



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

**1st Sunday of Lent
February 18, 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 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.



**1ST SUNDAY
OF LENT**

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." - Mk 1:14-15

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 - 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, February 20

5:00 pm †Pauline Anderson by Marge Anderson

Wednesday, February 21

8:00 am †Rosemary Hopper by MaryAnn Sullivan

Thursday, February 22

8:00 am Nana Matt & Pearman Family by Matt Pearman

Friday, February 23

8:00 am †James (Jim) Savoree by Mark Savoree

Saturday, February 24

5:30 pm †Judy St. Louise by Ann Pool

Sunday, February 25

7:00 am Living & Deceased Parishioners

8:30 am †Ben & Grace Morrison

10:15am †Larry Bryan by Dianne Yates



February 24/25, 2024

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

LECTOR: Anne Pool

EMS: Jim Moore & Volunteer

SERVERS: Volunteer

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

LECTORS: Angie Barrett

EM: Linda Hahn

SERVERS: Scott Neal

GIFTS: Keys Family

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

GREETOR: Kevin Smith

LECTORS: Kevin Smith

SERVERS: Lily Brown/Abner Wood

GIFTS: the Wilhoit Family

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

LECTORS: Jim Aydt

EM: Mary Liz Wright, Adam Cash & Christi McClain

SERVERS: Santi Rea

Parish Council & Committee Chairs

St. Aloysius

Pastoral Council

Jim Frisz

jdfrisz@gmail.com

Finance Council

Joe Keys

joekeys1@gmail.com

St. Michael

Pastoral Council

Dave Smith

dsmith.tke718@gmail.com

Finance Council

Brian Smith

tstsmith36@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

Deacon

Bruce Scott

bscott@dio.org

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.*

2023/2024 Fiscal Year Diocesan 10% Tithing

St. Aloysius Parish

-December Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$506.00
-Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$2,928.00

St. Michael's Parish

-December Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$653.00
-Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$3,514.00

St. Mary's Parish

-December Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$5,288.00
-Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$18,464.00



Our Stewardship Weekly Offertory February 10/11

ST. ALOYSIUS

Sunday \$1547.00
Weekly Goal: \$962.00
Over/(Under) Goal: **+\$585.00**

ST. MICHAEL

Sunday \$1,020.00
Online Giving \$125.00
Weekly Goal: \$1,269.00
Over/(Under) Goal: **-\$124.00**

ST. MARY

Sunday \$3,440.04
Building Fund \$120.00
Flower \$140.00
Church in Central Europe \$25.00
Catholic Charities \$45.00
Weekly Goal: \$7,365.00
Over/(Under) Goal: **-\$3,664.96**

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.

Prayer Requests

For the Sick

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

Dalton Elsberry	Pam Shoot
Rosemary Ogle	Donna Keys
John McMullen	Kaylee Kelleher
Tate Kest	Sheila Brothers
Jody Crandell	Maxi Fitzjarald
Priscilla Hutton	Joan Stirek
Leigh Ketner	Doris Bernard
David Yates	Amber Hall
Isaac Hayes	Mary Lou Hollowell
Colette Bernard	Jeri Ingram
Colette Kamalosky	Gerry Scott
Katherine Lentz	Tom Greenwood
Theo Brink	Richard Rennie
Rita Brink	Joyce Bouslog
Josiphen Pedigo	Katie Lenz
Donnie Farris	Roger Wolfe
Pearl Wallace	Peter David
Jean Kramer	Bryan Albert
Garry Williamson	Nancy Wrede
Lucas Edmonds	Kehlin Crawford
Donna Woodyard	Joseph Finch
Diana Haupt	Sean Bradley
Marie Hibner	Christa Swinford
Michael Ndeanaefo	Mary Jo Thompson
Theresa Ndeanaefo	Mike Elledge
Ross Lanter	Marc Wolf
Bob Joines	Bill Myers
Dan Bruner	
Jean Wilcox Hibben	
David Volk	

Our Military

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

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

Our Confirmandi

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

Abner Wood	Callen Keys	Jocelyn Tracy
Leah Wood	Leo Higginbotham	

Announcements, Events and Activities

Birthdays & Anniversaries



February 22
Thad Martin

February 23
Lio Higginbotham
Maislyn Moreschi

Brody spence

February 25
John Bernard

February 26
Amy Hogan

February 27
Virginia Holley

February 28
Dane Hess
Ed Pool



February 22
John & Helen McMullen

February 27
Larry & Ramona Mattingly

Choir Practice

Choir practice for Holy Week and Easter will begin on Monday Feb 19th at 6:30 pm.

All interested are invited!

CR&S Rice Bowl

A SEASON FOR REFLECTION During this holy time, we are called to pause and pay closer attention to our relationship with God and our neighbors. Reflect on how the Lenten pillars of prayer, fasting and alms-giving can guide your journey and how the Eucharist helps us to live in solidarity with our sisters and brothers around the world.

Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more and read this week's Story of Hope.

Happening This Week

Monday, February 19

6:30 pm Choir Practice for Holy Week and Easter at St. Mary

Tuesday, February 20

5:00 pm Mass - St. Mary

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

Wednesday, February 21

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary's

Thursday, February 22

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary

Friday, February 23

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

12:00pm Station of the Cross led by Fr. Aloysius

5:30pm Station of the Cross led by lay parishioners following by simple potluck

Saturday, February 24

5:30 pm Mass - St. Mary

4:00 - 5:00pm Confession at St. Mary's

Sunday, February 25

7:00 am Mass - St. Aloysius

8:30 am Mass - St. Michael

10:15 am Mass - St. Mary

8:30 am OCIA Meeting

11:15 am A Family of Faith Community Mtg.

Reminders

February 27 : KC Mtg. at 7:00pm

March 2: 8:00am Parish Vitality Study Meeting at St. Mary-of-the-Woods

March 7, 8 & 9: Photo Days for a New Directory of our parishes.

March 8 : KC Fish Fry

March 13: St. Michael's Pastoral Council meeting at 6:00 pm

March 15: KC Fish Fry

March 18: St. Mary's Pastoral Council Meeting at 5:00pm

Lent, Holy Week and Easter Season Schedule: February 14 – May 19, 2024

*Lenten Stations of the Cross on Fridays

12:00pm & 5:30pm at St. Mary's
6:00 pm at St Michael's

*Confession & Penance during Lent

- Confession from 8:30 – 9:00am after Daily Mass
- 6:00pm on Thursday March 14, 2024
1st Reconciliation & all PSR students
- 6:00pm Penance Service at St. Mary's on Tuesday March 19, 2024
- 6:00pm Penance Service at St. Michael on Thursday March 21, 2024
- Confession 4:00 – 4:45pm at St. Mary's on Saturday March 24, 2024

****New Saturday Confession Time: 4:00 — 4:45pm****

Holy Week

*On Tuesday March 26, 2024

there will be No Mass
– Chrism Mass in Springfield

*On Holy Thursday March 28, 2024

10:00am Server Rehearsal at St. Mary
The Lord's Supper Mass at 7:00pm at St. Mary's with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration till midnight

*On Good Friday March 29, 2024

10:00am Server Rehearsal at St. Mary
12:00pm Station of the Cross at St. Mary
3:00pm Station of the Cross at St. Michael
5:30pm Good Friday Liturgy at St. Mary

*On Holy Saturday March 30, 2024

10:00am Server Rehearsal at St. Mary
8:00pm Easter Vigil Mass



Our Dearly Departed

Kay Barrett

*Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord!
May she rest in peace!*

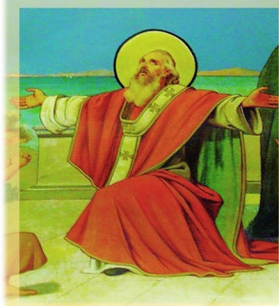


STEWARDSHIP

"After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God...." – Mark 1:14

Have you ever thought about how difficult it must have been for Jesus to go to Galilee, knowing that John had just been arrested for teaching the same message that He was proclaiming. It took great love and trust for Jesus to do what the Father had sent Him here on earth to do. In the same way, living a stewardship lifestyle takes great love and trust from us. We must be willing to surrender completely to God, trusting that He will always give us all that we need to fulfill His plan for us.

Saint of the Week



**SAINT
POLYCARP**

As a disciple of St. John, the Evangelist, St. Polycarp was able to hear about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection directly from those who witnessed it. Because Polycarp was ordained as Bishop of Smyrna by St. John, he is one of three chief Apostolic Fathers, along with Clement of Rome and Ignatius of Antioch.

During his life Polycarp defended the Church against heresies. His important writing, the Letter to the Philippians, quoted the Gospels and Acts of the Apostles, stressing Paul's authority in the Church and setting out clear arguments against the gnostic heresy that denied Christ's divinity.

The early period of the Church was a dangerous time to be a Christian and like many, St. Polycarp was martyred. He was captured by Romans and sentenced to burn at the stake. However, the fire did not touch him, instead rising up like sails around him. Seeing that the flames would not injure Polycarp, the Romans stabbed him instead. The Martyrdom of Polycarp is perhaps the earliest fully preserved account of a Christian martyr.

A new Pictorial Directory!

Our dates and times of photography are : **March 7, 8 (2-8:30pm) & 9 (10:00am – 4:00pm)** at **St. Mary's meeting room**. Just for participating you will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a church directory. You will view your images right away and have the chance to purchase family portraits for your own memories and to give as gifts. You can make an appointment:

- 1) Sign up after Mass at sign up table only at St. Mary's (**weekend**)
- 2) Online (**Mon. – Fri.**) since **February 5** by either following the link www.ucdir.com or scan the code below- your **church code: il350** & your **church password: photos**
- 3) Call the office at 217-466-3355



We look forward to seeing you !!!

Thank you!

Deacon Bruce's Ordination Reception

There will be a meeting on Wednesday, February 21 at 6 PM in the meeting room at church. If anybody is interested in helping, please attend the meeting.

Thank you for all your help.

Mattoon Deanery Council of Catholic Women

The Mattoon Deanery Council of Catholic Women, meeting is Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at St. Anthony of Padua, 101 E. Virginia, Effingham, IL 62401. Holy Mass at 8:30 a.m., registration at 9:15 a.m. Our guest speakers are Megan Rewrrs, Crisis Nursery serving Effingham County and Lisa Kramer, from El Shaddai, a shelter for women in Effingham. Please join us for a fun and faith-filled day. We warmly welcome all ladies and their friends to come together for a day of fellowship, inspiration and community. Lunch and white elephant auction (wrapped gift) will conclude the day; proceeds go to the Seminary Fund (check or cash accepted). Whether you're a long-time member or someone looking to connect with fellow Catholic women, this gathering is an excellent opportunity to grow in your faith, strengthen your community bonds, and have a great time!

Contact: MDCCW President: Margaret Thompson (217) 232-4350 or drmathompson@gmail.com

ABSTINENCE - Everyone 14 years of age and over is bound to abstain from meat on **all the Fridays of Lent**.

FAST - Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 is required to fast on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday**.

On the days of Fast and Abstinence, only one full meatless meal is permitted. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each person's needs, but together these two should not equal another full meal.

Eating between meals is NOT permitted, but liquids (including milk and fruit juices) are allowed.

To disregard completely the law of Fast and Abstinence is seriously sinful!

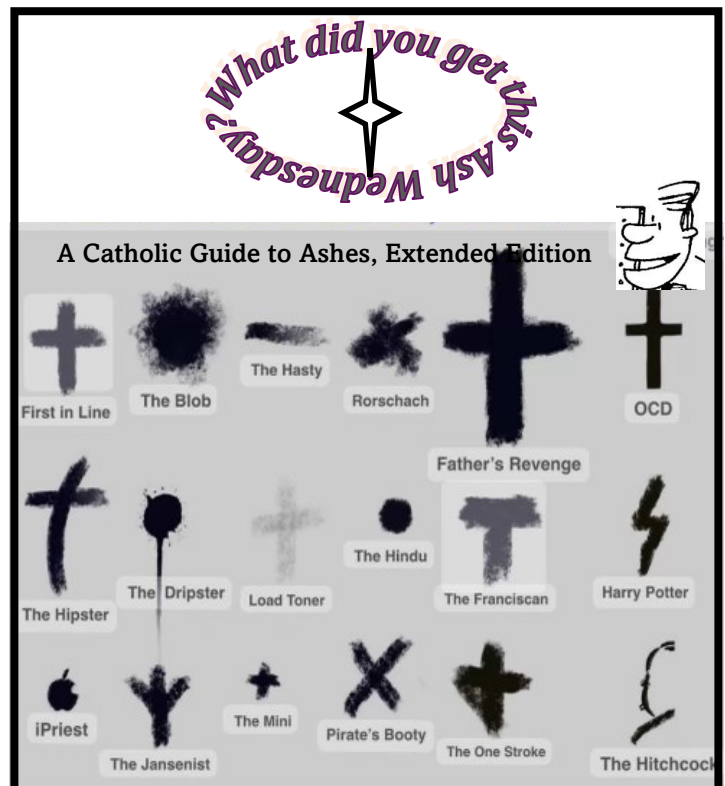
CPR & AED Training

Dear Parishioner,
Jeff Roush is going to offer a **CPR & AED Training Class**. If you are interested please contact the office (**217-466-3355**) or fill the form below and drop it in the collection basket.
Thank you!

Your name: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____



Pastoral Reflections

1st Sunday of Lent

My dear parishioners,

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

In the first reading, the narrative of the flood draws to a close with God speaking these comforting words to Noah. After nearly a full year floating about on the surface of the waters, Noah is grateful to at last be able to stand again on solid ground. In thanksgiving, he presents a substantial sacrifice to the Lord, choosing offerings from every clean animal and bird (Gn 8:20). But God recognizes that Noah may yet fear that such a devastating phenomenon as the flood may be repeated.

Mark's Gospel is very concise compared to Matthew's and Luke's. The Baptism of Jesus, his encounter with temptations from Satan, and finally his opening statement describing his ministry are all very brief. Today's Gospel passage presents us with Jesus being tempted by Satan, followed by his brief but packed mission and ministry statement.

Tempted by Satan. The Gospels of Matthew and Luke present the temptations of Jesus focused on three events, all aimed at persuading Jesus to do some fantastic action that would prove that he is in fact the Messiah. Mark offers a very brief and generic account of the temptations. He states simply that Jesus was tempted by Satan. It is interesting that it is the Spirit that “drove” Jesus into the desert. *Drove* (*ekballo* in Greek) is a violent word. The desert is also a symbol for purification. The Israelites spent 40 years in the desert preparing to enter the Promised Land. Every spiritual journey must include time in the desert—be it the Israelites, Jesus, or faithful followers of Jesus. According to Mark, Jesus successfully fends off the temptations of Satan.

The programmatic statement. When Jesus finally gets the center stage due to the arrest of John the Baptist, he makes a statement that is so important that it is referred to as Jesus' “programmatic statement” regarding his mission and ministry. This brief statement is an outline of the entire Gospel of Mark. It is concise but it is packed. The location is Galilee, where Jesus has been proclaiming the Gospel of God. What makes up that Gospel?

The Gospel of God. This statement of Jesus consists of three major emphases: time, a new reality, and action. The first emphasis is that God's special time (*kairos* in Greek) has been fulfilled. That means that we have now entered sacred time, which is calculated by the will of God and not linear hours, minutes, and seconds. In God's sacred time, there also exists a new and alternative reality called the kingdom of God. This is God's divine presence manifested in the words and actions of Jesus. This new alternative reality demands a radical response characterized by change (repentance) and believing in this good news. All of this is the Gospel of God in a nutshell.

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Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Aloysius



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**LONGVIEW
BANK**

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.

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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Richard M. Kash, Jr.

Attorneys at Law

129 N. Central Ave.
Paris, IL 61944

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