

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

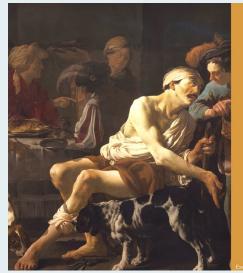
THE GOOD NEWS 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time September 28, 2025

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.



26[™] SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

610

"Abraham replied, 'My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented.'"

- Lk 16:25

YEAR C

CHURCH CENTRAL OFFICE

528 N. Main Street P.O. Box 577 Paris, IL 61944 Phone Number: (217) 466-3355

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.: 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, September 30

Wednesday, October 1

Thursday, October 2

Friday, October 3

8:00 am \$\frac{1}{2}\$ Steve & Sharon Roth by Anne Pool

Saturday, October 4

5:30 pm Mark & Karen Savoree

Sunday, October 5

7:00 am
♣ Mary Secondino

8:30 am Living & Deceased parishioners of our parishes

10:15am ♥ Joan Mattingly



October 4/5, 2025

St. Mary 5:30pm (Sat.)

GREETER: Doug Happ **LECTOR**: Jim Moore

EM: Lugene Joines & Volunteer

SERVERS: Jocelyn Tracy

GIFTS: Volunteer

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

GREETER: Joe Keys **LECTOR**: Lee Barrett

EM: Linda Hahn

SERVERS: Scott Neal/Rosemary Keys/Penelope Rhodes

GIFTS: the Keys Family

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

GREETER: Justin Wood **LECTOR**: Kevin Smith

SERVERS: Leah Wood/Millie Wilhoit

GIFTS: the Jansen Family

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

GREETER: Brad Cash/Judy Haymaker

LECTOR: Brian Murphy

EM: Christi McClain, Chris Wright & Terry Sullivan

SERVERS: Santi Rea **GIFTS**: the Rea Family

Happening This Week

Tuesday, September 30

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

5:00 pm Mass - St. Mary

Wednesday, October 1

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary

Thursday, October 2

8:00 am Mass - St. Mary

Friday, October 3

8:00 am Mass & Adoration- St. Mary

Saturday, October 4

11:00am Blessings of the Animals at St. Mary

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

5:30 pm Mass - St. Mary

Sunday, October 5

7:00am Mass - St. Aloysius

8:30 am Mass - St. Michael 10:15 am Mass - St. Mary

Reminders

October 20: 5:00pm St. Aloysius Finance Mtg.

October 20: 6:00pm St. Aloysius Pastoral Mtg.

October 21: 5:30pm St. Mary's Pastoral Mtg.

November 4: 6:30pm St. Mary's Finance Mtg.

November 8 ~ 11: Parish Mission Retreat

December 4: 6:00pm St. Michael's Pastoral Mtg.

December 4: 6:30pm St. Michael's Finance Mtg.

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

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.

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@amail.com

Collection Online Giving Links & QR Codes

St. Aloysius North Arm

https://pushpay.com/g/staloysiusnortharm



St. Mary Paris

https://pushpay.com/g/stmarysparis



St. Michael Hume

https://pushpay.com/g/stmichaelhume





Dear Parishioners,

In the Gospel, Jesus and the disciples pass through a city called Jericho. This was a place of sin and sinners, those in dire need of redemption and where holy men kept a distance. As Jesus went through the city, a man names Zaccheaus desired a closer look at him. Climbing up a tree, he desperately tried to glimpse Jesus, knowing there would be no way Jesus would look upon his lowly and sinful self. However, Jesus didn't just notice him, he called to him with haste and Jesus invited himself over to dinner. Not only was there an urgency on the part 😹 of Zaccheaus to desire Jesus, Jesus desired Zaccheaus! This story reminds us of the urgency and desire Jesus has for each of us. No one is beyond saving. Jesus eagerly seeks each of us to grow deeper in knowing Him. Stewardship gives us the opportunity to be intentional about seeking Jesus through our time, talent, and treasure. Stewardship recognizes that all we have is a gift, from the very breath we take to our abilities and work. The behavior of a steward is toward prayer, service, and giving. There is no age limit to stewardship; it is an intentional response to our Baptismal call. Each of us is called to share in the life of the church and we recognize the great fruits that come from those gifts. As a stewardship parish, we acknowledge the need for stewardship reflection and renewal. This commitment helps each of us individually and as a parish community. Where does the parish need your help? Our parish needs all of us! Writing our intentions down on paper and making them known often increases the chance we will commit to them. Additionally, the office will be able to equip ministries, programs, and events with more efficiency and effectiveness.

For these reasons, we would like to encourage you to ponder on how you can increase your time, talent, and treasure with our parish family this year. You will receive your Stewardship Sign Up Sheet next week. We look forward to connecting you to opportunities to share your time, talents, and treasure! I am grateful for your witness to stewardship as a way of life!

May God continue to pour His grace on you and your loved ones!

Birthdays/Anniversaries



October 2 Mitch Grider October 3 Jim Frisz Keith Kenney

October 5 Helen Barrett October 6 Russell Keske Sylvia Slichenmyer

October 7 Cindy McGinness Helli Smith



October 4 Mark & Karen Savoree

Capital Campaign St. Aloysius Parish ~ Goal: Weekly received: Up-to-date total: Fund needed: \$25,450.00 \$45,770.00 St. Michael's Parish ~ Goal: Weekly received: \$25.00

Fund needed:	\$82,205.00
St. Mary's Parish ~ Goal:	\$725,250.00
Weekly received:	\$540.00
Up-to-date total:	\$278,343.00
Fund needed:	\$446,907.00

Up-to-date total:



Weekly Offertory September 20/21 2025

\$7.925.00

ST. ALOYSIUS

Sunday	\$605.00
Online Giving	\$0
Church in Africa	\$210.00
Total Collection :	\$830.00

ST. MICHAEL

\$1,020.00
\$270.00
\$285.00
\$1,575.00

ST. MARY

Total Collection :	\$ 3,811.92
Church in Africa	\$657.22
Online Giving	\$612.10
Sunday	\$2,542.60

Thank you for your support!

2025/2026 Fiscal Year Diocesan 10% Tithing

St. Aloysius Parish

August Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$454.00 Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$914.00

St. Michael's Parish

August Diocesan Monthly Tithing: 486.00 Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$1,049.00

St. Mary's Parish

August Diocesan Monthly Tithing: \$2,406.00 Total Fiscal Year Tithing to date: \$4,481.00



Prayer Requests



For the Sick

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

Katherine McClean	Peter David	
Lahaunda Madrid	Adam Dennison	
Eleanor Macey	Mary Stoneburner	
Vasya Hanson	Margaret Huckeby	
Gerry St. Louis	Melissa Cohn	
Donna Keys	Kathryn Lentz	
Brian Mullenix	Kenneth Kocher	
Linda McHenry	enry Jeff Brinkley	
Richard Yates	Andrew Hostetler	
Jana McIntosh	Alice Kramer	
Tamera Brown Tadlock	Sharon Bailey	
Theresa Armstrong Coombs	Rosemary Ogle	
Larry Elsberry	Jody Crandell	
Connie Hart	Priscilla Hutton	
David Volk	Leigh Ketner	
Joanie Hutchcraft	Isaac Hayes	
Steve Allen	Donnie Farris	
Ruby Kindred	Jean Kramer	
John Yuza	Marie Hibner	
Patricia Sullivan	Ross Lanter	
Mary Jiron	Dan Bruner	
Kent Laughlin	Doris Bernard	
Phil Ludington		
Beverly Haase	Joseph Finch	
Sydney Shanks	Marc Wolf	

For Our Military

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

Caleb Machuca	Justin Vice	
Henry Arp	Michael Whitacre	
Jeff Walsh	Nathan Gatlin	
Joe Jenness	Raynell Kahala	
Joe Kachmar	Richard Scott	
Joseph Livesay	Simon Holzer	

For Our PSR Families

We pray that God grant abundant grace upon all of our parents and children so that our Christian identity becomes rooted in the lives of our children through day-to-day religious practices.

A Prayer for Priests (Priesthood Sunday)

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests. Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments. Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for your people. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom. Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Allow them to experience joy in their ministry. Help them to become instruments of your divine grace.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest.

Amen.

A Second Collection for the Black and Indian Mission on October 4/5



October, 2025

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Each year, Catholics across the United States join in supporting the Black and Indian Mission Collection - the oldest national collection of our Church. Since 1874, this collection has helped bring the Gospel to African American, Native American, and Alaska Native communities by sustaining parishes, schools, catechesis, and the formation of future leaders. This collection strengthens vibrant faith communities that often face poverty and limited resources, reminding them that the wider Church walks with them.

As St. John Paul II reminded us: "Faith is strengthened when it is given to others." When we contribute to this collection, we not only bring Christ's love to those in need, but we also deepen our own faith by sharing it.

With gratitude for your faith and support, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Thomas John Paprocki

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

Saturday 5:30pm Mass

The final results from the Saturday Mass time survey were inconclusive with the majority of the votes being divided between 4 and 5:30 pm.

This weekend and next weekend, October 4th and 5th, we will be conducting a second survey. This time, we will only have 4:00 and 5:30 as options to hopefully come up with a clearer picture of what the congregation would like for our Saturday evening Mass time. Ballots will be distributed before each Mass and should be placed in the collection basket when completed.

Donations of baked cookies/brownies are needed Thursday October 9 to support Faith in Action's Spaghetti Dinner, October 10, 2025. Please call the office or sign up at St. Mary's Gathering Space if you could make some cookies/ brownies (individual packed) Thank you!

St. Charbel's First Class Relic and relics of other saints

Some of us will make a trip to the Sanctuary of the Sorrowful Mother in Vandalia on October 8 to venerate the relics of holy men and women: St. Charbel Makhlouf, St. Padre Pio, St. Carlo Acutis, the three Fatima children and a piece of the true Cross. We will leave at 2:00pm from St. Mary's. Please be at St. Mary's parking lot if you would like to join us.



God is Alive Part 2 Incredible stories of faith and miraculous events in the Midwest

This original documentary produced by the diocese will captivate your students as it explores four stories in Missouri, Edwardsville, Ashland, and Chicago that will motivate, inspire, positively

impact their relationship with God, and have them think about our faith in new ways. The document tary is 1 hour. The way it's produced, you can easily stop and start it after each story if you want to break it up. Note, the story in Edwardsville mentions rape. https://youtu.be/Bj_a7UKkYVU

Cemetery ...

St. Mary's Cemetery

The Fall cleaning of St. Mary's Cemetery will begin October 1. All Spring/Summer decorations, including artificial decorations, will be removed. Please collect what you wish to save. Fall/Winter decorations may be placed beginning October 15. Thank you!



ANKETED BY LOVE

The Compassionate Clothing Closet's annual blanket drive is set for October.

Your generosity of a new or gently used blanket will serve to provide a means to offset winter's chill, while simultaneously offering a concrete reminder that someone cares. While any size blanket will be wonderful to receive, we find that twin or full sizes are in most need.

An Invitation to Participate

WHO: To all members of Edgar County

& congregations of faith.

WHAT: Donations of gently used or new blankets.

WHERE: Donations can be made via participating churches or through a direct donation to CCC during weekly hours of operation (Mon: 10-1pm and/or Tues: 12-2pm).

WHÉN: Blanket collection will occur during the month of October.

WHY: We are called to lovingly meet our neighbors' needs.

Adoration

We are all called to spend our God-given time with this Living God who made us in His image. All of us are challenged to prayerfully consider to fill the Time Slots, (2 persons for each hour) on Tuesday to adore our Creator, God and Savior. This sign up sheet is at St. Mary's.

	T		
Time	Name	Name	Substitute
5—6 am	Brian Murphy		
6—7 am	Cara Hall		
7—8 am	Wayne Buechlein	Dianne Buechlein	
8—9 am	Juliana Koutsoumpas		
9—10 am	Karen Todd		
10—11 am	Jim Aydt	Joy Stewart	
11am - 12 pm	Scott Neal		
12—1 pm	Julie Gross		
1—2 pm	Mary Ann Sullivan		
2—3 pm	Bonnie Stephens	Stephen Heynen	
3—4 pm	Frank Chapa		
4—5 pm	Jim Moore	Lois Moore	

Prayer Campaign for LIFE Sept. 24 — Nov. 7

We will be joining people of faith across our nation to pray, fast, and serve to end abortion and to fight assisted suicide during the "Prayer Campaign for Life", 40 days focused on building a pro-life culture. This will take place from Sept. 24 to Nov. 7. Please consider participating in 2 parts of this pro-life campaign:

Part 1: Come to the church for an hour or more of individual prayer on October 21 from 8am—5pm, this date is our parishes chosen.

Choose your time slots and we'll join with other churches in our region to fill each of these 40 days with prayer that storms the heavens. Sign-up sheet is at St. Mary's Gathering Space, or you may contact call the office.

<u>Part 2:</u> Commit to fast for an end to abortion (no signup required).

Stewardship Corner

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented. Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established..."

~Luke 16:25-26

When God created the world He declared that it was good and He gave it to all mankind for us to enjoy. However, over the years we have created a chasm between those who have great gifts and those who do not. In today's Gospel we see that with our own generosity we must bridge that gap between those who have much and those who have little, or we may find ourselves on the wrong side of the chasm in the next life.

"What kind of pasta did the chef add to the menu for September?"



"Angel Hair!"

On September 29, we remember the archangels Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael — heavenly messengers who share God's insight with us.

September 28th

"The truth of the Gospel of life is at the foundation of who we are as followers of Christ. In his earthly life, Jesus provided the perfect model for how we are to love our neighbor and live out the Gospel call: "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Mt. 25:40)."*

Ward of L

*NABRE © 2010 CCD. Used with permission.

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities, "Live the Gospel of Life" respectlife.org/live-the-gospel-of-life



Pastoral Reflections

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

My dear parishioners,

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

The story of the rich man and Lazarus highlights once again Lk's concern for the rich and the poor and the divine reversal of their fortunes. Mediterranean culture at the time of Jesus told stories like this to console the many people who in this world felt deprived even of life's essentials while the rich continued to live in abundance.

The rich man and Lazarus. Both of these characters are described in matter-of-fact terms. The rich man dressed and dined in the manner of rich people everywhere. He is not characterized as a particularly bad or cruel person. However, he is isolated from life around him, and he is totally unaware that there is a desperately poor person lying at his door. Lazarus, on the other hand, is not portrayed as especially good or virtuous. He is desperately poor, and he has to contend with all the hardships and humiliations that befall those who live in poverty.

With death comes reversal of fortunes. When Lazarus died, he was immediately transferred from earthly poverty to heavenly bliss where he resided in the bosom of Abraham. The rich man, on the other hand, was consigned at death to the netherworld where he was in torment. Part of the rich man's pain was being able to see Lazarus enjoying his new life with Abraham. The rich man's plea for just a drop of water goes unheeded. The state of both the rich man and Lazarus is permanent and irreversible. The rich man is paying for his life of complacency while Lazarus is experiencing the fullness of life.

Spread the word. When the rich man understands that his netherworld status is permanent, he wants Abraham to go and warn the man's brothers so they will not end up in torment also. But Abraham tells them that they have been warned over and over through the teaching of Moses and the prophets, yet this has done no good at all. One more warning will not change them.

Notice that the issue is not one of good people versus bad people. It is all about awareness, sharing one's abundance with those in need. What appears to be permanent in this life is not permanent in the afterlife. Ultimately, God's justice will win out. A true disciple does not wait. He or she acts now

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Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Aloysius



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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