

# SAINT BERNARD

December 25, 2011  
Nativity of the Lord

Parish



1617 WEST PINE STREET • **APPLETON, WISCONSIN 54914**

Parish Office 739-0331/Fax 749-9771 • Faith Formation Office 739-8912 • [www.stbernardappleton.org](http://www.stbernardappleton.org)

May Peace and Hope fill your hearts this Christmas



## PARISH HAPPENINGS

**No Coffee and Donuts Sunday, December 25 or Sunday, January 1.**

**The Nursery will not be available on Sunday, December 25 or Sunday, January 1.**

### THE LADIES OF ST. BERNARD CHARITY GRANT APPLICATION

The 2012 Ladies of St. Bernard Charity Grant applications are now available at the Parish Office. The deadline for acceptance is December 29. Grants will be made at the January business meeting. If you have any questions, contact Virginia Sitter, 731-5118.

### MEN OF ST. BERNARD PARISH

Mark your calendars for the Men of St. Bernard kick-off meeting, Tuesday, January 17. Check-in is from 5:30 pm until 6:00 pm. Refreshments and dinner will be served. Please call the Parish Office and let us know that you are planning to attend.

### Help St. Bernard By Using SCRIP

Consider purchasing Scrip for the gas and groceries you purchase every week. We have the following gifts cards on hand: **Copps/Pick'nSave, Festival, Woodmans, Kwik Trip** and Express Gas. We can also pre-order for many other stores. Place your order one weekend and pick up the following weekend. To date we have raised over \$2,600. Thank you.

Volunteers are needed to help sell Scrip after weekend Masses (need only work one Mass) or at the Wednesday Night Cafe. To volunteer or for more information, call Darlene at 739-5296 or Tim at 731-2258.

### St. Bernard Gift List

The Parish maintains a Gift List which has items that are not covered in the regular budget. If you would like a copy of the Gift List, stop at the Parish Office.

Landscaping	\$300 (remainder of the cost for landscaping done this fall)
Round Folding Tables	\$155 each
Long Folding Tables	\$90 each
Cart for Folding Chairs	\$245

### Schola d'Arezzo Choir Sunday, January 8,

St. Norbert Abbey, 1016 N. Broadway, De Pere

The choir, conducted by Mark D. Falcone, will perform a concert of Gregorian Chant from the Christmas Season with a **premier performance of "Ave Maria" by composer Mark D. Falcone** sung by Karen Wochos and Rachael Verhaagh. Admission is FREE.

For more information call 920-337-4352

*Readings for Sunday, January 1*  
Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Prayer Room A group of people will be available to pray with you in the Marian Chapel after the 8:00 and 10:00 Masses.

*Every Sunday the Hmong Community gathers in the Lounge to celebrate the 10:00 am Mass.*

## MASS TIMES & MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, December 24

4:00 pm Mass Craig Wheeler  
10:00 pm Mass Living and Deceased Members of St. Bernard Parish

### Sunday, December 25 *The Nativity of the Lord*

8:00 am Mass Alice & Vernon McGinnis  
10:00 am Mass Christina Lenhardt

### Monday, December 26

*No Liturgy of the Word*

### Tuesday, December 27

8:00 am Mass Benedict & Jeanette Hoersch

### Wednesday, December 28

8:00 am Mass † Rory O'Brien

### Thursday, December 29

8:00 am Mass † Marcella Band

### Friday, December 30 *Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

8:00 am Mass Bernie Bachman  
(for the intention of)

### Saturday, December 31

4:30 pm Mass Living and Deceased Members of St. Bernard Parish

### Sunday, January 1

*Octave of Christmas*

8:00 am Mass Frank Moran  
10:00 am Mass Thomas Bedore

† Indicates the Rosary is said before or after Mass

### Mass Intentions Available

A number of Mass Intentions are available in January. Ask at the Parish Office.

### BAPTISM CLASS

Baptism class will be held on Tuesday, January 10, 6:30-8:30 pm. Families who are planning a Baptism in the near future should call or stop by the Parish Office to register for classes. All parents need to attend a preparation session before the celebration. We encourage you to attend even before your child has arrived.



Weekend Mass Times: Saturday, 4:30 pm  
Sunday, 8:00 am & 10:00 am

View the bulletin on-line at [www.stbernardappleton.org](http://www.stbernardappleton.org)

## ADULT & YOUTH NEWS

FAITH FORMATION, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28  
Christmas break, there is no Faith Formation.

### LIBRARY NEWS

St. Bernard Parish Library will be closed for the Christmas holidays, December 25, 2011 through January 2, 2012. The Library will reopen Tuesday, January 3, at 9 am. Any questions call 739-0331, ext 337 and leave a voice message or email us at [library@stbernardappleton.org](mailto:library@stbernardappleton.org) and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

### NEW SMALL GROUP STARTING IN JANUARY AFTER 50 SPIRITUALLY EMBRACING...

A new small group based on the book, "After 50 Spiritually Embracing Your Own Wisdom Years" by Robert Wicks will be held on January 22, 29 and February 5 after the 8 am Mass. The group is open to all ages but especially to those 50 and older. The book encourages readers to seek and embrace God as the center of their lives, to care for others and to nurture their lives in simple ways. To learn more, call Gerri at 739-2538.

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

### FROM THE MEN OF ST. BERNARD

Merry Christmas to you and your families from the Men of St. Bernard Parish. The Men of St. Bernard value God, Family and Faith. May God bless you and your family in this most blessed Christmas season.

### LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

All who desire a deeper personal relationship with Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ will want to attend the upcoming Life in the Spirit seminar at St. Bernard Parish. The seminar will be conducted in an atmosphere of prayer, praise and openness to the Gifts of the Holy Spirit (from 1 Corinthians 12:4-11). We will meet for eight consecutive Mondays starting January 9 - February 27, 6:30 - 8:30 pm in the Activity Center. Come to the Information session on January 9, 6:30 pm or call St. Bernard Parish, 739-0331, to register or get more information or email [jkresal@stbernardappleton.org](mailto:jkresal@stbernardappleton.org).

*I will ask the Father and He will give you another Helper who will stay with you forever. He is the Spirit, who reveals the truth about God. John 14: 16.*

Mark your calendar for  
Service Sunday, January 8 at the  
10:00 Mass

*For Unto Us a Child is Born*



### DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2011

The IRS indicates that contributions are deductible in the year made. In order to be in compliance, St. Bernard Parish must follow the IRS rules.

To receive credit for your donations given in 2011, date your check for 2011, place it in the collection or bring it to the Parish Office on or before December 30th. For a cash donation, stop in the Parish Office on or before December 30th so you can receive a receipt. For online donations, visit [www.stbernardappleton.org](http://www.stbernardappleton.org) and click on the *Online Giving* button. Remember, you must make your transaction in 2011 in order to receive credit for 2011.

Stock transactions must take place with your stock broker on or before December 30th, 2011.

## CALENDAR

Saturday, December 24

**Reconciliation, 9:00 am.....Church**  
**Alanon, 10:00 am.....Room 111**

Sunday, December 25

Monday, December 26

Parish Office is closed

Tuesday, December 27

Wednesday, December 28

Thursday, December 29

Friday, December 30

**OA Group, 10:00 am....Room 112**  
Parish Office closes at Noon

Saturday, December 31

**Alanon, 10:00 am.....Room 111**

Sunday, January 1

Monday, January 2

Parish Office and Parish Building are Closed

### December Holiday Calendar

Monday, December 26 - Parish Office is closed  
No Liturgy of the Word

Saturday, December 31 -

No 9:00 am Reconciliation

**New Years' Masses** are the regular weekend Mass times.  
Saturday, 4:30 pm and Sunday, 8 & 10 am

Monday, January 2 - Parish Office is closed

The Parish Office is Closed, Dec. 26

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday,  
Dec. 26. The building is also closed.



Please mail bulletin articles to the Parish Office, attn. K. Hanks, or email [khanks@stbernardappleton.org](mailto:khanks@stbernardappleton.org) by 5:00 pm Monday. Space is limited; we reserve the right to edit the copy.

Parish Office..... 920-739-0331  
 Faith Formation Office..... 920-739-8912  
 General email.... stbernard@stbernardappleton.org  
 Pastor..... Father Dennis Ryan  
 Deacons..... Maury Reed, Bob Vincent  
 .....Shuying (Joe) Vang and Mike Eash  
 Director of Liturgy and Music ..... Rhonda Uschan  
 Director of Faith Formation ..... Maurine Overesch  
 Elementary Coordinator ..... Kathleen McDonald  
 Youth Minister ..... Mary Snyder  
 Volunteer Coordinator..... Julie Kresal  
 Visit [www.stbernardappleton.org](http://www.stbernardappleton.org) for a complete staff listing.

*Sacraments and Prayer Needs*

Confessions..... Saturday, 9:00 am  
 Baptisms ..... Contact the Parish Office to make arrangements for classes and Baptism.  
 Wedding Arrangements made six months in advance  
 Communion Calls ..... Call the Parish Office  
 Urgent Prayer Requests  
 please contact Delaine Van Linn ..... 734-0538  
 Adult Confirmation/Becoming Catholic.....  
 please contact Father Dennis at the Parish Office  
 Nursery..... 10:00 Sunday Mass  
 Small Groups website [www.oursmallgroups.com](http://www.oursmallgroups.com)  
 Office Hours  
 Monday-Thursday ..... 8:30-5:00  
 Friday..... 8:30-Noon

**We Welcome Our Newest Members**



Kevin & Linda Schneider  
 and their children,  
 Zachary and Allison.

**RENEWING GOD’S HOUSE**

The **Renewing God’s House Capital Campaign** is intended to fund capital building and ground projects, along with establishing an ongoing fund for long term capital needs. Our current list includes:

- ♦ Air conditioning system – This has been completed and paid for.
- ♦ Pneumatic system (internal pneumatic controls used for heating and cooling). This has been completed and paid for.
- ♦ Parking Lot Repaving and Lighting – This has been completed and paid for.
- ♦ Roof replacement over the offices and classroom wing. This project will happen in the future.

As December comes to a close, year-end gifts are appreciated in helping us to reach our goal.

We thank you for supporting **Renewing God’s House** at St. Bernard Parish.

**Lighthouse CDs**

Now that we have been using the new Mass translation, perhaps you would enjoy taking home **the Lighthouse CD, “A Walk Through the New Mass Translation” by Dr. Edward SRI.**

This CD will help you to embrace more easily the changes that have occurred in the Mass.

Many other topics are available. A \$3 donation is appreciated. The CDs are located in the Narthex.



**Stewardship Reflection**

Today, we celebrate the tremendous love Christ has for us, the love that led Him to enter into human history. On that first Christmas many years ago, Jesus became man. He existed before the world was made, He, in fact, has no beginning, because He is God and, therefore, has always existed, took on humanity, became one of His mere creatures and then entered into human history.

It is a baffling mystery.

How Christ can be fully God and, at the same time, fully man is beyond our comprehension. Yet, we know that He is. That first Christmas, when Mary and Joseph welcomed the sweet baby into the world, they were, in fact, welcoming their Lord and God.

Jesus entered human history as a human being so that He could take upon Himself the sins of mankind and free us from the bonds of sin and death. He came because He loves us so much.

**It’s amazing. Our God is wonderful. His love is selfless, and it is boundless.**

So, as we sit and exchange gifts with one another in an effort to showcase our love for each other, as stewards, let us be sure to take the time to thank the Lord for the gifts He has given us, particularly the gift of His Son through whom we can attain salvation!

Merry Christmas

*“Welcome and inspire ALL to share Christ’s love through FAITH and SERVICE”*

**STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCIAL SHARING**

	Week	Fiscal YTD	Total
*Envelope	15,049	YTD Actual Envelope	354,073
Weekly Target	16,058	YTD Budget Envelope	401,442
		*Envelope Over/(Under)	(47,369)
Loose	410	YTD Loose	13,973
Budget Loose	731	YTD Budget Loose	18,269
		Loose Over/(Under)	(4,296)



*To All of our Guests  
Welcome and Merry Christmas*

We are delighted that you are here to celebrate Christmas with us and we wish you a Blessed and Merry Christmas. May peace, joy, hope and happiness be yours during this blessed season and throughout the New Year.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Fr. Dennis Ryan & Parish Staff

Dear Parishioners and Guests,

Merry Christmas to each and every one of you! I hope you enjoy good conversation and warm friendships during this season.

**I find this feast of Christmas to be incredible. Even though the events of Jesus' birth took place over 2,000 years ago, the message is still very clear; Jesus came into the world to bring hope, love and forgiveness. The Holy Family - Joseph, baby Jesus and the Blessed Virgin Mary - offers an insight into the distinctive characteristics we are to be living by today.**

**Joseph's spiritual leadership is formed by prayer and divine guidance and expresses the strengths of insight and patience. Many challenges threaten his family: having to leave home, having a baby that questions his relationship to his fiancée, having no place for Mary to give birth and the threats of death given by Herod. These are only some of the evil attacks confronting the young family. What challenges this past year have confronted your family, your spiritual life and your relationship with Jesus?**

People had waited for the birth of the savior for centuries. They were looking for a messiah, a savior who would lift them out of their darkness. Jesus, the messiah, came into the world with a mission of restoring love and forgiveness. He invites each person to live their life by using the same principles of love and forgiveness that He lived and taught. Joseph and Mary had many trials thrown at them but they never turned away from God. We also may have **struggles that challenge us, but we need to embrace Jesus' examples** as we seek our way to heaven.

Jesus was born of Mary. He was wrapped in swaddling clothes, or shall we say, **completely wrapped in the Father's love** and was placed with his stepfather, Joseph, and mother Mary in an earthly family relationship. Their relationships, their work and **their family life centered on commitment to God's ways of living.** What activities can you and your family do together that will help you to grow in charity, understanding and support of one another and your neighbors?

Our parish is built on the life and mission of Jesus. Our **mission statement reads, "Welcome and Inspire all to share Christ's love through faith and service."** These principles when lived create within us a life of stewardship that is finding God in the midst of everything we do. May we together carry on the mission of Jesus during this Christmas Season and throughout the year.

Merry Christmas,  
Fr. Dennis Ryan

