

# 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

"Remain in my love," and, "I call you friends," are powerful words that are found in John's Gospel. Most of us probably have them committed to memory or have at least heard them proclaimed dozens of times. They are words that can easily become trite and quickly glossed over without fully pondering and digesting their profound beauty. When we take the time to immerse ourselves in them, they can radically change our lives and our relationships. They can open up new doors of adventure and hold countless possibilities for meaning. The essence of love and friendship are things that can easily be taken for granted. They have always been there and are a significant part of our lives. Many would say that they could not live without love and friendship, and they put a great deal of care into preserving, deepening and sustaining them. Love and friendship share a mutual relationship with each other that deserves more reflection.

Where does love come from? We can consider relationships that have not succeeded and conclude that they were somehow due to our "failures in love." In doing so, we assume that human beings are the ones responsible for love, its success and also its failure. While our weakness, emotional composition and sinfulness can easily impact our ability to love, its origin is not human. God is love. God is love's author and origin. When we love, it is God who loves in and through us. It is because of this divine closeness that Jesus is able to call us friends! It is not because of anything we have done but simply because of who we are. Realizing and contemplating this awesome reality becomes a game changer across the board. It gives us reason to clear the table of anything that can adversely affect the way we love so that we can open the door for its author to shine forth.

Coming upon this truth is what leads folks like St. Francis of Assisi to leave that which is comfortable and worldly and live a radical life. They relate with the love of God that radiates in and through all living things and appreciate their sacredness. It was having an intimate experience of God's love and friendship that propelled St. Francis and others to embrace simplicity, act nonviolently, pursue humility, love enemies, care for the earth and open up avenues for true justice. Understanding this profound truth will also help us find peaceful solutions to world's problems, restore relationships with our sisters and brothers, bring the grace of loving stewardship to creation and heal many wounds. Once we begin to see how wonderfully holy all of life really is, we discover joy. We lose our need for fear, develop a fierce fortitude, act prudently and seek justice. There is great power in love because it comes from God. It will never fail. It also enjoys the company of two other friends who are eager to become our friends as well: faith and hope. These are just as important to have and to share.



**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**

### LECTOR SCHEDULE

Saturday, May 8	Todd or Maria Hildreth
Sunday, May 9	Donna Wierschem
<b>Saturday, May 15</b>	<b>David Carr</b>
<b>Sunday, May 16</b>	<b>Mary Wuertz</b>
Saturday, May 22	Todd or Maria Hildreth
Sunday, May 23	Jane McCarthy
<b>Saturday, May 29</b>	<b>David Carr</b>
<b>Sunday, May 30</b>	<b>Sharon May</b>

### Mass Intentions

Sat., May 8	Eleanor Althoff, offered by Tom & Charlotte Gartzke
Sun., May 9	Dale Mehrstens, offered by John & Bobbie Klinkhardt
Tues., May 11	Jim Fidler
Wed., May 12	Diane Guttmann, offered by the family
Thurs., May 13, 7 am	Daniel & Hazel McCarthy
Thurs., May 13, 7 pm	Jake Kohnz, offered by Dan & Patsy Kohnz
Fri., May 14	Cleo & Alberta Eshom
Sat., May 15	Dorothy Williamson, offered by Mary Jo Robinson
Sun., May 16	Pauline Sondag, offered by the family
Sat., May 22	Lucille Meeks, offered by Michael Schreder
Sun., May 23,	Alvin & Ella Mae Wierschem, offered by Randy & Donna Wierschem

The historical and beautiful Catholic cemeteries of Mount Carmel in Belleville and Holy Cross in Fairview Heights are offering a 25% discount on pre-need grave and crypt sales during May and June. It shows prudent and practical foresight to pre-plan your burial arrangements, especially now with very affordable payment terms. Contact our Catholic cemeteries office staff at 618-397-0181 for additional information or to set an appointment.

Mid-life Singles: Are you looking for a renewed sense of connection & purpose during this pandemic? Register today for a life-changing REFLECT Catholic weekend retreat at King's House Retreat Center, Belleville, (20 min from downtown St. Louis), on June 4-6, 2021. Take a chance and get involved... you won't regret it! Cost is \$210 including meals and a single room. Visit [www.ReflectRetreat.com](http://www.ReflectRetreat.com), e-mail [reflect.stlouis@gmail.com](mailto:reflect.stlouis@gmail.com), or call (314) 283-0044 for details.

**Keep Them.** Jesus said of his disciples: I protected, I guarded them. So, Father, keep them. Keep them in your name. Keep them safe. Keep them close. He also says all of this to us and about us this day.

- What protection do I need from Jesus and his Father?
- Who will I keep closer to the God who saves?
- And, so, who will I protect in real or virtual ways?

**Please remember in your prayers members of our parish family and friends who are injured or sick, especially:**

*Kylie Ballas † Lee Guttmann † Ellen Heavner † Cheryl Hohnbaum † Lillian Hohnbaum † Eleanor Mary Krebel † Allen Mattingly † Marge Unterseh McKenzie † David Mehrstens † 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 Upcoming Week

Sunday:	Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [cf. 2b]/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17
Monday:	Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 15:26—16:4a
Tuesday:	Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8 [7c]/Jn 16:5-11
Wednesday:	Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15
Thursday:	Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/Jn 16:16-20
Ascension:	Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20
Friday:	Acts 1:15-17, 20-26/Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8]/Jn 15:9-17
Saturday:	Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-10, 10 [8a]/Jn 16:23b-2

### PARISH CONTACTS

**Parish Council:**

Nancy Gilbert - Chair  
Donna Wierschem - Vice Chair  
Mary Wuertz von Holt - Secretary  
Larry Chausse  
Linda Sharp

Angela Atkinson  
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](mailto:karenli@budnick.com)

**PSR Coordinators:**

Elissa Chausse & Pat Ellis  
[psrstmary@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:stmarybulletin7@gmail.com) or call 935-2611.**

# SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (CYCLE B)



Congratulations to our young parishioners who received First Holy Communion May 2:

Brayden Eckenfels, Leigha Henerfauth, Elizabeth Schreder

### 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.

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.

### 2021 Valmeyer Community Vacation Bible School

June 7-11, 2021 from 8:30 to 11:30 am each day

Friday Night Finale at St. Louis-UCC at 7 pm

Drop off and pick up at St. Louis-UCC each day

Suggested donation is \$20 per child  
(checks payable to St. John-UCC)

Registration forms can be found in the Gathering Area



Holy Day  
of  
Obligation

Thursday, May 13

Masses at St. Mary at 7 am and 7 pm



Please remember and pray for family members and friends who passed away during the month of May;

Robert Schmidt / Louise Unterseh / Fred Krewer



The Knights of Columbus would like to wish a Happy Birthday to the following members:

Mark Bertram (5/1); Don Kaufmann (5/10);  
Avery Lubbes (5/26); Joel Limestall (5/29)

Terra Properties, which manages the Senior Apartments here in Valmeyer, has sent the parish information and applications for their apartments. If anyone is interested in this information or would like to have an application, please contact Penny at the church office.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT	April 25	May 2
Envelopes	\$1,127	\$2,136
Loose	\$55	\$50
Easter	\$10	\$10
Closing Donations Box	—	\$292
Candles	\$82	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,274</b>	<b>\$2,499</b>
Weekly Budget	\$3,145	\$3,145
<b>Fiscal YTD Total</b>	<b>\$89,920</b>	<b>\$92,409</b>
Fiscal YTD Budget	\$135,235	\$138,380
<b>BUDGET DEFICIT</b>	<b>(\$45,315)</b>	<b>(\$45,971)</b>
Building Fund	—	\$780
<b>Fiscal YTD Bldg. Fund Total</b>	<b>\$3,711</b>	<b>\$4,491</b>
Catholic Relief Services	\$90	—
Black & Indian Missions	\$10	—
Donation to SPPS Tuition	\$189	—
Mass Intentions	\$40	\$525

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](http://www.stmaryvalmeyer.org).

### SPPS Gold Rush Raffle

9 drawings for \$1,000 or more! Tickets are \$100/ea. and tickets will be put back in after each drawing — you win more than once. First 2 drawings are June 12. Tickets on sale at <https://goldrush2021.givesmart.com> or call Staci Wittenauer at 618-791-7131.

### 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)

### Valmeyer Kindergarten Registration & Screening Wednesday May 12, 2:15 - 6:45 pm

An appointment is required to register your child for Kindergarten. Call 935-2100 starting Monday, April 19 to schedule your appointment. Children must be 5 years old by 9/1/2021 to legally enter Kindergarten this August.

Bring a certified copy of your child's birth certificate (the copy will be kept in the school's records). Also provide proof of residency - utility bill or lease.

Masks are required in the school building. Parents are asked to maintain a social distance of 6 ft. while in the building.

**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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