



**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

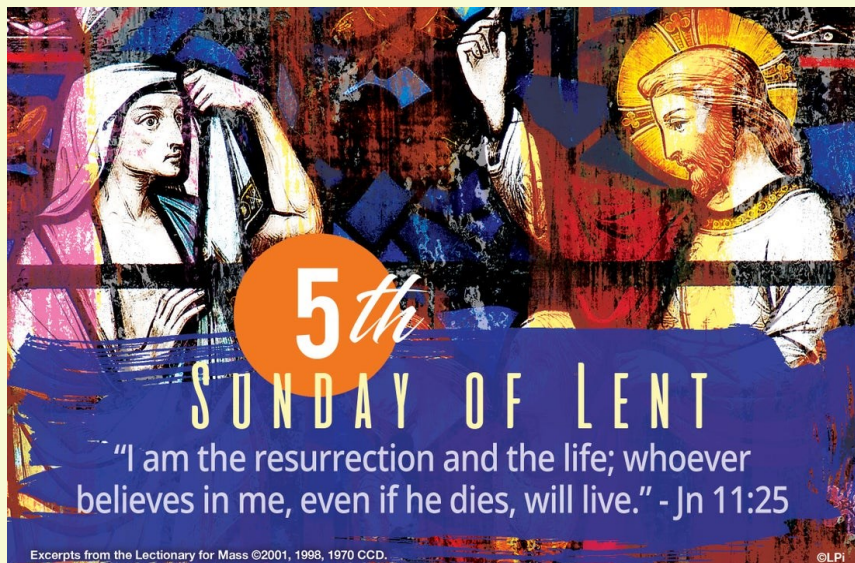
**THE GOOD NEWS**  
**5th Sunday of Lent**  
**March 17, 2024**

**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 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.*



**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: [anafoaloymelody@yahoo.com](mailto:anafoaloymelody@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: 9:00am ~ 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, March 19

5:00 pm † Betty Mattingly

### Wednesday, March 20

8:00 am † James & Evelyn Ring *by Mary Ann Sullivan*

### Thursday, March 21

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

### Friday, March 22

8:00 am † Rosemary Hopper

### Saturday, March 23

5:30 pm Living & Deceased Parishioners of our parishes

### Sunday, March 24

7:00 am † Ivan & Joan Crandell *by Jody Crandell*

8:30 am † Charles & Clella Barrett *by Doris Stone*

10:15am † Joshua Goodwin *by Lugene Joines*



**March 23/24, 2024**

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

**LECTOR:** Anne Pool & Volunteer

**EMS:** Lugene Joines & Volunteer

**SERVERS:** Volunteer

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

**LECTORS:** Lee Barrett & Tom Morrissey

**EM:** Linda Hahn

**SERVERS:** Scott Neal

**GIFTS:** Keys Family

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

**GREETOR:** Mike Thompson

**LECTORS:** Kevin Smith & Brian Smith

**SERVERS:** Lily Brown/Abner Wood

**GIFTS:** the Keske Family

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

**LECTORS:** Jim Aydt & Mary Liz Wright

**EM:** Christi McClain, Adam Cash & Scott Hall

**SERVERS:** Santi Rea

## Happening This Week

### Monday, March 18

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

6:30pm Choir Practice at St. Mary

### Tuesday, March 19

**5:00 pm Mass** - St. Mary

6:00pm Penance Service at St. Mary

Adoration 5:00 am ~ 5:00 pm at St. Mary

### Wednesday, March 20

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary's

### Thursday, March 21

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary

6:00pm Penance Service at St. Michael

### Friday, March 22

8:00 am Mass & Adoration- St. Mary

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 23

5:30 pm Mass - St. Mary

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

### Sunday, March 24

7:00 am Mass - St. Aloysius

8:30 am Mass - St. Michael

10:15 am Mass - St. Mary

8:30 am OCIA Meeting

## Reminders

**March 26:** No Daily Mass at St. Mary  
Chrism Mass in Springfield

**March 26:** KC Meeting

**March 28:** 7pm Lord's Supper Mass at St. Mary followed by Adoration

**March 29:** 5:30pm Good Friday Liturgy at St. Mary

**March 29:** Holy Land Collection

**March 30:** 8:00pm Easter Vigil Mass at St. Mary

## Parish Council & Committee Chairs

### St. Aloysius

#### Pastoral Council

Jim Frisz  
[jdfrisz@gmail.com](mailto:jdfrisz@gmail.com)

#### Finance Council

Joe Keys  
[joekeys1@gmail.com](mailto:joekeys1@gmail.com)

### St. Mary

#### 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)

### St. Michael

#### Pastoral Council

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

#### Finance Council

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

## Birthdays & Anniversaries



## Save the Day

**Totus Tuus Summer Camp  
for all children Grades 1—12**

**June 16—21, 2024**  
**Totus Tuus**

1st - 6th Grade Program

9:00am - 2:30pm

Middle & High School Program

6:30pm - 8:30pm

**Totus Tuus is open for every child  
free of charge.**

## Lent, Holy Week and Easter Season Schedule:

### \*Lenten Stations of the Cross on Fridays

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

### \*Confession & Penance during Lent

- Confession from 8:30 – 9:00am after Daily Mass
  - 6:00pm on Thursday March 14, 2024  
1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation & all PSR students
  - 6:00pm Penance Service at St. Mary  
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  
on Saturday March 24, 2024

### **Holy Week**

#### \*On Tuesday March 26, 2024

No Mass – Chris 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 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



## 2023/2024 Fiscal Year Diocesan 10% Tithing

### St. Aloysius Parish

-January Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$600.00  
-Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$3,528.00

### St. Michael's Parish

-January Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$659.00  
-Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$4,173.00

### St. Mary's Parish

-January Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$3,614.00  
-Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$22,078.00



### **Our Stewardship Weekly Offertory March 9/10**

#### ST. ALOYSIUS

Sunday \$1,078.00  
Catholic Relief \$85.00  
Weekly Goal: \$962.00  
Over/(Under) Goal: **+\$116.00**

#### ST. MICHAEL

Sunday \$1,225.00  
Online Giving \$125.00  
Catholic Relief \$95.00  
Weekly Goal: \$1,269.00  
Over/(Under) Goal **+\$81.00**

#### ST. MARY

Sunday \$5,019.00  
Building Fund \$75.00  
Catholic Charities \$25.00  
Holy Land \$10.00  
Catholic Relief \$370.00  
Seminarian \$10.00  
Weekly Goal: \$7,365.00  
Over/(Under) Goal: **-\$2,271.00**

**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



### **For the Sick**

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

George Furnish	Marie Hibner
Tim Hahn	Michael Ndeanaefo
Tabathia Bratcher	Theresa Ndeanaefo
Judy Ferris	Ross Lanter
Joan McCulley	Bob Joines
Dalton Elsberry	Dan Bruner
Rosemary Ogle	Sheila Brothers
Tate Kest	Maxi Fitzjarald
Jody Crandell	Doris Bernard
Priscilla Hutton	Amber Hall
Leigh Ketner	Mary Lou Hollowell
David Yates	Gerry Scott
Isaac Hayes	Richard Rennier
Colette Bernard	Joseph Finch
Colette Kamalosky	Mary Jo Thompson
Theo Brink	Marc Wolf
Rita Brink	Bill Myers
Donnie Farris	
Jean Kramer	
Garry Williamson	
Diana Haupt	

### **Our Expectant Mothers**

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

**Raynelle Reynolds**

### **Our Military**

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

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

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

### **Our Confirmandi:**

Abner Wood   Kallen Keys   Jocelyn Tracy  
Leah Wood   Leo Higginbotham

### **Our Candidate & Catechumen:**

Dillon Garver   Natalie Burger

**Please, keep them in your prayers.**

*This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it! -Psalm 118:24*

A Commercial Charter Coach is reserved for those who would join us to travel to Springfield to attend the Ordination Mass of Bruce Scott at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

on **Saturday, May 25, 2024**.

Sign-Up sheet will be placed in all parishes.

Thank you very much!

## VISITS TO THE SICK

If you know of someone who is sick at home, in the hospital, or in the nursing home and would like to have Fr. Aloysius's visit, please contact the office and leave the name, phone number and address.

Thank you.

**Springfield Right to Life Art Contest:** Calling all young artists. The "Children Helping Children" PRO-LIFE 2025 Calendar Art Contest for grades 5-12 is now accepting ART-WORK submissions. The competition is open to all artists in the Springfield Diocese and has cash prizes. If you would like more information on contest rules please visit the Springfield Right to Life website at <https://springfieldrtl.org> or con-

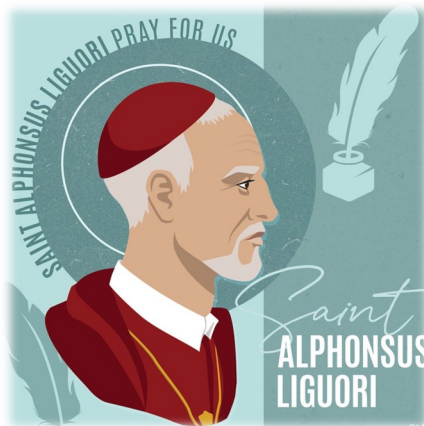
**Illinois March for Life 2024**  
Registration for the Illinois March for Life is now open! The event is Wednesday, April 17 in Springfield. Mass will be at 10:00am on the campus of the University of Illinois, Springfield, and then gathering at the State Capitol at Noon. You can register for the Illinois March for Life Mass by going to the diocesan website: [www.dio.org](http://www.dio.org) and clicking on the image for the March.

*Our Dearly Departed*

*John McMullen*

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord!  
May he rest in peace!*

*Saint of the Week -*



Biography St. Alphonsus Liguori, (1696-1787) was born in Marianella, near Naples, in Italy. When he was young, he displayed exceptional intelligence and piety, earning a doctorate in civil and canon law by the age of 16. Feeling a calling to dedicate his life to God and the service of others, however, he abandoned his legal career and pursued ordination to the priesthood. He was ordained at the age of 30 in 1726.

Throughout his priestly ministry, Liguori focused on preaching missions and retreats, seeking to renew people's faith and draw them closer to the Eucharist. He frequently preached on the real presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and encouraged frequent reception of Holy Communion as a source of spiritual nourishment and grace.

In 1732, Liguori founded the Redemptorists, a religious congregation dedicated to promoting devotion to the Eucharist and the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Redemptorists' charism also revolved around reaching out to the most abandoned, including the

poor and marginalized, and offering them hope through God's love and mercy.

As a prolific writer, Liguori authored numerous works on moral theology, spirituality, and Eucharistic devotion. His most famous work, "The Glories of Mary," remains a classic in Marian theology and devotion. He is remembered for his practical and merciful counsel, always seeking to lead souls to reconciliation, and union with God.

St. Alphonsus was canonized as a saint in 1839 and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1871. His spiritual writings, particularly on the Eucharist, continue to inspire and guide the faithful worldwide. As the patron saint of moral theologians, his example reminds believers of the profound love and presence of Christ in the Eucharist and the enduring mercy of God.

St. Alphonsus Liguori, pray for us!

## Wisdom Shared

Humility does not mean a submissiveness, a passiveness, a willingness to be walked on, or a desire to live in the doghouse. Humility is a virtue by which we recognize ourselves as we really are, not as we would like to be in the eyes of the public; not as our press notices say we are, but as we are in the sight of God when we examine our conscience.

- Fulton Sheen



**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!**

## Choir Practice

Choir practice for Holy Week and Easter will begin on Monday evenings **18th & 25th at 6:30 pm.**

## Compassionate Clothing Closet Workers Needed in April!

April is St. Mary's & St. Aloysius' month to work the CCC. Workers are needed to help sort clothes on **Mondays anytime during 10am-1pm.** We need at least **two volunteers** to help clients check out clothing on **Tuesdays from 11:45-2:15pm.** Please call the office at 466-3355 or sign up in the Gathering Space if you can help.

Thank you!!!

## CR& Rice Bowl

EMBODYING THE LOVE OF CHRIST BY  
CARING FOR ONE ANOTHER

Reflect on your Lenten journey thus far: What have you learned from our global family members in Uganda, El Salvador and Indonesia? How does the Eucharist unite us with our sisters and brothers around the world? Consider how Christ is present in Adolf and Florence, Sandra and Santos, and Evita.

Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) to read this week's Story of Hope.

St. Michael Church and Parish Hall will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m, Saturday, March 23rd. for members to help with the spring cleaning of our parish/hall. Please bring your own cleaning supplies and tools. Our goal is to give our Parish a thorough cleaning before Easter Sunday. All help is appreciated.



Thank you!

## Ministers Needed for Holy Week Services

If you currently serve as a Lector, Eucharistic Minister at our weekend Masses, your help is requested at our Masses/Service for Holy Week and Easter Vigil (Mass/Service times are on page 3 of the bulletin.) Please sign up in the Gathering Space.

Thank you!

## 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.*

# Pastoral Reflections

## 5th Sunday of Lent

My dear parishioners,

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

In the first reading, prophet Jeremiah was quite familiar with the hardships of speaking up for God. His book is filled with personal reflections on the suffering he endured as a spokesman for the truth. But in this reading, Jeremiah looks ahead to a brighter future.

Greeks are now coming to inquire after Jesus. The world attracted to Jesus is expanding beyond the Jews and is now including the gentiles. It is fitting that the first two Jewish disciples, Philip and Andrew, are instrumental in the calling of the first gentile disciples. All this provides Jesus an opportunity to reflect on the arrival of his hour and the meaning of his death.

**The hour has come.** Jesus declares that his hour has come. This hour is when the Son of Man is to be glorified. Jesus unfolds the meaning of glorification through a saying about a grain of wheat needing to die before it produces much fruit. Glorification, therefore, refers to Jesus' death which will produce much life in the community of faith. It is necessary for Jesus to lose his earthly life in order to bring about the reality of eternal life. This is a pattern not only for Jesus but also for the disciples of Jesus. As Jesus goes, so go his disciples.

**The urgency of the hour.** Jesus declares that he is concerned about the hour but not because he fears it. Everything now hinges on the coming of this hour. This is what Jesus has been moving toward since his ministry began. This moment is urgent because of all that it brings with it. So, unlike the synoptic Gospels where Jesus seems to want to be preserved from this moment, in John's Gospel Jesus embraces it fully. It is the purpose for which he came.

**A voice came from heaven.** Jesus earnestly prays for the Father to glorify his name. Immediately, a divine voice is heard which brings together the past, present, and future self-revelation of God in Jesus. This, of course, leads to a misunderstanding on the part of the people who also heard the voice. Some thought it was thunder while others connected it with an angel. Jesus indicated that the voice was intended for the sake of the people. This is the time of judgment which the people will bring about depending on whether or not they accept and believe God's self-revelation in the person of Jesus. All of this will be accomplished when Jesus is lifted up on the cross which will bring about at the very same time his death and his glorification, the ultimate fulfillment of his hour.

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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  
BANK**

*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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