



**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 in Ordinary Time  
February 4, 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.*



**5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee. - Mk 1:39

**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](http://www.stmaryschurchparis.org)**

**Pastor: Father Aloysius Okey Ndeanaefo**

**Email: [anaefoaloymelody@yahoo.com](mailto:anaefoaloymelody@yahoo.com)**

**For Appointment & Emergency only:**

**Please text (217) 412-4344**

**PARISH STAFF**

**Business Mgr. & CRE: Juliana Koutsoumpas**  
[jkoutsoumpas@stmaryschurchparis.org](mailto:jkoutsoumpas@stmaryschurchparis.org)

**Custodian: Misty Elsberry**

**Music: Mary Ann Sullivan**  
[gma.sullivan80@gmail.com](mailto:gma.sullivan80@gmail.com)

**RCIA: Scott Hall**  
[stmarysrcia@stmaryschurchparis.org](mailto: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, February 6

8:00 am †Raquel Hernandez

## Wednesday, February 7

8:00 am †Virginia Sullivan

## Thursday, February 8

8:00 am †Margaret Wilson

## Friday, February 9

8:00 am †Dan Clark

## Saturday, February 10

5:30 pm †John McNary

## Sunday, February 11

7:00 am †Nancy Young

8:30 am †Maureen Denbo

10:15am Living & Deceased Parishioners



**February 10/11,  
2024**

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

**LECTOR:** Anne Pool

**EMS:** Lugene Joines, 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:** Neal Wood

**LECTORS:** Brian Smith

**SERVERS:** Leah Wood/Abner Wood

**GIFTS:** the Wood Family

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

**LECTORS:** Mary Liz Wright

**EM:** Janet Tracy, Kit Kirby & Andy Goodwin

**SERVERS:** Santi Rea

## Parish Council & Committee Chairs

### St. Michael's

#### **Pastoral Council**

Dave Smith

[dsmith.tke718@gmail.com](mailto:dsmith.tke718@gmail.com)

#### **Finance Council**

Brian Smith

[tstsmith36@gmail.com](mailto:tstsmith36@gmail.com)

### St. Mary's

#### **Pastoral Council**

Doug Happ

[dough@pchs.k12.il.us](mailto:dough@pchs.k12.il.us)

#### **Finance Council**

John Carrington

[jdcarrington19@gmail.com](mailto:jdcarrington19@gmail.com)

#### **Building & Grounds Committee**

Pat Catanzariti

[p.catan71@gmail.com](mailto:p.catan71@gmail.com)

#### **Deacon**

Bruce Scott

[bscott@dio.org](mailto:bscott@dio.org)

217-264-3113

### Mass Intention Requests

Submit requests to the Parish Office:

[jkoutsoumpas@stmaryschurchparis.org](mailto:jkoutsoumpas@stmaryschurchparis.org)

Mass stipend is \$10 /Mass.

Please make checks payable to St. Mary's.

## 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  
 January 27/28***

**ST. ALOYSIUS**

Sunday	\$1,131.00
Sister Parish	\$20.00
Church in Latin America	\$130.00
Catholic Time	\$60.00
Weekly Goal:	\$962.00
Over/(Under) Goal:	+\$169.00

**ST. MICHAEL'S**

Sunday	\$1,240.00
Online Giving	\$225.00
Maintenance	\$170.00
Church in Latin America	\$195.00
Catholic Times	\$515.00
Weekly Goal:	\$1,269.00
Over/(Under) Goal	+\$366.00

**ST. MARY'S**

Sunday	\$4,150.00
Building Fund	\$184.00
First Offering	\$10.00
Catholic Times	\$40.00
Sister Parish	\$130.00
Church in Latin America	\$2,110.00
Weekly Goal:	\$7,365.00
Over/(Under) Goal:	-\$3,021.00

***Thank you for your support!***

**Bulletin Deadline**

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



**Prayer Requests**

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

Tate Kest	Dan Bruner
Jody Crandell	Pearl Wallace
Priscilla Hutton	Jean Kramer
Leigh Ketner	Garry Williamson
David Yates	Michael Nugent-Dolan
Isaac Hayes	Lucas Edmonds
Colette Bernard	Donna Woodyard
Colette Kamalosky	Diana Haupt
Katherine Lentz	Marie Hibner
Theo Brink	Michael Ndeanaefo
Rita Brink	Theresa Ndeanaefo
Josiphen Pedigo	Ross Lanter
Kay Barrett	Bob Joines
Donnie Farris	George Furnish

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

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

**Long Term Prayer List**

Jean Wilcox Hibben	Katie Lenz
Bobbie Turner	Roger Wolfe
Ian McDonald	Peter David
Nelson Zucker	Bryan Albert
David Volk	Nancy Wrede
Pam Shoot	Kehlin Crawford
Donna Keys	Joseph Finch
Kaylee Kelleher	Sean Bradley
Sheila Brothers	Christa Swinford
Maxi Fitzjarald	Payton Holzer
Joan Stirek	Jack Livesay
Doris Bernard	Mary Jo Thompson
Amber Hall	Mike Elledge
Julia McGowen	Mike Duke
Mary Lou Hollowell	Roseann Tate
Jeri Ingram	Patricia Wilson
Kevin Wamsbley	Marc Wolf
Michael Shelkey	Danielle Fox Lindsey
Gerry Scott	Kevin Farris
Janet Mullen	Lincoln Downing
Jeff Moore	Bill Myers
Tom Greenwood	Lois White
Richard Rennier	
Joyce Bouslog	
Ronnie Strow	



## Announcements, Events and Activities

### Birthdays & Anniversaries



#### February 8

Marrisa Lawson  
Mary Sue Whitaker

#### February 10

Dawn Roman  
Richard Spencer

#### February 11

Jody Crandell  
Liz Eveland

#### February 13

Pam Warren

#### February 14

Jamison Dowden  
Lugene Joines

## Exciting Moment

### 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 (**weekend**)
- 2) Online (**Mon. – Fri. ) starting February 5** by either following the link [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com) or scan the code below

- 3) Call the office at 217-466-3355

We look forward to seeing you !!!

*Thank you!*



### Happening This Week

#### Tuesday, February 6

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary's

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

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

#### Wednesday, February 7

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary's

#### Thursday, February 8

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary's

#### Friday, February 9

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

#### Saturday, February 10

5:30 pm Mass - St. Mary's

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

#### Sunday, February 11

7:00 am Mass - St. Aloysius

8:30 am Mass - St. Michael's

10:15 am Mass - St. Mary's

8:30 am OCIA Meeting

### Reminders

**February 13:** Prayer Lunch at St. Mary's at noon  
@5:00pm Parish Vitality Study Mtg in the Mtg Rm.  
@7:00pm KC Mtg.

**February 17:** 10:00am Lenten Class in the Mtg. Rm.

**February 24:** 10:00am Lenten Class in the Mtg. Rm.

**February 27 :** KC Mtg. at 7:00pm

**March 2:** 10:00am Lenten Class in the Mtg. Rm.

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

**March 9:** 10:00am Lenten Class in the Mtg. Rm.

**March 8 :** KC Fish Fry

**March 15:** KC Fish Fry

**March 16:** 10:00am Lenten Class in the Mtg. Rm.

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

## Help Needed for Parish Vitality Study!!!

Our diocese has asked every parish in the Diocese to submit a Parish Vitality Study. You might ask what that is. Here is the focus: This Parish Vitality Study will help us to see what we need to do so that we will be able to become better disciples of our Lord Jesus. To become His better disciples, we need to examine what we presently are doing and what we could be doing. We need all the help that you could lend to us to brainstorm for the betterment of our parishes. So, we encourage you to participate in the coming meetings of our Vitality Study.

- 1) Our Parish Vitality Study Orientation Meeting is on Tuesday February 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm at St. Mary's meeting room.
- 2) Our Parish Vitality Study Retreat will be on Saturday March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00am (CST) at St. Mary-of-the-Woods (more details to come)

If anyone who is interested or have any questions, please contact Brian Murphy at 217-264-2615 or email at besdpa@yahoo.com!

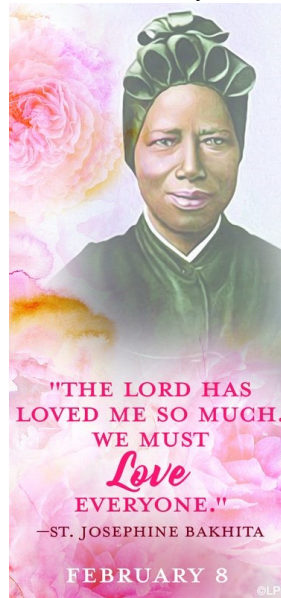
Thank you!

## Saint of the Week

The story of St. Josephine Bakhita (1869-1947) is a story that many people taken into slavery have experienced. Born in the Darfur region of Sudan, she was kidnapped at the age of 8 and sold into slavery many times. As she passed from owner to owner, she experienced the moral and physical humiliations associated with slavery. It was only at the age of 13 that her suffering was alleviated after she was bought for the Italian Consul in Sudan. It was here that she was fortunate to receive kindness, respect, and peace from her new master.

She was later handed over to the Canossian Sisters when she made

### St. Josephine Bakhita February 8



the case that slavery had been outlawed in Italy for years.

She was baptized and confirmed in the Catholic Church in 1890, where she took the name Josephine. She later entered the Institute of St. Magdalene of Canossa in 1893 and made her profession three years later.

St. Josephine Bakhita's next 50 years were spent serving people through cooking, sewing, embroidery, and housekeeping. She was a source of encouragement and her constant smile won people's hearts, as did her humility and simplicity. Today she is known as the patron saint of victims of modern slavery and human trafficking.

### ALL WOMEN OF THE SPRINGFIELD DIOCESE ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

S.D.C.C.W. 2024 WINTER/LENTEN RETREAT—TUES., FEB. 27<sup>TH</sup> and WED., FEB. 28<sup>TH</sup>—VILLA MARIA, SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

### Gathered in Worship

RETREAT SPEAKER: FATHER RICHARD CHIOLA

Mark your calendar! The Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women invites all women to this annual winter Lenten Retreat at Villa Maria in Springfield beginning at 9:00 am on Tuesday Feb 27th and ending at noon on Wed. Feb 28<sup>th</sup>, with Fr. Richard Chiola, retired priest of our diocese, as retreat master, What a wonderful time for spiritual presentations, reflection, prayer, Holy Mass, Confession, fellowship and much more. Bring your sister, your mom, your friend. All are welcome! Registration form with cost is available in the parish office.

Registration deadline: Feb 17<sup>th</sup>. Contact: Mary Ann Sullivan 217-822-1928 .

**Make a Positive Impact by Showing Solidarity  
with the Church in Latin America**

Thank you for your generous support for last week's Collection for the Church in Latin America. As a faith community together, we collected **\$2,560.00** to share the faith with our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean, so they in turn can share the Good News in their communities.

**Share YOUR Faith**



Support the Church in  
Latin America  
[usccb.org/latin-america](http://usccb.org/latin-america)

# World Marriage Day - February 11

**You are invited to**

**World Marriage Day celebration in St. Louis**

On Sunday, February 11 at the 12:00 pm Mass, Auxiliary Bishop Mark S. Rivituso will celebrate a Mass for World Marriage Day at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, 4431 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, MO. A reception will follow in Boland Hall. All married couples are invited to attend and celebrate the gift of marriage. World Marriage Day honors husband and wife as the foundation of the family – the basic unit of society. It emphasizes the faithfulness, sacrifice and joy of daily married life. World Marriage Day started in Baton Rouge, LA in 1981 and was later adopted by Worldwide Marriage Encounter, who now is sponsoring this event on February 11<sup>th</sup>.



**Retreat for married couples offered**

Worldwide Marriage Encounter presents weekend experiences for married couples to rekindle romance, enhance meaningful communication, and deepen and renew commitment. Sign-up now! For more information or to apply, go to [wwme.org](http://wwme.org) or call Terry & Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317. Next ones:

3/15/2024 – 3/17/2024, Cape Girardeau, MO

4/5/2024 – 4/7/2024, St. Peters, MO

8/2/2024 – 8/4/2024, St. Peters, MO

9/27/2024 – 9/29/2024, St. Peters, MO

10/11/2024 – 10/13/2024, Springfield, IL

**Contribution Statement**

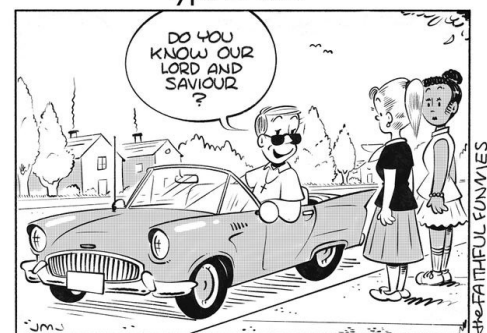
Dear Parishioners,

Your contribution statement for the year of 2023 is ready. If you need it for your tax return, please contact the office either by calling or stopping by to obtain it.

Thank you very much for your generosity!

May God's Abundant Blessings Be Yours !!!

"What is a missionary's favorite type of car?"



**"A convertible."**



**"FUN FACT!"**  
"Conversion" is the change of heart and mind referenced as we draw closer to Jesus and His will for our lives.

# Pastoral Reflections

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

My dear parishioners,

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

In the first reading, after losing nearly all that is dear to him, Job struggles to understand God's purpose in his life. Readers already know from the opening chapter that God cares deeply for Job and wants the world to see what a model servant he remains even in the face of the greatest hardships. But from his own limited viewpoint, Job imagines God must have turned against him without cause.

Today's Gospel emphasizes the healing ministry of Jesus. This makes Jesus very popular among the people. It seems as if the more he heals, the more people come to be healed. However, Jesus is not altogether comfortable with his rising popularity as a miracle worker. He seeks time away to pray, but even his disciples will not leave him in peace.

**Jesus heals Simon's mother-in-law.** Jesus is at Simon and Andrew's house when he is told that Simon's mother-in-law is suffering from a fever. Jesus approached the woman, grasped her hand, and raised her up. The lectionary translation, "helped her up," does not capture the nuance of this gesture. To be raised up is resurrection language. Jesus raised up Simon's mother-in-law to new life. She in turn waits on them, or a better translation is, "she ministers to them." An added feature of this event is that Jesus not only healed Simon's mother-in-law, he raised her up to discipleship.

**He did not permit them to speak.** The Gospel indicates that Jesus attracted an overwhelming crowd seeking to be healed of various diseases and demonic possession. An interesting detail in these exorcisms is that Jesus did not permit the demons to speak because they knew him. However, they only knew him as a miracle worker. The real identity of Jesus will not be revealed until he suffers, dies, and is raised up as savior of the world. To identify Jesus as simply a popular, successful exorcist is to misunderstand him.

**Time to move on. Jesus' popularity grows with each day.** He can scarcely get away even to pray. Simon sees this as a good thing. People are seeking out Jesus in large numbers. Jesus should capitalize on this. Everyone must have been shocked when he declares that it is time to move on. He is giving up a lucrative opportunity, so he can go to other villages and preach and heal there. Jesus is not a career exorcist. He is not attempting to make a name for himself. He is an itinerant preacher proclaiming that the time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God has come near; repent and believe the good news. There is more to the mission of Jesus than doing miracles. The disciples will never fully grasp this. Nor will they ever fully understand who he is.

*Excerpts from "Sunday Homily Helps", is used by permission of Franciscan Media. [www.FranciscanMedia.org](http://www.FranciscanMedia.org)*

*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.

*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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