

LITURGICAL MINISTRY	
<b>SATURDAY, JANUARY 6</b>	
Rosary	Terri Ziliak
Sacristan	John Spindler
Gifts	Molly Schnarr, Brian Heichelbech
Lector	Rena Schleter
Servers	Emily Anderson, Spencer Heichelbech
Greeters	Audrey & Lori Spindler
Cantor	Leroy Seib
Money Counters	Kirk Peterson
	James Silva
Homebound EM	Steve Obert
Traveling Chalice	Leroy & Sauny Seib
<b>SATURDAY, JANUARY 13</b>	
Rosary	Leroy Seib
Sacristan	Robert Fuhs
Gifts	Kaleb & Kohlman Sterczer
Lector	Steve Obert
Servers	Audrey Spindler, Bailey Spindler
Greeters	Jeff & Tammy Meny
Cantor	Sarah Reising
Money Counters	Matt Obert
	Jenny Fuhs
Homebound EM	Terri Ziliak
Traveling Chalice	Leroy & Sauny Seib
MASS INTENTIONS	
<b>Saturday, January 6 - 5:30 p.m.</b>	
+ St. Bernard & St. John Parishes	
<b>Thursday, January 11 - 6:00 p.m.</b>	
NO MASS	
<b>Saturday, January 13 - 5:30 p.m.</b>	
+ Kenny & Mary Martin	

<b><i>Stewardship of Treasure</i></b>	
December 31 Collection	<b>\$2,989.00</b>
Needed for weekly budget	\$1,795.38
YTD Collection	\$61,891.96
Needed to meet budget	\$48,475.26
YTD Variance	<b>\$13,416.70</b>
Children’s Collection	\$4.00
<i>Thank You!</i>	

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I hope that all are off to a good start in this new year of 2024! As your pastor, I once again wish to profoundly thank all those who extended to me their wonderful Christmas wishes, cards, and generosity. I truly feel loved and I love you. Thank you for another great year!

As this Sunday is the feast of Epiphany, I thought I would once again give people the ability to bless their homes with the traditional Epiphany blessing with blessed chalk. The chalk and prayer of blessing left for you all is a wonderful way to ask the Lord’s blessing upon you and your family this year. Some, however, might want a little explanation of what this is and what it entails.

It’s often a topic of conversation when people see the strange chalked inscription above the doors of a home. “What is that?” Well, for this year, the inscription will be as follows:

**20 + C + M + B + 24**

This has two primary meanings. The beginning and ending numbers are of course the numbers of the year of the blessing. The crosses represent the saving Cross of Christ, and the letters CMB has a dual meaning. One is that it stands for the initials of the traditional names of the three wise men, Casper, Melchior, and Balthazar. The other meaning is a Latin inscription: Christus Mansionem Benedicat, or may Christ bless this home. Traditionally the prayer can be done either by a priest or usually by the father of the family or other head of the home.

I think the benefit of this practice is obvious. First, any blessing helps to ward off the spiritual attacks and annoyances of the Evil One. Second, this can be a constant and visible reminder anytime one is entering and leaving the home that Christ is to be the focus and the foundation for the family and those living there. I pray that you all will do this blessing and will invite Christ more deeply into your daily life and family this year. May we always honor and adore Christ as did the three great Magi of the east!


Peace to you and your house,  
-Fr. Chris

# ST. BERNARD PARISH NEWS

**\*\*NO MASS THIS THURSDAY EVENING AS FATHER IS OUT OF TOWN.**


### Altar Society Meeting

The next meeting is this Wednesday, January 10 at 6 pm in the School Hall. All women are encouraged to attend.



### Parish Council Meeting

The next PC meeting will be on Thursday, January 18 at **7:15 pm**. There will be a Finance meeting first at 6:45 pm.



### Catholic Ministries Appeal

We have reached our Goal!!! Thank you to everyone for your generous support for our Appeal. Your generosity shows us your love for your Parish and Catholic Faith!

### Ritual of Blessing Homes in the New Year


Celebrated on the Feast of the Epiphany (**January 7, 2024**), is a tradition of using chalk to write above the home’s entrance asking for God’s blessing on the home and those who dwell in or visit the home. As the family gathers in prayer, it is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our lives and our home. There are papers and chalk at the entrance of Church. We ask that each family only take one piece of chalk. Father will talk about this at Mass so that you may bless your home this New Year.

### End of Year Donations

Donations for the 2023 year will be mailed out this week. Please let us know of any questions or if you do not receive one. We are certainly appreciative of your donations.

### Poinsettias


We will be taking down the Christmas decorations this week. If anyone would like a poinsettias, please take it after Mass or there will be a few in the boys sacristy this week.



### Religion Class resumes on January 10.

We will see you this Wednesday at 7!

Reminder if South Gibson cancels school d/t weather, we will not have religion.



### Upcoming Youth Events

Jan. 14 – Boys Open Gym  
Jan. 14 – Girl Time  
Jan. 14 – HS RockLife  
Jan. 28 – Bingo w/ Elderly  
Feb. 2 – HS Palentines  
Feb. 17-19 – TEC

### HS Girl Time

All HS girls are invited to join us for the next Girl Time coming up on Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> in the youth room at Sts. Peter & Paul from 4:00-5:30pm. This time, we're having a dance off! More details to come for following dates. Bring a waiver and a friend!

### Bingo with the Elderly – Transcendent Healthcare Owensville

Sunday, Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> 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 "Pal"entines Night

Whether you have a true love or just a close "pal"/friend this Valentine Night event is for you! Beginning at 5:30 on Friday, Feb. 2 in the youth room at Sts P&P, we'll learn more about true love and the different types of love that all point back to our Heavenly Father (for "God is love" I John 4:8). We'll have fresh games, pizza, guest speaker, and the "Newlywed" game show where we get to showcase some of our parishes adult couples (some not-so-newlywed). Ends around 10:00. **Youth need to turn in waivers by Wed. Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>.**

**TEC (Teens Encounter Christ)** is a three-day experience for young people who are searching for goals, acceptance, meaning, and for community. Adults are also welcome and encouraged to attend as they increase our witness to our faith while experiencing their own encounter with Christ. Candidates can expect to meet others from all areas of the Diocese, find how God fits in your life, and encounter the Risen Jesus Christ. You will have time to reflect on your life, ideas, hopes, and dreams away from home, school, and/or work. You can find an application and more information at <http://www.switec.org/>. You must be a junior in HS to attend. The next weekend is Feb. 17-19, 2024, at St. Mary's Church in Ireland. Feel free to send in applications for any of the weekends, but please know that they may fill quickly, so send in your application soon.



### 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.  
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:

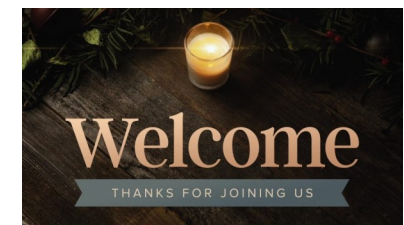
**Adoration:** First Friday of each month 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**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.**

### COMMUNITY NEWS

#### Gibson Catholic Young Adults

Come join the Gibson County Catholic Young Adults for games and socializing on Jan. 12 at 6:00 in Sts. Peter and Paul Cafeteria. Join a hot sauce challenge or cheer on your friends. Families welcome, see our Facebook page for details and to sign up to bring food.

#### St. Benedict Cathedral

In preparation for The Diocese of Evansville Eucharistic Congress...Please Join us for an Evening of ADORATION on Friday, January 12, 2024 at 6:30 pm. with John Michael Talbot, Rev. Alex Zenthoefer and Dr. Edward Sri. All are Welcome!

#### Evansville Eucharistic Congress

There are still tickets available for Saturday, January 13, 2024. Please see the poster on the bulletin board in the back of church for details on how to obtain tickets. You do not want to miss this event!!

### PRAYER LIST

Kenny & Marcia Reising, Jim Lubbers, Ralph Elpers, Crystal Williamson, Julia Market, Frankie Rynkiewich, Dana Seninger, Diane Gress, Herb Bethe, Doris Hagedorn, Stephanie Meny, Mike Folsom

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

**Saturday, January 6, 2024 ~ Epiphany of the Lord**