10:15am Rita Brink



May 4/5, 2024

St. Mary 5:30pm

GREETOR: Doug Happ

LECTOR: Anne Pool

EMS: Lugene Joines, Jim Moore & Volunteer

SERVERS: Doug Happ

GIFTS: Volunteer

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

GREETOR: Volunteer

LECTORS: Tommy Morrissey

EM: Linda Hahn

SERVERS: Scott Neal

GIFTS: the Keys Family

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

GREETOR: John Barrett

LECTORS: Phyllis Stone/PSR

SERVERS: Lily Brown

GIFTS: the Wood Family

St. Mary: 10:15 am (Sun.)

GREETOR: Brad Cash

LECTORS: Brian Murphy

EM: Adam Cash, Christi McClain & Chris Wright

SERVERS: Santi Rea

GIFTS: Volunteer

Happening This Week

Tuesday, April 30

Adoration 5:00 am ~ 5:00 pm at St. Mary

5:00 pm Mass - at St. Mary

Wednesday, May 1

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary

Thursday, May 2

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary

5:30pm St. Aloysius Pastoral & Finance Combined Mtg.

Friday, May 3

8:00 am Mass & Adoration - St. Mary

Saturday, May 4

5:30 pm Mass - St. Mary

4:00 - 4:45pm Confession at St. Mary

Sunday, May 5

7:00 am Mass - St. Aloysius

8:30 am Mass - St. Michael

10:15 am Mass - St. Mary

May Crowning & potluck lunch after 10:15 Mass

Reminders

May 7: 6pm St. Mary's Finance Council Meeting

May 13: 5pm St. Mary's Pastoral Council Meeting

May 25: 10am Bruce Scott's Ordination Mass in Springfield, and **5:30pm** Bruce's 1st Mass at St. Mary followed by celebration dinner at St. Mary's Hall

June 4: 6:30pm St. Michael's Finance Council Meeting

June 12: 6pm St. Michael's Pastoral Council Meeting

June 15 – 21: Totus Tuus Summer Camp

Parish Council & Committee Chairs

St. Aloysius

Pastoral Council

Jim Frisz
jdfrisz@gmail.com

Finance Council

Joe Keys
joekeys1@gmail.com

St. Mary

Pastoral Council

Doug Happ
dough@pchs.k12.il.us

Finance Council

John Carrington
jdcarrington19@gmail.com

Building & Grounds Committee

Pat Catanzariti
p.catan71@gmail.com

St. Michael

Pastoral Council

Dave Smith
dsmith.tke718@gmail.com

Finance Council

Brian Smith
tstsmith36@gmail.com

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Happy Birthday!

May 2

Leighsa Cornwell
Julia Irwin

May 3

Jeff Arp

May 4

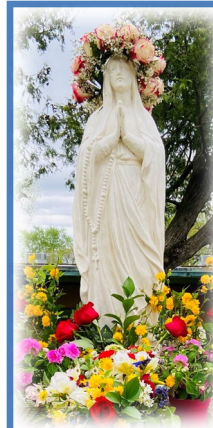
Mike McFatrige

May 5

Joe Keys
Rosana Rocha

May 8

Mary Frisz
Mary Jiron
Sandy Shanks
Anna Sullivan



May Crowning

May 5 after 10:15 Mass

Come and let us adorn the Blessed Mother monument with flowers, joyous singing and heartfelt prayers. Everyone from our parishes is invited to the potluck after May Crowning at St. Mary's parish hall.

Press Release

from

Paris Knights of Columbus Council #860

Each year, the Knights of Columbus Council #860 awards scholarships to a high school senior Catholic boy and girl within the Paris Council area (St. Mary's -Paris or St. Aloysius -North Arm parishes, or a grandfather/father who is a current (or deceased) member of Council #860). This year, plans are to award two scholarships. Selection is based on scholarship, leadership, and church activity. The scholarships will be \$1,000 each and are paid in four annual installments of \$250, if satisfactory progress is made toward the completion of degree requirements.

Once you contact Mr. Zuber, he will forward you a "Word" copy of the application and you can fill it out and email or mail it back to him. If you have any questions, please feel free to call him.

Applications can be obtained by contacting Alan Zuber at 217-822-6288. All applications must be submitted to Alan Zuber no later than 5/7/24.

Pray Everyday to End Abortion

Dearest St. Joseph, at the word of an angel, you lovingly took Mary into your home. As God's humble servant, you guided the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem, welcomed Jesus as your own son in the shelter of a manger, and fled far from your homeland for the safety of both Mother and Child.

We praise God that as their faithful protector, you never hesitated to sacrifice for those entrusted to you. May your example inspire us also to welcome, cherish, and safeguard God's most precious gift of life.

Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life —especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things. Amen.

2023/2024 Fiscal Year Diocesan 10% Tithing

St. Aloysius Parish

- February Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$344.00
- Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$3,872.00

St. Michael's Parish

- February Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$544.00
- Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$4,717.00

St. Mary's Parish

- February Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$2,420.00
- Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$24,498.00



Our Stewardship Weekly Offertory April 20/21

ST. ALOYSIUS

Sunday \$802.00
Weekly Goal: \$962.00
Over/(Under) Goal: **-\$160.00**

ST. MICHAEL

Sunday \$675.00
Online Giving \$175.00
Weekly Goal: \$1,269.00
Over/(Under) Goal: **-\$419.00**

ST. MARY

Sunday \$5,451.00
Building Fund \$90.00
Compassionate Clothing Closet \$165.00
Weekly Goal: \$7,365.00
Over/(Under) Goal: **-\$1,824.00**

Thank you for your support!

Bulletin Deadline

Please forward information for the bulletin to: jkoutsoumpas@stmaryschurchparis.org by Wednesday at 2:00 P.M. before the following Sunday publication.

Project Rachel: Help for women and men to heal from the pain of abortion.
For assistance call 1-877-RACHEL-5.

Prayer Requests

For the Sick

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

Andrew Hostetler	Diana Haupt
Gerry St. Louis	Marie Hibner
Alice Kramer	Michael Ndeanaefo
Sharon Bailey	Theresa Ndeanaefo
Mary Stoneburner	Ross Lanter
Tabathia Bratcher	Bob Joines
Joan McCulley	Dan Bruner
Dalton Elsberry	Sheila Brothers
Rosemary Ogle	Maxi Fitzjarald
Tate Kest	Doris Bernard
Jody Crandell	Amber Hall
Priscilla Hutton	Mary Lou Hollowell
Leigh Ketner	Joseph Finch
Isaac Hayes	Mary Jo Thompson
Colette Bernard	Marc Wolf
Colette Kamalosky	
Rita Brink	
Donnie Farris	
Jean Kramer	
Garry Williamson	

For Our Expectant Mothers

We pray that God will bless and protect them during this time of waiting.

Raynelle Reynolds	Sara Harris
Brooke Carrington	Shelby Carrington

For Our Military

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

Trent Senczyszyn	Richard Scott
Jeff Walsh	Justin Vice
Nathan Gatlin	Joe Kachmar
Caleb Machuca	Zack Lueken
Simon Holzer	Joseph Livesay
Joe Jenness	

For Our Confirmandi

Lord, show the path to Faith to these who will be confirmed and these who will join the Catholic Church, so that they learn to know Your Son Jesus Christ !

Our Confirmandi:

Abner Wood	Kallen Keys	Jocelyn Tracy
Leah Wood	Leo Higginbotham	
Bryce McGrath	Brooke McGrath	



Our Graduates:
Ethan Curl
Sami McClain
Addison Phipps

High School Graduation

Mass & Brunch

on Sunday, May 26, 10:15 am

Congratulate our Graduates in the Gathering Space after Mass.
*A brunch reception following Mass in the Parish Meeting Room
for the graduates and their families.*

If you have a graduating senior and I missed him/her, please let the office know, so we don't miss anyone. Thank you!

Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.
-Matthew 25: 40

The Compassionate Clothing Closet is indeed needs items such as underwear, socks, bras, belts, ties and purses along with shoes and coats/jackets. Please consider donating these goods from your spring cleaning your closets and drawers. Items may be dropped off at the facility located at 211 North Central in Paris (across the street from the county jail and a few doors south) on Mondays (except for holidays) from 10 am until 1 pm. Thank you for your generosity.

Saint of the Week – St. Monica, mother of St. Augustine



Saint Monica (331?-387) was the mother of Saint Augustine. Born in Tagaste (now known as Souk Ahras in Algeria) in either 331 or 332, Monica was raised in a Christian family.

She married Patricius, a pagan who served on the City Council of Tagaste. Augustine was the couple's eldest son. In the *Confessions*, Augustine says that she married young, and was a good and patient wife who was generous to her husband. He further notes that Monica had a cordial relationship with her mother-in-law, and was a peacemaker.

Monica was a good mother, but Augustine, as a young man, did not follow her example of Christian faith. Monica prayed continually for her son, as well as for her husband. Both Patricius and Augustine did eventually become followers of Christ.

Augustine credited Monica with planting the seeds of faith in his heart. He called his conversion a return to the faith which had been instilled in him as a child. When Augustine and his friends would get together for philosophical discussions, Augustine would invite his mother to join them. Her wise comments helped nurture the faith that had begun to grow in Augustine's heart.

The [conversion of Augustine](#), whose earlier ways had caused many tears, brought particular joy to Monica. She was present at his baptism. On her way back to Africa with Augustine, she died at Ostia, near Rome, probably some time in October, 387. Her remains are at the Church of Saint Augustine, Rome.

Exemplary Mother of the Great Augustine, you perseveringly pursued your wayward son, not with wild threats but with prayerful cries to heaven. Intercede for all mothers in our day so that they may learn to draw their children to God. Teach them how to remain close to their children, even the prodigal sons and daughters who have sadly gone astray. Amen.

Good News

Online Giving Coming Soon

Thank you for your consistent giving to our parishes. We are grateful for your continued generosity. We will be launching our new online giving platform starting soon. Generosity of Time, Talent, and Treasure enables our parishes to continue and grow in our mission to share our faith and form new disciples. We value our parish community and want to ensure everyone at our parishes is aware of our exciting new online giving platform, **Pushpay**, which allows for simple giving through a variety of ways, including mobile and online. **Pushpay** provides an integrated solution with our new **ParishStaq** system. This integration gives our parishioners a quick, easy, and secure way to donate. We strive to be good stewards of your donation and believe the lower processing fees offered through Pushpay, will allow your gift of treasure to go further in supporting the Church's mission. More information coming!

Blessings to you all!

Word of Life

“Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.” – 1JOHN 3:18

Regarding our Catholic faith, do you “walk the talk?” Do your actions reflect what it means to be a good disciple? Are you an active participant at Sunday Mass? Are you joyful when participating in parish ministry? Do you give gratefully and generously with your financial support to your parish and other Church needs? If not, it's not too late to start!

Contractor Quotes: *St. Mary's Church* is looking for contractor quotes for a proposed one room and bath addition to our Rectory. If you or someone you know, would like to submit a quote for this project, please contact the parish office for more details. A Building and Grounds member will contact you with further information.

Wisdom Shared

When I stand up to talk, people listen to me; they will follow what I have to say. Is it any power of mine? Of course not. St. Paul says, ‘What have you that you have not received and you who have received, why do you glory as if you had not?’ But the secret of my power is that I have never in fifty-five years missed spending an hour in the presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. That's where the power comes from. That's where sermons are born. That's where every good thought is conceived.

- Fulton Sheen

Gratitude

A heartfelt *thank you* to those who came and helped on Saturday, St. Mary's parish workday. Some weeded the flower beds, some trimmed the bushes, some planted, some mowed and some hauled away the yard waste. Along with the labor, they enjoyed each other's fellowship.

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.*

Pastoral Reflections

5th Sunday of Easter

My dear parishioners,

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

By God's grace, Paul's life was changed as he made his way to Damascus. Now he arrives in Jerusalem. This reading records experiences there that will lead to his becoming the apostle to the gentiles.

Once again Jesus uses rich agricultural imagery to describe the relationship between God, Jesus, and Jesus' followers. Vineyard imagery can be found in the Old Testament as exemplified by Is 5:1–7 and Sir 24:16–17. In the metaphorical description of this Gospel, the Father is the gardener or vine grower, Jesus is the vine, and Jesus' followers are the branches. Anyone who has actually worked in a vineyard will appreciate the accuracy and realism of the process described in this Gospel.

The vine grower. The Father is the gardener of the vineyard; what is described here is the process of pruning the vines so that they can produce fruit. Dead branches must be cut away to make room for new growth. The pruned branches are usually stacked together and eventually burned. This task of removing dead branches without harming those that are healthy is very difficult but necessary. In the Gospel, it is Jesus' word that has performed the process of pruning. The word, like a two-edged sword, gets rid of the dead branches so that new branches might emerge.

Remain in me. The word remain is very important in the Gospel of John. It bespeaks a deep level of intimacy that exists between the Father, Jesus, and the disciples. It is the dynamic of divine mutuality. Here Jesus reminds his followers how necessary it is for them to strengthen the mutual bond between him and his followers. This is how new fruit will be produced. New fruit here refers to the work Jesus undertook during his earthly ministry and the works of his followers, who will take up Jesus' divine commission.

The failure to remain in Jesus. Those who do not remain in Jesus are equal to dead branches on a vine. They hinder growth, and thus they are cut away and gathered together for burning. The goal of this whole process is that people become disciples of Jesus and that they bear much fruit. Ultimately, this glorifies the Father. The richness of this passage is that realism and metaphor are creatively intertwined. Image and application are carefully combined so that the real spiritual significance of gardener, vine, and branches is highlighted. It is all about the divine mutuality that produces much fruit

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Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Aloysius



**Knights of Columbus
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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