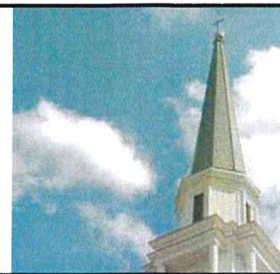


Saint Aloysius Catholic Church

A Discipleship Parish

January 18, 2026... 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Dear brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ,

As we gather on this Second Sunday of Ordinary Time, we are reminded of the profound significance of John the Baptist's declaration: "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). This statement not only identifies Jesus but also encapsulates His mission and our response as His followers. The Identity of Jesus.

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist points to Jesus, emphasizing His role as the sacrificial Lamb. This title resonates deep

ly within the Jewish tradition, where lambs were offered a sacrifice for sin. By calling Jesus the "Lamb of God," John reveals that Jesus is the ultimate sacrifice, destined to take away sins of humanity. Proclamation invites us to reflect on what it means to truly see and recognize Christ in our lives.

The readings today also highlight our call to discipleship. Just as John the Baptist bore witness to Christ, we are called to be witnesses in our own lives. This involves recognizing Christ but also allowing Him to transform us. We must ask ourselves: Do we admire Christ or have we allowed Him to reorder our lives?

The First Reading from Isaiah 49:3 speaks of the servant who is called to be a light to the nations. This theme continues in the New Testament, where Paul addresses the Corinthians as those sanctified in Christ Jesus are reminded our mission is not just for ourselves but to bring the light of Christ to the world, echoing the call to be a light for all nations.

As we reflect on these themes, let us consider how we can live out our faith in practical ways.

- Witnessing to Christ: In our daily interactions; how we can point others to Christ? Are we living in a way that reflects His love and mercy.
- Embracing our Mission: Each of us has a unique role in the church. How can we contribute to the mission of being a light in our communities.

As we go forth today, let us hear John the Baptist's call to behold the Lamb of God. May we recognize Jesus in our lives and allow His light to shine through us, guiding others to Him. Let us pray for the grace to be a faithful witness living out our call to discipleship with joy and conviction. Amen.

Thank you for your prayers and generous support. God Bless you all.

Fr. George Nellikunnel

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



Principal's Page

Mrs. Denise Reavis

Pastoral Council

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

Finance Council

Deb Albright
Paul Brown
Karl Kohlrus
Matt Noonan
Ryan Spearie (Chair)
Larry Tebrugge
Earl Schroeder

School Board

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

Blessings for 2026! We were very excited to welcome our students back and begin our third quarter last week. This month we will celebrate Catholic Schools week which will kick off with Family Mass on Saturday, January 24th @ 4:00pm. St. Aloysius School will also host an Open House on Thursday, January 29th. Please share the date with any prospective families you know. We love our school families and look forward to all the New Year brings!

Thank you to all for a spectacular Christmas Program! Special thanks to Mrs. Washko, Mrs. Denise Reavis and Mrs. Deann Reavis for the many hours put in to making a great show. We would also like to thank our students and their parents for their dedication and hard work. Thank you to the following: Miss Avery, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Chambers, Tom Riech and the BOS Center, Daphne Southern, Steve Reavis, and the entire Faculty and Staff!

Special prayers and blessings to our 3rd grade students who received the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion this past Tuesday evening at the Cathedral.

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

Catholic Schools Week 2026... **Catholic Schools Week**, January 26 - February 1, a nationwide annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. Schools typically hold many activities for students, families, parishioners and community members. Through these events, schools focus on the value Catholic education provides to young people. St. Aloysius students will celebrate the week showcasing why we love St. Aloysius School and Catholic Education.



Make plans to attend our **Open House** on Thursday, January 29th! This is a great opportunity to meet your child's next teacher and visit the classroom! Please share our Open House information with anyone you know who may be interested in joining our school!

Our next **Family Mass** is Saturday January 24 at the 4:00pm Mass. Please join us to quick off Catholic Schools Week.

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 24 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.



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

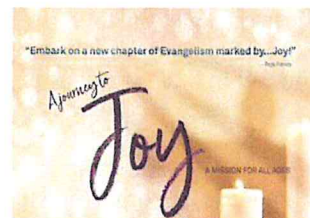
— Parish Data —

PARISH CALENDAR				Weekly Offering		
January 18	7:00am	Morning Mass		Week 26	December 28	Total to Date
January 18	11:00am	Morning Mass		Weekly Offertory	17,301.15	\$180,296.97
January 19		No School - MLK Day		Shepherd one Student	\$500.00	\$9,820.00
January 20	8:20am	All School Mass		Building Fund		\$24,918.00
January 21	7:00am	Morning Mass		Bingo	\$5,567.00	\$25,427.00
January 21	9:00am	Legion of Mary		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 109% of needed funding to meet essentials.		
January 22	7:00am	Morning Mass				
January 22	6:00pm	Parish Council				
January 23	7:00am	Adoration				
January 23	5:00pm	Benediction				
January 23	5:30pm	Rosary				
January 23	6:00pm	Evening Mass				
January 24	11:45am	Bingo				
January 24	3:30pm	Confession				
January 24	4:00pm	Evening Mass (Family Mass)				
 Special Prayers and Blessing Please pray for the repose soul of... <i>Caroline J. Dietrich</i> Eternal Rest Grant to her. O Lord. Let perpetual light shine on her.				Parish Community Tithe		
				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		
Weekly Attendance - January 10-11				Debt/Accrued Deficits		
Sat 4:00pm	Sun 7:00am	Sun 11:00am	Total	Unpaid Diocesan Liabilities		
				Paid		
82	42	101	225	Amount owed (January 8, 2026)		\$213,807.62
Parish Ministry Schedule - January 24-25						
Saturday 4:00pm		Sunday 7:00am		Sunday 11:00am		
Cantor						
Lector	Student	Carl Affrunti		Patti Crouch		
E.M.	Tom Kohlrus, Jim Auth Serena Nurton	Erin Rachford, Pam Tipps Earl Schroeder		Paul Brown, Patti Crouch Sherry Daniels, John Mehlick		
Servers	Student	Earl Schroeder		Dom Guimking 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, David Jones, Judith Bregowy, August Egger and Rita Smarjesse.						

Parish Bulletin Board

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.

Parish Mission... A Journey to Joy. Bringing scripture to Life. Frank Runyeon a national acclaimed performer will perform the Gospel of Luke, explore the Sermon on the Mount, and speak about Hollywood vs. Faith for three days, Sunday, March 1 - Tuesday, March 3, 2026. Each performance is an hour and will touch on one of the three topics. The three evenings will be both entertaining and eye-opening. Runyeon performs the famous parables in Luke's travel narrative, and then pauses to reflect on how we hear each story.



Join us for our Children's mass at 4:00pm on Saturday, January 24 as we kick off Catholic school's week! Following mass, we will continue our celebration at the KC Hall for a pasta dinner to celebrate Fr. George's birthday. Dinner includes: pasta, salad, breadstick, water, tea, and lemonade. Cash Bar will be available. Please RSVP to the Parish office (217-544-4554) by Wednesday, January 21st.

St. Aloysius Senior Breakfast... will meet for breakfast on Tuesday, January 20 at King Pin after the 8:20 mass. Please join us!

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 is \$4,995.00 per person (includes round-trip airfare, taxes, meals, and more). For details or to register, visit Holy Land Tours LLC @ holylantoursllc@gmail.com or Jiryis Alyateem @1-503-866-5698.

Save the Date... Pastoral Visit from Bishop Paprocki! The Bishop will celebrate mass at St. Aloysius on Sunday, June 21 (Feast of St. Aloysius) @ 11:00am Mass. After Mass, Bishop Paprocki will join parishioners from both St. Aloysius and St. Cabrini for lunch in the church basement.

This weeks **flower intention** is for the Broccardo Family anniversaries.

Flower Calendar... The Flower Calendar will be available next weekend. 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 put \$40.00 in the envelope with your name on it and your contact information. Your remembrance will be in the bulletin and a beautiful bouquet of flowers will be placed on the Altar for your weekend on your behalf. There are no flower intentions during Lent - February 22 - March 29, 2026.



Catholic Times, our Diocesan magazine has always been a key communication tool for our diocese and is intended for every Catholic home in the diocese. There is an envelope for your Catholic Times subscription in your January/February packet. Please return your envelope to help defray the costs of publishing. Thank you for your generosity.

Catholic Times is going **monthly** in January! 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.

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

January 19 Weekday

January 20 Weekday

8:20am August Egger +

January 21 St. Agnes

7:00am Steve Tapocik+

January 22 Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn

7:00am All Souls+

January 23 Weekday

6:00pm James Bartlett+

January 24 Weekday

January 25 3rd Ordinary Sunday

Sat 4:00pm Ruth Rogers+
Evelyn Schumacher +

Sun 7:00am All Parishioners+

Sun 11:00am Walter Phelps+

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.

Sign up now for **Illinois Pro-Life Mass** and attend **Illinois Pro-Life March** afterward on Thursday, March 19. You are invited to join thousands of pro-life advocates, being a joyful witness to life and raising your voice for the voiceless at the Illinois Pro-Life Mass and March. The day begins with Mass at 10:00am at the Exposition Building (Illinois State Fairgrounds) celebrated by Bishop Thomas John Paprocki and concelebrated by bishops and priests from across the state. You must register for the Mass by going to dio.org.

Confirmation with Dr. Brant Pitre... Is Confirmation really necessary if we've been baptized? What is the connection between the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and the graces bestowed at Confirmation? Why are there different practices in the Church about the proper age to receive Confirmation? How does Confirmation strengthen us to endure persecution as we witness to Jesus? Discover the answers to these questions and more in this Lectio series on the Sacrament of Confirmation. Cathedral Women's Bible Study, Thursdays at 10:00am and 1:00pm, 8 weeks starting on Feb 5. Study guide available for purchase at \$26.00.

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.



Prayer for Christian Unity Lord Jesus Christ, You prayed that all who believe in You may be one. Send Your Holy Spirit upon all Christians, that divisions may be healed, hearts renewed, and unity strengthened in truth and love. May we bear faithful witness to Your Gospel so that the world may believe. We ask this in Your holy name. Amen.

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.

Heaven Meets Earth - A Journey through the Holy Mass - Step away from the busyness of life and enter more deeply into the mystery of the Holy Mass at the **Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women's Lenten Retreat**, "Heaven Meets Earth: A Journey through the Holy Mass," held February 24-25 at Villa Maria Conference Center on Lake Springfield. Led by retreat director Sr. Margaret Schreiber, OP, PhD. This retreat offers spiritual presentations, prayer, Holy Mass, Confession, fellowship, and time for quiet reflection. All women are welcome, bring your sister, mom, or a friend. Registration forms with the cost and further information are available in your parish office or at dio.org/events. Deadline to register is February 14. For more information, contact Mary Ann Sullivan at 217-822-1928 or Janet Zimmerman at 217-494-4743.

Stewardship Reflection... Second Sunday in Ordinary Time. "*Now the Lord has spoken who formed me as his servant from the womb...*" ISAIAH 49:5 God have given each of us different gifts. In order for God's plan to work, you have to do what God is calling you to do, and I have to do what God is calling me to do. And guess what? God has given each of us a different plan! So, stop comparing yourself to others. Don't let envy and jealousy enter your life. Be thankful for the gifts God has given you and become the saint that God is calling you to be.

Gospel Mass Choir ... All are invited to join the Gospel Mass Choir for the Black History Month Gospel Mass on February 28, 2026, St. Joseph Catholic Church in Springfield. Sponsored by the Black Catholic Commission. Contact information for joining: Anastasia (217) 218-5970 or Gale (217) 341-5029.

Pope Leo XIV's Monthly Prayer Intention. January... For prayer with the Word of God Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

Eucharistic Adoration is held every Friday from 7:00am - 5:00pm in the side chapel

We are just a week away from Catholic Schools Week! Please keep all of our Catholic Schools in your prayers.



January 18, 2026

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 49:3, 5-6 | 1 Cor 1:1-3 | Jn 1:29-34

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

I have struggled when doing work that feels unseen. Has anyone noticed that the floors were mopped today? Do my students care about the feedback I provide on their writing? Does my supervisor notice the extra time I put into my work? In today's Gospel we hear John the Baptist announcing Jesus as "the Lamb of God." John has been preparing for the coming of Christ and now that Jesus has arrived, his role is to step aside and encourage his followers to move their gaze toward Christ, the Messiah. Although we know John's name and his faithfulness, it would have been easy for him to assume that his work would have been forgotten — overshadowed by the signs and wonders of Christ himself. But in his humility, this is exactly what John seemingly wanted. His life and words were focused solely on proclaiming the coming of Christ. While I may have been tempted to say, "Please don't forget about what I did," John responded faithfully to God's call to preach and prepare for Christ's coming, without worry of receiving credit for his actions. And in our lives, too, what matters is not whether our work is appreciated or noticed, but whether our actions are in response to God's call to holiness.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Despite not knowing whether his work would extend for years or decades, John the Baptist continued to lead others toward repentance. He did not know the full scope of his role in the plan of salvation, but he trusted in the voice of God. Like John, we are called to persevere in faithfulness to the work that God has called us to do, right where we are. When we persevere in our faith, living according to the teachings of Christ and our vocation, we give witness to the truth that the God who called us is worthy of our trust.

WITNESS

Consider the countless men and women who have gone before us who remained faithful to God's call. Their lives bear witness to their trust in God, in big and in small ways, sometimes visible, but often hidden. What simple acts of faithfulness are you being called to persevere in today? Recommit to practicing faithfulness in the big — as well as mundane — aspects of daily living.

YOUR INVITED TO
St. Aloysius School
OPEN
HOUSE

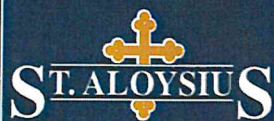
Thursday, January 29th
6:00pm- 7:30pm

KINDERGARTEN - 8TH GRADE

(EARLY CHILDHOOD OPEN HOUSE INFO COMING SOON)

Tour the School
Meet Teachers
Visit Classrooms
Ask Questions
Learn about the 26-27 School Year

2125 N. 21st St.
Springfield, IL 62702
217-544-4553



We thank St. Aloysius Faith Community

GO CHARGERS!

for supporting these generous sponsors who make our bulletin possible.
Kindly thank them in person when you do business with them!

TROY A. WASHKO, CPA

TAX PREPARATION & ACCOUNTING SERVICES

522-3300

1924 E Sangamon Ave.
(across from Sangamon Center North)

Parishioner

t.washko@troywashkocpa.com • www.troywashkocpa.com

HELPING YOU
SAY GOODBYE
with dignity & respect.



AND CREMATION TRIBUTE CENTER
Springfield · Chatham · New Berlin

217.544.4646

Proudly Owned and Operated
by S.C.I. Illinois Services, LLC.



Chinese Restaurant Eat In or Take Out
Catering Available

Tel: (217) 789-0800

Fax: (217) 789-0882

1899 E. Sangamon Ave. Springfield, IL
www.chinastar88.com

10% OFF WITH BULLETIN

FR. ERNEST A. BURTLE
COUNCIL #4175

Hall Rental for
Business Meetings,
Luncheons, Weddings

BINGO on
Wednesday Nights at
CARITAS HALL
9th & Converse

FOR INFORMATION
Phone: 528-5740

kofc4175.com

RESIDENTIAL AND
COMMERCIAL
WIRING



**TONY'S
Electric
Service,
Inc.**

— TRENCHING —

522-5349

1304 GRIFFITHS



Wayne Shures
Owner

528-9700

750 E Linton
(Behind Burger King
on south 6th)

COMPLETE AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE

catholicmatch®
Illinois



CatholicMatch.com/goll



**Get this bulletin
emailed to you
every week.**

Simply go to

www.DM.CHURCH/1251 ...or scan →



DISCOVERMASS

**ADVERTISE
HERE**

**Promote your Business
AND Support your Parish.**

April Paprocki
apaprocki@diocesan.com
612-867-9831

EWTN.COM/RADIO



EWTN

Global
Catholic
Radio

TUNE IN



IN LOVING
MEMORY OF

Conner Byrne



**Consider
Remembering
Your Parish in
Your Will**

*For further information,
please call the parish office.*

*Eliminate the uncertainty and financial
burden with the Staab Family & Associates.*



Honoring Life™



Contact us for your personal visit to Plan Ahead.
217.528.6461 or visit StaabFuneralHomes.com

Springfield ♦ Sherman

The Businesses listed above make this bulletin possible.

Please support them when you can.

Sign up to get our bulletin in your email each week. Go to DiscoverMass.com/subscribe