

LITURGICAL MINISTRY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

Rosary	Leroy Seib
Sacristan	Bob Fuhs
Gifts	Spencer & Abby Heichelbech
Lector	Dennis Titzer
Servers	Isaac Ivy, Jack Anderson
Greeters	Mary McKinney, Vicki Page
Cantor	Sarah Reising
Money Counters	Jenny Fuhs Kirk Peterson
Homebound Communion	Dennis Gress
Traveling Chalice	Dolores Ziliak

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

Rosary	Dennis Titzer
Sacristan	Melvin Ziliak
Gifts	Carlie & Cole Phillips
Lector	Deann Gress
Servers	Brooke Silva, Molly Schnarr
Greeters	John & Sarah Spindler
Cantor	Emily McDaniel, Hannah Rodgers
Money Counters	Matt Obert Dennis Gress
Homebound Communion	Lori Spindler
Traveling Chalice	Dolores Ziliak

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 3 - 11:15 a.m.

+ St. Bernard & St. John Parishes

Thursday, December 7 - 6:00 p.m.

+ Bernard & Marie Hasenour

Sunday, December 10 - 11:15 a.m.

+ Linda Folsom

Stewardship of Treasure

Thanksgiving Mass	\$42.00
November 26 Collection	\$1,506.00
Needed for weekly budget	\$1,795.38
YTD Collection	\$46,046.96
Needed to meet budget	\$39,498.36
YTD Variance	\$6,548.60
Children's Collection	\$3.00

Thank You!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are now crossing the threshold of a new Church year, and today are embarking into the season of Advent. Once again, this season is marked as a time of preparation for the coming of the Incarnate God into the world.

It always bears reminding ourselves that during these weeks of Advent we are called to make room in our lives for Christ the Lord in a new way. Like our kitchen, garage, or car, our lives can become cluttered and chaotic (at least mine can!). I think this is particularly true during the holiday season. As in our house or office, sometimes some time has to be taken out for things to be reorganized, clutter to be removed, and things to be swept clean. That which does not properly belong has to be taken away or put in its proper place.

It is the same with our spiritual life. Advent gives us the opportunity in quiet prayerfulness to look at our lives, make what is most important truly most important, and to put those less important things in our lives in their proper places. In short, if Christ is the Lord, do we actually live and organize our lives in such a way that it is obvious that He actually is our Lord? This always includes making time for Him in personal prayer, Mass, and the sacraments.

I might sound like a broken record around this time of year, but I think that a lot of us could greatly benefit from more actively stepping away from the attitude of commercialism and gift-giving. Let's be honest, Christmas didn't use to be this way, even when I was a kid 30 years ago. It was much more simple, solemnly joyful, and centered around worship and family. Corporate America has made it into the last push to meet year-end sales quotas and close the year 'in the black'. I'm afraid this has happened at the great expense of the spiritual and family life of our nation. Instead of turning our attention and gaze on the wonder of the Incarnation of our Lord, we wonder what we're going to get under the tree (or stress about what we're going to give).

Don't get me wrong, I do think that a certain small or token generosity is healthy and helpful to building family and community, but it has clearly overshadowed the meaning of the season in the first place. Let's have a good and holy Advent. Let's get back to the basics. The Lord is coming soon!

Blessings in Christ the Alpha and Omega,
-Fr. Chris



ST. BERNARD PARISH NEWS

Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation

The Holy Day Mass at St. Bernard is this Thursday, December 7 at 6 p.m. Mary is the Patroness of The United States. Let us pray to her, especially for Our Country!



St. Bernard Christmas Party - December 3

TODAY is the St. Bernard men and women's Christmas party at R'z in Fort Branch for all those who signed up. Doors open at 4:30 pm with a delicious meal served at 5 pm.

The Angel Giving Tree is Now Up

Please pick an angel from the tree in the back of church. This year's gifts will go to the True Hope Pregnancy Center in Princeton. The angel will let you know what needs to be purchased. **Items are due by December 17. No need to wrap items.** Thank you for your support!

Advent Booklets

There are Advent Word Among Us booklets in the back of church along with Advent books from the K of C FREE for every family. Please take advantage of these spiritual meditations during the Advent Season and remember what Christmas is all about!! Thank you K of C!

Christmas Poinsettia Remembrances

If you would like to donate to the poinsettia decorations for Christmas in remembrance of a loved one, please either put your money in your labeled Christmas memorial envelope or one of your own envelopes. Please list the persons you want the memorial to go toward and put your donated amount in the Sunday collection or in the box in the back of church. We are asking for at least a \$10.00 donation for as many people as you would like. Any questions, please ask Dolores Ziliak. These are due by **Sunday, December 17.**

St. Bernard Christmas Program

The religious education students invite you to the 2023 rendition of "Waiting for the Birth of Jesus" on Sunday, December 17 at 6 p.m. followed by cookies and a visit from Santa. All are invited!

Caroling - Please help us spread a little Christmas cheer to our parishioners!! We will begin with pizza in the school hall and then off to caroling on Friday, December 22 at 4:30 p.m. Please text Lori Spindler (812-664-2511) if you would like to join us so we can order pizza. It will be a fun evening!

Christmas Cards

As you send your Christmas cards, please remember the priests and homebound of St. Bernard.

Fr. John Silva - P.O. Box 269—Berlin, WI 54923

Fr. Bernie Lutz - 24 Williams Ln, Newburgh, IN 47630

Fr. Chris Forler - 5301 Daylight Drive, Evansville, IN 47725

Pat Hall—5359 E State Rd 168—Ft. Branch, IN 47648

**Thank you to all the hard-working young people of our parish who came to religion class early to help change out the missalettes. We appreciate your help!

Mass Change

Due to low attendance at the 11:15 Mass on Sunday, we will be changing to Saturday evening Mass at 5:30 pm beginning January 6, 2024. There will be no Sunday Mass. We appreciate your understanding during this time of change.

Christmas Eve Mass

Christmas Eve Mass this year will be at 10 p.m. at St. Bernard.

**New Liturgy schedules are available in the back of church and can also be found on the church website.

Wednesday, December 6
Religion Class for All Grades



Upcoming Youth Events

- Dec. 3 – Bingo w/ Elderly
- Dec. 3 – Girl Time
- Dec. 3 – Boys Open Gym
- Dec. 3 – HS RockLife
- Dec. 15 – HS Christmas Party & Caroling

Bingo with the Elderly – Transcendent Healthcare Owensville

Sunday, Dec. 3rd any youth grade 6-12 is invited to visit the elderly at Transcendent Healthcare of Owensville. We'll play bingo and just share in the love and joy of Christ with them! We'll meet at Sts. P&P at 1:00 and arrive back to Sts P&P around 3:45pm. Please contact Bryan at least a day in advance if you'd like to go, and bring your waiver!

HS Girl Time (grades 9-12)

Next HS Girl Time is on Dec. 3rd. We will go Christmas gift shopping for families in need! We will meet at the east doors of the Princeton Walmart (near the pharmacy) at 4:00pm. Youth need to find their own rides. We'll return to the youth room to drop off the gifts around 5:45. More details to come for following dates! Bring a waiver and a friend!

Open Gym for Boys grades 8-12

Next one is Dec. 3rd. Open Gyms will start for boys grades 8-12. It'll include a "halftime" to reflect on growing as Catholic young men! We'll mostly meet in the gym at Sts Peter & Paul from 4:00 – 5:30 pm typically 2 Sundays of the month (from Nov. thru March). Bring permission forms....and your "game".

HS Christmas Party & Caroling

Make "room" for Jesus in your heart this Advent season and have a ton of fun at the same time! It'll be on December 15th at Sts. Peter & Paul. We'll begin with check-ins between 5:00 and 5:30. We'll have Christmas caroling around town, games, prizes/presents, guest speaker, and much more! Cost is \$10. Ends at midnight. **Turn in your waiver & \$10 by Wed., December 13th. We need adult chaperones for different shifts!** Please contact Bryan to volunteer or if you have questions at 664-7992 or bmacke@evdio.org.

Any questions/concerns about youth events please contact Bryan Macke at 664-7992 or bmacke@evdio.org. Diocesan Event Waivers can be found in the back of each church or on our webpage at www.smgyouth.com



MASS SCHEDULE - ST. BERNARD

Sunday - 11:15 a.m.
Thursday - 6:00 p.m.

MASS SCHEDULE - ST. JOHN (DAYLIGHT)

Saturday - 5:00 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.
First Saturday - 8:00 am

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:

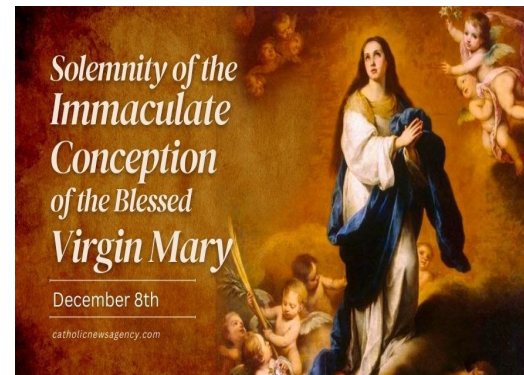
Adoration: First Friday of each month 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

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.

Catholic Ministries Appeal Update

The reminder letters have been mailed out. We will bring this appeal to a close this month. Thank you to all our donors! Our assessment is \$31,828. We have had 53 families donate \$29,773.13. This is 94 % of our goal.



PRAYER LIST

Kenny & Marcia Reising, Jim Lubbers, Ralph Elpers, Crystal Williamson, Julia Market, Frankie Rynkiewich, Tony Sevier, Dana Seninger, Diane Gress, Herb Bethe, Doris Hagedorn, Stephanie Meny, Mike Folsom, Stan Elpers
Please call Terri to add or remove someone 677-0511. Let us know when someone can come off the list. Thank you.

December 3, 2023 ~ First Week of Advent