

# The Churches of St. Bernard and St. Bridget



**sbsbparishes.org**

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<b>Bookkeeping</b>	Elaine Mills	(507) 440-0674	<a href="mailto:memills@frontiernet.net">memills@frontiernet.net</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 11, 2016**

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent December 11, 2016

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**Parish Registration:** Registration forms are in the kiosk at St. Bernard's or visit [sbsbparishes.org](http://sbsbparishes.org) and find the registration application under the 'About' tab.

**Office Hours:** Monday – Friday 8:30 am -2:30 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 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 9:00 pm. 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.

**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?

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

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

**Widows Support Group:** Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 10:00 am in the library at St. Bernard's.

## Mass Schedule & Intentions

<b>Monday, Dec 12</b>	<b>St. Bernard</b> 8:00 am Sylvester & Vivian Carolan+
<b>Tuesday, Dec 13</b>	<b>St. Bridget</b> 8:30 am Ralph & Jeanette Kruger+
<b>Wednesday, Dec 14</b>	<b>St. Bernard</b> 8:00 am Mike Foster+
<b>Thursday, Dec 15</b>	<b>St. Bernard</b> 8:00 am In thanksgiving for children
<b>Friday, Dec 16</b>	<b>St. Bernard</b> 8:00 am Marijane Irlbeck+
	<b>Care Center</b> 9:15 am Kate Towey+
<b>Saturday, Dec 17</b>	<b>St. Bernard</b> 5:00 pm John Steines+
<b>Sunday, Dec 18</b>	<b>St. Bridget</b> 8:30 am For the Robert & Pat Baker Family
	<b>St. Bernard</b> 10:00 am For St. Bernard's & St. Bridget's

### Saturday, Dec 17 **St. Bernard – 5:00 pm**

Servers: Needed

Lector: Nick Konrady

EMC: Barb Abbott, Terri Elsbernd, Dorothy Hurley, Emily Kiefer

Ushers: Joe Himmer, Bill Rincken, Dan Schoeppner

### Sunday, Dec 18 **St. Bridget – 8:30 am**

Server: Leo Noser

Lector: Bernice Casella

EMC: Bill Kuisle

### **St. Bernard – 10:00 am**

Rosary: Steve Sturm

Servers: Bryttin Henderson, Kiley Jones

Lector: Steve Sturm

EMC: Bayli Henderson, Mychelle Henderson, Mary Hustak, Laura Peters, Pat Robey

Ushers: Brian Meyerhofer, Andy Moore, Dan Pyan

## Pastor's Corner

The season of Advent originated in the 5<sup>th</sup> century as a fast of forty days commencing after the feast of St. Martin and ending at Christmas. This has changed of course, the duration was reduced to four weeks in the 9<sup>th</sup> century and now, though still having penitential dimensions, we try to avoid the idea of having a kind of mini Lent. The spirit of the time and its liturgies is still however one of expectation and preparation. We focus on Christmas but also on the second coming of Christ. Despite the Christmas parties etc, we can seek conversion of heart.

With that in mind, Gaudete (Joy) Sunday is seen as a respite when we can relax our fasting and more seriousness disciplines and concentrate on the joy that is coming our way. It is a great day for families and communities. We should then refocus on preparation and be sure to confess any sinfulness in time for Christmas. Let us radiate the joy of the Lord while we wait for His coming glory. God bless you all.

## Stewardship Reflection

Today, the Third Sunday of Advent, we celebrate *Gaudete* Sunday. *Gaudete* means "rejoice." Although Advent is a season of penitence and preparation, today is always set aside by the Church to relax and rejoice in the Lord.

This is most definitely in keeping with what we need to feel, and it is definitely appropriate for those who embrace stewardship as a way of life. Stewardship is, of course, based upon an "attitude of gratitude" and today is a day to focus on the joy that results from that gratitude.



**HUGE THANKS.** The visit of St. Nicholas went very well last Sunday and there were a lot of very happy children in attendance – and parents naturally. Many thanks to the Men's Club for a delicious breakfast; to Rose and Kevin Steinman for taking overall charge and to all who helped in any way, not forgetting St. Nicholas of course. An event like this helps to unite us as parishes and prepares us for a bright future together. Keep in mind the upcoming Christmas programs and our choral "Sing along" Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. Fr.W.

## Stewardship of Treasure

### Church Support for the week ending Dec 4

#### St. Bernard's

Amount Rec'd	\$ 5,385.00
Amount Budgeted	\$ 5,381.50
YTD Received	\$116,941.70
YTD Budgeted	\$123,774.50
Under Budget	\$ 6,832.80 -

#### St. Bridget's

Amount Rec'd	\$ 4,464.27
Amount Budgeted	\$ 2,767.00
YTD Received	\$ 46,615.29
YTD Budgeted	\$ 63,641.00
Under Budget	\$ 17,025.71 -

## Our Parishes & Other Notes

**Giving Tree Items:** Gifts due back on Sunday. The very latest, Monday morning, Dec 12 at St. Bernard's.



**Thank You:** The parishes of St. Bernard and St. Bridget donated a total of \$1,462.50 for the Catholic Charities Baby Bottle Campaign.

**Liturgical Ministers:** There are some open slots on the online schedule. Let's get those filled up!

**Christmas Flower Donations/Memorials:** Use the special envelopes in your packets to donate toward flowers in memory of your loved ones. Don't forget to write the names of your loved ones on the envelope.

**Advent Evening Prayer & Benediction:** Mondays of Advent at 6:30 pm. December 12 will be at St. Bernard's. December 19 will be at St. Bridget's.

**Quilting/Sewing Group:** Next gathering will be Thursday, Dec 15 from 1:00-3:30 pm at St. Bernard's.

**Penance Service:** Thursday, December 15, 6:30 pm at St. Bernard's. Several priests will be in attendance for confessions.

**Blessing of Expectant Moms:** Dec 17/18 during all Masses.

**Cancer Support Group Mtg:** Tuesday, Dec 20 at 7:00 pm in the library at St. Bernard's.

## Religious Ed



You are invited to ring bells with the Youth Group on Wednesday, December 14 from 2:00-4:00 pm at Fareway in Stewartville.

**Religious Ed Classes:** Wednesday, December 14.

**Grade 8 Parent Meeting:** Wednesday, Dec 14 from 6:30-7:30 pm in the social hall. This is for St. Bernard's and St. Bridget's.

**Grade 5:** You will be going to the Care Center for Card Bingo on Wednesday Dec 14 from 6:30-7:30 pm. Students should be dropped off and picked up at the Care Center.

**Mission Trip Meeting:** Parents and students are invited to attend an informational meeting regarding the next mission trip to St. Louis, Missouri. Please join us on Wednesday, Dec 14 at 8:00 pm at St. Bernard's. Students currently in grades 7 and up are welcome to go on the trip. If you have any questions please contact Neal Abbott.

## St. Bridget

**Decorating Ministry:** Thank you to Diane Havlik and Beverly Minske for their willingness to co-chair the Christmas decorating for us.



**Christmas Program:** Come One, Come All for practice and preparation for the Christmas Program at St. Bridget's. All are welcome to join in the celebration of Jesus' birth! We need voices, singers, readers, musicians, actors, and others who can lend a hand. We will practice Saturday morning, Dec 17 at 10 am and the program will be held on Sunday, Dec 18 after Mass and breakfast. If you have questions, call Jeannette Sheehan 251-8053 or Lisa Behnken at 990-3537.



## St. Bernard

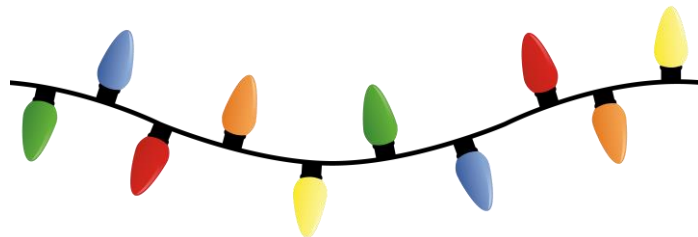
**Welcome:** On Sunday, Dec 11, we welcome our RCIA candidate, Prince Singh, into full communion with the Church at the 10:00 am Mass. A reception for all will follow in Marian Hall.



**Christmas Pageant:** Students all ages are welcome to participate in the Christmas Pageant on Christmas Eve at 3:30 pm. Practices will be held Sundays, Dec 11 & 18 at 8:30 am. Cheryl Terhaar 533-6704 and Brenda Trisko 533-4808 are the organizers.

**Christmas Sing-along:** Saturday, Dec 17 at 7:00 pm. Come enjoy Christmas carols sung by the Adult Choir, followed by refreshments in Marian Hall. Homemade cookies are welcome!

**Adult Choir:** Music ministry at 10 am Sunday Mass on Dec 18. Meet for practice at 8:50 am.



## Around The Area

**Radiance:** Radiance is a time for young adults to gather in prayer and Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament and then for social time and a discussion on prayer. Adoration begins at 7:00 pm at St. James Coffee on Friday, December 16 (and every 3rd Friday of the month). Social time and discussion starts at 8:00 pm.

**Counseling Services:** Catholic Charities provides a full range of counseling services to help individuals, couples, and families deal with a variety of concerns. We accept most insurance or offer a sliding fee for non-insured. Call Catholic Charities in Rochester at 287-2047.