



St. Michael Catholic Church, Paderborn
 4576 Buss Branch Road
 Waterloo, IL 62298
 Ph: 618-473-2798



St. Michael, Paderborn
 Rev. Jim Voelker, Administrator
 E-mail jav6769@aol.com
 Fr. Jim & Parish Office 618-473-2798
 Fr. Evaristus, Pastor
 618-476-3513, Fr.Eva@stjamesmillstadt.com
 E-mail StMichaels4@aol.com
 Website: stmichaelspaderborn.org
 Mass: Saturday 4pm – Sunday 9am
 April 26, 2026
 Fourth Sunday of Easter

LITURGICAL SCHEDULES AND INTENTIONS:

Saturday, May 2nd, 4:00 p.m. – For the Parish

Sunday, May 3rd, 9:00 a.m.- Tony & Doris Holdener

STEWARDSHIP FROM LAST WEEK:

Envelopes \$2,508.50; Loose \$655; Candles \$58; Easter \$25; Mtce. \$20; Rice Bowls \$4.19 – Thank You

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Saturday, May 2nd, 4:00 p.m.

Lector: Carol Reiter
Minister: Body of Christ Barb Jany & Pat Tinoco
Minister: Blood of Christ Joan Killebrew & Susan Halt
Servers:
Crossbearer:

Sunday, May 3rd, 9:00 a.m.

Rich Kreher
 Sandi Gerdes & Jennifer Neff
 Vic Klein & Mary Anne Hopper
 Kinzley Kurtz & Riley Neff
 Anna Gerdes

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Peter’s sermon in Acts continues from last Sunday. His listeners have been moved by his testimony, and they ask what they can do. Peter instructs them to repent and be baptized, and he assures them that the promise of the Holy Spirit is both of them (the descendants of Abraham) and for “those far off” (the other nations).

The other three readings turn to the metaphor of the shepherd. The most well-known psalm in Scripture imagines God as a gentle, strong shepherd who refreshes and protects his people. Peter invokes this image in his letter when he writes, “you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls” (1 Pt 2:25). It’s unclear whether the shepherd is the Father or Christ. Both are possible, since Jesus takes on this divine metaphor and calls himself the good shepherd. But in 1 Peter 2, Jesus is primarily described as the suffering servant from the prophet Isaiah. Like Isaiah’s servant, Jesus does not return evil for evil, and bears our sins in his body despite having no sins of his own. He absorbs the world’s violence and transforms it into our salvation. Peter’s instruction was originally given to Christian slaves and turned the world’s logic upside down: the slaves, not the masters, are like Christ.

The reading from John’s Gospel takes the metaphor of the shepherd in a surprising direction. Not only is Jesus the shepherd who guards the sheep, he is the gate by which the sheep enter into the sheepfold. The sheep follow him, recognizing his voice, and then they enter into the fold through him: “No one comes to the Father except through me” (Jn 14:6). As in the psalm, those who trust in their shepherd “find pasture” – places of safety and abundance.

St. Michael’s Prayer Chain – To request that someone be added to the Prayer Chain contact Karen Mueller at 473-3401. The person will be on the “prayer chain” for one (1) month, unless the person that requested the prayers asks for longer.

SPRING FARM BLESSING

All are invited to join Fr. Godfrey for the Spring Farm Blessing which will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2026, at 1:00 pm at the Ryan Peter Family Farm, 7755 Highway 15, Mt. Carmel, IL. Those attending are invited to bring harvested grain, fruit, vegetables and garden produce in sealed, marked containers along with animals and farm machinery to be blessed. Non-perishable food items for the needy of the area will be collected.

TOTUS TUUS

Totus Tuus is coming to the Belleville Diocese this summer! Totus Tuus is a fun and faith-filled Catholic summer program for students in Grades 1-12. Grades 1-6 meet during the day (Monday-Friday) Grades 7-12 meet in the evening (Sunday-Thursday). Five locations across the diocese will host Totus Tuus this summer, and families are welcome to register at any location – even if their parish is not hosting. Dates and locations are available now. Please see bulletin board for dates and parishes.

MEVCCW SPRING DAY OF PRAYER

The Metro East Vicariate Council of Catholic Women will be hosting their 2026 Spring Day of Prayer/Meeting on Tuesday, May 5, 2026. It will be held at Queen of Peace Parish, Belleville. The presentation, **Stewardship of Faith: Sharing the Gift We’ve Been Given** will be given by Bishop-elect Godfrey Mullen, OSB. Reservations are required by April 24th. On-line reservation form may be accessed at <https://forms.gle/nWT9J8gob6Xez1t39>. Please call Karen Vick 618-978-6897 with any questions.

CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL

Support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal today! Over 40% of dioceses in the United States and its territories because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities needed in their communities. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States, including in our own Belleville Diocese. Please be generous. More information can be found at www.usccb.org/home-missions.

**The 2026 Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal
 Those who are kind to the needy honor Him**

“It is only through your prayers, kindness and generosity that our diocesan ministries can continue providing services to our parishes, schools and the needy among us throughout the 28 southernmost counties of Illinois. Please support the Catholic Service and Ministry Appeal today!” - Bishop-elect Godfrey Mullen, OSB

ST. LUKE NOON LUNCHEON & CARD PARTY

St. Luke’s Noon Luncheon will be on Tuesday, May 5th at Noon, St. Luke’s Parish Hall, 226 N. Church St., Belleville. The cost is \$12 for Baked Ham, Sweet Potatoes, Seasoned Green Beans, Cake, coffee, hot tea, iced tea, and water

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

CATHOLIC URBAN PROGRAM: St. Michael’s May collection; Bath Soap and Deodorants - Thank you!

NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS

God First Loved Us – Retreats Starting September 12, 2025 through May 1, 2026. Retreat begins on Friday at 4:00 pm through Sunday’s at 1:00 pm - \$250 per person (includes lodging and meals)

God First Loved Us – Men’s Quiet Retreats: May -1-3

Nourishing Hope in Our Beautiful and Wounded World – 7-Day Preached Retreat with Sr. Melannie Svoboda, SND – Monday, July 13, 4:00 pm through Sunday July 19 at 10 am. Lodging \$643, Double Occupancy \$588, Commuter \$495. Call 618-397-0584.

Directed One Retreat – May 11-18

Directed Two Retreat – June 15-22

Call 618-397-0584 for more information

Days of Reflection & Spiritual Cinema: February-May

Violence Divine: Overcoming the Bible’s Betrayal of Its Non-Violent God – a 4-week spring video study Tuesday’s April 7, 21, 28, May 5, 2026 10 am – Noon Cost \$20 for series; \$5 per session. Call 618-397-0584 for more information

Day of Reflection: Seeking Our Archetypes: Richard Rohr, Carl Jung and the Energies that Move Us All – Thursday, May 7th from 10 am – 3 pm. Cost is \$60 (lunch included) To register call 618-397-0584 or Snows.org.

2026 QUILT RAFFLE

Our winner of the January quilt was Mary Muskopf, February – Pat Ramsey, March – Carolyn Sabo. If you haven’t turned in your tickets for the 2026 Quilt Raffle, please turn them in so that you will be entered in the remaining 9 drawings.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL NEEDS YOUR HELP AGAIN!

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Belleville Council again this year needs donations of bottled water, Gatorade (individual bottles), Capri Sun (individual pouches) or similar drinks, individually packaged snacks, such as crackers, meat sticks, cookies, fruit cups/pudding etc. Items can be placed in the back of church.

