

LITURGICAL MINISTRY

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Rosary	Dolores Ziliak
Sacristan	Robert Fuhs
Gifts	Brian & Carson Heichelbech
Lector	Sarah Spindler
Servers	Lucas Ivy, Kaleb Sterczer
Greeters	John & Diane Hasenour
Cantor	Emily McDaniel, Hannah Rodgers
Money Counters	Holly Heichelbech James Silva
Homebound EM	Dennis Gress
Traveling Chalice	Nick & Libby Ivy

SUNDAY, APRIL 28 (FIRST COMMUNION)

Rosary	Lori Spindler
Sacristan	George Ankenbrand
Gifts	
Lector	First Communicants & Families
Servers	
Greeters	
Cantor	
Money Counters	Jenny Fuhs Mike Smith
Homebound EM	Terri Ziliak
Traveling Chalice	Sarah & John Spindler

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 20 - 5:30 p.m.

+ Kenny & Mary Martin

Thursday, April 25 - 6:00 p.m.

+ Gerald & Mary Allen

Sunday, April 28 - 9:00 a.m.

+ Dana Cummins

Stewardship of Treasure

April 13 Collection	\$1,657.25
Needed for weekly budget	\$1,795.38
YTD Collection	\$92,750.71
Needed to meet budget	\$75,405.96
YTD Variance	\$17,344.75
Children's Collection	\$3.00

Thank you for your generosity!

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

It is the season of new life! The coming of warm and sunny weather and fresh greenery is a welcome sight after the dark and cold and gray of winter and early spring.

As it happens, it's also the season for First Communions!!! Last weekend, 14 of St. John's little ones received Jesus for the very first time, and it was certainly a beautiful and moving occasion to behold. Next weekend, St. Bernard's children will do the same. I know they are very much looking forward to that as well!!!

Every time I witness the innocent joy and expectation with which these children approach the Most Blessed Sacrament for the first time, it is a moving experience. For me, I can also honestly say that it is also a bit of a convicting one. I've been a priest now for nearly 16 years, and like anything that we 'do' day in, day out for that long, it can become routine in our own minds and hearts.

There is NOTHING routine about receiving the Holy Eucharist. Even if it happens often, it should *never* be routine. One of the many things that I find moving about First Communion is perhaps the thing that is most apparent: the kids dress up! The boys are all decked out in their best finery, and the girls look almost like little brides. That by the way, is not an accident. Jesus is the Bridegroom of our souls. He wants to be united with us so dearly in the Eucharist, and each time we receive Him, it is meant to be a profound union of our soul to the Soul of Christ.

Do we treasure this gift? Do we think often enough that the Lord of the Universe, who made the stars and the planets, finds us infinitely more interesting than all of those things? Do we thank Him for making us and working to redeem and save us? Do we thank Him for all the people and abilities and time and profound experiences that we have received in our lives? Do we express our gratitude for all the struggles and difficulties and tragedies He has brought us through? These are all great things to ponder, both before and after we come to Communion.

My prayer is that as we witness these children coming before the Lord to receive Him, that we may regain that excitement, passion, and thankfulness that we once had. Jesus exhorts us to approach Him like little children, and in this case, the (First Communion) students can become our teachers.

In Jesus the Eucharistic Lord,

-Fr. Chris

ST. BERNARD PARISH NEWS

PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE NO SATURDAY EVENING MASS NEXT WEEKEND (4/27). MASS WILL BE ON SUNDAY, APRIL 28 AT 9 A.M.

On Sunday, April 28 we will have Mass at St. Bernard at 9 a.m. to celebrate First Holy Communion for our second graders. We hope everyone will come and support them as they are welcomed to the table of the Lord!

Religion Class Schedule for Remainder of Year

April 24 - Last Religion Class - Grades 2 to 12

First Communion Practice

April 28 - First Holy Communion Mass at 9 a.m.

May 1 - Spring Pizza Party/May Crowning Practice from 6:30 - 8 p.m.

May 11 - May Crowning Mass at 5:30 p.m.

Happenings at St. Bernard

There are two projects going on at St. Bernard currently.

1. A very generous donor (family member of a parishioner) gave money to be used toward a project at St. Bernard. The parish council decided to purchase a mosaic to be installed in the floor below the altar steps where people stand to receive communion. The mosaic is handcrafted with hand-cut marble and glass tesserae and will be a picture of a tabernacle and a chalice. This will be a beautiful reminder of this year of Eucharistic devotion. We hope to have it installed in the next couple months. This project is completely funded by the donor so we are very thankful for their generosity!
2. The rectory renovation project has been approved by the parish council and the finance council which will begin the middle of May. The rectory is 50 years old and needs a little TLC to keep it looking nice for many years to come. We will be asking parishioners of the parish to help with moving furniture and wall hangings, removing the carpet, and help with painting a few doors or basement walls that need touched up. Starting the beginning of June, we have hired a couple businesses to paint the upstairs and replace the carpet with tile. The Altar Society will be paying for the painting while the general fund will cover the cost of the flooring.

We are blessed with wonderful facilities at St. Bernard and are so thankful for all those who generously give of your time, talent, and treasure to keep our parish looking beautiful! Please see any member of the parish council if you have any questions.

****Copies of the parish council minutes from the April meeting are available in the back of church in the letter tray.**

Quote of the week: *The Gift of prayer should be the object of our most ardent desires. Without it there is no progress in God's service, and no obtaining anything from Him. ~Saint Francis of Assisi~*

Next Weekend, April 27 is Catholic Home Missions Appeal for the Diocese. You should have an envelope in your monthly collection envelopes. For those who give electronically and don't receive the monthly envelopes, if you want to give you can just put in a regular envelope and put in collection.



UPCOMING EVENTS

April 21 – HS RockLife
May 4-5 – MS Shantytown



HS RockLife Night

The last gathering of the school year is Sun., April 21st. We'll meet in the youth room at Sts Peter & Paul from 5:00 – 7:00 pm, with Ablaze immediately following from 7:00-8:00pm.

Shantytown for Middle School

Come get a real look into the reality of homelessness and the financial struggles of many families in today's world. It'll be held at St. Bernard on May 4th -5th. We'll be serving meals and cleaning at 2 local homeless shelters: Evansville Rescue Mission and House of Bread & Peace. We'll also make shanty houses, eat a campfire meal, play games, learn about poverty. Check-in between 1:30-2:00pm on Saturday. Event ends at St. Bernard at 8:00am on Sunday. We'll have Mass for the youth on Sat. night at St. Bernard. We ask that each youth try to raise at least \$20 in donations – to be split between the 2 shelters. Please pick up an info packet in the back of your parish and **turn in permission form by Wed. May 1st**.



Welcome to St. Bernard A Catholic Community Since 1877

5342 E. State Road 168
Fort Branch, IN 47648

Pastor: Fr. Chris Forler

Deacons: Vince Bernardin, Richard Leibundguth, Lonny Davis

Catechetical Leader: Rose Obert

Office Managers: Lori Spindler (lspindler@evdio.org)
Terri Ziliak (tziliak@evdio.org)

Maintenance: Jeff Meny (812-385-6861)

Parish Council President: Nick Ivy

Altar Society President: Jessica Anderson

School Hall Rental: Terri Ziliak/Lori Spindler

Table & Chair Rental: Jeff & Tammy Meny

Parish Website: stbernardsnakerun.org

Parish Office: 812-615-0201

Sacraments:

Adoration: First Friday of each month 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Reconciliation: Before Thursday evening Mass starting at 5:15 p.m.

Baptism: Must sign up for Baptismal Class. Call the parish office to make arrangements.

Marriage: Call the parish office at least six months in advance.

Sacrament of the Sick: Administered by appointment.



Our parish invites you to join our church family!

All new parishioners can register by emailing

lspindler@evdio.org or calling the parish office.

MASS SCHEDULE - ST. BERNARD

Saturday - 5:30 p.m.

Thursday - 6:00 p.m.

MASS SCHEDULE - ST. JOHN (DAYLIGHT)

Saturday - 4:00 p.m.

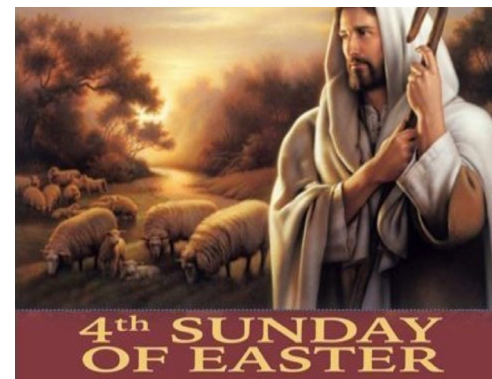
Sunday - 6:45 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday - 8:00 a.m.

Wednesday - 5:30 p.m.

Thursday - 8:00 a.m.

Friday - 9:00 a.m.



COMMUNITY NEWS

St. James Chicken Dinner benefiting True Hope Pregnancy & Family Resource Center of Gibson County

Sunday, April 28 from 10:30 am –12:30 pm (Carry Out Only). Fried Chicken, mash potatoes and gravy, green beans, dressing, slaw and dessert \$14.00 per person.

PRIESTHOOD ORDINATION

Deacon Phillip Rogier - Christ the King, Ferdinand

Deacon Caleb Scherzinger - St. Isidore, Celestine

Deacon Tyler Underhill - Our Lady of Hope, Washington

Saturday, June 22, 2024

St. Benedict Cathedral 10am CST



PRAYER LIST

Kenny & Marcia, Jim Lubbers, Ralph Elpers, Crystal Williamson, Julia Market, Frankie Rynkiewich, Dana Seninger, Diane Gress, Doris Hagedorn, Mike Folsom, Ronnie Martin, Judy Schuth, Mary Lou Michel, Johnsie Michel, Fr. Bernie Lutz, Ed Miskovic, Kristie Dubord, Mary Lou Wolf, Rose Obert, Haley Oing

Please call Terri to add or remove someone 677-0511. Let us know when someone can come off the list.

Saturday, April 20, 2024 ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter