



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

2nd Sunday of Lent
February 25, 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.



2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. - Mk 9:7-8

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 Coming Week

Tuesday, February 27

5:00 pm †Marjorie Milliner *by Juliana K*

Wednesday, February 28

8:00 am †Pete & Sue Sedondino *by Jody Crandell*

Thursday, February 29

8:00 am †Kenneth Drake *by Cara Hall*

Friday, March 1

8:00 am †Pauline Anderson *by Marge Anderson*

Saturday, March 2

5:30 pm †Ray & Charlott Crippers *by Lugene Joines*

Sunday, March 3

7:00 am Cash & Estes Families (L+ D) *by DeAnn Cash*

8:30 am Living & Deceased Parishioners

10:15am †Rosemary Hopper *by Maurice Waller*



March 2/3, 2024

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

LECTOR: Anne Pool

EMS: Jim Moore, Lugene Joines & Volunteer

SERVERS: Volunteer

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

LECTORS: Jim Frisz

EM: Linda Hahn

SERVERS: Scott Neal

GIFTS: Keys Family

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

GREETOR: John Barrett

LECTORS: Brian Smith

SERVERS: Leah Wood/Abner Wood

GIFTS: the Wood Family

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

LECTORS: Brian Murphy

EM: Adam Cash, Christi McClain & Chris Wright

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 14 & 17/18

ST. ALOYSIUS

Sunday	\$405.00
Catholic Charities	\$200.00
Weekly Goal:	\$962.00
Over/(<u>Under</u>) Goal:	-\$557.00

ST. MICHAEL

Sunday	\$1,198.00
Online Giving	\$125.00
Ash Wednesday/Church Europe	\$680.00
Catholic Charities	\$25.00
Weekly Goal:	\$1,269.00
Over/(<u>Under</u>) Goal	+\$54.00

ST. MARY

Sunday	\$4,820.00
Building Fund	\$30.00
Flower	\$30.00
Food Pantry	\$50.00
Church in Central Europe	\$1,300.00
Catholic Charities	\$120.00
Catholic Time	\$40.00
Weekly Goal:	\$7,365.00
Over/(<u>Under</u>) Goal:	-\$2,485.00

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 Sun-
day publication.



Prayer Requests



For the Sick

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

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

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 on June 1, so that they learn to know
Your Son Jesus Christ !**

**Abner Wood Kallen Keys Jocelyn Tracy
Leah Wood Leo Higginbotham**

Announcements, Events and Activities

Birthdays & Anniversaries



Happy Birthday!

March 2

Ellyanna Krieger

Mary Bosch

March 7

Margaret Englum

Jayne Rollings



March 5

Francis & Cheryl Elsberry

Choir Practice

Choir practice for Holy Week and Easter will begin on Monday evenings March 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th at 6:30 pm. All interested are invited!

St. Michael's Council of Catholic Women formerly the Altar Society will have a short meeting after the 8:30 Mass on March 3 in the Life Parrish Hall. All women of the St. Michael Parish are invited to attend.

CR& Rice Bowl

OVERCOMING HUNGER In Akwangagwel, Uganda, the climate is very hot and dry. Farmers in this region depend heavily on the rainy season for a successful harvest. But lately—due to the changing climate—the rain has been coming later than it used to and is more inconsistent. Sometimes, when it does rain, it causes flooding and ruins the crops. Learn how Adolf and Florence have taken the matter into their own hands, implementing new farming techniques they learned from a Catholic Relief Services program to improve their farm and fight against hunger in their community. Visit crsricebowl.org to read this week's Story of Hope

Happening This Week

Tuesday, February 27

5:00 pm Mass - St. Mary

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

Wednesday, February 28

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary's

Thursday, February 29

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary

Friday, March 1

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

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

5:30pm Stations of the Cross led by Laity followed by simple potluck

Saturday, March 2

5:30 pm Mass - St. Mary

4:00 –4:45 pm Confession at St. Mary's

Sunday, March 3

7:00 am Mass - St. Aloysius

8:30 am Mass - St. Michael

10:15 am Mass - St. Mary

8:30 am OCIA Meeting

8:45 am A Family of Faith Community Mtg.

St. Michael's CCW mtg. after 8:30 Mass

Reminders

February 27 : 7pm KC Mtg.

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

March 6, 7, 8 & 9: Photo Days for a New Directory of our parishes.

March 8 : 4—6:30pm KC Fish Fry

March 13: 12pm Prayer Lunch at St. Mary

March 13: 6pm St. Michael's Pastoral Council Mtg.

March 14: 6pm 1st Reconciliation & Confession for all PSR students

March 15: 4—6:30pm KC Fish Fry

March 18: 5pm St. Mary's Pastoral Council Mtg.

March 19: 6pm Penance Service at St. Mary

March 21: 6pm Penance Service at St. Michael

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

Saint of the Week



Born in Italy into a large family and baptized Francis, Saint Gabriel lost his mother when he was only four years old. He was educated by the Jesuits and, having been cured twice of serious illnesses, came to believe that God was calling him to the religious life. Young Francis wished to join the Jesuits but was turned down, probably because of his age, not yet 17. Following the death of a sister to cholera, his resolve to enter religious life became even stronger and he was accepted by the Passionists. Upon entering the novitiate he was given the name Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows.

Ever popular and cheerful, Gabriel quickly was successful in his effort to be faithful in little things. His spirit of prayer, love for the poor, consideration of the feelings of others, exact observance of the Passionist Rule as well as his bodily penances—always subject to the will of his wise superiors—made a deep impression on everyone.

His superiors had great expectations of Gabriel as he prepared for the priesthood, but after only four years of religious life symptoms of tuberculosis appeared. Ever obedient, he patiently bore the painful effects of the disease and the restrictions it required, seeking no special notice. He died peacefully on February 27, 1862, at age 24, having been an example to both young and old.

Saint Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows was canonized in 1920.

Meditation of the Day

"[The] ultimate end of man we call beatitude. For a man's happiness or beatitude consists in the vision whereby he sees God in His essence. Of course, man is far below God in the perfection of his beatitude. For God has this beatitude by His very nature, whereas man attains beatitude by being admitted to a share in the divine light." – St. Thomas Aquinas, p. 119

A new Pictorial Directory!

An Extra Day Is Added for Photography Taking—Wednesday March 6

Dear Parishioners,

Our dates and times of photography are : March 6, 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 on your left – your **church code: il350** & your **church password: photos**
 - 3) Call the office at 217-466-3355
- We look forward to seeing you !!!



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 Rewrs, 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 : _____

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

"Here I am!" he answered." – Genesis 22:11

It is easy to say, "Here I am, Lord," when we are kneeling in church. But how easy is it to say "Here I am, Lord," when a neighbor needs our help, or when we are invited to join a parish ministry, or when we are asked to provide financial support? Often times we are called when it's not convenient for us. Discipleship is not easy, most of the time it will make us uncomfortable and vulnerable.

Pastoral Reflections

2nd Sunday of Lent

My dear parishioners,

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

Mark's story of the transfiguration of Jesus comes a little over halfway through the Gospel narrative. The disciples have struggled with understanding Jesus' true identity. They love his miracle-working but cannot understand why he tells them to keep it quiet. With the transfiguration story, Mark in effect stops all the action in the Gospel narrative and gives everyone a quick glimpse at the real identity of Jesus. The disciples do not grasp this, but hopefully the reader of the Gospel will.

The event. The actual transfiguration of Jesus is described very briefly. “He was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them.” The event took place on a mountain, which is a favorite location for extraordinary manifestations of God. Peter, James, and John accompany Jesus and they witness the transfiguration. The transformation Jesus undergoes serves to allow his divine and glorious identity to be manifested.

Elijah and Moses. Elijah and Moses appear along with the transfigured Jesus and they are all in conversation. Traditionally, Elijah symbolizes the prophets, Moses symbolizes the law. Together they symbolize the law and the prophets, which was a favorite way of referring to divine revelation. Jesus is in their midst serving as the fullness of this divine revelation. Peter is dumbfounded and terrified by all this and connects it with the Feast of Tabernacles, where people spent time in tents commemorating the wilderness journey and the giving of the law on Mount Sinai.

The beloved son. The key to this entire event is the divine voice that comes from the cloud and identifies Jesus. “This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.” This same voice was heard at the Baptism of Jesus (Mk 1:11). This is the identity Jesus has been revealing to his disciples throughout the Gospel, but they have failed to grasp what he has been saying. True to form, the disciples miss the point of this transfiguration event. It ends almost as soon as it began. Jesus, knowing that the disciples had not grasped his meaning, charges them not to repeat what they have just witnessed because they will only promote more misunderstanding. Hopefully when the Son of Man has risen from the dead, all this will make sense to the disciples.

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Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Aloysius



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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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**LONGVIEW
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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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