



March 21, 2021
The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Schedule of Masses

Pre-Registration Required

Saturday (Vigil)..... 4:00 PM **SMM**
 Sunday 9:00 AM **SB**
 10:30 AM **SMM**
 Wednesday 7:30 AM **SMM**
 Holydays: Please see the Parish Bulletin

Confessions

By Appointment..... **SMM**

Parish Priest

The Very Reverend Christopher Groh

Pastoral Team

Deacon, Deacon John Mele
 Pastoral Associate, Ms. Margaret Trepal
 Parish Secretary, Mrs. Annette Murphy
 Religious Education Director,
 Mrs. Shirley Norris
 Music Director, Dr. Richard Siegel

Rectory

127 S. Briggs St.
 Joliet, IL 60433

Rectory (815) 722-7653

Rectory Office Hours

Monday though Wednesday
 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM
 Please conduct all business by phone

Religious Education Office

201 S. Briggs St.
 Joliet, IL 60433

Religious Education (815) 727-4600
www.stmarymagdalenechurch.com

Weekly Reflection

We pray that the Holy Spirit will enlighten us all and help us to renew our commitment as the Lord's disciples and as stewards of His bountiful gifts.

Easter Triduum



Holy Thursday, April 1, 2021

Mass of the Lord's Supper (Livestream)7:00 PM **SMM**
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament continues until 8:45 PM
 Night Prayer8:45 PM **SMM**

Good Friday, April 2, 2021

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion (Livestream)3:00 PM **SMM**

Holy Saturday, April 3, 2021

Blessing of Easter Food 11:00 AM **SMM**
 Easter Vigil Mass (Livestream)7:00 PM **SMM**

Easter Sunday, April 4, 2020

Masses 7:30 and 10:30 AM **SMM**
 9:00 AM **SB**

SB—St. Bernard SMM—St. Mary Magdalene

Lenten Confessions

The Sacrament of Penance is celebrated in the gymnasium at St. Mary Magdalene on Saturday from 10:30 to 11:00 AM
Please enter through the main doors of the school building.
 (There is no access through the Church)

The Joliet Deanery will offer Confessions from 3:00 until 7:00 PM on Friday, March 26, 2021 at St. Ambrose Catholic Church, 1711 Burry Circle, Crest Hill One block north of Theodore St.

(Burry Circle is midway between Plainfield Rd. and Raynor Ave.)

Pre-registration is not necessary for Confessions.

Protective face masks and safe distancing are required.

The last opportunity for confessions before Easter will be in the gymnasium at St. Mary Magdalene on Palm Sunday, March 28, 2021 From 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Stations of the Cross

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Stations of the Cross will not be celebrated in Church this year. **A video of the Stations of the Cross is available on the St. Bernard Facebook Page** to assist you in praying the Stations at home during Lent.



Stations of the Cross booklets were mailed to all households

Rectory Office Closed to Visitors

Due to the surge in COVID-19 cases in Illinois, the Rectory Office will be closed to visitors until further notice. You may contact us by phone Monday through Wednesday from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM at 815-722-7653 or 815-726-4474.

For Lent For Life - CRS Rice Bowl

Community in Madagascar

Poor nutrition can lead to devastating long-term consequences for individuals, communities and entire countries. That's why communities must work together to ensure that all children have access to better food and nutrition. New planting and cooking techniques are helping many communities in Madagascar improve the health and wellbeing of their children. How does your community work together for the good of others? Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.



Make your own Rice Bowl this year and place it on your kitchen table. Remember to collect your daily offerings throughout Lent.

Rice Bowl envelopes are included in your parish envelope packet and may be returned during Holy Week.

Pre-Registration for Mass

To assure the safety of worshippers, Online advanced reservations for Mass are required.

On your smartphone, tablet, iPad or computer, log into www.stmarymagdalenechurch.com click the "Register for Mass" button on the right side of the homepage.

A video instruction on how to register is provided.

Online reservations open two weeks before Mass and must be completed no later than 24 hours before each Mass. Registration is blocked when Mass is full.

Please keep the email confirmation of your reservation.

If you have registered and are unable to attend, please cancel your registration online, so others may have the opportunity to participate in Mass.

Volunteers Needed

Our Phased Reopening Committee needs volunteers for the Easter Triduum. (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday). We are also looking additional help at Saturday and Sunday Mass once or twice per month, or periodical substitutes as the need arises.

Help is also needed for Funeral Masses and Confessions. If you can help, please call the Rectory Office (815- 722-7653 or 815-726-4474).

Children's Liturgy of the Word and Monthly Children's Mass

Children's Liturgy of the Word is offered during the monthly Children's Mass at St. Mary Magdalene at 10:30 AM Mass for ages 4 - 10 on April 4, 2021.

Building Maintenance & Major Repairs Collection

The monthly St. Mary Magdalene Building Maintenance & Major Repairs Collection (Blue Envelope) will be **TODAY, March 20-21.**

Stewardship Moment

Proclaimed this weekend is the Gospel story of Jesus inviting his disciples into a great mystery with curious pronouncements: Those who love their lives just as they are will lose them. If a grain of wheat dies, it will bear much fruit...What does Jesus mean? The climatic event of Jesus' passion and death is drawing closer; a time when the great confrontation between Jesus and the powers of darkness take place. When Jesus is lifted up, he will draw all to himself. The Christian steward knows life can't be lived in complacency. We are called to die to self, bear more fruit, be raised up with Jesus. Jesus brings discomfort to those who are comfortable. Jesus urges us to give witness in his name. How will we respond?



Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal 2021

Pledge Your Gift to the CMAA

Thank you to everyone who has already pledged a gift to the 2021 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). Every gift, large or small, brings us closer to our parish's 2021 goal.

St. Bernard's 2021 CMAA Goal is \$7,500.00

St. Mary Magdalene's 2021 CMAA Goal is \$18,900.00

If you have yet to make your gift, please prayerfully reflect on how you can best support the CMAA. If we raise more than our goal, 70 percent of the amount over goal will be returned to us for our use. This is an amazing opportunity for our parishes.

Recently a pledge envelope was mailed to everyone in our parish. Please either return it, or the pledge card you received from the diocese. You may also make a secure gift online at jolietdioceseappeal.org or text DONATE to (815) 205-1949.

Time - Talent - Treasure

"I will be their God and they shall be my people." - Jeremiah 31:33

What does it mean to be God's people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our family, our neighbors and for people we don't know, just as God cares for each of us.

Remember St. Mary Magdalene Parish in your Estate Plans. Please call the Rectory Office, 815-722-7653, for further information.

Budgeted Weekly Collection	\$4,607.84
Collection March 13/14	\$2,507.00
Average Offering	\$73.74

In the Name of Jesus, thank you!

Mass Intentions - Pre-Registration Required

SATURDAY, March 20— Live Stream Mass

4:00 PM SMM Victoria Felus—Diane Wilkins
Ciriaco Diaz, Janina, Domas, Bronius, Arvydas
-Alma Diaz

SUNDAY, March 21—The Fifth Sunday of Lent

9:00 AM SB Fran Hakey
Leonard Strahanoski—Wife, Dorothy

10:30 AM SMM For the People

MONDAY, March 22—

Private Mass Mass Intention Available

TUESDAY, March 23—St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

Private Mass Mass Intention Available

WEDNESDAY, March 24—

7:30 AM SMM Carol Hinson—Maggie Vandermeer

THURSDAY, March 25—The Annunciation of the Lord

Private Mass Mass Intention Available

FRIDAY, March 26—

Private Mass Mass Intention Available

SATURDAY, March 27— Live Stream Mass

4:00 PM SMM For the People

SUNDAY, March 28—Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

9:00 AM SB Patricia Newey
10:30 AM SMM Joseph Kucharz

SB - St. Bernard; **SMM** - St. Mary Magdalene

Catholic Relief Services Collection

Thank you for your generous support of last week's Catholic Relief Services Collection and for helping Jesus in disguise. Your contributions make a difference for the poor and marginalized around the world.

Please Remember in Prayer

Connor Dessent, Fr. Jim Friedel, Nancy Gaydos, Judy Halsne, Marge Jankowski, Mary Juricic, Bill Kettman, Tom McGann, Mary Micetich, Sue Mores, Anne Olszta, Fr. Richard Ross, Kay Ross, Gabriel Soto, Richard Terlep, Joseph Viscum and Tim Wojnarowski.

Please phone the Rectory (815-726-4484 or 815-722-7653) if you wish to have a loved one included on the Sick List.

Please Pray for Our Military

As a community, let us pray for these outstanding men and women in service to our country:



Capt. Brett Krueger, USMC
Pvt. Rafael Olguin, USA
Airman Valentin Olguin, USAF
Sgt. Erik Darby, USMC
Airman Basic Daniel Horvath, USAF

Please phone the Rectory (815-722-7653 or 815-726-4474) so we may add the names of parishioners, as well as family members and friends in Military Service.

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Any good teacher or parent will tell you that once a lesson is really learned it doesn't need to be taught again. When we internalize things we have learned, they become a part of who we are and influence how we perceive and interact with our world. The same is true for the



law God has written upon our hearts. Once humanity learns this lesson, we will simply know it to be true and act accordingly. Sometimes, it is hard to get people to learn the lessons they need to learn. They are often distracted, disinterested, conflicted, misdirected, or just too stubborn and unable or unwilling to see what is right before their eyes. Understanding that God is in a loving and committed relationship with those fashioned and formed in God's own image, seems like such a simple lesson to learn. But history and experience has proven that it is not.

We struggle with faith, especially when that faith asks us to learn something very particular about ourselves. We must, like a grain of wheat, fall to the ground and die. Because God's DNA is at the very core of who we are, there are specific pearls of wisdom that must be acquired before we can live a full life. One very powerful lesson is that it is not the task of the world to tell us who we are and what has meaning, but God. For many, death is not an opportunity for greater life but a permanent ending to the life they have known. Jesus knew every dimension to what it means to be fully human because he was! He knows the joys, limitations, sorrows, frustrations, wonders, suffering, opportunities, and joys of the human experience. Jesus can teach us a wealth of knowledge and life's lessons from his example, especially obedience.

When we accept the law God has placed in our hearts and gain wisdom from it, then when we suffer we learn to listen more attentively to the Voice behind that law. We naturally flee to our Creator for inspiration, consolation, hope, direction, and comfort as we navigate through this time of darkness. We will not need to run from it, subdue it, fight it, or be overcome by it because we will know, having internalized this profound lesson before, that God will bring new life. God's law is love and love never fails. Even in the moments of Jesus' deepest despair, he glorified the name of his Father. What he learned allowed him to put everything in perspective and be obedient to the tender, loving Voice that echoed within. As Lent quickly winds down, may we learn the same! Then, may we gain the fortitude and wisdom to help others see what is right before their eyes. ©LPI

Flame of Faith

Dennis Krawchuck
Marilyn Nichols



Each week two, seven-day, sanctuary candles burn before the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary Magdalene Church in memory of family members and friends.

Please phone the Rectory Office to offer a memorial for a friend or loved one. A donation of \$5.00 is requested to offset the cost of these candles.

The Witness

Confessions

The Sacrament of Penance is celebrated at St. Mary Magdalene on Saturday from 3:15-3:45 PM. Confessions are also available by appointment.

Parish Registration

We welcome all new members. Please phone or visit the Rectory Office to join St. Mary Magdalene or St. Bernard Parish.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word is offered at St. Mary Magdalene each Sunday during the 10:30 AM Mass for pre-school to fourth grade students.

Baptism

Expectant parents are asked to prepare for the celebration of baptism well in advance by participating in a baptismal preparation class before the birth of their child. Please call the Rectory Office to register for this required class.

Marriage

Call the Rectory at least six months in advance, before making other wedding plans.

Sick and Infirm

Call the rectory to have Holy Communion brought to shut-ins, or to celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. Please notify the Rectory Office whenever a family member is seriously ill or hospitalized.

Catechumenate

Adults interested in joining the Catholic church should contact the Rectory Office for information concerning the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA).

Funerals

Upon the death of a loved one, before publication in the newspaper, please contact the Rectory Office directly to schedule the Funeral Mass.

Religious Education

Religious Education meets at St. Mary Magdalene during the school year on Saturday morning from 8:30 to 10:00 AM. Classes are offered for grades 1-8.

Collective Mass Intentions

Two *Collective Mass Intentions* are offered for Saturday Evening and Sunday Morning Masses at St. Mary Magdalene and St. Bernard. The *Mass for the People* and the *Weekday Masses* are for single intentions.

Sunday Contributions

Parishioners of St. Mary Magdalene and St. Bernard may drop their parish envelope in the Sunday Collection at Mass in either parish. Your contribution will be recorded at your parish.

Website

For information concerning St. Bernard or St. Mary Magdalene Parish, please visit our website at www.stmarymagdalenechurch.com.



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Livestream Mass

The 4:00 PM Saturday Evening (Sunday Vigil Mass) from St. Mary Magdalene is live streamed. You can connect via computer, tablet or smartphone.

Go to www.stmarymagdalenechurch.com - on the right side of the webpage, click: "St. Bernard Facebook Page."

The livestream video can be watched at any time during the week



Flame of Faith

Ed & Anne Olszta
Louise Murphy

Each week, two, seven day, sanctuary candles burn before the Blessed Sacrament at St. Bernard Church in memory of family members and friends. Please phone the Rectory (815-726-4474) to offer a memorial for a friend or loved one. A donation of \$5.00 is requested to offset the cost of the candle.

Time - Talent - Treasure

"If anyone would serve me," says Jesus in today's Gospel, "let him follow me; where I am, there will my servant be." In what way is Jesus inviting me to follow Him? What service is He asking of me? -John 12:26.

Remember St. Bernard Parish in your Estate Plans. Please call the Rectory Office, 815-726-4474, for further information.

Budgeted Weekly Collection \$2,254.90
Collection March 14..... \$1,184.00
Average Offering \$78.48
In the Name of Jesus, thank you!

Good Friday Collection

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I write to you with deep gratitude for your support of last year's Pontifical Good Friday Collection. Your generosity allowed the Franciscan Friars in the Holy Land to continue their work of maintaining the sacred shrines and providing hope to Christians.

Each year, the Holy Father asks each Catholic parish around the world to take up a Good Friday Collection to keep Christians in the Holy Land. The Collection supports the work of the Franciscans in the sacred shrines and allows them to receive pilgrims, minister to the parishes, provide formation and education in the communities and schools, and care for the basic needs of the people in the Holy Land. During such a difficult season, your support is essential to their ministry.

Once again, we ask for your prayers, generosity, and encouragement for the Holy Father's Good Friday Collection on Friday, April 2. We hope that, soon, travel to the Holy Land may resume safely and pilgrims once again will be able to experience walking in the footsteps of Christ and Our Blessed Mother. In the meantime, our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land are counting on you for help.

With your help, the Franciscans can continue to be a light of hope to those living in darkness in the Holy Land. Thank you for encouraging your parishioners to be generous, either by donating on Good Friday, or giving online.

May Christ continue to bless you abundantly in all the holy work that you do.

Paz v bien.

Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks
Bishop of Joliet

Sacramental Records Needed

Baptisms and Marriages from June, 2003 to August, 2015 at St. Bernard's were never recorded.

If you, or a family member were baptized or married at St. Bernard's from 2003 to 2015, (even if you have a certificate) please call the Rectory (815-726-4474), so this important information can be entered into our sacramental register

Schedule of Masses

Pre-Registration Required

Saturday (Vigil)..... 4:00 PM **SMM**
Sunday 9:00 AM **SB**
..... 10:30 AM **SMM**

Wednesday..... 7:30 AM **SMM**

Holydays: Please see the Parish Bulletin

Pastor

The Very Reverend Christopher Groh

Pastoral Team

Pastoral Associate, Ms. Margaret Trepal

Parish Secretary, Mrs. Annette Murphy

Religious Education Director,
Mrs. Shirley Norris

Organist, Mr. Ray Kaufman

St. Bernard Church

Sterling Avenue and High Street
Joliet, Illinois

St. Bernard Rectory

127 S. Briggs St.
Joliet, IL 60433

Rectory (815) 726-4474

Rectory Office Hours

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