

Stay
awake!

¡Estén
Preparados!



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
 Path Appleton
 Andrew Bain
 The Benson Family
 Pam Blakeman
 Lee Boardman
 Sharon Calahan
 James Carpentier
 Cole Childress
 Grace deBest
 April Dornseif
 Christian Dornseif
 Sally Eberhard
 Sarah Fairthorne
 Sandy Fenderbosch
 Carol Frosolone
 Rose Fuller
 Gabe Galligan
 Steve Gaunder
 Donna Gregg
Mike Hall
 Anita Hicks

Philip Hild
 David Hines
 Michelle Horton
 Barbara Hosbein
 Martha Hudson
 Fr. Bill Jacobs
 Nancy Johns
 Lynne Jones
 Thomas Jones
 Theda Koshar
 David Liddle
 Cindy MacDonald
 Betsy Marchi
 Robert Martin
 Janine McDonough
 Mic McDonough
 Jackie Miller
 Ted Mills
 Dorthey Myrick
 Larry Olson
 Sam Pantelleria
 Anna Post
 Mary Ann Puchinsky
 Kim Puleo

Mario Reich
 Jolene Richards
 Kristy Schmitt
 Michael Sears
 Ann Shembarger
 Martha Shuler
 Deanna Signor
 Dave Simaz
 Arlene Sisson
 Mark Smith
 Joseph Stainer
 Ruth Still
 The Tezich Family
 James Thomas, Jr.
 Shirley Thomas
 Terry Wallis
 Connie Weaver
 Brian Wilder
 Julie Wilder
 Ruth Ann York
 Mary Zielke
 Lottie Zmyslo
 Special Intentions



Ministry Schedule

Saturday, November 29, 5:00 pm Mass

Lector.....Peg Pinkowski
 EMHC.....Laura Bradley & Darla Nickel
 Ushers.....Joe Campbell, Patrick Clark, James Visin

Sunday, November 30, 9:00 am Mass

Lector.....James Stouffer
 EMHC.....Debra Dibble & Dan Frosolone
 Ushers.....Pete Frosolone, Mike Damico, Sara Hassle & Tim Hamilton

Sunday, November 30, 11:00 am Mass

Lector.....Gil Michilini
 EMHC.....Patricia Quattrin & Judy Steed
 Ushers.....Paul Maloney, Jeff Chorny, Richard Johnson, & Tom Schueneman

Sunday, November 30 12:30 pm Mass

Lector.....Lilia, Daylin Y Cesar

Saturday, December 6, 5:00 pm Mass

Lector.....Peter Shaffer
 EMHC.....Laura Bradley & Darla Nickel
 Ushers.....Joe Campbell, Gary Cecchi, Michael Bradley

Sunday, December 7, 9:00 am Mass

Lector.....Youth Mass
 EMHC.....Tracy Koshar & Dan Frosolone
 Ushers.....Perla Tolentino, Mike Damico, Sara Hassle & Tim Hamilton

Sunday, December 7, 11:00 am Mass

Lector.....William Klein
 EMHC.....Patricia Quattrin & Judy Steed
 Ushers.....Paul Maloney, Jeff Chorny, Richard Johnson, & Tom Schueneman

Sunday, Diciembre 7, 12:30 pm Mass

Lector.....Nohemy, Zarco, Yessica Y Karina



Adoration

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

Fridays St. John's
 8:00 am - 12:00 noon

First Friday of the month

St. Bernard Church (enter door #8)
 8:00 pm—12:00 midnight

Our goal is to have two people for each hour. Is God asking you to come and be with Him? To sign up, please call 269-925-2425.

Christmas Pageant

December 24

If you are interested in having a Christmas Pageant for the Children of our parish this year, we are in need of an excited parent/parents who can facilitate this! A script, costumes, and all other necessary resources will be provided. Please contact **Seth Collins** at ssjbfomation@gmail.com if this is something your are passionate about!

Mass Intentions

Saturday, November 29.....
 5:00 pm Our Parish FamilySB

Sunday, November 30
 9:00 am Deceased Members of the
 Knights of Columbus,SJ
 11:00 am †Dorothy Michelini
 by Gil & Fran Michelini.....SB
 12:30 pm (Español) †Glenda Stuckey,
 by Judy ZenckaSB

Monday, December 1**Mary Seymour**
 5:30 pm †Elizabeth Abt
 by Eileen Healy.....SB

Tuesday, December 2 **Peter Shaffer**
 8:00 am †Eileen Healy,
 by Robin & Carol Campbell ...SJ

Wednesday, December 3..... **Peg Pinkowski**
 11:00 am Intentions of Leo Roden,
 by Chad Roden SB

Friday, December 5.....**Mary Seymour**
 8:00 am Tara Collins (birthday),
 by Seth Collins.....SJ

Saturday, December 6
 5:00 pm †Dr. Ken Edwards ,
 by Joe & Anne CampbellSB

Sunday, December 7
 9:00 am †Cornelius Bass
 by Sinie Bass.....SJ
 11:00 am Our Parish Family,SB
 12:30 pm (Español) †Carmen Lopez
 by Van & Wendy Maychszak SB

† Indicates Deceased • * Indicates Death Anniversary

Scripture Readings

For the Week of November 30, 2025

Sunday **First Sunday of Advent - V**
 Is 2:1-5; Ps 122, 1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Rm 13:11-14;
 Mt 24:37-44

Monday **Monday of the First Week of Advent - V**
 Is 4:2-6; 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 **Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier, Priest - W**
 Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5,6; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday **Thursday of the First Week of Advent - V**
 Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a;
 Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday **Friday of the First Week of Advent - V**
 Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

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

Do What You Can

First Sunday of Advent

The reading from the prophet Isaiah this Sunday contains a remarkable prediction—the end of war between nations (Isaiah 2:4). So why hasn't it been fulfilled? We can look to the second reading and the Gospel for some hints.

Both readings talk about being awake and ready for our salvation (Romans 13:12) or the coming of the Son of Man (Matthew 24:39). Being awake doesn't mean consuming lots of coffee or turning the music volume all the way up. Paul calls it "putting on the Lord Jesus Christ" as a soldier would put on armor before a battle. He even mentions rivalry and jealousy as attitudes to avoid. What if we not only avoided them, but also taught our children to avoid them? What if everyone eventually learned not to be jealous and hateful?

We are a long way from ending all wars. There are still people who teach hate to the poor instead of helping to feed them. There are still people who get rich selling the weapons of war. This brings us back to the first reading, in which Isaiah speaks of beating swords into plowshares. Instead of trying to stop all wars, could we at least show forgiveness to someone who has hurt us? Maybe we need to be ready to share our faith. Maybe we have to be awake to any opportunity to show God's love to those around us. If we can just be patient with other people's faults and weaknesses, we may not stop all wars, but we will be prepared for the coming of the Prince of Peace.

Tom Schmidt



International Food Festival Fundraiser

February 7, 2026

Planning has begun for our 2026 International Food Festival Fundraiser. If you are interested in hosting a table or helping in any way, please contact **Peggy and Tom Hanley** at **tdhanley58@hotmail.com**

Gather Together

We would like to cordially invite you to Advent by Candlelight on **Tuesday, December 2 at 6:30 pm** at St. Bernard Parish Center. To host a table, please contact **Ruth Shuler 269-927-1826** or **Sinie Bass 269-470-6699**.

Would you like to attend Advent by Candlelight, but the thought of hosting a table stresses you out? There are tables that have openings, please contact **Ruth Shuler 269-927-1826** or **Sinie Bass 269-470-6699**.



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, there will not be class on, Sunday, November 30, classes will resume on December 7.

Our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Atrium at St. John's School is **in need of more Catechists, Teaching Aids and Substitutes**. If you or anyone you know is interested in working with young kids and helping them to grow in their faith in a Montessori style learning environment, please reach out to Seth Collins. **Whether you are available every week or only occasionally**, we would love to have your help! Please contact Seth Collins at the parish office for more information.



Christmas Flowers

A great way to honor your deceased loved ones or someone who has everything at Christmas is to donate to the **Christmas Flower Fund**. The flowers are used to beautify our worship space as we welcome the Christ Child. There are "Flower Envelopes" at the exits or you can donate online. **If you donate online, please note Flower Fund and the person the flowers are in memory or in honor of.**



Our Lady of Guadalupe

November 30 - 12



The Pilgrim Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be at our parish, from November 30 - December 12. The Novena will begin on November 30, after the 12:30 pm Mass. At 6:30pm, each evening, we will begin with a Rosary, then there will be a reflection on a topic pertaining to Mary in our lives. There will be Adoration and prayer time. The evening will end with a light meal. **If you plan to attend the dinner, please bring a dish to pass.** Below is a schedule and the daily topics. Please note that all events will take place at St. Bernard Church and gathering halls.

Sunday, November 30

Procession & Welcoming Ceremony

12:30 pm Mass (Spanish)

1:30 pm Procession

2:00 pm Welcoming program & dinner

Wednesday, December 3

The Importance of the Holy Rosary

6:30pm Rosary, Reflection, Adoration & dinner

Thursday, December 4

Virgin Mary & Culture

6:30pm Rosary, Reflection, Adoration & dinner

Friday, December 5

Virgin Mary & Service

6:30pm Rosary, Reflection, Adoration & dinner

Saturday, December 6

Virgin Mary & the Community

6:30pm Rosary, Reflection, Adoration & dinner

Sunday, December 7

Virgin Mary & the Purity

6:30pm Rosary, Reflection, Adoration & dinner

Monday, December 8

Immaculate Conception

5:30pm Bilingual Mass

6:30pm Rosary, Reflection, Adoration & dinner

Tuesday, December 9

San Juan Diego Representation of the Apparition

7:30pm Play of the apparition of the Virgin Mary to Juan Diego, followed by dinner

Wednesday, December 10

Message from the Virgin of Guadalupe to Juan Diego


6:30pm Rosary, Reflection, Adoration & dinner

Thursday, December 11

Mary always in adoration

6:30pm Rosary, Reflection, Adoration & dinner

**SOLEMNITY
OF THE
*Immaculate
Conception***



Monday,
October 8, 2025
5:30 pm Mass
St. Bernard Church

**Christmas Communal
Penance Service**

Wednesday, December 10th at 5:30pm

Join us on **Wednesday, December 10 at 5:30pm** at St. Bernard Church for a Christmas Collaborative Communal Penance Service. There will be at least 5 priests scheduled to hear confession, 2 are bilingual. Please contact the parish office if you have any questions regarding this wonderful opportunity.

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Friday, December 12, St. Bernard Church and Parish Center

5:00 am Mananitas - Songs
6:00 am Rosary
6:30 am Breakfast
6:00 pm Mass with Bishop Lohse
After Mass celebration and dinner.
Please bring a dish to pass for the celebrations.



Christmas

55+ Lunch Bunch December 3, 2024

We are inviting all of our parishioners that are 55 and older to join us the First Wednesday of the month

For the month of December:
11:00 am Mass
12:00 noon Lunch and an activity.

(The parish will provide the main dish—please bring a dish to pass in a disposable container) For planning please RSVP with the parish office 269-925-2425 or ssjbssecretary@gmail.com

Program to be determined.

**Our Lady of
Guadalupe
and Juan
Diego**



December 12

Saint Juan Diego was born Cuauhtlatoatzin in the Anahuac Valley of present-day Mexico in 1474. He was raised in the Aztec pagan religion and culture. In 1524 he and his wife converted to Catholicism. On December 9, 1531, Juan saw his first of four visions.

FIRST APPEARANCE.

Saturday December 9, 1531, in the morning. December was cold, almost winter, when Juan Diego went up to Tepeyac that morning when your maternal heart anointed him. You spoke to him by his name, with the tender accent of your voice, you filled his blood with joy and you were Spring before winter! *"Juanito, Juan Dieguito,"* you told him, *"I am the Mother of God, of the Living God; I want to be the consolation for the sad on this ground that I lovingly tread."*

SECOND APPEARANCE.

Saturday December 9 of 1531, in the afternoon. Juan Diego, saddened, returned late to Tepeyac, walking slowly, looking for consolation. The Bishop, Fray Juan, did not pay attention to him, so he came back to tell you about it. *"I already obeyed you, but I confess: I am an animal's tail, I am very lacking in dignity, I am a little leaf, I am a snare. Send someone better, who knows about that."* And you answered him: *"My littlest son: it is essential that it be entirely through your intervention that my wish be carried out. You must go, tomorrow again, like an ambassador, to give my warning."* Juan Diego accepted it. He went home, taking only his eyes, lit by yours.

To be continued



Advent Wreath

The First Sunday of Advent is November 30. We will be looking for candle lighters at each weekend Mass, during Advent. Please contact the parish office, if you would like to make this a part of your Christmas tradition.

Our Week at a Glance Un Vistazo ala Semana

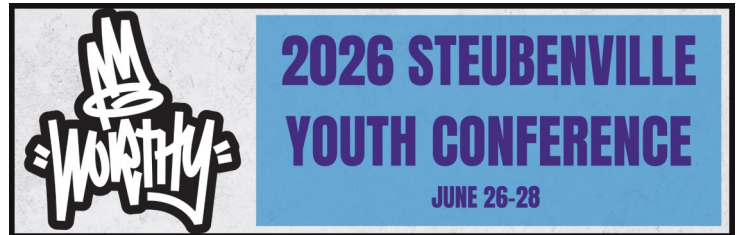
- Sunday, November 30 • Sabado, 30 Noviembre
 11:00 am Sacramental Preparation (Spanish)
 Preparación Sacramental, St. Bernard Classroom
 2:00 pm Dance For Mary,
 St. Bernard Parish Center
- Monday, December 1 • Lunes, 1 Diciembre
 7:00 am Adoration, Adoración, St. Bernard Church
 3:00 pm Set up for Advent by Candlelight,
 St. Bernard Parish Center
 4:30 pm Confession, Confesión, St. Bernard Church
 5:15 pm Benediction, Bendición, St. Bernard Church
 6:30 pm Millions of Monica's, Millones de Mónicas.
 St. Bernard Church, Enter Door Number 8
- Tuesday, December 2 • Martes, 2 Diciembre
 6:00 pm Legion of Mary, St. Bernard's Classroom
 6:30 pm Advent by Candlelight, St. Bernard Parish Center
 6:30 pm Maria Música de Dios, ensayo de coro (Español),
 St. Bernard Church
 6:00 pm High School Youth Group,
 Grupo de jóvenes de secundaria,
 The Rose Center
 301 Wayne Street, St. Joseph
- Wednesday, December 3 • Miercoles, 3 Diciembre
 11:00 am Daily Mass, Misa diaria, St. Bernard Church
 11:45 am 55 plus Lunch Bunch, St. Bernard Parish Center
 6:30 pm St. John Choir Rehearsal, St. John Church
 6:30 pm Novena for Our Lady of Guadalupe,
 St. Bernard Parish Center
- Thursday, December 4 • Jueves, 4 Diciembre
 6:00 pm Catholic Bible School, St. Bernard Social Hall
 6:30 pm St. Cecilia Music Rehearsal, St. Bernard Church
 6:30 pm Novena for Our Lady of Guadalupe,
 St. Bernard Parish Center
- Friday, December 5 • Viernes, 5 Diciembre
 8:30 am Adoration, Adoración, St. John Church
 8:30 am Confession, Confesión, St. John Church
 12:00 noon Benediction, , Bendición, St. John Church
 6:30 pm Novena for Our Lady of Guadalupe,
 St. Bernard Parish Center
 8:00 pm First Friday Adoration,
 Adoración del primer Viernes,
 St. Bernard Church, enter at door number 8
- Saturday, December 6 • Sabado, 6 Diciembre
 8:30 am Quilt Ministry, Ministerio de colchas,
 St. Bernard Classroom
 3:30 pm Confession, Confesión, St. Bernard Church
 6:30 pm Novena for Our Lady of Guadalupe,
 St. Bernard Parish Center



Becoming Catholic

Wednesdays, at 6:00 pm

Join us this **Wednesday, December 3**, from **6:00–7:30 PM** in the social hall of Saint Bernard's Church (555 E Delaware Ave) for our Becoming Catholic program. **ALL ADULTS ARE WELCOME** to come and learn more about the Catholic faith. We read in the First Letter of Saint John that "Jesus was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin." But what is sin? This week, as we begin Advent, we will talk about the nature of sin and all that we need to be rescued from in this life. Email Seth Collins at ssjbformation@gmail.com or call **269-925-2425** for more details.



It's time! Registration for this summer's Steubenville Youth Conference is open now! Be sure to grab a spot while they last. This year's theme is "Worthy". The conference this year will be held on **June 26th - 28th** on the campus of Franciscan University of Steubenville. The cost is \$400 per student with a \$75 non-refundable deposit needed at the time of registration. For more information please contact Chad at 4ChurchesYM@gmail.com or call the Parish Office.



In the event that Our Lady of the Lake School closes due to weather, all events are canceled at the parish on the same day. It does include that the parish office, and all events (meetings, etc.) are canceled. If the "snow day" falls on a Monday or Friday, the Blessed Sacrament will not be exposed. This does not include, of course, the Mass and confession schedule. If the weather is bad enough to warrant canceling daily Mass, this will be communicated via **Facebook, email and myparish app**. **Weekend Masses will never be canceled.** Using this method is a simple way to keep everyone informed.

Knights of Columbus

Interested in becoming a Knight? Contact **Grand Knight Joe Peters** for more information 269-338-3640, GK1120@mikofc.org. No time commitment is too small. Insurance-only members are welcome.



Upcoming Events

December 9 • 6:00 pm

K of C Officers Meeting,
Knights Room
6:30 pm K of C Rosary, St. Bernard Church
7:00 pm K of C Monthly Meeting,
Knight's Room
8:00 pm Council Dinner,
St. Bernard Social Hall

December 16 • 11:00 am

American Red Cross Blood Drive
St. Bernard Social Hall

December 28 • 11:00 am

Corporate Communion,.....St. Bernard Church

White Bag Project

Catholic Community Center

The **White Bags** at Christmas provide a gift of personal care products for families and individuals who visit the Catholic Community Center for assistance. This tradition was started years ago by a prayer group in the parish, and parishioners have graciously embraced it ever since. The White Bag filled with shampoo, lotion, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, body wash/ bar soap, dish soap, and \$10 Meijer gift cards. Please return the bags to the parish the week-ends of **Dec. 13/14** and **20/21**. Thank you for your generosity.

Please contact Jamie Griffin at the Center (269) 926-6424 if you have any questions.

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
ssjbdeaconed@gmail.com

Business Manager
**Parish Secretary •
Wendy Maychszak**
ssjbsecretary@gmail.com

Parish
Bookkeeper • Tammy O'Brien
ssjbbookkeeper@gmail.com

**Director of Religious
Education • Seth Collins**
ssjbformation@gmail.com

Youth Ministry • Chad Roden
4churchesym@gmail.com
(269) 983-1575

**Parish Pastoral
Council • Gil Michelini**
gilmichelini@gmail.com

**Building Attendant
and Caretaker • Chris Visin**
ssjbattendant@gmail.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
Anna Reed, Principal
areed@ollakers.org

Elementary School
3165 Washington Avenue
St. Joseph, MI 49085
(269) 429-0227
Sherri Kirschner, Principal
skirschner@ollakers.org

Business Office
220 Church Street
St. Joseph, MI 49085
(269) 983-5529