

# Saint Aloysius Catholic Church

A Discipleship Parish

November 9, 2025... The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Why are we celebrating the anniversary of the dedication of a church most of us will never visit? And why this particular church in Rome, rather than St. Peter's Basilica, which is far more familiar?

The answer takes us deep into the mystery of what it means to be members of the Church. The Basilica of St. John Lateran, dedicated in 324 A.D. after Emperor Constantine legalized Christianity, is the cathedral of the Bishop of Rome. That means it is the Pope's own parish church. It is, in a real sense, the "mother church" of all Catholic churches throughout the world. So when we celebrate the dedication of this church, we are not honoring just an ancient piece of architecture, but a living symbol of our identity and unity as Catholics.

Fr. George Nellikunnel (gnellikunnel@dio.org)	Pastor
Fr. Sajimon Aarakkattu Kuriakose	Parochial Vicar
Mrs. Denise Reavis	Principal
Mrs. Debbie Mandeville	Parish Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Gail Smith	Business Manager St. Aloysius/St. Cabrini
Mrs. Angie Daniels	School Administrative Assistant
Mr. Rich Pitchford	Maintenance
Mrs. Sarah Williams	Liturgy & Music
Mr. Dave Klestinski	Homebound Ministry
Ms. Mikki Buhl	Ministry Schedule
(mikkimoose@clients.rotundasoftware.com)	

Mass Times: Saturday (vigil) 4:00pm  
Sunday 7:00am & 11:00am  
Holy Days: As announced

Daily Mass: Tues, 8:20am (School Year)  
7:00am (Summer)  
W, Th, 7:00am  
Fri, 6:00pm (Rosary 5:30pm)

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 3:30pm

Eucharistic Adoration: Friday, 7:00am - 5:00pm

Parish Office Hours: M - F: 9:00am - 4:00pm  
School Office Hours: M - F: 7:45am - 3:30pm  
2000 E. Sangamon Avenue (mailing address: 2125 N. 21st Street) Springfield, Illinois 62702

Church: (217) 544-4554 Fax: (217) 544-1680  
School: (217) 544-4553 Fax: (217) 544-1680

Buildings embody values. They communicate who we are and how we want to be seen. That is also true for a church building. The Lateran Basilica does not exist for the sake of bricks and mortar. It proclaims what we believe about ourselves as members of the Body of Christ led by the Holy Father, and how we want the world to see us: united, rooted in the Gospel, and as pilgrim people heading to our heavenly homeland.

*A physical church provides a place of encounter. It creates an environment that shapes us, that tells us: here, you belong to God, and God is with you and God is calling you to a higher place, to His very self.*

I think of walking into our parish church on an ordinary weekday morning and seeing a handful of people scattered in the pews. Some are deep in prayer; others sit quietly with burdens they cannot quite name. At midday, penitents line up for confession, seeking mercy. Multiply those moments by decades and centuries, and you glimpse what Ezekiel describes in today's first reading: a temple overflowing with living water, where people come to drink deeply of God's grace.

That is why Jesus was so passionate about cleansing the temple. In the Gospel, he drives out the money changers because they had turned a holy place into a marketplace. For Jesus, the temple was not about profit or prestige; it was a meeting place between God and humanity. Our churches must always remain faithful to that purpose. Every parish, every chapel, every cathedral - from St. John Lateran to our own local parish - is called to be a house of prayer, a fountain of living water, a place where God's mercy and grace are offered and received.

But the Lateran Basilica reminds us of something more. It is a sign of the visible unity of the Catholic Church. As Roman Catholics, we are tied not only to our parish or diocese but to Rome itself, and through Rome to Catholics across the globe. That unity extends across time as well as space. Just last week, on All Saints Day and All Souls Day, we celebrated the invisible communion that binds the Church militant on earth, the Church suffering in purgatory, and the Church triumphant in heaven. Today's feast complements that mystery by reminding us of the visible communion that binds us together: the sacraments, the apostolic faith, the leadership of the bishop of Rome, and the concrete structures that embody our unity.

The truth is, many Catholic churches here in the United States close their doors each year. That is a sobering reminder that churches do not maintain themselves. They require living stones us to keep them alive. If the Lateran Basilica is the "mother of all churches," then our own parish church is a daughter in that same family. Both need care, both need prayer, both need commitment.

Today's feast is not really about an old Roman basilica. It is about the mystery of the Church herself. It is about unity of all the baptized across space, across time, across every imperfection. It is about making our parish a true fountain of living water, where Christ continues to meet his people. May God give us the grace to love his Church in all her glory and all her flaws and to build her up by our faith, our service, and our unity in Christ. Thank you for your generous support and prayers. May you have a blessed weekend.

Fr. George Nellikunnel  
Pastor, St Cabrini and St Aloysius



## Principal's Page

Mrs. Denise Reavis

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Carl Affrunti  
Gale Borders  
Blake Handley  
Dave Klestinski  
Mary Ann Mann  
Brad Mills (Chair)  
Joyce Zaffiri

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Paul Brown  
Karl Kohlrus  
Matt Noonan  
Ryan Spearic (Chair)  
Larry Tebrugge  
Earl Schroeder

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[schoolboard@santalloysius.org](mailto:schoolboard@santalloysius.org)

Joan Bestudik  
Eric Danner  
Sarah Danner  
Tom Paoni  
Rachel Towner  
Joel Washko (Chair)  
Steve Washko III

### Liturgy Committee

Sharon Jones  
Steve Kehoe  
Kim Lesko (Chair)  
Rita Lesko  
Mary Coady

**Thank you** for your support of our Chick-fil-A spirit night! We raised around \$400 for our school!

The Parish Picnic was a great success, and everyone enjoyed a fun afternoon! **Special thanks** to the Parish Council & Mrs. Joyce Zaffiri for organizing this event and to the PTO and Mrs. Lindsey Franklin for the Halloween fun!

**St. Aloysius Fall Frenzy \$5,000.00 Raffle.** (Previously known as the Mini Mega Raffle) October 20-November 25. \$250.00. Congratulations to the first Early Bird winner...Charity Steskal. The next Early Bird Drawing is Tuesday, November 11. Final Drawing Tuesday, November 25 for \$5,000.00. \$20.00 per ticket.

**All-school Mass** will be Tuesday, November 11 at 8:20am. All are welcome! Tuesday, November 11th St. Aloysius School will honor our veterans at our school mass at 8:20am. All veterans, parents, and grandparents are invited to join us!

**Sunday Children's Mass...** Our students are learning the ministries of the Mass during the celebration of our Children's Mass. Join us Sunday, November 30 at 11:00am for our Children's Mass.

**Weekly Mass Attendance and Tuition rate...** To qualify for the Saint Aloysius active parishioner rate, your family must attend Mass at Saint Aloysius for 51% of the weeks. Attendance is tracked for the calendar year, so your attendance in 2025/2026 determines the tuition rate for the '26/'27 school year. Each family will be asked to submit an attendance card each Saturday evening, Sunday morning, or Holy Day of Obligation Mass that you attend at Saint Aloysius. The slip is to be given to the Priest after Mass by one of the children. Please write the date, your family name, and your child's name on the card. There will be extra slips in the back of church.

**School + Church = Parish Parentship.** When you enroll your child in St. Aloysius School, you also become part of our church family! The church and school together make up our parish. Did you know our parishioners generously support our school? Each student in Grades K-8 at St. Aloysius receives a parish subsidy that helps cover the difference between the cost of educating our students and the actual tuition charged! Our parishioners also pray for our students and worship with us at Tuesday Mass.



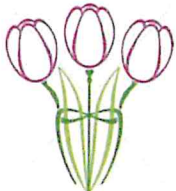

**Father Yunker Lithuanian Student Assistance Fund...** Applications are now being solicited for college scholarship grants under the Father Yunker Lithuanian Student Assistance Fund. Qualifications: Applicants must have Lithuanian ancestry and must be a practicing member of the Roman Catholic Church. Completed application must be received by the close of business on Monday, Dec. 1, 2025. Details and application can be downloaded from [foundationforthepeople.org](http://foundationforthepeople.org) or [dio.org/school](http://dio.org/school).

A note from Rhonda Mills our **Bingo** Coordinator... Thank you to all the volunteers for helping to make this fundraiser a great success! The program needs a few, steady workers for the summer months. I know that this will ensure the continued success of this most important fundraising event. Don't forget to join us for Bingo at Caritas Hall, 909 East Converse, on Saturday, November 15 at 11:45am for Early Bird games, other games begin at noon. Play bingo during our times, help make this a fun and profitable activity for St. Aloysius School! Please consider volunteering. Volunteers are needed! You can text or call Rhonda (217) 670-4458. Thank you for your support!



*"Love is the True North  
that always leads us home."*

## — Parish Data —

PARISH CALENDAR				Weekly Offering		
November 9 7:00am				<u>Week 17</u>	<u>October 26</u>	<u>Total to Date</u>
November 9 11:00am				<b>Weekly Offertory</b>	<b>\$5,379.00</b>	<b>\$102,246.75</b>
November 11 8:20am	All School Mass (Veterans Day)			<b>Shepherd one Student</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>\$6,258.00</b>
November 11	2nd Early Bird Drawing			<b>Building Fund</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>\$21,236.00</b>
November 12 7:00am				<b>Bingo</b>	<b>(\$142.00)</b>	<b>\$13,589.00</b>
November 12 9:00am				The budgeted amount is the minimal required to maintain services, employee benefits, utilities, and maintenance at current levels and provide for debt payment, unbudgeted repairs or improvements for the Parish. Weekly Offerings budget for the month of October is \$40,000.00. We have received 62% of needed funding to meet essentials.		
November 12 6:00pm	Baptismal Meeting (Church)					
November 13 7:00am						
November 13 1:30pm	Early School Dismissal					
November 13 6:00pm						
November 13 7:00pm	Choir Practice					
November 14 7:00am	Adoration					
November 14 5:00pm	Benediction					
November 14 5:30pm	Rosary					
November 14 6:00pm	Evening Mass					
Parish Community Tithe						
 <p><b>Special Prayers and Blessing</b> Please pray for the repose soul of <i>Judith "Judy" Bregowy.</i> Eternal Rest Grant to her. O Lord and let perpetual light shine on her.</p>				As you have read in the Catholic Times, the Annual Catholic Services Appeal has been discontinued. The diocese will be assessing its parishes on a monthly basis, based on 10% of its income each month to provide the needs of our diocesan church. Please consider increasing your giving to the parish by the amount you previously gave to ACSA, so that we can handle this new monthly, pay-as we-go obligation. Tithe - August - \$2,632.00		
				Weekly Attendance - November 1-2		
Sat 4:00pm	Sun 7:00am	Sun 11:00am	Total	<b>Unpaid Diocesan Liabilities</b>		
<b>73</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>Paid</b>		
				<b>Amount owed (October 6, 2025)</b>		<b>\$219,997.03</b>
Parish Ministry Schedule - November 15-16						
Saturday 4:00pm		Sunday 7:00am		Sunday 11:00am		
Cantor						
Lector	Kris Kerwin	Pam Tipps		Pam Brown		
E.M.	Richard and Serena Nurton	Erin Rachford Earl Schroeder		Paul Brown, Patti Crouch John Mehlick		
Servers	Rachel Schrenk	Earl Schroeder		Carter Chaudoin Brantley Riech		
In charity, please remember in your prayers... 2024... Steven Young Patricia Durako, Regina Rakers, Sandra Scott, David Daniels, Halfred Hildebrand, Jr., Joseph Perkinton, Charles Bedolli, Samuel and Bonnie Falzone, James Selinger, Tom Stevens, Frank Tucker James Bartlett. 2025... Larry Forbes, Marilyn, Gustafson, Kenna Diaz, Kay Morrow, Judith Guinn, William Bredemeyer, Annette Raffa and David Jones.						
						

# Parish Bulletin Board

Last Saturday, we **remembered** those at St. Aloysius who had passed since the last All Souls Day. Thank you to the Legion of Mary for their help with the Mass. Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

**The Book of the Dead...** Also called the Book of Remembrance, is placed next to the baptismal font throughout the month of November. During this month, we are called in a special way to remember "our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection" (Eucharistic Prayer 2).

Our parish will take up the **Collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA (AMS)**, next weekend, November 8 and 9, a collection approved by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to be taken every three years. The AMS provides pastoral care to Catholic men and women serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, enrolled at a U.S. Military Academy, being treated as a patient at any of the 153 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, or who work for the federal government beyond U.S. borders - including those from our own parish and diocese. The AMS does not receive any funding from the government or military, and has no parishes from which to receive a weekly assessment. To learn more about the AMS, national collection. There is an envelope in this weekends bulletin.

**Christmas Choir Practice...** Anyone interested in signing for Christmas midnight mass as part of the adult choir. Rehearsal dates will be as follows... Thursday, November 13th and 20th. Thursday, December 4th and 18th. All rehearsals will be in church. If you have questions please contact Sarah Williams @ 217-720-6233.

**Church Cleaning Day** has been changed to Sunday, December 14 at 1:00pm. Bring your cleaning rags to clean and dust the inside of the church.

**St. Aloysius Senior Breakfast...** We will meet for breakfast on Tuesday, November 18 @ King Pin after the 8:20 mass. Please join us!

**Impact Life (Blood Bank)...** Changing the World Together. Parish Council is considering hosting a blood drive with Impact Life and we need to gauge potential interest participation. If you would be willing to participate, please contact the Parish office.

Knights of Columbus Council 4175 (Springfield North Council) will have **fish fries** on Friday, November 14, 2025 from 4:30-7:00pm.

Knights of Columbus Council #4175 (Springfield North Council) will have a **memorial mass** for deceased members on November 17, 2025 at 6:00pm at the council hall located at 2801 West Street. Everyone is invited to attend.

Parish Flowers... This weeks **flower intention** is for the Broccardo Family

The **flower calendar** can be found in church vestibule. You have the opportunity to honor a birthday or anniversary, or remember a loved one on their special day. Please put your name on the chart with your remembrance, and \$40.00 in the envelope with your name. Your remembrance will be in the bulletin and a bouquet of flowers will be on the altar for your weekend.



The **month of November** is dedicated to praying for the souls in purgatory. *"God, to who mite belongs always o have mercy and to spare, be gracious to the soul of the faithful departed, and grant them the remission of all their sins, that ,being freed from the bonds of death, they may enter into life eternal. Through Christ our Lord. Amen."*

**Parish Calendar...** Please let the parish office know of events, meetings, etc. for the church calendar to avoid scheduling conflicts. This includes the church basement.

**Thank you...** The advertisements that appear in this bulletin completely defray all publishing costs which the church would otherwise incur. Please patronize the sponsors on the back of this bulletin and thank them for their kind generosity.

**St. Aloysius Prayer Chain...** If you have a special intention or someone whom you would like prayers offered please email Mrs. Vikki Warren... whomper5@aol.com

**Stewardship ...** Gracious and loving God, we understand that you call us to be stewards of your abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Help us to use your gifts wisely and to share them generously. May our faithful stewardship be the hallmark of our discipleship, a visible sign of our commitment to Christ. We pray with grateful hearts, in Jesus' name. Amen.



## Mass Intentions

- November 10 St. Leo the Great**
- November 11 St. Martin of Tours**  
8:20am All Veterans +
- November 12 St. Josaphat**  
7:00am John Titone+
- November 13 St. Frances Cabrini**  
7:00am All Souls +
- November 14 Weekday**  
6:00pm James Stumpf+
- November 15 Weekday**
- November 16 33rd Ordinary Sunday**  
Sat 4:00pm Christine Kohlrus +  
Sun 7:00am All Parishioners+
- Sun 11:00am Catholic War Veterans+**

# Around the Church

**Prayer Warriors** are welcome to pray in front of Springfield Planned Parenthood 601 N. Bruns Lane. For more information... [www.springfieldrtl.org](http://www.springfieldrtl.org).

**St. John's Breadline** in Springfield has been serving the community since 1928. St. John's Breadline serves free, hot, and nutritious meals in a clean and positive environment daily. Open 365 days a year and providing anywhere from 400 - 500 meals a day, the Breadline is a lifeline to not only the homeless but to many people who are on fixed incomes or have various disabilities. Donate online today at [cc.dio.org/appeals](http://cc.dio.org/appeals).

**The Two Hearts Pregnancy Resource Center 2026 Pro-Life Calendar.** Calendars are \$20 each and feature the artwork of local area students, grades 4 through 12. Proceeds of the sale of the calendars help support the Pro-Life activities of Two Hearts Pregnancy Resource Center. If you would like a calendar please contact Kim Lesko @ 217-416-5916.

An **Advent Journey** with Mary our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph. Pre-Advent Mission... Sunday, November 9 and Monday, November 10, 6:30pm, Christ the King Church, presented by Fr. Mark Tracy and Dennis Trickey. November 9 - candlelight Adoration after the mission talk. November 10 - fellowship social in the parish hall.

**Cathedral Women's Bible Study** will be reading and reflecting on the Sunday Mass Scripture readings for the four Sundays in Advent. Join us at 10:00am or 1:00pm on Nov 6, 13 and Dec 4, and 11 in the Cathedral school library.

**Extended Confession during Advent** will be offered at the Cathedral on Friday, Dec 19 noon-6:00pm and Saturday, Dec 20-7:00am-4:00pm.

**Stewardship Reflection...** Dedication of the Lateran Basilica. *Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells within you?* 1 Corinthians 3:16 Simply remembering that we are "temples of the Holy Spirit" should make our daily decision making relatively easy. If we truly want to imitate Jesus, then our words and actions should reflect the love, mercy, and forgiveness that flow from His Sacred Heart. Try it for one week. Try to remember that we temples of the Holy Spirit and see how it affects the way that you live.

Contact Governor Pritzker, asking him to **VETO SB 1950** - As you know, life is sacred from conception to natural death, and assisted suicide violates that basic tenet of Church teaching, making it morally unacceptable. The Church also calls us to protect the sick, vulnerable, and marginalized of our society. In states where this is legal, physician assisted suicide incentivizes insurance companies to deny lifesaving treatment while offering cheaper lethal drugs; marginalized communities fear coercion and abuse of such a system, and suicide promotion and contagion are real. Assisted suicide in practice is also at odds with the physicians' responsibility to care for patients. When you request a veto for this bill, morally acceptable suggestions include: encouraging and supporting more hospice and palliative care programs. The phone number for Governor Pritzker is 217-782-6830.

**The Letter...** A Faith in the Future Event. Wednesday, November 19 at 5:30pm. Mission Outreach Warehouse (4930 LaVerna Road). Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach is launching Faith in the Future, a series of events that will be focused on Catholic social teaching (care for creation and care of those who are poor or vulnerable) and specifically be geared toward young people in our Diocese who are Catholic or associated with a Catholic entity. We are delighted to invite you to our first Faith in the Future event, which will be a screening of the film *The Letter*, a movie documenting Pope Francis' invitation to Rome for four young environmentalists. This stunning film not only shares the stories of these advocates, but it also calls all of us to care for the Earth and celebrate the blessing from God that nature is.

**Documents of Vatican II, Continued...** Mark your calendar as Fathers Brian Alford and Daniel McGrath discuss the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World. On Nov 20 and Dec 11, the remaining documents will be covered of the Second Vatican Council. Cathedral Atrium @7:00pm.

**December Catholic Men's Overnight Retreat...** Step away from the noise of daily life and renew your soul at the Catholic Men's Overnight Retreat, led by Norbertine Father Herman Joseph Johanneck, O. Praem. at the beautiful Villa Maria Retreat Center on Lake Springfield. Father Herman Joseph will present his series, "Sons of the Father, Men in Christ," guiding participants into deeper prayer, reflection, and brotherhood. The retreat will include talks, personal prayer, Rosary, Adoration & Benediction, Confessions, group discussion, Holy Mass, and time for rest and silence. Saturday, December 13 and Sunday, December 14; \$150 (includes single-occupancy room, meals, and materials); Register by Nov. 21 at [events@dio.org](mailto:events@dio.org).

The **month of November** is dedicated to praying for the souls in purgatory. *"God, to whom mine belongs always have mercy and to spare, be gracious to the soul of the faithful departed, and grant them the remission of all their sins, that, being freed from the bonds of death, they may enter into life eternal. Through Christ our Lord. Amen."*

**A Prayer for Veterans Day...** Lord God, Almighty Father, creator of mankind and author of peace, as we are ever mindful of the cost paid for the liberty we possess, we ask you to bless the members of our armed forces. Give them courage, hope and strength. May they ever experience your firm support, gentle love and compassionate healing.



**Adoration** of the Blessed Sacrament is held every Friday from 7:00am - 5:00pm. Benediction and Rosary at 5:00pm. Evening Mass at 6:00pm.

November 9, 2025

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

## Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome

Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12 | 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17 | Jn 2:13-22

### **GROW AS A DISCIPLE** | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Although today's feast marks the dedication of one of the most important churches for Catholics, the Basilica of Saint John Lateran, it's ultimately not a celebration of a building, but a celebration of all members of the Church. As Paul reminds us, we are "the temple of God" and the Spirit of God dwells in us. We see in the Gospel that Jesus has immense love for the temple and wishes to protect it. He uses a whip made from cords to drive out the money-changers, telling them, "Stop making my Father's house a marketplace." So, too, he loves and cherishes his Body, the Church - the place his presence dwells. Today's feast invites us to consider our love and zeal for the Church. As our love for the Lord grows, we will grow to love what our Savior loves.

### **GO EVANGELIZE**

#### **PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT**

Our first reading offers a beautiful image that can help us understand our mission as disciples. The prophet Ezekiel has a vision of the temple with water flowing out of it. Wherever the water flowed, there was abundant life, including "every sort of living creature," "abundant fish," and "fruit trees of every kind" whose "leaves shall not fade, nor the fruit fail." Since we are God's temple, Ezekiel's vision invites us to be sources of life-giving water, nourishment, and healing for the world around us. A powerful way to evangelize is simply to strive to be conduits of goodness in the world, right where we are. When others are lost in desolation, how can we offer a drink to quench their spiritual thirst? When people around us are hungry, how can we offer physical or spiritual food to ease their hunger? Where there is division, how do we bring healing and hope? Through these actions, we give others a taste of the goodness that life with God offers.

### **PRAY**

At every Mass, during the Prayer of the Faithful, we pray for the needs of the Church first. This is intentional - as the Church is the Bride of Christ. Pay particular attention to what we pray at this moment and consider how you can show your love for the Church by praying for her and for the needs of the Church throughout the world in your personal prayer this week.

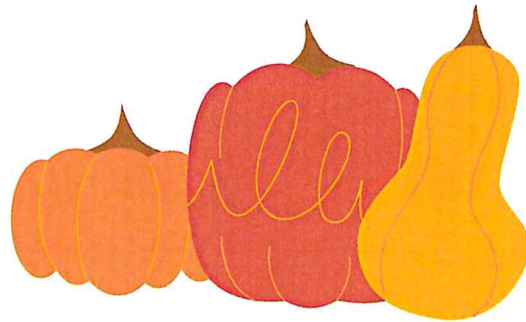




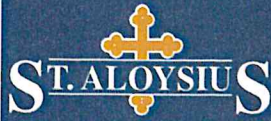
St. Aloysius  
**FALL FRENZY**  
**\$5,000 RAFFLE**  
**\$20 per ticket**



**\$250 Early Bird Drawing**  
Oct 31<sup>st</sup> & Nov 11<sup>th</sup>



**Final Drawing**  
November 25<sup>th</sup>



We thank St. Aloysius Faith Community

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