

# Welcome to the QUAD PARISHES!

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

PASTOR: REVEREND TEDDY ADUKUS

TADUKUS@DIO.ORG

QUADPARISHES1.ORG

## *22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time* *August 30, 2026*



### MASS TIMES

If you are new to our parish please visit our website [www.quadparishes1.org](http://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](mailto: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

**"GET BEHIND ME, SATAN" ... "TAKE UP YOUR CROSS AND FOLLOW ME"**

Last Sunday, we heard Peter make his great profession of faith: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus praised him and called him the rock on which he would build his Church. Today, however, the Gospel takes a surprising turn. The same Peter who recognized Jesus as the Messiah is now sharply rebuked by him: "Get behind me, Satan!"

Peter's problem is not that he has stopped believing in Jesus. His problem is that he has the wrong idea of what the Messiah should be. Like many people of his time, Peter expected a strong and victorious Messiah who would defeat Israel's enemies and establish his kingdom through power. So, when Jesus begins to speak about going to Jerusalem, suffering, being rejected and put to death, Peter cannot accept it. "Lord, this must not happen to you."

Jesus reacts strongly because Peter's words touch the very temptation he had already faced in the desert: to choose power instead of obedience, success instead of sacrifice, and glory without the cross. Peter wants a Messiah according to human expectations. Jesus has come to reveal something very different: a God who saves not by crushing his enemies, but by giving himself in love.

That is why Jesus says to Peter, "Get behind me." Peter must return to his proper place as a disciple. He must follow Jesus, not try to lead Jesus along another road. The man who has been called the "rock" must himself learn to think differently. He must come to understand that the true Messiah is the humble servant who remains faithful to the Father even when that faithfulness leads to suffering and the cross.

Then Jesus turns to all his disciples and says: "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me." These three expressions describe the Christian life. To deny ourselves means that we stop making ourselves the center of everything. To take up the cross means accepting the cost of doing what is right and remaining faithful to God. To follow Jesus means allowing his way of thinking, loving and serving to become our own.

The cross, therefore, is not simply every difficulty or inconvenience we experience. It is the willingness to give ourselves for God and for others, even when love demands sacrifice. Sometimes our cross may be patience with a difficult person, fidelity to a responsibility, forgiveness when we have been hurt, care for someone who depends on us, or courage to remain faithful when doing so costs us something.

Today Jesus asks us not only to confess with Peter, "You are the Christ," but also to accept the kind of Christ he truly is. We cannot separate Jesus from the cross, nor Christian faith from a life of service and self-giving love. The invitation is simple but demanding, stop trying to make Jesus follow our way, and learn instead to follow his. For it is precisely on that road, the road of faithful love, that we discover the life Jesus promises.

### Mass Intentions

|      |          |                                                                              |
|------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mon. | 8/31     | Sharon Johnson<br>(Pam Blackorby)                                            |
| Tues | 9/1      | Jackie Hermes<br>(Bev Watson)                                                |
| Wed. | 9/2      | Betsy Bowman<br>(Frances Lawless & Family)                                   |
| Thu. | 9/3      | <b>No Mass</b>                                                               |
| Fri. | 9/4      | Archbishop A. Akuebe                                                         |
| Sat. | 9/5      |                                                                              |
|      | 4:00 PM  | Stan Greenwood<br>(Mark & Alice Greenwood)                                   |
|      | 5:45 PM  | Pro Populo                                                                   |
| Sun. | 9/6      |                                                                              |
|      | 8:00 AM  | Tom Bergschneider<br>(Agnes Johnson)                                         |
|      | 10:00 AM | Margie Kesterson<br>(Family)<br>Dorothy McGuire<br>(Jim & Nancy Blankenship) |

**Cathedral Sacrament Volunteers Needed** The Cathedral hosts over 30 Restored Order Sacrament Masses each year and needs volunteers to assist with registration, greeting, ushering, and hospitality. Volunteers must be 18+ and Safe Environment trained through their parish. Saturday events run 9:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m.; Tuesday events 5:00–9:00 p.m. Sign up at [dio.org/volunteer-to-help-with-sacraments-at-the-cathedral-parishioner/](http://dio.org/volunteer-to-help-with-sacraments-at-the-cathedral-parishioner/) or use the QR code here.



### Parish Offering As of 8/26/2026

|            | SM              | SH              | V            | SS              |
|------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Env.       | \$1,089         | \$655           | \$621        | \$350           |
| Online     | \$301           | \$161           | \$000        | \$000           |
| Weekly     | \$1,390         | \$816           | \$621        | \$350           |
| YTD Giving | \$11,837        | \$10,405        | \$6,714      | \$3,531         |
| YTD Budget | \$19,057        | \$13,066        | \$6,406      | \$5,213         |
| YTD Net    | <b>-\$7,221</b> | <b>-\$2,660</b> | <b>\$308</b> | <b>-\$1,682</b> |

### Online Giving QR Codes



St. Mary's



Sacred Heart



Visitation



St. Sebastian

### Important Dates

**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  
**Sept 27**-1st group PSR/picnic after mass-SM

### 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, Dick Hall.

**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.

**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.



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 6** after Mass in the Parish Hall.

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



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

MASS AT 9AM

DONUTS AND FELLOWSHIP

FOLLOWING MASS

LOT EAST OF VISITATION OF THE BVM, ALEXANDER, IL

### 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.**

**Marriage Retreat in Springfield** – Is your marriage ready for a boost? Renew your Sacrament, deepen your communication, strengthen your relationship, and rekindle your romance by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience **October 9-11, 2026 at the Villa Maria Retreat Center** located at 1903 E. Lake Shore Dr., Springfield, IL, 62712. For more information or to register, call Terry and Eric Engholm, 314-649-7317 or go to [wwme.org](http://wwme.org).

**The first day of PSR** for St. Mary's and Sacred Heart is **September 20 for 1st and 3rd graders preparing for Sacraments**, and **September 27 for all other students**. Please return registration forms as soon as possible. If you have not received a form, please call the parish office and we will make sure one gets to you.

### 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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