



CATHEDRAL of ST. BERNARD of CLAIRVAUX

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Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 25, 2026

*"He said to them, 'Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.'
At once they left their nets and followed him."*

-Matthew 4: 19-20



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

Confessions 3:30pm

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
JANUARY 25TH
2026

Dear Friends,
This past week, we commemorated the National Day of Prayer for the Unborn. The sacredness of human life is a sensitive subject, and there are many different opinions and points of view. As Catholics, however, the Church teaches us to uphold every life as sacred and holy, and that includes life that was conceived through acts of violence and violation. This can be a very sensitive sub-topic of the pro-life teaching, but it’s important to discuss.

In the case of rape or coercion

When a woman has been raped or has been forced into sexual acts through human trafficking rings and conceives a child, there are two people who require our love and pastoral care: the woman, and the child in the womb.

Women who are raped or have been subjected to acts that diminish their human dignity have been through an extremely traumatic experience, and we are called to embrace them and reveal God’s love to them as we care for their immediate needs. It’s very clear that they were not planning to have a child, and now that a child is in the womb, the trauma of what they experienced is now compounded with



fear and deep emotion over their perceived inability to keep the child and care for him/her. When a woman chooses to terminate the pregnancy, the decision to do so is very often influenced by the emotions.

In the annual March for Life, there is always a large group of women who stand off to the right side of the main route. They are all women who found themselves in these types of situations and chose to terminate their pregnancy. As age and wisdom progressed, they became deeply sorrowful over the decision they had made, and they stand as witnesses of the power of Christ’s forgiveness that they have received through the love of the Church.

Love involves sacrifice

As we embrace women who find themselves in these very difficult circumstances, we do two things: (1) We love them unconditionally; and (2) We teach them what true love is.

We remember that love always involves an element of sacrifice. In this case, the sacrifice they offer is to make a decision for the child they carry in their womb based upon sound mind and heart, and not the emotions. Even though they have experienced great trauma and suffering, they place that suffering aside for the child they bear.

Here in the United States, over two million couples are anxiously waiting to adopt a child. Millions more are waiting around the world to give a child the love and care they need and deserve. There is nothing saying that the affected women needs to keep her child; the Church only asks that she bring the child to term.

A hard pushback that will often enter into the picture is the woman’s autonomy. She has the right to choose whether or not she brings the child to term or terminate the pregnancy. The child was conceived in terrible circumstances, and therefore, it should be the woman’s choice as to what happens. In this argument, where does the child enter in? Is it the child’s fault that he or she was conceived by rape or violation? The situation is terrible and heartbreaking, but it is equally terrible and heartbreaking to think that this child has no value or dignity because of the way in which the conception took place.

That’s where love enters the picture, friends. In carrying the child to term, the woman is sacrificing the horror and struggle that she endured to allow that child

“Love can sometimes mean making some of the most difficult decisions we’ve ever had to make, but we do so because there is someone else in the picture – in this case, a precious child.”

- Fr. Michael

to glorify God and praise Him. Once born, the child can then be placed into the loving arms of adoptive parents.

That’s what love is all about, friends. Love can sometimes mean making some of the most difficult decisions we’ve ever had to make, but we do so because there is someone else in the picture – in this case, a precious child. We put the trauma and hardship that we have endured aside, and we make the right choice. It may bring additional suffering and hardship upon us for a time, but in the end, we will have the joy of knowing that we made the right choice – the choice that was of God.

So many abortions are carried out due to social and economic factors, lack of support from family, lack of good medical care ... the list is endless. If we truly understand what love is and live it out each day, there really isn’t a choice. Love rises above everything else, and I pray that all God’s people would come to know love as deep as this. It is the love Christ gave us on the cross, and it is the love we strive to live in every day.

Around the cathedral

Work continues to carry on with the woodworking. I hope to have some pictures for you next weekend so you can see the progress on the reredos. It’s looking very beautiful. The finishing touches are being placed on the mechanical systems in the church. We’re waiting on the completion of the undercroft ceiling so the final devices can be installed.

We offer our love and prayers to the family of John Calabrese on the recent death of his brother. Many parishioners are journeying through significant health challenges, extended illnesses and terminal diseases. We offer them all to the Lord of consolation and pray for mercy and healing.

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:
January 19, 2025 (Week 29 of 52)

Envelopes.....\$ 2,194.00
Loose.....\$ 606.95
Outreach.....\$ 15.00
TOTAL.....\$ 2,815.95

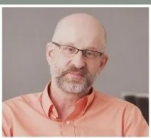
OFFERTORY PROGRESS:
Collected to date.....\$223,901.62
Needed to date.....\$248,182.00
Surplus/(Shortfall)...(\$ 24,280.38)

CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS

January 14:
Donna Swadley-\$20
January 15:
Mark & Jennefer Lehman-\$20
January 16:
Keith Hildebrand-\$20
January 17:
Debra Schneider-\$20
January 18:
Lori Hogan-\$20
January 19:
Ben Staeck-\$20
January 20:
Mary Ellen Briggs-Pomo-\$20

Thank you to all who participated in the 2026 Calendar Raffle.

MARRIAGE RETREAT DAY
Saturday, January 31



Featuring:
Greg Schutte
Catholic therapist, author, and
Director of Marriage Works! Ohio.

Retreat held at Holy Name Heights in Madison
To learn more and register, visit
madisondiocese.org/eucharisticmarriage



Silent retreat for men at Durward’s Glen

Men are invited to a three-day silent retreat called “Heaven’s Weapon,” which focuses on spiritual warfare and the Rosary. It will be held Feb. 13-15 and led by Fr. Simon Tipps, parochial vicar of St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish. The weekend will help men develop a deep personal relationship with Jesus through Mary. Register at durwardsglen.org Questions? Call 608-356-8113 or email theglen150@gmail.com

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Monday, January 26th Sts. Timothy & Titus (M)
2 Timothy 1:1-8 ✕ Ps 96 ✕ Mark 3:22-30
5:45pm Confessions
6:30pm Deceased members of the Quirke Family †
Tuesday, January 27th St. Angela Merici (m)
2 Samuel 6:12b-15, 17-19 ✕ Ps 24 ✕ Mark 3:31-35
7:45am Chris Wendorf †
Following Rosary
Wednesday, January 28th St. Thomas Aquinas (M)
2 Samuel 7:4-17 ✕ Ps 89 ✕ Mark 4:1-20
7:45am Kathleen Reilly †
Following Rosary
Thursday, January 29th Weekday
2 Samuel 7:18-19, 24-29 ✕ Ps 132 ✕ Mark 4:21-25
7:45am James Meylor †
Following Rosary
Friday, January 30th Weekday
2 Samuel 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17 ✕ Ps 51 ✕ Mark 4:26-34
7:45am Norbert Pritzl †
Following Rosary
Saturday, January 31st St. John Bosco (M)
2 Samuel 12:1-7a, 10-17 ✕ Ps 51 ✕ Mark 4:35-41
8:00am Holy Mass at the Schoenstatt Shrine
Sunday, February 1st Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Zeph 2:3; 3:12-13 ✕ Ps 146 ✕ 1 Cor 1:26-31 ✕ Matt 5:1-12a
4:30pm (Sat.) Mike Huemmer and Ray & Mary Anne Hellenbrand †
8:00am Pro Populo
9:15am Confessions
10:00am Marie Michaels †

HIGHLIGHTED TIME = LIVESTREAMING

BULLETIN SPONSORS

This week’s bulletin is sponsored in honor of:

Bishop Donald Hying

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

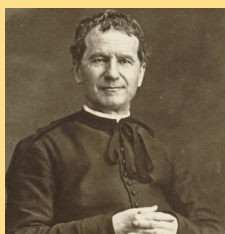
January 31, 2026

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

The Church celebrates the Memorial of St. John Bosco (1815-1888). He was born in Italy, and was the founder of the Salesian Society, named in honor of St. Francis de Sales, and of the Daughters of Mary, Help of Christians.

St. John Bosco

John Bosco was born near Castelnuovo in the archdiocese of Turin, Italy, in 1815. His father died when John was only two years old and it was his mother Margaret who provided him with a good humanistic and Christian education. His early years were financially difficult but at the age of twenty he entered the major seminary, thanks to the financial help received from Louis Guala, founder and rector of the ecclesiastical residence St. Francis of Assisi in Turin. John Bosco was ordained a priest on June 5, 1846, and with the help of John Borel he founded the oratory of St. Francis de Sales.



Helping young people

At this time the city of Turin was on the threshold of the industrial revolution and as a result there were many challenges and problems, especially for young men. Gifted as he was as an educator and a leader, Don Bosco formulated a system of education based on “reason, religion and kindness.” In spite of the criticism and violent attacks of the anti-clericals, he conducted workshops for the tradesmen and manual laborers, schools of arts and sciences for young workers, and schools of the liberal arts for those preparing for the priesthood. In 1868 there were 800 students involved in this educational system. To ensure the continuation of his work, Don Bosco founded the Society of St. Francis de Sales (Salesians), which was approved in 1869. Also, with the help of Sister Mary Dominic Mazzarello, he founded the Institute of the Daughters of Mary Auxiliatrix.

‘Teacher and father to the young’

In 1875 a wave of emigration to Latin America began, and this prompted the inauguration of the Salesian missionary apostolate. Don Bosco became a traveller throughout Europe, seeking funds for the missions. Some of the reports referred to him as “the new St. Vincent de Paul.” He also found time to write popular catechetical pamphlets, which were distributed throughout Italy, as was his Salesian Bulletin. This great apostle of youth died on January 31, 1888, and was canonized by Pope Pius XI in 1934. Pope John Paul II named him “teacher and father to the young.”

—Excerpted from *Saints of the Roman Calendar* by Enzo Lodi

CURRENT CATHOLIC EVENTS

SCRIP TO BE SOLD JAN. 24-25

SCRIP will be sold after all Masses during the weekend of Jan. 24-25. Cards include Hyvee, Culver's, Food Fight, and Woodman's. Thank you for your support.



HOSPITALITY SUNDAY AFTER MASS ON JAN. 25



Stop in the St. Veronica Room for coffee, doughnuts, and fellowship after Mass!

RECYCLE THE WARMTH BLANKET DRIVE JAN. 31-FEB. 1

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul-Madison will be holding its 34th annual Recycle the Warmth Blanket Drive on Jan. 31-Feb. 1. Donate new and gently used blankets, bedding, and sheets, which will be distributed to families in need throughout the year. For a list of drop-off points, including the Cathedral of St. Bernard, visit www.svdpmadison.org/rtw/. Contribution envelopes are also available at the entrance to the Parish Center.

ENCOUNTER SCHOOL OF MINISTRY EVENT ON FEB. 6

All are invited to the next Encounter School of Ministry event, “Worship & Freedom: Encounter His Love” from 6 to 8:30pm on Feb. 6 at St Dennis Catholic Church, 505 Dempsey Rd, Madison. Register at www.encounterschool.org/madison/#events

UPCOMING FISH FRY IN DANE ON FEB. 6

A fish fry will be held at St. Michael Church, 109 S. Military Rd., Dane from 4:30-7pm on Friday, Feb. 6. Three-piece cod dinner is \$15, with extra fish \$3 each. Includes baked potato or French fries, baked beans, coleslaw, dinner rolls, and fritters.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RAFFLE TICKETS



To purchase KC raffle tickets, call Joe Buechner at 608-223-1191.

Hurting from abortion?

Find hope, healing, and mercy at a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat.



No matter how long it's been, Rachel's Vineyard Retreats offer hope and peace for anyone who has struggled with the emotional or spiritual pain of abortion.

**Our next retreat is March 20 - 22, 2026
Register at madisondiocese.org/rachel**

