

The Churches of St. Bernard and St. Bridget



sbsbparishes.org

Pastor	Fr. John P. Wilmot	(507) 533-8257	frwilmot@aol.com
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General Assistant	Kathy O'Connor	(507) 533-8257	sbsbkathyoffice@aol.com
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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)

February 14, 2016

1st Sunday of Lent February 14, 2016

Parish Registration: 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 – Friday 8:30-5:00 pm

Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday mornings 10:00 am unless a holiday is during the week.

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: Saturdays at St. Bernard's 4:00-4:30 pm
Sundays at St. Bridget's 7:45 – 8:15 am

Baptism: Expectant and /or new parents, if you have not taken a Pre Jordan Baptism Class, contact the office. Once the class is completed, contact the office to schedule the baptism

Marriage: Make an appointment with Father at least six months prior to the anticipated date. You may call earlier for availability of dates.

Pastor's Visit & Sick Calls: If you would like a Communion visit from Fr. Wilmot or if you would like to be added to Fr. Wilmot's First Friday Communion List, call the office at 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.

Catholic Cancer Support Group: Meets every 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm in the library at St. Bernard's.

Mass Schedule & Intentions

Monday, Feb 15 **St. Bernard** **8:00 am**
For Jessica Davis & Family

Tuesday, Feb 16 **St. Bridget** **8:30 am**
James P. O'Neill+

Wednesday, Feb 17 **St. Bernard** **8:00 am**
Mike Foster+

Thursday, Feb 18 **St. Bernard** **8:00 am**
Paul & Louise Fontaine+

Friday, Feb 19 **St. Bernard** **8:00 am**
Theresa & George Woodward+

Care Center **9:15 am**
George & Lillian Gehling+

Saturday, Feb 20 **St. Bernard** **5:00 pm**
Pat Mullenbach+

Sunday, Feb 21 **St. Bridget** **8:30 am**
Mari Ahlers+

St. Bernard **10:00 am**
For St. Bernard & St. Bridget

Saturday, February 20

St. Bernard – 5:00 pm

Greeters: Mary & Dave Schultz

Rosary: Mary Lynch

Servers: Needed

Lector: Bernice Casella

EMC: Judy Bunde, Terri Elsbernd, Susan Hazelton,

Mary Lynch

Ushers: Dave Bunde, Darrel Elsbernd, Warren Hauger,

Dan Rainey

Sunday, February 21

St. Bridget – 8:30 am

Server: Eli Araoz

Lector: Andy Friederichs

EMC: Needed

St. Bernard – 10:00 am

Greeter: Erin, Emily, Erica & Jennifer Lamb

Servers: Emily & Erica Lamb

Lector: Patty Miller

EMC: Scott Christian, Mychelle Henderson, Rob Miller,

Karen Volkart

Ushers: Jad Mayer, Bill Oswald, Jim Otto, Wayne Volkart

Pastor's Corner

On Wednesday we began officially the season of Lent, a time in which we try to unite ourselves more closely to the Lord as we journey towards His passion, death and resurrection. We received ashes and with the words "Repent and believe in the Gospel" we were reminded of the truth of human existence: we are limited creatures, sinners in need of repentance and true conversion. Throughout our Lenten journey we must remember that our aim is to return to the warm embrace of a Merciful Father and trust that Jesus is showing us the way.

We see in today's Gospel, that Jesus is fully human; tempted by bodily desires, tempted by power and tempted by the desire to amaze others – but He did not give in to these temptations. The Spirit was with Him. Unlike Jesus, our temptations stem mostly from sin and selfishness manifested in terms of entitlement – a residual effect of original sin.

When we identify our temptations, we can ask God to help us and He will. We might offer many of our desires to those who are actually in need (via rice bowls): of food, safe water, shelter, basic health care and shelter as we live in moderation. Let us continue to sacrifice this Lent – disciplines can still start today. Let us pray for the strength and courage we need to follow Jesus who has trodden our path and who overcame all temptation. God bless you all as you journey.

Stewardship Reflection

In today's first reading Moses speaks not just to the Israelites, but to us as well, as is always the case with Holy Scripture. Moses makes reference to giving of one's first fruits. Specifically he says, "Therefore, I have now brought you the first fruits of the products of the soil which you, O Lord, have given me, and having set them before the Lord, your God, you shall bow down in his presence."

Giving of first fruits is a way to acknowledge and honor God because it provides the Lord with His portion first, before any is used for one's self. That, of course, is an important aspect of stewardship, as challenging as that may be. Moses recognizes that all comes from God, and we are called to return this first portion in thanksgiving for God's grace and love and blessings.

Moses would also remind us that giving must come from the heart, with a true attitude of gratitude. It is part of the way we worship the Lord by being stewards of His gifts.

Stewardship of Treasure

Church Support Received for the week ending Feb 7

St. Bernard's

Amount Rec'd	\$ 3,541.01
Amount Budgeted	\$ 5,044.73
YTD Received	\$160,290.48
YTD Budgeted	\$161,431.38
Under Budget	\$ 1,140.90 -

St. Bridget's

Amount Rec'd	\$ 1,494.60
Amount Budgeted	\$ 2,052.42
YTD Received	\$ 87,487.88
YTD Budgeted	\$ 65,677.54
Over Budget	\$ 21,810.34 +

Our Parishes

Best Lent Ever: Are you searching for a deeper sense of purpose, a clearer understanding of God's plan for your life? What matters most and what matters least? Then it's time to rediscover Jesus. Based on Matthew Kelly's newest bestseller *Rediscover Jesus*, Dynamic Catholic's free *Best Lent Ever* email program will take you on a 40-day spiritual journey to encounter Jesus—and yourself—in a deeply personal way, and begin a habit of daily prayer. *Rediscover Jesus* is the book that was given to us as a Christmas gift. Visit DynamicCatholic.com/Lent and watch the short video of Matthew and sign up for the free email program.

Stations of the Cross: Fridays through Lent 5:30 pm at St. Bridget's and 6:30 pm at St. Bernard's.

Cancer Support Meeting: Tuesday, Feb 16 at 7:00 pm in the parish library at St. Bernard's.

Quilting/Sewing Group: Thursday, February 18 from 1:00-3:30 pm in the Marian Room at St. Bernard's.

Teachers, Religious Ed Helpers: VIRTUS is a training program to recognize and prevent child abuse and is required by the Winona Diocese for all parish employees and volunteers who work with youth. Teachers and helpers who have not yet attended a VIRTUS training, please do so. There is a session offered at St. Bernard's on **Saturday, February 27 at 1:00 pm**. Online registration is required at www.virtusonline.org by clicking on the registration link, and then selecting Winona, MN (Diocese) or contact Cindy Meyerhofer at 273-9847 if you have any questions.

St. Bernard



Baptism: Blessings to Nevaeh Ann Weber and Brooklyn Aurora Gunderson, daughters of Matt & Heather, as they receive the holy sacrament of baptism.

Adult Choir: Practice on Sunday, February 21 at 8:50 am and provide music ministry at 10:00 am

You Are Appreciated: Thank you to those who helped in any way with Larry Raadt's funeral luncheon. Your assistance for your parish family is appreciated.
~ St. Bernard's Funeral Committee



We know there are many of you who no longer have land lines. Please take a moment, just a moment, to email or call the parish office with your new contact information.

Religious Ed - Youth & Adult

FAITH Night at St. Bernard's - Wednesday, February 17: A taco supper begins at 5:45 pm. (Kitchen help and desserts are needed – let Krissy know.) The students will have regular class from 5:15-6:16 pm or after supper 6:30-7:30 pm. Fr. Wilmot will hold an adult session in the church after supper entitled "Heaven, Hell or Purgatory".

Lenten Adult Faith Formation: Mondays Feb 15 & 22 from 6:30 -7:20 pm Fr. Wilmot give a talk on the Sacraments. The first week will feature: Baptism, Reconciliation & Sacrament of the Sick (last rites).

'Rediscover Jesus': Discussion groups stemming from the book that was given as a Christmas gift to our parishioners by Matthew Kelly, will be facilitated by Fr. Wilmot & Cindy Meyerhofer on Mondays from 6:30 – 7:20 pm on Feb 29, March 7, 14.

9th Grade Confirmation Class: On Sunday, February 28 the 9th grade students and their sponsor please meet in the Marian Hall at St. Bernard's at 9:45 am. The student will be signing the book during the 10:00 am Mass for the Rite of Commitment. After Mass we will have a speaker, food, talk about saint projects, and learning centers. The day will conclude around 2:00 pm. If a sponsor is unable to attend a parent can fill in for them. This is for St. Bernard & St. Bridget students.

St. Bridget

Feast of Bridget: This was a wonderful, sold-out event with good food, entertainment from both parishes and plenty of cheer. Many thanks to everyone involved; from ticket sellers, those who prepared and served the food and drink, the young and older "set up" and "clean up" crews of volunteers, the entertainers and all who participated in any way. Sincere thanks to those who supported us with their presence. We will look for a repeat in the not too distant future. Thanks everybody. Fr.W.

Around The Area

Respect Life: The *40 Days for Life Spring Campaign* takes place February 10 - March 20. Come join others in prayer in front of Planned Parenthood in Rochester. Contact Paula Ellefson at (507) 398-5677 or at buggz25@msn.com. To sign up for a time slot to pray, see www.40daysforlife.com/rochester-mn

Married Couples Retreat in Buffalo, MN: "Sowing Seeds of Mercy" will be held on Friday –Sunday, March 4-6. For more information on retreats held at Christ the King Retreat Center, call 763-682-1394.

Women's Lenten Retreat: The Diocese of Winona presents this all-day retreat on Saturday, March 12 at St. Joseph's Parish in Owatonna. This is a true spiritual renewal retreat led by Amanda Teixeira and Mass celebrated by Bishop Quinn. Registration is \$20 online at www.dow.org

Man of God, Men's Conference: This will be held Saturday, April 2 at Lourdes High School in Rochester from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, sponsored by the Diocese of Winona. The cost is \$25, which includes lunch. Fr. Jonathan Fasnacht will be the emcee for the conference. Bishop Quinn will close the conference by celebrating Mass. More information and registration can be found at www.dowmen.org or on the bulletin board at St. Bernard.

Volunteer Opportunity: The Dorothy Day Hospitality House is a temporary homeless shelter, just west of downtown Rochester. We are presently in need of additional front desk volunteers. For more info, visit dorothydayrochestermn.org