

# The Churches of St. Bernard and St. Bridget



**sbsbparishes.org**

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

## Parish Office

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

**December 13, 2015**

**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](http://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](mailto:frwilmot@aol.com) 533-8257 or Mary Brouillard [mkbrouill@aol.com](mailto: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 than that for availability.

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00 pm in the library at St. Bernard's.

## Mass Schedule & Intentions

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

<b>Monday, Dec 14</b>	<b>St. Bernard</b> Ida Wicks+	<b>8:00 am</b>
<b>Tuesday, Dec 15</b>	<b>St. Bridget</b> Lucy Tooke+	<b>8:30 am</b>
<b>Wednesday, Dec 16</b>	<b>St. Bernard</b> Mike Foster+	<b>8:00 am</b>
<b>Thursday, Dec 17</b>	<b>St. Bernard</b> Stan & Peg Himmer+	<b>8:00 am</b>
<b>Friday, Dec 18</b>	<b>St. Bernard</b> Ollie Fritsche+	<b>8:00 am</b>
	<b>Care Center</b> Intention for the residents	<b>9:15 am</b>
<b>Saturday, Dec 19</b>	<b>St. Bernard</b> LaVonne Schoeppner+	<b>5:00 pm</b>
<b>Sunday, Dec 20</b>	<b>St. Bridget</b> For St. Bridget's & St. Bernard's	<b>8:30 am</b>
	<b>St. Bernard</b> Lynn Larsen+	<b>10:00 am</b>

## Liturgical Ministries

### Saturday, Dec 19 - 5:00 pm – St. Bernard's

Greeters: Dave & Mary Schultz

Server: Lacy Jewson

Lector: Nick Konrady

EMC: Mary claeys, Pauline Fontaine, Emily Kiefer

Ushers: Joe Himmer, Dick Koenigs, Bill Rincken,

Dan Schoeppner

### Sunday, Dec 20 am – St. Bridget's

Server: Eli Araoz

Lector: Marilyn Baker

EMC: Bill Kuisle, Mary Elton, Terry Smith

### Sunday, Dec 20 - 10:00 am - St. Bernard's

Greeters: Jennifer, Erin, Emily & Erica Lamb

Rosary: Jan Owen

Servers: Ellah Dodd, Erica Lamb

Lector: Needed

EMC: Don Brouillard, Mary Brouillard, Lisa Dodd,

Marilyn Eisen, Jan Owen, Karen Volkart

Ushers: Kevin Christian, Brian Meyerhofer, Andy Moore,

Dan Pyan

## Pastor's Corner

We call today Gaudete "Rejoice" Sunday and the readings emphasize the theme of joy. The spirit of the liturgy all through Advent should be one of expectation and preparation for the feast of Christmas as well as for the second coming of Christ. However, the penitential exercises are suspended today in order to symbolize the joy and gladness of the promised Redemption.

What does the Gospel have to do with joy though? Luke gives us a series of questions which various people pose to John the Baptist as they seek to put their lives in order. He tells them to repent of their present way of living and to take on something positive and new. People in general are to practice justice by giving from their superfluity, not only regarding property but the giving of themselves to good works. As they prepare for the coming of Christ they should discover joy in affirming a new identity and appreciate fully the gift of a life well lived. God bless you all.

## Stewardship Reflection

"Shout for joy!" With that exclamation our First Reading from the prophet Zephaniah begins. We are told to "Sing joyfully" and to "Be glad and exult" as well. St. Paul in his letter to the Philippians proclaims, "Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice!" Why are we so joyous? St. John the Baptist explains it in our Gospel reading from St. Luke: "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming." Indeed...the Lord is coming, and soon, and that is why we are called to "Rejoice" on this Gaudete Sunday.



### Advent Penance Service

Thursday, December 17 at 6:30 pm.

Three priests will join Fr. Wilmot to hear confessions at St. Bernard's

Additional confession times through Advent are listed on the parish Advent calendar (displayed on the bulletin boards and available on the tables in the foyer/gathering space and on the website home page, halfway down on left side)

## Stewardship of Treasure

Church Support Received for the week ending Dec 6

### St. Bernard's

Amount Rec'd	\$ 5,087.63 (\$7.30 youth)
Amount Budgeted	\$ 5,044.73
YTD Received	\$102,892.93
YTD Budgeted	\$116,028.81
Under Budget	\$ 13,135.88 –

### St. Bridget's

Amount Rec'd	\$ 3,522.75 (\$2.75 youth)
Amount Budgeted	\$ 2,052.42
YTD Received	\$ 57,731.70
YTD Budgeted	\$ 47,205.73
Over Budget	\$ 10,525.97 +

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## Our Parishes



**Giving Tree:** Items are due to be turned in. If for some reason you missed turning in for the weekend, be sure to get them to St. Bernard's early on Monday morning (December 14).

**Cancer Support Meeting:** Tuesday, December 15 at 7:00 pm in the parish library at St. Bernard's.

**Quilting / Sewing Group:** Thursday, December 17 from 1:00-3:30 pm at St. Bernard's in the Marian Room.

**Check Website:** Please make use of the website to view the bulletin (save paper) and upcoming events in the calendar and Mass times. You can look at the Facebook page from the website as well, even if you do not have an account on Facebook.

**Jubilee Year of Mercy:** December 8, 2015 – November 20, 2016 *"We constantly need to contemplate the mystery of mercy. It is a wellspring of joy, serenity, and peace. Our salvation depends on it."* ~ Pope Francis The Diocese of Winona invites everyone to celebrate the Jubilee Year of Mercy, a time to meditate upon and more actively respond to the infinite mercy of God, which He offers to every soul through His Son, Jesus Christ. For us this begins this weekend with the blessing and opening of the Door of Mercy – The Confessional. Those with smartphones can look up 'year of mercy' and download a free app that has daily reflections and more.

**Reminder:** The choirs will be caroling ½ hour prior to the Christmas Eve night Masses at the parishes. You won't want to miss this beautiful music.

## St. Bernard



**Terrific St. Nicholas Gathering:** The saintly, old gentleman must have been well pleased with the turnout at the celebrations to greet him at St. Bernard's last Sunday. Kids and parents alike were very happy indeed. Many thanks to all who helped: including the Men's Club for the breakfast, Karen Volkart and company for arranging the games, the Himmers for taking care of the Pinata etc. and anyone who was involved in any way. These get-togethers help our parish spirit grow. Fr.W.

**2016 Calendars:** Thank you very much to Griffin-Gray Funeral Home for donating calendars for our parish.

**Baptism:** Blessings to Baylor Paige Groth, daughter of Ben & Whitney, as she receives the holy sacrament of baptism.



**Children's Christmas Play:** Practice will be held on Sunday, December 20 at 8:30 am. The Play will be held on Christmas Eve at 3:30 pm. Questions, contact Cheryl Terhaar 533-6704.

**Adult Choir:** Practices on Sunday, December 20 at 8:50 am and music ministry at 10:00 am Mass.

**Advent Evening Prayer & Benediction:** Friday, December 18 at 6:30 pm.

**Blessing of Expectant Mothers:** During the weekend Masses of December 19 & 20.

**Missing:** "Date Night Challenge Event" DVD from Focus on the Family is missing from the parish library. If you took this home to view it, please bring it back. We need it! You can drop it off in the office drop box or leave it on the table in the gathering space.

## Religious Ed & Youth

**Classes Wednesday, December 16:** Regular classes for St. Bernard students 5:15-6:15 pm or 6:30-7:30 pm. Grade 5 plays Card Bingo at the Care Center.

**St. Bridget Students:** On Wednesday, December 16 at 6:30 pm meet at St. Bridget's social hall for rehearsal for the Christmas Program.

**Parents:** The Advent Penance Service is on Thursday, December 17 at 6:30 pm at St. Bernard's. You are encouraged to have your children attend with you (Grade 3 and older).

## St. Bridget's

**Pastoral Council Meeting:** Tuesday, December 15 at 6:30 pm.

**Blessing of Expectant Mothers:** During Mass on Sunday, December 20.



**Children's Christmas Program & Breakfast:** You're invited for our Christmas Celebration on Sunday, December 20 following 8:30 am Mass. The students will perform their Christmas Program followed by breakfast in the social hall.

**Liturgical Ministers:** Many of you have been scheduled for December and January. Check the online program to be sure the dates work for you.

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## Around The Area

**Tour Christmas on the Hill:** In celebration of the holidays, come and tour the festively decorated Assisi Heights. December 14, 15, 16, 21 & 22 at 2 or 6:30 pm. Other dates and times are available. Preregistration is required 1 day in advance. Call 282-7441 and ask for Sister Alice.

**Flexible Volunteer Opportunity:** Transportation is a huge barrier for many seniors getting to medical appointments. *Elder Network's Medical Transportation* program is seeking additional drivers to take clients to their health related appointments. Many of our volunteer drivers tell us it's fun to socialize with the seniors and an easy way to give back. You tell us what days and times you might be available and then you sign up as you wish. For more information visit our website at [www.elder-network.org](http://www.elder-network.org) or call (507) 285-5272.

