

St. Mary Catholic Church

101 South Meyer Avenue, Valmeyer, IL 62295

Parish Office : 618- 935-2247

www.stmaryvalmeyer.org Email: smoffice@htc.net

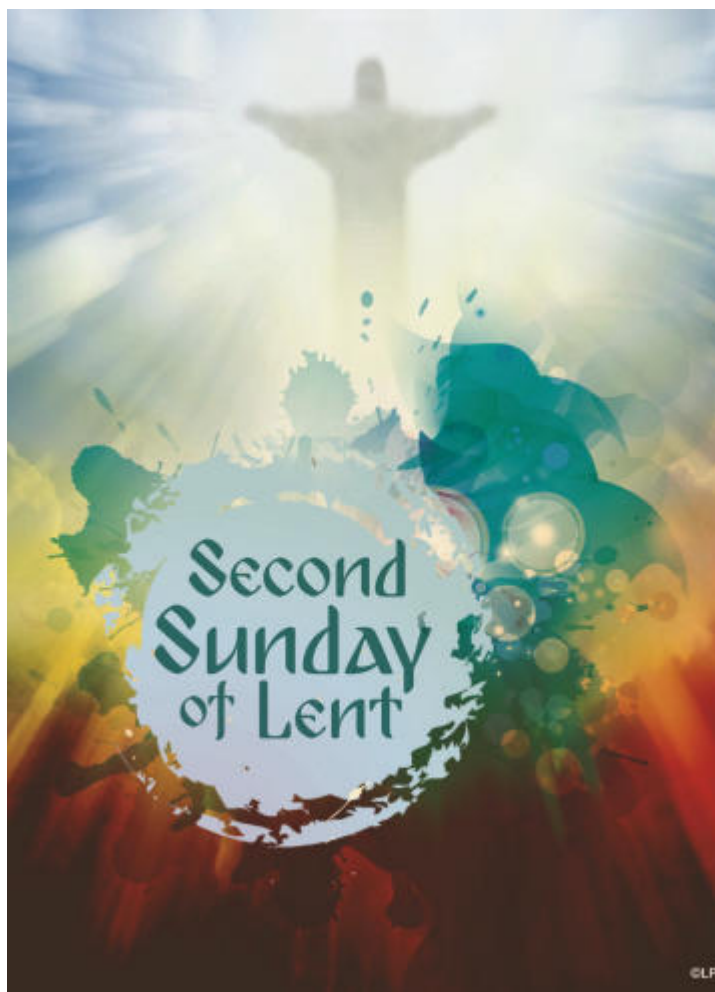
Parish Ctr.: 618-935-2400

GOSPEL MEDITATION

A pregnant woman was walking in the store and met an old friend. Her friend exclaimed, "You are absolutely beaming!" The new life God placed in her womb radiated throughout her body. It was brightly visible on her face and in her eyes. Transformation and change usually happen from the inside out. It is very rare that simply imposing structure from the outside does any good. Yes, it is true that routines and habits can change when things are done differently. But, for this change to last there has to be an interior renewal and metamorphosis as well. Simply regulating behavior and bringing someone into conformity with accepted protocols doesn't mean their heart and soul come with them.

Peter was a homeless man who lived in a very remote and rudimentary tent community. He was happy to make his daily trip to McDonald's and always welcomed a gift card or two so that he could buy some coffee and something to eat. A generous advocate worked to secure him an apartment in hopes of moving Peter out of his makeshift housing and into something safer. Peter finally got the grand tour of his new "digs," received his own key, remarked how wonderful the place was, closed the door behind him when they left and never returned. He preferred his tent. No matter how much things changed on the outside, Peter was happy where he was. A poignant lesson was learned that day.

How is your Lent going? By now you ought to have a sense of whether you're really "into it" this year and something transformational is happening. For many, it's only the stuff on the outside that changes for a few weeks and then they return to business as usual. For others, there are some real inner changes happening that are deepening their relationships with God, others, self, and creation. If we are serious about moving to a new place and radiating with the presence of new life and joy, then we have to clear the way to listen for God's call. Then, there is God's request to change things up a bit and order our lives differently. After realizing we have been called and given a mission, we have to trust that this is where we need to be. And then, after all of this hard work we are asked to act. The fruit that is revealed will indicate whether our journey is authentic. The brilliance of conversion will begin to shine on our faces as we contemplate the One to whom we are asked to listen.



Most Rev. Michael McGovern
Bishop of Belleville

Rev. Felix Chukwuma
Administrator
Cell: (618) 671-0641

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sat.: 5 pm
(fulfills Sunday Obligation)

Sun.: 9 am

Tues. & Thurs.: 7 pm

Wed. & Fri.: 8 am

Holy Days of Obligation:
7 am & 7 pm

SACRAMENT REQUIREMENTS

Baptism: One month
notice & preparation

Reconciliation: One hour
before Mass

Matrimony: Four months'
notice & preparation

PARISH PARTNERSHIPS Fr. John Kizhakedan

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Renault
(618) 458-6875 / kpjohn58@msn.com
olgcrenault@gmail.com
Mass: Sunday, 10:30 am

St. Patrick's, Tipton
(630) 544-1825 / stpatrickstipton@gmail.com
Mass: Saturday, 5 pm
Sunday, 8:30 am
Tuesday, 7 pm

**PLEASE BE SURE TO FOLLOW ALL SAFETY GUIDELINES
AND THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE USHERS WHILE ATTENDING MASS IN PERSON**

LECTORS SCHEDULE

Saturday, 2/27 - Todd or Maria Hildreth
 Sunday, 2/28 - Donna Wierschem
Saturday, 3/6 - Todd or Maria Hildreth
Sunday, 3/7 - Jane McCarthy
 Saturday, 3/13 - Todd or Maria Hildreth
 Sunday, 3/14 - Mary Wuertz
Saturday, 3/20 - Todd or Maria Hildreth
Sunday, 3/21 - Donna Wierschem
 Saturday, 3/27 - Mary Wuertz
 Palm Sunday, 3/28 - Donna Wierschem

Each week, **Bi-County Backpack Program** sends food home for the weekend to families in need from schools in Prairie du Rocher, Red Bud, Valmeyer & Waterloo. The Program is located at St. John UCC Maestown, with volunteers from Catholic, Lutheran and UCC churches in our community. A collection box is in the Gathering Area for donations of non-perishable food items (no glass). Monetary donations also accepted – please place in the collection basket marked “Backpack Program.” Thank you for your generosity.

Coalition for Life St. Louis March on the Arch Saturday, March 6

Hear Bishop McGovern speak at 11:30 am and then walk with him in Rosary and prayer at noon. The event is free. All are welcome. Masks will be worn and we will be socially distanced.

BISHOP MICHAEL McGOVERN is originally from the Archdiocese of Chicago. Ordained a priest in 1994, he has been involved in Project Rachel and respect life activities in Cook and Lake counties in Illinois. As Bishop of Belleville since July 22, he is a supporter of Project Rachel and introduced the Mass of Hope and Healing to the Belleville Diocese. He looks forward to working together to foster a culture of life in southern Illinois.

Signup Today! STLMarch.com (314)827-4039

Please remember in your prayers members of our parish family and friends who are injured or sick, especially:
Diane Guttman † Lee Guttman † Ellen Heavner † Curtis Henke † Gene Henry † Bonnie Hoffman † Lillian Hohnbaum † Eleanor Mary Krebel † Allen Mattingly † Marge Unterseh McKenzie † David Mehrrens † Kaylee Muertz † Santos Pallares † Brian Schmitt † Judy Vogt † Donald Weber
And all Military Men and Women, especially:
Miranda Kaufmann, U.S. Air Force, daughter of Don Kaufmann

Mass Intentions

Sat., Feb. 27 - Alberta Riechmann, offered by Rich & Patti Dependahl
 Sun., Feb. 28 - Jean Ahne, offered by Jeanne Langsdorf
 Sat., March 6 - Pat Sondag, offered by the family
 Sun., March 7 - Mary Ann Schmidt, offered by the family
 Sat., March 13 - Mary White, offered by Jeanne Langsdorf
 Sun., March 14 - Dale Mehrrens, offered by Audrey Roeber

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/
 Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10
 Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9 11 and 13 [cf. 103:10a]/Lk 6:36-38
 Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 23:1-12
 Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16 [17b]/Mt 20:17-28
 Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [40:5a]/Lk 16:19-31
 Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 [5a]/
 Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
 Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 [8a]/Lk 15:1-3, 11-3

SCHEDULE OF PSR CLASSES

Sun., Feb. 28: Grades 1-4, 10:00-11:00 am
 Wed., March 3: Grades 5-7, 7:00-8:15 pm

**If cancellation due to weather becomes necessary,
a notice will be sent out**

Listen to Him. One week into Lent, we are simply told by the voice from the cloud: Listen to Jesus. He told us last Sunday to “believe in the gospel.” What does belief in this Good News look and sound like this Lent, this year?
 - Since we are descendants of Abraham, how am I to behave with my cousins (that is, everyone)?
 - Since we are sisters and brothers in the Lord Jesus Christ, to whom do I listen? What am I told?
 - Since I am also “beloved”, what will I do?

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Council:

Mary Wuertz von Holt - Chair - 415-845-4144 / mary@vvh.com
 Carrie Gilbert - Vice Chair
 Angela Atkinson - Secretary
 Larry Chausse Nancy Gilbert
 Linda Sharp Joe Stonich

Parish Trustees:

Angie Crawford Kevin Lubbes

Parish Secretary:

Penny Heusohn - 618-935-2581

Knights of Columbus:

Todd Hildreth - 314-210-4111

Altar Sodality:

Karen Limestall - 618-939-4442
karenli@budnick.com

PSR Coordinators:

Elissa Chausse & Pat Ellis
psrstmary@gmail.com

Scrip Coordinator:

Penny Heusohn - 618-935-2581

Bulletin Editor:

Sharon May - 618-935-2611

Parish Center Reservations:

Jean Langsdorf - 618-935-2481
jeanl@htc.net

**Abuse Hot Line -
1-800-640-3044**

Bulletin submission deadline is noon on Mondays. Send bulletin submissions to stmarybulletin7@gmail.com or call 935-2611

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (CYCLE B)

The next **Altar Sodality Meeting** will be **Sunday, March 7**, immediately after 9 am Mass in the Parish Center.

K of C Fish Fries are back in 2021!

At this time, we will serve only to-go orders, limited to just fish and chips. The hall and the bar will remain closed, and all orders will be placed at an order tent by the fry shed. There is a possibility that some sides might be added as we go along, but count on that awesome fish and those world famous chips for sure! The dates are **March 5, March 12, March 19 and March 26**, serving starting at 4 pm. If you would like to help, please contact Todd Hildreth at todkatknight@gmail.com.

HUNGER IN OUR WORLD - Jesus told us that whatever we did for one of the least brothers of his we did for him. Reflect on the challenge of global hunger—it is a reality for millions of our sisters and brothers. What will you do to support the hungry in our community and around the world? crsricebowl.org to learn more.

Contribution envelopes for 2021 are in the Gathering Area and can be picked up at any time; please take yours and anyone else's you can deliver. If there is not a box for you, please take an unassigned box and put your name, address and the box number on the sheet provided.

If you would like to receive a statement of your 2020 contributions to St. Mary, please contact Penny Heusohn. By phone (618-935-2581); by mail (St. Mary, 101 S. Meyer, Valmeyer, IL 62295; or by placing a request in the collection basket.

Parish Council Election to be held on Sunday, March 14. Watch the next two bulletins for voting information and bios on our two candidates: David Carr and Donna Wierschem.

Altar Sodality will be collecting donations for the **SPPS Food Pantry** during Lent. Accepted items: canned food, boxed food, hygiene products & cleaning products. Place donations on the table in the Gathering Area. People in need can contact the Food Pantry Hot Line at 618-792-4059. The pantry serves the needy in the surrounding area, not just within SPPS parish.

SS PETER & PAUL PARISH, WATERLOO WURSTMARKT - PORK SAUSAGE DINNER SUNDAY, FEB 28, 2021

Drive-through pork sausage dinner - SPPS's annual Wurstmart! Pull into the alley between the church and school between 11am - 3pm to order and pick up a \$10 dinner. Meal includes pork sausage, mashed potatoes and gravy, sauerkraut, green beans, and bread. There will not be Bingo this year due to COVID restrictions. If you would like to pre-order and pay for your meal(s) online, you can do that here - <https://Wurstmarkt.givesmart.com>. This is not required; just another option. If you cannot make it, but would like to donate to the day, you can do that online as well.

We always are in need of Mass Intentions. Please note that Mass Intentions need not be only for deceased loved ones and friends. They can be in thanksgiving for something special, like a birth, wedding or anniversary or perhaps recovery from an illness. Mass Intentions also can be a "special intention" -- there's no need to indicate what the Mass is for. \$20 for weekend Masses; \$10 for weekday Masses. Thank you!

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT	Feb. 14	Feb. 21
Envelopes	\$1,760	\$1,916
Loose	\$75	\$85
Ash Wednesday	--	\$145
Reimbursement from Gibault	\$110	---
TOTAL	\$1,945	\$2,146
Weekly Budget	\$3,145	\$3,145
Fiscal YTD Total	\$68,364	\$70,510
Fiscal YTD Budget	\$103,785	\$106,930
BUDGET DEFICIT	(\$35,421)	(\$36,420)
Building Fund	---	\$30
Fiscal YTD Bldg. Fund Total	\$1,811	\$1,841
Black & Indian Missions	---	\$35
Mass Intentions	\$160	---
For On-Line Giving: https://together.igivecatholic.org/info/belleville or click on the Online Giving menu in the upper left of our parish website, www.stmaryvalmeyer.org .		

40 Days for Life, Spring 2021

Feb. 17 thru March 28 - 7 AM - 7 PM

Prayer Vigil at Planned Parenthood Fairview Heights
317 Salem Place, Fairview Heights, IL 62208
Contact (314) 827-4039 to get involved.

St. Liborius Council of Catholic Women Quilt-a-rama starts March 28, 2021. Twelve monthly drawings for a beautiful, handmade quilt. Tickets are \$40. each and available now by contacting Vicki Knepper, SLCCW President, 618-960-8420.

Sister Thea Bowman Catholic School located in East St. Louis, Illinois is seeking an elementary school Principal. Applicants are required to be a faithful, committed Catholic who understands and accepts the teachings and disciplines of the Catholic Church. The full advertisement can be found at <https://www.diobelle.org/temporal-affairs/human-resources/employment-opportunities>. Interested applicants should send a cover letter, résumé, transcripts, three current letters of recommendation, proof of Illinois Professional Educator's License with General Administrative Endorsement to Diocese of Belleville, Office of Education, 2620 Lebanon Avenue, Belleville, Illinois 62221 or email OfficeofEducation@diobelle.org. Applications will be accepted until March 19, 2021.

Mark your calendars for Camp Ondessonk's Virtual Homecoming Gala, Saturday, March 6th, at 6 PM CST! Online Silent Auction bidding opens up Sunday, February 28th, at 8AM CST. The live streamed event will kick-off with pre-program entertainment, and then shift into the program portion with a live virtual auction, fund-a-need, presentations of awards, and more. Additional info: ondessonk.com/gala.

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