

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 BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 11, 2026

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

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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 + Fr. Dennis C Kampa

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD, January 11

8:00 am + Thomas Zech
10:30 am + Patricia Lynch & Leona Bearth
12:30 pm + Patrice C Doran

MONDAY, January 12 (1st week in ordinary time)

St. Marguerite Bourgeoys

8:30 am Alfredo R. Barrera

TUESDAY, January 13

St. Hillary of Poitiers

8:30 am + Alice & Bev Sheenan

WEDNESDAY, January 14

St. Felix of Nola

8:30 am + Larry Schreifels

THURSDAY, January 15

St. Arnold Janssen

8:30 am Marjorie Struntz (B'day)

FRIDAY, January 16

St. Berard & Companions

8:30 am + Richard Jabs

SATURDAY, January 17

St. Anthony

8:30 am + Donald Carl Grundhauser II

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

4:00 pm Nick Zingsheim

2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, January 18

8:00 am + Mumn K. Tint Minda
10:30 am + People of the parish
12:30 pm + Souls in purgatory

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 & sisters,

God is the merciful source of peace and justice for all. We begin each new year with a fervent prayer for peace. We long for the world of tomorrow, the time when there will be no more discord among individuals, families, neighbors or nations. Having just celebrated the birth of the Prince of Peace, we hope that His coming will inspire us all to live differently. We begin each New Year with the profound hope that we can set aside our jealousy, our fear, our desire for economic control and political domination, our aversion to strangers from foreign lands and our discomfort with those who are different from us. We pray for peace, forgetting that mercy, the way of the meek, is the only way to peace. Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called children of God (Mt 5:9).

We become children of God when we are reconciled to Him—through our Baptism and our Communion with Him in and through the Church. But when we lose sight of God, through our blindness, selfishness and sin, there can be no peace. Injustice, violence and cruelty dominate the world order, and peace disintegrates—in our hearts and homes, in our neighborhoods and nations and throughout the world. True peace, the peace that lasts, happens when we work for justice. It is the product of the hard work of civilization, the rule of law and the right-ordering of social structures. Peace requires fairness, respect for human dignity and the refusal to take advantage of another's weakness. If we want peace, we must let go of our desire for revenge, and we must be willing to let old wounds heal through the saving grace of God's mercy.

This is one reason that ten years ago, in 2016, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, proclaimed a Year of Mercy. In the papal bull *Misericordiae Vultus (The Face of Mercy)*, Pope Francis explains how in Jesus Christ the mercy of God has been revealed to people of every nation, language and culture. This is the great mystery we celebrated last Sunday, the Epiphany of the Lord. Peace will happen when we can share God's love and mercy with all our sisters and brothers throughout the world. When that day comes, nations will unite in a world order that respects the fundamental human rights and authentic cultural diversity of nations and peoples. Neighbors will help and respect one another. Families will live together joyfully. And each woman and man on earth will be calm, untroubled and at peace. Have a blessed New Year!

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	\$2,988	4,060
Plate	\$730	940
Church Audio & Lighting	\$97	
Worship & Liturgy	\$241	
Building Repair Fund Balance:	\$47,500	

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 2025

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 2025 contributions must be postmarked by December 31, 2025, received in the collection on December 31st or received at the parish office prior to December 28, 2025. Any donations postmarked or received January 1, 2026, or thereafter will be considered 2026 donations. Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish community.

A Message from Pope Francis: Words of Challenge and Hope Mercy is the beating heart of the Gospel. How much I desire that the year to come will be steeped in mercy, so that we can go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God. May the balm of mercy reach everyone, both believers and those far away, as a sign that the kingdom of God is already present in our midst. Nothing in the Church's preaching or witness should be lacking in mercy. (From *Misericordiae Vultus, The Face of Mercy*, 2016)

WHY YOU SHOULD BLESS YOUR HOME FOR THE NEW YEAR

Looking for a Christmastime tradition with a beautiful age-old custom for your family?

Plan a house blessing for the New Year. As the new year begins, Father Marek Smolka, director of liturgy at Chicago's Holy Name Cathedral, told the Register, "People call the rectory and invite a priest to come to bless the house. Here in Chicago, this is a custom."

Looking to Eastern Europe, where home blessings are a cherished practice, he said, "In Poland, it is mandatory to have a priest bless the house. It starts right after St. Stephen's Day (Dec. 26), and they do go until Feb. 2," when the Church celebrates the Baptism of Jesus. While not mandatory in the United States, several Polish churches in the Chicago Archdiocese are also kept busy with house blessings at this time. The custom is popular in many places, in fact.

The tradition has strong liturgical roots. "The main purpose is to have God's blessing upon the house," Father Smolka explained. "And as we start a new year, it's important to have a blessing with a priest, as he sprinkles holy water, and — God is always there — to invite God into the house to have the connection with the Church as well as with our faith." House blessings have long had an association with Epiphany. The Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy teaches about the Solemnity of the Lord's Epiphany:

"Many traditions and genuine manifestations of popular piety have been developed in relation to the Solemnity of the Lord's Epiphany," from exchanging Epiphany gifts to the time-honored traditions of "the blessing of homes, on whose lintels are inscribed the cross of salvation, together with the indication of the year and the initials of the Three Wise Men (C+M+B) ... which can also be interpreted to mean *Christus mansionem benedicat* ['May Christ bless this home'] written in blessed chalk."

The directory adds that sometimes this custom includes "processions of children accompanied by their parents" to express "the blessing of Christ through the intercession of the Three Wise Men." Families can do the blessing with or without a priest present. The chalk inscription for this season's blessing will appear as 20 + C + M + B + 26. Interspersed between each letter and year are little crosses. The inscription is accompanied by sprinkling each room in the home with holy water.

"The chalk is taken home and is used to mark the year and the initials of the three Magi over the door of the house," Father Stokes describes in his book, "to remind all who enter and leave through the main door that they also must be ready to leave all, if necessary, and follow Christ. This is a beautiful act of faith."