



# St. Bernard's Catholic Church

March 10, 2024

The Fourth Sunday in Lent  
*also called Laetare Sunday*

## 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](http://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

*Rejoice, Jerusalem, and  
all who love her. Be  
joyful, all who were in  
mourning; exult and be  
satisfied at her consoling  
breast.*

*Isaiah 66:10-11*

### 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., Mar. 11			
Tue., Mar. 12	7:30 AM	8:00 AM	+Deceased family of AAT
Wed., Mar. 13	4:45 PM	5:15 PM	+Tony Kozojed
Thu., Mar. 14	7:30 AM	8:00 AM	S.L.
Fri., Mar. 15	8:00 AM	8:30 AM	Special Intention of AAT
Sat., Mar. 16	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	Pro Populo
Sun., Mar. 17	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	+Patrick Halling

## Feasts and Readings

<b>Mon., Mar. 11 Mon. of 4th Week in Lent</b>	
1st Reading:	Is. 65:17-21
Psalm:	Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b
Gospel:	Jn. 4:43-54
<b>Tue., Mar. 12 Tue. of 4th Week in Lent</b>	
1st Reading:	Ez. 47:1-9, 12
Psalm:	Ps. 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9
Gospel:	Jn. 5:1-16
<b>Wed., Mar. 13 Wed. of 4th Week in Lent</b>	
1st Reading:	Is. 49:8-15
Psalm:	Ps. 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18
Gospel:	Jn. 5:17-30
<b>Thu., Mar. 14 Thu. of 4th Week in Lent</b>	
1st Reading:	Ex. 32:7-14
Psalm:	Ps. 106:19-20, 21-22, 23
Gospel:	Jn. 5:31-47
<b>Fri., Mar. 15 Fri. of 4th Week in Lent</b>	
1st Reading:	Wis. 2:1a, 12-22
Psalm:	Ps. 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23
Gospel:	Jn. 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
<b>Sat., Mar. 16 Sat. of 4th Week in Lent</b>	
1st Reading:	Jer. 11:18-20
Psalm:	Ps. 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12
Gospel:	Jn. 7:40-53
<b>Sun., Mar. 17 Fifth Sunday in Lent</b>	
1st Reading:	Jer. 31:31-34
Psalm:	Ps. 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15
2nd Reading:	Heb. 5:7-9
Gospel:	Jn. 12:20-33

## This Week in the Parish

<b>Mon., Mar. 11</b>	
6:30 PM	OCIA, Rectory Mtg. Rm.
<b>Tue., Mar. 12</b>	
3:00 AM– 10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration, Sanctuary
10:30 AM	Care Center Communion Service
2:30 PM	Lenten Study on Prayer, Offsite
5:30 PM	Faith Formation Board, Rectory Mtg. Rm.
6:30 PM	K of C Prayers in Honor of St. Joseph Icon, Sanctuary
<b>Wed., Mar. 13</b>	
7:00 AM	Buildings and Grounds Mtg, Rectory
10:00 AM– 2:30 PM	St. Bernard's Quilters, Parish Hall
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 Cursillo Group, Parish Library
<b>Thu., Mar. 14</b>	
4:00 AM– 10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration, Sanctuary
8:30 AM	OCIA, Rectory Mtg. Rm.
9:30 AM	Bible Study, Library
12:30 PM	Men's Cursillo Group, Rectory Mtg. Rm.
6:00 PM	Pastoral Council, Parish Hall Mtg. Rm.
<b>Fri., Mar. 15—Day of Abstinence</b>	
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
<b>Sat., Mar. 16</b>	
9:00 AM– 3:00 PM	Eucharistic Heart of Mary Retreat, Church and Parish Hall
<b>Sun., Mar. 17</b>	
8:10 AM	Lauds, Sanctuary
10:00 AM	Fellowship, Parish Hall
10:15 AM	Sunday School

## Coming Up!

Mar. 20	Exalt, 6:30PM (Dinner at 5:45)	Apr. 12/13	Proclamation Retreat
Mar. 23	Day of Grace Confessions, 9 to 4	May 4 5PM	Confirmation
Mar. 25	Chrism Mass, Cathedral	May 17-18	Diocesan Eucharistic Congress
Mar. 26	Seder Meal	June 2	Corpus Christi Procession
Mar. 28	Holy Thursday Mass, 7PM	July 17-21	National Eucharistic Congress
Mar. 29	Good Friday Liturgy, 1PM	Aug. 20	Solemnity of St. Bernard
Mar. 30	Easter Vigil	Aug. 21	Parish Block Party

# *From the Desk of Fr. Vasek*

Greetings,

Saturday, Saturday, Saturday (events)

This coming Saturday (16th), Father Bryan is leading a retreat day for the parish – retreats aren't just for youth – I hope you can join!

The following Saturday (23rd), I will be in the confessional every hour on the hour. Each Catholic is to confess their sins at least once per year – come along if you haven't been to confession for a bit.

The following Saturday (30th), we will celebrate the Easter Vigil!

Below is a summary of the last finance council meeting.

Grace and Peace,

Father Vasek

Finance Council Meeting Notes

Feb 21, 2024

Financial Summary end of January

Income: Actual: \$963,966; Budgeted: \$890,483

Expense: Actual: \$886,116; Budgeted: \$886,983

Net Income: Actual: \$77,850; Budgeted: \$3,500

Sacrificial Giving: Actual: \$428,997; Budgeted: \$374,488

Discussion about gathering the parish together to establish strategic vision for the future, incorporating the building project and school expansion into a full vision for the mission of the parish. Springtime '24 preparation for a Fall '24 plenary planning initiative.

SBIB update given. Some elements delayed (elevator, roofing). Projected finish around June. \$1M loan has been received from the Diocese to cover the campaign shortfall.

Conversation to begin about space allocation for parish and school usage during the next number of years.

Migration and consolidation of various databases into united software called Parish Soft.

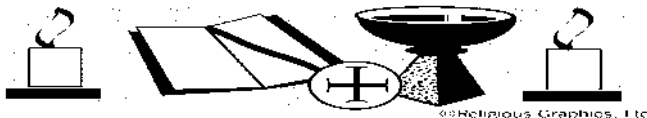
## Mar 16 & 17 Weekend Ministry Schedule

Ministry	Sat 5PM Mass	Sun 9AM Mass
Accompanist	Kristi LaSalle	Laura Brickson
Cantor	Darryl Tveitbakk	Jill Kruta
Hospitality	Tom Pederson Bruce Skalsky Carl Bruzek Laura Williams	Marge Miller Rick Reiersen Robert Wald Kevin Yaggie
Sacristan	Tate Sorvig	Charlie Vogel
Ministry Captain	Dave Bennett	Tevia Strand
EMHC	Arlene Thune Chuck Walrath	Marie Weets Mark Yuska
Lector	Rob Burkel	Steve Olson
Commentator	Chris Bruggeman	Mark Christiansen
Alter Servers	Harlow Bruggeman	Kayzlee Strand
Technology	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Kayden Scholin

# Faith Formation

## Religious Education Schedule

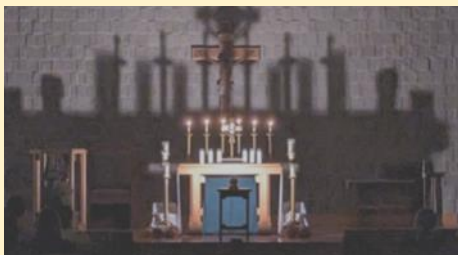
March 13- 6:30 pm Grades 6 & 7 RE  
March 17 - 10:15 am Sunday School  
March 20 - EXALT  
March 27- No Middle School RE- Holy Week  
March 31 - No Sunday School - Happy Easter!  
April 3 - 6:30 pm -Grades 6 & 8 RE  
April 7- 10:15 am Sunday School  
April 10 - 6:30 pm Grades 6 & 7 RE  
April 14- 10:15 am Sunday School



## Exalt: March 20

Exalt is an opportunity to step out of our busy lives and rest in the refuge of the Heart of Jesus, present in the Blessed Sacrament through preaching, guided prayer and music.

Dinner begins at 5:45 PM in the parish hall and preaching begins at 6:30 PM in the Church. All are invited.



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Formed is available St. Bernard's parishioners for FREE. Visit [formed.org](http://formed.org) and search for St. Bernard's parish to sign-up for an account. You can view content on your web browser or on the free app available on Android, iOS, Roku and Apple TV devices!

CHRIST  
the power & wisdom  
of GOD

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## 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](http://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 8thgrade 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.mehrakens@stbernardstrf.com](mailto:misty.mehrakens@stbernardstrf.com) if you have any questions!

## St. Bernard's Podcast



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

## 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](mailto:Carolyn.holecek@stbernardstrf.com) or call the parish office.

# Stewardship

## Sunday Stewardship March 2 & 3

Weekly Offertory Budget	\$ 11,231.00
Weekly Offertory Total	\$ 11,193.00
Fiscal Year-To-Date Offertory Budget (Through Feb.)	\$385,647
Fiscal Year-To-Date Offertory Total (Through Feb.)	\$415,984

## St. Bernard's Building Campaign

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



## *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**.  
As of Feb. 14, **\$11,377** has been given by 42 donors.

Visit [www.crookston.org/DAA](http://www.crookston.org/DAA) or scan the QR code to 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, Matthew Kaiser, Jan Kramer, Roger Amundson

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](mailto: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 March

### For new martyrs

We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

## 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](http://stbernardscc.weadorehim.com)



In today's Gospel, God demonstrates great love for us by sending his Son so that we may believe in him. We demonstrate our great love for God by doing good works: reaching out to others, acting in justice and charity.

**Through your donations, you are performing a good work; far greater than you think, and any amount given to St Bernards St Vincent de Paul is used to help our local community.**

St. Bernard's Quilters will meet Wednesday, March 13, 2024, from 10 AM to 2:30 PM in the Parish Hall. Any skill level is welcome. If you have questions, call Donna Koehmstedt at (218) 681-2921



QUILTING GROUP



*LORD, YOU HAVE THE WORDS  
OF EVERLASTING LIFE*

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## LITURGICAL ITEMS

### *Sanctuary: The Tabernacle*

After the altar, the tabernacle is the primary and most distinctive fixture of every Catholic Church. The tabernacle is a cabinet or box, usually made of gold, the purpose of which is to keep undistributed Hosts after Communion. Its shape and size varies from the very simple, to the extremely ornate. There is often a red lamp in the vicinity of the tabernacle, reminding the Faithful that the Lord is truly present.

After the first Pentecost, when celebrating Mass, the first Christians knew that they could not simply dispose of leftover Eucharistic bread because it wasn't bread, it was the actual Body of Christ. During this early period, Christians were persecuted and did not have church buildings, so any Eucharist remaining after Mass was distributed amongst the Faithful to be carried to the sick and home-bound where it would be consumed.

After Christianity was legalized, churches were erected and tabernacles began to be used to hold what remained of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass. The earliest examples were often shaped like gold doves within suspended over the altar. By the Middle Ages various methods of reserving the Blessed Sacrament had developed: cabinets in the sacristy, cupboards or towers in the wall of the sanctuary, in doves or pyxes hanging over the altar, upon the altar itself in a pyx, or in small cupboards arranged in the reredos (the large decorative altar piece standing behind the altar). During the 17th century, more specific guidelines were laid down regarding tabernacles and they began to resemble what are found in Catholic churches today.

While the original intention of the tabernacle was to reserve the Blessed Sacrament for the sick, as the Church's understanding and appreciation of the Real Presence deepened, they became places for silent contemplation and adoration of the Lord in the Eucharist. For this reason, the Catechism states that tabernacles should be located in a worthy place in the church and constructed in such a way as to emphasize and manifest the truth of the Real Presence.

With the exception of the time between Holy Thursday and the Easter Vigil, when the tabernacle is empty, the Lord is always present in the tabernacle, and so Catholics who are able to should genuflect every time they pass the tabernacle as a sign of honor to Christ the King.



## 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 [stbernardscc.org](http://stbernardscc.org) or by calling the parish office at (218) 681-3571.

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).



## 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](mailto:charlie.vogel@stbernardstrf.com). Below are my scheduled appointment hours.

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

## View the E-Bulletin!

Would you rather view the bulletin in a digital format?

Check out the e-bulletin at [stbernardscc.org](http://stbernardscc.org) or in the myParish app!

Search for **myParish** on the App Store or Google Play to download our app today!



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

## Easter Environment at Saint Bernard's

If you would like to contribute a gift in honor or memory of a loved one for the Easter Environment in the Sanctuary, complete this offering form. Place it with your gift in the offering basket at Mass or send it to the parish office: 105 Knight Ave N, Thief River Falls, MN.

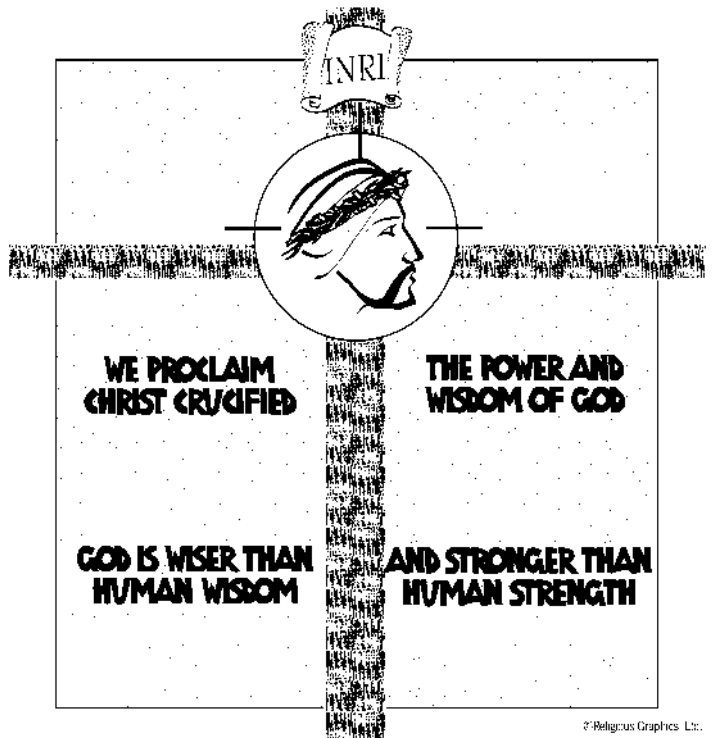
Gifts received by March 24 (Palm Sunday) will have the name of the honoree or memorial published in the bulletin for Easter Sunday.

Name of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

This gift is in *honor/memory* (circle one) of:

Amount of Gift: \$ \_\_\_\_\_





# *Day of Grace Confessions*

*Saturday, March 23*

*9am - 4pm*

*Confessions will begin on the hour and be heard until the Confession line ends. Confessions will begin again at the beginning of the next hour.*

*Examinations of Conscience are available in the Church and on the myParish App under the Confession tab.*



# Holy Triduum and Easter Liturgies

## **Thursday, March 28**

Mass of the Lord's Supper

*7:00 PM – Church*

Adoration at the Altar of Repose

*8:30 PM to 10:00 PM – Parish Hall*

Tenebrae (Liturgy of the Hours)

*9:45 PM – Church*

## **Friday, March 29**

Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord

*1:00 PM – Church*

Tenebrae (Liturgy of the Hours)

*9:45 PM – Church*

## **Saturday, March 30**

Easter Vigil Mass

*8:00 PM – Church*

## **Sunday, March 31**

Easter Mass

*9:00 AM – Church*



<p><b>Mobile Elite Pressure Washing</b>  <b>Nathan Bennett – 218-686-8422</b>  <a href="mailto:mobilelitepw@gmail.com">mobilelitepw@gmail.com</a> &amp; on Facebook  <b>Farm–Home–Commercial–Industrial</b></p> <p>Free Quotes</p>	 <p>CELEBRATING  A CENTURY  OF CATHOLIC  EDUCATION</p>	 <p>218-683-6930</p>
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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.**