



CATHEDRAL of ST. BERNARD of CLAIRVAUX

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First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025

"Therefore, stay awake!

For you do not know on which day your Lord will come."

-Matthew 24: 42



MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKDAYS

MONDAY 6:30pm (2nd-5th)
TUESDAY-FRIDAY 7:45am
1st SATURDAY 7:45am, with
confessions following

The Rosary is prayed after daily Mass. For a full listing of daily Mass devotional prayers, please visit our website or call the office.

WEEKENDS

SATURDAY 4:30pm
SUNDAY 8:00am & 10:00am
Confessions 9:15am

PRAYER LINE

The parish has many dedicated parishioners ready to assist you with prayer in times of need. To place your intentions on the Prayer Line, please call Carol (244-4817).

CONTACT

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DIOCESE of
MADISON

PASTOR’S PULSE ON THE PARISH



SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 30
2025

Dear Friends,
“For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits. Truly, my hope is in you.” This phrase isn’t biblical, but it is still has profound meaning, and I think it gives great purpose to the meaning of our Advent journey, which begins this weekend.

The Church allows us the next three and a half weeks to ponder the beauty of stillness. In the midst of a fast-paced and busy world, we oftentimes can’t comprehend what stillness is - yet alone, practice it! ☺

Stillness can only come with hope, friends, and our hope is secure in the knowledge that the Lord of Lords and Savior of the World will soon be among us again.

‘Be still and know that I am God’

Before the birth of Christ, both Mary and Joseph had great anxiety as the time for our Lady to have her child was drawing near, and there was no place in which they could lodge to bring our Lord into the world. They ended up in a cold, damp stable, and in that setting of stillness, Jesus came among us: the renewal of our hope made manifest in the little cries that the baby makes.

Our lives are busy, and they become even more so as we journey closer to Christmas. The temptation is to be caught up in that busyness which can bring added stress, anxiety and worry. “Be still and know that I am God.” Those are the words of Psalm 46.

If we truly believe in our hearts that our hope is restored in the triumphant coming of the Lord, we allow that calm stillness to fill our hearts amidst the many worries and anxieties of this life. Christ came into the world so that we might come to Him. Rest in that knowledge, friends, and let the stillness of these days bear much fruit!

Calendar raffle sales

Thanks to everyone who has supported the calendar raffle. We’re nudging up in ticket sales, but we still have a ways to go.

If you wish to make a credit card order or order using a bank account, please call the office, and we can make it a very simple process. We can send tickets to you for you to complete and return, or we can fill out the tickets for you and place them in the raffle bin. I’m grateful to all of you for helping with this important fundraiser, as it is a lifeline to our operations here at the cathedral.

Open house, additional progress

We had a wonderful turnout for the open house back at the beginning of the month. Many commented on how beautiful the interior of the church was and how much progress has been made. There is much more that still needs to be done, but we’re getting there, one day at a time.

The next opportunity to see the cathedral will occur the Sunday after Christmas. Bishop Hying will be with us to celebrate the closing Mass of the jubilee year, and following that Mass, the cathedral will be open again for everyone to see the additional progress that’s been made.

Our bell company will be here at the beginning of December to do their initial programming on the bells ... I’ll try to capture the video where they peal for the first time. After the testing is completed, the bells will remain silent until the Mass of Consecration, where they will peal for the first time at the singing of the Gloria.

More volunteers needed

The Fraternity of Altar Servers is looking for additional boys and adults to assist with the altar serving ministry. We have a dedicated crew of brother Knights and young adults who have stepped forward to assist, but we’re in need of additional volunteers for this ministry. “On the job training” is provided! ☺ Thanks for considering this opportunity to serve the cathedral in this important ministry.

Continuing work

The first of the new lighting fixtures have been hung in the east transept, and they look fantastic! The remaining fixtures will be hung over the coming weeks.

Work is continuing on the altar predella with the addition of marble tile. The sacristy keyway ramp is completely finished now, and framing is almost complete in the parking lot entrance



“Let the stillness of these Advent days fill your hearts and minds.”
- Fr. Michael

and sacristy area. The framing of the drop ceiling has been completed in the undercroft as well. I’ve included some pictures so you can see the progress.

Let the stillness of these Advent days fill your hearts and minds, friends - our hope is in Christ, and the joy of His coming birth will remind us once again of the Father’s great love for His children.

With love in the Sacred Heart,
Fr . Michael



OUR GIFT OF TREASURE

2024-25 OFFERTORY BUDGET

Envelopes.....\$370,000.00
Loose (Cash).....\$ 75,000.00
TOTAL.....\$445,000.00

NEEDED EACH WEEK.....\$ 8,558.00

OFFERTORY:

November 16, 2025 (Week 21 of 52)

Envelopes.....\$ 1,552.00
Loose.....\$ 634.50
Bulletin Sponsor.....\$ 50.00
St. Vincent de Paul....\$ 380.00
TOTAL.....\$ 2,636.50

OFFERTORY PROGRESS:

Collected to date.....\$162,955.50
Needed to date.....\$179,718.00
Surplus/(Shortfall)...(16,762.50)

Raffle Ticket Sales Progress

Our goal is to sell 400 tickets! We have currently sold 116 or 29% of our goal. We still need to sell 284 or 71% more!

■ Tickets sold
■ Tickets to reach goal

29%

71%

Cathedral of St. Bernard



Ticket stubs can be returned with a check payable to the Cathedral of St. Bernard through the offertory basket, by mail, or drop them off in the Parish Office through the mail slot.

Contact the Parish Office to purchase tickets by credit card!

Only 400 tickets will be sold - each ticket has a chance to win each day from January 1 to June 30, 2026!

HELP US TO HELP OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

The St. Vincent de Paul-St. Bernard Conference asks for your financial support during November by giving through the parish’s St. Vincent de Paul donation envelope or online by selecting the St. Vincent de Paul Fund in the Cathedral of St. Bernard of Clairvaux website’s giving portal.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Monday, December 1st Weekday

The First Week of Advent
Is 4:2-6 ✕ Ps 122 ✕ Matt 8:5-11

NO MASS OR CONFESSIONS TODAY

Tuesday, December 2nd Weekday

Is 11:1-10 ✕ Ps 72 ✕ Lk 10:21-24

7:45am Sr. Annacile Kees & Br. Bill Laufenberg †

Following Rosary

Wednesday, December 3rd St. Francis Xavier (M)

Is 25:6-10a ✕ Ps 23 ✕ Matt 15:29-37

7:45am Open Intention

Following Rosary

Thursday, December 4th St. John Damascene (m)

Is 26:1-6 ✕ Ps 118 ✕ Matt 7:21, 24-27

7:45am Donna Jodar †

Following Rosary

First Friday, December 5th Weekday

Is 29:17-24 ✕ Ps 27 ✕ Matt 9:27-31

7:45am Michael Draper †

Following Rosary

First Saturday, December 6th BVM

Is 30:19-21, 23-26 ✕ Ps 147 ✕ Matt 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6-8

7:45am Open Intention

Following Litany of the IHM & Confessions

Sunday, December 7th Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11:1-10 ✕ Ps 72 ✕ Rom 15:4-9 ✕ Matt 3:1-12

4:30pm (Sat.) Special Intention of the Dohm Family

8:00am Pro Populo

9:15am Confessions

10:00am L/D members of Scovill & Larson Families & June Courtney-Brazy †

6:30pm (Vigil Mass for Solemnity of Immaculate Conception)

HIGHLIGHTED TIME = LIVESTREAMING

BULLETIN SPONSORS

This week’s bulletin is sponsored in honor of:

For families that are survivors of suicide

Each week our bulletin will feature the names of those who made a donation toward our bulletin, which is now published in-house.

For more information, contact the Parish Office.
Thank you so much for your support!



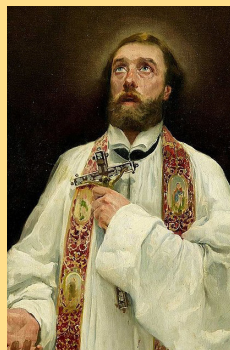
LIVES OF THE SAINTS

December 3, 2025

The following information is reprinted with permission from www.catholicculture.org:

St. Francis Xavier

The Church celebrates the Memorial of St. Francis Xavier (1506-1552), who was born in the castle of Xavier in Navarre, Spain. In 1525 he went to Paris where he met St. Ignatius Loyola and with whom he received Holy Orders in Venice in 1537. In 1540 he was sent to evangelize India. He labored in western India, the island of Ceylon, Malacca, Molucca Islands, island of Mindanao (Philippines), and Japan. In 1552 he started on a voyage to China but died on Sanctian Island.



LITTLE DRUMMER PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

Our local St. Vincent de Paul Conference (SVdP) is sponsoring the Little Drummer Program to help distribute Christmas gifts to children in need.



Parishioners are invited to participate in this event by either: 1) Purchasing a gift card (in increments of \$25) to Target or Wal-Mart and placing the cards into the collection basket; OR 2) Making a monetary donation (in increments of \$25) by placing a check or cash into the collection basket or mailing a check directly to the parish office. Please make the check out to the parish and make sure that "Little Drummer" is clearly written on the check or envelope your gift is in.

Monetary gifts must be received by Sunday, Nov. 30 while gift cards will continue to be collected through Dec. 7. Our local SVdP conference will collect all gifts we receive and take them to the District Council, where they will be distributed to those in need.

Take an ornament from the tree at the back of church as a reminder and a thank you for participating.

The Bishop Hying warmly invites you to ponder the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary this Advent with "Joyful"! This four-part program is perfect for individuals, families, and small groups and features videos from Bishop Hying for each of the four Sundays of Advent, reflection questions, and prayers. The full program can be found at madisondiocese.org/joyful.



CURRENT CATHOLIC EVENTS

SCRIP ORDERS DUE DEC. 1

SCRIP orders are due to the Parish Office by Monday, Dec. 1, and will be processed on Tuesday, Dec. 2.



BLESSED TRINITY PARISH FISH FRY ON DEC. 5

Blessed Trinity Parish will be holding a drive-through Friday Fish Fry 4:30 to 7pm on Dec. 5 at St. Michael's Church, 109 S. Military Rd., Dane. A three-piece cod dinner is \$15, including baked potato or french fries, baked beans, coleslaw, dinner rolls, and famous fritters.

UPCOMING WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER DEC. 6-7



Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience on Dec. 6-7 in Stoughton, WI. Visit our website at alifetimeoflove.org or call 888-574-5653.

MORNING OF PRAYER & REFLECTION DEC. 13

All are invited to a fruitful morning of prayer and reflection as we prepare our hearts for Christmas with the Blessed Mother on Saturday, Dec. 13, 7:30 to 11:15 am at Schoenstatt Heights, 5901 Cottage Grove Rd., Madison. Contact Jamie McCarville with questions at 608-695-6706 and register at the Google form at shorturl.at/ozLxk

LESSONS & CAROLS ON DEC. 21

All are invited to attend a service of Lessons and Carols at 4pm on Sunday, Dec. 21, at the Holy Name Oratory, 702 S. High Point Rd., Madison.



CATHEDRAL DATES AT A GLANCE

Saturday, Dec. 6, BINGO after 4:30pm Mass

Join Fr. Michael for an evening of BINGO and pizza in the St. Veronica Room after the 4:30pm Mass on Saturday, Dec. 6!



Sunday, Dec. 7, 6:30pm Vigil Mass for Solemnity of Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)

Monday, Dec. 8, 12 noon Mass for Solemnity of Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)

Wednesday, Dec. 24, 4:30pm Vigil Mass for Christmas

Wednesday, Dec. 24, 9pm Vigil Mass for Christmas, preceded by 8:15pm prelude by Cathedral Choir & Chamber Orchestra



Thursday, Dec. 25, 9:30am Mass for Christmas Day (with Women's Schola)



Wednesday, Dec. 31, 4:30pm Vigil Mass for Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)

Thursday, Jan. 1, 9:30am Mass for Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)

