

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@g.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 20, 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 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: 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 3rd Tuesday at 7:00 pm in the library at St. Bernard's.

Mass Schedule & Intentions

4th Sunday of Advent

Monday, Dec 21 **St. Bernard** **8:00 am**
George & Teresa Woodward+

Tuesday, Dec 22 **St. Bridget** **8:30 am**
Gene Klann+

Wednesday, Dec 23 **St. Bernard** **8:00 am**
Special Intention

Vigil, Nativity of the Lord

Thursday, Dec 24 **St. Bernard** **4:00 pm**
Helen Smith+

St. Bridget **6:00 pm**
James & Helen Sheehan+

St. Bernard **9:00 pm**
Mike Hurley+

Nativity of the Lord

Friday, Dec 25 **St. Bernard** **8:00 am**
Lyle & Colette Abbott+

St. Bridget **9:30 am**
Tom & Loretta Kennedy+

Saturday, Dec 26 **St. Bernard** **5:00 pm**
Bernadine Peterson+

Sunday, Dec 27 **St. Bridget** **8:30 am**
Gary Braun+

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

Liturgical Ministers

*Roles for Christmas and the weekend
are on the back page.*

Please check to see if you can assist where needed.

Thank you for your ministry.



Pastor's Corner

You can tell we are near Christmas as the traditional greeting exchanged in malls is heard, "I think I was next." (: Some will be saying "Happy Holidays" and us truly faithful ones will reply, "And a Merry Christmas to you." It is a wonderful time of year, a time when we can try to forget all adversity and bitterness and seek to love each other in a spirit of true cheer.

In today's Gospel we see Mary rushing off to be with her cousin Elizabeth who is with child – John the Baptist no less. This child would be special as we all know as he is to be the one to announce the coming of the Messiah. Already before his birth he shows signs of this as he leaps for joy when Mary, and Jesus within her, approaches. We should be leaping for joy too as we will in a few days be celebrating the great feast of His first coming.

Christmas is a time for gift giving and Jesus is God's greatest gift to us. We should show gratitude in the way we respond. Although this is a merry time of year, let us keep it sacred too and let it fill us with the spirit of generosity. Our gifts might be: To one who has hurt us, forgiveness, to one who drives us nuts, patience, to friends and relatives, our heart, and to all, charity. To ourselves we might show respect and to our Church the gift of true fidelity. However and wherever, you celebrate the feast, a Merry Christmas to you all.

Stewardship Reflection

In the U.S. Bishops Pastoral Letter on stewardship, the Bishops remind us that Mary is the epitome of stewardship: After Jesus, it is the Blessed Virgin Mary who by her example most perfectly teaches the meaning of discipleship and stewardship in their fullest sense. She was called and gifted by God; she responded generously, creatively, and prudently; she understood her divinely assigned role in terms of service and fidelity.

Jubilee Year of Mercy: *"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.

Stewardship of Treasure

Church Support Received for the week ending Dec 13

St. Bernard's

Amount Rec'd	\$ 5,771.05 (\$6.00 youth)
Amount Budgeted	\$ 5,044.73
YTD Received	\$108,663.98
YTD Budgeted	\$121,073.54
Under Budget	\$ 12,409.56 –

St. Bridget's

Amount Rec'd	\$ 2,829.00 (\$8.75 youth)
Amount Budgeted	\$ 2,052.42
YTD Received	\$ 60,560.70
YTD Budgeted	\$ 49,258.15
Over Budget	\$ 11,302.55 +

Our Parishes

Please Note: The internet service at St. Bernard's had been down since Monday early afternoon ☹ If we have been remiss in responding to emails, we apologize.



Music: The choirs will be caroling ½ hour prior to the Christmas Eve night Masses at the parishes. Come and enjoy the beautiful music.

Confessions: Wednesday, December 23:

6:00-6:45 pm at St. Bridget's
7:00-8:00 pm at St. Bernard's

End of the Year Contributions: A reminder - be sure to get your 2015 donations to the office by the end of December.

Mary, Mother of God Holy Day Schedule:

Thursday, Dec 31 Vigil Mass at St. Bridget's 6:00 pm.
Friday, January 1, Mass at St. Bernard's 8:00 am

Special Christmas Offer: The Diocesan History books will be on sale over the whole season for the low price of \$20. Pick one up at the back of the churches and leave a check or stop into the office. This makes a nice gift for Catholic friends, neighbors and family.

St. Bernard

Adult Choir: Practice Tuesday, December 22 at 6:30 pm in the choir room. Then, on Thursday, December 24 Christmas Eve, meet at 7:45 pm for practice, followed by singing prelude music at 8:30 pm.

Children's Christmas Play: The Play will be held on Thursday, Christmas Eve at 3:30 pm. Questions, contact Cheryl Terhaar 533-6704.

Religious Ed & Youth



Merry Christmas to you
and a Happy New Year!
Religious Ed Classes resume
in January. See you next year!

St. Bridget's

Choir: Meet on Thursday, December 24 Christmas Eve at 5:15 pm. Begin caroling at 5:30 pm. On Friday, December 25, Christmas Day, meet at 9:00 am. For the New Year, we will sing for Mass on Sunday, January 3 – meet at 7:45 am.

Around The Area

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

St. James Coffee Pilgrimage to Italy: You're invited to join Fr. Tom Loomis for a pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi Italy from November 2 to 11, 2016. An informational meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 5 at 6:30 pm at St. James Coffee. Brochures are available at the coffee house. Proceeds from the trip will be donated to St. James Coffee. Reserve your space - contact Ed Ventures, Inc. at 289-3332

Liturgical Ministries

December 24 – December 27

Thursday, Dec 24 – Christmas Eve

St. Bernard's 4:00 pm

Greeters: Tom & Kim Yennie Family

Servers: Lacy Jewson, Emily Lamb

Lector: Steve Sturm

EMC: Emily Kiefer, Mary Lynch, Jan Owen, Janet Speltz, Kim Yennie, Judy Bunde, Marilyn Eisen

Ushers: Brian Meyerhofer, Dave Bunde, Ken Trisko

St. Bridget's 6:00 pm

Server: Donovan Buss

Lector: Rebecca Buss

EMC: Jim Kuisle, Mary Elton

St. Bernard's 9:00 pm

Greeters: Kevin & Kari Koenigs

Server: Samantha Koenigs

Lector: Mary Brouillard

EMC: Don Brouillard, Dick Koenigs, Laura Peters, Karen Volkert

Ushers: Bill Oswald, Wayne Volkart

Friday, Dec 25 – Christmas Day

St. Bernard's 8:00 am

Servers: Needed

Lector: Mark Peterson

EMC: Mary Claeys, Pauline Fontaine

St. Bridget's 9:30 am

Server: Needed

Lector: Terry Smith

EMC: Karen Sheehan, Jeannette Sheehan

Saturday, Dec 26

St. Bernard – 5:00 pm

Rosary: Mary Lynch

Greeter: Sharon Theobald

Server: Arianna Blohm, Kira Nelson

Lector: Charlie O'Brien

EMC: Barb Abbott, Pauline Fontaine, Emily Kiefer

Ushers: Joe Himmer, Dick Koenigs, Bill Rinken, Dan Schoeppner

Sunday, Dec 27

St. Bridget – 8:30 am

Server: Victoria Nienow

Lector: Colleen Gau

EMC: Marilyn Baker, Wanda Nienow, Roger Roeder

St. Bernard – 10:00 am

Servers: Needed

Lector: Mary Brouillard

EMC: Patty Miller, Jan Owen, Laura Peters

Ushers: Kevin Christian, Andy Moore, Dan Pyan