

An impressionistic landscape painting with a textured, painterly style. The sky is filled with thick, expressive brushstrokes in shades of blue, white, and yellow, suggesting a bright, cloudy day. Below the sky, a dark, silhouetted treeline or shoreline stretches across the middle ground. The foreground is a vibrant, textured field of green, yellow, and brown, with visible brushstrokes and a halftone dot pattern. Overlaid on the center of the image is the text "Love God" and "Love Others" in a white, sans-serif font, separated by a large, white, stylized letter 'E' that loops around the text.

Love God
Love Others



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)
4:30 p.m. (SMD)
Sunday 7:00 a.m. (SPM)
8:30 a.m. (SMD)
9:00 a.m. (SPM)
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 4:30pm Mass
Sunday (SMD)Following 8:30am Mass

Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 12

4:00 p.m. †Rita HaefnerSP
4:30 p.m. †Deceased Members of the John Gedraitis FamilySM

Sunday, July 13 - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m. Members of Most Holy Eucharist ParishSP
8:30 a.m. †Fred & Sharon SchaeferSM
9:00 a.m. †Larry ReeceSP
11:00 a.m. †David G. Knight & GranddaughterSP

Monday, July 14

7:00 a.m. †Katharine FriedmanSP

Tuesday, July 15

8:30 a.m. †Hank Lopez, Jr.SP

Wednesday, July 16

7:00 a.m. †Emmett EngstromSP
5:30 p.m. †Robert & Eugenia WagnerSM

Thursday, July 17

8:30 a.m. †Maria BaileySP

Friday, July 18

7:00 a.m. †Phyllis CelliniSP
5:00 p.m. †John UzzoSP

Saturday, July 19

4:00 p.m. †Petronilla VertinSP
4:30 p.m. †Alan MaurerSM

Sunday, July 20 - 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m. †Bill & Joyce MurraySP
8:30 a.m. †Jacob DiCiaulaSM
9:00 a.m. †Bob & Mildred BurkeSP
11:00 a.m. Members of Most Holy Eucharist ParishSP

SP - St. Patrick Church of Merna

SM - St. Mary Church in Downs

Collection Summary For June 29, 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\$14,046
Online Giving\$22,258
Total Sunday Collection**\$36,304**
Weekly Avg as of June 29\$42,706

Capital Improvements\$1,618
Parishioners Helping Parishioners\$408
St. Vincent de Paul\$728

Need Envelopes?

Extra envelopes for your contributions to the Sunday Collection, Capital Improvement Fund, and the St. Vincent de Paul Society can be found at the Welcome Center at St. Pat's or the entrances at St. Mary's. You can also always give online at stpatrickmerna.org/online-giving.





Readings for the Week

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

Sunday, July 13

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 30:10-14

Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37 or

Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11

Col 1:15-20

Lk 10:25-37

Monday, July 14

Memorial of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin

Ex 1:8-14, 22

Ps 124:1b-3, 4-6, 7-8

Mt 10:34-11:1

Tuesday, July 15

Memorial of Saint Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Ex 2:1-15a

Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34

Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday, July 16

Ex 3:1-6, 9-12

Ps 103:1b-2, 3-4, 6-7

Mt 11:25-27

Thursday, July 17

Ex 3:13-20

Ps 105:1 and 5, 8-9, 24-25, 26-27

Mt 11:28-30

Friday, July 18

Ex 11:10-12:14

Ps 116:12-13, 15 and 16bc, 17-18

Mt 12:1-8

Saturday, July 19

Ex 12:37-42

Ps 136:1 and 23-24, 10-12, 13-15

Mt 12:14-21

Sunday, July 20

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gn 18:1-10a

Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 5

Col 1:24-28

Lk 10:38-42

WELCOME

New Parishioners

Please join us in welcoming the following new parishioner:

Manuel and Chanelle Crispin & Family

Ellen Main

Colton and Alexis Steidinger & Family



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

Eliana Marie Spaniol, daughter of Zachary and Rebecca (Potorny) Spaniol

Paisleigh Ann Wahls, daughter of Bradley and Erin (Murray) Wahls



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

Gary Vetter & Karen Meany



Remember in your prayers **John Kerr**, husband of Jolene Kerr and father of Jack and Jase Kerr. May God give him eternal peace and fill his surviving family and friends with the strength of His consolation.

Check Out Our New Website!

As part of our parish merger, we have launched a new parish website with a new web address! You can now find us at www.mheparish.org. Typing in one of our old web addresses will automatically direct you to the new site. Be sure to check it out for all the latest information on events taking place at Most Holy Eucharist Parish!



GO AND DO LIKEWISE

Luke 10:37

15th Sunday In Ordinary Time



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. Both will take place in Centerburg, Ohio.

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.

R.E. REGISTRATION begins July 23rd!

ONLINE registration for ALL fall Religious Education classes at St. Patrick Church of Merna will begin on July 23rd.

- Go to our new parish website! Click on the GROW YOUR FAITH drop-down, then click Religious Education. The link to register for either the **Grades 1-5** or **Grades 6-8** programs will be found on this page.
- Class sizes are limited and are filled on a first come, first serve basis so register early. We are in need of volunteers for every grade.
- **Grades 1-5:** weekly; Tuesdays 5-6pm or Wednesdays 5:30-6:30pm
- **Grades 6-8:** bi-weekly; Wednesdays 6:30-8pm
- Payment is required at registration. Discount for multiple students within each program. Classes begin after Labor Day.
- Teachers & small group leaders receive a discounted fee.

If you were previously registered in RE classes, you should have also received an email with information and the link.

PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING!

Adult volunteers are very much needed to share their faith with our students. You already have faith!! You have been gifted with an important talent to share on this faith journey! Your presence will not only positively impact our children; but will give you a rewarding faith experience.



Questions, just email Bobbi at bobbi@stpatrickmerna.org



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: A man once said to Jesus, "I know that I should love God with all my heart, and love my neighbor, too. But who is my neighbor?" Then Jesus told him this story: "One day a man was traveling from Jericho to Jerusalem, when a gang of robbers attacked him. They beat him up, and after stealing everything he had, they left him lying injured by the roadside. A short time later, one of the temple priests passed that way, but he crossed the road and walked on by. Soon after, another traveler came, but he, too, passed on by. Then a Samaritan happened to pass, and when he saw the injured man, he took pity on him. He bandaged his wounds and carried him on horseback to a nearby inn. There he cared for him, and when the time came to leave, he left the innkeeper enough money to pay for the man's room until he was better." Jesus asked the man, "Which man in the story was a good neighbor?" "The one who helped the wounded traveler," he answered. "Go, then, and do the same for anyone who needs your help," said Jesus.

Challenge: The Samaritans and the Jews had been enemies since Old Testament times. But the good Samaritan did not worry about the injured man's religion or race; instead, he saw someone who needed his help and was filled with a sense of love and pity. Our neighbor is whoever we meet, whatever their race, religion, or color might be. When a fellow human being is suffering or needs our help, then we should show the same loving concern and compassion as the good Samaritan. *Lord, today we pray for anyone who needs a good Samaritan. Give each of us the courage to stop and help when our neighbor needs us. Amen.*



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.



Women's Needs & Interests Survey

Most Holy Eucharist Parish is seeking to know how to best accompany the women of our parish, to shape the direction of women's ministry. Please take this brief survey to help us understand your current needs and desires. \$5 gift cards will be drawn throughout the upcoming weeks for those who complete it. If you have any questions, please contact Jess at jessica@stpatrickmerna.org.



Season 5 of The Chosen

Please join us in watching Season 5 of The Chosen! After watching each episode, there will be time to discuss how each episode spoke to you and how we can apply each message to our lives today. Details are below:



When: Tuesdays, beginning Tuesday, July 22nd and ending September 16th

Time: 6:30pm - 8:15 pm

Where: St. Pat's of Merna; Room 7/8

Registration: For planning purposes, sign up is required; please scan the QR code

Materials: NO materials are required, just a willingness to connect and participate with others who share their love for Jesus!

Questions: Contact Marylynn at adultfaithformation@stpatrickmerna.org



St. Mary Church in Bloomington Peoria Diocese Pilgrimage

All are invited to join parishioners of St. Mary Church in Bloomington on a pilgrimage to sacred sites throughout the Diocese of Peoria. Visit each church, grow in faith, and gain an indulgence! The tour will take place on September 30th, departing at 8am and returning at 6pm. Cost is \$55 per seat, but save \$5 per person by signing up by August 1st. Full payment is due by August 15th. For questions or to sign up, call or text Kathy at (309) 828-6554.

BeFriender Ministry

Everyone is, at times, 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 during difficult times. If you would like support from a BeFriender, please contact Dianne Lerman at lermandianne@gmail.com or (309) 310-9034.

WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU VOLUNTEER!

It may seem too early to think about volunteering this coming school year. As we plan, we know that only with adult volunteers to guide our students on their faith journey will we build a strong relationship with Jesus. Share your talents in a rewarding ministry & grow your faith!



Grades 1-5: teachers & aides; weekly commitment; discount for teaching offered; training provided

Grade 6: teachers & aides; biweekly commitment; discount offered; training provided

Grades 7-8: Confirmation prep called CONFIRM1 & CONFIRM2; small group leaders; biweekly commitment; discount offered; training provided

Classes begin after Labor Day.

CURIOUS or READY TO VOLUNTEER: Please contact Bobbi Hassel at bobbi@stpatrickmerna.org



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

7/13: Night at the Shed! On Sunday, July 13th, all HS students are invited to join us for a "Just For Fun" night out at the shed from 6-7:30pm at St. Patrick Church of Merna's campus! Snacks, game, music and fellowship!

7/20: Guided Prayer Night! All High Schoolers are welcome back to St. Patrick Church of Merna's campus in Shamrock Hall for a guided prayer lesson, a message from Fr. Ben, and worship music! 6-7:30pm, bring a friend!

7/27: Olympics are BACK! Back out at the Shed, all Jr. High and High Schoolers are welcome to participate in our Olympics night, full of fun games, competitions and water fights from 6-7:30pm! Snacks will be provided, come close out summer with us!

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.



Epiphany Catholic School is Hiring

Epiphany Catholic School is currently seeking a K-8 STEM teacher for the 2025-2026 school year. To apply or learn more, visit www.applitrack.com/cdop/onlineapp or contact Sally Kelly, principal, at sally.kelly@epiphanyschools.org.

Uncoupled Catholics

Uncoupled Catholics will meet 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.

Catholic Charismatic Renewal Conference

The annual Catholic Charismatic Renewal Conference will take place on Saturday, July 19th at Epiphany Church in Normal. The theme will be: Discerning the Voice of the Holy Spirit. Featured speakers will be Dr. Diane Valentine, Michael Solomon, and Deacon Mark Cleary. Register at www.ccr-cdop.org. Questions can be submitted to ccrpeoria@gmail.com.

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

Parochial Vicar...Fr. Ben Schoonmaker
frben@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
jeff@stpatrickmerna.org

Finance

Mrs. Sandi Remmes.....585-1701
sandi@stpatrickmerna.org

Building & Grounds

Mr. Rodney Becker.....585-1708
rodney@stpatrickmerna.org

Front Office

Mrs. Kristie Klingler585-1710
kristie@stpatrickmerna.org

Mrs. Jennifer Guimond585-1711
officeassistant@stpatrickmerna.org

Liturgy & Music

Mrs. Lindsey Adams585-1703
lindsey@stpatrickmerna.org

Communications

Mrs. Jenny Cook.....585-1713
jenny@stpatrickmerna.org

Evangelization

Ms. Jessica Elliott585-1704
jessica@stpatrickmerna.org
Mr. Joey Eells.....585-1709
joey@stpatrickmerna.org

Nursery

Ms. Pam Goode585-1706
nursery@stpatrickmerna.org