



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

The Epiphany of the Lord
January 7, 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.



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."
- Mt 2:1-2

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: 4-5pm 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, January 9

8:00 am †Robert & Marge Fullerton

Wednesday, January 10

8:00 am †Connie & Ruth Ashley

Thursday, January 11

8:00 am †Mary Ann Pearman

Friday, January 12

8:00 am †Kenneth Drake

Saturday, January 13

5:30 pm †Mary Ann Gillogly

Sunday, January 14

7:00 am †David Hahn

8:30 am †Ben & Grace Morrison

10:15 am Living & Deceased Parishioners



**January 13/14,
2024**

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

LECTOR: Anne Pool

EMS: Lugene Joines, Jim Moore & Volunteer

SERVERS: *Doug Happ*

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

LECTORS: Tom Morrissey

EM: Linda Hahn

SERVERS: Scott Neal

GIFTS: Keys Family

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

LECTORS: Brian Smith

SERVERS: *the Wood Family*

GIFTS: the Wilhoit 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

Finance Council

Brian Smith

tstsmith36@gmail.com

St. Mary's

Pastoral Council

Doug Happ

dough@pchs.k12.il.us

Finance Council

Dave Sullivan

sullivanandavid52@gmail.com

Building & Grounds Committee

Pat Catanzariti

p.catan71@gmail.com

Deacon

Bruce Scott

bscott@dio.org

217-264-3113

Mass Intention Requests

Submit requests to the Parish Office:

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

-November Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$472.00
-Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$2,422.00

St. Michael's Parish

-November Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$512.00
-Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$2,861.00

St. Mary's Parish

-November Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$2,919.00
-Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$13,176.00



***Our Stewardship
Weekly Offertory
December 30/31***

ST. ALOYSIUS

Sunday \$2530.00
Weekly Goal: \$962.00
Over/(Under) Goal: **+ 1,568.00**

ST. MICHAEL'S

Sunday \$855.00
Online Giving \$125.00
Solemnity of Mary \$120.00
First Offering \$85.00
Weekly Goal: \$1,269.00
Over/(Under) Goal: **+\$84.00**

ST. MARY'S

Sunday \$6,415.00
Building Fund \$635.00
First Offering \$65.00
Christmas \$195.00
Solemnity of Mary \$280.00
Catholic Times \$60.00
Retired Religious \$50.00
Sister Parish \$270.00
Latin America \$20.00
Weekly Goal: \$7,365.00
Over/(Under) Goal: **+\$225.00**

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.



Prayer Requests

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

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

***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

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Damon Scoggin | Ronnie Strow |
| 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 | Steve Osborne |
| Jeff Moore | Lincoln Downing |
| Tom Greenwood | Rosie & Bill Myers |
| Richard Rennier | Lois White |
| Joyce Bouslog | |

Announcements, Events and Activities

Birthdays & Anniversaries



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

January 18
Cameron Jansen
Carlee Longest

January 12
Melissa Roush

January 14
Judy Ferris

January 16
Nolan Longest

January 17
Christi McClain
Maureen Sullivan



January 13
Larry & Misty
Elsberry

Reminders

January 23: St. Mary's Pastoral Council Meeting in the meeting room at 5:00pm

January 23: KC Meeting-STM Annex - 7:00 pm

January 30: St. Michael's Finance Council Meeting at 6:30pm

February 6: St. Mary's Finance Council Meeting at 5:00pm

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

Dates & Events

Tuesday, January 9

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary's

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

7:00 pm KC Meeting-STM Annex

Wednesday, January 10

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary's

12:00 pm Prayer Lunch at St. Mary's

Thursday, January 11

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary's

6:30 pm OCIA (RCIA)-St. Mary's Mtg. Rm.

Friday, January 12

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

4:30 - 7:00pm KC hosting Spaghetti Dinner at the Parish Hall - fundraiser for Choices

Saturday, January 13

5:30 pm Mass - St. Mary's

Sunday, January 14

7:00 am Mass - St. Aloysius

8:30 am Mass - St. Michael's

10:15 am Mass - St. Mary's



At Christmas, as Christians, we received the perfect gift from Heaven, Jesus Christ, Son of God, the King of kings, our God and Savior!

In this month of January, our families in *A Family of Faith* will study the Sacrament of the Eucharist, the Sacrament of sacraments, the source and summit of our Christian Life. The Catechism of the Catholic Church #1405 boldly claims that: "There is no surer pledge or clearer sign of the great hope in the new heavens and new earth 'in which righteousness dwells,' than the Eucharist. Every time this mystery is celebrated, 'the work of our redemption is carried on' and we 'break the one bread that provides the medicine of immortality, the antidote for death, and the food that makes us live for ever in Jesus Christ.'"

May the Sacrament of sacraments, the Bread of life, transform all of us, the members of the Body of Christ, so that "thy Will be done on earth as it is in Heaven"!

Juliana

And the King will answer them, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me!"

Matthew 25:40



After 14 years of helping to save lives in our area, Choices' ultrasound machine has gone permanently, silent, without possible repair. Since this was one of the first units placed in Illinois by the Knights of Columbus, the supreme Council will again provide significant assistance to replace this instrument.

Friday, January 12 the Paris, Knights Of Columbus #860 will hold a spaghetti dinner from 4:30 to 7 PM in the St. Mary's Parish Hall. Carry outs will be available. Menu will include: spaghetti and a meatless spaghetti sauce with the option of meatballs, garlic bread, salad, and drinks. See members for tickets or at the door. All proceeds will go towards helping fund the ultrasound purchase. The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council will match our combined contributions, on the path to raising \$30,000. Joining us in this effort are the Knights and their parishes in Charleston, Mat-

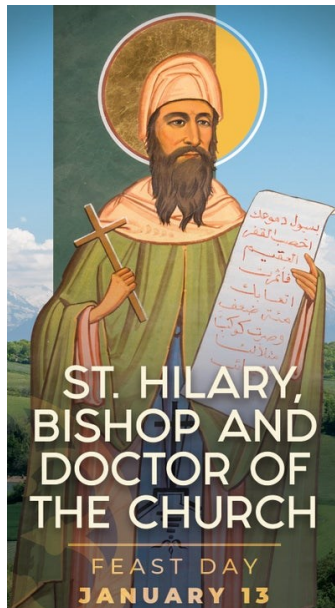
toon, and Marshall. Contributions by check can be made to the Knights of Columbus #860 with "ultrasound" in the memo line. Buy this process, more than 1500 ultrasound machines have been put into service by the K of C since 2009.

Thank you for your help in *the Fight for Life* here in our area.

Saint of the Week

Born a pagan, St. Hilary (c. 315 - c. 367) of life, eventually making his way vert and was appointed bishop of Poitiers the Hammer of the Arians, St. Hilary popular heresy, Arianism. He was ex-emperor Constantius II, who preferred vinity. From Phrygia St. Hilary fought the heresy.

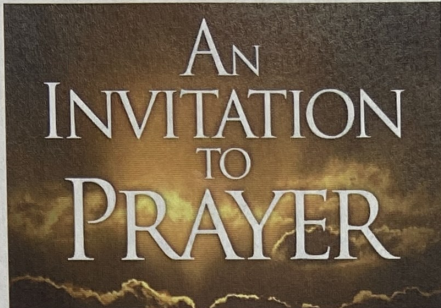
Eventually he was allowed to return to route, preaching against Arianism all writer of hymns in the West, his writ-of Matthew survive today. St. Hilary title given to those who provided im-doctrine, in 1851 by Pope Pius IX.



studied philosophy and the meaning through the bible. He became a con-tiers in 353. Sometimes referred to as defended the Nicene Creed against a iled to Phrygia for opposing Roman the heresy which denies Christ's di-with his pen, zealously writing against

Poitiers, but did so by a circuitous the way. St. Hilary was likely the first ings on the Trinity, Psalms and Gospel was created Doctor of the Church, a portant contributions to theology and

Prayer Service For Illinois Legislative Session



Does the direction of our
state government
concern you?

Our lawmakers need
our prayers!

Join us on Tuesday, January 16th as we
pray for laws that uphold Catholic Values.
This is the first day of the 2024 legislative
session in Springfield.

**We will be praying at St. Anthony of Padua
Church from 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**
Light refreshments immediately after.

*A top concern this year is the push to
legalize assisted suicide. This sweeping
legislation would make doctor-
prescribed suicide available to patients
in a wide variety of situations, in direct
opposition to the 5th commandment.*

January 16, 2024 | 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

St. Anthony Of Padua Church
101 E Virginia Avenue
Effingham IL 62401



**SAINT
ANTHONY**
OF PADUA CHURCH

Pastoral Reflections

The Epiphany of the Lord



My dear parishioners,

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

In our first reading, the prophet urges bride Jerusalem to rise from her sorrows and stand confidently in the light of God's presence. The vocabulary in the opening lines contributes to this theme of light: glory, shine, and radiance. The rest of the earth is still clouded over with the darkness of sin and ignorance. But Jerusalem stands as a beacon of light, guiding them to the path of life. The nations are encouraged to walk by the light emanating from Jerusalem. It is not a light generated by any earthly source, but a light that comes from God. It is glory because it brings salvation to all the world. The nations are described as Jerusalem's sons and daughters; they make up a new generation full of promise.

The contrasts in this Gospel passage from Matthew are deliberate and powerful. Those who should accept the news about the birth of Jesus, the Messiah, want to reject him, while Magi from the East come to pay him homage. Jesus, the king of the Jews, is born in humble surroundings while Herod the Great, a vassal king, lives in luxury.

Magi from the East. It is shocking that the first people to recognize that the newborn Jesus was the king of the Jews, the long-awaited Messiah, were Magi from the East. They were outsiders, followers of Zoroaster, who had arrived at Jerusalem by following a star. Great people at birth were often said to have their own star designating their importance. There is also a similar star found in the Balaam narrative of Numbers 22–24. Notice, the Magi have come to Jerusalem not just to see this newborn king of the Jews but to do him homage.

King Herod being Herod. King Herod finds the presence of the Magi, their seeming knowledge about a newborn king, and his own ignorance about all these matters, very disturbing. Immediately, he begins scheming to get information about the Messiah so he can have him eliminated. While the Magi are always portrayed as manifesting a great sense of nobility, King Herod is filled with fear and paranoia. All of his advisors, the chief priests, and the scribes share king Herod's consternation.

Gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The star continues its mission of guiding the Magi to the location of the newborn king of the Jews. As soon as the Magi see the child they bow down and do him homage. It is important to note that even though Mary is present, the Magi focus all their attention on the child. He is the savior, the Messiah, the Lord. According to the customs of hospitality, the Magi present gifts to the newborn king of the Jews. Gold is a precious metal, frankincense was a rich perfume, and myrrh was an oil for anointing. Some see the gift of myrrh as pointing ahead to the ultimate saving death of this child. This has been a truly exceptional manifestation of the newborn king of the Jews. The outsiders have become the insiders while the insiders remained confused

Excerpts from "Sunday Homily Helps", is used by permission of Franciscan Media. www.FranciscanMedia.org

*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.

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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FRUIN & KASH

Richard M. Kash, Jr.

Attorneys at Law

129 N. Central Ave.
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