

DEC 18, 2016

4th Sunday of ADVENT



Welcome and inspire
all to share Christ's love
through faith and service.



1617 W. Pine Street | Appleton, WI 54914 | (920) 739-0331

MASS:

SAT 4:30 PM
SUN 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM
TUE 8:00 AM
WED 8:00 AM
THU 8:00 AM
FRI 8:00 AM

PRIEST:

FR. DENNIS RYAN

DEACONS:

MIKE EASH
DON NASS
MAURY REED
JOE VANG
BOB VINCENT

CONNECT:

ONLINE

stbernardappleton.org

FACEBOOK

[stbernardappleton](https://www.facebook.com/stbernardappleton)

EMAIL

stbernard@stbernardappleton.org

DEAR PARISHIONERS...



I invite you, your family, and friends to Celebrate Christmas at St. Bernard Parish.
Father Dennis Ryan

December 24, Christmas Eve

*4:00 pm Mass

Children & Family Mass. This Mass features our Children's Choir and Nativity Pageant.

Concert begins at 3:30 pm.

*Bring a bell to this Mass to ring during the Glory to God.

December 24, Christmas Eve

10:00 pm Mass

This Mass offers the beautiful music of our Adult Choir.

Concert begins at 9:30 pm. Incense will be used.

December 25

Christmas Day Masses

8:00 am

10:00 am

These Masses share in the joy of Christmas Day with various musical groups.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 17

4:30 pm In Memory of Richard Faltynski
AND Members of St. Bernard

Sunday, December 18

8:00 am In Memory of Donna Garvey
10:00 am In Memory of Hub Berg

Tuesday, December 20

8:00 am In Memory of Francis Rechner

Wednesday, December 21

8:00 am In Memory of Bob Schattl

Thursday, December 22

8:00 am In Memory of Ken Koehnke

Friday, December 23

8:00 am Deceased Members of the Irving Vincent Family

Saturday, December 24

4:00 pm In Memory of Daniel Schnettler
10:00 pm In Memory of George & Julia Dorner

Sunday, December 25

8:00 am For the Living & Deceased Members of the Don & Helen Alferi Family
AND Members of St. Bernard
10:00 am In Memory of Ronald Beschta

SYMPATHY & PRAYERS

Sympathy and prayers are extended to the Families of the deceased.

- Our Parishioner, Marian Matsche
- Our Parishioner, Michael Murphy

SUN 18

8:00 am Mass
10:00 am Mass

MON 19

1:00 pm Renew Group Small Group Rm.
6:00 pm Adult Education Small Group Rm.

TUE 20

8:00 am Mass
8:30 am Stretch N Tone Act. Ctr.
9:00 am Small Group Study Small Group Rm.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Christmas song, "The Twelve Days of Christmas," is a rhyme set to music, but it had a quite serious purpose when it was written. The song, written in England as a "catechism songs" to help young Catholics learn the tenets of their faith. The songs gifts have hidden meanings to the teachings of the faith. To read more, go to *Catholic Online*.

The symbols meaning:

- 1 Partridge in a Pear Tree = Jesus Christ, Son of God
- 2 Turtle Doves = The Old and New Testaments
- 3 French Hens = Faith, Hope and Charity, the Theological Virtues
- 4 Calling Birds = the Four Gospels and/or the Four Evangelists
- 5 Golden Rings = The first Five Books of the Old Testament, the "Pentateuch," which gives the history of man's fall from grace.
- 6 Geese A-laying = the six days of creation
- 7 Swans A-swimming = the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the seven sacraments
- 8 Maids A-milking = the eight beatitudes
- 9 Ladies Dancing = the nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit
- 10 Lords A-leaping = the ten commandments
- 11 Pipers Piping = the eleven faithful apostles
- 12 Drummers Drumming = the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostle's Creed Source Catholic Online

YOUTH & ADULT FORMATION

Dear Parents,

Entrusting your sons and daughters to our care, we are grateful to partner with you to raise disciples of Jesus. May our patient waiting and growing excitement this Advent season burst forth with joy on Christmas Day, when Jesus breaks through the darkness and brings light and hope to our families and world!

Maurine & Deb

Mark Your Calendars!

The Youth of St. Bernard Parish are having their annual Chili Bowl the weekend of January 28 & 29. Quarts of delicious chili will be sold after all Masses or while supplies last. Pre-orders help ensure you won't miss this great opportunity! To pre-order, please call 739-8912.

ADULT

Advent/Lent Book Study Group

Have you ever found it difficult to live your faith out in the "real world?" If so, this book group could be for you! *Life on the Vine* by Philip Kenneson explores the gifts of the Holy Spirit in relation to living in today's culture and offers real examples of how it is possible to live out our faith in the midst of our everyday lives. This will be an online St. Bernard Parish study group using Facebook. Please contact Deacon Mike if you are interested and he will forward the details! meash@stbernardappleton.org

The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation *The Bible Timeline* is a fascinating study that takes participants on a journey through the entire Bible. We will go deep into each period of salvation history and discover the amazing story woven throughout all of Scripture. Jeff Cavins provides great instruction throughout this series.

Join us Monday Nights from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm starting January 9 for 12 weeks. We will viewing two sessions each night. Please bring your bible. Sign up in the Narthex after Mass or call Colleen at 739-0331. If you miss a week videos are available during the week to catch up.

CHURCH POLICY

St. Bernard Severe Weather Policies

Mass is **NEVER** canceled. Our Parish Office closes if severe weather is predicted or is occurring.

WED 21

8:00 am	Mass	
1:00 pm	Prayer Shawl	Lounge
4:30 pm & 6:30 pm	Gr. K-8 Gr. 9-11 Faith Formation	
5:30 pm	Café	Parish Hall
6:30 pm	Adult Choir	Music Rm.

THU 22

8:00 am	Mass	
6:30 pm	Handbell Practice	Music Rm.

FRI 23

8:00 am	Mass	
8:30 am	Stretch N Tone	Act. Ctr.
10:00 am	Mom's Group	Nursery

COMMUNITY

Deductible Contributions for 2016

In accordance with IRS rules, contributions are deductible in the year that they are made. To receive credit for your donations in 2016, they must be placed in the collection, brought to our Parish Office, or made online on or before December 31. Our office closes at noon on December 30. Any stock transactions to the Parish must take place with your stockbroker on or before Friday, December 30. Donations received after December 31, 2016 will not appear on your 2016 contribution statement even if dated in 2016 and/or made in a "2016 giving envelope."

St. Bernard Parish Capital Campaign Events/Informational Meetings

Wednesday, January 18, 9:00 am-Buffer Breakfast

Wednesday, January 18, 5:30 pm-Pizza Party

Thursday, January 19, 6:30 pm-Refreshments and Hors d'oeuvres

Save The Dates..Watch for more information.

The Ladies of St. Bernard Charity Grant Applications

for 2017 are available in our Parish Office. Please complete the form by Friday, December 30. For more information, call Lynn at 540-0384.

SCRIP Cards Make Wonderful Christmas Gifts and Stocking Stuffers. Visit our SCRIP table after Mass and see the merchants that participate. You will be amazed. Didn't find what you are looking for? We can order cards from hundreds of other merchants and have them available the following weekend.

St. Bernard Snow Birds

If you will be going to warmer climates for a few months, please call our Parish Office at 739-0331 and let us know what your "winter address" is.

Our Parish Office will be closed

Monday, December 26 and Monday, January 2.

We will resume our normal business hours on Tuesday, January 3.

EVANGELIZATION

Did you know putting up a crèche (nativity scene) is evangelizing? When friends, family, and neighbors come over for the holidays, talk to them about your nativity scene and its importance to your family. You never know, it might inspire them to put up a nativity scene.

Source: USCCB 2016

History of the crèche (Nativity Scene)

St. Francis of Assisi is credited with popularizing the crèche tradition. On December 24, 1223, he reenacted the birth of Christ inside a cave just outside the Italian city of Greccio (in the region of Lazio). St. Bonaventure described what occurred that night in his writings titled, *The Life of Saint Francis of Assisi*, in 1263. According to St. Bonaventure, St. Francis was preparing to celebrate midnight mass in the chapel of the Franciscan friary, when he realized that the space was too small to accommodate all the people expected to attend mass. He found a more suitable space in a nearby cave and set up an altar. In order to make the celebration more meaningful, St. Francis decided to prepare a manger, fill it with hay and add an ox and a donkey. Crowds of people flocked to the area and soon the area was filled with candlelight and with the sounds of prayers being recited and the singing of psalms. St. Francis stood before the manger "bathed in tears and radiant with joy" as he recited the Gospels and preached about the birth of Christ. Then to the amazement of all, the vision of the Christ child appeared in the manger. The experience was so profound that a former soldier witnessing the event Master John of Greccio described it as: "St. Francis beheld an Infant marvelously beautiful, sleeping in the manger, whom the blessed Father Francis embraced with both his arms..." From that moment on, the tradition of displaying a nativity scene began to take a stronghold, first in churches, monasteries, and convents, and then in private residences. Source: Catholicfaithstore.com

SAT 24

9:00 am Reconciliation Church
 3:30 pm Children's Church
 Christmas Concert
 4:00 pm Mass
 9:30 pm Adult Choir Church
 Concert
 10:00 pm Mass
 Incense Used

SUN 25

8:00 am Mass
 10:00 am Mass
 Music
 15 minutes
 before Mass

WORSHIP

Liturgy Factsoids

- Did you know the readings are God speaking to us directly?
- Did you know the Responsorial Psalms are a group of songs thought to be prayers from King David?
- Did you know the word Creed comes from the Latin word "credo," which means "I believe"?

In the Liturgy of the Word portion of the Mass, we first are fed by God's Word speaking to us today. Almost all of the New Testament and much of the Old Testament is spoken throughout the three year cycle of readings. In the Psalms we discover that human emotions have not changed throughout the years. Listen for the prayers of anger, despair, trust, praise, joy, and hope!

As a community we profess our beliefs and values in the Creed, which means "I believe" in Latin. We gather all our prayers, claim them as our own and then present them to God.

FROM MASS TO MISSION

Is Mass exciting or boring?

A source of energy or an obligation?

All are invited to be part of the **From Mass to Mission learning sessions**. Our Parish Worship Committee invites you to explore the Mass in a deeper way through a special six-part experience called **"From Mass to Mission: Understanding the Mass and Its Significance For Our Christian Life."** Participants will pray together, share faith stories, and reflect more deeply on the meaning of the Mass. We will also learn how specific parts of our Eucharistic celebrations play important roles in our daily lives.

Sessions will be held on Tuesday at 6:00 pm beginning on January 17, 2017.

Registration is \$2.00 and covers the participant booklet and related materials. Due to space, 40 spots are available, so register soon! Interested individuals can sign-up in our Parish Office, Welcome Counter or contact Rhonda at 920-739-0331 or e-mail ruschan@stbernardappleton.org

Liturgical Ministers

The new schedule for Liturgical Ministers is now available. This schedule runs from January 7 through May 7, 2017. You can access the schedule on-line or pick up a hard copy after Mass at the Welcome Counter. Hard copies are also available in our Parish Office.

Christmas Decorations Memorial Fund

Remember a loved one on Christmas with a donation to our "Christmas Decorations Memorial Fund," please fill out the form below, place it in an envelope labeled "Christmas Memorial" and put it in the collection basket or return to our Parish Office.

From: _____

Amount: _____ Envelope #: _____

In Memory of: _____

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