



**CATHEDRAL of  
ST. BERNARD  
of CLAIRVAUX**

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2438 Atwood Avenue  
Madison, WI 53704

*Sixth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time*

**February 15, 2026**

*"Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.'"*

*-Matthew 5: 17-18*



## 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

### BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF MADISON

Most Rev. Donald J. Hying  
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Jane Lang  
Renee Watring



**DIOCESE of  
MADISON**



# PASTOR’S PULSE ON THE PARISH



SUNDAY  
FEBRUARY 15TH  
2026

Dear Friends,  
This past week, we celebrated the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. In 1858, our Lady appeared to St. Bernadette Soubirous, who was born in 1844. She was 14 years old when the apparition of the Blessed Virgin appeared to her in the small village of Lourdes. The family had fallen into deep poverty, residing in a converted jail cell as that was all they could afford. Poverty contributed to her many struggles, including asthma, malnutrition and very little schooling. And yet, it was to this young girl that Mary revealed herself.

One day, Bernadette was fetching firewood along with a friend, and at the grotto of Massabielle, she saw a lady dressed in white. She was very frank in her visions and described exactly what she saw. She endured a host of ridicule, interrogations and disbelief with incredible faith. Many have come to receive miraculous healings at Lourdes, as can be witnessed by the many crutches and wheelchairs that are left at the shrine as a testament of the Lord’s healing graces coming to the afflicted through His mother.

### Pray, offer penance, trust

Mary’s command was simple: pray, offer acts of penance, and trust. Those three pillars establish a firm foundation of the spiritual life. Mary encourages her children to remain close to the rosary. It carries a multitude of spiritual merits that can be used for ourselves and those that we entrust to our Lady.

As Lent begins next week, it’s a perfect opportunity to offer acts of penance for those in need. When I offer an act of penance or suffering, I never do so for a specific purpose. I simply entrust it to our Lady and know that she will use those graces for those who are most in need. In all things, we trust - even when the vision is clouded and we may not necessarily know the way. If we truly believe that God is with



us, we know with all our hearts that He will sustain us through the many twists and turns life brings to us. Mary’s trust was complete, and she encourages all her children to possess the same trust she had. Those graces are ours, friends; all we need do is ask for them, and they will be given us.

### As Lent begins

We have arrived at Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the season of Lent. Please see the insert in this weekend’s bulletin about Lenten observances. Opportunities for Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available throughout the season.

Lent is a penitential season, but it is also a season to re-establish spiritual disciplines that may have grown a bit lax, and to experience the great love and mercy of the Lord in reconciliation. We’ll also have some opportunities to pray the Stations of the Cross together as we journey with our Lord in His passion and cross.

Each year, we adopt a Lenten Service Project in which we offer our gift of treasure to a group or organization that cares for the poor and needy. This year, our sponsor will be the Solace House. It’s a hospice home dedicated to the homeless. Those who are homeless and diagnosed with terminal illness are referred to Solace House for hospice care so they may receive the loving embrace of the Lord through skilled caregivers as they navigate end-of-life issues.

It’s a beautiful facility, and I have great admiration for the wonderful ministry they provide there. Gifts of treasure can be sent

*“In all things, we trust - even when the vision is clouded and we may not necessarily know the way.”*  
- Fr. Michael

via the offertory system (use the Lenten Service Project fund) or a check in the basket labeled “Lenten Service Project.” I’ll put a few reminders in my column throughout the season.

### Pray for Sinsinawa Dominicans

We recently lost two religious sisters who were daughters of the cathedral. Sr. Anne Morehouse and Sr. Mary Rathert died recently. Sr. Anne was a Racine Dominican sister, and Sr. Mary was a Sinsinawa Dominican sister. We join in prayer with their communities as we thank the Lord for their faithful ministry for so many years.

I read some sad news about the Sinsinawa Dominican house. The decision has been made to raze their chapel. Throughout the past several years, the Sinsinawa Dominican campus has been shrinking in size due to the high costs of maintenance and the decline in the number of new vocations. I have several wonderful memories of the chapel and the 30-rank Cassavant pipe organ that filled it with beautiful music. Please keep the Sinsinawa Dominican community in prayer as this process moves forward. I have no doubt that it was a painful decision to make.

### Staff updates

I spoke with Lori this past week, and she is recovering well. She is grateful for all the prayers and notes of support. Becca Fischer is now in her third week with us, and I’m doing my best to impart the “divine knowledge” she needs! ☺ She’s doing a great job and is a wonderful addition to the staff.

Diocesan interviews are beginning for the sacred music director position. A committee has been formed and will interview the candidates chosen from the initial interviews.

Wishing you all a blessed beginning to the Lenten season. May it be a time to grow more closely to the Lord as we detach from the world and embrace Him in the shelter of His wings.

*With love in the Sacred Heart,*  
Fr. Michael

## OUR GIFT OF TREASURE

### 2025–26 Offertory Budget

Envelopes.....\$370,000.00  
Loose (Cash).....\$ 75,000.00  
TOTAL.....\$445,000.00  
NEEDED EACH WEEK.....\$ 8,558.00

### OFFERTORY

#### February 8, 2026

Envelopes.....\$ 3,818.00  
Electronic Funds..\$ 1,407.93  
Loose.....\$ 766.00  
Catholic Herald..\$ 33.00  
Building Endowmt..\$ 600.00  
Outreach.....\$ 25.00  
TOTAL.....\$ 6,649.93

### OFFERTORY PROGRESS

Collected to-date..\$245,182.72  
Needed to-date.....\$273,856.00  
Surplus (Shortfall):\$(28,673.28)

### Lenten Reflections with Bishop Hying

Join Bishop Donald J. Hying of Madison this Lent for “Conquered by Christ,” a study program inspired by the Sunday Gospel readings of the Lentenseason! Each week, Bishop Hying will offer a video reflection on the Gospel and all that Jesus has conquered – Satan, sin, division, sickness, and death – in the weeks leading up to Easter and Christ’s ultimate victory on the Cross. Perfect for individuals, families, and small groups, this five-week program will include videos from Bishop Hying, discussion guides, prayers, saintly role models, and ways to grow in virtue during our Lenten journey. Start gathering your small groups now! Weekly videos and study guide materials will be available beginning Feb. 16 at [madisondiocese.org/lent2026](http://madisondiocese.org/lent2026).



### Adult Religious Education with Deacon Tim

Join Deacon Tim and Cathedral of St. Bernard parishioners for classes focusing on the content of the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*. Over the course of 18-20 sessions, we will study all the chapters of the *Catechism*. The first set of classes will meet at 7pm in the St. Veronica Room on the following dates: March 4, 10, 18, 25, April 1, 7, and 15. Contact Deacon Tim at [deacontimreilly@outlook.com](mailto:deacontimreilly@outlook.com) if you are interested.

### Lenten Companions now available

The *Magnificat Lenten Companion* is available at the back of church. Please feel free to pick one up before Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 18!

## LITURGICAL CALENDAR

### Monday, February 16th

Sixth week in Ordinary Time

James 1:1-11 ✕ Ps 119 ✕ Mark 8:11-13

5:45pm Confessions  
6:30pm Open Intention

### Tuesday, February 17th

Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order (m)

James 1:12-18 ✕ Ps 94 ✕ Mark 8:14-21

7:45am Robert Buechner †  
Following Rosary

### Wednesday, February 18th

Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:12-18 ✕ Ps 51 ✕ 2 Cor 5:20—6:2 ✕ Matt 6:1-6, 16-18

12 Noon Joan Gillitzer †  
6:30pm Pro Populo

### Thursday, February 19th

Thursday after Ash Wednesday

Deut 30:15-20 ✕ Ps 1 ✕ Luke 9:22-25

7:45am Diane M. Gerhke †  
Following Rosary

### Friday, February 20th

Friday after Ash Wednesday

Isaiah 58:1-9a ✕ Ps 51 ✕ Matt 9:14-15

7:45am Bob Lamont †  
Following Rosary

### Saturday, February 21st

BVM

Isaiah 58:9b-14 ✕ Ps 86 ✕ Luke 5:27-32

8:00am Holy Mass at the Schoenstatt Shrine

### Sunday, February 22nd

First Sunday of Lent

Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7 ✕ Ps 51 ✕ Rom 5:12-19 ✕ Matt 4:1-11

4:30pm (Sat.) Andi Schultz †  
8:00am Pro Populo  
9:15am Confessions  
10:00am Harold Nielsen †

HIGHLIGHTED TIME = LIVESTREAMING

## BULLETIN SPONSORS

This week’s bulletin is sponsored in honor of the:

*Smith, Beich, & Lohnies Families*

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!





## REFLECTION ON ASH WEDNESDAY

February 18, 2026

The following information is found at [www.catholicculture.org](http://www.catholicculture.org):

On Ash Wednesday small children are thrilled to receive ashes. We can tell them simply that ashes are placed on our foreheads to remind us that someday we will die and go home to heaven. For older children we need to go more deeply into the origin and significance of the day.



The season of holy Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, a solemn day of fast and abstinence. The day receives its special name from the blessing and imposition of ashes in the form of a cross on our foreheads. "Remember man that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Ashes, made by burning palms blessed the previous Palm Sunday, symbolize the transience of our earthly status. The body must fall temporarily into dust. This fact should serve as a challenge to spiritual accomplishments. Through grace we were "buried" in Christ that we may rise with him and "live unto God."

Ashes are a sacramental. Their reception with humility is a sign of penance. We wear them publicly to acknowledge our need to atone for our sins. "God desires not the death of the sinner." He is moved by our humiliation, and his justice is appeased by satisfaction.

The rite for the blessing and imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday follows the homily at Mass. It begins with an invitation to prayer, whereupon the priest continues with the Blessing of Ashes in which he asks God in his mercy to hear us because of his love for us; to bless the ashes which will mark our foreheads to remind us that we are only dust and will someday return to dust. He asks that we be faithful to the Lenten observance and thus be able to celebrate with clean hearts the paschal mystery.

—Excerpts from *Holy Lent* by Eileen O'Callaghan, The Liturgical Press, Collegeville, Minnesota, 1975

## CATHEDRAL DATES AT A GLANCE

**Saturday, Feb. 21 & Sunday, Feb. 22**

SCRIP will be sold after all Masses. Cards include Hyvee, Culver's, Food Fight, and Woodman's.



**Sunday, Feb. 22, after 8am & 10am Masses**



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

**Monday, Feb. 23 & Wednesday, Feb. 25, 6:30-8pm**

Join us for our parish evangelization mission!

## CURRENT CATHOLIC EVENTS

### DONATE TO THE 2026 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Thank you to all parishioners who have already made a gift to the 2026 Annual Catholic Appeal, *Inspired by the Spirit*. Your generosity helps advance the mission of the Church in our diocese. Let us remain united in one Spirit, one Lord, and one Church as we continue Christ's mission to proclaim the Gospel. When we respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit, we are emboldened to evangelize and extend love and compassion to our neighbors—for the salvation of the world. If you haven't yet made a gift, envelopes will be available at Mass the weekend of Feb. 14-15. May God bless you abundantly for your generosity and faithful witness. To donate online visit [madisondiocese.org/inpew](http://madisondiocese.org/inpew) or join the Perpetual Steward Society with a continuous monthly gift at [madisondiocese.org/stewards](http://madisondiocese.org/stewards)



### ONE-DAY RETREAT AT DURWARD'S GLEN ON FEB. 21



"Lent is Calling You Home" is a one day retreat at Durward's Glen from 8:15am to 2:15pm on Saturday, Feb. 21. Cost is \$30/person, \$50/for two people. The day includes Mass, Confessions, talks, light breakfast, and lunch. Register by calling 608-356-8113 or emailing [theglen150@gmail.com](mailto:theglen150@gmail.com).

### PRAY FOR BELOVED DEPARTED AT RESURRECTION CEMETERY

Join us for 10am Mass at Resurrection Cemetery to pray for our beloved departed on Friday, Feb. 20. Check [www.madisondiocese.org/cemeteries](http://www.madisondiocese.org/cemeteries)

### FISH FRY IN DANE ON FEB. 20

Blessed Trinity Parish is hosting a Fish Fry 4:30-7pm at St. Michael's Church, 109 S. Military Rd., Dane, Feb. 20.



### NEW MEMBER NEWS

Please welcome the newest members of the Cathedral of St. Bernard: **Mitchell Rueda** and **Jesse Miller**.

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS RAFFLE TICKETS



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

### Save dates for parish mission Feb. 23 & 25

Please save the dates for our parish evangelization mission from 6:30-8pm on Monday, Feb. 23 and Wednesday, Feb. 25. Vespers will be held Monday and Adoration and Benediction will be held on Wednesday. Light refreshments available.

## CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS

**February 4:**

**Bernice Thering-\$20**

**February 5:**

**Luke House-\$20**

**February 6:**

**Logan Carpenter-\$20**

**February 7:**

**Rosalia Boerke-\$20**

**February 8:**

**Valley of Our Lady**

**Monastery-\$20**

**February 9:**

**Terri Mullins-\$20**

**February 10:**

**Joseph Nielsen-\$20**

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

