

The background of the entire image is a stylized illustration of the Statue of Liberty. The statue is depicted in a dark, almost black color, standing on its pedestal. The sky behind it is a gradient of warm colors, from a pale yellow at the horizon to a soft blue at the top, with several white stars scattered across the upper portion. The overall style is reminiscent of a vintage poster or a religious card.

For
FREEDOM
Christ has
SET US FREE

Galatians 5:1



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

Saturday	4:00 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)

Monday	7:00 a.m.
Tuesday & Thursday	8:30 a.m.
Wednesday	7:00 a.m. (SPM)
	5:30 p.m. (SMD)
Friday	7:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

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

Eucharistic Adoration (St. Patrick Merna)

Tuesday	9:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Wednesday	7:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Friday	7:30 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 5

4:00 p.m.	†Ron Schultz	SP
4:30 p.m.	†Bruning Family	SM

Sunday, July 6 - 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m.	†Daniel Teckenburg	SP
8:30 a.m.	†Lyle & Dorothy Schopp	SM
9:00 a.m.	†Roger Swartz	SP
11:00 a.m.	Members of Most Holy Eucharist Parish	SP

Monday, July 7

7:00 a.m.	†Ann Vock	SP
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Tuesday, July 8

8:30 a.m.	†James Kaiser	SP
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Wednesday, July 9

7:00 a.m.	†Bill LaMere	SP
5:30 p.m.	†Rita Toohill	SM

Thursday, July 10

8:30 a.m.	†Frank Cappitelli	SP
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Friday, July 11

9:00 a.m.	†Living & Deceased Members of the Courey Family	SP
5:00 p.m.	†Keith & John Patrick Mikel	SP

Saturday, July 12

4:00 p.m.	†Rita Haefner	SP
4:30 p.m.	†Deceased Members of the John Gedraitis Family	SM

Sunday, July 13 - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m.	Members of Most Holy Eucharist Parish	SP
8:30 a.m.	†Fred & Sharon Schaefer	SM
9:00 a.m.	†Larry Reece	SP
11:00 a.m.	†David G. Knight & Granddaughter	SP

SP - St. Patrick Church of Merna

SM - St. Mary Church in Downs

Collection Summary For June 22, 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	\$15,544
Online Giving	\$20,554
Total Sunday Collection	\$36,098
Weekly Avg as of June 22	\$42,831

Capital Improvements	\$2,028
Parishioners Helping Parishioners	\$338
St. Vincent de Paul	\$1,019

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 6

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 66: 10-14c

Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20

Gal 6: 14-18

Lk 10: 1-12, 17-20 or 10:1-9

Monday, July 7

Gn 28: 10-22a

Ps 91: 1-2, 3-4, 14-15ab

Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday, July 8

Gn 32:23-33

Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, 8b and 15

Mt 9: 32-38

Wednesday, July 9

Gn 41: 55-57; 42: 5-7a, 17-24a

Ps 33: 2-3, 10-11, 18-19

Mt 10:1-7

Thursday, July 10

Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5

Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21

Mt 10:7-15

Friday, July 11

Memorial of Saint Benedict, Abbot

Gn 46:1-7, 28-30

Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40

Mt 10: 16-23

Saturday, July 12

Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a

Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7

Mt 10:24-33

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

WELCOME

New Parishioners

Please join us in welcoming the following new parishioner:
Barbara Carlock



It is with great joy that we announce the following Baptism:
Alfonso Castiel Reteguín, son of Alfonso and Mikaela (Ruiz) Reteguín



Please remember in your prayers the couple married at our parish:
Grant Shea & Antonia Durnil



Remember in your prayers **Theresa Kulb**, wife of Dr. Thomas Kulb and mother of David and Athena Kulb. May God give her eternal peace and fill her surviving family and friends with the strength of His consolation.

Mass Schedule Changes Now in Effect!

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 are now in place. We thank you in advance for your patience and understanding during this time of transition.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRIESTHOOD!



July 7, 2018

Please join us in congratulating Fr. Derick on the anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. May God continue to bless him in his vocation!

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Helping Neighbors in Need

We are so grateful as you all answer our call for donations! 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:** protein items (7% or higher like chili or Chef Boyardee) and peanut butter & jelly. **Additional needs:** diapers in the bigger sizes and travel size toiletries. 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. **Your generosity is a beautiful sign of service to others.**

FAMILY + FAITH + ACTION = OUR MISSION

Keep Jesus in your daily routine all summer long!

Just a few ideas for action:

- ♥ Start each day by asking the Holy Spirit to guide you every day!
- ♥ Talk to God at bedtime about your day!
- ♥ Thank God for family and VACATIONS!
- ♥ Make a plan to celebrate the Eucharist at Mass as a family!
- ♥ Share an act of kindness with a sibling, a neighbor or someone new you meet.
- ♥ Write a real letter or email a message to someone special in your life!
- ♥ Hug each member of your family every day!



We are so grateful for all our families at Most Holy Eucharist!

Send any questions our way to bobbi@stpatrickmerna.org

Mission Appeal – July 5th & 6th at St. Mary Church in Downs

The weekend of July 5th and 6th, our parish will host a Mission Appeal in support of the Diocese of Rulenge-Ngara, located in the northwestern part of Tanzania, East Africa. This diocese serves a mostly rural and underserved population, where the Catholic Church plays a vital role in both evangelization and human development.

As part of its pastoral and evangelization strategy, the Diocese is promoting agroforestry and integrated farming projects to uplift communities, especially the poor. These projects support food security, environmental conservation, and provide meaningful employment. When you support this initiative, you become a partner in the mission of evangelization. Your contribution helps sustain families, educate communities, and witness to the love of Christ through practical, life-giving work. Faith and sustainable development go hand in hand in this mission.

It is also inspiring to know that four priests from the Diocese of Rulenge-Ngara are currently serving in the Diocese of Peoria, actively involved in parish ministry and evangelization. Supporting their home diocese is a beautiful way to show solidarity in our shared Catholic mission. Your support strengthens this beautiful bond of mission and communion between our dioceses.

Supporting this initiative means you are not just giving to a farming project—you are actively participating in the mission of evangelization. Through your generosity, the Church is able to proclaim the Gospel in word and deed, offering hope and transformation to communities in need. We invite you to pick up a brochure to learn more about the farming project and the ongoing missionary efforts. Thank you for your generosity and prayers! God Bless you.



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 chose seventy-two disciples and sent them out in pairs to all the towns and villages he would visit saying, "Take nothing with you, and wherever you are welcomed, make the first words you speak be, 'Peace be with you.' Stay if you are invited to, and eat and drink whatever you are given. Cure the sick and share the Good News of God's love with everyone. If you find people unfriendly or unkind, leave their village and go elsewhere." Soon the disciples returned and told Jesus about the marvelous things they had seen and done. Jesus said to them, "Be happy, indeed, because your names are written in heaven."

Challenge: Jesus knew that he would need help to take the message of God's love to people throughout the world. He sent the disciples out to prepare the people for him to come into their lives. What did Jesus tell the disciples to take? Jesus told them to take few belongings for their journey and to trust God to take care of them. People would see their goodness and would treat them with kindness and generosity. Jesus wanted the disciples to share the love and peace of God through their actions and words. He told them to cure the sick and to teach the people about the goodness of God, so that they would let him into their hearts. As Christians, or followers of Jesus, we take his love and peace out to the people we meet today, just as the disciples did so long ago. *Lord, we pray for everyone who shares your message of love and peace with the world. 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.



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!

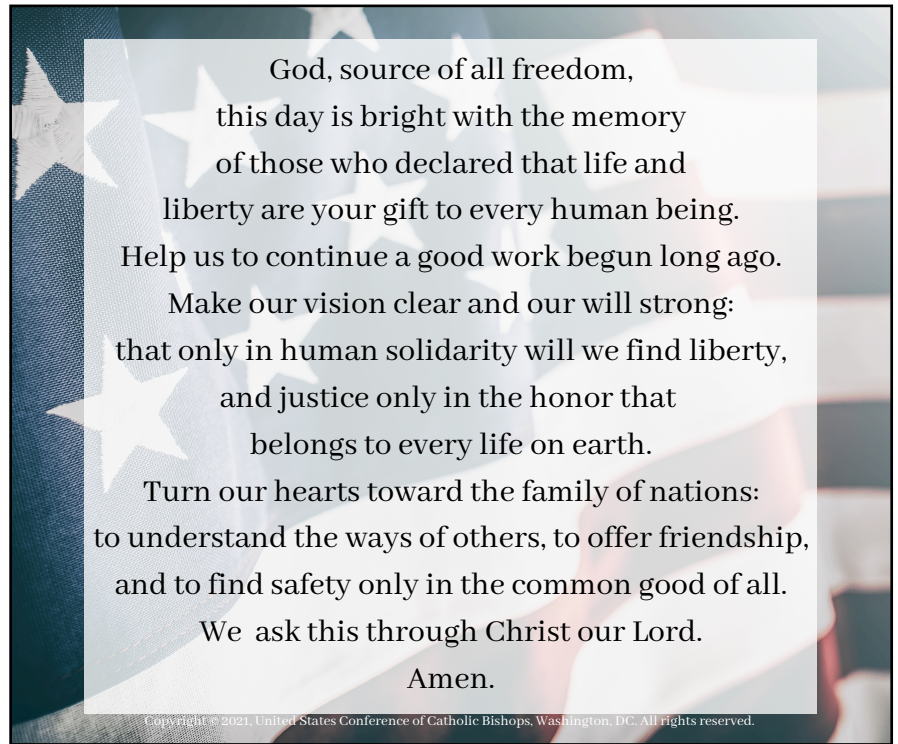
What to Expect:

- **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 olingerjp@yahoo.com.



God, source of all freedom,
this day is bright with the memory
of those who declared that life and
liberty are your gift to every human being.
Help us to continue a good work begun long ago.
Make our vision clear and our will strong:
that only in human solidarity will we find liberty,
and justice only in the honor that
belongs to every life on earth.
Turn our hearts toward the family of nations:
to understand the ways of others, to offer friendship,
and to find safety only in the common good of all.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

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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!

PURLS Prayer Shawl Ministry

What: Gather together to pray, socialize, and knit/crochet prayer shawls
When/Where: Tuesday, July 8th (2nd Tuesday of each month); 10am or 6:30pm; meet in Room 9
Who: Knitters and crocheters of all skill levels (even wannabes)
Questions: Contact the parish office at (309) 662-7361

The grace of our Lord
JESUS CHRIST
be with your spirit

GALATIANS 6:18



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

7/6: 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.



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.

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. Contact Jess at jessica@stpatrickmerna.org with questions.



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

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Religious Education - St. Mary Church in Downs

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