

St. Bernard's Catholic Church

February 25, 2024

The Second Sunday in Lent

St. Bernard's Catholic Church
 105 Knight Ave N.
 Thief River Falls, MN 56701

Parish Office Hours
 9AM-5PM Mon-Fri
(The office is closed from 12 to 12:30PM)

Parish Office: (218) 681-3571
 School Office: (218) 681-1539

www.stbernardscc.org

Parish Staff
Fr. Craig Vasek, Pastor and Superintendent
Norm Betland, Office Manager and Executive Assistant
Carolyn Holecek, OCIA Coordinator
Misty Mehrkens, Youth Minister
Manuel Peralta, Buildings and Grounds
Margaret Rasmussen, Religious Formation Coordinator
Charlie Vogel, Advancement Director

School Office
Laura Brickson, School Principal
Rebecca Peralta, Office Administrator

*From the shining cloud the
 Father's voice is heard:
 This is my beloved Son,
 listen to him.*

Matthew 17:5

Holy Mass Schedule

Tuesday	8:00 AM
Wednesday	5:15 PM
Thursday	8:00 AM
Friday	8:30 AM (School Mass)
Saturday	5:00 PM
Sunday	9:00 AM

See the bulletin for weekly changes to the regular schedule.

Confession Schedule

Saturday	4:00-4:50 PM
Sunday	8:00-8:50 AM
Weekdays	30 min. before Mass, ending 10 min. before Mass

Adoration Schedule

Tuesday	3:00 AM—10:00 PM
Wednesday	4:00 PM—10:00 PM
Thursday	4:00 AM—10:00 PM

Confession & Holy Mass Schedule for this Week

	Confession	Mass	Mass Intention
Mon., Feb. 26			
Tue., Feb. 27	7:30 AM	8:00 AM	Vivien Whitcomb
Wed., Feb. 28	4:45 PM	5:15 PM	Family of Mike and Cindy Wavra
Thu., Feb. 29	7:30 AM	8:00 AM	+Alice Conover
Fri., Mar. 1	8:00 AM	8:30 AM	+Cecelia Stoltman
Sat., Mar. 2	7:50 AM	8:30 AM	+Tony Kozojed
	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	Pro Populo
Sun., Mar. 3	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	Curt Geatz

Feasts and Readings

Mon., Feb. 26 Mon. of 2nd Week in Lent	
1st Reading:	Dan. 9:4b-10
Psalm:	Ps. 79:8, 9, 11 and 13
Gospel:	Lk. 6:36-38
Tue., Feb. 27 St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot & Doctor	
1st Reading:	Is. 1:10, 16-20
Psalm:	Ps. 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23
Gospel:	Mt. 23:1-12
Wed., Feb. 28 Wed. of 2nd Week in Lent	
1st Reading:	Jer. 18:18-20
Psalm:	Ps. 31:5-6, 14, 15-16
Gospel:	Mt. 20:17-28
Thu., Feb. 29 Thu. of 2nd Week in Lent	
1st Reading:	Jer. 17:5-10
Psalm:	Ps. 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6
Gospel:	Lk. 16:19-31
Fri., Mar. 1 Fri. of 2nd Week in Lent	
1st Reading:	Gen. 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a
Psalm:	Ps. 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21
Gospel:	Mt. 21:33-43, 45-46
Sat., Mar. 2 Sat. of 2nd Week in Lent	
1st Reading:	Micah 7:14-15, 18-20
Psalm:	Ps. 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12
Gospel:	Lk. 15:1-3, 11-32
Sun., Mar. 3 Third Sunday in Lent	
1st Reading:	Ex. 20:1-17
Psalm:	Ps. 19:8, 9, 10, 11
2nd Reading:	1 Cor. 1:22-25
Gospel:	Jn. 2:13-25

This Week in the Parish

Mon., Feb. 26	
6:30 PM	OCIA, Rectory Mtg. Rm.
Tue., Feb. 27	
3:00 AM– 10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration, Sanctuary
10:30 AM	Care Center Communion Service
2:30 PM	Lenten Study on Prayer, Offsite
Wed., Feb. 28	
8:00 AM	SBIB Contractor Mtg, Rectory Mtg. Rm.
1:00 PM	Skylite Apartments Communion Service
4:00 PM– 10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration, Sanctuary
5:45 PM	Lenten Soup Supper, Parish Hall
6:30 PM	Stations of the Cross, Sanctuary
7:00 PM	Lenten Study on Prayer, Parish Hall
8:00 PM	Men's Group, Parish Library
Thu., Feb. 29	
4:00 AM– 10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration, Sanctuary
8:30 AM	OCIA, Rectory Mtg. Rm.
9:30 AM	Bible Study, Library
Fri., Mar. 1—Day of Abstinence	
9:00 AM–10:00PM	Eucharistic Adoration, Sanctuary
10:00 AM	Oakland Park Communion Service
4:30 PM	Fish Fry Takeout
5:00– 6:30 PM	Fish Fry Dine-In
7:00 PM	First Saturday Adoration Vigil Overnight
Sat., Mar. 2	
7:50 AM	Confessions
	First Saturday Devotions
8:20 AM	Solemn Benediction
8:30 AM	First Saturday Mass w/Fellowship
Sun., Mar. 3	
8:10 AM	Lauds, Sanctuary
10:00 AM	Fellowship, Parish Hall
10:15 AM	Sunday School

Coming Up!

Mar. 8	Fish Fry	Mar. 29	Good Friday Liturgy, 1PM
Mar. 9	Confirmation Retreat	Mar. 30	Easter Vigil
Mar. 16	Eucharistic Heart of Mary Retreat	Apr. 12/13	Proclamation Retreat
Mar. 20	Exalt, 6:30PM (Dinner at 5:45)	May 4 5PM	Confirmation
Mar. 25	Chrism Mass, Cathedral	May 17-18	Diocesan Eucharistic Congress
Mar. 26	Seder Meal	July 17-21	National Eucharistic Congress
Mar. 28	Holy Thursday Mass, 7PM	Aug. 20	Solemnity of St. Bernard

From the Desk of Fr. Vasek

Greetings,

My first experience of the famous St. Bernard's fish fry has been quite rewarding. I am deeply impressed with the volunteerism, the organization, the hard work, and the sheer number of fish that gets fried! The fish is really good, too! Since it's back in-person, it's also a great opportunity to spend time with other parishioners and members of the greater community.

Another great Lenten opportunity is our Wednesday evening schedule. Each week, we have confessions, Holy Mass, soup dinner, Stations of the Cross and a communal study on prayer. Whether you come for some or all, it's great to be together as a parish.

We have some parish retreat options coming up. During Lent, Father Bryan Kujawa will lead a day retreat connecting the Blessed Virgin Mary with the Holy Eucharist. During the Easter season, he will lead a retreat on the main proclamation of the Christian Church. I hope many can join in.

On Saturday, March 23rd, I will be in the confessional basically all day, so that we have extended opportunities to make a confession as we prepare for the great celebration of our redemption in Christ. I will be in the confessional on the hour throughout the day. Confession is the sacrament of MERCY.

Grace and Peace,
Father Vasek

Mar 2 & 3 Weekend Ministry Schedule

Ministry	Sat 5PM Mass	Sun 9AM Mass
Accompanist	Katie Hahn	Rebecca Peralta
Cantor	Shelly Burkel	Douglas Meyer
Hospitality	Gerard Novak Bruce Skalsky Carl Bruzek VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Rick Reiersen Robert Wald Kevin Yaggie Vickie Yaggie
Sacristan	Pat Sagsveen	Carolyn Holecek
Ministry Captain	Dave Bennett	Charlie Vogel
EMHC	Chris Bruggeman VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Janet Griffith Misty Mehrkens
Lector	Chuck Walrath	David Ahlfs
Commentator	Marcus Langevin	Joan Lubitz
Alter Servers	Harlow Bruggeman	Kayzlee Strand
Technology	Darryl Tveitbakk	Kayden Scholin

Faith Formation

Religious Education Schedule

February 28 – Grades 6 & 7 RE
March 3 – 10:15 am Sunday School
March 6 – Grades 6 & 8 RE
March 9 – Confirmation Retreat
March 10 – 10:15 am Sunday School
March 13– 6:30 pm Grades 6 & 7 RE
March 17 – 10:15 am Sunday School
March 20 – EXALT
March 27- No Middle School RE- Holy Week
March 31 – No Sunday School – Happy Easter!
April 3 - 6:30 pm –Grades 6 & 8 RE
April 7- 10:15 am Sunday School
April 10 - 6:30 pm Grades 6 & 7 RE

Commissioning of EMHC's

During the weekend Masses on March 9th and 10th all new and current Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be commissioned by Fr. Vasek. If you are out of town and will not be at either of these Masses please contact Margaret Rasmussen to set up another time to be commissioned.



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St. Bernard's Podcast



Listen to homilies, Bible studies, and more on the new St. Bernard's Podcast. Find it out on [podbean](https://podbean.com) at stbernards.podbean.com or search 'St. Bernard's TRF' wherever you listen to podcasts.

Youth News

Saint Teresa of Calcutta Camp: This summer, the St. Teresa of Calcutta Camp (STOC) will be "on wheels". Students in the Diocese of Crookston, currently in grades 8-12 are invited to register for a once in a lifetime experience as this year's "camp" will be a 9-day experience, beginning at the Pastoral Center in Crookston, and traveling to the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, IN. The dates of this year's camp are July 14-22, 2024. Registration is now open and the deadline for registration is March 15th. Please go to www.crookston.org/TOCcamp to register and for more information.

Saint John Paul II Camp: The theme this year is Abide in Me and will be held July 28 - August 1, 2024. This camp is for all incoming 7th and 8th grade youth and takes place at Oak Hills Christian College in Bemidji, MN. Abide in Me will follow the story of Jesus accompanying his disciples on the Road to Emmaus. Registration is open now at <https://www.crookston.org/jp2camp>. Camps like these fill up fast!

Contact me at misty.mehrkens@stbernardstrf.com if you have any questions!

Fish Fry Season: St. Bernard's Fish Frys have begun and will be on every Friday until March 22nd. This is a great opportunity for youth to add funds to their accounts and pay for any and all activities St. Bernard's or the Diocese of Crookston host (like the ones listed above!). Parents, siblings, and friends can all work towards the same family youth account. \$10/hour for the fish fry and \$20/hour for cleanup after 7:00pm. If everyone were to commit to ONE slot for ONE Friday, we'd have everything taken care of! Willing to accept the challenge? Go to <https://linktr.ee/StBernardsParish> to view the available slots for each Friday's sign up. Please take special consideration in the areas of deliveries, take out orders, dining room help, and kitchen cleanup. Those are the areas that need a large number of volunteers to ensure it runs smoothly. Thank you!



O.C.I.A.

Are you interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Faith? Consider St. Bernard's O.C.I.A. program (the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults). Through O.C.I.A. you will be able to learn more about what the

Church believes and teaches and prepare to receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist).

If you'd like more information, contact Carolyn Holecek at Carolyn.holecek@stbernardstrf.com or call the parish office.

Stewardship

Sunday Stewardship February 17 & 18

Weekly Offertory Budget \$ 11,231.00
Weekly Offertory Total \$ 8,029.25
Fiscal Year-To-Date Offertory Budget (Through Jan.) \$341,573
Fiscal Year-To-Date Offertory Total (Through Jan.) \$379,863

St. Bernard's Building Campaign

Pledged to Date: \$ 3,693,386.32
Received to Date: \$ 3,447,072.43



If we die
with
the LORD
we will
live with
the
LORD

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Recommended Sacrificial Giving Distribution

As percentage of total
income.

Parish	5%
Diocese	3%
Other Giving	2%

Diocesan Annual Appeal

St. Bernard's 2024 Parish Goal is \$49,448.

Visit www.crookston.org/DAA or scan the QR code to learn more about the DAA and make a gift.



Finance Council

Brenda Bruggeman, Trustee, Tim Benedict, Trustee, Kathy Casavan, Jim Retka, Mark Thune, Kevin Yaggie, & Fr. Craig Vasek

Pastoral Council

Rob Burkel, Tom Schaefer, Michelle Johnson, Lucy Scholin, Joan Lubitz, Kyle Mehrkens, Tevia Strand, Jacob Rath, Mike Wavra & Fr. Craig Vasek

Prayer Intentions

Parish Prayer List

Ray Hedlund

If you wish to have someone placed on, or removed from, the prayer list, please call (218) 681-3571 or email norm.betland@stbernardstrf.com

Names will often be forgotten on the list even after they can be removed. All names will be removed twice a year to keep it up-to-date: 1st Sunday of Lent and after St. Bernard's Day (August 20)



Pope Francis' Intentions for February

For the terminally ill

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

Mass Requests

If you would like to have a Mass said for a special intention, you can request a Mass in multiple ways. You can stop by the parish office, send them by mail or drop them in the collection basket. When requesting a Mass for the deceased, be sure to indicate this with “ + ” before their name. The customary offering is \$10. Masses are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis, and can be scheduled up to 1 year in advance.

Parish Life

St. Bernard's Adoration Society

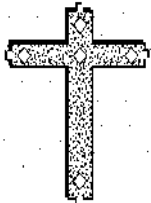
We continue to be blessed with new adorers signing up for Eucharistic Adoration. We anticipate being able to open up at least one additional block of Adoration before the end of Lent.

As we open up more blocks of Adoration, the Adoration Society is in need of volunteers to take on leadership roles in 2 main capacities.

1. We need a team of individuals to help manage the schedule of adorers: recruiting to fill empty blocks and coordinate substitutes.
2. We need individuals to serve as Eucharistic Ministers who can expose and repose the Blessed Sacrament at the beginning and end of our open blocks. This role is vital for sustaining Perpetual Adoration until all hours of Adoration are filled. Proper training will be provided for this important ministry.

If you would like to learn more about volunteering for these roles, please contact Norm at the parish office (218) 681-3571.

You can register for an hour or to be a substitute at stbernardscc.weadorehim.com



Jesus is Lord!

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Lent is a call not just to "give up something" but more important to "give something for the poor." Wherever you live in the parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell.

Pray for our St Bernards St Vincent de Paul volunteers who take calls and make visits with those who need our help. You can become a volunteer too!

**THROUGH
DEATH**


**TO NEW
LIFE**

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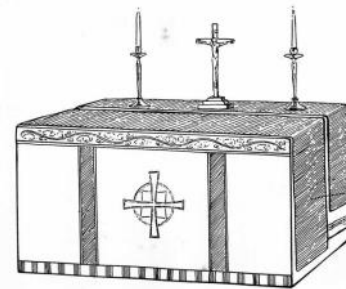
LITURGICAL ITEMS

Sanctuary: The Altar

The altar is the focal point of the parish, both in terms of the physical church property, and of the geographic boundaries of the parish.

The altar is in the double form of a table and a tomb which is a reminder of the Last Supper and the burial of Our Lord. The altar is covered in a cloth which reminds us of the cloth that covered the table of the Last Supper and the winding sheet of the Savior's embalming. Altars must be made of stone. If it is made of wood, the sacrifice must be made on the altar stone.

The altar stone is a stone consecrated by the bishop and embedded in the center of the altar, and is a figure of Christ. It has received sacred unction (like our Lord) and it bears five wounds (five crosses are cut into the stone with hammer and iron). Like the Lamb of God, it is one of whom "not a single bone was broken," since it is cut from a single piece. During the Mass, the stone becomes a place of reparation for the outrages that occurred during the Lord's Passion. The priest's genuflections replace the mocking genuflections of the Jews, the kiss of the priest replaces Judas' kiss of treason. Within the altar stone is a small rectangle called the sepulcher (tomb). It is a hollow container which contains the relics of the Saints and Martyrs, accompanied by three grains of incense, which represent burial and the different aromatic perfumes Jesus received in the tomb. The custom of placing relics in the altar is very ancient and stems from the ancient tradition of celebrating the Mass on the tombs of the martyrs. The custom teaches us how to receive Holy Communion well. Our hearts become living altars where Christ consummates his sacrifice and wishes to see the blessed wounds of a martyr.



Holy Week Seder Meal

St. Bernard's is hosting a Seder Meal on March 26 at 5:30PM in the parish hall. A Seder meal is a ritual Passover meal that remembers the exodus out of Egypt. The meal is a structured event with prayer, readings and specialized food that goes back to the original Passover with Wine, Lamb, Matzo (unleavened bread), Egg, Bitter Herb, and Charoset (apples, nuts).

More information will follow in the coming weeks.

Grand Knights Banquet

Save the date for the Knights of Columbus' Grand Knights Banquet. The catered meal will be held on April 28. Additional information will be available in the coming weeks. If you have any questions, please contact Randy Malo.

New Parishioner or Change of Address?

If you are a new parishioner or need to update your contact information, you can register or update your information on our website at stbernardsc.org or by calling the parish office at (218) 681-3571.

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If you or someone you know has been a victim of sexual misconduct on the part of a priest, deacon, or individual representing the Diocese of Crookston, its parishes, or its schools, your first call should be to law enforcement. In addition, the diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator is available at 218-281-7895 (24 hour confidential number).

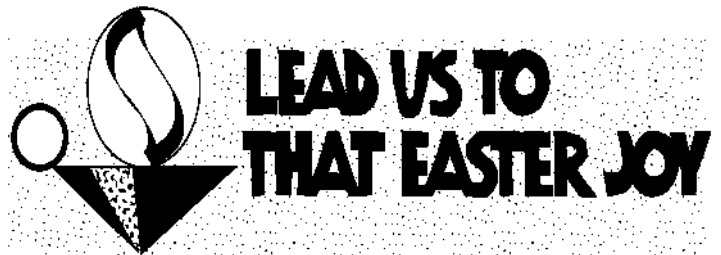


Please have any items for the bulletin in to the Office Manager by Tuesday at Noon. Email: norm.betland@stbernardstrf.com

Advancement Director's Corner

I am meeting with parishioners to get to know them, to understand what excites them about St. Bernard's and what their concerns may be. Initial meetings are focused on The One campaign, funeral planning, questions around wills and legacy giving, and ways to get involved in parish life. Call the parish to set up an appointment or email me at charlie.vogel@stbernardstrf.com. Below are my scheduled appointment hours.

Monday – 7:30am – 2pm
Tuesday/Thursday/Friday – 9:30am – 3pm
Wednesday – 4pm – 8pm
1st Saturday of the Month – 10am – 4pm



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Meatless Friday Recipe

Salmon and Rice Casserole

1/4 C finely chopped celery, 1/4 C. chopped onion, 1 T butter, 2 C cooked rice (unsalted), 1 can cream of mushroom soup, 7 oz. can boneless, skinless salmon, flaked and undrained, 1/2 C shredded sharp cheddar, seasoned bread crumbs

1. Saute celery and onion in butter until soft.
2. Pour into baking dish, add remaining ingredients, except bread crumbs.
3. Stir well, then top with bread crumbs.
4. Bake at 350 for 20-30 min until heated through and bubbling around the edges.

The recipe serves 4.

Recipe from catholiccuisine.blogspot.com

View the E-Bulletin!

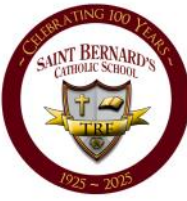
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CELEBRATING
 A CENTURY
 OF CATHOLIC
 EDUCATION



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ST. BERNARD'S IS CURRENTLY IN THE PROCESS OF RENEWING SPONSORSHIP CONTRACTS IN THE BULLETIN. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS HAVING AN AD PLACED IN THE BULLETIN, CALL CHARLIE VOGEL AT THE PARISH OFFICE (218) 681-3471.



The Eucharistic **Heart of Mary**

ST. BERNARD'S CATHOLIC CHURCH RETREAT

With Fr. Bryan Kujawa

WHERE: St. Bernard's Catholic Church • Thief River Falls, MN

WHEN: March 16th, 2024

— **MASS:** at 9:00am | **LIGHT BREAKFAST:** at 9:30am —

- ▶ **SESSION ONE:** 10am - Noon
- ▶ **LUNCH SERVED:** Noon - 1pm
- ▶ **SESSION TWO:** 1pm - 3pm

FREE WILL OFFERING

If you have any questions about this upcoming event please call: 218-289-4473.

Retreat Event

St. Bernard's Catholic Church
— Thief River Falls, MN —

THE
PROCLAMATION

With Fr. Bryan Kujawa



A 24 Hour Retreat
Designed To Help You Uncover
The Explosive Power
Of The Gospel

When:
Friday, April 12th
& Saturday,
April 13th

Event Details:

- ▶ *Friday evening April 12th*
Retreat begins with Mass at 5:30pm and soup supper at 6pm.
- ▶ *Saturday, April 13th*
Saturday begins with breakfast at 7:30am, followed by the first talk of the day.
- ▶ *Noon* lunch will be provided— with the retreat ending about 3:45pm.

Have questions? — call/text 218-289-4473

There will be opportunity for a free will offering to cover costs.

"I am not ashamed of the gospel: it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith..." Romans 1:16



Second Sunday of Lent: Listening for the Voice of God

WORK OF MERCY: Bear Wrongs Patiently

THE GRACE I SEEK: to recognize the voice of Jesus in my life

IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, AND OF THE SON, AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. AMEN.

Pause for a few moments, and allow yourself to become aware of Jesus' gift of himself in the Eucharist. Realize that, at this very moment, the Lord of Life is gazing upon you with great love. Allow yourself to receive his loving gaze. You are his beloved child. Rest in his loving gaze.

Thank Jesus for the gift of himself in the Eucharist.

ASK FOR THE GRACE: Jesus, help me to trust you are speaking to me and to recognize your voice.

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION — *Read slowly, 3–4 times. Allow the words of Scripture to wash over your mind and heart. Allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you through this passage.*

“I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore.” (Genesis 22:16–17)

REFLECTION QUESTION — *Allow yourself to sit with these questions for a while, being attentive to how the Lord is speaking in your heart.*

The Lord often asks difficult things of us, especially if our hearts have wandered away from him. However, he always blesses us more than we could have ever imagined when we follow his promptings. What is one concrete blessing in your life Jesus has given you after you chose to listen to and follow him?

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION — *Read slowly, 3–4 times. Again, allow the words of Scripture to wash over your mind and heart. Let the Holy Spirit speak to you through this passage.*

“Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, ‘This is my beloved Son. Listen to him.’ Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.” (Mark 9:7–8)

REFLECTION QUESTION — *Allow yourself to sit with these questions for a while, being attentive to how the Lord is speaking in your heart.*

Gazing upon the Eucharist, recognize that Jesus is with you. The Father tells us in this Gospel reading that Jesus is his beloved Son. Is there an area of your heart that still struggles to believe that this is really God's beloved Son, present in a most special way in the Eucharist? Ask Jesus to help you see his face and hear his voice in the Blessed Sacrament.

Remain in silence with the Lord. Allow him to speak in the silence, in your heart. Receive his presence. If it helps, write down what you sense the Lord communicating to you during this time of prayer.

CLOSING PRAYER — O God, who have commanded us to listen to your beloved Son, be pleased, we pray, to nourish us inwardly by your word, that, with spiritual sight made pure, we may rejoice to behold your glory. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen. (Collect, Second Sunday of Lent)

SUNDAY MASS CONNECTION — At every Mass, Jesus offers himself to the Father for us. We can always join our own offerings with Jesus at Mass. This Sunday, offer your desire to recognize Jesus and to hear his voice more clearly in the Eucharist, trusting that he will bless you abundantly as you follow him more closely.

LOVE IN ACTION — Most of us have family, friends, or coworkers that do not understand our belief that Jesus is truly present and communicates himself to us in the Blessed Sacrament. This can be a deep source of suffering, but bearing this patiently and praying for their conversion can be an occasion of grace and peace for both them and you! This week, consider choosing one person in your life who does not believe in the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, and pray daily for them to encounter Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Eucharistic Miracle of ST. PETER DAMIAN

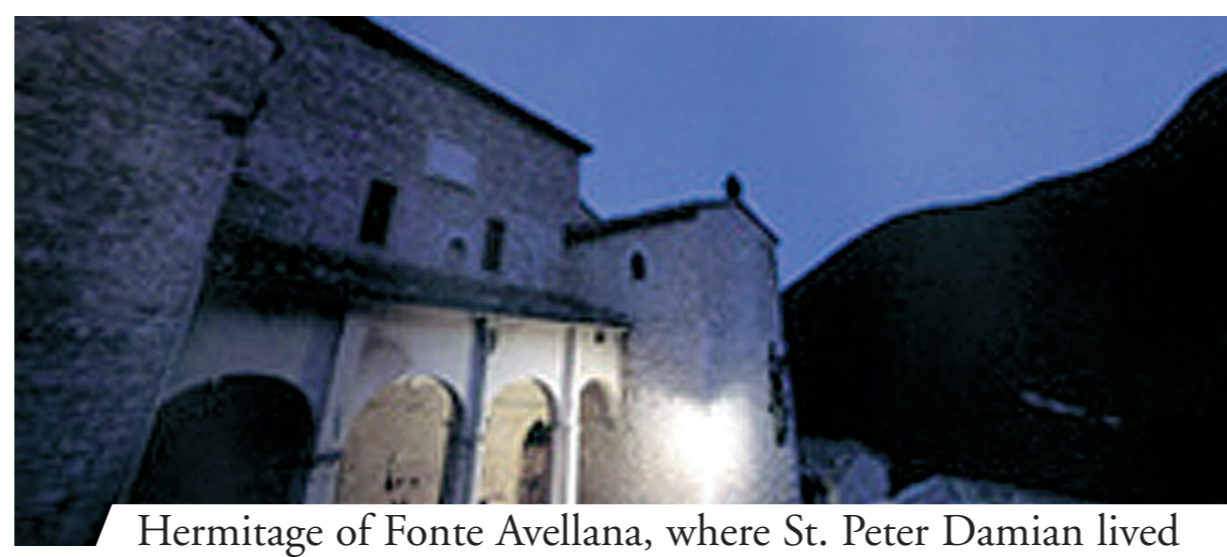


ITALY, ELEVENTH CENTURY

A sorceress asked a woman to bring her a consecrated Host. The woman went to Mass and during Communion she managed to hide a Host in her handkerchief. The priest noticed what happened and ran after the woman and ordered her to show him what she was hiding. The woman opened the handkerchief, and to their surprise they saw that half of the stolen Particle had been transformed into Flesh and the other half looked like the Host.



St. Peter Damian



Hermitage of Fonte Avellana, where St. Peter Damian lived

In his *Opuscul. XXXIV; Patrol. Lat.*, tom. CXLV. col. 573, St. Peter Damian, a Doctor of the Church, describes an important Eucharistic miracle of which he was a direct witness. We present the Italian translation of the episode as the Saint himself describes it: "This is a Eucharistic event of great importance. It took place in 1050. Giving in to a horrible temptation, a woman was about to take the Eucharistic Bread home to use the Sacred Species for sorcery. But a priest noticed what she had done and ran after her, taking away from her the Host she had sacrilegiously stolen. Then he unfolded the white linen cloth in which the sacred Host had been wrapped and found that the Host had been transformed in such a way that Half had become visibly the Body of Christ, while the other Half preserved the normal look of a Host. With such a clear testimony, God wanted to win over unbelievers and heretics who refused to accept the Real Presence of the Eucharistic mystery: in one half of the consecrated bread the Body of Christ was visible, while in the other the natural form, thus highlighting the reality of the sacramental transubstantiation taking place at the Consecration."

Eucharistic Miracle of SCALA



ITALY, 1732

In 1732 for more than three consecutive months there appeared signs of our Lord's Passion in the consecrated Hosts. This marvelous event took place during exposition of the Most Holy Sacrament in the monastery of the Most Holy Redeemer of Scala in the presence of numerous testimonies, among whom was St. Alphonsus Maria Liguori, the great Doctor of the Church.



Venerable Maria Celeste Crostarosa



Interior of the monastery church



Monstrance of the miracle



Monastery of the Most Holy Redeemer, Scala

The venerable Sister Maria Celeste Crostarosa founded the Monastery of the Most Holy Redeemer together with St. Alphonsus Maria Liguori. Every Thursday the Most Blessed Sacrament was exposed in the monastery for public adoration. From September 11, 1732, for three consecutive months, during the solemn exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the signs of the Passion of Christ appeared in the Host contained in the monstrance. All this can be confirmed not only by the nuns and the people but also by Bishop Santoro of Scala and by the Bishop of Castellamare. The apparition occurred also in the presence of St. Alphonsus Maria Liguori. Bishop Santoro wrote a letter to Bishop Simonetti, Apostolic Nuncio of Naples, in which he described all the details related to the visions that took place in the Sacred Host that had been exposed. In turn, the Nuncio forwarded the letter to Cardinal Barbieri, then Secretary of State.