



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

Palm Sunday

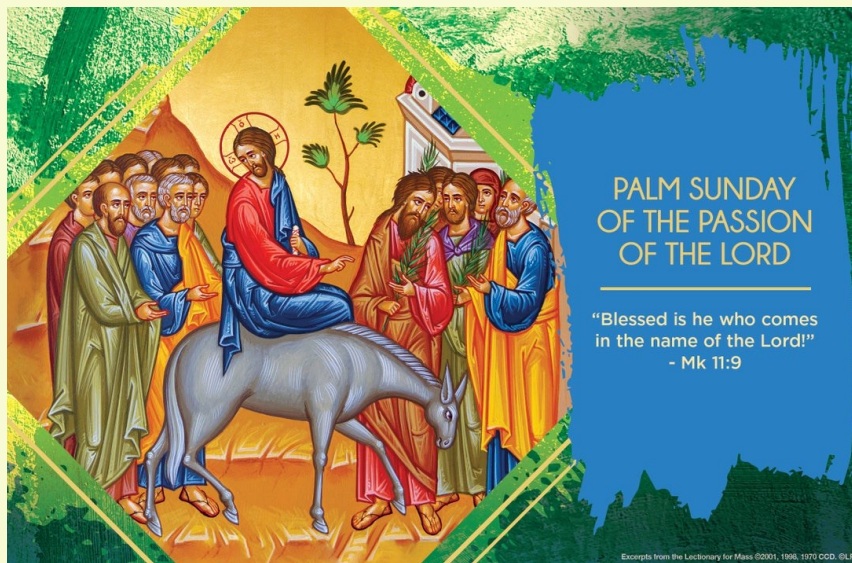
March 24, 2024

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

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: 9:00am ~ 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

Wednesday, March 27

8:00 am † Virginia Sullivan

Thursday, March 28

7:00 pm † Pete Secondino by Jody Crandell

Saturday, March 30

8:00 pm † Mary Ann Pearman

Sunday, March 31

7:00 am † Pat Keske by Sheila Brothers

8:30 am † Gloria Secore by Glenda Waller

10:15 am Living & Deceased Parishioners of our parishes



March 30/31, 2024

St. Mary 8:00pm (Easter Vigil)

GREETOR: Brad Cash, Phil Wright

LECTOR: Jeff Arp, Jim Moore, Brian Murphy
& Mary Liz Wright

EMS: Lugene Joines & Scott Hall

SERVERS: Scott Neal/Doug Happ

GIFTS: Volunteer

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

GREETOR: Volunteer

LECTORS: Jim Frisz

EM: Linda Hahn

SERVERS: Scott Neal

GIFTS: Keys Family

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

GREETOR: Randy Stone

LECTORS: Martha Williams

SERVERS: Leah Wood/Abner Wood

GIFTS: the Wilhoit Family

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

GREETOR: Brad Cash

LECTORS: Kit Kirby

EM: Terry Sullivan, Andy Goodwin & Scott Hall

SERVERS: Santi Rea

GIFTS: Volunteer

Happening This Week

Monday, March 25

6:30pm Choir Practice at St. Mary

Tuesday, March 26

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

No Mass at St. Mary

6:00pm Chrism Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield

7:00pm KC Meeting

Wednesday, March 27

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary's

Thursday, March 28

10:00am Server Rehearsal at St. Mary

7:00 pm the Lord's Supper Mass - St. Mary followed by Adoration till Midnight

Friday, March 29

10:00am Server Rehearsal at St. Mary

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

3:00pm Stations of the Cross at St. Michael

5:30pm Good Friday Liturgy at St. Mary

Saturday, March 23

10:00am Server Rehearsal at St. Mary

8:00 pm Easter Vigil Mass - St. Mary

Sunday, March 24

7:00 am Mass - St. Aloysius

8:30 am Mass - St. Michael

10:15 am Mass - St. Mary

(Each Mass followed by Easter Egg Hunting)

Reminders

May 7: 6pm St. Mary's Finance Council Meeting

May 13: 5pm St. Mary's Pastoral Council Meeting

May 25: 10am Bruce Scott's Ordination Mass in Springfield and 6:30pm Dinner at St. Mary's Hall

June 4: 6:30pm St. Michael's Finance Council Meeting

June 12: 6pm St. Michael's Pastoral Council Meeting

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

Pat Catanariti
p.catan71@gmail.com

St. Michael

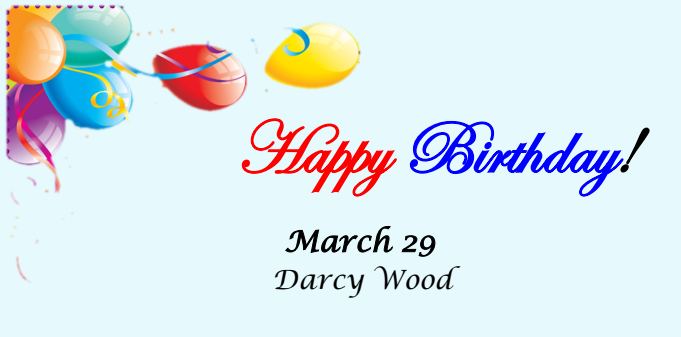
Pastoral Council

Dave Smith
dsmith.tke718@gmail.com

Finance Council

Brian Smith
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 - 8:45pm

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
1st 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 16/17

ST. ALOYSIUS

Sunday \$960.00

Weekly Goal: \$962.00

Over/(Under) Goal: **-\$2.00**

ST. MICHAEL

Sunday \$1,010.00

Online Giving \$200.00

Catholic Relief \$100.00

Weekly Goal: \$1,269.00

Over/(Under) Goal **-\$59.00**

ST. MARY

Sunday \$6,287.00

Building Fund \$1,149.00

Flower \$75.00

Catholic Relief \$200.00

Seminarian \$100.00

Weekly Goal: \$7,365.00

Over/(Under) Goal **+\$146.00**

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



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
Isaac Hayes	Gerry Scott
Colette Bernard	Richard Rennier
Colette Kamalosky	Joseph Finch
Theo Brink	Mary Jo Thompson
Rita Brink	Marc Wolf
Donnie Farris	Bill Myers
Jean Kramer	
Garry Williamson	
Diana Haupt	

For Our Expectant Mothers

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

Raynelle Reynolds

For 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

For Our Confirmandi and Candidate

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:

Dillon Garver

Please, keep them in your prayers.

Prayer to Save Innocent Lives

The USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities is inviting Catholics to join a focused effort of prayer for the end of abortion and for the protection of women and pre-born children, beginning on March 25, the eve of the oral arguments, and the anniversary of St. John Paul II's landmark, pro-life encyclical, *The Gospel of Life* (*Evangelium vitae*).

Starting March 25, 2024 through June 2024 Catholic are encouraged to offer this [Prayer to St. Joseph, Defender of Life](#) ([en español](#)) daily:

Dearest St. Joseph, at the word of an angel, you lovingly took Mary into your home. As God's humble servant, you guided the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem, welcomed Jesus as your own son in the shelter of a manger, and fled far from your homeland for the safety of both Mother and Child.

We praise God that as their faithful protector, you never hesitated to sacrifice for those entrusted to you. May your example inspire us also to welcome, cherish, and safeguard God's most precious gift of life.

Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life —especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things. Amen.

Saint of the Week – St. Toribio Romo Gonzalez



St. Toribio Romo González (1900 – 1928) was born in Santa Ana de Guadalupe, near Jalisco, Mexico. He entered seminary at the age of 13 and was ordained a priest in 1922 when he was only 22. As a priest, he dedicated himself to serving the faithful in the midst of the Cristero War, a period of intense religious persecution in Mexico during the 1920s and 1930s.

Despite the danger posed by the anti-Catholic government, Romo continued to carry out his pastoral duties. He provided sacraments, offered spiritual guidance, promoted devotion to the Eucharist, and was frequently forced more and more to do so in secret or under the cover of night. He became known for his compassion and selflessness, often risking his own safety to bring consolation and hope to the persecuted Catholic community, and catechesis, as well as the Eucharist, to the poor.

In the late 1920's, a formal law was passed that imposed strict penalties on priests who were found exercising their priestly ministries. Despite the risks, Romo continued to celebrate Mass and administer the sacraments to those in remote areas. For a time, he had to hide in an abandoned distillery in the town of Tequila in order to avoid violence, and celebrated Mass there for the community.

Tragically, on February 25, 1928, Romo was murdered. He was shot twice by government troops who broke into his bedroom while he was asleep. His martyrdom became a powerful testimony to the enduring strength of the Catholic Church in Mexico in the face of discrimination. St. Toribio Romo, pray for us!

PALM SUNDAY





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
on Monday evening
March 25th at 6:30 pm.**

CR&S Rice Bowl

PALM SUNDAY MODERN DAY SIMON OF CYRENE Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week. As we walk with Jesus this week, we remember the countless women, children and men who carry heavy crosses even today: crosses of hunger, of vulnerability to climate change, or of a lack of resources. How—like Simon of Cyrene—can you help to carry the crosses of our sisters and brothers in your local community and around the world? Visit crsricebowl.org/holy-week to learn more.

Visit crsricebowl.org to read this week’s Story of Hope.

Thought of the Week

“I saw my Guardian Angel, who ordered me to follow him. In a moment I was in a misty place full of fire in which there was a great crowd of suffering souls. They were praying fervently, but without effect for themselves; only we can come to their aid. The flames which were burning them do not touch me at all. My Guardian Angel did not leave me for an instant. I asked these souls what their greatest suffering was. They answered me in one voice that their greatest torment was longing for God . . . [I heard an interior voice] which said, My mercy does not want this, but justice demands it.”

– St. Maria Faustina Kowalska

Divine Mercy Sunday - April 7, 2024



We invite you to pray the Divine Mercy Novena that begins on Good Friday. Copies of the Novena can be found on the table in the Gathering Space at St. Mary or at the back of the church at both St. Aloysius and St. Michael. We invite you to come and join us on Divine Mercy Sunday at 3pm to pray the Chaplet of The Divine Mercy at St. Mary.

Our Lord revealed the secrets of His great mercy to St. Faustina. He designated the first Sunday after Easter as the Feast of the Mercy of God. In preparation of this Feast, He asked that a Novena be started on Good Friday, a Novena which asks for prayers each of the nine days for a different group of souls in order to immerse them in the sea of God’s Mercy!

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS Palm Sunday

“Pilate again said to them, ‘Then what shall I do with the man whom you call the King of the Jews?’ And they cried out again, ‘Crucify him.’” – MARK 15:12-13

Jesus told us “whatever you do for the least of my brothers, you do for me.” Every day we are presented opportunities to help someone. Every day we have the opportunity to see the face of Jesus in others and be the face of Jesus to others. Every day we pass by someone in need. Pray for the strength and courage to be the answer to someone’s prayer.

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

Palm Sunday

My dear parishioners,

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

Traditionally, this reading is regarded as one of four suffering servant songs, the other three being found in chapters 42, 49, and 53. Taken together, they present readers with what could be regarded as a biography of the servant. Who is the servant? The oracles surrounding these songs suggest the servant is the ideal Israel. The long years of exile made the people wiser. This reading is clear testimony to the marvelous transformation within them.

Today's liturgy solemnly commemorates the symbolic entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, thereby fulfilling the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9: "Exult greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout for joy, O daughter Jerusalem! Behold: your king is coming to you, a just savior is he, humble, and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey." There are two Gospel passages proclaimed today. The first one narrates Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and the second passage recounts the entire passion narrative of Mark's Gospel. Taking our cue from the liturgy itself, the primary emphasis should focus on Jesus' entry into Jerusalem which will then give way to his passion experience.

Preparing for the entry into Jerusalem. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus' journey to Jerusalem begins in Mark 8:22 and concludes in Mark 10:52. Central to that journey are three passion predictions Jesus makes and his disciples misunderstand. The reader, however, is prepared for what is about to happen as Jesus enters his final destination of Jerusalem. This entry is meant to be symbolic, portraying Jesus as the prophet of the coming messianic kingdom.

The prophetic powers of Jesus. Jesus gives his disciples detailed instructions for finding and procuring a colt he will need to ride into Jerusalem. Everything worked out exactly as Jesus had instructed. It seems that the Gospel wants to emphasize that Jesus is here operating with supernatural prophetic powers and not just keen human insight.

The entry into Jerusalem. The high point of the narrative is the actual entry from the Mount of Olives into Jerusalem. Jesus is recognized by the people in his symbolic prophetic role and he is honored as such. Branches and cloaks cover the road Jesus uses. The people cry out with Ps 118:25–26 which sings Hosanna in the highest. Jesus is coming in the name of the Lord. He will be a successor to the great ruler King David. Unlike King David, however, Jesus will not be a political king. Instead, he will be arrested, put on trial, and crucified as a political insurrectionist. That is the story that now follows.

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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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