

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

March 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

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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 + Donald White

2nd SUNDAY OF LENT, March 1

8:00 am + Fr. Joseph McLaughin

10:30 am + Pastina Sha Meh

12:30 pm + Fr. O.K. Mathew

MONDAY, March 2

St. Angela of the Cross

8:30 am + Fr. Joseph McLaughin

TUESDAY, March 3

St. Cunegunda

8:30 am + Fr. O.K. Mathew

WEDNESDAY, March 4

St. Casimir

8:30 am + Dolores Burg

THURSDAY, March 5

St. Lucius I

8:30 am + All Souls

FRIDAY, March 6 (Day of Abstinence)

St. Rose of Viterbo

8:30 am + Pastina Sha Meh

SATURDAY, March 7

St. Perpetua & St. Felicity

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

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

4:00 pm + Ray Burg

3rd SUNDAY OF LENT, March 8

8:00 am + Fr. Joseph McLaughin

10:30 am + Pastina Sha Meh

12:30 pm + Fr. K.C. Mathew

STATIONS OF THE CROSS ON FRIDAYS

5 pm in Karenni

6 pm in English

6:30 pm in Spanish



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I was surprised when I read the gospel of the Transfiguration for this Sunday. For some reason it struck me as an odd time of the year to hear it. When I looked a little further I found out that the Transfiguration is

presented to us at this time since an ancient tradition in the Church says it happened 40 days before Good Friday. Also it appears in the Gospels right after Jesus makes his first prediction of the passion, the need to take up the cross and to lose our life to be a disciple. And so the apostles might have needed some encouragement at this point in their life, as we do many times.

In Luke’s version of the Transfiguration we are told that Jesus went up to the mountain in order to pray. This gospel comes at a good time for us as we begin Lent and the Church calls us to *pray, fast and give alms*. God often speaks to us in a whisper and therefore we need silence to be able to hear him. So close the TV earlier or don’t watch it all; or keep your cell phone away for an hour or so by not using it but read that spiritual book that has been on your shelf for a while or go to bed early and get up for the morning Mass.

In Matthew’s gospel Jesus Christ is the ‘New Moses’ who comes to lead us into the eternal Promised Land. He spent forty days in the desert to somehow experience the forty years the Israelites roamed the desert. Like Moses he goes to the top of the mountain to give us the Beatitudes, which complement the Commandments. Let us look for ways to listen to him more seriously and/or more regularly during these weeks of Lent. It is important to be practical in our resolutions for Lent, as I said above. In some way we need to deny ourselves in legitimate things so that we can be more alive to God.

Finally, the gospel of the Transfiguration can help us to renew our desires to have a deeper relationship with Christ and to begin or deepen the discipline of prayer. Many people say they pray all the time; I do not know how to take this comment. But the issue is do they devote a set amount of time to it each day. This is what we are speaking about: setting aside a time, and a place, for five or fifteen minutes each day, making room for God in our busy life. I like that expression because one really has to make an effort to “make room for God.” It will not happen automatically.

SUNDAY COLLECTION

	Last Week	Budget
Sunday Envelopes	\$2,318	4,060
Plate	\$888	940
Church Audio & Lighting	\$267	
Worship & Liturgy	\$30	
Building Repair Fund Donations Received:		\$169,815

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!

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.

SAINTS OF THE WEEK STS. PERPETUA & FELICITY



Perpetua and Felicity were Christian martyrs of the 3rd century.

Vibia Perpetua was a recently married, well-educated noblewoman, said to have been 22 years old at the time of her death, and mother of an infant son she was nursing. Felicity, an enslaved woman imprisoned with her and pregnant at the time, was martyred with her. They were put to death along with others at Carthage in the area of Africa in the Roman province of Africa (now known as Tunisia).

Two days before the execution, Felicity went into a painful labor. The guards made fun of her, insulting her by saying,

"If you think you suffer now, how will you stand it when you face the wild beasts?"

Felicity answered them calmly,

"Now I'm the one who is suffering, but in the arena, another (Christ) will be in me suffering for me because I will be suffering for him."

Pope Leo at the Angelus:

True righteousness demands great love

In his Angelus reflections on the Sunday Gospel, Pope Leo explains how the Gospel teaches us that we must love greatly for true righteousness.

In his customary reflections on the Sunday Gospel reading before leading the recitation of the Angelus, Pope Leo explained how "Jesus invites us to enter into the newness of the Kingdom of God." He noted that today's Gospel passage recounts when Jesus, who after proclaiming the Beatitudes, reveals the true meaning of the precepts of the Law of Moses that call us "into a relationship of love with God and with our brothers and sisters." And that is why Jesus says he did not come to abolish the Law, but to bring it to fulfillment.

"The Law is fulfilled precisely by love, which brings its profound meaning and ultimate purpose to completion."

The Pope emphasized how righteousness is not limited to observing the commandments, but "opens us to love and compels us to love." Jesus then examines some of the precepts of the Law that refer to concrete cases and shows the difference between formal religious righteousness and the righteousness of the Kingdom of God. This, Pope Leo explained, shows us how the Law given to Moses and the prophets is a way to come to know God and His plan for us and history.

"God himself, in the person of Jesus, has come among us, bringing the Law to fulfillment, making us children of the Father and giving us the grace to enter into a relationship with him as children and as brothers and sisters among ourselves...Jesus teaches us that true righteousness consists in love and that, within every precept of the Law, we must learn to identify a call to love."

The Pope then recalled the examples Jesus gave showing how minimal righteousness is not enough, "great love is needed", which is possible thanks to God's strength. He prayed that the Virgin Mary may "intercede for us" and "help us to understand better the Kingdom of God and to live out its call for righteousness."