

St. Mary’s Catholic Church

Annunciation Church of B.V.M., Shumway, IL
+Bishop Thomas John Paprocki
Father Albert (Al) Allen, Pastor
Reconciliation Time: Saturdays 3-3:30 pm

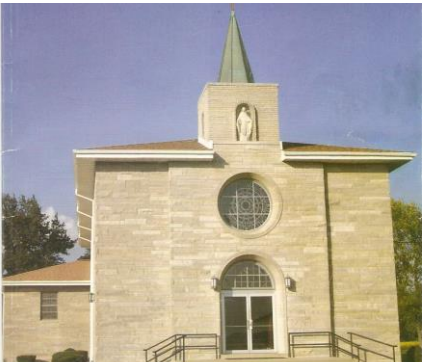
Or by appointment
Mass Times: Saturday 4:00 pm & Sunday 8:00 am
Wednesday 8:00 am

Phone: 1-844-536-6514 (leave a message)
During a life emergency please contact
217.703.1042 to reach a priest.

Website: www.stmaryshumway.org
Email: stmarysshumway@gmail.com
Address: PO Box 96, Shumway, IL 62461

To reserve the church basement please call
1-844-536-6514.

Diocese Website: www.dio.org



Green Creek Mass Times:

Friday – 8 am
Saturday – 6 pm
Sunday – 10:30 am

Victim Assistance Contact Information-To Report Child Sexual Abuse by Church Personnel or to inquire about Safe Environment Programs in the Diocese of Springfield call 217-321-1155 or Children & Family Services Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-25-ABUSE

PRAYER LIST: Please remember them in your prayers!

Sam Sheehan
Fr. Al Allen
Larry Nation
Jim Gordon
Don Kemme
Danny Zacha
Don Clark
Heather Harbour
Kendall Fulk
Dan Zacha Sr.
Dean Gengler
Steve Moore

Sally Wakefield
Pat Kuhns
Bill Hamilton
Christie Dust
Helen Kollinger
Bill Nuxoll
Mrs. Scott (Stacey)
Vonderheide
Jane Emmerich
Timber Miller
Marita Elson



Call: 1-844-536-6514 to add or remove someone. Thank You.

September Committee: Linda Doedtman, Helen Doedtman, Emily Doedtman, Joyce Shadwell, Dorothy Hankins

LITURGICAL MINISTERS					
SAT 4pm	Aug 26	Sept.2	Sept. 9	Sept. 16	Sept. 23
Servers	Madalyne Brown Anna Brown Aubrey Brown	Issac Wells Abby Brown Trey Brown	Tryston Brown Madalyne Brown Anna Brown	Aubrey Brown Abby Brown Issac Wells	Madalyne, Trey, and Tryston Brown
Lector	Donna Davis	Christy Brown	Mike Holland	Alaina Miller	Jesse Davis
Usher	Jesse Davis Jason Wells	Mike Holland Don Brown	Doug Brown Jason Wells	Mike Holland Jesse Davis	Don Brown Doug Brown
Ech Min	Katrina Davis Jesse Davis Kathy Brown	Rosemary Holland Mike Holland Donna Davis	Don Brown Kathy Brown Katrina Davis	Mike Holland Rosemary Holland Donna Davis	Katrina Davis Rosemary Holland Kathy Brown
Gift Bearers	Wanda Ohnesorge	Kathy Brown	Don Brown Family	Doug Brown Family	Jesse Davis Family
Greeters	Davis Family	Wells Family	Davis Family	Wells Family	Davis Family
SUN 8am	Aug. 27	Sept. 3	Sept. 10	Sept. 17	Sept. 24
Servers	Zoey Conder Jacob Vonderheide Wade Conder	Braxton Hoene Olivia Vonderheide Garrett Hoene	Rory Miller Wiley Miller Daisy Miller	Jacob Vonderheide Isaac Pruemer Noah Pruemer	Wade Conder Zoey Conder Olivia Vonderheide
Lector	Lisa Thompson	Terry Hoene	Jason Pruemer	Lisa Thompson	Terry Hoene
Ushers	Gene Doedtman Tom Doedtman	Jason Pruemer Josh Miller	Justin Conder John Neu	Don Antrim Jason Vonderheide	Charley Vonderheide Larry Lieb
Ech Min	Timber Miller Jason Pruemer Linda Doedtman	Lisa Thompson Barb Vonderheide Lisa Waldhoff	Roy Waldhoff Leslie Kemme Timber Miller	Jason Pruemer Linda Doedtman Barb Vonderheide	Lisa Thompson Roy Waldhoff Lisa Waldhoff
Gift Bearers	Roy Lisa Waldhoff	Jason Pruemer Family	Don Marcella Antrim	George Conder Family	Jason Vonderheide Family
Greeters	Wanda Todd Ohnesorge	Wally Thompson Family	Brock Vonderheide Family	Charley Rhonda Vonderheide	Barb Vonderheide
Money Counters	Doedtman Shadwell	Waldhoff Hoene	Kemme Adams	Bales Richards Sheehan, Hackman	Stremming Conder
WED. 8am Lectors	Aug 23	Aug 30	Sept 6	Sept 13	Sept 20
	Irene Koester	Kay Conder	Linda Doedtman	Irene Koester	Kay Conder

Trinity Lutheran Church is holding their annual ice cream social Sunday September 17th from 4 pm to 7 pm at 206 W. Main Street, Shumway. Free will donation.

PARISH T-SHIRTS If you are interested in ordering a shirt, please let Leslie Kemme know. llkejkemme@yahoo.com or 217-821-3399

Weekly Offering.....9-10-23



PORK CHOP DINNER---PARISH HALL FUNDRAISER

ST. MARY'S SHUMWAY

PRE-SALE TICKETS ONLY

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023 3:00PM-7:00PM

COST: \$12 PER TICKET

DRIVE-THRU CARRY OUT ONLY

PORK CHOPS, GREEN BEANS, BAKED POTATO, DINNER ROLL

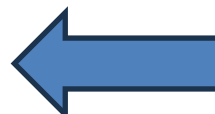
PLEASE CONTACT THE FOLLOWING IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE TICKETS:

Leslie Kemme 217-821-3399, Terry Hoene 217-343-4545, Donna Davis 217-690-2640

Kathy Adams 217-994-3144, Justin Conder 217-821-4509



Workers needed!! Sign up sheets are in the cry room!!!



We need God's help!! The "Prayer Campaign for LIFE" will take place from September 27 - November 5

The need for prayer has only increased in the last year as abortion numbers in Illinois have seen an enormous surge and the threat of assisted suicide looms ever larger as proponents now actively lobby Illinois legislators for its support. Our state is tragically moving in the wrong direction on the biggest issues of protecting life.

- 1.) Our days for prayer will be Wed. Sept. 27 8-5 AND Wed. Oct. 18 8-5.
You can pray at church, home, work or wherever. Sign up a time in the cry room.
- 2.) Volunteer at the Silk Purse Thrift Store
Choose any hours between 9 am - 7 pm, Monday through Friday. Sept. 27 - Nov. 5. Contact Valerie Kemme
(217) 663-2738 to schedule a time.

**NO MASS ON
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20**

Adoration will be the
3rd Thursday of the month
6:30-7:30pm.
Please plan on attending and
encountering our Lord.
Sept. 21

Coming this October: DeColores Weekends
Be Transformed-Set Your Soul on Fire
Men's -Oct. 12-15
Women's Oct. 19-22
Questions-Ask Jesse or Donna Davis

Happy Birthday



Terry Hoene 9-18
Dave Stremming 9-18
Helen Levi 9-18
David Brown 9-19
Jill Conder 9-20
Kathy Worman 9-20
Gretchen Ruhe 9-21
Nash Wakefield 9-22
Joe Holland 9-23
Alyssa Pruemer 9-23
Charly Vonderheide 9-23

Happy Anniversary

George & Diana Conder 9-19-1981
42 years
Roger & Judy Zacha 9-19-1987
36 years

"Parish Encounter Nights"

Sept. 20 and 27 and Oct. 11 and 25

We will be discussing the video series "Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist" from FORMED. Viewing will start at 6:30pm and discussion will be from 7:15-8pm (on Sept. 20th, 27th and Oct. 11th) in the church basement. On Oct. 25th viewing will be from 630-730pm and discussion from 730-8pm. You may view on your own and just come for discussion if you like.
Questions: Contact Donna Davis

Parish Families in Faith



**First Class
Sunday, Sept. 17 @ 9am**

**Next classes-Sept. 24,
Oct. 15, 22, 29
Nov. 12, 19
Dec. 10, 17**

Adult classes AND Parish Family Time are for ALL PARISHIONERS not just those who have children in PSR!!!

There is a PSR sign up sheet in the cry room for students go into Pre-K, Kindergarten and 1st grade. If you have children going into one or more of these grades please sign them up. Thank you

Youth Group will meet on Sunday, Oct. 1 from 6-7 in the church basement. If you have questions you can call Katrina 217-240-4291.



Saturday, Sept. 16 – Martha Peavler by Teresa Tegeler
Sunday, Sept. 17- Paul Runde by family
Wednesday, Sept. 20-**NO MASS TODAY – Priest Retreat**
Saturday, Sept. 23 - Leonard Waldhoff by Kathy Ferguson
Sunday, Sept. 24 -Connie Dust by family
Wednesday, Sept. 27 - Marian Runde by family

Please call or email (info on front page) to schedule an intention or put an envelope in the collection basket with the information. Envelopes can be found in the mailbox in the cry room. There is a calendar of available dates located on the bulletin board and in the cry room.

Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women announce convention, "Christ is Alive"– Wednesday, Sept. 27, will be the 95th annual Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (SDCCW) Convention. This year's program, "Christ is Alive," takes place from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart Griffin High School's west campus in Springfield. Bishop Thomas John Paprocki will be the main celebrant of the Mass at St. Agnes Church at 11 a.m., which is next to the school campus. Key-note speaker, Cathy Becker, the director faith formation for St. Agnes Parish, will give a talk titled, "New maps for a new landscape." Her talk will guide participants in looking at the changing landscape of people involved in our faith, find the fixed landmarks, and how to chart a new map with new routes to bring people back to the faith, engage new seekers of the faith, and find hope in our faith. Registration is \$50 and includes morning refreshments and lunch. Register through your parish (forms on the bulletin boards) or find the registration form on dio.org. Questions, contact Janet Zimmerman at Janetzim14@yahoo.com or 217-494-4743.

Join Catholics in our diocese for The Holiest Adventure – father/son edition. The day will be packed with fun activities, Mass, adoration, and delicious food. The father/son edition is Saturday, October 14, and is for dads and their sons in grades 4-9. Both events are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The father/son edition will be at The Villa Catholic Life Center, 1903 E Lake Shore Dr, Springfield, IL 62712. To register, go to dio.org/events. Cost is \$40.00 per mother/daughter or father/son pair. Each additional child is \$5 extra. For questions, email Daniel Heffernan at dheffernan@dio.org



Our parish now has a subscription. It is easy to sign up.
<https://signup.formed.org/>
- Enter St. Mary's Catholic Church- scroll down and click on our parish
- Enter name and email

Family Connection Children learn to trust God's mercy and forgiveness when they experience forgiveness from those closest to them. We hope that we model God's love and forgiveness within our family life. Today's Gospel reminds us that forgiveness is measured by its quality more than its quantity.

Invite your family to consider some recent times when family members sought the forgiveness of another. Ask if there were any statements made that put conditions on our forgiveness such as “I will play this game with you if you apologize for knocking over my blocks” or “I will accept your apology after you clean up your room.” Do we sometimes “keep count” or put conditions on our forgiveness of one another? This is something we may be doing without realizing it.

Read together today's Gospel, Matthew 18:21-35. Ask if we sometimes find ourselves sounding like Peter, concerning ourselves with quantity of forgiveness rather than offering forgiveness abundantly and unconditionally. Reflect upon the parable that Jesus tells. What does the servant do that makes the king so angry? He refuses to forgive his fellow servant the debt that he owes. Because we have all received God's forgiveness, God expects that we will also be forgiving toward others. Jesus' answer to Peter's question is found at the end of the parable. The number of times that we forgive one another is less important than the depth of our forgiveness. We must forgive one another from the heart.

Conclude in prayer together that God's love and forgiveness is evident in your family life. Pray together today's psalm, Psalm 103, or the Lord's Prayer.

Parish Council – Sept. 6

Maintenance –Front handrails painted and sealed. Been fixing some pews. Ed mentioned we need light in kitchen back stair well, light on the front of the rectory needs to be replaced. Pew refinishing was discussed. Father said he had someone from Springfield that does a nice job. He said he would look into how much it cost. It was requested to put brighter lights in the nave of church. Josh will investigate new lights.

Cemetery – the back road needs more rock. John Neu will see about getting a load before winter. Josh is going to trim trees.

PSR -Schedule is made. First day Sept. 17. Protecting God’s Children will also be done this week. Reconciliation on October 15 grades 6-8. Use the following Sunday if needed. Five of the teachers went to a retreat at the Evermode institute. Leslie asked if we could host one of the CORE meetings. Father thought it was a great idea. Leslie will talk with Father to work it setting up a date. The name will now be Parish Families in Faith

Youth Group- Katrina Davis will be taking over. She is thinking about starting in Oct.

Right to Life –40 days for life-Our days are Wed. Sept. 27 and Wed. Oct. 18 from 8-5

CCW- They are going to vote in officers in November.

Old Business

Aug. 19 – Church picnic – It was a good time. We will have a Sunday morning Mass next year along with our Saturday evening. Parish computer purchased. Parish Hall – Ed is getting paper work filled out for raffle. We are currently selling pork chop dinner. Parish shirts is still in the works. We are trying to find out the minimum needed. Eucharistic Encounter days---have some set. Will try to have something every few months.

New Business

Union church service—Do we still want to participate? Father will make more inquiries before a decision is made. Thanks to Justin Conder, John Neu and Terry Hoene for their time on the council. Justin Miller, Dennis Koester and Larry Lieb are coming on the council. Next meeting date: Oct. 4, 2023. All members of the parish are welcome to attend!!!

REFLECTIONS— *Embracing Forgiveness and Empathy*

The First Reading for the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A from Sirach 27:30—28:7 provides a stern warning about the dangers of wrath, anger, and vengeance. It portrays these emotions as chains that bind us and are contrary to the will of God. It is a call to recognize these feelings as human but to actively overcome them through forgiveness and empathy. By letting go of anger, we open our hearts to God’s healing grace, allowing ourselves to be channels of His love and mercy.

The text further emphasizes our shared human condition, urging us to see ourselves in others. How can we withhold mercy from someone like ourselves? We must extend compassion and understanding to others, recognizing the innate human dignity in everyone. It challenges us to mirror our own needs and desires in others, thus acting with mercy and love.

Lastly, the reading from Sirach urges us to remember God’s covenant and commandments. This isn’t a simple rulebook but a way of living that reflects God’s love and mercy. It requires a daily commitment to overlook faults, seek reconciliation, and truly love our neighbors. The reading from Sirach inspires us to align our lives with these principles, striving to create a world where forgiveness and empathy are not just virtues but our very way of life.

Understanding Forgiveness

The parable of the Unforgiving Servant in the Gospel for the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A (Matthew 18:21-35) conveys a significant lesson about forgiveness. Though the details of slavery and debt bondage may seem distant, the core message resonates with contemporary readers: God’s mercy is abundant, and we must pass that mercy on to others. Just as the king forgives the servant’s debt, we too have been forgiven by God, and we are called to extend that same grace to others.

The parable takes a serious turn when the forgiven servant fails to show mercy to another. This harsh act is met with severe consequences, reflecting a spiritual truth: If we do not forgive others, we risk losing the grace we have received. The Gospel calls Catholics to be mindful of how we treat others, recognizing that our actions reflect our relationship with God. Forgiveness is not optional but a necessary expression of our faith.

Lastly, the Gospel challenges the tendency to quantify or limit forgiveness. Peter’s question about how many times to forgive is answered by Jesus with a call to unlimited mercy. God’s forgiveness is not constrained by numbers or conditions; it’s a boundless grace that transforms us. For Catholics, this is a reminder to approach others with the same unlimited compassion and forgiveness, reflecting God’s own boundless love in our daily lives.

The Essence of Forgiveness

Forgiveness is central to the readings for the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A. Both readings convey that forgiveness is not merely a personal virtue but a spiritual principle deeply intertwined with our relationship with God. It’s depicted as a path towards healing and grace, rather than a sign of weakness or concession. As we forgive others, we reflect God’s infinite mercy and open ourselves to His healing love.

The readings highlight the reciprocal nature of forgiveness: our willingness to forgive others is connected to the forgiveness we receive from God. In Sirach, we are urged to forgive others if we wish to be forgiven by the Lord. Similarly, in Matthew’s Gospel, the king’s forgiveness of the servant’s debt is conditioned on the servant’s willingness to forgive others. This theme calls on us as Catholics to recognize forgiveness as a two-way street, a mutual exchange that reflects our understanding of God’s mercy.

The readings collectively summon us to embrace forgiveness as a way of life. Whether it’s overcoming anger and vengeance as in Sirach or learning from the parable’s harsh lesson about the consequences of withholding mercy, the message is clear: we must be as merciful as God is. For Catholics, this is not just a moral guideline but a profound spiritual calling to live our lives in a way that mirrors the very nature of God. This embodiment of forgiveness fosters compassion, empathy, and a deeper connection with our divine Creator.

Reflection Questions

- Reflect on a time when anger or vengeance controlled your actions. How did this affect your relationship with others and with God? How can you work to overcome these emotions in the future?
- How do you practice empathy and compassion in your daily life? How can recognizing the innate human dignity in others help you to be more forgiving and understanding?
- What steps are you taking to align your life with the principles of forgiveness and empathy as depicted in the reading from Sirach? How do you actively overlook faults and seek reconciliation?
- Consider the parable of the Unforgiving Servant. How does your own forgiveness (or lack thereof) towards others reflect your relationship with God? What might you change in your approach to others?
- How do you relate to Jesus’ call for unlimited mercy? How can you strive to reflect God’s boundless forgiveness in your daily interactions?
- Reflect on the interconnectedness of forgiveness between God and others. How does your willingness to forgive shape your spiritual life? What steps can you take to truly embody forgiveness as a way of life?
- How can you further embrace forgiveness, compassion, and empathy in your daily routine to mirror the nature of God? What practices might you adopt to foster a deeper connection with the divine?