



Pastor:
Fr. James Nall



Welcome to St. Dominic Church

493 North Second Street, Breese, Illinois 62230

Phone: 618-526-7746

E-mail: Officemanager@saintdominicbreese.org

Bulletin info: secretary@saintdominicbreese.org

Website: www.saintdominicbreese.org

4th Sunday of Advent

December 21st, 2025



An angel announced that God was sending His Son, Jesus, to the world. Jesus became the greatest gift of love. We are called to be open to that love and to share it with the world.

Sunday Masses:
Saturday Vigil 5:30pm
Sunday 11am

Weekday Masses:
8am: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Holy Day Masses:
8am & 12:10pm

Confessions:
4:30pm on Saturday
or by appointment

Baptism & Marriage:
For arrangement please
contact the Parish office

Bulletin Deadline:
Wednesday at Noon

Office Hours:
Mon. – Fri. 9am-5pm

Office Staff:
Helen Essenpreis
Office Manager
John Hilmes
Office Secretary
526-7746

OCIA
Deacon Kevin Templin
Email:
deaconkevin18@gmail.com
Phone:
314-660-3976

All Saints Academy
Jill Tasker
Principal
Angie Pollmann
Assistant Principal
295 N. Clinton St.
526-4323

Mater Dei High School
Dennis Litteken
Principal
900 N. Mater Dei Dr.
526-7216

Parish Organizations, Committees and Ministries

Websites:	St. Dominic Church	www.saintdominicbreese.org
	Diocese of Belleville	www.diobelle.org
	Knights of Columbus	www.breeseknights.org
	Mater Dei High School	www.materdeiknights.org
	All Saints Academy	www.asasaints.com

A Letter From Fr. Jim

Dear Parishioners,

**I thank you for your prayers for Mom and my family.
It is great comfort knowing your prayers and support.**

Mom taught me something about the priesthood. I remember Mom saying that she did not go to Mass for the priest or because of the priest. She went to Mass to hear God's Word and to receive the Body and Blood of Christ.

She said that priests come and go.

This is something I've tried to remember throughout my priesthood. We priests come and go; the Parish remains. Sometimes we can get too puffed up and need to be reminded what it's all about.

Again, thanks for the prayers and support.

Peace,

Fr. Jim

Parish Update

- The Parish Office will be closed on Wednesday, December 24th & Thursday, December 25th in observance of Christmas.
- Due to the Parish Office having heavily reduced hours this coming week, all information for the bulletin is due by 2pm on Monday, December 22nd.

Schedule for December 21st - December 27th

Sunday - 21	Monday - 22	Tuesday - 23	Wednesday - 24	Thursday - 25	Friday - 26	Saturday - 27
11am - Mass	NO MASS	8am - Mass 1-7pm - Adoration	4pm - Mass 10pm - Mass	9am - Mass	NO MASS	1:30pm - Wedding of Lacey Schrand & Michael Zahour 4:30pm - Confessions Heard 5:30pm - Mass

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 20

5:30pm: Elmer & Fran Schrage
Alfred Ratermann

Sunday, December 21

11:00am:
John, Jane, Tom & Clare Lampen
Geri Ratermann
Living & Deceased of the
Ed & Celia Janson Family

Monday, December 22

No Mass

Tuesday, December 23

8:00am: Herb Hustedde

Wednesday, December 24

4pm: Bob & Toots Timmermann
Tina Donnewald

10pm: Dennis Richter

Thursday, December 25

9:00am: Tony Timmermann

Friday, December 26

No Mass

Saturday, December 27

1:30pm: Wedding of
Lacey Schrand & Michael Zahour

5:30pm: Edward McQuade

Sunday, December 28

11:00am:
For Healing of a Parishioner's Friend

Request Your 2024 Contribution Statement

The office will not be automatically sending out contribution statements this year.

As we begin the new year, we ask all members who need a record of their yearly giving to contact the church office directly. Please call or email the Parish Office and request your contributions statement. If you do online giving exclusively you have access to your statement online

This change helps us be good stewards of our resources and ensures that each household receives its information in the most efficient way possible. Thank you for your understanding and for your continued generosity and support of our church's ministries.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the office during regular hours.
May God bless you in the coming year!

Christmas Decorating – December 21st

All parishioners are invited to join us for Church Christmas Decorating on Sunday, December 21st at 12:30 PM! Come help transform our worship space into a beautiful celebration of the Nativity of the Lord. Many hands make light work, and all ages are welcome. Whether you can stay for the whole time or just a little while, your help is truly appreciated. Let's prepare our church with joy and fellowship as we enter this holy season!

Practice for Resurrection Choir

Resurrection Choir will be performing at the 9:00am Christmas Morning Mass.

Anyone who is interested in joining, there is one more choir practice at 1:30pm on Monday, December 22nd.

A Couple Thank Yous for Helping Decorate for Christmas

A heartfelt *thank you* to everyone who volunteered their time and talent to decorate the Rectory and Church Office for Christmas. Your hard work, creativity, and joyful spirit have made our spaces look truly beautiful for the season. We are grateful for your dedication in helping our parish shine with the warmth and hope of Christ's coming.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to the Lady Sodality for their generous donation toward the purchase of our beautiful new Nativity scene. We are also deeply thankful for the dedicated men who lovingly built the stable and carefully set everything in place.

This Nativity is a true gift to our parish family—an expression of faith, generosity, and service. Please be sure to stop by and take a moment to admire it as we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ.

Thank you to everyone who donated gift cards and gift certificates for the Giving Tree. While we are still awaiting a few late contributions and do not yet have a final total, we are already blessed with over \$4,000 in donations. Your generosity will make a meaningful difference and is truly appreciated

Men's Sodality Meeting

We are planning a Men's Sodality meeting for Thursday, January 8, at the KC Hall. Arrive anytime after 6:00. We will have drinks and wings. Meeting will begin approximately 7:00.

Weekend Mass Attendance

359 Disciples at Weekend Mass

16th Weekly Raffle Winner of \$100!:

Linus & Leann Wilke, Congratulations

This Week's Stewardship

Weekend Envelopes	\$4,260.00
Loose	\$412.30
Online	\$3,112.00
Sunday Contributions	\$7,784.30

Adopted parish	\$35.00
CCHD	\$100.00
Retired Religious	\$685.00
Immaculate Conception	\$420.00
Christmas	\$500.00
Christmas for Needy	\$50.00

Children's Collection	\$12.00
Tuition Assistance	\$376.00
Misc. Blue	\$5.00
Thanksgiving	\$120.00
Christmas Flowers	\$280.00

Building	\$1,075.00
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Cemetery	\$20.00
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Thank you for your generous donations!

PRAYER LIST

The sick of the St. Dominic Parish Family. Expectant Mothers of our Parish. Those battling all forms of cancer. Protection of those in the military. Protection of First Responders.	The repose of the souls of: Matthew Zeisset Cletus Ratermann Tony Timmermann Shirley Berns Elsie Niemeyer Bert Voss	Pope Leo End to the wars in Ukraine & Gaza. Deanna Miller Linda Porter who is having a heart procedure Tom Kannall
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Society of St. Vincent De Paul Needs Help this Fall!

The Society of St. Vincent De Paul Belleville Council is in great need of men's Jeans, along with adult sized backpacks, & seasoned salt.

St. Vincent De Paul is accepting coats and other winter clothing. Please make sure to have your clothing folded inside of the kitchen sized trash bag whenever you drop off your donations.

Bottled Water, Gatorade or similar drinks, & Individually packaged food items (cookies, fruit cups, tuna and chicken snack packs, chips, crackers cheese sticks cereal, instant oatmeal, Pop Tarts, breakfast bars, and soup or pasta in a cup.

BAPTISMS & BAPTISMAL PREPARATIONS

If you would like to schedule a Baptism for your child, please contact the Parish Office around a month to a month and a half ahead of time to make sure there are no scheduling issues.

The next Baptismal preparation class is Thursday, January 8th at 7:30pm located at St. Dominic Annex Building. Please call the Parish Office and Register by Friday, January 9th to sign up for this class.

Looking for a way to serve and make a difference?

Join one of our church ministries and use your gifts to bless others and grow in faith. Whether it is distributing the Body & Blood of Christ to your fellow disciples, your children assisting Fr. Jim as Altar Servers or spreading the Word of God as a Lector, there's a place for everyone to contribute in a ministry!

Please contact the Parish Office to inquire about a ministry you are interested in joining.

Youth Faith Formation (YFF)

The First Day of Class for YFF in 2026 is Wednesday, January 7th. We hope to see everyone there.

The next YFF Mass is January 21st at 6:30pm. Everyone is invited to attend and be there for the children as they are growing in their faith.

Around the Diocese



The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows is Showing Their Way of Lights display Now until December 31st, from 5pm until 9pm every night. The indoor activities will be closed on Christmas Eve & Christmas Day.

Youth Ministry

The Youth Ministry Leaders are working on the 2026 schedule of meetings and events for Youth Ministry. Please watch GroupMe! for updates to the schedule.

Please keep our seminarians in your prayers as they continue their formation. If you feel called, consider sending them a note or card of encouragement. Your prayers and support mean so much.

Mr. Casmir Cozzi
Theology III University of St. Mary of the Lake Mundelein Seminary 1000 East Maple Avenue Mundelein, IL 60060

Mr. Terry Marmion
Theology II University of St. Mary of the Lake Mundelein Seminary 1000 East Maple Avenue Mundelein, IL 60060

Mr. Greg Kassen
Pre-Theology I University of St. Mary of the Lake Mundelein Seminary 1000 East Maple Avenue Mundelein, IL 60060

Mr. Kyle Kellerman
College III Kenrick-Glennon Seminary 5200 Glennon Drive St. Louis, MO 63119

Mr. Grant Fender
College I Kenrick-Glennon Seminary 5200 Glennon Drive St. Louis, MO 63119

Notre Dame Prayer Garden Commemorative Bricks Are Available Again!

Would you like to honor a loved one, commemorate a special occasion, or leave a lasting legacy at our Parish?

Personalized commemorative bricks are available for purchase and will be placed in the Notre Dame Serenity Garden, a peaceful space for reflection and prayer.

Brick order forms are available in the back of Church and in the breezeway.

Your purchase supports the continued care and beauty of our Prayer Garden. Thank you for being part of this meaningful ministry.

For more information, please contact the Parish office.

Mission Opportunity Visit Our Sister Parish in Guatemala

Our parish shares a special friendship with Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Parish in Guatemala. In June 2026, a small group from our parish will travel with Missions International to visit our sisters and brothers in faith there.

This is more than a trip, it's a chance to see the face of Christ in those who live their faith with deep joy and simplicity. Participants will experience the warmth of the Guatemalan people, worship together, share meals, visit local ministries, and strengthen the bonds of friendship between our two parishes.

If you have ever felt a tug on your heart to learn, and grow in faith through mission, this may be your moment to say yes. Please contact the parish office if you are interested in learning more or would like to be considered for the group traveling in late June 2026.

Let us continue to pray for our sister parish and all those who work to bring Christ's love across borders and cultures.

Fair-Trade Market: The next sale will take place January 17th & 18th, following both Masses. 15% of ALL sales will be divided between our Sister Parish, Our Lady of the Holy Rosary in Guatemala, & House of Manna. Some products available include: coffees, chocolates, Palestinian olive oil, cocoa, teas, Haitian banana paper greeting cards, Spices and more.

HELP FEED LOCAL KIDS!

Support the Clinton County Snack Pack Program

Did you know that **970 children** in Clinton County are food insecure? **That's 12.2% of our kids** who don't always know where their next meal will come from. Together we can change that.

The Snack Pack Program of Clinton County has been bridging the weekend food gap since 2014. What started with serving 17 kids in one school district, has grown to serving **215 children across 11 districts** each weekend.

Here's How you can help: \$25 provides food for 1 child for a month, \$230 sponsors a child for the entire school year.

Ways to Donate: Please make checks payable to **Clinton County Snack Packs**; please mail your check to 904 Peach St. New Baden, IL 62265.

You can also Venmo @CCsnackpacks

The Children's Collection Each Mass will go towards Snack Pack

CHRISTMAS EVE & DAY MINISTRIES

Christmas Eve (4pm):

Altar Servers: Blake & Joseph Becherer, Brooklyn Becker
Extraordinary Ministers: Maggie Timmermann, Susie Hempen, Robin Fix, Deb Koetting (2-4 Ministers Needed)
Ushers: Bill & Deb Koetting, (2-4 Ushers Needed)
Lector:
Organist/Cantor: Leah/Children's Choir

Christmas Eve (10pm):

Altar Servers: Brie Winkeler, (2-3 Servers Needed)
Extraordinary Ministers: Nancy Huelsmann, Helen Essenpreis, (4-6 Ministers Needed)
Ushers: (4-6 Ushers Needed)
Lector: Rod Kloeckner
Organist/Cantor: Evelyn/Combo Choir

Christmas Day:

Altar Servers: (3-4 Servers Needed)
Extraordinary Ministers: Tom & Jan Hustedde, (4-6 Ministers Needed)
Ushers: (4-6 Ushers Needed)
Lector: Jan Deiters
Organist/Cantor: Maribeth/Resurrection Choir

Pro-Life Corner:



Senate Bill 1950, which would legalize assisted suicide in Illinois, has been signed by Governor Pritzker. For more information on this issue and to contact Governor Pritzker, please visit <https://www.ilcatholic.org/ask-gov-pritzker-to-veto-sb-1950-legalizes-assisted-suicide/>.

Please pray for more Pro-Life Legislatures.

Friday, January 23rd, 2026, The Clinton County Citizens for Life (CCC4L) will be having their Pro-Life March around the Clinton County Courthouse in solidarity with our brothers and sisters at the March for Life in our nation's capital.

Please join us in praying our state and nation will get back on a moral and virtuous path and our culture will change to more fully appreciate and cherish our Lord's precious gift of life.

Our young parishioners are invited to participate more fully in the Offertory.

A basket will be placed on the steps of the altar for children and youth to bring forward their donations. When the ushers come forward to collect from the congregation, the young people are invited to walk up and place their gifts in the basket.

In addition to monetary donations, children are welcome to offer a small card noting a good deed or act of kindness they have done during the week. These simple offerings are a beautiful way for our young parishioners to share how they are living out their faith and spreading God's love in their Daily Lives. Small cards and writing utensils will be available on the shelf at the back of the Church. Families may prepare their offerings at home or before Mass.

This practice helps our children experience the joy of giving and understand that their contributions, whether through gifts of money, kindness or service, are an important part of supporting and enriching our Parish Family. Parents are encouraged to help their children prepare an offering each week so they can take part in this special moment of stewardship.

Children's envelopes are available on the cabinet shelf at the back of the church, on Mary's Altar side.

The Children's Donations will go towards the Snack Pack Program.



MINISTERS OF THE MASS FOR December 27th & 28th

	USHERS	ALTAR SERVERS	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	
Sat. 5:30pm	Dan Duncan Charlie Kruse Bob Mensing Kent Robben Ted Voss Don Lappe	Clare Klostermann Ava Klostermann Adalyn Willman	Robin Fix Linda Deiters Becky Hitpas Connie Robben Tim Moylan Vernon Mothesky Mark Renschen Karen Lager	Lector: Celia Kannal Organist/Cantor: Rich C. Gift Bearers: Barb Bathon
Sun. 11:00am	Jeff Foppe Yvonne Foppe Bill Koetting Deb Koetting Dawson Detmer Dave Toennies	Amelia Mayberry Ryan Kienlen Luke Pollmann	Erica Tebbe Ava McSparin Jane Jansen Eric Detmer Dan Robben Carol Hustedde Helen Essenpreis Meghan Florczyk	Lector: Richelle Cox Organist/Cantor: Hannah/Anne A. Gift Bearers: Joanie Becker