

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 PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

February 2, 2025

Fr. Arokiadoss Raji : Pastor

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STAFF:

Ryan Heim.....Parish Administrator,

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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

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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 + Micheal Satler

The Presentation of the Lord , February 2

8:00 am + Fr. Thomas P. Fitzgerald
 10:30 am + Jerome & Emily Troje
 12:30 pm (Spanish) + Mario Priego Solis

MONDAY, February 3

St. Ansgar & St. Blase

8:30 am + Jerome & Emily Troje

TUESDAY, February 4

St. Veronica

8:30 am + Donald Soler

WEDNESDAY, February 5

St. Agatha

8:30 am + Lisa Miller

THURSDAY, February 6

St. Paul Miki & Companions

8:30 am + Fr. Thomas P. Fitzgerald

FRIDAY, February 7

St. Colette

8:30 am + Fr. Thomas P. Fitzgerald

SATURDAY, February 8

St. Jerome Emiliani & St. Josephine Bakhita

8:30 am + Souls in purgatory

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

4:00 pm People of the parish

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time , February 9

8:00 am + Jerome & Emily Troje
 10:30 am + Angelica Vargas
 12:30 pm (Spanish) + Sagayamary

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,

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple marks in a way the end of Christmas time in the sense that the mangers are taken down today. This feast also falls liturgically every 5 years as Jubilee

year feast! According to Jewish law the first-born son had to be redeemed and the mother needed to be purified. Luke is careful to note that the parents of Jesus observed all that the Law requires and even though it was not necessary to take the child to Jerusalem, the parents thought this was fitting.

The custom of redeeming the first born son and sacrificing to God the first born animal comes from the Exodus of the Jews from Egypt. It calls to mind the final plague against the Pharaoh: death of the first born persons and animals that did not have the blood of the Lamb on the doorpost of their house. This event in the life of the Christ child has great significance since it foreshadows what he will do on the first Easter some thirty-three years later. Then it will be the first-born who gives his life as a Lamb for us!

Today's celebration, I am not speaking of the Superbowl, is an invitation for us to renew our dedication to the Lord no matter what number we are in the family. We are called to offer back to the Lord the life that he gave us, and many times all we can offer are our sins, which God is happy to take. It is also a reminder that our children are not ours, they belong to God and we will need to give an account of what we transmitted to them. Is our first priority to give them faith, good grades?

The Holy Family offers two turtle doves, which is what a poor family would give if they could not afford a sheep or goat. Today all the candles used in the church are blessed and carried in a procession similar to what we do at the Easter vigil. This too reminds us that Christ ought to be the light of our lives, and that as a Christian I ought to be light for others. This is not poetry and should be a reality, which often time it is not. Let us ask the Lord to enlighten us today and all the visitors in our area so that all of us will be filled with light and truth.

Fr. Doss

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	—	\$4,060
Plate	—	\$940
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!

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

CONDITIONS FOR PLENARY INDULGENCE:

Receive Holy Communion and Confession within three weeks (before or after) of the visit to one of the Pilgrim churches. Pray for the intentions of the Pope. Have the interior disposition of *complete detachment* from sin. A plenary indulgence takes away all punishment due to sins that were confessed in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. A Catholic can gain only one plenary indulgence per day.

Pope Francis has opened a "Holy Door" for the 2025 Catholic Holy Year at a prison in Rome, bringing a message of hope to inmates and involving them in the Catholic Church's once-every-quarter-century celebration that is expected to bring about 32 million pilgrims to the city and It will run through January 6, 2026.

Living with faith and joyful hope this moment of trial, receiving communion or attending Holy Mass and community prayer, even through the various means of communication, will be the means of obtaining the Jubilee Indulgence.

SAINT OF THE WEEK: FEB 8TH

St. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

Her kidnappers gave her the name *Bakhita*, meaning "fortunate." Her life in captivity wasn't quite so. Born in Darfur in 1869, Josephine Bakhita was taken by Arab slave traders when she was 9. Forced to walk 600 miles to southern Sudan, she was bought and sold before arriving in El Obeid. But of all the indignities Josephine faced as a slave—far too many to mention here—one in particular stands out.

Through a combination of branding and tattooing, Josephine suffered the traditional Sudanese practice where a pattern was cut into her skin with a razor. To ensure scarification, salt was poured into the open wounds. When it was finished, 140 intricate patterns were carved into her breast, torso, and arm. She also faced countless beatings and lashings from a revolving door of owners as well as a forced conversion to Islam.

Left by her owner in the custody of the Daughters of Charity in Venice in 1888, Josephine finally found refuge. Baptized in 1890, she took her final vows in 1896, and spent the rest of her life in Vicenza as a doorkeeper and cook. She died in 1947. Beatified in 1992, she was canonized by Pope John Paul II eight years later.

Forgiveness- Josephine endured unimaginable hardships in her life, but she showed mercy. "If I were to meet the slave traders who kidnapped me and even those who tortured me," she once said, "I would kneel and kiss their hands, for if that did not happen, I would not be a Christian and religious today. The Lord has loved me so much. We must love everyone." In the face of inhuman trials, she only saw the face of Christ.

Faith- In her years as a doorkeeper, Josephine exuded unshakable grace. The people of Vicenza warmed to her quickly, calling her "black mother." Though she carried the physical and psychological scarring of her years as a Sudanese slave, she never lost her faith. "O Lord," she once said, "if I could fly to my people and tell them of your goodness at the top of my voice, oh how many souls would be won!" After she died, it was written that her mind was always fixed on God, while her heart was still in Africa. Josephine showed what can be overcome when we hold to our faith.