

St. Mary Catholic Church

101 South Meyer Avenue, Valmeyer, IL 62295

Office: 618-935-2247 / Parish Ctr.: 618-935-2400

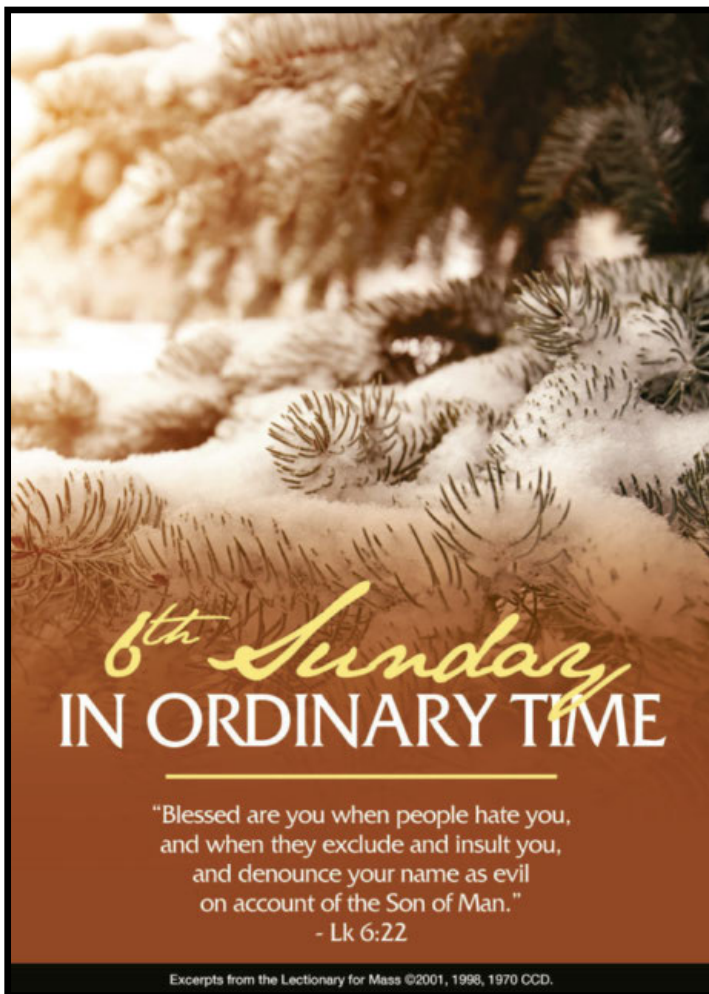
www.stmaryvalmeyer.org Email: smoffice@htc.net

GOSPEL MEDITATION

What has been the most difficult challenge you faced in your life? Many difficult human experiences can “turn up the heat” in our lives, causing us to question the why of things or even fall into despair. Some people just somewhat passively accept what life brings, even death, and chalk difficult experiences up to happening “because they do.” They seemingly endure and move on. Taking life at face value, there really is no ultimate meaning to things. It’s easier to ignore that inner prompting calling us to understand why. It’s there whether we admit it or not. To question or not to question — that is the question! People sometimes give up the God search because it causes too many questions. Once we open the door to the possibility of God’s existence, then all of the awkward, challenging, and tragic pieces of life have to find their place.

It gets messy. But the search is so important to living. We can easily dry up and become arid, abandoning any hope for purpose and meaning because it’s too difficult and non-rational at times. In searching for answers to the how and why of life, human beings also embark on a search for God. When one finally stumbles upon the real living tangible presence of God, then that discovery allows life’s ironies and tensions to be held side by side with the all-encompassing totally unconditional, unmerited love of God! Then when life’s heat gets turned up, difficulties and challenges abound, dryness and heartache become the norm, the soul remains in joyful | repose. There is no fear.

The beatitudes celebrate life’s ironies and tensions, holding them all together in the Kingdom of God. Poverty, hunger, weeping, being insulted and hated are not things we would normally associate with being God’s friends. But they are! In fact, those who experience these uncomfortable realities of life are actually better off than those who do not. This is what makes Jesus’ message so intriguing! Don’t give up questioning. Questioning the apparent inequities and polarities of human experience will certainly challenge one’s faith. But it’s the only way to deepen it.



Most Rev. Michael McGovern
Bishop of Belleville

Fr. John Kizhakedan
Pastor

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sat.: 5 pm
(fulfills Sunday Obligation)

Sun.: 9 am

Thurs.: 7 pm

Holy Days of Obligation:

Mass time(s) to be announced before each Holy Day. Watch the weekly bulletin.

SACRAMENT REQUIREMENTS

Baptism: One month notice & preparation

Matrimony: Four months’ notice & preparation

Reconciliation:

Saturdays, 4:30 to 5:00 pm
Sundays, 8:30 to 9:00 am

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

ST. MARY CHURCH

FEBRUARY 13, 2022

Date	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers (Host)	Greeters
Sun., 2/13	Donna Wierschem Mary Wuertz	Karen Limestall	Volunteer Welcome
Sun., 2/20	Mary Wuertz Sharon May	Barb Kendall	Volunteer Welcome
Sun., 2/27	Jane McCarthy Donna Wierschem	Karen Limestall	Volunteer Welcome

Today's Readings – #997

Today's Songs:

Gathering: #748 - Morning Has Broken
 Offertory: #588 - O God, Our Help In Ages Past
 Communion: #515 - We Are The Light Of The World
 Recessional: #872 - America The Beautiful

Please remember in your prayers members of our parish family and friends who are injured or sick, especially: *Marlene Krewer Bair † Kylie Ballas † Bill Clark † Lynn Davis † Lee Guttman † Ellen Heavner † RoseAnn Kohnz † Eleanor Mary Krebel † Allen Mattingly † Allan McKenzie † Marge Unterseh McKenzie † Kaylee Muertz † Brian Schmitt † Judy Vogt † Donald Weber † Doris Weber † Rose Wesbecher † Zachary Wheat*

And all Military Men and Women, especially: *Miranda Kaufmann, US Air Force, daughter of Don Kaufmann*

Readings For The Upcoming Week

Sunday: Jer 17:5-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6 [40:5a]/1 Cor 15:12, 16-20/Lk 6:17, 20-26
 Monday: Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76/Mk 8:11-13
 Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19/Mk 8:14-21
 Wednesday: Jas 1:19-27/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5/Mk 8:22-26
 Thursday: Jas 2:1-9/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 8:27-33
 Friday: Jas 2:14-24, 26/Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mk 8:34—9:1
 Saturday: Jas 3:1-10/Ps 12:2-3, 4-5, 7-8/Mk 9:2-1

Fr. John will celebrate Mass at St. Mary Sunday, February 6 and Sunday, February 13.

A visiting priest will celebrate Mass at St. Mary Sunday, February 3 and Sunday, February 20.

There will be no Saturday evening Masses at St. Mary during the month of February.

Mass Intentions

Sun., Feb. 13 Hazel McCarthy, offered by Pat & Jane McCarthy

No Saturday Masses in February

Thurs., Feb. 17 Joyce Rippelmeyer, offered by Cindy & Caryl

Sun., Feb. 20 Adele Hawkins, offered by Ruth Pope

Thurs., Feb. 24 Joyce Rippelmeyer, offered by Cindy & Caryl

Sun., Feb. 27 Joe Sondag, offered by Mike & Susie Aycok

The Diocese of Belleville is seeking a full-time Administrative Assistant for the Office of Human Resources. The Administrative Assistant supports the administrative and clerical needs of the Office of Human Resources with regular interaction with parish, school, and agency personnel. Applicant must have a steady work ethic and proficient understanding of HRIS, database management and benefit claim support. Applicant must have strong written and oral communication skills; be highly organized, detailed and flexible; exercise problem-solving, discretion and interpersonal skills, and must maintain confidentiality.

Essential qualifications include a minimum of a high school diploma, Associate's Degree preferred, or equivalent experience; 1-3 years' experience in human resources and benefits/claim support, plus knowledge of Microsoft Office including Publisher and other computer programs/applications. Practicing Catholic preferred with thorough knowledge and understanding of Catholic teachings, practices, and organizational structure.

To apply send cover letter with resume to Human Resources, Diocese of Belleville, 222 S. 3rd St., Belleville, IL. 62220. FAX to 618-722-5020; email to humanresources@diobelle.org. Application deadline: Monday, March 7, 2022.

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Council:

Nancy Gilbert - Chair (618) 935-2207
 Donna Wierschem - Vice Chair

Mary Wuertz von Holt - Secretary
 Larry Chausse Angela Atkinson
 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

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE C)

THIS WEEKEND! The Knights are selling Restaurant Raffle Tickets after Mass the weekend of February 12-13. The raffle runs from March 2022 – February 2023. The money raised from this raffle is donated back into the Monroe County community. Winners have the option to choose the Restaurant of the Month or \$200. All winning tickets are re-entered.

Contact Todd Hildreth (314-210-4111) for additional information.

ALTAR SODALITY NEWS:

- No-Bake Bake Sale: Sun., Feb. 20, following Mass
- Altar Sodality is requesting donations of new kitchen items to fill a gift basket for the Spring Raffle. Donations can be left in the Gathering Area
- Sign-up sheets can be found in the Gathering Area for Greeters and Hosts for donut days. Thank you for volunteering your time!

DONUT HOSTS FEB. 27 - Angie Siburt & Karen Limestall

Notes from the Parish Council Meeting:

There will be one vacancy on the Parish Council beginning in March. Anyone interested in filling the vacancy, please contact any member of the Council. If necessary, an election will be held the first weekend in March.

We welcome continued donations toward our **100th Anniversary Campaign**. It's not too late to make your family's \$100 donation to help reach our goal of \$7,500. Your donation can be placed in the collection basket clearly marked, "100th Anniversary Campaign."

Thanks to all who donated thus far.

IN LOVING
MEMORY

We Remember & Pray for
Members of Our Parish Who
Passed Away in the Month of
February:

*Dorothy Kolmer / Tom Tucker / Theresa Weber
Dorothy Williamson / Joe Muertz
Alberta Riechmann / Alex Mitan*

 Birthdays

Happy Birthday to:

Feb. 16—Lillian Roeveer; Alex Riechmann

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Andrew & Allison Biffar—Feb. 16, 2013

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS	Jan. 30	Feb. 6
Envelopes	\$1,548	\$1,145
Loose	\$172	\$20
Holy Day—Solemnity of Mary	\$10	—
Reimbursement—Church Cleaning	\$446	—
Fundraisers—Picnic & Bundtlet Cakes	\$19	—
Clothing Donation Box	\$227	—
TOTAL for the weekend	\$2,421	\$1,166
Building Fund	\$300	\$100
Stipends	\$120	\$10
Education Fund	—	\$20

If you would like to receive a year-end statement of your 2021 donations to the Parish, contact Penny Heusohn at smoffice@htc.net or 618-935-2581.



Worldwide Marriage Encounter is excited to announce **IN-PERSON** weekend Experiences for Spring 2022. Precautions will be in place to provide a safe environment for participants. For information or to apply, go to wwme.org, or call Terry Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317.

March 18-20, 2022 - Villa Maria Catholic Life Center, Springfield, IL

April 1-3, 2022 - Courtyard Marriott Hotel in St. Peters, MO

SUPERBOWL SUNDAY QUILT & CASH BINGO

presented by St. Augustine Church, Hecker, IL
February 13, 2022 in the Hecker Community Center
Bingo Begins 1:30 pm (Lightning Round prior to Bingo!)
Serving boxed fried chicken meals from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm (eat at Bingo or take it to go!)
Attendance Prizes—Raffle—Pot of Gold
No one under 18 allowed in hall during Bingo.

*No Smoking in the hall
Masks required—will follow all existing Covid protocols*

QUILT & CASH BINGO

**Sunday, March 20, 2022—St. Joseph, Freeburg
6 North Alton Street**

Lightning Raffle at 12:30 pm; Quilt & Cash Bingo at 1:30 pm (no one under 18 permitted to play bingo)
All prize quilts are hand-quilted by the St. Joseph's Quilting Ladies Group
Quilt Raffle / 50/50 / Theme Basket Raffle & more!
Lunch 11 am to 1 pm (sloppy Joes, pork sausage sandwiches, chips, fruit-cups & desserts)
10 am Mass held at Partner Parish, St. Agatha, New Athens

Mass Intentions

\$20 for weekend Masses / \$10 for weekday Masses
Payment for Mass Intentions may be placed in the collection basket. Be sure to include the name for whom the Mass is intended, and if you prefer a particular date for the Mass.

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