

Welcome to the QUAD PARISHES!

ST. MARY'S, SACRED HEART, VISITATION, & ST. SEBASTIAN

PASTOR: REVEREND TEDDY ADUKUS

TADUKUS@DIO.ORG

QUADPARISHES1.ORG

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time *August 23, 2026*



MASS TIMES

If you are new to our parish please visit our website www.quadparishes1.org to register. We look forward to meeting you. The office is located at 306 E. Birch St., PO Box 20, New Berlin, IL 62670.

CONTACT US

PARISH OFFICE: 217-488-3545

HOURS: 8:30AM-1:30 PM Monday-Friday
secretary@quadparishes1.org

Weekdays:

Mon. 8:00AM Visitation
Tues. 5:30PM St. Mary's
6:00PM Adoration
Wed. 8:00AM Sacred Heart
Fri. 8:00AM St. Sebastian
No Mass on Thursday

Weekends:

Saturday:
4:00PM Visitation
5:45PM St. Sebastian
Sunday:
8:00AM Sacred Heart
10:00AM St. Mary's

Confession Times-Sat.- 3:00-3:40 PM Visitation
Tues.-6:00-6:30 PM St. Mary's

Other times by appointment

Pastor's Pen

"YOU ARE THE CHRIST" ... "YOU ARE PETER, UPON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"

This Sunday's Gospel invites us to reflect on Simon Peter, the man whom Jesus calls the "Rock" and to whom he entrusts the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven.

As Jesus prepares the community that will continue his mission in the world, he gathers around himself the Twelve Apostles. Among them, Simon Peter gradually comes to the forefront. He is not a scholar or a powerful man. He is a mere fisherman, familiar with hard work, rough seas and tired hands. He is spontaneous, he is passionate and sometimes impulsive. Yet, it is precisely this ordinary man whom Jesus chooses for an extraordinary responsibility.

At Caesarea Philippi, Jesus asks his disciples two deeply personal questions: "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" and then, He goes direct and personal with them, "But who do you say that I am?" The disciples repeat what they have heard from others: John the Baptist, some, Elijah, some others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets. It was the impulsive Peter, however, who gives an answer that goes beyond public opinion: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." (Matthew 16:16).

Jesus calls Peter "Blessed", not because Peter has worked everything out by himself, but because the Father has opened his heart to recognize who Jesus truly is by the power of the Holy Spirit. Peter's profession of faith becomes a turning point and his time of empowerment. Jesus then says to him: "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church." The fisherman is given a new identity and a new mission. His faith will be tested, and at times he will fail badly, but Jesus still chooses him, forms him and entrusts his church and people to his care as the "primus inter pares" (first among equals).

The same question Jesus asked at Caesarea Philippi comes to each of us today: "Who do you say that I am?" It is easy to repeat what others say about Jesus. It is much harder to answer from our own heart and from the way we live. Is Jesus simply someone we know about, or is he truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, the one in whom we place our trust, our hopes and our lives?

Peter also reminds us that God does not wait for perfect people before calling them. He calls each of us by name at our baptism. He works through ordinary women and men, with their strengths, weaknesses, hesitations, fears and failures. What matters is a heart willing to listen, to learn, to believe, to begin again and to follow. This Sunday, may we renew Peter's profession of faith as our own: "Lord, you are the Christ the son of the living God." And may that confession of faith not remain only on our lips; but become visible in the way we love, interact with others, forgive, reconcile with others, serve others and live our lives each day as intentional disciples.

Mass Intentions

Mon.	8/24	No Mass
Tues	8/25	Jackie Hermes (JR & Allinson Hermes)
Wed.	8/26	Mary Ann Myers (Ross Myers)
Thu.	8/27	No Mass
Fri.	8/28	No Intention
Sat.	8/29	
	4:00 PM	Pro Populo
	5:45 PM	Archbishop A. Akuebe
Sun.	8/30	
	8:00 AM	Pro Populo
	10:00 AM	Thereza Alfinito Cupelli (Linda Bedolli) Jane Sullivan-Ishii (Jodi Marr)

Marriage on Tap STL – Join us on **Thursday, September 17, 2026, at 6 p.m.** for an evening of dinner and marriage enrichment at **Syberg's on Dorsett in Maryland Heights, Missouri**. Our guest speaker will be Father Paul Hoelsing, President Rector of Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. Fr. Hoelsing's presentation is entitled, "Lifting Each Other up Before God in Spousal Prayer." The evening is sponsored by Worldwide Marriage Encounter. Dinner is \$70 per couple/\$35 per person. Cash bar will be available. **The deadline to register is September 11, 2026.** For more information, check out Marriage on Tap STL on Facebook or email us at marriageontapstl@gmail.com.

Parish Offering As of 8/20/2026

	SM	SH	V	SS
Env.	\$1,349	\$715	\$1,422	\$429
Online	\$301	\$365	\$26	\$000
Weekly	\$1,650	\$1,080	\$1,448	\$429
YTD Giving	\$10,446	\$9,590	\$6,093	\$3,181
YTD Budget	\$16,675	\$11,432	\$5,605	\$4,561
YTD Net	-\$6,229	-\$1,843	\$487	-\$1,380

Online Giving QR Codes



St. Mary's



Sacred Heart



Visitation



St. Sebastian

Important Dates

Aug 24-No Mass

Aug 31-Parish Council Meeting-6 pm-in Alexander

Sept 6-Catholic University of America Collection

Sept 7-St. Sebastian Cemetery Mass –10 am

Sept 7-Office Closed for Labor Day

Sept. 13-Mass on the Farm-Visitation lawn-9 am

Sept. 20-1st day of PSR for 2nd & 3rd grade-SM

Sept 27-1st group PSR-SM

Mass Schedule for the Weekend of September 12–13

To allow for our annual Mass on the Farm, the weekend schedule will be as follows:

Saturday: One Mass only, at St. Sebastian at the normal time 5:45 pm. **No Mass at Visitation.**

Sunday: A single outdoor Mass at 9:00 AM in Alexander, on the lawn beside Visitation. **No Sunday Masses at Sacred Heart or St. Mary's.**

Pray for our sick Parishioners

Janet Blankenship, Sarah Simpson, Louise Lenn, Sue Lowder, Kathy Gordon, Barb Johnson, Mary Lee Staley, Joe Gaston, Lisa Richardson, Mary Hemberger, Roseanne Hartley, Calyssa Richie, Mary McCray, Heather Boudreau, Sy Haber, Donna Reichart, Joyce Henn, Paul Sweet, Carol Bold, Nancy Blankenship, Jackie Hamilton, Kathy Norman, Kathy Piel, Russ Adams, Suzanne Berry, Carol Peterson, Alice Greenwood, Matt Cumby, Kevin Howell.



We are looking for new members who are male Catholic gentlemen, 18 years of age or older, who have an interest in enhancing their church and local communities. Contact Kevin Kirsch at 217-685-1819.

Sacred Heart Coffee & Donuts will be served Sunday **September 5** after Mass in the Parish Hall.

Donut & Cleaning Committee for September are Marilyn Bergschneider, LeAnn Bergschneider & Peggy Bergschneider.



SAVE THE DATE
QUAD PARISHES



Mass on the Farm

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

MASS AT 9AM

DONUTS AND FELLOWSHIP

FOLLOWING MASS

LOT EAST OF VISITATION OF THE BVM, ALEXANDER, IL

Parent letters and registration forms for **St. Mary's PSR** were mailed last week. We kindly ask that you **return the completed forms to the parish office as soon as you receive them** so we can confirm our headcount and place our book order. PSR will begin on **September 20 for 2nd and 3rd graders** preparing for sacraments, and on **September 27 for all other students.**

Do you have a sick family member who would like to receive Communion at home? Please call the parish office and leave your address and we will be happy to schedule a visit.

Visitation Parish will be cleaning the church on Monday August 24 at 10:00 am. If you're able to lend a hand your help would be greatly appreciated!

Are you a graduate of the Catholic University of America? We would like to recognize our parish alumni on September 6, the day of the special collection for CUA. Please call the parish office before then so we can add you to the list.

Vocations Corner

Continue building the habit of a simple bedtime prayer routine with your child/ren or grandchild/ren. Take time to have each child tell God 'thank you' for one thing, 'sorry' for one thing, and one person they want to pray for.





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