



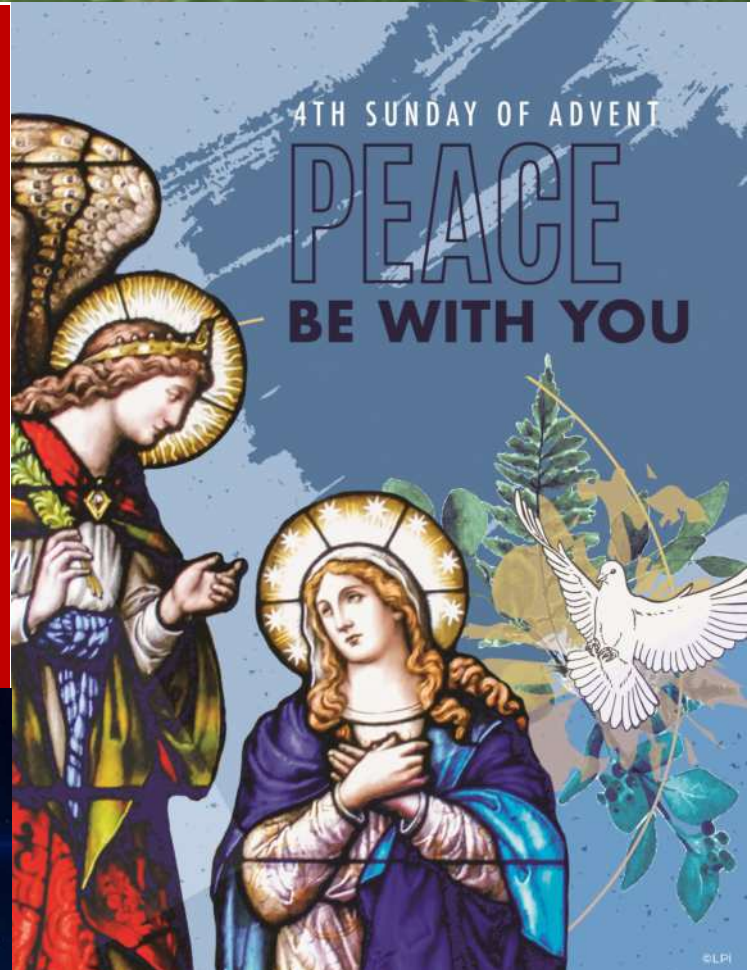
# ST. BERNARD CATHOLIC PARISH

## OUR MISSION

*Guided by the Holy Spirit and in communion with the Catholic Church, we help people become disciples of Jesus Christ by developing a loving, personal relationship with God and each other.*

**December 21, 2025**

The 4th Sunday of Advent  
invites us to  
quiet our hearts.  
It tells us that  
Jesus is near.  
We wait with hope and joy,  
knowing that God is coming  
to be with us.



**December 25, 2025**

*Merry  
Christmas!*

A SAVIOR HAS BEEN BORN FOR YOU WHO IS  
CHRIST AND LORD



This day fills us with joy and  
gratitude. We celebrate with  
worship, prayer, song, and family.  
The Octave of Christmas  
continues the joy for eight days,  
helping us stay close to Jesus. Each  
day reminds us of faith, love, and  
peace. Christmas calls us to welcome  
Jesus into our hearts and share  
His light with others.

## Live your Discipleship

Merry Christmas! I am glad that you are with us today as we enjoy Christmas with our families.

The idea of family is so important to the Catholic faith that the Church celebrates the **Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph** on the Sunday after Christmas. I hope to see you at that Mass too. What a privilege that we are able to call God our Father, Jesus our brother, and Mary our Mother.

As someone who grew up outside of the Catholic Church, I continue to be amazed by the degree to which almost any parish acts like a large, extended family. We are truly all brothers and sisters in Christ.

Here at St. Bernard, our mission is to "help people become disciples of Jesus Christ by developing a loving, personal relationship with God and each other." Our parish accomplishes this through worshipping together each week in the Mass, continuing to learn about the life and teachings of Christ in small groups, working together in many different ministries serving the needy and bringing the love of Christ to others, and loving and supporting each other while we do it. Like family.

We recognize that while all people are children of God, not everyone is open to answering His call right now. However, if the promptings of your heart have you wanting a deeper relationship with God - we are here to help.

If you are not Catholic or even Christian and you want to start exploring what coming to know Jesus and the Church is all about, we are here for you. Please reach out to me or Debra Lawent, our Evangelization & Discipleship Director, our contact info is listed below.

If you are Catholic, but not active and would like to reenergize your faith, or you are just looking for a new home parish, again reach out to me or Debra.

Lastly, if you are already a part of the broad St Bernard family but have not been active - don't hold back. Come to Mass, get involved. One thing I can assure you, this family will always welcome you.

May God bless you and your family. Merry Christmas!



Deacon Dave Denby, Pastoral Leader

### St. Bernard Staff

Pastoral Leader: **Deacon Dave Denby**  
ddenby@stbernardappleton.org  
Sacramental Minister: **Fr. Paul Demuth**  
Sacraments Coordinator: **Deacon Greg Humpal**  
ghumpal@stbernardappleton.org  
Business Coordinator: **Barb Hoffman**  
bhoffman@stbernardappleton.org  
Care Ministry Coordinator: **Cathy Kulibert**  
ckulibert@stbernardappleton.org  
Evangelization & Discipleship Director: **Debra Lawent**  
dlawent@stbernardappleton.org  
Young Disciple Coordinator, Grades K-5: **Nicki Beardsley**  
nbeardsley@stbernardappleton.org  
Young Disciple Coordinator, Grades 6-12  
Parish Communications Coordinator: **Mark Mongin**  
mmongin@stbernardappleton.org  
Liturgy & Music Director: **Sherry Zwicky**  
szwicky@stbernardappleton.org  
Maintenance Coordinator: **Jason Deeg**  
jdeeg@stbernardappleton.org  
Office Manager: **Edna Ulrich**  
eulrich@stbernardappleton.org

### Financial Stewardship Week 23

#### Weekly Giving through 12/12/2025

Envelope Collections ....	\$ 21,855
Budget Envelope.....	\$ 15,673
Loose Collections .....	\$ 1,100
Budget Loose .....	\$ 385

#### Fiscal Year-to-Date

Actual Env. ....	\$ 299,691
Budget Env. ....	360,479
Env. Over/(Under). ....	\$ (60,788)
Loose .....	\$ 20,808
Budget Loose .....	8,855
Loose Over/(Under) ....	\$ 11,953

### PARISH OFFICE HOURS\*

Monday—Thursday - 8:30 am—5:00 pm  
Friday 8:30 am—Noon

\*Other times by appointment

### PARISH CONTACT INFORMATION

(920) 739-0331

Email: stbernard@stbernardappleton.org

WEBSITE: www.stbernardappleton.org

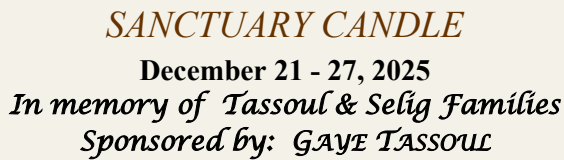
The Parish Office will be closed in observance of the Christmas Holiday December 24, 25, & 26



## Parish Happenings

### DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 21</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>December 22</b> 8:30 am Men's Prayer Group 6:30 pm Cursillo - 4th Day 6:30 pm Choir Practice
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>December 23</b> 6:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>December 24 - Office Closed</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>December 25 - Office Closed</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 26 - Office Closed</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 27</b> 7:30 am Men's 4th Day Cursillo 3:45 pm Reconciliation 5:30 pm Scrip Sale



**Liturgies & Mass Intentions for December 20 - 26, 2025**

<b><i>Weekend Mass</i></b>		<b><i>Intention</i></b>
Saturday	4:30 pm	Andrew & Frances Macdonald*
Sunday	8:00 am	Delia Molden*
	10:00 am**	Members of St. Bernard

***Weekday Liturgies  
all begin at 8:00 am***

Monday	Liturgy of The Word	
Tuesday	Mass	Marg Drawenek*
Wednesday	4:00 pm	Richard Pechotta*
	7:00 pm	Mike Tassoul*
Thursday	9:00 am	Don & Helen Alferi Family*

Friday	Liturgy of The Word
--------	------------------------

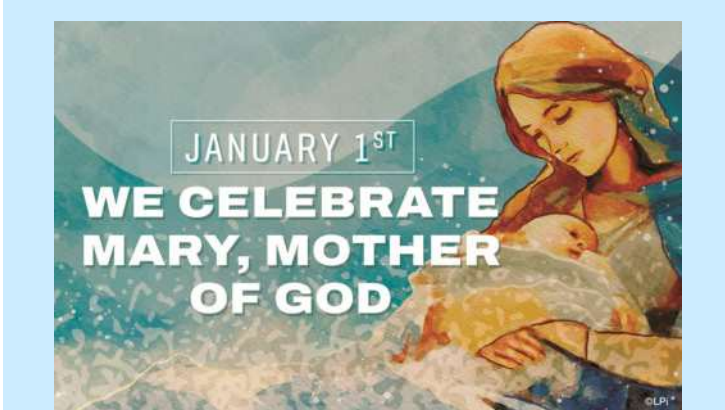
*\*\*Will be livestreamed*      *\*In memory of*

*\*\*Will be livestreamed*      *\*In memory of*

**IN SYMPATHY**

We ask St. Bernard Parish to pray  
for **the brother of Mary (Mike) Gage**

*"Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace."*



## The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God is a Holy Day of Obligation

Come celebrate Mass with us

Wednesday, December 31st at 6:00 pm  
Thursday, January 1st at 9:00 am

***“Let us not imagine that we obscure the glory of the Son by the great praise we lavish on the Mother; for the more she is honored, the greater is the glory of her Son. There can be no doubt that whatever we say in praise of the Mother gives equal praise to the Son.”***

- St Bernard of Clairvaux

**A good time was had  
by everyone who came  
to the Saint Nicholas  
celebration!**



# Parish Happenings

St. Bernard Catholic Parish

**INCLEMENT**  
WEATHER POLICY



Events scheduled at the parish will be cancelled on days & evenings when the Appleton Area School District cancels classes and/or after-school activities due to weather conditions.

If weekend Masses are cancelled, we will send a Flocknote message, post it on our web site, and add it to lists of cancellations on local media.

**Remember** **SCRIP** **when you buy food and Last minute gifts!**



## DONATION DEADLINES FOR 2025

Donations are deductible in the calendar year in which they are made.

Qualified Charitable Donations, including IRAs, must be completed (made and clear your account) by December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Transfers of stock or mutual funds must also be completed by December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Other donations (such as church support envelopes) must be made or postmarked on or before December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Our Parish Office is open Tuesday, December 30, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm; the office is closed on Wed., December 31. This means December 30<sup>th</sup> is the last day for any donations to be hand delivered to the Parish Office.

Donations made or postmarked after Dec 31, 2025, will be included with your 2026 donations, regardless of the date on the check.

*Thank you for your continued support of our parish  
your generosity is greatly appreciated!*



Diocese of  
Green Bay



Thank you to everyone who gave so generously to last weekend's **Retirement Collection - SHARE IN THE CARE**. Your kindness helps provide essential care, housing, and support for our **retired sisters, brothers, religious order priests, and senior diocesan priests**: faithful servants who have spent their lives ministering to us.

If you haven't had a chance to contribute yet, it's not too late. **Envelopes are still available in the Narthex.**

On behalf of those who have given so much in service to Christ and His Church, thank you for your continued generosity and prayers. Your support truly makes a difference.



You are cordially invited to attend the St. Bernard Catholic Parish Winter Social. Please come to honor those who've joined as new members and share in delicious food and fun fellowship. **Let's celebrate our parish family!**

**Sunday, Feb 1st**  
**Parish Hall**  
**11am - 1pm**

PLEASE RSVP TO (920) 903-8730 BY JAN 9TH

St. Bernard Catholic Parish, 1617 W Pine Street, Appleton



# Parish Happenings

**THANK YOU** for all the support given to organizations serving the needy this November and December by the St Bernard community!



## Winter Opportunities to Help the Homeless

*Brought to you by St. Bernard's Social Justice Committee*

Appleton's St. Joseph Parish will be the home of Appleton's Overflow Shelter when temperatures are forecasted to be extremely cold this winter. Organizers are seeking help to make this ministry available. Some of their needs are:

- Prayer
- Donate items or money
- Volunteer at the shelter (must be 18+)

Scan the QR code to sign up!



*Can you help those needing shelter and warmth this winter?*

## Pillow & Blankets Needed!

St. Bernard Outreach is collecting pillows and blankets for the month of December that will be

distributed to needy families in the community by

**Community Clothes Closet.**

Drop off new pillows and blankets in the bins in the Narthex.



## Ministry Opportunities

### CHOIR ACCOMPANIST

ST. BERNARD CATHOLIC PARISH

- Accompany choir for 2 weekends a month and for special liturgical celebrations throughout the year
- Participate in weekly rehearsals on Thursday evenings and assist with sectionals
- Must be excellent pianist and able to collaborate well as a team
- Must be available to play for other occasions as well

Skills required: sight-reading, ability to read and play music scores of various sacred genres

Questions may be directed to Sherry at 920.903.9454.



SEND RESUME TO [DDENBY@STBERNARDAPPLETON.ORG](mailto:DDENBY@STBERNARDAPPLETON.ORG)



### St. Bernard is in need of Volunteers!

- Office Worker - weekdays
- Set up for Discipleship Nights - Wednesday nights

**If interested, please contact Edna Ulrich**

### DIOCESE OF GREEN BAY VOCATIONS

Answer God's Call

Discern Religious Life

### St. Andrew Dinner

**Monday, December 29, 2025, 5:30-8:00 pm**

**St. Francis Xavier Cathedral**

For all High School & College-age men who are open to the priesthood.

See the flyer on the Vocations bulletin board in the hallway, or contact Deacon Dave or Mark Mongin if interested.



**Christensen**  
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING INC.  
920-731-3002  
1609 W. Wisconsin Ave., Appleton, WI 54914  
Residential & Commercial

Mike Christensen - Residential Sales  
mike@christensenhgt.com  
www.christensenheating.com

**WICHMANN**  
Funeral Homes & Cremations

The Valley's Most Preferred Funeral Home  
537 N. Superior St. 739-1231  
1592 Oneida St. 831-9905

Serving All People

**SAINT JOSEPH CEMETERY** 920-733-1631  
1815 E Wisconsin Ave.  
Appleton, WI 54911  
www.stjosephcemetery.us

**DM**  
FlooringAmerica  
Where friends Send friends  
309 Allegiance Ct. • Appleton  
(920) 788-5066  
www.DandMinteriors.com

**Little Caesars®**

**\$5<sup>99</sup> LARGE PIZZA**

Valid at Participating Stores. Expires in 30 Days

**Van Zeeland's**  
AUTO CARE CENTERS  
Time Headquarters  
vanzeelands.com

Little Chute 788-6788  
W. Appleton 738-5660  
Menasha 738-7333  
N Appleton 738-3533  
Neenah 722-1149

**catholicmatch®**  
Wisconsin  
CatholicMatch.com/WI

**MARES**  
Financial Planning

920-830-6400  
carymares.com  
CFP®, CPA, MBA

**DOES YOUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION NEED A NEWSLETTER?**

Engaging, ad-supported print and digital newsletters to reach your community.

Visit [lpicommunities.com](http://lpicommunities.com)

**Clear Choice Ins.**  
For expertise, honesty and integrity the choice is clear

Dustinmschlesner@gmail.com  
**Dustin Schlesner**  
President

Cell: 920-707-1423 500 S Story Street  
Fax: 920-815-3379 Appleton WI 54914

**NORTHSIDE TrueValue HARDWARE**

1415 N. Richmond St., Appleton  
734-5944 smt@ntd.net  
www.NorthsideHardware.net

# SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

**WE'RE HIRING!**  
AD SALES EXECUTIVES

BE YOURSELF.  
BRING YOUR PASSION.  
WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid training
- Some travel
- Work-life balance
- Full-Time with benefits
- Serve your community

Contact us at [careers@4lpi.com](mailto:careers@4lpi.com) or [www.4lpi.com/careers](http://www.4lpi.com/careers)

Joseph Porter, Agent  
2423 N Richmond St, Appleton  
Bus: (920) 830-4080  
jporter1@amfam.com  
fb.com/192902319518

**AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE**  
American Family Mutual Insurance Company, S.I. & its Operating Companies,  
6000 American Parkway, Madison, WI 53783 (608) 2015 006441  
— Rev. 2/20 — 134689593

**DOES YOUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION NEED A NEWSLETTER?**

Engaging, ad-supported print and digital newsletters to reach your community.

Visit [lpicommunities.com](http://lpicommunities.com)

**ADT-Monitored Home Security**  
Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

Authorized Provider **SafeStreets** 833-287-3502

WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS!

**Fox Valley Quality Cleaning & Supply, Inc.**

**Bob Cops** - President  
(920) 733-3244 Business  
(920) 915-1424 Mobile  
5321 Long Court, Appleton, WI 54914

**Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!**

Instantly create and purchase an ad with

**AD CREATOR STUDIO**

[4lpi.com/adcreator](http://4lpi.com/adcreator)

**LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS**  
Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

**CONTACT ME Sharon Boinski**

[sboinski@4LPi.com](mailto:sboinski@4LPi.com)  
(800) 950-9952 x2978

**Latinos Express**  
Mangonadas

HECHAS CON CHAMOY Y TAJIN

**\$7.00** Plus Tax

2440 West College Ave • Appleton  
2206 South Oneida St. • Appleton