



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
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 26, 2025

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.



**3RD SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

*The Spirit of the Lord
is upon me...
He has sent me to
proclaim liberty to
captives
and recovery of sight
to the blind,
to let the oppressed
go free.
- Lk 4:18*

YEAR C

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

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

OCIA: Scott Hall
scott.hall51990@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS

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

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass: Tuesdays 5:00pm at St. Mary

Wed-Fri 8am at St. Mary

Saturday Vigil at St. Mary: 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Mass at St. Aloysius: 7:00 a.m.

Sunday Mass at St. Michael: 8:30 a.m.

Sunday Mass at St. Mary: 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, January 28
No Mass

Wednesday, January 29
No Mass

Thursday, January 30
No Mass

Friday, January 31
No Mass

Saturday, February 1
5:30 pm ✝ Ed Morrissey

Sunday, February 2
7:00 am the Keys & Morrissey Families *by Matt Pearman*
8:30 am Living & Deceased parishioners of our parishes
10:15am ✝ Marge Chapa & Marge Fullerton

Happening This Week

Tuesday, January 28
Adoration 5:00am—5:00pm at St. Mary
No Mass
7:00pm KC meeting

Wednesday, January 29
No Mass

Thursday, January 30
No Mass

Friday, January 31
No Mass

Saturday, February 1
5:30 pm Mass
4:00 - 4:45pm Confession at St. Mary

Sunday, February 2
7:00am Mass - St. Aloysius
8:30 am Mass - St. Michael
10:15 am Mass - St. Mary
Blessings of the Throats Weekend



February 1/2, 2025

St. Mary 5:30pm (Sat.)

GREETER: Doug Happ
LECTOR: Jim Moore
EM: Eugene Joines & Volunteer
SERVERS: Volunteer
GIFTS: Volunteer

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

GREETER: Joe Keys
LECTORS: Angie Barrett
EM: Linda Hahn
SERVERS: Scott Neal/Callen Keys
GIFTS: the Keys Family

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

GREETER: Justin Wood
LECTORS: Martha William
SERVERS: Lily Brown/Millie Wilhoit
GIFTS: the Wilhoit Family

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

GREETER: Brad Cash/Judy Haymaker
LECTORS: Brian Murphy
EM: Adam Cash, Christi McClain & Chris Wright
SERVERS: Santi Rea/Jocelyn Tracy
GIFTS: the Magers Family

Reminders

Feb. 25: 6:30pm St. Michael Finance Council meeting
Mar. 10: 5:00pm St. Aloysius Finance Council meeting
Mar. 13: 6:00pm St. Michael Pastoral Council meeting
July 6-11: Totus Tuus Week

Mass Intention Requests

Submit requests to the Parish Office:
jkoutsoumpas@stmaryschurchparis.org
Mass stipend is \$10 /Mass.
Please make checks payable to St. Mary.

Rosary before Mass

Please come and join us to pray the Rosary.

Sunday @8:00am – St. Michael
Sunday @9:45am – St. Mary
Rosary before Daily Mass at St. Mary

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

Brian Murphy

besdpa@yahoo.com

St. Michael

Pastoral Council

Dave Smith

dsmith.tke718@gmail.com

Finance Council

Brian Smith

tstsmith36@gmail.com

Collection Online Giving Links & QR Codes

St. Aloysius North Arm

<https://pushpay.com/g/staloyusnortharm>



St. Mary Paris

<https://pushpay.com/g/stmarysparis>



St. Michael Hume

<https://pushpay.com/g/stmichaelhume>



Stewardship Corner

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

“Go, eat rich foods and drink sweet drinks, and allot portions to those who had nothing prepared...” – Nehemiah 8:10

Ezra's instructions to the people show us that God does not forbid us from enjoying the good things in life. He wants us to be happy! However, God expects us to be grateful for all that He has given us and to generously share our blessings with those who are in need. Now here's the hard part – to share all we have without expecting anything in return.



Pledge to pray 9 months for a baby in danger of abortion

During 2025, pledge to pray for a baby in danger of abortion by saying Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen's prayer : *"Jesus, Mary and Joseph, I love you very much. I beg you to spare the life of the unborn baby (baby's name) that I have spiritually adopted who is in danger of abortion. Amen."* Involve your entire family by choosing a baby's name together to adopt and pray for throughout the 9 months.

Birthdays

Happy Birthday!

January 30

Ava Barrett

Maggie Scott

February 1

Tess Barrett

February 2

Jeff Roush

February 3

Bill Bailey

Pat Finch

Martin Rea

February 4

Creighton Tarr

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.*

Project Rachel: Help for women and men to heal from the pain of abortion.

For assistance: call 1-877-RACHEL-5.

2024/2025 Fiscal Year Diocesan 10% Tithing

St. Aloysius Parish

December Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$980.00
Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$3,035.00

St. Michael's Parish

December Diocesan Monthly Tithing: 646.00
Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$3,353.00

St. Mary's Parish

December Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$3,738.00
Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$20,974.00



Our Stewardship Weekly Offertory January 18/19, 2025

ST. ALOYSIUS

Sunday	\$665.00
Online Giving	\$0.00
Sister Parish	\$70.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$25.00
Catholic Times	\$90.00
Total Collection:	\$850.00

ST. MICHAEL

Sunday	\$1,875.00
Online Giving	\$110.00
Catholic Times	\$105.00
Maintenance Fund	\$25.00
Total Collection:	\$2,115.00

ST. MARY

Sunday	\$2,578.00
Online Giving	\$581.00
Catholic Times	\$20.00
Sister Parish	\$938.00
Total Collection:	\$4,119.00

Thank you for your support!

Bulletin Deadline

Please forward information for the bulletin to: jkoutsoumpas@stmaryschurchparis.org by Wednesday at 12:00 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!

Joan Mattingly	Andrew Hostetler
Kami Kraemer	Alice Kramer
Connie Hart	Sharon Bailey
Beverly Carr	Joan McCulley
David Volk	Rosemary Ogle
Joanie Hutchert	Jody Crandell
Steve Allen	Priscilla Hutton
Dale Cash	Leigh Ketner
Ruby Kindred	Isaac Hayes
Andrew Ferucci	Donnie Farris
John Yuza	Jean Kramer
Patricia Sullivan	Marie Hibner
Mary Jiron	Theresa Ndeanaefo
Kent Laughlin	Ross Lanter
Phil Ludington	Dan Bruner
Beverly Haase	Sheila Brothers
Sydney Shanks	Doris Bernard
Peter David	Mary Lou Hollowell
Adam Dennison	Joseph Finch
Mary Stoneburner	Mary Jo Thompson
Julie Weger	Marc Wolf
Margaret Huckleby	
Melissa Cohn	
Kathryn Lentz	
Kenneth Kocher	
Jeff Brinkley	

For Our Expectant Mothers

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

Callie Keys Cannady	Jackie Owen
Victoria Machuca	Nora Walsh

For Our Military

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

Jeff Walsh	Justin Vice
Nathan Gatlin	Joe Kachmar
Caleb Machuca	Zack Lueken
Simon Holzer	Joseph Livesay
Joe Jenness	Raynell Kahala
Richard Scott	Paul Devore

Attention families!

FREE Video Series – Strengthen and grow in your faith for your families with five short videos produced by the *Knights of Columbus* called the “**Mission of The Family**.” The videos can be found on the *Knights of Columbus* website for free: “**The Mission of The Family**” videos: kofc.org/en/campaigns/into-the-breach.html. The five videos are less than 14 minutes in length.

*Congratulations on making it to the honor roll
To the children in our Faith Community!*

Elementary

Emaline Tarr
Jocelyn Tracy

*** Please let the
office know if we
missed any names
from the honor roll.

Junior High School

Helen Barrett
Claire Cornwell
Brooke McGrath
Mateya Moreschi
Harper Pinnell
Tenley Pinnell
Santi Rea
Hunter Rollings
Jacob Roush
Leo Smith
Ava Tarr

High School

Ava Barrett
Emmerson Barrett
Logan Curl
Cooper Keys
Paedyn Keys
Claire Kirby
Carlee Longest
Daniel Lopez
Bryce McGrath
Gabriel Roush

Our Dearly Departed

Frieda Sudduth

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

Saint of the Week – St. Thomas Aquinas

By universal consent, Thomas Aquinas is the preeminent spokesman of the Catholic tradition of reason and of divine revelation. He is one of the great teachers of the medieval Catholic Church, honored with the titles Doctor of the Church and Angelic Doctor.

At five he was given to the Benedictine monastery at Monte Cassino in his parents' hopes that he would choose that way of life and eventually became abbot. In 1239, he was sent to Naples to complete his studies. It was here that he was first attracted to Aristotle's philosophy. By 1243, Thomas abandoned his family's plans for him and joined the Dominicans, much to his mother's dismay. On her order, Thomas was captured by his brother and kept at home for over a year.

Once free, he went to Paris and then to Cologne, where he finished his studies with Albert the Great. He held two professorships at Paris, lived at the court of Pope Urban IV, directed the Dominican schools at Rome and Viterbo, combated adversaries of the mendicants, as well as the Averroists, and argued with some Franciscans about Aristotelianism.

His greatest contribution to the Catholic Church is his writings. The unity, harmony, and continuity of faith and reason, of revealed and natural human knowledge, pervades his writings. One might expect Thomas, as a man of the gospel, to be an ardent defender of revealed truth. But he was broad enough, deep enough, to see the whole natural order as coming from God the Creator, and to see reason as a divine gift to be highly cherished.

The *Summa Theologiae*, his last and, unfortunately, uncompleted work, deals with the whole of Catholic theology. He stopped work on it after celebrating Mass on December 6, 1273. When asked why he stopped writing, he replied, "I cannot go on.... All that I have written seems to me like so much straw compared to what I have seen and what has been revealed to me." He died March 7, 1274. (*Feast Day January 28*)

Reflection

We can look to Thomas Aquinas as a towering example of Catholicism in the sense of broadness, universality, and inclusiveness. We should be determined anew to exercise the divine gift of reason in us, our power to know, learn, and understand. At the same time we should thank God for the gift of his revelation, especially in Jesus Christ.



~Franciscan Media



Father in heaven,

May the *faith* you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of *charity* enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed *hope* for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever.
Amen

ILLINOIS PRO-LIFE MARCH

Illinois Pro-Life March and Mass for Life takes center stage in Springfield, and you are invited to the experience it all – On Tuesday, March 25, you are invited to join thousands of pro-life advocates, being a joyful witness to life and raising your voice for the voiceless at the Illinois Pro-Life March. The

day begins with Mass at 10 a.m. at the Sangamon Auditorium on the campus of the University of Illinois Springfield, celebrated by Bishop Thomas John Paprocki. You must register for the Mass by going to dio.org. After the Mass, there is a rally at the capitol at noon and then a march around the capitol at 1 p.m.

Ward of Life

Many people are unaware that someone they know personally is silently suffering from participation in abortion. If a friend confided in you tomorrow that she had an abortion, would you be able to respond in a way that brings her closer to healing? Learn how in “How to Talk to a Friend Who’s Had an Abortion”: <http://bit.ly/friend-had-abortion>

USCCB “Living the Gospel of Life,” © 1998 USCCB

Catholic

Love as a Theological Virtue

Q & A

Question:

I’ve heard that love is a theological virtue. What does that mean?

Answer:

Charles Shultz, the creator of the *Peanuts* comics wrote, “*I love mankind ... it’s people I can’t stand!*” This good humored comment gets at an important truth. St. John wrote a very strong statement in one of his letters: “*If anyone says ‘I love God,’ but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen*” (1 John 4:20). How often do we say “I love the homeless,” but ignore the parish food drive? Or insist on the importance of respecting others, but don’t bother to say hello to our cashier? If we can’t love an individual person, we might not love people like we think, and we certainly need to work on our love for God. Love is “*the theological virtue by which we love God above all things for His own sake, and our neighbor as ourselves for the love of God*” (CCC 1822). God knows acts of love of Him and others isn’t always easy. So He invites us to pray for the grace to do it. The virtue of love gives us the grace and strength we need to offer our lives to God and love people in our lives, especially those who are difficult to respect, tolerate, and care for. Real love, of course, is risky. Real love wills the good of the other when we just want good for ourselves. Real love gets up on the cross when we’d prefer to take a nap in Gethsemane. Real love changes things. ©LPi

Pastoral Reflections

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

My dear parishioners,

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

Zephaniah's main message is about the day of the Lord. His opening oracles describe this day as one of cleansing. God must thoroughly sweep creation clean because the people of the world refuse to serve heaven. Through the prophet Zechariah, God announces it will take a completely fresh start to bring about the ideal bond between God and the people of this world. Perhaps the most famous lines related to this theme can be found in Zeph 1:15-17. These verses were the inspiration for the traditional Latin hymn Dies Irae. But in this reading, the prophet describes the day of the Lord as a day of joy. Humble service to God has made all the difference.

Once the people learn to value the things of God, they will be far stronger than before. They will no longer be vulnerable to the influence of others who sought only to exploit them rather than nourish them. They will have no fear of injury or harm. They will no longer need the incentive of divine judgment to awaken them to the truth.

The reading begins with the prophet inviting Jerusalem/Zion to sing a song of joy. With its prideful ways now in the past, the great city can at last enjoy the blessings God always held in store for it. Human pride was the obstacle to that joy. But David's royal city now serves its true King, the Lord God. In the final verses of the reading, God sings a joyful song. God and Jerusalem rejoice together because at the people of Israel have finally become a model of faith for all others to follow.

Because of John's preaching and his way of life, there were many who no doubt thought he was the Messiah to come. All the Gospels have John vigorously denying any messianic claim. His role is to prepare the way and point to one mightier than he who is coming and who will be the Messiah. Lk has gone to great effort to make sure that the contrast between John the Baptist and Jesus is strong and clear. He did this in the annunciation stories and in the birth stories. John the Baptist is in all ways surpassed by Jesus.

While John makes it clear that he is not the Messiah and that his role is only to prepare the way, he does not indicate that he knows who the real Messiah might be. He knows that the Messiah will be greater than he is and that he will exercise a Baptism that is different from what John administered. The Messiah's Baptism will be with the Holy Spirit and fire. This is probably a reference to the Pentecost experience of Acts 2

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Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Aloysius



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Paris Council #860

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The Unity Prayer

My adorable Jesus, May our feet journey together. May our hands gather in unity. May our hearts beat in unison. May our souls be in harmony. May our thoughts be as one. May our ears listen to the silence together. May our glances profoundly penetrate each other. May our lips pray together to gain mercy from the Eternal Father.

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