



St. Bernard's Catholic Church

3rd Sunday of Easter

April 14, 2024

Contact St. Bernard's

105 Knight Ave. N.
Thief River Falls, MN 56701

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

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

www.stbernardscc.org

Our Parish Staff

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

School Office Personnel

- Laura Brickson**, Principal
- Rebecca Peralta**, Office Administrator

Holy Mass Schedule

Tuesday	8:00 AM
Wednesday	5:15 PM
Thursday	8:00 AM
Friday	8:30 AM School Mass
Saturday	8:30 AM 1st Sat. of the month 5:00 PM
Sunday	9:00 AM

Confession Schedule

Tuesday	7:30-7:50 AM
Wednesday	4:45-5:05 PM
Thursday	7:30-7:50 AM
Friday	8:00-8:20 AM
Saturday	4:00-4:50 PM
Sunday	8:00-8:50 AM

See the weekly Mass schedule in the bulletin for any changes to the standard schedule.

From Fr. Vasek





Greetings,

Please read the included update letter regarding our building project, strategic plan, and property purchase. There is an invitation to join me after Mass next weekend to receive updates and for you to provide feedback or ask any questions you like.

As mentioned before, I am gone many of the weekdays this month. This week (Mon-Thurs), I join the priests of the Diocese for our annual priest convocation in Bemidji. We will be receiving presentations from *Divine Renovation*, a group helping parishes move out of ruts (simple maintenance) into a more outward, inviting, evangelization-focused mode of life (mission). All the priests are receiving these presentations, and this method of parish thought is at the center of Bishop Cozzens' plan for the future of the Diocese. A way I have been speaking of this since I arrived is that we have about 500 people coming to Mass on any given weekend. However, there are 13,000 people in our area. What needs to happen so that those 13,000 have a clear invitation to live their lives in union with the Christian life of St. Bernard's church? Whatever the answers might be, let's explore them together! You can find out more about the teachings I will receive this week at the website: www.divinerenovation.org.

Grace and Peace,
Father Vasek

WAYS TO CONNECT AT ST. BERNARD'S

CONNECT	LITURGY	PRAYER	COMMUNITY
<p>Become a Parishioner</p> <p>If you aren't already registered at St. Bernard's, we encourage you to register by stopping by the parish office or registering on the website:</p> <p>https://www.stbernardsc.org/parish-registration</p> 	<p>Get Involved at Mass</p> <p>There are many liturgical and music ministries to participate in at Mass. To get involved in liturgical or music ministries, call Margaret Rasmussen at 218-681-3571 (option 4).</p> 	<p>Eucharistic Adoration</p> <p>Spending an hour each week with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is a great way to grow your interior life. Commit to an hour by visiting:</p> <p>stbernardsc.org/weadorehim.com</p> 	<p>Small Groups and Organizations</p> <p>If you are interested in joining or starting a small group, or would like to get involved in one of the many organizations at St. Bernard's, contact the parish office at 218-681-3571</p> 

WAYS TO GIVE AT ST. BERNARD'S

Give at Mass during the offertory



Mail it in or stop by the parish office



Visit <https://bit.ly/StBernardGiving>



April 6 & 7 Collection
\$13,615.90
 Weekly Target: \$11,231.00

FY To Date Actual: \$452,017
 FY To Date Budget: \$440,740

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION & FACILITY USE

Baptism

If you are preparing to have your child baptized, please call the parish office at 218-681-3571 (Option 2) to schedule a Baptism Preparation class with Fr. Vasek.

Adults seeking Baptism can contact the OCIA Coordinator, Carolyn Holecek, at 218-681-3571 (Option 6).

First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation

Preparation for First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation are coordinated by the St. Bernard's Religious Education program. To enroll your child, please contact Margaret Rasmussen at 218-681-3571 (Option 4).

Adults seeking these Sacraments can contact the OCIA Coordinator, Carolyn Holecek, at 218-681-3571 (Option 6).

Holy Matrimony

If you are planning a wedding, please contact the parish office at 218-681-3571 (Option 2) at least 6 months in advance to reserve the wedding date and to begin Marriage Preparation with Fr. Vasek.

Anointing of the Sick & Last Rites

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is available for those suffering an illness or preparing for serious surgery.

Last Rites (Confession and Holy Communion) are given when death is imminent. If your loved one is in need of Last Rites, contact the parish office as soon as possible, even if there are family members who have not arrived yet.

Facility Usage

If you would like to reserve a parish space for parish or non-parish related activities, contact Norm Betland at 218-681-3571 (Option 2) for more information.

THIS WEEK AT ST. BERNARD'S

Monday, April 15

4-8 PM OCIA, Rectory Mtg. Rm.

Tuesday, April 16

3 AM-10 PM Adoration, Sanctuary

Wednesday, April 17

7 AM Finance Council, Rectory Mtg. Rm.

4-10 PM Adoration, Sanctuary

6:30-8 PM RE, Grades 6 & 8

8 PM Cursillo Men's Group, Parish Library

Thursday, April 18

4 AM-10 PM Adoration, Sanctuary

8:30 AM-12 PM OCIA, Rectory Mtg. Rm.

9:30 AM Bible Study, Parish Library

12 PM Cursillo Men's Group, Rectory Mtg. Rm.

4-8 PM OCIA, Rectory Mtg. Rm.

6PM SBIB Thank You Meeting, Parish Hall

Friday April 19

4-5:30 PM OCIA, Rectory Mtg. Rm.

10AM Oakland Park Communion Service

Saturday, April 20

5PM Online Giving Platform Launch @ Mass

6PM Rectory/Capital Campaign Meeting, Parish Hall

Sunday, April 21

9AM Online Giving Platform Launch @ Mass

10AM Rectory/Capital Campaign Meeting, Parish Hall

10 AM Pastries and Coffee, Parish Hall

10:15 AM Sunday School

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Monday, April 15

Monday of the 3rd Week in Easter

No Mass

Tuesday, April 16

Tuesday of the 3rd Week in Easter

No Mass

Wednesday, April 17

Wednesday of the 3rd Week in Easter

No Mass

Thursday, April 18

Thursday of the 3rd Week in Easter

7:30 AM Confession

8:00 AM Mass.....Carol Lambert

Friday, April 19

Friday of the 3rd Week in Easter

8:00 AM Confession

8:30 AM Mass.....+Pat Ueland Lambert

Saturday, April 20

Saturday of the 3rd Week in Easter

4:00 PM Confession

5:00 PM Mass.....+Joe Kotok

Sunday, April 21

Fourth Sunday in Easter

8:00 AM Confession

9:00 AM Mass.....Pro Populo

Visit <https://bible.usccb.org/> to read the Mass readings each day. You can also sign up to have the readings sent to your inbox each morning!

Prayer Intentions

The Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for April

For the role of women: We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

April Devotion in Honor of the Blessed Sacrament

Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore You profoundly. I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference by which He is offended. And, through the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of You the conversion of sinners.

For the Members of our Parish

Ray Hedlund, Matthew Kaiser, Jan Kramer, Roger Amundson, John Barry, John Wawrzyniak, Jim Breth, Carole Glass, Jackie Hunt

Call Norm at the Parish Office to add or remove a name from the list.

For the Seminarians of the Diocese of Crookston

Lawrence Wirries, Tim Guidry, Jon Stone, and Westin Gourneau

Envelopes for Mass intentions are available in the Gathering Space. Intentions can be placed in the offertory or mailed/dropped off at the parish office. Please indicate intentions for a deceased individual with a "+" in front of their name. Masses can be requested up to one year in advance. Masses are currently scheduled out about 4 months and requested dates are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. The customary offering for a Mass intention is \$10.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. Bernard's Marvelous May Raffle tickets are now available! Tickets are only \$10 and there are 31 days of giveaways. Winning tickets are thrown back in the pot, so you have 30 chances to win up to \$3,400 in prizes!!! All the proceeds support St. Bernard's School.

The Boots & Bling Gala was a great success. A heartfelt thank you to all who supported the school at the gala! Your volunteering, auction participation, prize donations, and prayers have been instrumental in this success and your efforts are truly valued and appreciated. Your generosity raised more than \$35,000 for our Fund-A-Need Teacher & Staff Salary Endowment, which will be used to support the salaries of our dedicated and deserving teachers and staff. If you would like to contribute to this cause, contact our Advancement Director, Charlie Vogel at 218-681-3571 (option 7). Overall an estimated \$70,000 was raised at the gala!!!

First Communion at St. Bernard's is scheduled for the 9 AM Mass on Sunday, April 28. There will be 27 children receiving the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of the Lord at this Mass. Please consider attending this Mass to celebrate this joyous occasion.

The Annual Knights of Columbus will be held on Sunday, April 28. Social starts at 5:30PM and a catered meal will begin at 6PM. Fr. Vasek will be the featured speaker. Scholarships and the Knight and Family of the Year recognition will be awarded. Tickets are \$20 and are available in advance at a discount.

Confirmation at St. Bernard's is scheduled for the 5 PM Mass on Saturday, May 4. Bishop Cozzens will preside and administer this Sacrament for 22 of our young adults, which seals the soul with the Holy Spirit, completing what began at Baptism. Please consider attending this Mass to celebrate this moment.

The Star of the North Eucharistic Congress is May 17 and 18 at the Sanford Center in Bemidji. A collaboration between the Dioceses of Crookston and Duluth, it kicks off the Marian Route of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage at Lake Itasca. The Eucharistic Congress will inspire the faithful to increase their devotion in the Eucharist through powerful talk, testimonies, panels, fellowship, praise and worship, Mass, adoration, confession, and a Eucharistic Procession. Speakers include Bishop Barron, Fr. Mike Schmitz, Sr. Jude Andrew Link, OP, Christina Lamas, Tanner Kalina, Aly Aleigha and Hallow. This event is for the entire family! Register soon as spaces are limited. For more information and to register visit CrookstonEucharist.org.

Dedication of the New Altar will take place at the Saturday, May 25, weekend Mass. Bishop Cozzens will preside over dedication and consecration our new altar. Altar dedications usually only happen once-in-a-lifetime, so all are encouraged to attend this special Mass.

Check out the St. Bernard's Podcast where you can listen to homilies, Bible studies, and more. Visit stbernards.podbean.com to subscribe.

For the latest youth news, please visit bit.ly/StBYouthNews

To request an announcement in the bulletin, please visit <https://bit.ly/StBBulletinReq>

"He gives Himself as prize and reward: He is the refreshment of holy soul, the ransom of those in captivity."

-St. Bernard of Clairvaux

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 A CENTURY
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St. Bernard's Catholic Community

105 Knight Avenue North
Thief River Falls, MN. 56701
218-681-3571

April 12, 2024

RE: St. Bernard's is Building / Strategic Planning / Rectory

Greetings,

As the new entry nears completion, I write with an update and invitation to gather.

St. Bernard's is Building

On April 18th, I will gather with those who filled the various committees for *St. Bernard's is Building* (SBIB). Much has happened from 2017 until 2024; some committees met for a time, some committees ran their course, and some committees simplified down to a few key volunteers who have carried much of the project's weight over the past years.

Since I arrived in July, there has been a standing bi-weekly construction meeting with architects, contractors, workers, and key delegates on behalf of St. Bernard's. I want to thank those who assisted with what has come to be known as *SBIB 1A*. I welcome hearing from them about their experience from 2017-2024, give an update regarding where we are now and what comes next.

On April 20th and 21st, after the Masses, I want to give the same update to the whole parish regarding where we have been, where we are now, and what comes next. Please plan to stay after Mass to spend time together.

National Advisory Council (Strategic Planning)

As I mentioned in my previous letter to the parish (Jan 26th), we will be making use of a *National Advisory Council* (NAC) this year to plan for the future. What is this? In short, it is us. We will bring together delegates from the parish, finance council, pastoral council, faith formation committee, school advisory council, parish and school staff, as well as those who may have moved away (hence the term 'national'), such as alumni, parents of alumni, at-large parishioners, many of whom still have much to contribute to our future. The chairpersons for this will be selected this Spring, consultations with the full parish will take place during the summer, and the formal meeting for the NAC will be this Fall. It will at that Fall gathering that full plans emerge for the future of our parish, school, and building project.

Rectory Purchase

It is my joy to share with you a happy development. I mentioned in the Jan 26th letter that I came to St. Bernard's knowing that a different rectory would need to be in place. The single-largest hesitation for the building project were responses from parishioners that there wasn't going to be an on-site rectory for the priest. God has blessed us. The property immediately across the street, known to many as "the former convent," has become available to serve as the next rectory of St. Bernard's. This allows for the building project to continue and for the priest to remain 'on-site'. We've studied the property: it's in great structural shape, and, even though it is a bit smaller than the current rectory, the house will be ample enough for our current needs. It allows the priest some privacy as well as immediate proximity to the parish. We've been working quietly on the rectory purchase for a few months, speaking internally with the finance council, pastoral council, and the buildings and grounds committee, to make sure we would move forward with the purchase. I've been working with our advancement director, Charlie Vogel, to fundraise the necessary \$150,000 to purchase the rectory. I am aware that the word has started to get out about the purchase, so it seems best to let you know where it stands at present. A purchase agreement is being signed and the 'former convent' will be purchased as the next rectory. We have about \$100,000 of the needed \$150,000 pledged or in hand already.

The *location* and the *timing* couldn't have been better. The *location* is perfect because it allows St. Bernard's to expand its physical campus, otherwise land-locked, with the priest 'on-site'. The *timing* is perfect because the parish and school are in need of space. It is often the case that Bible study groups, committees, or others have difficulty finding places to meet on site. Having the priest out of the current rectory opens up the quite large space (2 stories and basement) to parish meetings, staff offices, or school use, until the building project continues.

I will also want to share with you our increasing school enrollment trends and projections, more about the structure of the NAC, and how you can be involved going forward. I look forward to being with you, to share where we are, to hear from you, and to continue building up the Body of Christ in Pennington County.

Grace and Peace,



Father Vasek

St. Bernard's **MARVELOUS MAY RAFFLE**

31 Days of Amazing Giveaways!
TICKETS ARE ONLY \$10

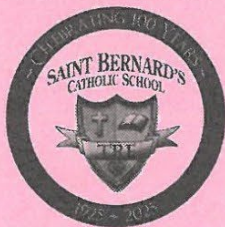
THE DAILY WINNING TICKET IS THROWN BACK INTO THE POT
SO YOU HAVE 30 CHANCES TO WIN! \$3400 IN PRIZES!

\$10

ST. BERNARD'S SCHOOL

\$10

MARVELOUS MAY! MONTH OF MONEY RAFFLE



Prizes:

20 – \$50.00 (\$1000)	9 – \$100 (\$900)
1 – \$500 (\$500)	1 – \$1000 (\$1000)
(Total: \$3400)	

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Drawing at 9:30 AM, Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Must be 18 years or older to purchase. Winner is responsible to pay any applicable fees or taxes.
3,500 tickets sold. Need not be present to win. Gaming License number: #X-57001

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR SCHOOL!



BOOTS & *Bling*

St. Bernard's Spring Gala

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

A heartfelt thank you to all who supported St. Bernard's School at our recent "Boots & Bling" Gala! Your contributions through volunteering, attending, participating in auctions, donating prizes, or offering prayers have been instrumental in making this event a success. Your efforts are truly valued and appreciated!



Fund-A-Need: Teach & Staff Salary Endowment

Thanks to your generosity, we have raised more than \$35,000. This amount will help us create an endowment fund to support the salaries of our dedicated and deserving teachers and staff. To contribute to this cause, please reach out to our Advancement Director, Charlie Vogel.



\$70,000!

*estimated raised from the Gala and Fund-A-Need