

St. Mary Catholic Church

101 South Meyer Avenue, Valmeyer, IL 62295

Parish Office : 618- 935-2247

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

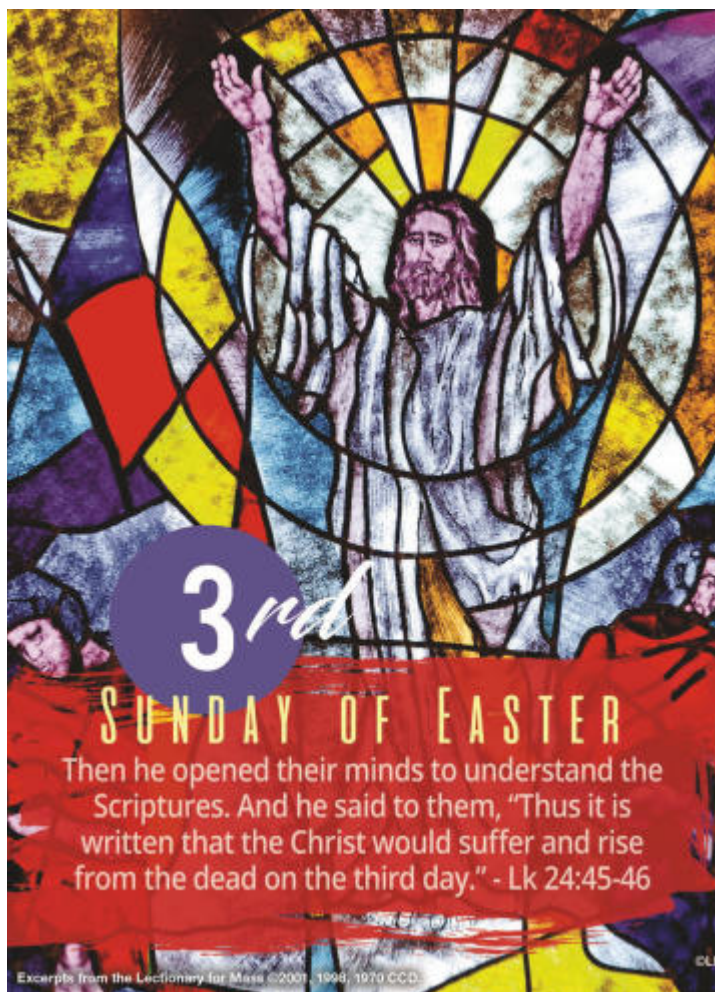
Parish Ctr.: 618-935-2400

GOSPEL MEDITATION

We often act out of ignorance. Armed with the best of intentions, we think we are seeing clearly and correctly, but we are not. We don't always understand the full meaning of things and only perceive part of the truth. Hence, our judgments and actions can be impaired by myopic, incomplete or erroneous perceptions. The meaning of life, understanding of human experience, and negotiating life's challenges can all become skewed without proper understanding and vision. The resurrection of Christ is the corrective to our incomplete and limited view of life. Looking at things with the eyes of faith brings a depth of clarity and understanding to how we see God, ourselves, others, and the world.

Even the disciples struggled with their limited understanding and ignorant perceptions. It was only when Jesus opened their minds to understand the Scriptures that their eyes were opened. It was their "aha" moment when everything clicked. We all want the substance of our lives to come together, make sense, and have meaning. This is easier to achieve when things are going positively, and life is good. It is when suffering, disappointment, death, hardship, and injustice enter the picture that things can become unsettled and disoriented. Our faith in the goodness and love of God is tested. We tend to shift our focus on these difficult and challenging moments and do not see them within the greater picture of how God intends life to unfold. We can gain, from the passion and resurrection of Christ, the clear vision we need in order to move away from ignorance to enlightenment.

We need our "aha" moment when everything comes together and clicks. It can come in a fleeting instant when we feel totally connected with God, where we find ourselves, others and all of creation. It is a moment when all is right and good, regardless of how difficult our journey. Our "aha" moment assures us that God is here, right with us, in us and around us bringing us a gift and blessing we can receive nowhere else: peace. In those brief sacramental encounters when we are lifted up out of ourselves and centered, we can hear God say, "peace be with you," and we feel secure. It's all okay. The resurrected Christ has the power to bring this gift to us. Some people, as they are facing their deaths, remark about this peace. When looking into the window of eternity, they experience a depth of joy and are amazed at God's goodness and closeness. We are called to be witnesses to this Good News.



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

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 17 - Volunteer Welcome
 Sunday, April 18 - Mary Wuertz
 Saturday, April 24 - Todd or Maria Hildreth
 Sunday, April 25 - Donna Wierschem
 Saturday, May 1 - Todd or Maria Hildreth
 Sunday, May 2 - Sharon May

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

In their 2000 pastoral letter *Responsibility, Rehabilitation and Restoration*, the bishops of the United States called the faithful to embrace an approach to criminal justice that takes into account the dignity of crime victims and their families, communities and offenders. Responding to that call, the Catholic Home Missions Appeal provides financial assistance to programs of mission dioceses throughout our country as they work to uphold justice and healing in their local communities.

Your support of the Catholic Home Missions collection makes a difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters right here in our Belleville Diocese as well as on a national level. Eight diocesan ministries and programs received Catholic Home Missions funding in the past year.

Please prayerfully consider how you can support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal this year. To learn more about the appeal and those who benefit from it, visit www.usccb.org/home-missions. Thank you for strengthening the Church at home.

— Bishop Michael McGovern

SPPCS Pre-Registration & Re-enrollment

New Families/Students: You can now pre-register for the 2021-2022 school year. The links to enrolling for both our Early Learning Center and Kindergarten - 8th grade are on our website under Admissions.

Current families: Go to the Option C Family Portal and click the office tab and scroll down to Enrollment. Click yes by each student if they will be returning for the 2021-22 school year. If you are enrolling a new student, you will do that by clicking on the "add a new student for consideration, click or press here."

Once this is complete we will have Registration materials available and a message will be sent via Option C email

Happy Birthday



The Knights of Columbus would like to wish a happy birthday to:

Nick Cascio / Jared Berning / Ethan May
 John DeBourge / Ed Van Zandt III

Mass Intentions

Sat., April 17 - Dale Mehrtens, offered by Joe Sondag
 Sun., April 18 - Joe Sondag, offered by Tim & Dawn Brown
 Tues., April 20 - Agatha Muertz
 Wed., April 21 - Gary Hogan, offered by Ray & Mary Anne Farley
 Thurs., April 22 - Bill Wolf
 Fri., April 23 - Cecelia Kohnz
 Sat., April 24 - Alberta Riechmann, offered by Andrew & Carla Mitan
 Sun., April 25 - Joe Sondag, offered by Dale & Wilma Mehrtens Family
 Sat., May 1 - Joe Sondag, offered by Doug & Rhonda Sondag
 Sun., May 2 - Fred & Rosalia Krewer, offered by Penny Heusohn

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 † Cheryl Hohnbaum † Lillian Hohnbaum † Eleanor Mary Krebel † Allen Mattingly † Marge Unterseh McKenzie † David Mehrtens † 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

Readings for the week of April 11, 2021

Sunday: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 [7a]/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48
 Monday: Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30 [1ab]/Jn 6:22-29
 Tuesday: Acts 7:51—8:1a/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 7b and 8a, 17 and 21ab [6a]/Jn 6:30-35
 Wednesday: Acts 8:1b-8/Ps 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a [1]/Jn 6:35-40
 Thursday: Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20 [1]/Jn 6:44-51
 Friday: Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Jn 6:52-59
 Saturday: Acts 9:31-42/Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [12]/Jn 6:60-69

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER



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

To report an allegation of sexual misconduct by a priest or other diocesan personnel, call

**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

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (CYCLE B)

CRS Rice Bowl Campaign - Please return your CRS Rice Bowl in the Gathering Area by Sunday, April 18, or donate online at crsricebowl.org/give. There will be a box in the Gathering Area to place bowls in.

The Messenger is planning to do a story related to Memorial Day. If anyone in our parish has a story to tell about someone they knew or a relative who died during a war, please pass that info on to Penny Heusohn. Additionally, you can provide to Penny the names of service members who were killed in action (WWII onward (include rank & which war)) and the name of anyone who presently is serving in harm's way or anyone who served in Iraq or Afghanistan or Syria and have returned home. Penny needs to provide this info to *The Messenger* by May 3.

Altar Sodality "No-Bake" Bake Sale Sunday, April 25

All proceeds will go to the Bi-County Back Pack Program
Thank you for your generosity!

The next Altar Sodality Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 6, in the parish center, immediately following Mass. There will be no meeting in May.

Annual Diocesan Spring Blessing of the Farm Tuesday, April 20, 2021, 2pm at the Farm of Dale & Kay Haudrich 7903 State Route 156, Waterloo, IL 62298

Directions: Take IL-Hwy 159 to Hecker, IL. Travel west onto IL-Hwy 156 out of Hecker 3/4 of a mile. It is the first house on your right. "Farm Blessing" signs will also lead you.

Those attending are invited to bring seed and soil in marked containers along with animals and farm machinery to be blessed. Food for the poor and needy of the area will be collected.

Pandemic health and safety protocols will be in place.

Valmeyer Knights of Columbus Scholarship

Your Knights are once again offering a scholarship between \$300 and \$400 to an active St. Mary Parish Senior in high school. Forms will be available in the gathering area. Contact Tom Andres, Scott Roeber, Kevin Lubbes, or Howard Heavner if you have any questions.

Have You Anything to Eat? We long to be fed at the table of the Lord. We hunger to eat and drink his Blood and Body. If we can go to the church this day – what a joy! If we can't, we can still follow the gospel injunction: Look and touch. We can look for Jesus everywhere – because that is where he is. We can still touch Jesus in the persons who are near – because that is also where he is.

- How will I look for and see Jesus every day?
- How will I touch Jesus, either really or virtually, in touching another?
- How will I do these mercy works: feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty?

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT	April 4	April 11
Envelopes	\$658	\$2,256
Loose	\$90	\$65
Easter	\$2,430	\$100
TOTAL	\$3,178	\$2,421
Weekly Budget	\$3,145	\$3,145
Fiscal YTD Total	\$84,478	\$86,899
Fiscal YTD Budget	\$125,800	\$128,945
BUDGET DEFICIT	(\$41,322)	(\$42,046)
Building Fund	\$30	---
Fiscal YTD Bldg. Fund Total	\$3,611	\$3,611
Black & Indian Missions	\$130	---
Catholic Relief Services	---	\$515
Mass Intentions	---	\$10
SPPS Tuition	\$500	---
For On-Line Giving: https://www.igivecatholictogether.org/info/belleville or click on the Online Giving menu in the upper left of our parish website, www.stmaryvalmeyer.org .		

The **Valmeyer Music Boosters** are holding an **online auction** from **April 13 through May 4** in lieu of the usual Dinner Theater and Auction. You can access the auction at www.32auctions.com/valmeyerMB. Please check out all the awesome items up for auction and help support the school's music program!

St. Patrick Parish - Ruma Drive-through Chicken Dinner Sunday, May 16, 11 am - ??

Dinner includes one-half Fried Chicken (breast, thigh, leg and wing) mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, coleslaw, roll with strawberry jam.

(No special orders or substitutes, please)

Drive Thru is One Way Only! Vehicles should enter at 2 Pioneer Lane (Adorers of the Blood of Christ entrance) and Exit at 1 Pioneer Lane.

The youth group at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Columbia, is hosting its **Annual Rummage Sale** on **Saturday, April 24, 8am-2pm**. Funds raised will help support our youth group activities. Whether you'd like to shop or donate items, we greatly appreciate your support. Any and all items are accepted, but please no computers, TVs or clothing. Drop off 4/22, 4-8pm, 4/23, 10-7pm. 227 Goodhaven, Columbia IL, Rt 3 and Bottom Avenue across from Walgreens.



We remember and pray for parish members who passed away in the month of April:

*Ray Huffman / Kent Heise / Jeff Englerth / Melba Riechmann
Frank Sondag / Bob Falkner / Carnel Gilbert*

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!

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Founder, Terry Andres, Native of Valmeyer

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