

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 17, 2017

The Third Sunday of Advent December 17, 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 18 **St Bernard** **8:00 am**
Marilyn Hines+

Tuesday, Dec 19 **St Bridget** **8:30 am**
Larry Whalen+

Wednesday, Dec 20 **St Bernard** **8:00 am**
Mike Foster+

Thursday, Dec 21 **St Bernard** **8:00 am**
Roger Fleming+

Friday, Dec 22 **St Bernard** **8:00 am**
Gary Braun+

Care Center **9:15 am**
Intention for the residents

Saturday, Dec 23 **St Bernard** **4:00 pm**
4th Sunday of Advent
Lyle & Colette Abbott+

St Bernard **6:00 pm**
For St Bernard's & St Bridget's

Sunday, Dec 24 **St Bridget** **8:30 am**
4th Sunday of Advent
Henry & Ida Ricard+



Christmas Masses

Sunday, Dec 24 **St Bernard** **4:00 pm**
Christmas Vigil
Helen Smith+

St Bridget **6:00 pm**
Margaret Mulvihill+

St Bernard **8:00 pm**
Mike Hurley+

Monday, Dec 25 **St Bernard** **8:00 am**
Christmas
For St Bernard's & St Bridget's

St Bridget **9:30 am**
James & Helen Sheehan+

Pastor's Corner

As baptized, anointed, Catholics the question we should ask ourselves during Advent is "Are we allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us to be more holy and to be the disciples we are called to be? There is a reference in the first reading from Isaiah to seeds and growth. None of us can make anything really grow; only God can do that. However, we can provide the right environment for growth. Are we doing that during this Advent? It is not too late; it is never too late. We need to do that, and now.

The matter of witness is a serious and important thing. St. John the Baptist pointed to Jesus as the Messiah. John the Baptist, through personal witness, raised a great sense of expectancy and excitement, the kind of expectancy and excitement that we associate with this season. John tries to awaken in people a consciousness of sin, the importance of conversion and change, and the need to become more holy in God's eyes. Those are the same goals we should have during this Advent season. God bless you all.

Stewardship Reflection

A key facet of stewardship has always been personal witness. When we personally witness, it means we make a commitment. We cannot be neutral when it comes to our faith. We are called to be disciples, witnesses of and for Christ. We best accomplish that by the ways we live our own lives and how we relate to and treat others.

Jesus can meet our every need. Now is the time for us to accept that and to place our total trust in Him. We can do that best by making our own commitment to be His disciple, a witness to Who He is and what He means to us and all people. (Extract from the publication *Catholic Steward*)



Christmas Flowers: If you would like to donate a poinsettia in honor of someone, living or deceased, please use the envelopes in your packets or clearly mark an envelope with your intentions. The suggested donation for one plant is \$10. A listing of names and memorials will be in the next bulletin.

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

Stewardship of Treasure

Church Support for the week ending Dec 10

St. Bernard's

Amount Received	\$ 4,851.04
Amount Budgeted	\$ 5,559.00
YTD Received	\$126,905.75
YTD Budgeted	\$133,416.00
Under Budget	\$ 6,510.25-

St. Bridget's

Amount Received	\$ 2,035.60
Amount Budgeted	\$ 2,767.00
YTD Received	\$ 60,088.97
YTD Budgeted	\$ 66,408.00
Under Budget	\$ 6,319.03-

St Bernard's

Christmas Choir Practice: Thursday, Dec 21 at 6:45 pm & Sunday, Dec 24 at 6:45 pm



December 24: Join us on Christmas Eve as the students put on the Christmas play at 3:30pm. The Adult Choir will be singing beautiful music selections at 7:30pm.

Thank You: A sincere thank you to those who came to my aid last weekend. Your quick and kind assistance was much appreciated. God bless, Ruth Steines

Religious Ed & Youth News

Classes: Wednesday, Dec 20
5:15-6:15pm | 6:30-7:30pm

BYG (Bernie & Bridgie's Youth Group)

There will be no Youth Group on Sunday, December 17, 24 or 31 due to the holidays. See you in the New Year!



Tennessee Mission Trip: Interested in going to Tennessee with us this summer from June 19-24? Contact Neal ASAP! Space is limited!

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, December 23 – 4th Sunday of Advent

St. Bernard – 4:00 pm

Greeter: Pat Koenigs
Server: Bryttin Henderson
Lector: Nick Konrady
EMC: Judy Bunde, Dorothy Hurley
Ushers: Dave Bunde, Joe Himmer, Dick Koenigs, Dan Schoeppner

St. Bernard – 6:00 pm

Greeter: Janet Speltz
Servers: Needed
Lector: Rob Miller
EMC: Jean Peterson, Janet Speltz
Ushers: Needed

Sunday, December 24 – 4th Sunday of Advent

St. Bridget – 8:30 am

Server: Isaac Kuisle
Lector: Bill Kuisle
EMC: Mike Sheehan

Sunday, December 24 - Christmas Vigil

St. Bernard – 4:00 pm

Servers: Ellah Dodd
Lector: Marge Reimers
EMC: Lisa Dodd, Angie Janssen, Emily Kiefer, Bill Rincken, Janet Speltz, Steve Sturm, Kim Yennie
Ushers: Brian Meyerhofer, Ken Trisko

St. Bridget – 6:00 pm

Server: Lily Lukes
Lector: Rebecca Buss
EMC: Mary Elton, Bill Kuisle

St. Bernard – 8:00 pm

Greeter: Pat Koenigs
Servers: Needed
Lector: Rob Miller
EMC: Joann Hinders, Patty Miller, Laura Peters
Ushers: Patrick Miller

Monday, December 25 – Christmas

St. Bernard – 8:00 am

Server: Jayden Gaynor
Lector: Dorothy Hurley
EMC: Karen Greenslade, Jean Peterson
Ushers: Needed

St. Bridget – 9:30 am

Server: Needed
Lector: Terry Smith
EMC: Needed

St Bridget's



Singers & Musicians: Sing or play a musical selection before or during the Christmas Vigil or Christmas Day Mass. If you are interested in participating, please contact Cecilia,

Jeannette, or Lisa.

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

Cecilia Kraft / cmpkraft@charter.net / 289-0315
Jeannette Sheehan / jrsheehan@hotmail.com / 251-8053
Lisa Behnken / lbehnken@umn.edu / 990-3537

Choir Christmas Practice: Wednesday, December 20 at 6:30pm in the church.

Volunteer: Help the Christmas Decorating Committee after 8:30am Mass on Sunday, December 24.

Choir Caroling: Come at 5:30pm on Christmas Eve to enjoy and sing along with the choir.



Coming Early '18: Feast of Bridget; February 3, 6:30pm: Same feast as last time for same Godly Irish woman (Bridget or Brede in Gaelic). Same enjoyable wining, dining and

entertainment. **Christmas Gift Idea:** Give someone you love a couple of tickets to this event in St. Bridget's Hall. Just call the office to book a place or two - \$25 each.



The Farmer's Prayer: A visiting priest was attending a men's breakfast in Louisiana farm country. He asked one of the impressive older farmers in attendance to say grace that morning. After all were seated, the older farmer began: **"Lord, I hate buttermilk."**

The priest opened one eye and wondered to himself where this was going.

Then the farmer loudly proclaimed, **"Lord, I hate lard."**

Now the priest was worried. However without missing a beat, the farmer prayed on, **"And Lord, you know I don't care much for raw white flour."**

Just as the priest was ready to stand up and stop everything, the farmer continued, **"But Lord, when you mix 'em all together and bake 'em up, I do love fresh biscuits. So Lord, when things come up we don't like, when life gets hard, when we just don't understand what you are sayin' to us, we just need to relax and wait 'till You are done mixin and probably it will be somethin' even better than biscuits. Amen."**

(Anonymous)