

HOPE

be vigilant at all times



Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 2

8:00 am †Aurelio Pangilinan, SJ
5:00 pm Our Parish FamilySB

Sunday, December 3

9:00 am †Karen Scrima,
by Van & Wendy Maychszak SJ
11:00 am †Al Sturcz,
by the Sturcz FamilySB
12:30 pm (Español) †Ann St. Amand
by Knights of Columbus
Council 1120.....SB

Monday, December 4

5:30 pm †Charles & †Lillian Centa,
by the Stock FamilySB

Tuesday, December 5

8:00 am †Daniel O'Brien Sr.,
by Tammy O'Brien SJ

Wednesday, December 6

9:00 am †Lorraine Brown,
by the Alfred Vasta Family ...SB

Thursday, December 7

5:30 pm †Patrick McRae,
by Van & Wendy Maychszak SB

Friday, December 8

8:00 am †*Charles Stevens
by Mike & Beth Hall..... SJ

Saturday, December 9

8:00 am †Al Sturcz,
By Diana Sturcz..... SJ
5:00 pm †Virginia & †Randall Baldwin
by the Baldwin FamilySB

Sunday, December 10

9:00 am Our Parish Family, SJ
11:00 am †Ron McGrath, by Knights of
Columbus Council 1120.....SB
12:30 pm (Español) †Ruth Maychszak
by Van & Wendy Maychszak.....SB

† Indicates Deceased • * Indicates Death Anniversary

Attend Our Masses by Live Stream on the Web

Sunday, 9:00 am • St. John

Visit Our Facebook Page: SS. John & Bernard

YouTube Channel: SS John and Bernard Parish

Scripture Readings

For the Week of December 3, 2023

Sunday

First Sunday of Advent - V

Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19;
1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

Monday

Monday of the First Week of Advent - V

Is 2: 1-5; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday

Tuesday of the First Week of Advent - V

Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday

Wednesday of the First Week of Advent - V

Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday

Memorial of Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church - W

Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a;
Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - W

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1; 2-3ab, 3cd-4;
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Saturday

Saturday of the First Week of Advent - V

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6;
Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Immaculate Conceptions Collaborative Mass Times

Friday, December 8, 2023

Thursday, December 7th

5:30 pm St. Bernard Church

6:00 pm St. Joseph South

Friday, December 8th

8:00 am St. John Church

8:00 am St. Joseph, St. Joseph, Downtown

9:00 am St. Joseph, Watervliet

10:00 am St. Joseph, St. Joseph, Downtown, All School Mass

12:15 pm St. Joseph, St. Joseph, Downtown

5:15 pm St. Joseph, Watervliet

The Parish Office will be closed on Friday, December 8th for the Holy Day. If you have a sacramental emergency please call 269-985-7331.

HAIL MARY FULL
OF GRACE
The Lord is with thee.



Anointing of the Sick a Sacrament of Healing

Do you have a family member who is transitioning to Hospice or is homebound and in need of Anointing or Confession? Please contact the Parish Office at 269-925-2425.

Please Pray For Our Sick

Gary Allison
Gabriel Andersen
Anna Anderson
Andrew Bain
Elizabeth Bean
Lee Boardman
Sharon Calahan
James Carpentier
Cole Childress
Grace deBest
Dale DeLong
Marietta DeMorrow
Richard Dibble
April Disterheft
Christian Dornseif
Sally Eberhard
Sarah Fairthorne
Sandy Fenderbosch
Erin Fitzsimmons
Rose Fuller
Michael Gagliardo
Gabe Galligan
Mike Gaunder
Steve Gaunder

Bryan Hammond
Eileen Healy
Linda Heil
Amanda Michaels
Hamilton
Philip Hild
Michelle Horton
Barbara Hosbein
Fr. Bill Jacobs
Lynne Jones
Thomas Jones
Theda Koshar
David Liddle
Cindy MacDonald
Robert Martin
Janine McDonough
Mic McDonough
Linda Mitchell
Jackie Miller
Dorthea Myrick
Larry Olson
Anna Post
Mary Ann Puchinsky
Kim Puleo

Mario Reich
Jolene Richards
Kristy Schmitt
Michael Sears
Raejene Shaffer
Ann Shembarger
Martha Shuler
Deanna Signor
Dave Simaz
Arlene Sisson
Noah Snowden
Sherry Smith
Catherine Sitarz
Joseph Stainer
Ruth Still
The Tezich Family
James Thomas, Jr.
Shirley Thomas
Terry Wallis
Connie Weaver
Brian Wilder
Julie Wilder
Ruth Ann York
Special Intentions



Adoration

Mondays St. Bernard's 7:00 am - 4:30 pm
Fridays St. John's 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Our goal is to have two people for each hour. Is God asking you to come and be with Him? We are in need of an adorers on Friday Afternoons. To sign up, please call **269-925-2425**.

Collaborative Communal Penance Service

Tuesday, December 19th

There will be a Collaborative Communal Penance Service on Tuesday, December 19 at 6:30 pm in St. Bernard's Church.



Lector Schedule

Saturday, December 2, ... 5:00pm Mass
Lectors Peg Pinkowski
Sunday, December 3, 9:00 am Mass
Lectors Sinie Bass
Sunday, December 3, ...11:00 am Mass
Lector Gil Michelin
Sunday, December 3, .. 12:30 pm Mass
Lector Lilia Torrez &
..... Daylin Torrez

Saturday, December 9, .. 5:00pm Mass
Lectors Marcia Grover
Sunday, December 10, ...9:00 am Mass
Lectors Lia Hartline
Sunday, December 10, .11:00 am Mass
Lector Lynn Brunner
Sunday, December 10, .12:30 pm Mass
Lector Yessica Velazquez



Confirmation Students

All Students preparing for Confirmation are required to attend information meetings required by the Diocese of Kalamazoo. We will meet at **St. Bernard Social Hall at 7:00 pm**, on; **Wednesday, December 13**
If you have any questions, please contact **Chad at 4ChurcesYM@gmail.com**



OUR LADY OF THE LAKE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Begin Your Journey with OLL,
all are welcome.



Tuition Free Scholarship
Scan to see how you can get
your 1st year's tuition **FREE!!!**

The value of Citizenship is this week's focus.

Citizenship at OLL refers to the moral and social teachings of the Catholic Church that guide students in their development as responsible and engaged citizens. We aim to educate students not only academically but also in terms of their character, values, and sense of social responsibility.

We encourage students to engage in service and outreach activities within their communities. This could include volunteering at local charities, participating in mission trips, or engaging in other forms of community service.

We promote the development of strong moral values, including respect for human life, dignity, and the sanctity of all individuals. Students are encouraged to make ethical decisions and to live their lives in accordance with Catholic moral teachings.

In a world that is increasingly interconnected, we often encourage students to be globally aware and to consider their responsibilities as global citizens.



Mass with the Bishop



Veterans Day



Luminaries



School Bus Safety



Food Drive



Book Drive - Readiness Center



Community First Responders



Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic



Wrapping Gifts for Readiness Center



Stuffing Letters St. Joseph Parish



Easter Egg Hunt Readiness Center



Blankets for the Humane Society



Downtown Fall Festival



Tree Decorating Heritage Museum



Rummage Sale



Arkansas Mission Trip



Our Week at a Glance Un Vistazo ala Semana

Sunday, December 3 • Domingo, 3 Diciembre

- 8:15 am Confession, Confesiones, Iglesia de, St. John's Church
- 11:00 am Catequesis Familiar, St. Bernard Parish Center
- 6:00 pm Confirmation Class, St. Bernard Social Hall
- 6:30 pm Novena for Our Lady of Guadalupe,
Novena por Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
St. Bernard Parish Center

Monday, December 4 • Lunes, 4 Diciembre

- 7:00 am Adoration, Adoracion al Santisimo, St. Bernard's Church
- 4:30 pm Confession, Confesiones, Iglesia de, St. Bernard's Church
- 5:15 pm Benediction, Bendicion, Iglesia, St. Bernard's Church
- 6:30 pm Novena for Our Lady of Guadalupe
Novena por Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
St. Bernard Parish Center
- 7:00 pm Millions of Monica's Millones de Mónica
St. Bernard's Church

Tuesday, December 5 • Martes, 5 Diciembre

- 5:30 pm Legion of Mary, St. Bernard's Classroom
- 6:00 pm HS Youth Group, Grupo Juvenil de la HS
Rose Center, 301 Wayne Street St. Joseph
- 6:00 pm K of C Officers Meeting, Knights Room SB
- 6:30 pm K of C Rosary, St. Bernard's Church
- 7:00 pm K of C Monthly Meeting
St. Bernard's Knights Room & Social Hall
- 6:30 pm Novena for Our Lady of Guadalupe
Novena por Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
St. Bernard Parish Center

Wednesday, December 6 • Miercoles, 6 Diciembre

- 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, St. John Church
- 6:30 pm Becoming Catholic, St. John's Church Social Hall
- 6:30 pm Novena for Our Lady of Guadalupe
Novena por Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
St. Bernard Parish Center

Thursday, December 7 • Jueves, 7 Diciembre

- 3:00 pm Open Youth Room, Sala Juvenil Abierta,
Rose Center, 301 Wayne Street St. Joseph
- 5:30 pm Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass
St. Bernard's Church
- 6:30 pm Novena for Our Lady of Guadalupe
Novena por Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
St. Bernard Parish Center
- 7:00 pm Michigan Catholic Bible School, St. Bernard's Social Hall
- 7:00 pm St. Cecilia Choir Practice, St. Bernard's Church

Friday, December 8 • Viernes, 8 Diciembre

Parish Office is Closed

- 8:00 am Immaculate Conception Mass (Holy Day of Obligation)
St. John's Church
- 8:30 am Adoration & Confession
Adoracion al Santisimo & Confesión Iglesia
St. John's Church
- 4:20 pm Benediction, Bendicion, Iglesia, St. John's Church
- 6:30 pm Novena for Our Lady of Guadalupe
Novena por Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe,
St. Bernard Parish Center
- 7:00 pm Maria Música de Dios, ensayo de coro (Español),
St. Bernard's Church

Saturday, December 9 • Sabado, 9 Diciembre

- 3:30 pm Confession, Confesiones, Iglesia de
St. Bernard's Church
- 6:30 pm Novena for Our Lady of Guadalupe
Novena por Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
St. Bernard Parish Center



Lighting the Advent Wreath

We are looking for individuals to light the Advent Wreaths prior to Mass on Sundays. Please contact the parish office for details.

Christmas Gifts

For the youth of our parish

We have boxes at the back of the churches to collect gifts for the youth of our parish. We are collecting presents between \$15.00 - \$25.00 to be distributed at our Christmas Masses. For more information, please contact the parish office.

Presentation of the Gifts

Mass Offertory

Starting this weekend we will reinstate the presentation of the bread and wine at the Offertory. If you would like to present the gifts during Mass, please contact the parish office.

Serving our parish family

*As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace.
1Peter 4:10*

Our Youth Mass will be celebrated on **Sunday, December 17, at 11:00 am at St. Bernard's**. We are looking for lectors, servers and ushers for our celebration. Please contact the parish office at **269-925-2425** or **ssjbsecretary@gmail.com**, if you are interested in serving. Starting in January the Youth Mass will be moved to the second Sunday of the month.

Thank You!

Sunday Donuts

Thank you to the Sargent Family, the Johnson Family, Stephen Ministry and Legion of Mary, for taking care of the coffee and donuts the past few weeks. If your ministry or family would like to help with this church activity, please contact the parish office.



Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena Prayers

**St. Bernard
Parish Center
December 3rd - 11th**

Sunday, December 3rd

12:30PM: Holy Mass. Blessing of the image of St. Juan Diego
6:30PM: Singing
7:30PM Holy Rosary
7:40PM: Topic: The Signs of Our Lady
8:00PM: Closing Prayer and Songs

Monday, December 4th - 8th

6:30PM: Singing
7:30PM Holy Rosary
7:40PM: Topic & Reflection
8:00PM: Closing Prayer and Songs

Saturday, December 9th

6:30PM: Singing
6:45PM: St. Juan Diego Representation of the Apparition and dance.
7:30PM: Early Morning Greeting Songs (Mananitas)
8:00PM: Potluck
9:00PM: Closing Prayer and Songs

Sunday, December 10th

12:30PM: Holy Mass. Renewal of Wedding Vows for those already Married.
6:30PM: Singing
7:15PM Holy Rosary
7:40PM: Topic: The Apparitions of the Virgin of Guadalupe.
8:00PM: Closing Prayer and Songs

Monday, December 11th

6:30PM: Singing
7:30PM: Holy Rosary
7:40PM: Topic: Titles
8:00PM: Dinner, Nocturnal Adoration

Tuesday, December 12th

FIESTA GUADALUPANA

5:00AM: Early Morning Greeting Songs (Las Mananitas)
6:00AM: Holy Mass
7:00AM: Dance
8:00AM: Breakfast
6:30PM: Holy Rosary

Watch Out

First Sunday of Advent

In Advent, we celebrate our hope that the Lord might come more fully into our lives. The first reading from Isaiah voices the hope of sinners for a redeemer. Unlike Isaiah, we know that God has come to bring us back, when the Father sent his Son, Jesus, to save us. Our faith in Jesus leads us to a new way of looking at the world. We can see what God is doing as well as remembering what God has done.

Like the gatekeepers in Jesus' Gospel parable, we need to keep our eyes open for him. When we only look out for ourselves, we may miss the signs of God's presence around us. Instead of looking at the difficulties of life as obstacles, we can watch for them as opportunities to stretch our faith, to rely on God, or to show God's love to a friend.

The Corinthians were also watching for the Lord to come. They were thinking of Jesus as coming in glory. Though we don't see the full glory of the Lord, part of that glory is his presence in the sacraments. In them we celebrate not just the coming of the Lord, but his working in the world. He shares his life with us in baptism, gives us his Spirit in confirmation and himself in the Eucharist, heals us in reconciliation and the anointing of the sick, and calls us to make him present to others in holy orders and matrimony. You could almost say his second coming is taking place now. Watch for it.

Tom Schmidt

Church Decorating for Christmas

St. Bernard's Church, Saturday, December 16th

Join us, after the 5:00 pm Mass on Saturday, December 16th to decorate St. Bernard's Church. If you have questions, please contact the parish office.



Knights of Columbus

Council 1120

Join us, as we continue our mission of Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism. All practicing Catholic men 18 years or older are invited to join. For more information **contact Grand Knight, Van Maychszak at 269-208-2195.**

Upcoming Events

December 5 • 6:00 pm

K of C Officers Meeting

..... Knights Room in St. Bernard

K of C Rosary St. Bernard's Church

K of C Monthly Meeting St. Bernard's Parish Center

..... St. Bernard's Parish Center

December 19 • 12:00 noon

American Red Cross Blood Drive

..... St. Bernard Parish Center

December 17 • 11:00 am

Corporate Communion St. Bernard's Church

Our Stewardship

For November 19, 2023

Collections \$7,678.00

Online \$2,552.00

For November 26, 2023

Collections \$8,846.00

Online \$1,982.00

YTD Budget \$255,283.00

YTD Collections \$231,138.00

Shortfall..... \$24,145.00

It's Easy To Give Online

Our online giving platform is quick and easy on our parish website. For more information contact the Parish Office.

Bishops Annual Appeal 2023

Goal..... \$116,685.00

Pledged \$97,727.00

Number of Families..... 236

Needed towards goal..... \$18,958.00

A heartfelt "thank you" to everyone who made a pledge or contribution!

Parish Directory

St. John Parish

600 Columbus Ave.
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

St. Bernard Parish

555 E. Delaware Ave.
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Parish Office Information

580 Columbus Ave.
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
www.ssjohnandbernard.org

Office (269) 925-2425

Fax (269) 925-4678

Tuesday - Friday

8:30 am - 3:30 pm

(Closed for lunch

12:30 - 1:30 pm)

Parish Staff

Administrator • Father John

Peter Ambrose

ssjbpastor@gmail.com

Deacon • Deacon Ed Nickel

ednickel57@gmail.com

Deacon • Deacon Philip Sirk

psirk64@gmail.com

Bookkeeper • Diane Petlick

ssjbbusmgr@gmail.com

Parish

Secretary • Wendy Maychszak

ssjbsecretary@gmail.com

Director of Adult Evangelization

Donny Wallenfang

ssjbformation@gmail.com

Building Attendant

and Caretaker • Chris Visin

(269) 925-2425

Parish Pastoral

Council • Gil Michelini

gilmichelini@gmail.com

Buildings and

Grounds • Eric Hanley

ssjbfacilities@gmail.com

Youth Ministry • Chad Roden

4churchesym@gmail.com

(269) 983-1575

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Coordinator • Peg Hanley

tdhanley58@hotmail.com

Sacramental Emergency Only

Call (269) 985-7331 and follow the instructions carefully. Please leave a message on the emergency line only, if no one answers as it is always monitored.

Catholic Community Center

Catholic Charities of Southwest

Michigan

(269) 926-6424

Readiness Center • Martha

Thieneman

(269) 926-4084

Our Lady of the Lake

Catholic Schools

Middle/High School

915 Pleasant Street

St. Joseph, MI 49085

(269) 983-2511

James White, Principal

jwhite@lmclakers.org

Elementary School

3165 Washington Avenue

St. Joseph, MI 49085

(269) 429-0227

Sherri Kirschner, Principal

skirschner@lmclakers.org

Business Office

220 Church Street

St. Joseph, MI 49085

(269) 983-5529