

SAT 4pm	Dec. 6	Dec. 13	Dec. 20	Dec. 27	Jan. 3
Servers	Madalyne Brown Tryston Brown Abby Brown	Anna Brown Aubrey Brown Adeline Brown	Trey Brown Isaac Wells Fred Dust	Madalyne Brown Tryston Brown Abby Brown	Anna Brown Aubrey Brown Adeline Brown
Lector	Sara Roepke	Doug Brown	Christy Brown	Katrina Davis	Mike Holland
Usher	Don Brown Mike Holland	Jason Wells Justin Miller	Doug Brown Don Brown	Jason Wells Mike Holland	Justin Miller Don Brown
Ministers of Holy Communion	Donna Davis Mike Holland Katrina Davis	Beth Spannagel Sara Roepke Don Brown	Kathy Brown Rosemary Holland Mike Holland	Donna Davis Katrina Davis Beth Spannagel	Sara Roepke Don Brown Kathy Brown
Gift Bearers	Kathy Brown	Don Brown Family	Doug Brown Family	Jesse Davis Family	Jason Wells Family
SUN 8am	Dec. 7 Christmas Party	Dec. 14 Families in Faith	Dec. 21 Families in Faith	Dec. 28	Jan. 4
Servers	Garrett Hoene Braxton Hoene Jacob Vonderheide	Wade Conder Olivia Vonderheide Zoey Conder	Wylie Miller Daisy Miller Hunter Buehler	Garrett Hoene Braxton Hoene Jacob Vonderheide	Wade Conder Olivia Vonderheide Zoey Conder
Lector	Terry Hoene	Lisa Thompson	Kathy Adams	Terry Hoene	Lisa Thompson
Ushers	Dennis Koester Shawn Buehler	Joe Conder Gene Doedtman	Tom Doedtman Josh Miller	Justin Conder John Neu	Don Antrim Jason Vonderheide
Ministers of Holy Communion	Barb Vonderheide Lisa Waldhoff Roy Waldhoff	Leslie Kemme Timber Miller Trevor Floyd	Shawn Buehler Linda Doedtman Lisa Thompson	Barb Vonderheide Lisa Waldhoff Roy Waldhoff	Leslie Kemme Timber Miller Trevor Floyd
Gift Bearers	George Diana Conder	Jason Vonderheide Fam.	Tom Helen Doedtman	Ed Leslie Kemme	Allen Geannine Kessler
Greeters	Charley Rhonda Vonderheide	Barb Vonderheide	Roy Lisa Waldhoff	Jason Pruemmer Family	Larry Lieb
Money Counters	Stremming Conder	Doedtman Shadwell	Waldhoff Hoene	Kemme Adams	Bales/Richards Hackman/Sheehan
WED. 8am Lectors	Dec. 10	Dec. 17	Dec. 31	Jan. 21	Jan. 28
	Mike Holland	Linda Doedtman	Irene Koester	Alice Richards	Mike Holland

There are copies of the minister list on the bulletin boards. Please take one so you have phone numbers to call a sub when you need one.

Please remember to sign in in the sacristy before mass so we know all ministries are covered.

Sacrament of Marriage-Please contact our parish office (1-844-536-6514) at least 9 months before your anticipated wedding date to begin your spiritual preparation. One or both persons must be registered and actively living their faith. All couples planning to be married at our parish must attend a Pre-Cana program, Natural Family Planning program and FOCCUS evaluation.

Sacrament of Baptism - A family must be registered & actively living their faith. Godparents must also be registered in a Catholic parish or other Christian church & actively living their faith. A Baptism Class is required for all parents. We ask that both parents attend this class together. Godparents are also encouraged and welcome to attend. For more information, please call the parish office (1-844-536-6514).



+Bishop Thomas John Paprocki  
[www.dio.org](http://www.dio.org)

**Annunciation Church of B.V.M.**  
St. Mary's Catholic Church, Shumway, IL  
Fr. Adam Prichard, Pastor  
[aprichard@dio.org](mailto:aprichard@dio.org)  
PO Box 96, Shumway, IL 62461  
1-844-536-6514  
Website: [www.stmaryshumway.org](http://www.stmaryshumway.org)  
Email: [stmarysshumway@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysshumway@gmail.com)



Third Sunday of Advent-December 14, 2025

MISSION

*Be a growing community of disciples, centered on the Eucharist, that imitates Jesus by proclaiming the Gospel and serving our neighbors with love.*

VISION

*Building the Body of Christ through families of faith with vibrant spiritual formation, joyful community fellowship and service, and a welcoming presence to all.*

Shumway Mass Times:

Tuesday – 5:15 pm  
Adoration 4-5 pm  
Wednesday 8:00 am  
Saturday 4:00 pm  
Reconciliation-3pm  
Sunday 8:00 am

Green Creek Mass Times:

Thursday – 5:15 pm  
Adoration 4-5 pm  
Friday – 8 am  
Saturday – 6 pm  
Sunday – 10:00 am

No Adoration/Mass when it falls on a Holy Day

**December Committee:**

Leslie Kemme, Rhonda Vonderheide, Daphne Hoffman, Kathy Adams, Stephanie Pape

**Advent Prayer**

Come, long-expected Jesus.  
Excite in me a wonder at the wisdom and power of Your Father and ours.  
Receive my prayer as part of my service of the Lord who enlists me in God's own work for justice.

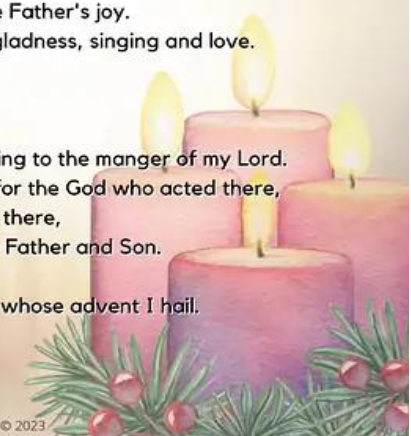
Come, long-expected Jesus.  
Excite in me a hunger for peace:  
peace in the world,  
peace in my home,  
peace in myself.

Come, long-expected Jesus.  
Excite in me a joy responsive to the Father's joy.  
I seek His will so I can serve with gladness, singing and love.

Come, long-expected Jesus.  
Excite in me the joy  
and love and peace it is right to bring to the manger of my Lord.  
Raise in me, too, sober reverence for the God who acted there,  
hearty gratitude for the life begun there,  
and spirited resolution to serve the Father and Son.

I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, whose advent I hail.

Amen



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This Sunday is the fourth Sunday in Advent. I don’t know about you, but this year the Season of Advent has seemed to go by rather quickly. I’m sure it has to do with the fact that our lives are so busy in our modern day. It seems to be a common theme in many of the movies that we consider classics, and are played at this time of year, that of remembering days gone by, a few of which are The Christmas Carol, The Christmas Story, and It’s a Wonderful Life. All of these draw our minds back to years gone by and possibly bring us back to our own favorite childhood memories. We should get into this mode of remembering, in this Advent Season. It’s precisely through remembering that we are able to put ourselves back in that scene. This will be helpful to us because in just a few short days we will celebrate Christmas, the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is the most important event in human history outside of Creation itself. We should make time to sit and contemplate this great event and all its mysteries. Miraculous, absolutely, there is no shortage of miraculous things that happen as God works in our world to orchestrate this event. We often pass by it too quickly, maybe because it’s so common to us. We grew up with this our whole lives, but to say and consider that a baby is born of a virgin should really give us pause; this is not at all common. How is this at all possible? All the miraculous things that led up to this event are to make us stop and think about what is really happening here. The God of creation, the Most High God, who is outside of time, is choosing to lower himself to enter our humanity. The Word Incarnate puts on flesh to redeem us from something that is out of our control, sin and death. God doesn’t need to do this, but he does it out of Love for us.

Take time to think about that and let that soak in. When is the last time you let yourself be in “Awe” of God?

My prayer for you is this: that the miracle of Christmas will penetrate your minds and hearts and truly understand the vast Love that God has for his people, us, his sons and daughters and to truly appreciate that Love for the gift that it is.

Merry Christmas,  
In service to Christ, in service to you,  
Deacon Candidate Jesse R Davis



**PRAYER LIST: Please remember them in your prayers!**



Lottie McCormick	Elsie McKay	Sally Wakefield
Walker Clark	Kathy Miller	Pat Kuhns
Steve Fritts	David Brown	Bill Hamilton
Kenny Hille	Kathy Wakefield	Christie Dust
Eloise P.	Larry Nation	Helen Kollinger
Trevor Roy	Beth Hewing	Bill Nuxoll
Tony Bierman	Jim Gordon	Cinda Held
Tori Schairbaum	Don Kemme	Marita Elson
Tom Laue	Don Clark	
Jerry Worman	Steve Moore	
Mardell Sheehan		

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

**Dear Padre** December 21, 2025

*I went to confession, and then, months later, my priest was removed for alcoholism and theft. Is my confession still worthy?*

Your confession is not dependent on the worthiness or the unworthiness of the priest. Your confession is made to Jesus; the priest is a witness who pronounces the words of absolution that Jesus intended in the sacrament. “From the moment that a sacrament is celebrated in accordance with the intention of the Church, the power of Christ and his Spirit acts in and through it, independently of the personal holiness of the minister” (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1128).

The question of the efficacy of the sacrament and the unworthiness of the minister who performs the sacrament in the name of the Church is not new. During the time of persecution, in the early centuries of the Church, some people, including priests and bishops, avoided martyrdom by offering the required oblation to Caesar. Later, they repented and returned to the Christian community, a community that included the surviving family and friends of the men and women who were martyred. The question was asked, and with some animated energy, “How could these ministers who sinned to save their own lives now represent the Church?” The answer, arrived at with patience and discernment, is that the minister is only the representative of the sacrament, not the source of the sacrament. Jesus is faithful, even when his ministers have been unfaithful.

●Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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**Weekly Offering.....12-14-25**

Adult.....\$1780.00  
Loose..... 293.00  
Immaculate Conception....404.00  
Retired religious.....270.00  
Christmas Offering.....100.00  
Xmas flowers.....75.00  
**Total.....\$2922.00**  
**Parish Hall update \$139,575.13**



EVERY weekend, we will be collecting food for local food pantries. You can find the donation tote in the cry room.

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

Cemetery Committee  
John Adams 618-322-2874  
Matt Childerson 217-254-5896  
Daphne Hoffman 217-821-7268

Funeral Meal Coordinators  
Leslie Kemme 217-821-3399  
Dot Thomas 217-259-8560

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



Once again our parish family stepped up. This year we able to bring a bit more joy this Christmas to 32 children. Remember to keep the children and their families in your prayers!!

**MONDAY**  
December 22  
Advent Weekday  
1 Sm 1:24–28  
Lk 1:46–56  
**TUESDAY**  
December 23  
Advent Weekday  
Mal 3:1–4, 23–24  
Lk 1:57–66  
**WEDNESDAY**  
December 24  
Advent Weekday  
2 Sm 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16  
Lk 1:67–79  
**THURSDAY**  
December 25  
The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)  
Is 52:7–10  
Heb 1:1–6  
Jn 1:1–18  
or 1:1–5, 9–14  
**FRIDAY**  
December 26  
St. Stephen, the First Martyr  
Acts 6:8–10; 7:54–59  
Mt 10:17–22  
**SATURDAY**  
December 27  
St. John, Apostle and Evangelist  
1 Jn 1:1–4  
Jn 20:1a, 2–8  
**SUNDAY**  
December 28  
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph  
Sir 3:2–6, 12–14



Effingham CYA Group Presents:

*Ask a Priest Anything*

with special guest:

**Fr. Ambrose Criste, O.Praem.**

For young adults 21+  
Monday Dec 22 @7p

Effingham Event Center  
Knights Meeting Room

**Feast of St. Sebastian: Men's faith, Beer, and Bourbon Night** – Men are invited to an evening of fraternity at the Villa Maria Conference Center -Tuesday, January 20: 5:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. Cost: \$10  
Registration Deadline: January 16  
Contact: events@dio.org. Register at: dio.org/events

**DATE NIGHT**

Join us for the monthly deanery date night!

**Sunday, January 18th  
4pm-7pm  
at Saint Aloysius Church (Bishop Creek)**

4pm Prayer Service in Bishop Church  
Followed by our speakers, Kramer & Andrea Soderberg,  
and catered dinner from Niemerg's in the parish hall

Childcare provided  
\$30 per couple

Address:  
19812 E 1000<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Dieterich, IL

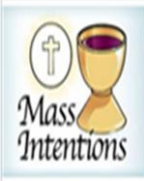
**RSVP here  
by 1/12:**



**Year End Giving Resources & Reminders - Year-End Gifts Due by December 31st**  
**QCDs:** Give to St. Mary's from your IRA- Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs), also known as IRA Charitable Rollovers, are the savviest way for those age 70½ or older to use their IRAs to maximize their charitable impact. And, if you are subject to a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), an IRA gift can help you meet your RMD without increasing your taxable income. Visit [bit.ly/ParishQCD](http://bit.ly/ParishQCD) to learn more about this giving option and to initiate a QCD gift to St. Mary's. For specific questions about how IRA giving may impact your personal situation, consult a financial or tax advisor.  
**Bequests:** Have you documented your final wishes? Creating your estate plan is an act of care that can help you protect your loved ones, communicate healthcare and financial decisions about the future, and establish a legacy that honors your Catholic faith. Our new estate planning tool at [www.freewill.com/dioceseofspringfield](http://www.freewill.com/dioceseofspringfield) can help you write your legal will for free and makes it easy to make a sustaining gift to your parish home, ensuring the ministry of St. Mary continues for generations to come. For specific questions about how estate planning may impact your personal situation, consult a tax advisor or lawyer.  
If you have any questions, contact Karen Kemme.


**Looking for a fun way to celebrate New Year's Eve?** Join St. Isidore Parish at the St. Aloysius Parish Hall (19812 E 1000th Ave, Dieterich) for an unforgettable evening of laughter, great food, and festive fun! Doors open at 6:30 PM with a Beef & Pork Loin Dinner served at 7:30 PM. The theme is The Roaring Twenties—celebrating 100 years since Prohibition with vintage flair. Dress as a glamorous flapper, a dashing gangster in pinstripes, or simply come as you are and enjoy the show from the sidelines. There will be a cash bar (cash only), prizes for best dressed, and plenty of fun activities throughout the night. We're reserving tables, so gather your group and book your spot early for a night to remember! Contact 217-663-2382 or 217-821-5897 for ticket sales.

† This symbol denotes-deceased.

 Saturday, Dec. 20 - Parishioner of St. Mary's  
Sunday, Dec. 21 - †Ron Worman by George Diana Conder  
Tuesday, Dec. 23 - †Jeffery Fred by Teresa Tegeler  
Christmas Eve - 5pm -†Ed & Myrtle Savickas by Josh & Timber Miller Family  
Christmas Day – 8am - †Mike Hartke family by Sally Wakefield  
Saturday, Dec. 27 – Deceased Members of the Bolton, Montello, Stump, Witken Families  
Sunday, Dec. 28 – †Marita Kemme by Mardell Sheehan  
Tuesday, Dec. 30 –  
Wednesday, Dec. 31 -†John (Mike) Conder by Joe Kay Conder

To schedule a mass intention please use a mass intention envelope. They are in the cry room in the “mailbox” outside the bathroom. There is also a calendar there with available dates. Drop your intention in the collection basket. If you have any questions, contact Donna Davis @1-844-536-6514.

Happy Birthday



Jonathan Wakefield 12-20  
Josh Miller 12-23  
Kyle McCormick 12-23  
Don Brown 12-25  
David Bales 12-25

**Holiday Mass Schedule-**  
Christmas Eve  
- Shumway- 5pm      Green Creek- Midnight  
Christmas Day  
-Shumway 8:00 am      Green Creek 10:00 am  
Solemnity of Mary  
-vigil Dec. 31 - 5pm Green Creek  
Jan. 1 - 8 am Shumway  
Ministries for our holiday masses will be all volunteer. Sign up in the cry room if you would like to participate in mass as a liturgical minister at any of those masses.



We are happy to welcome a newest members to our family-  
Brad Koester and Belinda Bledsoe.

Special Note-There will be no 8am mass on the following Wednesdays-Dec. 24, Jan. 7 and Jan. 14. There will also be no adoration or mass on the following Tuesdays-Jan. 6 and Jan. 13.

**Families in Faith**  
On December 21, 2025, we will have PSR and will be decorating for Christmas that morning. Anyone interested in helping is invited to join us. All are welcome!!



*Our parish family extends its sympathies to Roger & Brittany Nuxoll family on the passing of Roger's uncle, Ray Nuxoll.*

*We also extend sympathies to Sally Wakefield and family on the passing of Sally's sister, Margie Apke.*

*May they rest in peace.*

**CCW ANNUAL CASSEROLE DINNER**  
**Tuesday, January 6, 2026 @ 6pm**



The CCW at St. Mary's Shumway invites all the ladies of Shumway to bring their favorite casserole. Please come to the church basement at the side door. We are asking that the ladies label their casserole and provide the recipe. The CCW invites women from Sacred Heart, St. Anthony, and Green Creek to enjoy the evening with us. We will enjoy good food, fellowship, and a special guest to entertain us. THANK YOU

**BE ON THE LOOK OUT**  
**2026 Contribution Envelopes**

In 2026, we will be transitioning over to a new envelope provider: National Church Solutions (or NCS). The offertory envelopes will be mailed directly to your home every other month. The first envelopes for January and February will arrive towards the end of December. If you are not on the envelope mailing list but would like to be added, please contact Karen Kemme or Donna Davis.



ATTENTION-When you leave church please make sure the door shuts behind you. The cold weather causes them to stick and not close.  
Thank you.

**O Antiphons**

The "O Antiphons" are prayed for 7 days in preparation for Christmas: December 17–23. For those familiar with the Liturgy of the Hours, these are the antiphons used with the Magnificat each day. They are based on Isaiah's prophecies and reveal the different titles given to the Messiah.  
(Even though we are a few days behind, pray them anyway.)

December 17 Isaiah 11:2–3; 28:29  
O Wisdom of our God Most High,  
guiding creation with power and love:  
come to teach us the path of knowledge!

December 18 Isaiah 11:4–5; 33:22  
O Leader of the House of Israel,  
giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai:  
come to rescue us with your mighty power!

December 19 Isaiah 1:1; 11:10  
O Root of Jesse's stem,  
sign of God's love for all his people:  
come to save us without delay!

December 20 Isaiah 9:6; 22:22  
O Key of David,  
opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom:  
come and free the prisoners of darkness!

December 21 Isaiah 9:1  
O Radiant Dawn,  
splendor of eternal light, sun of justice:  
come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

December 22 Isaiah 9:5; 2:4  
O King of all nations and keystone of the Church:  
come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!

December 23 Isaiah 7:14  
O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law:  
come to save us, Lord our God!  
<https://holywisdommonastery.org/o-antiphons/>

We will be taking parish directory photos January 8, 9, and 10.



**AND MAKE AN APPOINTMENT!!!**



Below is the link where you can sign up for an appointment. The appointments are in 10 minute increments. We ask that you arrive 10-15 minutes early to fill out address information for the directory.

Thurs. Jan. 8 –4-8pm

Fri. Jan. 9 –Noon-9pm

Sat. Jan. 10 –9-2 pm

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044FAAAF23A4FBC16-61223714-directory>

If you need help getting signed up, please call Donna Davis @ 217-690-2640.

Parish Directory Information from the Photographer:  
My name is Jennifer I will be your Photographer, and I also build the book.  
Great news I will not be pressuring you to buy any photos we are going to snap your photo make sure you like it and name it for the directory on the computer.  
If you like the photo, you may purchase it. Your options to purchase are  
1-5x7-\$10.00  
4-wallets-\$10.00  
2-3.5x5-\$10.00  
1-8x10-\$20.00  
Or I can email you your image for \$20.00  
Your Parish has graciously decided to provide one directory per family, if you choose to purchased another directory you may for \$20.00.  
Any Questions about ordering/prices please call Ja-Fa Photo @ 2178212751 ask for Jennifer.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ---**

We need greeters to help with paperwork the day of the photos. Shifts will be in 2-hour increments. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board at the back of church, or you may CONTACT DONNA DAVIS IF YOU have any questions 217-690-2640