

Saint Aloysius Catholic Church

A Discipleship Parish

January 25, 2026... 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Dear Brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ, Today's readings show that the early Christians understood how Jesus had fulfilled the expectations of ancient Israel. Describing the humble beginning of the public ministry of Jesus, today's Scripture readings teach us that Christ has brought us from the darkness of sin into the Light of God, by calling us to repentance.

The first reading contains a prophetic reference to Christ as the Light that dispels darkness. Matthew wanted his readers to recognize that the Light of which Isaiah spoke had finally appeared with the coming of Jesus. The second reading ad-

vises the Corinthians to live as children of the Light, avoiding divisions and rivalries, because several factions had arisen among the Corinthian Christians, each claiming allegiance to its first Christian teacher or to a particular Apostle such as Peter, Paul, or Apollos. In today's Gospel passage (Mt 4:12-23), Matthew explains that what Isaiah prophesied has been fulfilled through the preaching and healing ministry of Jesus. By his ministry of inviting people to the Kingdom of God through repentance, Jesus has brought Light to peoples living in darkness. So fulfilling God's original promise. In addition, the Gospel describes the call of the first disciples (4:18-22), who would learn from, live out, and then teach us, Jesus' proclamation of God's Good News.

They and their successors would continue Jesus' own preaching, teaching, and healing ministry to the end of time and this world, drawing people to repent of their sins, accept the Good News of God's rule (the Kingdom of God) over them. The ordinary men Jesus called had no formal training in Mosaic Law to preach the Good News, yet they and their successors have been very effective instruments in the hands of the Holy Spirit, to extend Jesus' mission to the world. Dear friends, every one of us is called by God, both individually and as a Church member, to be His disciple. The call is both a privilege and responsibility. The mission of preaching, teaching, and healing which Jesus began in Galilee has become the responsibility of the Church and of each individual Christian. Our response to the call begins with our reception of Baptism and Confirmation, the Sacraments of Initiation. That response is meant to be strengthened through the years by the Eucharist and Reconciliation and to be made manifest in Matrimony or Holy Orders. We are healed and consoled in the Anointing which also prepares us for death.

As we respond to Christ's call, we gain spiritual strength through our personal and family prayers, our Sacramental life and our faithful study of the Bible and the Church's teachings. When we receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, we are sent forth to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom and to defend the Catholic Faith. Each of us Christians has received a unique call to preach the Good News of God's love, mercy, forgiveness, and salvation through our daily life. This call challenges us to rebuild our lives, homes, and communities in the justice and peace that Jesus proclaims. As we continue with the celebration of the Holy Mass, let us ask the Lord Jesus to give us the strength and perseverance to answer his calling, so that we may faithfully serve the Lord, doing His Divine will as best as we can by cooperating with His grace.

Thank you for your prayers and encouragement and 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

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schoolboard@santalloysius.org

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

Liturgy Committee

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

Blessings to our third-grade students and all those who received the sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion last evening at the Cathedral. Thank you to Mrs. Attig, Mrs. Reavis and their parents who helped prepare these students for these special sacraments. We are grateful to be a part of each of our students' faith journey.

All-school Mass will be Tuesday, January 27th at 8:20am. All are welcome!

As we celebrate **Catholic Schools Week** (January 25 - February 1) we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who contribute to the vitality of our educational community. **Faculty and Staff:** Your unwavering dedication to nurturing both the minds and spirits of our students is the cornerstone of our mission. Your commitment to excellence and faith formation shapes the future of our Church and society. **Parents and Guardians:** Your trust and partnership are invaluable. By choosing Catholic education, you provide your children with the gift of learning in an environment rooted in Gospel values. Your support and involvement enrich our community and strengthen our shared mission. **Students:** Your enthusiasm and commitment to learning inspire us daily. Embrace the opportunities before you, and continue to grow in faith, knowledge, and service. You are the reason we strive for excellence. **Benefactors and Supporters:** Your generosity and prayers make our work possible. Through your contributions, you sustain and advance the mission of Catholic education, impacting countless lives and fostering a legacy of faith.



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

Make plans to attend our **Open House** on Thursday, January 29th from 6:00-7:30pm! 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!

Congratulations to Daniel C. on celebrating his 8th Grade Night before the basketball game last week.

St. Aloysius Spaghetti Dinner... Sunday, February 15th.

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 31 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."*

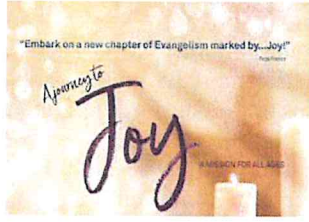
— Parish Data —

PARISH CALENDAR				Weekly Offering		
January 25	7:00am	Morning Mass				
January 25	11:00am	Morning Mass		Week 27	January 4	Total to Date
January 27	8:20am	All School Mass		Weekly Offertory	\$8,147.26	\$188,443.93
January 28	7:00am	Morning Mass		Shepherd one Student	\$200.00	\$10,020.00
January 28	9:00am	Legion of Mary		Building Fund	\$1,000.00	\$25,918.00
January 29	7:00am	Morning Mass		Bingo		\$25,427.00
January 29	6:00-7:30pm	School Open House		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 January is \$40,000.00. We have received 20% of needed funding to meet essentials.		
January 30	7:00am	Adoration		Parish Community Tithe		
January 30	5:00pm	Benediction		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. December tithe -\$5,315.00		
January 30	5:30pm	Rosary		Debt/Accrued Deficits		
January 30	6:00pm	Evening Mass		Unpaid Diocesan Liabilities		
January 31	11:45am	Bingo		Paid		
January 31	3:30pm	Confession		Amount owed (January 20, 2026)		
January 31	4:00pm	Evening Mass		\$209,997.03		
February 1	7:00am	Morning Mass		Parish Ministry Schedule - January 31-February 1		
February 1	11:00am	Morning Mass		Saturday 4:00pm Sunday 7:00am Sunday 11:00am		
Cantor						
Lector	David Klestinski	Earl Schroeder	Sharon Jones			
E.M.	Richard and Serena Nurton	Erin Rachford, Pam Tipps	Paul Brown Sherry Daniels			
	Vikki Warren	Earl Schroeder	Sharon Jones, John Mehlick			
Servers	Rachel Schrenk	Joshua and Lizzie Nielsen	Kinsley Adams			
			Ryan Davidson			
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <p>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, August Egger, Rita Smarjesse and Caroline Dietrich.</p> </div> </div>						

Parish Bulletin Board

We proudly welcome **Catholic Schools Week** and celebrate the gift of Catholic education in our parish. The theme this year is, *“United in Faith and Community,” beautifully captures who we are and what we strive to be.* Catholic education forms the whole person—mind, body, and soul—and strengthens not only our students, but our entire parish family. Thank you to our students, families, teachers, staff for the energy, joy, and faith you bring to our parish every day.

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.



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 @ holylandtoursllc@gmail.com or Jiryis Alyateem @1-503-866-5698.

This weeks **flower intention** is in memory of Evelyn Schumacher.

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



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.

Several churches in diocese are available for the **Special Year of St. Francis** pilgrimage so you can receive indulgence... Pope Leo XIV declared a Special Year of St. Francis to mark the 800th anniversary of his death, running until January 10, 2026 - January 10, 2027. During this time, the faithful can obtain a plenary indulgence by visiting Franciscan churches or praying spiritually if unable to travel, following the usual conditions of going to Confession, receiving the Eucharist, and praying for the pope’s intentions (e.g., one Our Father and Hail Mary). For example, in the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois, one can make a pilgrimage to St. Francis of Assisi Church in Teutopolis, St. Francis of Assisi Church in Springfield, St. Francis of Assisi Church in Hardin, or St. Francis Adoration Chapel in Alton (home of the Sisters of St. Francis of Martyr St. George). The Year of St Francis will be celebrated, during which all the Christian faithful are invited to follow the example of the Saint of Assisi. Learn more about St. Francis of Assisi: <https://catholic-link.org/special-year-of-st-francis-of-.../>.

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

January 26	St. Timothy St. Titus
January 27	St. Angela Merici 8:20am Evelyn Schumacher+
January 28	St. Thomas Aquinas, 7:00am William Bredemeyer+
January 29	Weekday 7:00am All Souls +
January 30	Weekday 6:00pm Kay Morrow+
January 31	Weekday
February 1	4th Ordinary Sunday Sat 4:00pm Christine Kohlrus+
Sun 7:00am	Kay Affrunti+
Sun 11:00am	All Parishioners+

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.



Annual contribution statements for the 2025 year will be mailed at the end of this week. Your ongoing support and generosity to our parish allows us to continue doing the many ministries that makes our parish special.

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.

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. 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.

Care Manager job opening... Do you have a healthcare background? Do you love your Catholic faith and have a desire to help priests set and meet healthy living goals? Our diocese is seeking applications for a unique, mission-driven position dedicated to providing essential healthcare navigation and support for our clergy. This role does not require hands-on clinical care. Please submit your resume to REC@metacareusa.com.

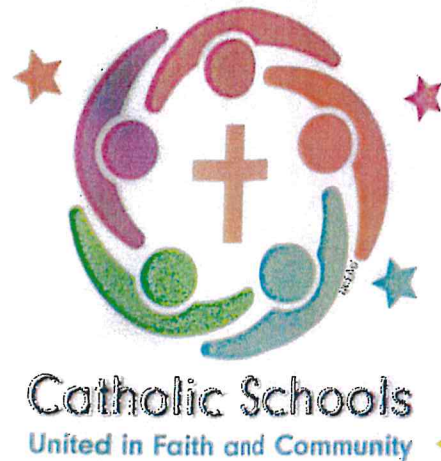
Stewardship Reflection... 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. "He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed Him." MATTHEW 4:22. Just as Jesus called the first apostles, He calls each of us to follow Him, too. Not everyone is called to leave their business or family behind, but we are expected to put God first in everything. In gratitude to God, we should give our first and best of everything to Him: our time in daily prayer, our talent in participating in one of our parish ministries and our treasure to support the financial needs of our parish mission.

Catholic Schools Week Prayer... God of all creation, we know you care for all of us and desire only what is good for us. Please guide those who make policy decisions and laws that affect all of us, that these decisions will work for the good of the most vulnerable in our society. Help us to have the courage to speak out for those who cannot speak for themselves. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



St. Aloysius School

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK



JAN 25 - JAN 31

We will celebrate Catholic Schools Week with events and activities during this special week!

Please join us at our kickoff Mass on *Saturday, January 24th at 4:00 PM!* Following Mass, we will celebrate CSW with a pasta dinner and cake for Fr. George's birthday at the KC Hall.

Monday
Celebrate Nation!

Today we celebrate that we are one nation under God!

- Dress as your favorite person in U.S. History

Tuesday
Celebrate Vocations!

Today we remember that we are all called by Christ!

- Add assigned colors of World Mission Rosary to uniform (below)
- All School Mass
- Virtual World Mission Rosary
- Guest speakers on missions and vocations.

Wednesday
Celebrate Community!

We will recognize our community helpers and ways we can help!

- Students will participate in a service project by donating assigned food items and assemble "Meal Bag Kits"
- Build Your Own Horseshoe Lunch

Thursday
Celebrate Staff!

Today we show our appreciation for the Faculty and Staff!


- SPIRIT DAY - Dress in school colors (gold/yellow and blue)
- School Assembly
- Faculty vs. 8th Grade Knock Out B-Ball Game
- PTO Treat for Faculty and Staff
- Open House, 6PM

Friday
Celebrate Students!


Today we recognize our Catholic School Students!



- Movie Day (More Info Coming)
- Free Dress
- 1:30 Dismissal (NO AFTERCARE)

Assigned colors for students per grade to add to uniform on Tuesday for World Mission Rosary
 PK/K-  (Europe) 1/2- **Yellow** (Asia) 3/4- **Red** (Americas) 5/6- **Green** (Africa) 7/8- **Blue** (Pacific Islands)

United in Faith and Community!



YOU'RE INVITED TO
St. Aloysius School

**OPEN
HOUSE**




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



KINDERGARTEN - 8TH GRADE

(EARLY CHILDHOOD OPEN HOUSE INFO COMING SOON)

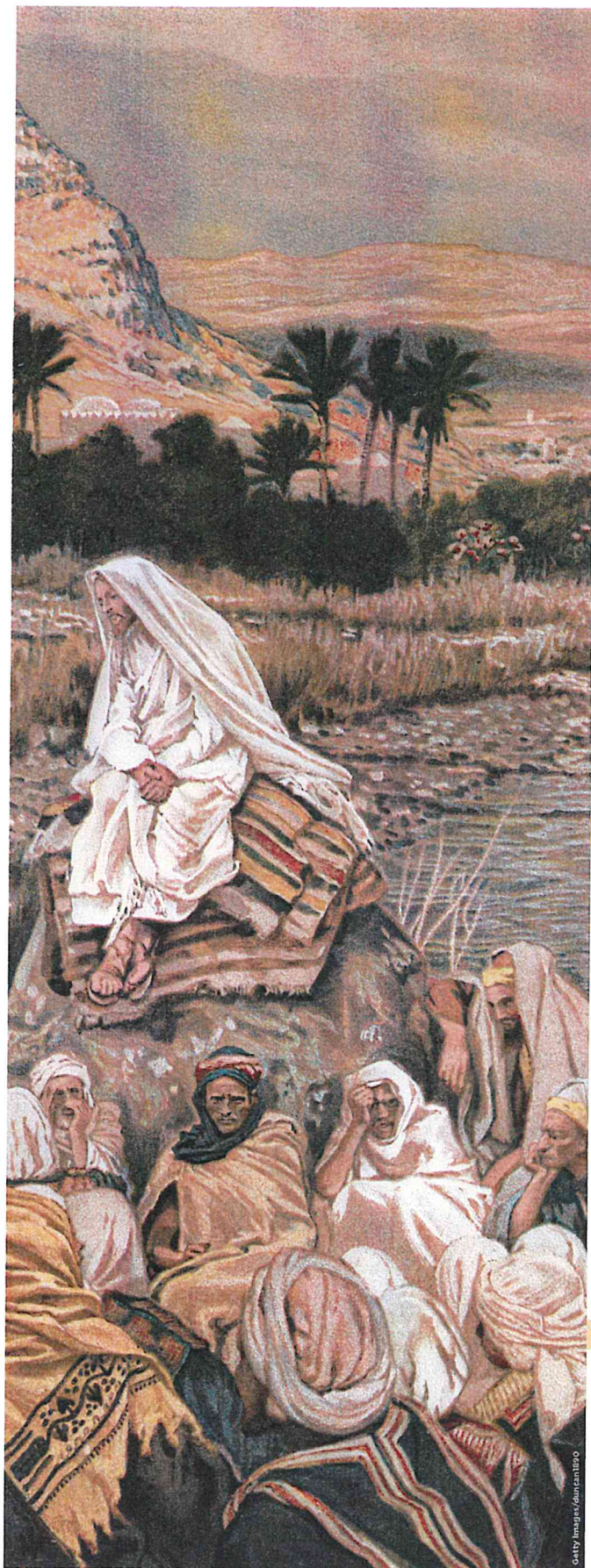


Tour the School
Meet Teachers
Visit Classrooms
Ask Questions
Learn about the 26-27 School Year



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





January 25, 2026

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 8:23—9:3 | 1 Cor 1:10-13, 17 | Mt 4:12-23

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” For most of my life, any time I have heard these words of Jesus, the emphasis has always been on “*Repent*.” Recently, I’ve started to pay more attention to the second half of Jesus’ proclamation: “The kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Through his coming into our world and the beginning of his public ministry, Jesus’ reign has begun. The signs of his kingdom’s arrival are striking and immediate; we see Jesus “curing every disease and illness among the people.” This is cause for great rejoicing, like the rejoicing we hear of in today’s reading from Isaiah: “Anguish has taken wing, dispelled is darkness ... upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shown.” Jesus’ miracles reveal that the reign of darkness, sin, and death is coming to an end; this is good news, indeed! It’s also a major part of our call as disciples. We’re called to pray (“thy kingdom come”) and to work to advance Jesus’ reign on earth.

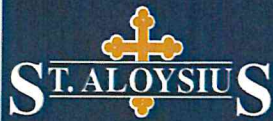
GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Like the Apostles Peter, Andrew, James, and John in today’s Gospel, we, too, have been called to help build God’s kingdom on earth. We do this in a particular way by continuing the works of Jesus here on earth. As Pope Leo XIV reminds us in *Dilexi Te*, “The signs that accompany Jesus’ preaching are manifestations of the love and compassion with which God looks upon the sick, the poor and sinners ... The Church, if she wants to be Christ’s Church, must be ... a place where the poor have a privileged place.” (21) Part of the way we bear witness to the inbreaking of God’s kingdom on earth is to put those who are ill and marginalized at the center of our concern. Then the kingdom of God will be manifest and visible in the world, drawing others to Christ.

SERVE

This week, spend some time researching ways you can work with other Christians to serve the sick and the poor of our world. As we conclude this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (which ends Jan. 25, 2026), there’s no better witness we can offer to the dawn of the kingdom of God than being “united in the same mind and in the same purpose” (as Paul calls us to be today) in serving those in need.



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!


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