

St. Bernard Roman Catholic Church

We are called to proclaim and celebrate the Good News. Evangelizing and supporting for the faith journey of every age at every stage is our commitment.

1160 Woodbridge Street, St. Paul. MN 55117

THE EPHIPHANY OF THE LORD

January 5, 2025

Fr. Arokiadoss Raji : Pastor

651-558-9301; frraji@churchofstbernard-stp.org

Fr. Joseph Kureh: Parochial Vicar: 651-236-7730

STAFF:

Ryan Heim.....Parish Administrator,

Patrice Finstad.... Music Director,

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Jareli Ramirez..... Secretary

Accountant: Lighthouse (LSS).

Trustees: Steve Donohue& Rhonda Pfiffner

Finance Council Chairman:: Allison Donohue

Parish Council Chairman: Joe Blageo



Website: www.stbernardstpaul.org

Phone

651-488-6733

Fax

651-489-9203

WEEKDAY MASSES: Mon—Sat 8:30 AM

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 4PM, and 7PM (Neo-catechumenal way – In Grade School)

Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM & 12:30 PM Spanish

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE: FRIDAY 6:15 PM—6:45 PM during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Sat 3:15—3:45 PM, or by appointment.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Please call the office to arrange for a meeting with a priest 6 months prior to your wedding date.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Please call the office to arrange for a meeting with a priest 2months prior to the Sacrament. Baptism is celebrated every 4th Sunday of the month @ 10 AM & 12 Noon.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: : Please call the office to arrange for an anointing.

For new parishioners, registration forms are available at our website & in parish office.



SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

4:00 pm Marion Kneissel

The Epiphany of the Lord, January 5

8:00 am + Fr. Stephen J. Adrian

10:30 am People of the parish

12:30 pm (Spanish) + Fr. Stephen J. Adrian

MONDAY, January 6

St. Melanie

8:30 am + St. Stephen J. Adrian

TUESDAY, January 7

St. Andre Bessette

4:00 pm + Manuel Loya Lopez

WEDNESDAY, January 8

St. Raymond of Penafort

10:30 am Logan Zech

THURSDAY, January 9

St. Adrian of Canterbury

8:30 am + Manuel Loya Lopez

FRIDAY, January 10

St. Gregory of Nyssa

8:30 am Dorothy Stuber

SATURDAY, January 11

St. Paulinus

8:30 am + Thomas Zech

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

4:00 pm + Larry & Mary Jo Kitto

The Baptism of the Lord, January 12

8:00 am + Souls in purgatory

10:30 am People of the parish

12:30 pm (Spanish) Alfredo Ramirez (B'day)

REMEMBER ST. BERNARD'S IN YOUR WILL

Do you have a will? A wonderful way to help our parish and to save taxes is to remember St. Bernard's in your will. There is still plenty of work to be done in our church and also in the other buildings.



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Happy New Year! I hope your Christmas season was blessed in many ways as it comes to a close tomorrow. It is true that we all desire happiness and we are hoping for it in the New

Year. But God does not want you to be happy; he wants something more for you than sheer happiness. Let's look at today's gospel to get a look at what God really wants for you.

You know this gospel and it comes from Matthew and it tells of the magi who come from the East in search of the Messiah. They are pagan foreigners, completely unchurched, unreligious people who are one of the first to comprehend that Jesus is someone special. The religious people miss out on who Jesus is, while the shepherds and Persian Wise Men get it.

They had every reason not to follow the star since they had no idea where they were going, the trip was difficult and dangerous, and there were no promises that the star would lead to anything. However, there were clearly looking for something more in life. They were people of affluence who enjoyed the possibility of travel and in view of the gifts they brought. They lived a comfortable life, but were looking for something more. Discontent is not what we are looking for, but it can often lead us to something great when it motivates us to take action.

They go to King Herod asking for this newborn King of the Jews and Herod learns that this child is to come to Bethlehem and he plots to kill him. The star leads the Magi to the Holy Family and they prostrate themselves, worship him and open their gifts. Their worship is active, if not it is not really worship!

At the end Matthew tells us that they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. For us there are different levels of well-being. One is on the physical plane, which we call pleasure and usually has to do with our senses. God created pleasure and wants us to enjoy a good meal or song or a nice chair. But this is something that passes. The next level is something more interior and includes experiences like happiness, contentment, and gratitude. Hopefully after time with family and friends these weeks you had this experience.

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SICK OR “HOMEBOUND”

If you are sick or “homebound” (or know someone who is), and would like to receive any Sacrament, please contact the parish office. *If you would like to add a name to our prayer list. **Prayer Line:** Shirley Collett (651)488-6330; Judy Cloutier at (651)224-2966*

SUNDAY COLLECTION

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Sunday Envelopes	Due to the Holidays	
Plate	Bulletin Printed Early	
Church Audio & Lighting		
Worship & Liturgy		
Building Repair Fund Balance:		\$58,500

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!

E-Giving or auto-pay from your bank, helps our parish a lot. Please consider giving in this way!

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION 2024

As you consider your year-end charitable contributions, we hope that Saint Bernard will be at the top of your list. Your contributions directly support the various ministries and liturgical life at our parish.

A reminder that all 2024 contributions must be postmarked by December 31, 2024, received in the collection on December 31st or received at the parish office prior to December 30, 2024. Any donations post-marked or received January 1, 2025, or thereafter will be considered 2025 donations. Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish community.

But God wants something more for us than pleasure and happiness which are temporary and circumstantial. There is something that you can feel in the deepest part of your soul and this is joy! It does not depend on circumstances and it is not temporary. We can acquire pleasure on our own and many people spend a lot of time and money doing so, but joy is not something that someone can give you; it is a gift from God. It is a fruit of the Holy Spirit. It is not just about us, but about the people you encounter every day and work and live with as well as those who you don't care for.

When you live your life with joy it changes your relationships and rubs off on them. If you are an adult Christian, a disciple of Christ, joy is essential. Joy is the most compelling case for others to find Christ. You need to pursue it and leave behind 'your things' and follow that star. How do you do that? Well, follow the star of your life and be open to all possibility. Fr. Doss

Saint of the Week: Elizabeth Ann Seton

Mother Seton is one of the keystones of the American Catholic Church. She founded the first American religious community for women, the Sisters of Charity. She opened the first American parish school and established the first American Catholic orphanage. All this she did in the span of 46 years while raising her five children.

Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton is a true daughter of the American Revolution, born August 28, 1774, just two years before the Declaration of Independence. By birth and marriage, she was linked to the first families of New York and enjoyed the fruits of high society. Reared a staunch Episcopalian, she learned the value of prayer, Scripture and a nightly examination of conscience. Her father, Dr. Richard Bayley, did not have much use for churches but was a great humanitarian, teaching his daughter to love and serve others.

The early deaths of her mother in 1777 and her baby sister in 1778 gave Elizabeth a feel for eternity and the temporariness of the pilgrim life on earth. Far from being brooding and sullen, she faced each new “holocaust,” as she put it, with hopeful cheerfulness. At 19, Elizabeth was the belle of New York and married a handsome, wealthy businessman, William Magee Seton. They had five children before his business failed and he died of tuberculosis. At 30, Elizabeth was widowed, penniless, with five small children to support.

While in Italy with her dying husband, Elizabeth witnessed Catholicity in action through family friends. Three basic points led her to become a Catholic: belief in the Real Presence, devotion to the Blessed Mother and conviction that the Catholic Church led back to the apostles and to Christ. Many of her family and friends rejected her when she became a Catholic in 1805.

To support her children, she opened a school in Baltimore. From the beginning, her group followed the lines of a religious community, which was officially founded in 1809. The thousand or more letters of Mother Seton reveal the development of her spiritual life from ordinary goodness to heroic sanctity. She suffered great trials of sickness, misunderstanding, the death of loved ones (her husband and two young daughters) and the heartache of a wayward son. She died January 4, 1821, and became the first American-born citizen to be beatified (1963) and then canonized (1975). She is buried in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Elizabeth Seton had no extraordinary gifts. She was not a mystic or stigmatic. She did not prophesy or speak in tongues. She had two great devotions: abandonment to the will of God and an ardent love for the Blessed Sacrament.