

SAT 4pm	Jan. 3	Jan. 10	Jan. 17	Jan. 24	Jan. 31
Servers	Anna Brown Aubrey Brown Adeline Brown	Issac Wells Fred Dust Trey Brown	Madalyne Brown Tryston Brown Abby Brown	Anna Brown Aubrey Brown Adeline Brown	Issac Wells Fred Dust Trey Brown
Lector	Mike Holland	Alaina Miller	Donna Davis	Sara Roepke	Doug Brown
Usher	Justin Miller Don Brown	Doug Brown Jason Wells	Mike Holland Justin Miller	Don Brown Doug Brown	Jason Wells Mike Holland
Ministers of Holy Communion	Sara Roepke Don Brown Kathy Brown	Rosemary Holland Mike Holland Katrina Davis	Beth Spannagel Sara Roepke Don Brown	Kathy Brown Donna Davis Mike Holland	Rosemary Holland Katrina Davis Beth Spannagel
Gift Bearers	Jason Wells Family	Kathy Brown	Joe & Fred Dust	Don Brown Family	Doug Brown Family
SUN 8am	Jan. 4	Jan. 11 Families in Faith	Jan. 18	Jan. 25 Families in Faith	Feb. 1
Servers	Wade Conder Olivia Vonderheide Zoey Conder	Hunter Buehler Garrett Hoene Braxton Hoene	Wylie Miller Daisy Miller Jacob Vonderheide	Wade Conder Olivia Vonderheide Zoey Conder	Hunter Buehler Garrett Hoene Braxton Hoene
Lector	Lisa Thompson	Kathy Adams	Terry Hoene	Lisa Thompson	Kathy Adams
Ushers	Don Antrim Jason Vonderheide	Charly Vonderheide Larry Lieb	Jim Waldhoff Trevor Floyd	Dennis Koester Joe Conder	Shawn Buehler Gene Doedtman
Ministers of Holy Communion	Leslie Kemme Timber Miller Trevor Floyd	Vanessa Floyd Shawn Buehler Linda Doedtman	Lisa Thompson Barb Vonderheide Leslie Kemme	Shawn Buehler Trevor Floyd Vanessa Floyd	Timber Miller Linda Doedtman Lisa Thompson
Gift Bearers	Allen Geannine Kessler	Jim Mary Miller	John Karen Neu	Greg Michelle Spannagel	Justin Conder Family
Greeters	Larry Lieb	Don Marcella Antrim	George Diana Conder	Tom Helen Doedtman	Ed Leslie Kemme
Money Counters	Bales/Richards Hackman/Sheehan	Stremming Conder	Doedtman Shadwell	Hoene	Kemme Adams
WED. 8am Lectors	Jan. 21	Jan. 28	Feb. 4	Feb. 11	Feb. 18
	Alice Richards	Irene Koester	Linda Doedtman	Mike Holland	Alice Richards

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

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



The Epiphany of the Lord January 4, 2026

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

St. Anselm's Prayer

O my God teach my heart where and how to seek you, where and how to find you...You are my God and you are my All and I have never seen you. You have made me and remade me, you have bestowed on me all the good things I possess, Still I do not know you...

I have not yet done that for which I was made....Teach me to seek you... I cannot seek you unless you teach me or find you unless you show yourself to me. Let me seek you in my desire, let me desire you in my seeking. Let me find you by loving you, let me love you when I find you.



January Committee:
Marcella Antrim, Rosemary Holland,
Mary Miller, Jennifer Bales,
Tricia Holland

This prayer, invoking the spirit of Epiphany, seeks divine guidance in understanding and aligning with God's desires. It expresses a deep yearning to know and find God, acknowledging that despite God's gifts and creation, the seeker has yet to truly understand their purpose.

The prayer, attributed to St. Anselm, reflects on the human inability to seek or find God without divine intervention. It pleads for God to teach the heart to seek and find Him, emphasizing the desire to know God more deeply. The prayer connects with the Epiphany theme of seeking and discovering Christ, aspiring to bring gifts – not just physical, but of the heart and spirit – that are in harmony with God's will.

One of the misconceptions about Catholics is that the Church doesn't want the faithful to read the Bible. That can come from a time when the Scriptures were fastened through the ambos. However, the fastening of Scriptures was not because the Church didn't want Catholics to know and understand the Bible; it was because, during that period of time, books (of any kind) were incredibly valuable, particularly before printing presses were common, and were at risk of being stolen and sold. It would be very expensive to replace the Scriptures used for Mass. Also, the ability to read and right wasn't incredibly widespread; literacy wasn't even highly prioritized among the nobility, typically they had multiple people in their services to read and write for them. And this is why stained glass in churches became so important, in a set order, so that people would be able to understand the sequence of events in the Bible, and so they could understand it for themselves.

Another avenue that the misconception about the Church not wanting the faithful to read the Bible can come from the fact that, in many aspects, we have the authority of Church teaching to help us understand the Bible. Some people may believe that we should just interpret the Scriptures for ourselves, and all reasonable people of faith should be able to come to a universal agreement on what is meant in a particular passage or Book in the Bible. Well, if that were the case, there wouldn't be nearly 200 major Protestant denominations or denominational categories in the United States alone. That's not to dunk on our brothers and sisters in Christ, it's just to say, a universal understanding of how to understand the Bible needs an authority other than just myself, an individual. And even when we have the authority of the Church, there are disagreements or quibbles about how to interpret certain passages. But one more thing about understanding the Scriptures: Jesus taught His disciples along the way to Emmaus beginning with Moses and the Prophets what was said in the Scriptures concerning Himself (Luke 24:25-27).

That doesn't mean there's secret knowledge about Scripture, about Jesus Himself. No seminarian or member of the clergy is taught from a secret book that the faithful don't have access to. We read the same Bible. Yes, we also read Commentaries on Scripture, and history and methods of interpretation and understanding. However, especially at a time of widespread literacy, anyone can access those works and grow in understanding. And that's a good thing! Because the more we learn about Scripture, and the context and the history that is found in the Bible and in archeology, the more we're able to realize God's great love for us. That is beautiful. Whether you listen to The Bible in A Year with Fr. Mike Schmitz, or are involved with a Bible Study, or reflect on the readings for the weekdays or Sundays, or all of those things, the more we, everyone, clergy and parishioners alike, are familiar with the Bible, the more we can understand God's love for us, and what a gift that is.

Fr. Adam

PRAYER LIST: Please remember them in your prayers!



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

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

Dear Padre January 4, 2026

I recently lost my husband of sixty years. I prayed for him through his four-year illness. Since he has died, I cannot pray. Any advice for me?

My heartfelt condolences on your profound loss. When someone we love dies, a part of us dies too. Sometimes, the trauma is so severe that it can even affect our relationship with God.

Psychiatrist Elisabeth Kübler-Ross identified five stages of grief. In the denial stage, some people can't accept the reality of the death. It becomes too much to handle. In the anger stage, some may question their belief in God—especially if their prayer requests (such as, "Please God, if you heal my loved one, I will...") weren't successful in the bargaining stage. People in the depression stage feel overwhelmed by the reality of the loss and may not always feel like connecting with others—even with God in prayer. However, in the acceptance stage, emotions stabilize, and a person comes to terms with their new reality. Nothing makes up for the absence of a loved one, but people manage to cope and live on.

It's because you loved so deeply that the loss feels so deep. God accepts you completely; God understands how you feel. He wants you to be at peace and live life fully. Our compassionate God yearns to help console you and offer assistance in your healing process until you can embrace him again in prayer.

●Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

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Weekly Offering.....12-28-25

Adult.....	\$3035.00
Loose.....	728.00
Catholic Children's Home.....	230.00
Cemetery.....	40.00
Christmas Offering.....	90.00
Retired Religious.....	60.00
Immaculate Conception.....	10.00
All Saints Day.....	10.00
Xmas flowers.....	40.00
Total.....	\$4163.00

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

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.

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

MONDAY
January 5
St. John
Neumann,
Bishop
1 Jn 3:22—4:6
Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

TUESDAY
January 6
Christmas
1 Jn 4:7—10 Mk
6:34—44

WEDNESDAY
January 7
Christmas
1 Jn 4:11—18
Mk 6:45—52

THURSDAY
January 8
Christmas
1 Jn 4:19—5:4
Lk 4:14—22a

FRIDAY
January 9
Christmas
1 Jn 5:5—13
Lk 5:12—16

SATURDAY
January 10
Christmas
1 Jn 5:14—21
Jn 3:22—30

SUNDAY
January 11
The Baptism of
the Lord
Is 42:1—4, 6—7
Acts 10:34—38
Mt 3:13—17

Effingham Catholic Young Adults

JAN 13TH @7PM

HOLY HOUR HAPPY HOUR

For young adults ages 21-35

Confession available

HOLY HOUR 7pm @ St. Anthony 101 E. Virginia Ave. Effingham Evening Prayer (Vespers) @ 7:45p

HAPPY HOUR 8pm @ The Office Pub 105 E. Jefferson Ave. Effingham

Sign up now for Illinois Pro-Life Mass and attend Illinois Pro-Life March afterward – On Thursday, March 19,
 The day begins with Mass at 10 a.m. at the Exposition Building on the grounds of the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield, 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.
 After the Mass, there is a rally at the capitol at 1 p.m. with guest speakers, and then a march around the capitol at 2 p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will also be going on at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception from noon to 5 p.m. Confessions at the Cathedral will also be available from 1:30 – 5 p.m.

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 1000th Ave
Dieterich, IL

RSVP here by 1/12:

World Marriage Day – Date Night Ideas, Couples Connection Plan, and more! The observances of National Marriage Week (Feb. 7-14) and World Marriage Day (Sunday, Feb. 8) are an opportunity for you and your spouse to focus on building a culture of life and love that begins with supporting and promoting marriage and the family. Check out <https://www.marriageweek.org/> for more info!!

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Pilgrimage to Poland with Bishop Thomas John Paprocki – Join Bishop Thomas John Paprocki and Father Jerome Koutnik on a 9-day pilgrimage to Poland, April 6–14, 2026, “In the Footsteps of St. John Paul II.” Highlights include visits to Krakow, Czestochowa, Zakopane, Auschwitz, Wieliczka, and Wadowice—the birthplace of St. John Paul II. The pilgrimage features daily Mass, first-class hotels, private luxury transportation, professional guides, and all admission fees. Cost: \$4,250 per person from Chicago, IL (includes round-trip airfare, taxes, meals, and more). For details or to register, visit pilgrimtravel.info.

[†] This symbol denotes-deceased.

Saturday, Jan. 3 - [†]Dorothy Ruholl
 Sunday, Jan. 4 - Parishioners of St. Mary's
 Saturday, Jan. 10 – +Marita Kemme by Family
 Sunday, Jan. 11 – +Dean Gengler by Family
 Saturday, Jan. 17 – Parishioners of St. Mary's
 Sunday, Jan. 18 – +Violet Pautler by Duane Joyce Shadwell
 Tuesday, Jan. 20-
 Wednesday, Jan. 21 - +Virginia 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

Brad Koester 1-3
 Bev Storm 1-5
 Doug Krueger 1-5
 Mardell Sheehan 1-6
 Dan Woods 1-7
 Adeline Brown 1-8

Families in Faith
Jan. 11 and Jan. 25

Bible Study @ St. Mary's, Shumway
“*A Journey Through Church History.*”
 Next meeting Jan. 7, 2026

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**

Our parish family extends its sympathies to the family and friends of Sally Wakefield.
May she rest in peace.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:30 am, Wednesday, January 7, 2026 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Shumway, with burial to follow in the church cemetery. Visitation will be held from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at Bauer Funeral Home in Effingham.

How to make 2026 your BYY (Best Year Yet!)

SonRise may be the answer! Calling All Men.

Treat yourself to a tasty hot breakfast AND some insight, inspiration, support and friendship to assist you in developing your relationship with God. Know that His love is truly to help you be the best version of you. You are a man after God's own heart. Come for Hot Breakfast on Friday, January 9, 6:15 AM, prayer, program and discussion from 6:30 – 7:30 AM, at the St. Anthony Parish Center, Effingham.

We'll kick off a powerful new semester focused on deep spiritual transformation. It's a call to examine our own response and begin the path of true change. Don't miss it! No registration or cost, just show up!

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



The Effingham Area Right to Life is hosting its 50th ANNUAL PRO-LIFE BREAKFAST on Sunday, January 18th from 7am-Noon. The event will be held at the Teutopolis Banquet Hall (210 Pearl St, Teutopolis, IL). Free-will donations will be accepted, and you'll enjoy whole hog sausage, eggs, pancakes, homemade breads, and drinks. There will be numerous basket raffles, quilt raffle, and a 50/50 drawing.

EARTL is accepting donations of cinnamon rolls, breads, and muffins. These can be dropped off on Saturday, Jan. 17, from Noon-4pm at the Teutopolis Banquet Hall.

To volunteer for a shift, please text Susan Vogt at (217) 663-2084. For more information about the breakfast follow "Effingham Area Right to Life" on Facebook.

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 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 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.

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.

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

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/10C044FAAFAF23A4FBC16-61223714-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.

Mass for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children and Deanery Pro-life Meeting – St. Francis Church in Teutopolis will host a pro-life Mass at 6:30 PM on Thursday, January 22. The U.S. Bishops ask that January 22 be a day of prayer for the full restoration of the legal guarantee of the right to life, and of penance for violations to the dignity of the human person committed through acts of abortion. A pro-life Rosary will begin at 6:00 PM prior to Mass. Following Mass, the Deanery Pro-life Meeting will be held in St. Clare Hall, adjoining the church. Pro-life events and issues will be discussed and refreshments will be served.