

The Churches of St. Bernard and St. Bridget



sbsbparishes.org

Pastor	Fr. John P. Wilmot	(507) 533-8257	frwilmot@aol.com
Administrative Assistant	Pam Cleveland	(507) 533-8257	stbernard116@aol.com
Religious Ed & Youth	Krissy Sullivan	(507) 533-8192	ksullivan@sbsbparishes.org
Adult Faith Formation	Cindy Meyerhofer	(507) 273-9847	cindymeyerhofer@q.com
Custodial	Dick Koenigs	(507) 269-1901	rpkoenigs@aol.com
Custodial	Dan Schoeppner	(507) 533-4474	
Bookkeeping	Ronda Miner	(507) 533-8257	books@sbsbparishes.org

Parish Office

Location	116 4 th Ave SE Stewartville, MN 55976
Office Hours	Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 2:30 pm
Phone	(507) 533-8257
Rectory	(507) 533-1086 (after hours-emergency)

December 14, 2014

Parish Registration: If you wish to become a member, registration forms are in the kiosk at St. Bernard's or you may contact the parish office or visit sbsbparishes.org and find the registration application under the 'About' tab.

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 8:30 am–5:30 pm, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30 am – 2:30 pm

Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday mornings 10:00 am.

Becoming Catholic: Are you interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic faith? Contact Fr. Wilmot frwilmot@aol.com 533-8257 or Mary Brouillard mkbrouill@aol.com 533-6596 at St. Bernard's or Sandy Woodruff 282-3854 at St. Bridget's.

St. Bridget's Adoration: Mondays 1:00 - 10:00 pm

St. Bernard's Adoration: Tuesdays 4:00 am - Wednesdays Midnight. Church doors will be locked from 8:00 pm - 5:00 am on Tuesday and Wednesdays. If you wish to stop by for Adoration during this time, use the doorbell located on the glass doors of the main entrance.

Confessions: (extra confessions through Advent – see schedule)

Saturdays at St. Bernard's

4:00 - 4:30 pm

Sundays St. Bridget's

7:45 - 8:15 am

You may call Father to make an appointment.

Baptism: Expectant or new parents, call the office to register for a PreJordan Baptism Class.

Marriage: Make an appointment with Father at least six months prior to the anticipated date.

Pastor's Visit & Sick Calls: If you would like a Communion visit from Fr. Wilmot, call the office 533-8257.

Estate Plans: Have you remembered St. Bernard's or St. Bridget's in your will?

Prayer Group: Wednesdays 9:30-10:30 am at St. Bernard's in the parish library.

Latin Mass: Held the first and third Sundays of the month at St. Bridget's at 1:00 pm. Questions, contact Don Hagler at 206-4355 or www.rochesterlatinmasssociety.org

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Monday, Dec 15	St. Bernard's Colin Casella+	8:00 am
Tuesday, Dec 16	St. Bridget's Carroll Baruth+	8:30 am
Wednesday, Dec 17	St. Bernard's Walt R. David+	8:00 am
Thursday, Dec 18	St. Bernard's Mike Foster+	8:00 am
Friday, Dec 19	St. Bernard's Les Wernimont+	8:00 am
	Care Center Intention for residents	9:15 am
Saturday, Dec 20	St. Bernard's Gene Klann+	5:00 pm
Sunday, Dec 21	St. Bridget's For St. Bridget's & St. Bernard's	8:30 am
	St. Bernard's Gary Braun+	10:00 am
	St. Bridget's Latin Mass	1:00 pm

Liturgical Ministries

Saturday, Dec 20 - 5:00 pm – St. Bernard's

Servers: Lacy Jewson, Emily Rinken

Rosary: Cindy Meyerhofer

Lector: Marge Reimers

EMC: Mary Claeys, Dorothy Hurley, Emily Kiefer, Mary Lynch

Cindy Meyerhofer

Ushers: Darrel Elsbernd, Warren Hauger, Dan Rainey,

Joe Rauh, Bill Rinken

Sunday, Dec 21 – 8:30 am – St. Bridget's

Server: Luke Borst

Lector: Marilyn Baker

EMC: Andy Friederichs, Hand Friederichs, Harvey Friederichs

Sunday, Dec 21 – 10:00 am - St. Bernard's

Servers: Hannah Otto, Chelsea Pierick

Rosary: Jan Owen

Lector: Steve Sturm

EMC: Jan Owen, Laura Peters, Pat Robey (volunteers needed)

Ushers: Brad Kime, Brian Meyerhofer, Jim Otto



Pastor's Corner

Today we celebrate "Gaudete Sunday" The Latin word means "Rejoice" and is pronounced "Gowdaytay" – it begins the entry antiphon for this Sunday. (Listen to my third website talk for Advent). Rejoicing will be mentioned a lot during this week's Mass. Flowers may even be displayed. We Christians are not to be people of gloom and doom but of joy. Christmas is an historical drama played out and celebrated around this time of the year. We look forward to celebrating His coming in Bethlehem those many years ago but we must remember that He is among us. How can we be gloomy and downcast when the Word made flesh, the Risen Lord, still comes to us in word and sacrament and in the hearts of all of goodwill? Do we truly recognize Christ in our lives or is religion simply an escape for us; is it a tool to further our own agenda or do we truly live for Him? Do we place our trust in Him?

The trouble is too many of us, at times or even habitually, try to play God and fail to turn to the One who can solve every crisis. Christ is closer to us than we are to our true selves but so often we chose to ignore Him – hence the gloom. Let us enjoy this brief respite from the more serious nature of Advent and pray that we can recognize Christ's presence among us and that we shall always show forth the joy of the Lord. God bless you all.

Stewardship Reflection

In his letter to the Thessalonians, our second reading for this, the Third Sunday of Advent, St. Paul gives us a summary of what it means to be a good steward: "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks." That may seem simplistic, admittedly difficult, but those are indeed at the heart of a stewardship way of life.

It is worth noting as we prepare for the coming of the Christ child that stewardship is both a happy and positive way of living. It is happy because good stewards, through focusing on gratitude, view life in an upbeat and encouraging way. As a result they are not blessed because they are stewards, but they are exceedingly happy because they view all as gift and all with gratefulness.

Stewardship of Treasure

Church Support Received for December 7 St. Bernard's

Weekly Amount Rec'd	\$ 4,167.13
Amount Budgeted	\$ 4,897.96
Fiscal YTD Received	\$ 90,314.69
YTD Budgeted	\$112,653.12
Under Budget	\$ 22,338.43-

St. Bridget's

Weekly Amount Rec'd	\$ 3,426.27
Amount Budgeted	\$ 1,992.65
Fiscal YTD Received	\$ 48,265.04
YTD Budgeted	\$ 45,831.04
Over Budget	\$ 2,434.00+

St. Bernard's: Thank you to all who give generously to our church support. However, we are digging quite a deep hole regarding church contributions. If you don't give as yet, please do so and if you do, perhaps you can afford a little more. "The Lord loves a cheerful giver." Fr. Wilmot

Our Parishes

Advent & Christmas Schedule: Every registered household in St. Bridget's and St. Bernard's received the newsletter a few weeks ago and the schedule of events is listed in there. Also, there have been calendar of events enclosed within the bulletins – extras are on the tables at the parishes. You may log-on to the parish website sbsbparishes.org and click on the picture to the right that says Advent Calendar.

Blessing of Baby Jesus for your Nativity: It is "Bambinelli" (little infants) Sunday where the Pope blesses the baby Jesus's from nativity sets. Fr. will bless any Baby Jesus that children bring to the weekend Masses. If you missed bringing your Baby Jesus to the 5:00 pm Mass, or the 8:30 am, join us at the 10:00 am.

Quilting / Sewing Group: Meet on Thursday, December 18 in the Marian Room at St. Bernard's. Come whenever you can between 1:00-3:30 pm.

Benediction & Confessions at St. Bernard's: Friday, December 19 at 6:30 pm.

Extra Confession Time: Saturday, December 20, at St. Bernard's at 10:00 am.

Blessings of Expectant Mothers: This next weekend, December 20 & 21 at all Masses.



Christmas Flowers: Those wanting to donate a Christmas flower in memory of a loved one or in honor of loved ones, use the special envelopes in your donation packets or clearly mark on an envelope who the flowers are in memory/in honor of. Suggested price per plant is 10-15 dollars.

Matthew Kelly Contest, Sponsored by St. Bernard's Men's Club: Contestants (must be registered parishioners) are asked to send in a short essay, maximum of 1,000 words, on "*What it Means to be Catholic*". It is open to all college students, part time and full time. One entry per family, please. First five acceptable papers are for two tickets each, the next five are for one ticket. Deadline is January 1st 2015. Send to Fr. John P. Wilmot, St. Bernard's, 116 4th Ave SE, Stewartville, MN 55976

Communion Ministers: If you plan to attend Mass on Christmas morning, please volunteer yourself. We are in need of ministers for that day. Also we need Communion ministers at St. Bernard's Christmas Eve at the 4:00 pm Mass. Hop on the online scheduler or email or call Pam at the office.

St. Bernard's



I thank everyone involved in last week's welcome for good old St. Nick. Our gathering was a huge success. The children left full of joy and learning a little more about their faith. Firstly I thank the holy man himself for coming; the Men's Club for providing a fine breakfast, those who organized the games and the gift bags, etc. and anyone who, through their stewardship, brought joy to the hearts of Jesus' favorite subjects, our children. I also thank all who attended and joined in with the spirit of the event. We'll have a great Christmas with that attitude. Fr.W.

Men's Club Gift to Parish Building Campaign: I believe I mentioned this in church but not in the bulletin: We thank the Men's Club for their generous contribution of \$4,300.00 towards paying down our debt. Their hope is, of course, that others might try to match at least part of this. Thanks again Men's Club. Fr.W

Thank You: A note of thanks to all who helped in any way with the Splittstoesser funeral last weekend. You are really appreciated.

Children's Christmas Program: Rehearsal will be Sunday mornings at 8:30 am December 21. Questions, contact Cheryl Terhaar 533-6704

Adult Choir: Practice on Sunday, December 21 at 8:50 am and sing at 10:00 am Mass.



Sing-a-long: Please join the choir for a Christmas carol sing-a-long on Saturday, December 20 at 7:00 pm in the church. We will be singing traditional Christmas carols along with a few popular favorites. You won't want to miss our special guest soloist!

Religious Ed News

Regular Class: Next week on Wednesday, December 17 from 5:00-6:00 pm or 6:30-7:30 pm at St. Bernard's. After that, no class until January 7.

St. Bridget's

Christmas Choir Practice: Thursday, December 18 at 6:30 pm

Thank You: I would like to thank the carolers for coming to my house. You made my day! ~ Betty Baker

Adorers Needed: We need a second adorer for 2:00 - 3:00 pm and 9:00 - 10:00 pm on Mondays. Let Kathy Baruth know if you can help 269-8065. If you are unable to start until January, that will work.

Additional Confession Time: Tuesday, December 23 from 6:30-7:30 pm.