

SAINT BERNARD

December 4, 2011
Second Sunday of Advent

Parish



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

Parish Office 739-0331/Fax 749-9771 • Faith Formation Office 739-8912 • www.stbernardappleton.org



*Prepare for
the Lord*

• John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me."

Mk 1:4, 6-7a

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 for a complete staff listing.

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

SURRENDER

We are invited to
accept God's
invitation and
surrender to
His message.

R S V P

Sacraments and Prayer Needs

Confessions.....Saturday, 9:00 am
BaptismsContact 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
Office Hours
Monday-Thursday8:30-5:00
Friday.....8:30-Noon

PARISH HAPPENINGS

ANGEL TREE

Thank you to all who picked up angels and purchased gifts for the children of prison inmates. All gifts are to be wrapped and returned by Monday, December 5 to the Parish Office.

Volunteers are still needed to deliver the gifts. About 60% are delivered locally. If you are interested in helping deliver the gifts, contact Don at 733-2170.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR THE RELIGIOUS

The envelope in your bulletin today is for the retirement fund for the religious. This retirement fund is for our senior Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests who have offered their lives in service to others. Please give generously. The collection will be taken next week or you may drop off your envelope at the Parish Office.

Surviving the Holidays

No matter how long it's been since your loved one died, grief can make the holidays a painful time. Join us for an encouraging seminar at St. Bernard Parish that will help you survive the holidays and discover new reasons to enjoy them again. For more information call the Parish Office or visit www.stbernardappleton.org. The seminar will be offered on Tuesday, December 6, 8:30 am and again on Tuesday, December 6, 6:30 pm in the Small Group Room.

PLEASE REMEMBER...

Tom Bedore, son of John & Dolores Bedore and Debra Schuerer-DeNoon, daughter of Betty Schuerer whose funerals were held last week.

Please also keep in your prayers Steve (Lynn) Kiser. Steve's father recently passed away.

SCRIP

Scrip Fundraising is off and running at St. Bernard with added scrip offerings and increased times to purchase scrip. We recently added Festival Foods and Woodmans to our on-hand stock. You can now buy scrip after the 8 am and 10 am Masses and on Wednesday nights at St. B's Café.

Thank you for purchasing scrip or placing an order. If you haven't bought scrip yet, stop by the scrip table and check it out. To date we have sold \$27,425 worth of scrip with a profit of \$1,855.55.

We are always looking for more help to sell scrip at after the 8 am and 10 am Masses and Wednesday evenings at the St. B's Café. We would also like to sell scrip after the Saturday Mass but need volunteers. To learn more about volunteering at any of these times, call Dar, 739-5296.

Advent Concert The Seymour and Cicero United Methodist Churches with additional singers from Emmanuel Lutheran Church and St. John the Baptist Catholic Church will present an Advent concert at the Seymour church Sunday, December 11, at 6 pm. A freewill offering will be taken. Call 920 833-7506 for more information.

Readings for Next Weekend Is 61:1-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

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.

AVAILABLE MASS INTENTIONS

A number of Mass Intentions are available. Please call or stop at the Parish Office if you would like to have a Mass said for someone. The suggested donation is \$10. The following dates are available: Tuesday, December 13, 8:00 am; Thursday, December 15, 8:00 am; Friday, December 16, 8:00 am; Sunday, December 18, 8:00 am.

MASS TIMES & MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 3

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

Sunday, December 4

8:00 am Mass Ben & Marie Sobieski

10:00 am Mass JoAnn Bechard

Monday, December 5

✠8:00 am Liturgy of the Word

Tuesday, December 6

8:00 am Mass Joseph Draweneck

Wednesday, December 7 *Remembering Pearl Harbor*

8:00 am Mass ✠ Allen Guckenberg

Thursday, December 8

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 am Mass ✠ Donald & Margaret Scott

5:30 pm Mass Living and Deceased Members of St. Bernard Parish

Friday, December 9

8:00 am Mass Deceased Relatives of Marcella Band

Saturday, December 10

4:30 pm Mass Grace Brown

Sunday, December 11

8:00 am Mass Don Laedtke

10:00 am Mass Deceased Husband and Sister Living and Deceased Members of St. Bernard Parish

✠ Indicates the Rosary is said before or after Mass

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.

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

View the bulletin on-line at www.stbernardappleton.org

ADULT & YOUTH NEWS

FAITH FORMATION, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

Faith Formation classes, K-8 - 4:30/6:30.

St. B's Café serving dinner, 5:45-6:30 pm.

Confirmation Class, 6:30-8:15.

LIBRARY NEWS

All are welcome at our next Library-n-Lunch on Thursday, **December 8, 12:30, in the Library. The movie will be "Far From Home", a story of friendship, courage, and loyalty** between a boy and his dog. Light refreshments provided.

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.

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.

December Holiday Calendar

Thursday, Dec. 8 - Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Masses, 8:00 am 5:30 pm

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Wednesday, Dec. 14

6:30 pm Communal Reconciliation

Friday, Dec. 23 - Parish Office closes at noon

Saturday, Dec. 24

9:00 am Reconciliation

Christmas Eve Masses, 4 & 10 pm.

The 4 pm Mass is the Children's Pageant. At 3:30 enjoy music from Carolers in the Narthex and at 3:40 the Children's choir sings. Before the 10:00 pm Mass the adult choir presents a short concert beginning at 9:30 until the Mass begins. (Plan to arrive early for these Masses as the Church fills early.)

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Day Masses, 8 & 10 am

Christmas music begins at 7:45 until Mass at 8 am and music begins at 9:45 before the 10 am Mass. Small ensemble groups provide music for both Christmas morning Masses.

Monday, December 26 - Parish Office is closed

Area Christmas Concerts

The White Heron Chorale presents *Christmas at the Chapel*, Saturday, December 17, 7:30 pm & Sunday, December 18, 3:00 pm, Lawrence Memorial Chapel, Appleton. Call 920-832-9700 to order tickets.

Oshkosh Chamber Singers present *The Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols*, Saturday, December 17, 4 & 7:30 pm, Trinity Episcopal Church, Algoma at Division, Oshkosh. Please call 920-233-3312 to reserve your tickets.

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 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 3

Reconciliation, 9:00 am.....Church

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

Sunday, December 4

Children's Choir rehearsal, 9:15 am.....Activity Ctr.

Family Advent Activity, after 10:00 Mass.....Hall

Monday, December 5

Card Players, 1:00 pm.....Janssen Ctr.

Gather in the Spirit Prayer Group, 6:30 pm

.....Lounge

St. Vincent de Paul Mtg., 6:30 pm.....Room 111

Tuesday, December 6

Social Justice Committee, 6:30 pm.....Room 111

Wednesday, December 7

Prayer Shawl Ministry, 1:00 pm.....Janssen Center

Prayer Shawl Ministry, 6:30 pm.....Janssen Center

Faith Formation K-8, 4:30/6:30 pm.

Confirmation Class, 6:30 pm.....Activity Center

St. B's Café, 5:45-6:30 pm.....Parish Hall

Choir rehearsal, 6:30 pm.....Music Room

Thursday, December 8

Library-n-Lunch, 12:30 pm.....Library

Friday, December 9

OA Group, 10:00 am.....Room 112

Parish Office closes at noon

Saturday, December 10

Reconciliation, 9:00 am.....Church

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

Sunday, December 11

ATTENTION LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Liturgical Ministers Needed for Christmas Masses

4 pm Children's Mass & 10 pm Mass - Dec. 24

and

8 am & 10 pm Masses - Dec. 25

All liturgical ministers (communion, lectors, servers, ushers and greeters) please sign up on-line in the Ministry Schedule Program. If you don't have email, you may sign up in the Sacristy. Contact Rhonda with questions, 7369-0331 or ruschan@stbernardappleton.org.

PLANT DELIVERY TO HOMEBOUND

The Ladies of St. Bernard need volunteers to deliver Christmas plants to our homebound parishioners Dec. 16, 17 & 18. The plants will be ready for delivery by 3 pm Friday, Dec. 16 (Room 105). Plants will be labeled for each volunteer. Sign up at the Parish Office by stopping in or calling, 739-0331. Volunteers who signed up to deliver plants will not be called with a reminder so please mark your calendar. Any questions can be directed to Virginia Sitter, 731-5118.

Thanks for the Memories!

I praise and thank God for all the wonderful years I was on staff at St. Bernard Parish. God truly blessed my time, not only for me, but for my entire family. We were able to go through the ups and downs of life because we had our church family with us! The book of written memories that I received from so many of you will be a treasure for the rest of my life.

If you aren't aware, the parish gave me a gift certificate for the Monte Alverno Retreat House in Appleton. Believe it or not I truly love going on silent retreats! I just finished one at a retreat house in La Crosse as a transition from St. Bernard to St. Gabriel Parish. **Wouldn't you know that there was a six foot statue of St. Gabriel at the entrance to the chapel at the retreat house?** I will take this as another sign that the Holy Spirit is encouraging me that the right decision was made to minister at St. Gabriel Parish.

As I write this, I can't help but have a few more tears for the ache I feel of not ministering at St. Bernard. There are so many wonderful people and I have truly seen Jesus Christ in so many of your eyes. I encourage all of you, whether we met or not, to be the hands and feet of Jesus in this world. All of us are needed to bring others to Christ through our witness of living our lives as Christians.

With much love and prayers...I will see you soon...if not here...then there...

"For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, not for your woe; but for a future full of hope!"

Jeremiah 29:11



Thank You -Times Three

1. World Mission Sunday Collection - St. Bernard generously donated \$1,908. The money will help strengthen the roots of the Catholic Church in Eastern Europe, Latin America and mission dioceses throughout the world.
2. St. Vincent de Paul thanks all who donated food items on November 14. 126 bags were donated. The food was given to the St. Joseph Food Program in Menasha.
3. Emergency Shelter of the Fox Valley thanks St. Bernard parishioners for the supplies given to the Emergency Shelter. **"Christ said, Feed the hungry, and you did!" Thank you from the Emergency Shelter.**

Stewardship Reflection

We have entered the second week of Advent, and we spend our time patiently waiting in anticipation of **the celebration of Christmas. But, as today's readings remind us, we are to actively wait by preparing our hearts and minds through prayer and repentance, and by proclaiming the Good News that God became man for our sake so that He could suffer and die and then come again to bring us into heavenly glory.**

It is a beautiful message we proclaim. God has done so much for us and continues to do so, giving us innumerable gifts with which we can live our lives. And, much like the **prophets in today's readings, we ought to proclaim His mighty deeds boldly before all the nations.**

In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah proclaims the end of the Babylonian exile, when God will intervene and the Jews will be able to return to Israel and, ultimately Israel will be restored. He knows God will intervene, and, as He waits for that to happen, He is active. He wants all to know of what is to come.

In the Gospel, John the Baptist is the prophet, proclaiming the coming of the Messiah. John, too, knows that God is soon to intervene in human history and will send the One whom the Jews have long-awaited. He wants all to know it.

We are privileged to know the One of whom John spoke, the Messiah. He has come and, as His disciples, we are to proclaim Him to the ends of the Earth. So as we wait to celebrate Christmas, as stewards we are called to preach the Good News – to use our time our talents and our treasure to proclaim Him boldly through the way we live our lives.

STEWARDSHIP OF FINANCIAL SHARING

	Week	Fiscal YTD	Total
*Envelope	10,907	YTD Actual Envelope	300,732
Weekly Target	16,058	YTD Budget Envelope	353,269
		*Envelope Over/(Under)	(52,537)
Loose	573	YTD Loose	12,246
Budget Loose	731	YTD Budget Loose	16,077
		Loose Over/(Under)	(3,831)

Women's Advent Retreat on Thursday, December 8, 7pm to Sunday, Dec 11, noon, Jesuit Retreat House on Lake Winnebago, 4800 Fahrwald Rd., Oshkosh. Come to a weekend of Peace and Prayer, a time to speak with God in silence, to listen to God speak to us. and a time to care for ourselves. For reservations call: 920-231-9060 or 800-962-7330. For questions on the retreat or on scholarship funding to help defray costs, call Marcie.920-923-2446.

**"Welcome and inspire ALL to share
Christ's love through FAITH and SERVICE"**

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

December 8,
Mass at 8 am & 5:30 pm
(Holy Day of Obligation)



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Children ages 4 through 10 are invited to participate in the annual Christmas Pageant at our 4 pm Mass on Christmas Eve, December 24. Children will dress in character as shepherds, angels, Mary and Joseph.



**The first meeting will be on Monday,
Dec. 12, in the Church.**

To sign up and attend the first meeting, call the Parish Office at 739-0331 or e-mail Rhonda at ruschan@stbernardappleton.org.

Congratulations to the following children who made their first Reconciliation on Saturday, December 3

Jackson Berendes	Josephine Neubauer
Olivia Coffin	Braeden Picard
Caidia Coolidge	Erin Poggeman
Henry Donovan	Connor Radtke
Ella Flattum	Caleb Ryno
Jian Hoffman	Kellin Scheel
Evan Keane	Luke Schmitz
Kaitlyn Kresal	Sara Rose Smith
Nathaniel Lafreniere	Sophia Syring
Lauren Larson	Benjamin T hao
Jessica Martinez	McKayla VanHandel
Averi McMahon	Noelle Van Straten
Rebecca Much	Eleanor Vogel



RECONCILE

with God and with others

Advent Communal Reconciliation Service

Wednesday,
December 14,
6:30 pm

St. Bernard will have a communal reconciliation service. The evening will include a short prayer service, reflection by Fr. Dennis, and individual confessions. Several priests will be available to hear confessions.

Welcome Back Carson Cole

Kindergarten Faith Formation student, Carson Cole, was welcomed back after surgery and a lengthy recovery. We are glad to have her back.



Welcome

Are you new to our parish? We encourage you to register as soon as possible. Registration in a parish is the norm and is required for registration in religious education, for sacramental preparation, and for sponsorship certificates. Call the Parish Office, 739-0331, to learn more about how to become a member of the parish.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS MEMORIAL

If you would like to remember a loved one this Christmas with a donation to our "Christmas Decorations Memorial Fund", please fill out this form, place it in an envelope marked "Christmas Decorations Memorial" and place the envelope in the regular collection basket or bring it to the Parish Office.

Your donations will be used to purchase decorations for the Church this Christmas Season.

FROM: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

AMOUNT: _____

