

Saint Aloysius Catholic Church

A Discipleship Parish

December 28, 2025... Holy Family



Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ,

Happy Feast to all of you!

We are very happy to welcome all of you as we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. This is the feast of every family, since the Holy family is the model for all the Christian families. It is a great feast, since it is devoted to the Holy Family as a template for the Christian family life.



Fr. George Nellikunnel (gnellikunnel@dio.org)	Pastor
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

The devotion to the Holy Family was born in Bethlehem, together with the Baby Jesus. The shepherds went to adore the Child, and at the same time, they gave honor to His family. Later, in a similar way, the three wise men came from the East to adore and give honor to the newborn King with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh that would be safeguarded by His family.

Today's celebration proves Christ's humility and obedience with respect the loving care of His parents. Mary and Joseph took great care of Jesus' physical body. Following their example, we must take great care of His Mystical Body, the Church, and the Eucharist which He has entrusted to us. If Mary was, in some way, 'the first tabernacle in history' then we the Tabernacle in which Our Lord chose to reside in person, in His Real Presence, was also entrusted to us.

Ours is an era when we hear much negativity, stories of children out of control, spouse abuse, child abuse, more and more divorce and single parents' children calling 9-1-1 after being appropriately disciplined, destructive relationships, drug-afflicted families and/or disputes resolved by violence.

Friends, we can learn from Mary and Joseph! What would they ever have overlooked in the care of Jesus' physical body? No amount of attention, act of love and adoring respect will ever be too much. Our adoration and respect will be a great gift that comes to us in the Holy Eucharist.

Looking at the Holy Family, we see the love, the protection, and the diligent care that they gave to Jesus. We can only ask the Lord, through the intercession of the Holy Family of Nazareth, for greater love for their Son Incarnate, who has decided to remain here on earth with us every day until the end of time.

As Christians, we have something especially important to offer the present family situation in America. The example and message of Jesus and the values expressed in today's readings: respect, compassionate love and obedience. All are lights that we can bring to a world that desperately needs light.

Thank you and God Bless you, May you have a blessed and happy year 2026.

Fr. George Nellikunnel, Pastor
St Aloysius and St Cabrini



Principal's Page

Mrs. Denise Reavis

Pastoral Council

- 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

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

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



Merry Christmas from the St. Aloysius Faculty and Staff We wish you and your family all the blessings of the season! May you have the gift of faith, the blessing of hope and the peace of God's love this Christmas and always.

The last week before Christmas break we celebrated the third and fourth week of Advent. We lit the rose, or pink, candle on our Advent wreath! During the week we focused on JOY as we remember that the birth of Jesus is near! The students and faculty and staff are feeling the JOY of the season this week.

All-school Mass will be Tuesday, January 6th at 8:20am. All are welcome!

Thank you to the PTO and to Lisa Ferguson for planning and making the St. Nick Shopper a success! The students always love shopping for their family members!

Special thanks to Kelly Stotlar and Family for providing lunch from Bella Milano's We are very grateful for your kindness and generosity.

Magic Match Sponsors are a tremendous help to our school. Sponsoring a classroom helps purchase items needed for students and teachers to thrive in their learning. Our 2025-2026 sponsors this year are... Heartland Credit Union, Truman L. Flatt & Sons, Bank of Springfield, Mr. and Mrs. John and Kelly Pine, Dave and Teresa Saner (Luers), St. Joseph Parish, In Memory of Helene Rachford, Tony's Electric, Knights of Columbus Council #4175, Jumper Insurance, In Memory of Regina Rakers, Giacomini Parking/GMC Parking. A special THANK YOU! to all of our Magic Match Sponsors.



Thank you to all the volunteers for making **Bingo** a great success! The program needs a few, steady workers. 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 E Converse, Saturday, January 3 at 11:45am for Early Bird, 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. Also a very special thanks goes to Rhonda for managing this essential fundraiser every Saturday.



Families and Children Welcome! "Let the children come to me and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." - Luke 18:16 Families and children are always welcome at Mass at St. Aloysius. While we strive for a reverent liturgy, we appreciate children of all ages worshipping with us - they are the future of the Church. We warmly welcome large families, new families, new babies and new baptisms. Parents: If your child needs a break or if it makes you more comfortable, the cry room and vestibule are available.




Our next **Family Mass** is Saturday, January 24th at 4:00pm.

Have a Wonderful Winter Break! Monday, December 22 - Monday, January 5. Classes resume Tuesday, January 6.

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

— Parish Data —

PARISH CALENDAR				Weekly Offering		
December 28	7:00am	Morning Mass		<u>Week 24</u>	<u>December</u> <u>14</u>	<u>Total to Date</u>
December 28	11:00am	Morning Mass				
December 30	7:00am	Morning Mass		Weekly Offertory	\$4,307.00	\$144,383.82
December 31	7:00am	Morning Mass		Shepherd one Student	\$45.00	\$9,175.00
January 1, 2026	7:00am	Morning Mass (Holy Day Of Obligation)		Building Fund		\$24,518.00
January 2	7:00am	Adoration		Bingo	(\$106.00)	\$17,058.00
January 2	5:00pm	Benediction		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 December is \$40,000.00. We have received 22% of needed funding to meet essentials.		
January 2	5:30pm	Rosary		Parish Community Tithe		
January 2	6:00pm	Evening Mass		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. Sept. Tithe-\$3,262.00. Oct. Tithe - \$2,740.00		
January 3	11:45am	Bingo		Debt/Accrued Deficits		
January 3	3:30pm	Confession		Unpaid Diocesan Liabilities		
January 3	4:00pm	Evening Mass		Paid		
January 4	7:00am	Morning Mass		Amount owed		\$229,700.65
January 4	11:00am	Morning Mass		Parish Ministry Schedule - January 3-4		
January 6		School Resumes		Saturday 4:00pm	Sunday 7:00am	Sunday 11:00am
January 6	8:20am	All School Mass				
January 6	4:00pm	Centennial Campaign Meeting		Cantor		
January 7	7:00am	Morning Mass		Lector	Tom Kohlrus	Carl Affrunti
January 7	9:00am	Legion of Mary		E.M.	James Auth	Erin Rachford
January 7	6:00pm	Parish Mission Meeting			Harvey Schrenk	Earl Schroeder
January 8	7:00am	Morning Mass		Servers	Rachel Schrenk	Earl Schroeder
						Dom Guimking
						Brantley Riech
Weekly Attendance - November December 20-21						
Sat 4:00pm	Sun 7:00am	Sun 11:00am	Total			
			na			



In charity, please remember in your prayers... 2024... Steven Young Patricia Durako, Regina Rakers, Sandra Scott, David Daniels, Halfred Hildebrand, Jr., Joseph Perkinson, 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, David Jones, Judith Bregowy and August Egger.

Parish Bulletin Board

Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God... The Masses for this holyday of obligation will be Thursday, Jan. 1st 7:00am @St. Aloysius and 8:00am @St. Cabrini. *Morning Mass the week of December 29th will be at 7:00am. Friday January 2 Adoration begins @ 7:00am with Benediction and rosary at 5:00pm. Evening Mass @ 6:00pm. May the blessings of Christmas continue to be with you.

Many Thanks... are extended to all who made our Christmas liturgies very special. Our special gratitude goes to the servers, ushers, Eucharistic ministers, choir, cantors, Liturgy committee, all those that helped decorate the church and the maintenance and office staff. Your time, talent, and effort are a true blessing to our parish. Thank you for your faithful service and for helping to make this Christmas season special.



Thankyou to all of you for the nice thoughts, cards and gifts during this Christmas season. Fr. George

Year-End Giving... We are grateful for the generosity of our parishioners throughout the entire year. During December, many people review their giving and determine that a year end charitable gift will benefit their tax status for the calendar year. If you wish to make a donation to St. Aloysius by making a general parish contribution to the church, or a gift to the School's Annual Fund, you may drop it into the collection basket during Mass or mail to the school or parish office. All charitable contributions must be postmarked and/or received by December 31, 2025 to be included in the year-end statement for tax year 2025. If you would like to drop off additional donations for 2025 the parish office is open this week. Closed January 1 for New Years Day. Thank you for your generosity!

Save the Date... **Parish Mission.** Sunday, March 1- Wednesday, March 3, 2026. A Journey to Joy. Watch the bulletin for more information.

We could always use more Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Servers for our weekend liturgies. These important ministries serving at the alter are crucial to our celebration of the Eucharistic. Please consider volunteering for a ministry. If interested please contact Mikki Buhl or the parish office.

A **playpen** will be placed in the vestibule of the church next weekend. (January 10-11) The Springfield Pregnancy Care Center needs these baby items in our playpen collection... Diapers (newborn or preemie) baby wipes, preemie, newborn up to 3 month clothing/sleepers, pacifiers, baby spoons, sippy cups, Baby wash, lotion, and shampoo. Thank you for your generosity!

A Pilgrimage to Italy... Join Fr. George on a 10 day pilgrimage to Italy from October 5-15, 2026. Highlights include visits to the birthplace of St. Aloysius, and the shrine of St. Aloysius. Also a visit to the birth place of St. Francis Cabrini. The pilgrimage features daily Mass, first-class hotels, private luxury transportation, professional guides, and all admission fees. Cost: \$4,995.00 per person (includes round-trip airfare, taxes, meals, and more). For details or to register, visit Holy Land Tours LLC @ holylandtoursllc@gmail.com or Jiryis Alyateem @1-503-866-5698.

Knights of Columbus Council 4175 (Springfield North Council) will have **January fish fries** on January 9, January 16, and January 30, 2026 from 4:30pm - 7:00pm.

Save the Date... for the Illinois Pro-Life March and Mass for Life on Thursday, March 19, 2026 at the Sangamon Auditorium on the campus of the University of Illinois Springfield and then the streets around the Statehouse in Springfield.

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

December 29 Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

December 30 Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
7:00am Emma Brandon+

December 31 Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord
7:00am James Bartlett+

January 1 Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God
7:00am Rita Smarjesse+

January 2 St. Basil the Great St. Gregory Nazianzen
6:00pm All Souls

December 27 Most Holy Name of Jesus

December 28 Epiphany of the Lord
Sat 4:00pm Calista Kohlrus+
Sun 7:00am All Parishioners+
Sun 11:00am David Jones +

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.

Biblical Walk Through the Mass... The Mass is nothing short of amazing. Through it, we encounter God in the most intimate way possible as we hear him speak to us in the Liturgy of the Word and as we receive him Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist. Join Cathedral Women's Bible Study to explore the extraordinary biblical roots of the Liturgy and reveals what it all means and why it all matters. This fascinating tour of the Mass will renew your faith and deepen your love for and devotion to the Holy Eucharist. Thursdays, Jan 8 - Feb 5 @ 6:00pm in the Cathedral School Library. Order your workbook at ascensionpress.com.

Pray for peace... Practice the First Saturday devotion! It is essential for world peace and the salvation of souls. Go to www.bluearmy.com to learn about the First Saturday virtual pilgrimage for the 100th anniversary of Fatima.

Covenant Network Catholic Radio... Catholic Radio programs include Catholic teaching, prayers, and call-in programs. You can listen on a smart speaker, tell Alexa to play Covenant Network Catholic Radio, on our App, Covenant Network, online at OurCatholicRadio.org, or on your local Catholic radio station, AM 1080 and 92.7 FM.

Centennial Campaign Prayer... Loving and Gracious



God, we come before you, acknowledging that all our gifts are from your generous hand. WE are grateful for your countless blessings and for the opportunity to serve you this Centennial (Capital) campaign. As our parish embarks on this journey, we ask for your wisdom and guidance in discerning how best to use our resources to advance your kingdom. May our hearts be open to your spirit, and may we be faithful stewards of the gifts entrusted to us. We pray through the intercessions of St. Aloysius that this campaign will be a testament to your grace and a source of blessing to our parish. May we work together in unity and faith, knowing that with your help, we can accomplish great things. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Mary, The Holy Mother of God... The solemnity is a rather recent addition to the cycle of sessions, Sundays and feasts in our liturgical year. We have Pope Paul VI to thank for the 1974 enshrining of the devotion to Mary into our calendar on January 1. It is also a day in our calendar as World Day for Peace. Let us pray... God of heaven and earth, you came to us and took our earthly flesh, through the gift of Mary's yes. She is our Mother in faith, as she is your earthly mother. We are thankful beyond our ability to thank you for the gift of her Son as our brother and savior. Through her self-giving, we have been reconciled to you. Bless us as we begin this New Year and endow us with the desire and ability to create a world of peace. We ask all this, through the intercession of Mary to you, one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

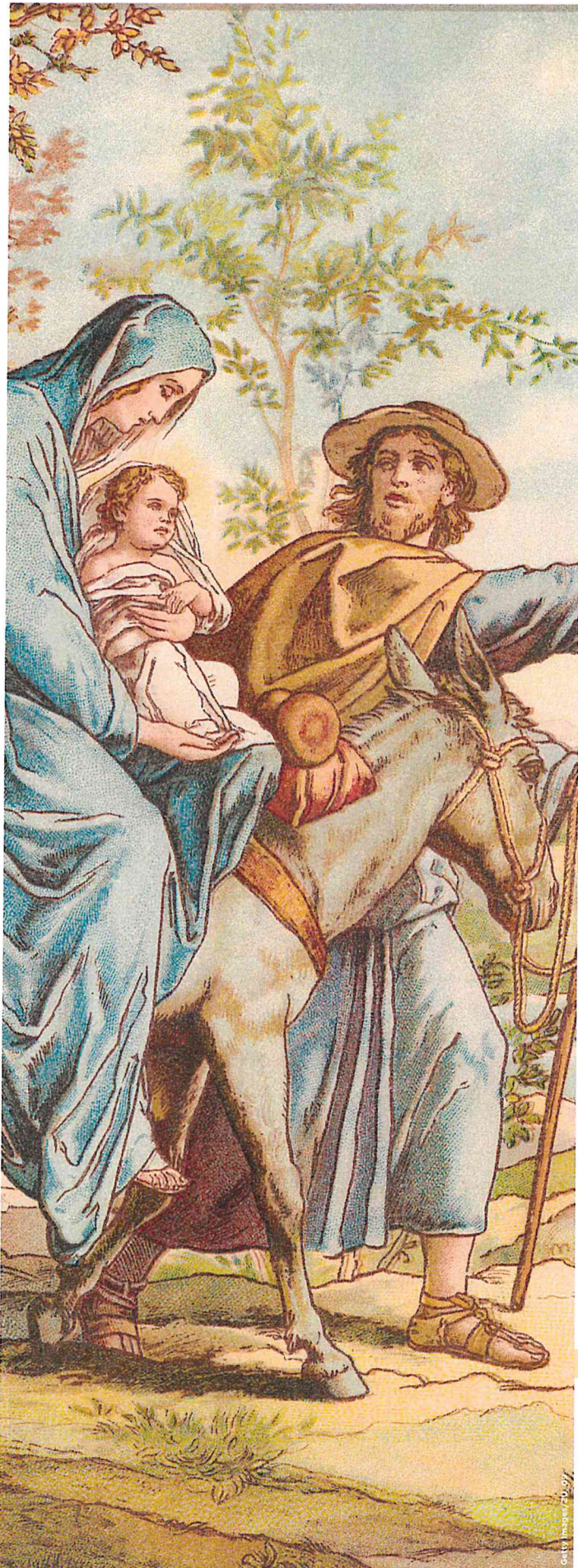
Biblical Walk through the Mass. The Mass is nothing short of amazing. Through it, we encounter God in the most intimate way possible as we hear him speak to us in the Liturgy of the Word and as we receive him Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist. Join Cathedral Women's Bible Study to explore the extraordinary biblical roots of the Liturgy and reveals what it all means and why it all matters. This fascinating tour of the Mass will renew your faith and deepen your love for and devotion to the Holy Eucharist. Thursdays, Jan 8 - Feb 5 @ 6:00pm in the Cathedral School Library. Order your workbook at ascensionpress.com.

Cathedral Women's Bible Study. Perhaps you think God doesn't have a plan for you and your family. But Jesus is the Lord of History, yours included. Join Dr. Sean Innerst in *Foretold*, a new series from the Augustine Institute that weaves together the Old and New Testament stories, highlighting their connecting threads of prophecy and fulfillment. What was promised in the biblical story came to pass through Jesus, his apostles, and the Church. Ultimately, this biblical history is your history. Just as the prophecies of the Old Testament were fulfilled, you can trust that Jesus will care for you and your story. Encounter this profound mystery and reality for yourself in *Foretold*. Cathedral School Library, Thursdays at 10:00am and 1:00pm starting on Jan 8, and running for 8 weeks. FREE and open to all women!

Interior Freedom Book Study Series... Join us for a four-week study of *Interior Freedom* by Fr. Jacques Philippe at the Villa Maria Conference Center with Father Herman Joseph O.Praem. This accessible and profound spiritual classic helps us learn how to experience inner freedom despite the many external and internal circumstances beyond our control. Copies of the book may be ordered online. Schedule... January 26, February 2, February 9, and February 16. Each night is 6:15pm - 7:45pm and includes a Rosary and discussion. Contact: events@dio.org. Register at: dio.org/events.

Catholic Times is going monthly in 2026. Beginning in 2026, *Catholic Times* will transition from a biweekly publication to a monthly magazine. This change will allow for expanded coverage and more in-depth storytelling across the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois. The magazine will feature more comprehensive articles, better photography, and a stronger mix of features and diocesan news. The new monthly format will also bring improved paper quality, a more consistent production schedule, and an enhanced reading experience that better reflects the life and vitality of our Catholic community.

Stewardship Reflection... The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. "*And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*" Colossians 3:17. Giving thanks to God and using our words and actions to give all glory to God is the foundation of living a stewardship lifestyle. We were made in God's image and likeness, gratitude and generosity is in our DNA. As beloved sons and daughters of God, we are all part of God's family. Using our gifts to help others is our gift back to God and helps grow the Body of Christ here on earth and establishes a pathway to Heaven for each of us.



December 28, 2025

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 | Col 3:12-21 | Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

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

In his Angelus address on the Feast of the Holy Family in 2001, St. John Paul II shared this with those gathered: “If we aspire to a deeper understanding of Jesus’ life and mission, we must draw close to the mystery of the Holy Family of Nazareth to observe and listen.” Following in the footsteps of the Holy Family in today’s Scripture, we find ourselves in quiet Bethlehem, just after the departure of the Magi. The angel of the Lord appears to Joseph in a dream, this time with a warning: “Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him.” They trust in God and their response is immediate. It is easy for us to imagine the Holy Family as different from ourselves — holier and more spiritual. Certainly, that’s true. They were holy but they were also fully human, which means that what they attained is possible for each of us. Let us try to imitate them in this holiness.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

It’s easy to glamorize the life of Joseph, Mary, and Jesus, but in reality, the cross was with them long before the crucifixion. From the moment of the Annunciation, there would be trials, temptations, and sufferings. But each time, they respond with immediate obedience and deep trust. In doing so, they give us all a perfect example of what the Christian life should look like: a life motivated by love and always listening for the voice of God, ready to respond in an instant. As we accompany others on this journey of faith, we also must listen deeply to them in order to help them in discerning the Spirit’s movement in their lives. As we hone the spiritual muscle of attentive listening, we grow in our ability to respond to God and to God’s action in our lives, and to help others do the same.

REFLECT

Most of us will never hear from an angel in the middle of the night telling us to walk hundreds of miles with our baby in tow. But every single one of us will be — has been — called. Let us pray to the Holy Family for an increase in the virtues of obedience and trust, so that we can respond to God’s call in our lives.

Pilgrimage of Hope

A PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

with Fr. George Nellikunnel

St Aloysius and St Cabrini Parishes, Springfield, IL

October 5 - 15, 2026

DAY 1: Monday, 5 October DEPART FROM THE USA to Rome

DAY 2: Tuesday, 6 October - ARRIVAL IN ROME

Meet our English-speaking Tour Manager, drive to Basilica of St. Paul, outside the Wall to Celebrate Mass. Drive to the Hotel to check in dinner and overnight (D)

DAY 3: Wednesday, 7 October - PAPAL AUDIENCE / VATICAN MUSEUMS

This morning, we will transfer to the Vatican City to join the pilgrims from around the world for an audience with His Holiness, the Pope (subject to the Holy Father's schedule and health). Then we will visit the Vatican Museums, which house what can be described as the most important collections of art in the world. Highlights include The Tapestry Gallery, The Raphael Rooms, and The Sistine Chapel with Michelangelo's incredible masterpiece. The tour will continue in St. Peter's Basilica to enter our second Holy Door. Today the mass will be celebrated in a local church. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight (B, D)

DAY 4: Thursday, 8 October - BASILICAS / BAROQUE SQUARES

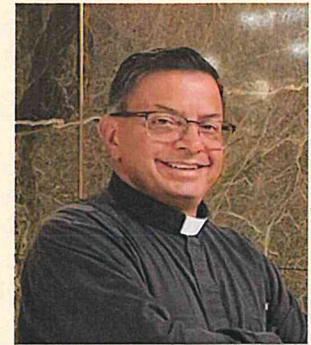
After breakfast, we will visit the major Basilicas of Rome to enter the Holy Doors at St Mary Major and at St John Lateran. We will see also the Holy stairs. Celebrate Mass. After lunch, we will enjoy a walking tour from Navona Square to Trevi Fountain. We will visit St. Ignatius church where St. Aloysius Gonzaga is buried and celebrate Mass. Some time at leisure before going back to the hotel for dinner and overnight (B, D)

DAY 5: Friday, 9 October ROME - SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO

Today we will continue our drive to San Giovanni Rotondo (approx. 6 hrs. drive). Upon arrival, we will honor the work of St Pio as we will visit his tomb, his cell, his confessional and the Capuchin Monastery of Our Lady of Grace We will also visit the new Church of Santa Maria Delle Grazie. Celebrate Mass. Check in at the hotel, dinner and overnight (B, D)

DAY 6: Saturday, 10 October - SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO - LANCIANO - LORETO - ASSISI

At 7:30am we will drive to Lanciano to visit the Church of St Francis, the site of the Eucharistic Miracle that occurred in the eighth century and celebrate Mass. Then we will continue to Loreto to visit the Shrine of the Holy House of Nazareth. Then we depart Loreto - Our destination for today is Assisi.) Check in at the hotel, dinner and overnight (B, D)



DAY 7: Sunday, 11 October - ASSISI

After breakfast, we will visit Assisi, the birthplace of the beloved St. Francis. We will start with the Basilica of St. Clare, to see her tomb and the cross that spoke to St. Francis, the Cross of San Damiano. Then we will walk throughout the medieval streets to visit the Santuario Della Spogliazione, where Blessed Carlo Acutis' tomb is placed. Carlo is the first millennial to be declared Blessed who loved the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Finally, we will reach St. Francis Basilica and explore the upper and the lower parts of the Basilica to see the tomb of St. Francis. Here we will celebrate Mass. Balance of the day at leisure. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight (B, D) we will celebrate Mass. After lunch, we will continue to Assisi. Upon arrival, we will stop at Basilica of St Maria degli Angeli to see the Porziuncola. Check in at the hotel, dinner and overnight (B, D)

DAY 8: Monday, 12 October - ASSISI - MANTOVA - PADOVA

After breakfast we depart Assisi towards north - We will reach Castiglione delle Stiviere, the birthplace of St Aloysius Gonzaga. Break for lunch. In the afternoon we will visit the Shrine of Sant' Aloysius and celebrate Mass. Continue to Padova, Check in at the hotel, dinner and overnight.

DAY 9: Tuesday, 13 October - FULL DAY VENICE

From the dock, by private motorboat, we will reach Venice, nicknamed La Serenissima, in 30 minutes by sea. Upon arrival, we will enjoy a guided tour to see the Doge's Palace, home to the political leader of the Republic of Venice, and the magnificent Basilica of St. Mark, a Byzantine wonder covered in golden mosaics and art treasures. Mass will be celebrated. In the afternoon we will have time at your leisure to explore the city on our own and take that gondola ride if we wish. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight (B, D)

DAY 10: Wednesday, 14 October - Milan

Today we check out, before leaving Padova, we visit the Basilica of St Anthony. We will see his incorrupt tongue over 760 years ago, more than 30 years after his death. The relic may be venerated in the Chapel of the Treasury in the Basilica, which is visited each year by millions of pilgrims. Celebrate Mass Continue to Sant'Angelo Lodigiano. We will visit the house where Mother Cabrini was born - Our destination for today is Milan. Some time at leisure for a fast panoramic tour, and to visit the Duomo. Check in at the hotel, dinner and overnight (B, D)

DAY 11: Thursday, 15 October - RETURN TO USA

LIMITED
SEATING

\$4,995 per person
on double occupancy basis
*\$995 extra per single room

The price includes

- Round-trip airfare, including all airlines taxes/fuel surcharges
- Accommodation in superior hotels including all hotel taxes and portages
- Meals as per itinerary (Breakfast and Dinner)
- Land Transportation by deluxe motor coach and entrance Fees
- Comprehensive sightseeing as per itinerary with a licensed Christian Guide.
- Private boat transfers IN and OUT central Venice
- Private taxi in Assisi to reach San Damian's heritage

Holy Land Tours LLC

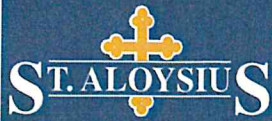
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