



**Joseph rose and took the child
and his mother by night and departed for Egypt.
— Matthew 2:14**

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 30

8:00 am †Ann St. Amand,
by Knights of Columbus,
Council 1120..... SJ
5:00 pm Lee Peters (birthday),
by the Maychszak FamilySB

Sunday, December 31

9:00 am †The Scrima & Nickel Families,
Living & Deceased,
by the Nickel Family SJ
11:00 am Our Parish FamilySB
12:30 pm (Español) †Marilyn Wanish,
by Jan & Linda KotynekSB

Monday, January 1,

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

Tuesday, January 2,

8:00 am †Carolyn Gillen,
by Tammy O'Brien SJ

Wednesday, January 3,

9:00 am †*Al Sturcz,
by the Sturcz FamilySB

Friday, January 5,

8:00 am Denise Watts
by Theresa Stutz SJ

Saturday, January 6

8:00 am Alison Jones,
by the Nickel Family SJ
5:00 pm Our Beloved Dead in
Calvary CemeterySB

Sunday, January 7

9:00 am †Dr. C. Bassett Brown,
by Perla Tolentino SJ
11:00 am †Ed Conrad
by Joe & Donna Wasserman SB
12:30 pm (Español) Por la Comunidad
ParoquialSB

† 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 **Constance Deaner**, that she may enjoy the great blessings of eternal life. We pray also for her family and friends that they find peace in the promise of Christ.

Scripture Readings

For the Week of December 31, 2023

Sunday	Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph - W Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2: 22-40
Monday	Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God - W Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Tuesday	Memorial of Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church - W 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 1:19-28
Wednesday	Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Jesus - W 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6; Jn 1:29-34
Thursday	Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious - W 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9; Jn 1:35-42
Friday	Memorial of Saint John Neumann, Bishop - W 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100; 1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Jn 1:43-51
Saturday	Memorial of Saint André Bessette, Religious - W 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or Lk 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Remember, Reflect, Respond

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

This feast has had several names through history. Strangely, the title that is most confusing to non-Catholics is the official one. When we call Mary the Mother of God, we are not saying that she somehow preceded God or is equal to God. We are simply recognizing that her human son Jesus is also the divine Son of God.

Today's Gospel records one simple action of Mary: to keep these things in her heart. Even in this simple sentence we are given a good example of being a disciple. Like Mary, we need to both keep, or remember, what God has done, and to reflect on what we remember. First, how much do we remember about what God has done for us? How well do we know the stories of salvation found in the scriptures? Do we recall the prayers God has answered, the guidance given, the love of God that others have shown us, the times God has forgiven us?

Second, how much do we reflect on what God has done? Even if we have many memories of God's goodness to us, we also need to pray over them and ask ourselves how we have changed because of what God has done. Do I forgive hurts more readily? Do I share my faith with my family or friends? Do I support my parish with my time or offerings? Let us ask God's help to imitate Mary by remembering and reflecting.

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
Nancy Johns
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**.

Millions of Monicas

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 or self-help group, we strive instead to encounter God through prayer for ourselves and our children.

Our mission is to encounter God through prayer for ourselves and our children; to grow in holiness and humility.

Please join us on **Monday's at 6:30 pm** at St. Bernard's Church, enter at door number 8. If you would like more information we'll be happy to discuss this beautiful ministry with you. Call **Marie 616.216.7711** or visit **millionsofmonicas.com**



Lector Schedule

Saturday, December 30, . 5:00pm Mass
Lectors Marcia Grover
Sunday, December 31, .. 9:00 am Mass
Lectors Lia Hartline
Sunday, December 31, .11:00 am Mass
LectorsSteve Gaunder
Sunday, December 31, 12:30 pm Mass
Lector Rosaura Tavares and
..... Hermana Natalia

Saturday, January 6, 5:00pm Mass
Lectors Peter Shaffer
Sunday, January 7,9:00 am Mass
LectorsSinie Bass
Sunday, January 7,11:00 am Mass
LectorsBill Klein
Sunday, January 7,12:30 pm Mass
LectorNoemi Lopez and
..... Erica Torrez



OUR LADY OF THE LAKE

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

From our Laker Family to Yours

WE WISH YOU A VERY

MERRY

Christmas

— & —

HAPPY NEW YEAR



Begin Your Journey with OLL,
all are welcome.

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



Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry provides high quality, one to one (gender to gender), Christ centered care to persons experiencing a crisis or life difficulty. Parishioners who are hurting can request a trained care giver, who will provide confidential, emotional, and spiritual support. Care givers engage by listening to, praying with, and providing resources for each care receiver. In addition, Stephen Ministry is about sharing hope with those struggling, knowing of Jesus's love for every person.

Wendy Maychszak.....

Parish secretary: 925-2425

Stephen Leaders

Jim Stouffer - 269-208-4207

Deacon Ed Nickel - 269-214-4451



Learn about the Legion of Mary!

Tuesdays at 5:30 pm in St. Bernard's Classroom

The Legion of Mary is an Association of Catholics who aim to glorify God through the holiness of its members, specifically by prayer and action directed toward the conversion, conservation, and consolation of God's people.

Anyone (18 and older) interested in learning more about the Legion are invited to join our weekly meetings, held on **Tuesdays**, beginning promptly at **5:30 PM** with the Rosary in the **St. Bernard Classroom**. Come see what the Legion is all about!



Walking With Mom's Need

Fourth Monday of the Month

If a woman with an unexpected or challenging pregnancy turned to you, would you know what help is available? Through Walking with Moms in Need, Catholics can help vulnerable women find support in welcoming and caring for their children.

This is our goal and we invite you to join us every month on the 4th Monday after 5:30 mass at St Bernard's Parish. For January we will meet **Monday, January 22, 2024 at 6:00PM.**

In every child
which is born and
in every person who
lives or dies we see the
image of God's *glory*.

The Gospel of Life, 84

En cada niño que nace
y en cada hombre que
vive y que muere
reconocemos la imagen
de la *gloria de Dios*.

El Evangelio de la Vida, 84

Parish Office Hours

Closed December 22 - January 2

The Parish Office will reopen on January 2nd at noon. If there is a Sacramental Emergency, please call 269-985-7331 and leave your name. This line will be monitored.
Have a blessed New Year.



SS. John & Bernard Parish offers faith formation

children ages 3-12

Dear Parents and Caretakers,

The youngest children are filled with questions! Have you experienced your child asking, "What's that?" or "Why?" So often these simple questions are looking for deep answers. This desire for understanding the most profound realities reveals that children are already in relationship with God.

SS. John & Bernard Parish recognizes this special and unique relationship that children have with God and provides a beautiful environment, guided by a Montessori faith formation approach called Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, to nurture this relationship.

Your children, and all children you know, ages 3-12 are welcome and invited to participate in the weekly sessions!

The catechists who serve in the atriums at SS. John & Bernard Parish are always happy to offer tours to anyone, and welcome questions about the ministry!

You can reach Peggy Hanley, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Coordinator, by emailing her at tdhanley58@hotmail.com or call the Parish Office at **(269) 925-2425**.

Serving our parish family

Second Sunday of the Month

Our Youth Mass will be celebrated on second Sunday of the month on, **Sunday, January 14, at 11:00 am at St. Bernard's.**

We are looking for lectors, servers and ushers for our celebration. If you are interested in serving, please contact Fran Micheline at fmicheline@ollakers.org or the parish office at **269-925-2425**.

Our Week at a Glance Un Vistazo ala Semana

Sunday, December 31 • Domingo, 31 Diciembre

8:15 am Confession, Confesiones, Iglesia de, St. John's Church

Monday, January 1 • Lunes, 1 Enero

9:00 am Mass at St. John's Church

Tuesday, January 2 • Martes, 2 Enero

5:30 pm Legion of Mary, St. Bernard's Classroom
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 & Parish Center

Wednesday, January 3 • Miércoles, 3 Enero

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

Thursday, January 4 • Jueves, 4 Enero

7:00 pm Legion de maria,
St. Bernard's Classroom
7:00 pm St. Cecilia Choir Practice, St. Bernard's Church

Friday, January 5 • Viernes, 5 Enero

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, January 6 • Sabado, 6 Enero

8:30 am Quilt Ministry, St. Bernard's Classroom
3:30 pm Confession, Confesiones, Iglesia de
St. Bernard's Church



**Knights of Columbus
Pancake Breakfast**

**Sunday, January 14
After the
9:00 am Mass**

**At St. John's
Social Hall**

Youth Group at The Rose Center High School

High School Youth Group meets **Tuesdays from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm in the Rose Center Youth Room.**

Open Youth Room

Come join us every **Thursday in the Rose Center from 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm** for snacks, games, and much more. Open Youth Room is a time for all students grades 6 -12 to come and hang out. We will have video games, snacks, board games, and so much more. Swing by and grab a snack, or stay for the whole time. We would love to see you!

Coming Soon



Plan to join us for an **International Food Festival Fundraiser, February 10 at 6:00 pm** in **St. Bernard's Parish Center**. Tickets are \$20 for adults 12 and up, \$10 for children ages 3 to 11 years, and free for those under 3. Tickets must be purchased in advance and can be obtained at the parish office or after Mass starting in January. Beer and wine will be available for purchase and a 50/50 raffle will be held. Be sure to mark your calendars—you don't want to miss this! Anyone interested in helping with this event or hosting a table should contact Tom or Peggy Hanley or the parish office.

Becoming Catholic

St. John's Social Hall, Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Join us this **Wednesday, January 3, from 6:30–8:00 PM** in the **fellowship hall of Saint John's Church** (600 Columbus Ave) for our Becoming Catholic program. **ALL ADULTS ARE WELCOME** to come and learn more about the Catholic faith. In his First Letter to Saint Timothy, Saint Paul writes, "But if I should be delayed, you should know how to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of truth." This week we will explore the origin and history of the Church, as well as its four marks that we profess in the creed: "one, holy, catholic, and apostolic." Email **Donny Wallenfang** at **ssjbformation@gmail.com** or call **269-925-2425** for more details.

Knights of Columbus Chili and Euchre Night

Saturday, January 27th

Mark your calendar for a warm night of Chili and Euchre on **Saturday, January 27th** after the **5:00 pm Mass** at **St. Bernard's Parish Center**.



Registration is now open for the 2024 Steubenville Youth Conference! The conference is open to all students currently in grades 8 -12. This year we will be attending Main Campus 2, **June 28th - 30th**. For more information, please contact **Chad** at **4churchesYM@gmail.com**

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

January 2 • 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

January 14 • After the 9:00 am Mass

Pancake Breakfast St. John's Social Hall

January 27 • 5:00 pm

Corporate Communion St. Bernard's Church

Chili Euchre Night..... St. Bernard's Parish Center

Our Stewardship

For December 17, 2023

Collections\$6,661.00

Online\$2,710.00

YTD Budget\$290,094.00

YTD Collections\$269,247.00

Shortfall\$20,847.00

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\$98,987.00

Number of Families236

Needed towards goal\$17,698.00

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