Saint Aloysius Catholic Church

A Discipleship Parish

September 21, 2025 - 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Choose to serve God daily.

No servant can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. The two masters Jesus is referring to are wealth, or temporal goods, and God. The truth Jesus seems to be pointing out to us is that we must make a choice; we can't juggle both. Clearly, our choice should be to serve God.

What does choosing to serve God require of us? It demands that we submit control of our life to God, that we

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

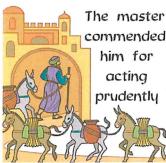
Church: (217) 544-4554 Fax: (217) 544-1680 School: (217) 544-4553 Fax: (217) 544-1680 trust God completely with our lives. And our lives include our family, our loved ones, our livelihood, our safety, our health. It calls us to trust God, whatever happens. When things are going well, that can be easy to do. But when bad things happen, we might start questioning whether that trust is well placed and might start looking around for alternatives.

Choosing to serve God is not a one-time choice. Rather, it is a choice we make daily. Earlier in the Gospel, Jesus brings up another truth relevant to this point: The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones. In other words, the choices we make when the stakes are small will shape the kind of person we become, and will set us up either to succeed or fail as disciples of the Lord.

Before we face that big moment when our trust in God is truly tested, there will have been many smaller tests: when we were tempted to act in an un-Christian manner but chose to listen instead to the voice of our conscience; when we were enticed by vice but stayed strong in virtue; when we forgave and prayed for the person who hurt us. All these are ways we choose daily to serve God.

And choose we must, because we may be tempted to straddle the fence – to serve both God and our earthly interests. This is a strong temptation because our temporal, physical needs are deep-seated. And we are surrounded by a culture that values and rewards the pursuit of temporal goods. But, as Jesus warns, trying to pursue both won't work. We will end up choosing by default and the default choice might not be the best one.

Fortunately, the Lord knows these temptations exist and he knows our weaknesses. He is always present to help us. If we find that we have been making many small wrong choices, the Lord awaits us at the sacrament of reconciliation to offer forgiveness, healing, and a new beginning. And here in the Eucharist he offers us himself as spiritual food to strengthen us to choose to serve God today and every day.





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Principal's Page

Mrs. Denise Reavis

We have many **upcoming events**! Family Reading Night, our first Family Mass, and the Parish Picnic. All are great events that help bring us together as a school and church family!

Family Mass... Please plan on joining us as we celebrate the Mass as a school family! We will be celebrating our first Family Mass of the school year next Sunday, September 28th at 11:00am. Students will participate in all the ministries... lector, usher, server. Sunday Mass is a great way for our children to begin a faith filled week spiritually and reinforces the lessons taught at school.

All-school Mass will be Tuesday, September 23 at 8:20am. All are welcome!

CONGRATULATIONS to our newly elected 2025-2026 Student Council Officers... President... Megan N., Vice President... Caden S., Secretary... Carter C. Representatives... Audrey S., Brantley R., Jack W., Elliana M., Angel Z., Emerson S., Josh N., Amelia M., Rosie W., and Olivia W.

All Are Welcome... When you registered your child at St. Aloysius you became part



of an amazing family! Part of that family life happens in our church every weekend! Mass times are Saturday@ 4:00pm, and Sunday@ 7:00am and 11:00am. Every month at one of the weekend masses will be a Children's Liturgy. Students will participate in all the ministries... lector, server, usher, and choir! Our first Family Mass is next Sunday, September 28th.

Parent Sacramental Meeting... An informational meeting for parents of students receiving their sacraments this year directly following Mass on Sunday, October 19 for those interested in the Sacraments for their children. Second Grade families with children preparing for Reconciliation should plan on attending, as well as Third Grade families with students preparing for Confirmation and First Holy Communion. All others wishing for their child to receive a sacrament this year are encouraged and welcome to attend.

SHG Homecoming Parade... SHG is hosting their annual Homecoming Parade next Sunday, September 28 at 4:00pm. The Catholic Grade Schools have been invited to participate in the parade once again this year. Following the parade will be the boys' volleyball game and girls' Powder Puff football game along with food, games, and family fun for everyone! We are looking for a few parents to coordinate! Please reach out to Tom Riech at AD@saintaloysius.org if you are interested in helping!

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, September 27 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 always needed. You can text or call Rhonda (217) 670-4458. This is a great way to help our school earn funds Thank you for your support!

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

— Parish Data —

				alibii	Data -		
PARISH CALENDAR					Weekly Offering		
Septembe		7:00am		orning Mass	<u>Week 10</u>	September 7	Total to Date
Septembe		11:00am	Mo	orning Mass	Maalda Officia	66 407 00	657 204 75
	eptember 23 8:20am Morning Mass (All School Mass)				Weekly Offertory	\$6,407.00	\$57,204.75
September 24 7:00am Morning Mass				Shepherd one Student	\$166.00	\$3,203.00	
Septembe		9:00am		gion of Mary			
September 24 6:00pm Centennial Campaign Committee					Building Fund	\$400.00	\$18,248.00
September 25 7:00am Morning Mass							
September 25 5:00pm Liturgy Committee September 25 6:00-7:30pm Family Reading Night					Bingo	\$632.00	\$9,454.00
September 26 5:00pm Benediction							
September 26 5:30pm Rosary							
September 26 6:00pm Evening Mass							
September 27 8:30am Street Ministry (St. Cabrini)							
September 27 11:45am Bingo							
September 27 3:30pm Confessions							
September 27 4:00pm Evening Mass							
September 28 7:00am Morning Mass							
September 28 11:00am Morning Mass (Family Mass)							
September 30 8:20am Morning Mass (All School Mass)							
October 1	ļ	7:00am	IVIC	orning Mass	as we-go obligation. Tithe -	August - \$2,632.0	00
Wee	ekly A	ttendance -	September '	13 -14	Debt/A	ccrued Deficit	S
Sat 4:00pm		Sun 7:00am Sun 11:00am		Total	Unpaid Diocesan Liab	ilities	
					Paid		
49		42	60	151	Amount owed (September 16, 2025)		\$229,997.0
			Parish M	inistry Sch	edule - September 2		
					ay 7:00am Sunday 11:00am		
Cantor							
Lector	Matt Noonan		Carl Affrunt	i Stu	Students		
E.M.	.M. Richard and Serena Nurton		Mikki Buhl		Paul Brown, Sharon Jones David Klestinski		
	ė.			Erin Rachfo			ord Dav
Servers David Klestinski				Kinsley Adams Carter Chaudoin			

In charity, please remember in your prayers... 2023... Bert Viola Jr., James Farrand, Mary Schroeder, Gene Adams, Virginia Broccardo, Mary Ellen Daniels, Joann Lee, Ron Hull, Florence Galassi, John Risse, Josephine Albright, Peter Campo, Mary McKibben, Michael Barnard. 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

Family Parish Picnic. Sunday, October 26 at Lincoln Park from 12:30-4:00pm. Bring your favorite dish and enjoy fellowship and fun!. Hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. A-M bring a dessert, and N-Z a side dish. Please RSVP to the Parish office @217-5444554.

This weekend we take up the collection to support the **Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa.** The people of Africa are joyous and faith-filled. As the Church in Africa grows, the pastoral needs of the people also increase. Clergy formation, communications programs to bring the Gospel to remote territories, youth ministries that engage the next generation of disciples, and all the Church's needs are wide-ranging. The Solidarity Fund is an opportunity for our parish to stand with the peoples of Africa. Our contributions help them face these challenges and build lasting foundations of missionary discipleship. There is an envelope in your bulletin next weekend for this collection. To learn more about the collection... visit www.usccb.org/africa.

Weekend Mass Schedule... Normal mass schedule has returned. For those who do not do well with the heat you are welcome at our sister parish St. Cabrini. Daily Mass has returned to the church. The AC installation is in full progress!

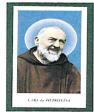
October is Respect Life Month! Please bring your friends and families to the **Life Chain** Event on Sunday, October 5 from 2-3 pm. We will gather at the corner of Sangamon and 19th Street to hold up signs and pray for the unborn, their mothers, and all of those impacted by the abortion industry. *Bring your whole family! Rain or shine! *Posters are provided with various pro-life messages. LIFE CHAIN is a peaceful and prayerful public witness of pro-life Americans standing for one hour praying for our nation and for an end to abortion. It is a visual statement of solidarity by the Christan community, that abortion kills children and hurts us all, and that the Church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception until natural death.

St. Aloysius Centennial Celebration! Can you believe it? St. Aloysius Parish is turning 100 years old in September 2028. A century of faith, family, and community! We're kicking off the journey to this historic milestone, and we need your help to make it unforgettable. Join us for the next Centennial Planning Committee Meeting on Thursday, October 23 at 6:00pm in the Parish Meeting Room. Be part of the excitement, the planning, and the memories in the making.

Married 50 Years or More? Let Us Celebrate You! Bishop Thomas John Paprocki invites all couples who have been married 50 years or more to a special Anniversary Mass today, Sunday, September 21 at 2 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield. This celebration honors your beautiful witness to the vocation of marriage. A light reception will follow Mass.

Two Hearts Pregnancy Resource Center will be hosting a Fall Barbeque Fundraiser, Tuesday, September 30, at Christ the King parish center at 1930 Barberry Drive in Springfield. Dine in or carry out begins at 5:00 - 7:00pm. For more information visit https://www.facebook.com/twoheartsprc

"Pray, hope and don't worry. Anxiety doesn't help at all. Our Merciful Lord will listen



to your prayer." "As gifts increase in you, let your humility grow, for you must consider that everything is given to you on loan." "Some people are so foolish that they think they can go through life without the help of the Blessed Mother. Love the Madonna and pray the rosary, for her Rosary is the weapon against the evils of the world today. All graces given by God pass through the Blessed Mother." "The Cross will not crush you; if its weight makes you stagger, its power will also sustain you. "- St. Pius of Pietrelcina"

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.



September 22 Weekday

September 23 Weekday

8:20am Kay Morrow+

September 24 Weekday 7:00am All Souls+

September 25 Weekday 7:00am John Titone+

September 26 Weekday 6:00pm Annette Raffa+

September 27 Weekday

September 28 26th Ordinary Sunday Sat 4:00pm James Bartlett Sr.+

Calista Kohlrus +

Sun7:00am Steve Tapocik+ All Parishioners +

Sun11:00am Edwin & Emma Brandon+

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

2025 Respect Life Mass, Rosary Walk, and Luncheon Saturday, October 11. Join Catholics from across the Diocese of Springfield as we celebrate Respect Life Month with a morning of prayer, fellowship, and inspiration. The day will begin with the Respect Life Mass at 9:00am at Holy Family Catholic Church (2606 Washington Ave, Granite City). Following Mass, participants will take part in a Rosary Walk through the community, giving witness to the dignity of every human life. A complimentary luncheon will follow, featuring guest speaker Kristi Hofferber, Executive Director of A Beacon of Light. Kristi will share her powerful testimony and her work in helping women and families choose life, offering hope and support at every stage. All are welcome.. families, youth, clergy, parish staff, and members of the community. No registration or fees are required.

Support Those Who Need Food... The **Catholic Charities Hunger Campaign** helps fund Catholic Charities Mobile Food Pantry Program. The Mobile Pantry reaches out to feed disadvantaged people facing poverty in rural communities across our 28-county diocese. Our 7 Mobile Food Pantry trucks deliver meat, fresh produce, dairy and nonperishable food items all year long to those in need. We humbly ask you to consider a gift to help us continue to feed God's children through our mission to "extend to all the healing and empowering presence of Jesus." Every gift you give, no matter how small, makes a difference. Donate today at: cc.dio.org.

Celebrate the canonization of St. Pier Giorgio Frassati and St. Carlo Acutis and support diocesan vocations. A fundraiser sponsored by the youth of Sacred Heart Parish in Virden. Tshirts celebrating these 2 young saints are available to order and 100% of the profits will support vocations to the priesthood in our diocese. The artwork on the shirt is by Fr. Daniel McGrath! These 100% cotton navy t-shirts are available in youth XS-adult 5XL. To order... www.sacredheartvirden.com or call 217-965-4545.

Stewardship reflection... 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time. "No servant can serve two masters. He will hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon (wealth)." LUKE 16:1.3. Jesus knows that for many of us, God and money run "neck and neck" as top priority. Is money a "god" that you put before God? Giving money to support the Church and other charity is a pillar of our faith, just like attending Mass every Sunday and participating in parish ministry. Giving money frees us from becoming a slave to money. It increases our dependence on God and our trust that God will provide all that we need.

The **rosary** is prayed before each weekend Mass. Looking for help before the 11:00am Mass on Sundays. Please call the Parish office if you can help. Thank you!

We invite everyone to participate in the **Bible study Jesus and the Eucharist**, a series of seven sessions that explores the mystery of the Eucharist as the source and summit of our faith. The meetings will take place on Mondays from 6:00 - 8:00pm in the Library of the Cathedral School of the Immaculate Conception, September 22, 29; October 6, 20, and 27 (there will be no session on October 13 due to Columbus Day). All sessions will be conducted in **Spanish only**. All are welcome!

Documents of Vatican II, Continued... Mark your calendars for Oct 23 as Fathers Brian Alford and Daniel McGrath discuss the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World. On Nov 20 and Dec 11, they will cover the remaining documents of the Second Vatican Council. Cathedral Atrium @ 7:00pm.

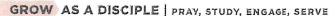
Catholic Men's Overnight Retreat, September 27-28, Villa Maria Retreat Center. Norbertine Father Herman Joseph Johanneck, O. Pream, presents the upcoming overnight retreat, "Sons of the Father, Men in Christ." The retreat begins at noon on Saturday, September 27 and concludes after lunch on Sunday, September 28. Visit dio.org/events for a more detailed schedule and to register. The cost is \$150 and includes overnight accommodations (single occupancy), meals, and retreat materials. Deadline to register is September 22. Contact events@dio.org with question.

Men's Leadership Summit taking place in Edwardsville Do you feel like just another guy in a pew? You're not alone. The Diocese of Springfield in Illinois has invited John Edwards from Just a Guy in the Pew to host a Men's Leadership Summit on Saturday, October 18, 2025 at St. Boniface Church in Edwardsville (110 N Buchanan St.) to bring single and married men together to support one another, get inspired by their faith, gain and enhance leadership skills, and discuss best practices for men's ministry. John is a dynamic, inspirational spiritual leader who has a powerful witness story of hard drug use to finding Christ Register at dio.org/events. Cost: \$30. Includes materials/food and drink. Deadline Oct. 1. Contact: gortiz@dio.org.

The Letter ... A Faith in the Future Event. 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. Wednesday, November 19 at 5:30pm, Mission Outreach Warehouse, 4930 LaVerna Road. Great snacks provided!

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Am 8:4-7 | 1 Tim 2:1-8 | Lk 16:1-13



As Catholics we understand that none of our actions are truly isolated. Every virtue we practice or sin we commit affects others because we are all members of the body of Christ. Today's readings from the Old and New Testaments highlight our interconnectedness and offer guidance for how to order the life of the community according to God's will. The key to tranquil communal life is to consider the needs of others as important as our own. In the first reading, the prophet Amos decries those who exploit the poor for personal gain, putting profit over the common good. In the second reading, St. Paul begs the community to pray not only for themselves and for their close relatives, but to offer prayer and supplication for everyone. It's tempting to buy into the perspective that we need only focus on our own life. But the Lord invites us into authentic community where we intercede, sacrifice for and build up the kingdom together.

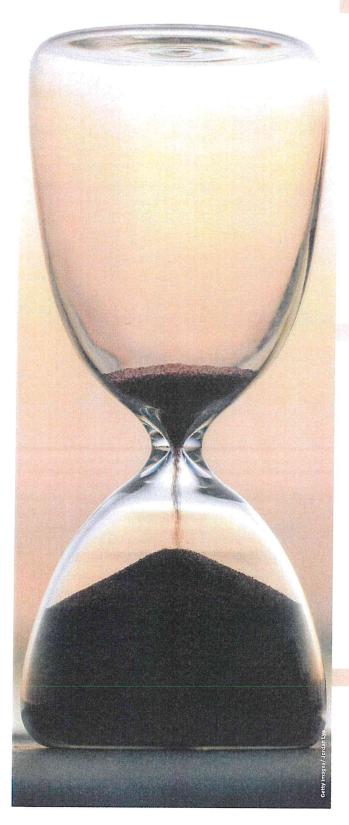
GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

I like to think of myself as a trustworthy person, and I'd expect most of us would consider ourselves the same. But as the Lord convicts my heart with today's Gospel reading about those who are trustworthy or untrustworthy in big and small matters, I hear the Holy Spirit inviting me to ponder deeper questions: Perhaps I don't intentionally deceive people and I aim to keep my word, but when someone's name or reputation comes up in conversation, can I be trusted to build them up? Do I fall prey to petty gossip, or simply sit idly by as others fall? I am true to scheduled commitments I make, but am I trustworthy with how I spend all my time? Do I use the gift of time for God's greater glory, or do I squander it with excessive scrolling or mindless TV shows? The Spirit doesn't want us to be scrupulous, and everything must be understood through God's merciful gaze. But the Lord does intend to purify us so that we can live more fully in communion with him.

REFLECT

Today, consider how you are invited to live in community and contribute to the building of a Christ-like culture. How are you called to more trustworthy stewardship of the gifts and time God has given you so that you can use them for building up the body of Christ?





VISA



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