



The Feast of
OUR LADY of GUADALUPE

Mass Intentions

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

Monday, December 11

5:30 pm †Donna McMahon,
by the McMahon FamilySB

Tuesday, December 12

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

6:00 am †Karen Scrima,
by Bob & Peg PinkowskiSB

Wednesday, December 13

9:00 am †Aurelio Pangilinan,SB

Friday, December 15

8:00 am Intentions of Seth Collins
by Chad Roden SJ

Saturday, December 16

8:00 am †Karen Scrima,
by Robert & Linda Morse SJ
5:00 pm †Karen Scrima,
by Bob & Peg PinkowskiSB

Sunday, December 17

9:00 am †Dr. C. Bassett Brown,
Perla Tolentio SJ
11:00 am The Deceased Members of the
Knights of ColumbusSB
12:30 pm (Español) Por la Comunidad
Paroquial.....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

Rest in Christ's Peace

Please pray for **Paul Bergan**, that he may enjoy the great blessings of eternal life. We pray also for his families and friends that they find peace in the promises of Christ.

Scripture Readings

For the Week of December 10, 2023

Sunday

Second Sunday of Advent - V

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14;
2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

Monday

Monday of the Second Week of Advent - V

Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab & 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe - W

Zec 2:14-17; Judith 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or
Lk 1:39-47

Wednesday

Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr - R

Is 40:25-31; Ps 103: 1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday

Memorial of Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church - W

Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab;
Mt 11:11-15

Friday

Friday of the Second Week of Advent - V

Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday

Saturday of the Second Week of Advent - V

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19;
Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Prepare the Way of the Lord

Second Sunday of Advent

Saint Peter shows us a characteristic of God that we normally do not think about. He tells us that for God, "a day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day" (2 Peter 3:8). Because early Christians sometimes complained that Jesus' second coming had been delayed, Peter is trying to tell us that what seems like a long time to us is nothing to God.

Like the early Christians, we may wonder how long it will take for God to answer our prayers. We may be praying for someone who is looking for a job, a sick relative, an end to abortion, or world peace. Some prayers require us to change, and we may not be ready.

What Peter means is that a thousand years is not too long for God if someone needs that long to repent. God is far more patient than we are. God has been "waiting" over two thousand years for us to preach the gospel to all nations. God has been waiting for millennia for people to give up war as a means for solving our problems. God has been waiting since the beginning of the human race for us to learn how to love our neighbor.

We might not be as patient as God, but we can help. Saint Peter says that we are not just waiting for the Lord's return, we are hastening it. When we make a choice that is based on faith rather than selfishness, we make it a little easier for people to believe in God. Jesus is the light of the world; he asks us to let our light shine, so that people can see Jesus in us. May our light "prepare the way of the Lord" (Mark 1:3). Tom Schmidt



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

Weekday Mass Schedule Change

Tuesday, December 12th

On **Tuesday, December 12th**, all are welcome to attend a celebration Mass for **Our Lady of Guadalupe** at **6:00 am** at **St. Bernard's Church**. Due to this celebration, there will **not** be Daily Mass at 8:00 am at St. John's Church.



Lector Schedule

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
LectorLynn Brunner
Sunday, December 10, 12:30 pm Mass
LectorYessica Velazquez

Saturday, December 16, 5:00pm Mass
Lectors Peter Shaffer
Sunday, December 17, ...9:00 am Mass
Lectors Jim Stouffer
Sunday, December 17, .11:00 am Mass
Lector Gil Michelini
Sunday, December 17, .12:30 pm Mass
Lector Ruben Redroza and
.....Nora Ramierz

Confirmation Students

The DOK Night for Wednesday, December 13 has been canceled. If you have any questions, please contact **Chad** at **4ChurcesYM@gmail.com**

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.



OUR LADY OF THE LAKE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Little Laker Preschool

Come grow and learn in
a Christ-centered
environment.

Our goal is to provide a developmentally appropriate curriculum that is child-centered. We embrace individual differences, encourage active learning, and foster spiritual growth in a warm and caring environment. Learning experiences are embedded in play-centered activities that are planned around a thematic unit.



Social/Emotional Development
Faith Formation
Literacy & Language
Math & Science
Creative Arts
Social Studies
Physical Development



Sherri Kirschner, Principal
Alyssa Konkel, Director

3165 Washington Ave.

269-429-0227

www.ollakers.org



Our Mission:

Under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, rooted in Sacred Scripture and centered on the Eucharist, Our Lady of the Lake Catholic School embraces the values of Education, Faith, and Citizenship.

Our Week at a Glance Un Vistazo ala Semana

Sunday, December 10 • Domingo, 10 Diciembre

- 8:15 am Confession, Confesiones, Iglesia de, St. John's Church
- 10:15 am Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, St. John School
- 11:00 am Catechesis Familiar, St. Bernard Parish Center
- 6:30 pm Novena for Our Lady of Guadalupe,
Novena por Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
St. Bernard Parish Center

Monday, December 11 • Lunes, 11 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
- 8:00 pm All Night Adoration, Adoración toda la noche,
St. Bernard's Church

Tuesday, December 12 • Martes, 12 Diciembre

- 6:00 am Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe,
Misa por Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe,
St. Bernard's Church
- 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
- 6:30 pm Novena for Our Lady of Guadalupe
Novena por Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
St. Bernard Parish Center

Wednesday, December 13 • Miercoles, 13 Diciembre

- 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal, St. John Church
- 6:30 pm Becoming Catholic, St. John's Church Social Hall

Thursday, December 14 • Jueves, 14 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
- 7:00 pm legion de maria,
St. Bernard's Classroom
- 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 15 • Viernes, 15 Diciembre

- 8:30 am Adoration & Confession
Adoracion al Santisimo & Confesión Iglesia
St. John's Church
- 4:20 pm Benediction, Bendicion, Iglesia, St. John's Church
- 7:00 pm Maria Música de Dios, ensayo de coro (Español),
St. Bernard's Church

Saturday, December 16 • Sabado, 16 Diciembre

- 3:30 pm Confession, Confesiones, Iglesia de
St. Bernard's Church
- 6:00 pm Decorate St. Bernard's Church for Christmas
St. Bernard's Church
- 6:30 pm Christmas Posadas
St. Bernard's Parish Center



Thank you

Greetings from
Father John Peter.
I want to thank all
of you who

attended the Advent by Candlelight and the
St. Nicholas Dinner. It was wonderful to see our
parish community come together to and to
prepare the way of our Lord.

On December 12th we will celebrate Our Lady
of Guadalupe. Starting on December 16th, the
Christmas Posadas will begin. This is a wonderful
time for our parish to come together.

Thank you to all who have donated gifts for our
parish children. I am humbled by your
generosity.

Look for information about our upcoming
International Food Festival Fundraiser scheduled
for February 10, 2024

May God bless you!

Presentation of the Gifts

Mass Offertory

We have reinstated 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.*
1 Peter 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 Legion of Mary and the Knights
of Columbus, 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*

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

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.

Save the Date

Saturday, February 10, 2024



On Saturday, February 10, 2024, we will hold an **International Food Festival** fundraiser at St. Bernard's Parish Center, after the 5:00 pm Mass. Please consider hosting a table of food from your family's heritage. We are looking for table captains to coordinate a country's table and workers to cook/donate food/work the tables. We are also accepting donations for our Silent Auction (new items or certificates for services). For more information, see **Tom or Peggy Hanley**, or contact the parish office.

Millions of Monicas

Mondays at 7:00 pm, at St. Bernard's Church

Her story is our story. Millions of Monicas is a group of mothers who come together to lift up our children of all ages. Many of us have children who are struggling to embrace their Catholic faith or have left the church entirely. Like Saint Monica, mother of Saint Augustine, we pray for their joyful return to full unity with the Catholic Church.

We believe that by coming together weekly, uniting our hearts and voices, we can bring strength and joy to each other. Rather than act as a support of self-help group, we strive instead to encounter God through prayer for ourselves and our children.

Please join us on Mondays at 7:00 pm at St. Bernard's Church (enter at door number 8).



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 19 • 12:00 noon

American Red Cross Blood Drive

..... St. Bernard Parish Center

December 17 • 11:00 am

Corporate Communion St. Bernard's Church

January 9 • 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

Our Stewardship

For December 3, 2023

Collections \$14,150.00

Online \$3,776.00

YTD Budget \$266,887.00

YTD Collections \$249,063.00

Shortfall..... \$17,823.00

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