

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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 1, 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

emmanuelromero200910@gmail.com

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 + Paul Raj

4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, February 1

8:00 am + Caroline Das
10:30 am + Marjorie Struntz
12:30 pm Fr. Doss (Birthday)

MONDAY, February 2

The Presentation of the Lord

8:30 am + Ken Kitto

TUESDAY, February 3

St. Ansgar & St. Blase

8:30 am + Maureen Wolfgram

WEDNESDAY, February 4

St. Veronica

8:30 am + All Souls

THURSDAY, February 5

St. Agatha

8:30 am + Lisa Miller

FRIDAY, February 6

St. Paul Miki & Companions

8:30 am + Souls in purgatory

SATURDAY, February 7

St. Colette

8:30 am + Edward J. Gunter & All souls

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

4:00 pm Bernard & Gloria Schuweiler (50th Anniversary)

5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, February 8

8:00 am People of the parish
10:30 am For all married couples
12:30 pm Carolina Loya de Cardenas

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:

A huge crowd of people from many different places had gathered around Jesus Christ hoping to hear a saving word for their lives. Seeing the crowds, he went up to the mountain and when he sat down his disciples came to him, and he opened his mouth and taught them. It was a moment to give a deeper picture of a Christian, a true disciple: blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who mourn...

It is not difficult for us to imagine the impression these words must have made on those present. Many would be have been disconcerted and even disappointed. Jesus Christ had expressed a new spirit coming down on the earth. It was something revolutionary and it involved a complete change from the usual way of thinking. People at this time and also today think that our happiness will come from wealth, power, pleasure and being held in high regard by others. In this gospel Jesus proposes a different way of thinking: he exalts poverty, meekness, mercy, purity, humility and love.

I would like to start a new theme for the next few weeks on Learning to Love and the Sermon on the Mount is a beautiful way to start. Christianity ultimately is a way of love, and the true sign of a Christian is one who loves his enemy. Also today we use the word love very freely and in many different ways. Love is not a thing, or a present, or a Valentines Day card. It is something we do; it is a verb. Christian love is also something demanding and involves all that we have. Christian love especially in marriage is not a fifty-fifty arrangement, but it involves giving my whole self to the other person, this is shown physically by the act of love, done the way God intended. I give my whole self to the other in the Sacrament of Marriage and I hold nothing back.

So we will take a look at what it means to love since it is the most important thing that one can do. Being overly anxious and worried also limits your ability to love. How important is this virtue today! You may be thinking, "I have enough to do right now and I don't need something else." However, to love is one of the deepest desires of man. How much good it will do to your spouse or your child to know deep down in deeds that I am loved, unconditionally? To love unto death is not humanly possible and I need the help of God to do so. Let us ask for it this week and in particular at the Eucharist where God loves us in a very unique way.

Fr. Doss

Pope Leo on World Day of Peace

Dear brothers and sisters, whether we have the gift of faith or feel we lack it, let us open ourselves to peace! Let us welcome it and recognize it, rather than believing it to be impossible and beyond our reach. Peace is more than just a goal; it is a presence and a journey. Even when it is endangered within us and around us, like a small flame threatened by a storm, we must protect it, never forgetting the names and stories of those who have borne witness to it. Peace is a principle that guides and defines our choices. Even in places where only rubble remains, and despair seems inevitable, we still find people who have not forgotten peace.

Just as on the evening of Easter Jesus entered the place where his disciples were gathered in fear and discouragement, so too the peace of the risen Christ continues to pass through doors and barriers in the voices and faces of his witnesses. This gift enables us to remember goodness, to recognize it as victorious, to choose it again, and to do so together.

An Unarmed Peace

Shortly before being arrested, in a moment of intimate confidence, Jesus said to those who were with him: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives." And he immediately added: "Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid" (Jn 14: 27). Their distress and fear were certainly connected to the violence soon to befall him. But, more deeply, the Gospels do not hide the fact that what troubled the disciples was his nonviolent response: a path that they all, Peter first among them, contested; yet the Master asked them to follow this path to the end.

The way of Jesus continues to cause unease and fear. He firmly repeats to those who would defend him by force: "Put your sword back into its sheath" (Jn 18: 11; cf. Mt 26: 52). The peace of the risen Jesus is unarmed, because his was an unarmed struggle in the midst of concrete historical, political and social circumstances. Christians must together bear prophetic witness to this novelty, mindful of the tragedies in which they have too often been complicit. The great parable of the Last Judgment invites all Christians to act with mercy in this awareness (cf. Mt 25: 31-46). In doing so, they will find brothers and sisters at their side who, in different ways, have listened to the pain of others and freed themselves inwardly from the deception of violence.

Although many people today have hearts ready for peace, they are often overcome by a great sense of powerlessness before an increasingly uncertain world. St. Augustine had already pointed out this particular paradox: "It is not difficult to possess peace; it is, perhaps, more difficult to praise it. To praise peace, we may find that we lack the necessary talent; we search for the right ideas and weigh our words. But to have peace, it is there, within reach, and we can possess it without effort."

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When we treat peace as a distant ideal, we cease to be scandalized when it is denied, or even when war is waged in its name. We seem to lack those "right ideas," the well-considered words and the ability to say that peace is near. When peace is not a reality that is lived, cultivated and protected, then aggression spreads into domestic and public life. In the relations between citizens and rulers, it could even be considered a fault not to be sufficiently prepared for war, not to react to attacks, and not to return violence for violence. Far beyond the principle of legitimate defense, such confrontational logic now dominates global politics, deepening instability and unpredictability day by day.

It is no coincidence that repeated calls to increase military spending, and the choices that follow, are presented by many government leaders as a justified response to external threats. The idea of the deterrent power of military might, especially nuclear deterrence, is based on the irrationality of relations between nations, built not on law, justice and trust, but on fear and domination by force. "

Consequently," as [St. John XXIII](#) had already written in his day, "people are living in the grip of constant fear. They are afraid that at any moment the impending storm may break upon them with horrific violence. And they have good reasons for their fear, for there is certainly no lack of such weapons. While it is difficult to believe that anyone would dare to assume responsibility for initiating the appalling slaughter and destruction that war would bring in its wake, there is no denying that the conflagration could be started by some chance and unforeseen circumstance."

(to be continued next week)

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	\$1,726	4,060
Plate	\$451	940
Church Audio & Lighting	\$159	
Worship & Liturgy	\$50	
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!