

The Churches of St. Bernard and St. Bridget

St. Bernard
116 4th Ave SE
Stewartville, MN

St. Bridget
2123 County Rd 16 SE
Rochester, MN



website: 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	sbsbreligioused@aol.com
Adult Faith Formation	Cindy Meyerhofer	(507) 273-9847	cindymeyerhofer@g.com
Youth Leader	Neal Abbott	(507) 316-5545	nealabbott11@gmail.com
Custodial	Dick Koenigs	(507) 269-1901	rpkoenigs@aol.com
Custodial	Dan Schoeppner	(507) 533-4474	
Bookkeeping	Elaine Mills	(507) 440-0674	memills@frontiernet.net

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 3, 2017

The First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2017

Parish Registration: Registration forms are in the kiosk at St. Bernard's or visit sbsbparishes.org and find the registration application under the 'About' tab.

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30am -2:30pm

Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday mornings 10am

Becoming Catholic: Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic faith? Contact Fr. Wilmot 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 1-10pm. Church doors will be locked after 5pm. If you wish to stop by for Adoration after 5, knock on the door to be let inside.

St. Bernard's Adoration: Tuesdays 4am - Wednesdays 9pm. Church doors will be locked from 8pm-5am on Tuesday and Wednesdays. If you wish to stop by for Adoration, use the doorbell on the main entrance doors.

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

Baptism: Expectant and /or new parents, if you have not taken a Pre Jordan Baptism Class, contact the office.

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.

Homebound: If you would like a Communion Minister to bring Communion to you or a family member at home, assisted living, or the Care Center on Sunday mornings, contact Jan Owen 533-4964

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

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

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Monday, Dec 4 **St Bernard** **8:00 am**
For the Steinmetz Family

Tuesday, Dec 5 **St Bridget** **8:30 am**
Francis Brennan+

Wednesday, Dec 6 **St Bernard** **8:00 am**
Bernie Gardner+

Thursday, Dec 7 **St Bernard** **8:00 am**
Bill & Nela Suess+

Friday, Dec 8 **St Bridget** **8:30 am**
Immaculate Conception Mary Strei+

Care Center **10:00 am** (Yes, 10)
Fr. Don Connelly+

St Bernard **6:30 pm**
Robert Johnson+

Saturday, Dec 9 **St Bernard** **5:00 pm**
LeVerne Meyerhofer+

Sunday, Dec 10 **St Bridget** **8:30 am**
Rose Brennan+

St Bernard **10:00 am**
For St Bernard's & St Bridget's

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, December 9

St. Bernard – 5:00 pm

Server: Needed

Lector: Dorothy Hurley

EMC: Judy Bunde, Emily Kiefer, Patty Miller, Rob Miller

Ushers: Dave Bunde, Joe Himmer, Dick Koenigs,

Dan Schoeppner

Sunday, December 10

St. Bridget – 8:30 am

Server: Eli Araoz

Lector: Mike Sheehan

EMC: Bill Kuisle, Roger Roeder

St. Bernard – 10:00 am

Servers: Matthew & Sarah Watters

Lector: Julie Watters

EMC: Konner Dodd, Lisa Dodd, Karen Greenslade,

Joann Hinders, Steve Sturm, Kim Yennie

Ushers: Brian Meyerhofer, Patrick Miller, Andy Moore,
Jim Otto

Pastor's Corner

The First Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of a new liturgical year. All the readings during this period of waiting and anticipation concentrate on making us aware that it is time for us to awaken our lives as Christians. Jesus opens our Gospel Reading from St. Mark by saying "Be watchful! Be alert!" and closes it with an intense "Watch!" He tells us to watch and pray for His Second Coming. This means that we must try to keep ourselves free of sins and confess those we have. We must also keep away from discouragement and depression and live in joyful hope.

For many Advent and Christmas are times of light, hence the candles on Advent wreaths and the festive lights decorating many tree and buildings. Jesus brings light into our worlds, but we must allow this light to permeate our very souls, to illuminate and cleanse them. Therefore we are in a period of renewed prayer and penance preparing to "watch" for the Lord, not just at Christmas but throughout our lives. God bless you all.

Stewardship Reflection

As we embark upon our Advent journey of preparation for the historical first coming of Christ, our minds may say "Let go" but our spirituality tells us to "Awaken." We are filled with spiritual depths. It is time to seek them, find them, and awaken them. It is Advent, time for us to awaken and become aware of the gifts of love we have received from God and others. Or as Jesus reminds us: "Watch." He is also saying "See". See the good you can do in terms of your less fortunate brothers and sisters.



The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Friday, December 8 is a Holy Day of Obligation. Fr. Wilmot will celebrate two Masses; St Bridget's 8:30am and then in the evening at St Bernard's 6:30pm. After the evening Mass, Exposition and Benediction will follow.

Liturgical Ministers: Please check the online scheduler program and volunteer for this Holy Day.

Stewardship of Treasure

Church Support for the week ending November 26 includes Thanksgiving

St. Bernard's

Amount Received	\$ 5,918.77
Amount Budgeted	\$ 5,559.00
YTD Received	\$112,064.62
YTD Budgeted	\$122,298.00
Under Budget	\$ 10,233.38-

St. Bridget's

Amount Received	\$ 1,613.25
Amount Budgeted	\$ 2,767.00
YTD Received	\$ 52,531.37
YTD Budgeted	\$ 60,874.00
Under Budget	\$ 8,342.63-

Our Parishes

Address Changes: After sending out the newsletter, it is apparent several of you have moved. Please let us know so we can keep our records updated.



Family Promise Tree [Giving Tree]: St Bernard/St Bridget Social Justice Team is asking you to help provide basic household items and gift cards for the homeless families cared for by Family Promise. Please select ornaments from the tree. Gifts are to be returned unwrapped with the ornament. Place gift cards, with the amount shown, in the collection basket or the office. All items should be brought in by Sunday, December 17. The Social Justice Team thanks each of you for your generous gifts for the homeless campaign over the years.

Anointing of the Sick: After the weekend Masses of December 9 & 10.

Quilting/Sewing Group: Thursday, December 14, from 1-3pm in St Bernard's Marian Room.

Advent Penance Service: Thursday, December 14 at 6:30pm at St. Bernard's. Several priests will be in attendance to hear confessions.

Evening Prayer & Benediction: Friday, December 15 & 22 at St Bernard's, 6:30pm

Blessing of Expectant Mothers: During the weekend Masses on December 16 & 17.

Religious Ed & Youth News

Classes: Wednesday, Dec 6
5:15-6:15pm | 6:30-7:30pm

Grade 2 Parent Mtg: Wednesday, December 6, 6:30pm in the social hall. If you are unable to attend, let Krissy know.

Grade 8 Confirmation Parent Meeting: Wednesday, December 13 at 6:30pm in the social hall. Parents and students will attend this meeting together.

Grade 5: You will be going to the Care Center for Card Bingo on Wednesday December 13 from 6:30-7:30pm. Please drop off and pick up your child at the Care Center.

BYG (Bernie & Bridgie's Youth Group)



BYG will be ringing bells for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive on Wednesday, December 13 from 2-4pm at Fareway in Stewartville. You are welcome to join us or stop by to say hello.

St Bernard's



Baptism: Blessings and welcome to Harper Mae Vieth, daughter of David & Melissa, as she receives the holy sacrament of baptism.

80th Birthday Celebration: The family of Dorothy Hurley invites you to join them in celebrating Dorothy's 80th birthday at an Open House at the Stewartville Sportsman's Club on Sunday, December 3 from 1-6pm.

Men's Club Mtg: Tuesday, December 5 at 6:30pm

Adult Choir: Practice on Sunday, Dec 10 & 17 at 8:50am followed by music ministry at 10am Mass.

Children's Christmas Program Practice: Practices will be Sundays, December 10 & 17 at 8:30am. Questions, Cheryl Terhaar 533-6704 or Brenda Trisko 533-4808.



Christmas Sing-Along: On Saturday, December 16 at 7pm, the Adult Choir invites you to sing along with familiar Christmas tunes. Refreshments and Christmas goodies will be served.

St Bridget's

Thank You: Thank you to all who came to support the Adoption Ministry Fundraiser Breakfast and Bake Sale. Our appreciation to all who baked, served and cleaned up. This fundraiser made \$500.

~ The Adoption Ministry Committee

60th Anniversary: Blessings to parishioners Dave & Carole Nelson as they celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary. Their children will be hosting an Open House at Charlie's Eatery & Pub at Hillcrest Shopping Center, on Saturday, December 16 from 4-7pm. No gifts.

Choir: Music ministry at Mass on Sunday, December 17. Meet at 7:45am for practice.



Come Little Children and Families: With the Christmas season upon us, we would like to provide several opportunities for you (families) to share your talents and help prepare for a St. Bridget's Christmas celebration. This is something new for the children so they can be part of the worship, in addition to the choir's music. Please consider joining in any or all of these in either voice, as a musician, and/or actor for Dec 17-all ages welcome.

Sunday, December 17 - "Let It Be Christmas"

Christmas Program w/Breakfast following the program St. Bridget's Social Hall - after 8:30am Mass

Sunday, December 24 - Christmas Vigil Mass – 6pm & Monday, December 25 - Christmas Day Mass – 9:30am

Sing or play a musical selection before or during the Christmas Vigil or Christmas Day Mass. If you are interested in participating or have a talent you'd love to share please contact Cecilia, Jeannette, or Lisa as soon as possible, since we only have a short two weeks to plan.

Contact Information:

Cecilia Kraft / cmpkraft@charter.net / 289-0315

Jeannette Sheehan / jrsheehan@hotmail.com / 251-8053

Lisa Behnken / lbehnken@umn.edu / 990-3537

Area News

Best Advent Ever! Sign-up for free at Dynamic Catholic's website: www.bestadventever.com

Catholic School News: The annual Christmas Concert will be performed on Thursday, December 14 at 6:30 pm at the Church of the Resurrection. Everyone is welcome to attend.