

THE BODY AND
BLOOD OF CHRIST

strengthen me





Welcome to MOST HOLY EUCHARIST PARISH

One parish, two locations:

St. Patrick Church of Merna
1001 N. Towanda Barnes Rd.
Bloomington, IL 61705

St. Mary Church in Downs
108 E. Washington St.
Downs, IL 61736

Parish Office Located at St. Patrick Church of Merna:

Website: www.stpatrickmerna.org **Phone:** (309) 662-7361 **Email:** office@stpatrickmerna.org

Current Liturgy Schedule (Subject to Change)

Weekend Masses

Saturday4:00 p.m. (SPM)
5:30 p.m. (SMD)
Sunday 7:30 a.m. (SPM)
9:00 a.m. (SPM & SMD)
11:00 a.m. (SPM)

Weekday Masses (SPM, unless otherwise noted)

Monday7:00 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday8:30 a.m.
Wednesday7:00 a.m. (SPM)
5:30 p.m. (SMD)
Friday7:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9am Mass at St. Patrick Merna will be live-streamed.

Eucharistic Adoration (St. Patrick Merna)

Tuesday9:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Wednesday7:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Friday7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Reconciliation (also available by appointment)

Friday (SPM)12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Saturday (SPM)9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Saturday (SMD)Following 5:30pm Mass
Sunday (SMD)Following 9am Mass

Mass Intentions

Saturday, June 21

4:00 p.m. Special Intention (J.D.)SP
5:30 p.m. †Connie DuncanSM

Sunday, June 22 - Solemnity of Corpus Christi

7:30 a.m. †Heidi ZellSP
9:00 a.m. Members of Most Holy Eucharist ParishSP
9:00 a.m. †Jacob DiCiaulaSM
11:00 a.m. †Ara HarbisonSP

Monday, June 23

7:00 a.m. †Kelly KessingerSP

Tuesday, June 24

8:30 a.m. †David GuimondSP

Wednesday, June 25

7:00 a.m. †Rich BugajskiSP
5:30 p.m. †Paul, Anna & Rose GrafSM

Thursday, June 26

8:30 a.m. †Helena ChruscielSP

Friday, June 27

7:00 a.m. †Jim ThielSP
5:00 p.m. †Rita HaefnerSP

Saturday, June 28

4:00 p.m. †Edward RyanSP
5:30 p.m. †Ken & Mary DuncanSM

Sunday, June 29 - Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles

7:30 a.m. Members of Most Holy Eucharist ParishSP
9:00 a.m. †Walter & Diane LightleSP
9:00 a.m. †Alan MaurerSM
11:00 a.m. †Gerald PetersonSP

SP - St. Patrick Church of Merna
SM - St. Mary Church in Downs

Collection Summary For June 8, 2025

Most Holy Eucharist Parish

We thank you for your support of our parish! Please remember to sign up for online giving or mail your weekly contribution envelopes on a regular basis.

Prayerfully reflect on your gift back to God!

Sunday Offertory\$12,851
Online Giving\$21,799
Total Sunday Collection**\$34,650**
Weekly Avg as of June 8.....\$43,093

Capital Improvements.....\$3,609
Parishioners Helping Parishioners\$658
St. Vincent de Paul.....\$3,156

Peter's Pence Collection

This collection will be taken up on June 28/29th, the Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul. The faithful's offerings to the Holy Father through the Peter's Pence Collection are destined to Church needs, to humanitarian initiatives and social promotion projects, as well as to the support of the Holy See.



Readings for the Week

Mass readings can be found in their entirety at www.usccb.org.

Sunday, June 22

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Gen 14:18-20
Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4
1 Cor 11:23-26
Lk 9:11b-17

Monday, June 23

Gen 12:1-9
Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20 and 22
Mt 7:1-5

Tuesday, June 24

Solemnity of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

Is 49:1-6
Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15
Acts 13:22-26
Lk 1:57-66, 80

Wednesday, June 25

Gen 15:1-12, 17-18
Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9
Mt 7:15-20

Thursday, June 26

Gen 16:1-12, 15-16 or
Gen 16:6b-12, 15-16
Ps 106:1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5
Mt 7:21-29

Friday, June 27

Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Ex 34:11-16
Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6
Rom 5:5b-11
Lk 15:3-7

Saturday, June 28

Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Gen 18:1-15
Lk 1:46-47, 48-49, 50 and 53, 54-55
Mt 8:1-7

Sunday, June 29

The Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles

Vigil: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 19:2-3, 4-5; Gal 1:11-20; Jn 21:15-19

Mass during the Day: Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 2 Tim 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19

WELCOME

New Parishioners

Please join us in welcoming the following new parishioners:

Jason and Teresa Lopez & Family
Antony Venish Soosai Antony and Mary Shibani Thomas & Family



It is with great joy that we announce the following Baptism:

Ikaika Mateo Correa-Rodriguez, son of Jacob Correa and Olimpia Rodriguez



Please remember in your prayers the couples married at our parish:

Blake Thompson & Mary Crawford
Andrew Fischer & Megan Hopf



Remember in your prayers **Warren Boe**, father of Erik (Anne) Boe. May God give him eternal peace and fill his surviving family and friends with the strength of His consolation.

Mass Schedule Changes Coming July 5th & 6th

As a part of our two parishes merging to form Most Holy Eucharist Parish, our Transition Team was directed to look at the current liturgical schedule to see if any changes should be made to better serve the needs of the parishioners. After gathering input, and much prayer and deliberation, we have decided to make a few changes to the schedule:

St. Patrick Church of Merna: Saturday - 4pm; Sunday - 7am, 9am, and 11am
St. Mary Church in Downs: Saturday - 4:30pm; Sunday - 8:30am

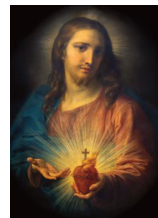
These changes will take place the weekend of July 5th & 6th. We thank you in advance for your patience and understanding during this time of transition.

Traveling Sacred Heart of Jesus Icon

Every few years the Knights of Columbus select a Catholic icon. This year the Knights have selected an icon of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. It is the aim of this program to foster greater devotion to the Sacred Heart. The Bloomington-Normal Knights will have this icon available at various churches in June (additional dates to be added):

- 6/21-25: Icon on display at Holy Trinity
- 6/24: Icon on display at St. Patrick Church of Merna from 9am to 8:30pm
- 6/25: Icon on display at St. Patrick Church of Merna from 7:30am to 8:30pm
- 6/26: Holy Hour at Historic St. Patrick at 4:15pm
- 6/27: Holy Hour at Holy Trinity at 7am
- 6/27: Icon on display at St. Patrick Church of Merna from 7:30am to 4:30pm
- 6/27: Mass at St. Patrick Church of Merna at 5pm on the Feast Day of the Sacred Heart of Jesus
- 6/27: Holy Hour at St. Mary's on the west side at 6pm
- 6/28-30: Icon on display at Holy Trinity

Individuals and families are encouraged to pray the Litany of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Copies of the Litany along with a prayer card will be available at each location. Individuals and families that aren't available to visit the icon can setup an enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in their home. For more information, contact Jeff Lopez at (309)585-1707/ jeff@stpatrickmerna.org or scan the QR code request materials be sent to you electronically.



Helping Neighbors in Need

Thank you! Your response to our call for donations has been outstanding! The shelves of our little food pantry here at Most Holy Eucharist Parish for our St. Vincent de Paul ministry are showing signs of rejuvenation! **Please continue bringing:** canned fruit, canned veggies, and protein items (7% or higher like chicken, tuna, chili) items, peanut butter, jelly, cereal, oatmeal packets (not large containers please), Pop Tarts, mac & cheese. You can drop these items in the bins across from the Welcome Center at St. Patrick Church of Merna. Please check expiration dates before donating.

We thank you for all your support and generosity!

FAMILY + FAITH + ACTION = OUR MISSION

During these hot months of summer's activities, don't forget to include Jesus in your daily routine!

Just a few ideas for action:

- ♥ Start your day by asking the Holy Spirit to be with you this day!
- ♥ Talk to God at bedtime about your day!
- ♥ Say a prayer of thanksgiving for all the blessing in your life!
- ♥ Go on a nature scavenger hunt! Make a list of everything you see that's a gift from God!
- ♥ Celebrate the Eucharist at Mass as a family!
- ♥ Share an act of kindness with a sibling, a neighbor or anyone who you might meet this week!
- ♥ Hug each member of your family every day!



Send any questions our way to bobbi@stpatrickmerna.org



CCHS News

Employment Opportunities

We have the following openings:

- Spanish Teacher
- Learning and Behavior Specialist (LBS1)
- Student Support Aide

Visit www.cchssaints.org for information about how to apply.

Summer Hours

Our summer office hours are: Monday - Thursday: 8am - 12pm. NOTE: Construction in our Commons will be ongoing throughout the summer. After July 4, call ahead (309-661-7000) to make sure we are open.

Sharing the Grief Journey

All those continuing to grieve the loss of a loved one are invited to attend a monthly gathering with other parishioners on a similar journey. Join us on **Thursday, June 26th at 6:30pm at St. Pat's in Room 6.** The BeFriender ministry will host these gatherings designed to encourage healing through connection and shared experiences. This is open to all in our community so feel free to share with others. No registration is required; if you have any questions, please contact Dianne at: lermandianne@gmail.com.

THIS IS MY BODY THAT IS FOR YOU.
DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.

1 COR 11:24



BRINGING CHRIST

Into your **home** Into your **family**
Into your **life**

Use the reading and reflection below to help your family better understand and dive a little deeper into this weekend's Gospel!

Think: Jesus welcomed the people. He spoke to them about God's kingdom and healed everyone who was sick. Late in the afternoon the twelve apostles came to Jesus and said, "Send the crowd to the villages and farms around here. They need to find a place to stay and something to eat. There is nothing in this place. It is like a desert!" Jesus answered, "You give them something to eat." But they replied, "We have only five small loaves of bread and two fish. If we are going to feed all these people, we will have to go and buy food." There were about five thousand men in the crowd. Jesus said to his disciples, "Have the people sit in groups of fifty." They did this, and all the people sat down. Jesus took the five loaves and two fish. He looked up toward heaven and blessed the food. Then he broke the bread and fish and handed them to his disciples to give to the people. Everyone ate all they wanted. What was left over filled 12 baskets.

Challenge: We hear in the Bible several times about Jesus blessing bread, breaking it, and sharing it with others. When we come to Mass, we come as one large family to celebrate something which happened for all of us: the Resurrection of Jesus. We share a meal together just as Jesus did with his apostles and the crowd. We believe that, through the power of God, the bread and wine become the Eucharist, the body and blood of Jesus, who gives himself to each of us in a very special way. Jesus said, "I am the bread of life," and when we share in the Eucharistic Meal, we share life with the Son of God himself. Lord Jesus, you are the living bread which comes to each one of us in a special way. Help me to share the joy of your love with others I meet. Amen.

Most Holy Eucharist Parish



K of C Annual Golf Outing

Attention Golfers: signup for the 2025 Msgr. Gregory K. Ketcham Memorial Golf Outing is now open. This year's golf outing is **Thursday, August 21, 2025** at Ironwood Golf Course. The cost this year is \$125/ golfer. Details and signup can be found at www.kofc15175.org or by scanning the QR Code. If you have trouble signing up electronically, you can also get paper forms at the St. Pat's Welcome Center. Contact Joe Klingler at (309) 838-7333 with any questions.



Damascus Retreat Opportunity

More than ever, the world needs men and women of prayer who serve and lead like Jesus. Be renewed and strengthened in your call to be the person you were made to be. If you're hungry for a time of rest, prayer, community, and adventure, come and discover what God has for you at a Damascus Retreat this October!

What to Expect:

- **Prayer:** Mass, worship, personal prayer, and adoration
- **Keynotes:** Be strengthened in your identity and empowered for mission
- **Community:** Experience an environment of true brotherhood/sisterhood
- **Adventure:** Test your limits and enjoy the gift of God's creation

The women's retreat will take place **October 3-5**, and the men's retreat will take place **October 24-26**.

For more information: www.damascus.net.

If you are interested in attending or have questions: for the women's retreat, contact Jess Elliott at jessica@stpatrickmerna.org or for the men's retreat, Phil Olinger at olingerjcjp@yahoo.com.

Help Us Wish Fr. Matt Farewell!

Fr. Matt's last weekend at our parish is sadly fast approaching. On **Sunday, June 29th from 12-1pm**, we will have a small reception for him in St. Pat's Shamrock Hall with light refreshments. Please join us in praying for Fr. Matt as he prepares to begin his new assignment.



Please Use Caution This Week!

Our Totus Tuus program will be taking place at the church this week, which means there will be children at play (and prayer)! Please use extra caution if coming to church to visit the parish office, attend Adoration, etc.

Various areas of the parking lot will be closed daily from 11am-2pm; the annual water balloon fight will take place in the lot near the chapel on Friday, 6/27 at 1:30pm. Please use the main lot to park for Adoration on that day. Thank you for your cooperation!



Summer TEC

Teens Encounter Christ (TEC), is a 3 day, overnight, fun-filled, and spiritually exciting weekend that is open to teens of all faiths, from High School Sophomores through age 19. A TEC weekend provides you with an opportunity to experience the true love that Christ has for all of us. A TEC weekend can be summed up in 4 words: FAITH, FRIENDS, FUN, and FOOD! The upcoming weekend is **July 12-14 and will be held at Corpus Christi School in Bloomington**. There will be 2 TECs running concurrently. TEC 161 for young ladies, and TEC 162 for young men. To sign up go to bn-tec.org to register. Get your application in early to secure your spot, and don't forget to invite a friend!





High School Youth Ministry

Ignite Student Ministry exists to reach all teens for Christ, and serves as the unified Catholic High School Youth Group in Bloomington-Normal. Please scan the QR Code and fill out the form to register and join the group!



Upcoming Events

6/22: We encourage all of our junior high and high school students to be a part of Totus Tuus this week! The week kicks off on Sunday evening at 6:30pm.

6/29: Speaker Night! All junior high and high schoolers are welcome to join us to hear a message from Nick Schell about finding your faith journey! 6-8pm at St Patrick Church of Merna



7/6: Mass and Meal! Come join us at 5:30pm Mass at Epiphany and bring money for dinner at Fiesta Ranchera to follow!

PRAYERS UP! Small Groups

If you have a rising 7th or 8th Grader interested in participating in weekly small groups, please reach out to igniteministrylead@gmail.com for more info or scan the QR code to sign up.



BeFriender Ministry

At times everyone is on a difficult journey and needs a caring person who will listen, empathize, and be a reminder of a caring faith community. BeFriender is a listening ministry where trained volunteers meet individually with parishioners in difficult and transitional situations such as illness, loneliness, divorce or separation, or loss of a loved one. They offer a listening presence and support along the journey. If you would like support from a BeFriender, please contact Dianne Lerman at lermandianne@gmail.com or (309)310-9034.

Uncoupled Catholics

Uncoupled Catholics will meet on **Saturday, July 5th at 9am** at Lvl Up Coffee Bar for drinks and conversation. Look for the Uncoupled Catholic sign to join other Catholic singles. On **Saturday, July 19th after the 4 pm Mass** at St. Patrick of Merna Church, Uncoupled Catholics will meet in Room 11 for snacks and mingling. Stop by to meet other area Catholic singles. If you have any questions, please contact uncoupledcatolics@gmail.com.

Young at Heart

Join us at the McLean County Museum of History on July 8th at 10:30am. Meet at the main entrance of the museum (Washington Street); after touring the museum, we will go to BloNo Pizza, 1304 Cross Creek Dr, Normal, for lunch. Reservations due 7/2. Blm.normal.youngatheart@gmail.com or call (309)452-7976.

Pastor.....Fr. Dustin Schultz
frschultz@stpatrickmerna.org

Parochial Vicar.....Fr. Matt Deptula
frmatt@stpatrickmerna.org

Parochial Vicar.....Fr. Derick Mwesiga
frderick@stpatrickmerna.org

Deacons

St. Patrick Church of Merna
Dcn. Gayle Cyrulik Jr., O.F.S.
Dcn. Mike Pool
Dcn. Dan Froelich
Dcn. Troy Morris

St. Mary Church in Downs
Dcn. Gary D. Koerner
Dcn. John Louie

Parish Trustees

Mr. Rusty Schopp & Mrs. Angie Stine

Religious Education (Grades 1-5)

Mrs. Bobbi Hassel.....585-1705
bobbi@stpatrickmerna.org

Religious Education - St. Mary Church in Downs

Mrs. Jennifer O'Brien.....please email
jennifersmd@stpatrickmerna.org

Youth Ministry

Mrs. Julia Nalewajka.....585-1712
Mr. Josh Miller.....585-1712
youthministry@stpatrickmerna.org

Development & Stewardship

Mr. Jeff Lopez585-1707
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Finance

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Building & Grounds

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Mrs. Jennifer Guimond585-1711
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