

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 14, 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,

Patrice.finstad@gmail.com (612-859-9339)

Cantor: Anna Gottwalt 651-802-6948 bananagottwalt@gmail.com

Spanish Music Director: Emanuel Romero 651-231-1372

emmanuelromero200910@gmail.com

Jareli Ramirez..... Secretary

Accountant: Lighthouse (LSS).

Trustees: Steve Donohue& Rhonda Pffner
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 + Elaine Churchill

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT, December 14

8:00 am + Mary Mercado
10:30 am + Fred Kaiser
12:30 pm Familia Claveau

MONDAY, December 15

St. Valerian
8:30 am Hisaid Ramirez (B'day)

TUESDAY, December 16

St. Adelaide
8:30 am + Louis Randolph Lentsch

WEDNESDAY, December 17

St. Florian
8:30 am + Elaine Kluge & Dennis Blackstone

THURSDAY, December 18

St. Rufus
9:00 am Stephen Lauinger

FRIDAY, December 19

St. Anastasius
8:30 am + John Mercado

SATURDAY, December 20

St. Julius
8:30 am + Mary Jo Rosauer

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

4:00 pm + Cheryl Fox

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT, December 21

8:00 am Bernard & Marjorie Struntz
10:30 am Stephen Lauinger
12:30 pm + Millard & Barbara Kent

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,
Advent is a time of hope, of expectation, of waiting for the Lord. St. Paul told us last week to endure the weaknesses of the others; bear them, put up with them, don't gossip about them. It is better to build them up, and to build up the community rather than getting annoyed with the idiosyncrasies of the others.

Paul also told us to welcome everyone, and accept them as they are without trying to change them, especially those close to us. You and I are attracted to people and places where we can go and are fully accepted, unconditionally. God designed us this way. Our parish should be like this. Make the effort to welcome others, sincerely and unconditionally. Also have one or more people in mind that you will invite for Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. This week we look at the Letter of James which is not a letter to any particular community but to all Christians; it is similar to a group email. And what does he tell us? "Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord." To grow in hope which is what God wants for us we need patience. It is fundamental that you and I be patient. Any construction project in a parish or in your home requires a lot of patience.

St. James says the farmer needs to be patient for rain. He needs to plant and fertilize and get everything ready, and then he has to wait for rain. There is no way he can rush it. There is a right time to speak to your boss, or a best time to close a deal at work, or to give a relationship time and not try to rush it, or the steady discipline of study rather than cramming at the last minute, or the better time to ask your parents for something rather than nagging them.

The second type of patience when you are waiting to see the fruit of what you did requires prayer. You spoke to your boss and now you are waiting for his response. You started a new project and now you need to give it time to see if it works; you put an offer in for a house or a new piece of business and you have to wait.

James tells us, "Do not complain, brothers and sisters." This is a sign of impatience. Check yourself when you start to complain about someone. Maybe the first step is to learn to say nothing, and then in time say something positive to him/her. Complaints rob us of joy and God wants us to be full of joyful hope.

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

	Last Week	Budget
Sunday Envelopes	\$3,950	4,060
Plate	\$816	940
Church Audio & Lighting	\$250	
Worship & Liturgy	\$61	
Building Repair Fund Balance:	\$45,000	

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!

SAVE THE DATE **COME TO HELP US & HAVE FUN**

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Christmas concert on **Sunday, December 21st at 6 PM** in the Church. Please come and enjoy.

CONFESSIONS

Confessions available before & after all the Masses. Please take advantage of the sacrament to prepare for the Christmas.

CHRISTMAS CLEANING & DECORATION

Christmas **decoration** on Saturday, **December 20th from 9 AM** in order to prepare for the great feast of our Lord Jesus Christ's Birth (Christmas). Please come and join us to beautify our church and let us celebrate as one family and receive the blessings which the Lord restored for us.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 24th, Christmas Eve:

4 PM Children & Family Mass

11 PM Carols prelude with Midnight Mass

Thursday, December 25th, Christmas Day:

10:30 AM in English & 12:30 PM in Spanish

Wednesday, December 31st, New Year's Eve:

4 PM in English

Thursday, January 1st, 2026

New year's Day: 10:30 AM in English

SEASON OF ADVENT REFLECTION BY **ST. CHARLES BORROMEEO, BISHOP**

Beloved, now is the acceptable time spoken of by the Spirit, the day of salvation, peace and reconciliation: the great season of Advent. This is the time eagerly awaited by the patriarchs and prophets, the time that holy Simeon rejoiced at last to see. This is the season that the Church has always celebrated with special solemnity. We too should always observe it with faith and love, offering praise and thanksgiving to the Father for the mercy and love he has shown us in this mystery. In his infinite love for us, though we were sinners, he sent his only Son to free us from the tyranny of Satan, to summon us to heaven, to welcome us into its innermost recesses, to show us truth itself, to train us in right conduct, to plant within us the seeds of virtue, to enrich us with the treasures of his grace, and to make us children of God and heirs of eternal life.

Each year, as the Church recalls this mystery, she urges us to renew the memory of the great love of God has shown us. This holy season teaches us that Christ's coming was not only for the benefit of his contemporaries; his power has still to be communicated to us all. We shall share his power, if, through holy faith and the sacraments, we willingly accept the grace Christ earned for us, and live by that grace and in obedience to Christ.

The Church asks us to understand that Christ, who came once in the flesh, is prepared to come. When we remove all obstacles to his presence he will come, at any hour and moment, to dwell spiritually in our hearts, brining with him the riches of his grace.

In her concern for our salvation, our loving mother the Church uses this holy season to reach through hymns, canticles and other forms of expression, of voice or ritual, used by the Holy Spirit. She shows us how grateful we should be for so great a blessing, and how to gain its benefits: our hearts should be as much prepared for the coming of Christ as if he were still to come into this world. The same lesson is given us for our imitation by the words and example of the holy men of the Old Testament.

ST. BERNARD'S CLUB

The next meeting of the St. Bernard's. Club is coming up Thursday December 18th, at 7:00pm in the Grade School basement. Please enter from the south entrance. All adult members of the Parish are invited to join us. We could use your participation. Refreshments will be provided.