

NOVEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

St. Bernard's Parish Faith Formation

Use what God has given you to honor Him.

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Grade 1:

1st grade has been very fun this year! We have been working in our "Call to Faith" books, learning about things like Saints and the Holy Spirit. We also have visited Church to learn more about the different parts of the Church.

Recently, we have been working on our "Keep Christ in Christmas" posters.

As Advent starts, we will be working in Advent Activity booklets.

This year has been great so far, and I am looking forward to the rest of the year. Happy Holidays!

-Josh Wieter

Grade 2:

The 2nd grade students have been very busy! We had our Reconciliation retreat at the beginning of the month to prepare for celebrating the Sacrament on Sunday, December 1. Also in preparation for the Sacrament, Fr. Anthony came to class, had a discussion with the students, as well as answered questions about reconciliation. The students were also interested to hear about Fr. Anthony's home and had several questions for him about growing up in Africa. We appreciated his visit very much!

The students had an opportunity to create angels to decorate one of the trees in the Christmas display at Our Lady of the Snows Shrine this year! Students from the 8th grade class helped the students with assembling and decorating their individual angels - so a big "THANK YOU" to the older students for their help and patience. ☺

During the month of December, we will be talking about Advent and preparing for Christmas. When we come back in January, work will begin on preparing for the Sacrament of First Eucharist celebrated in the spring.

-Robbin Netemeyer

Grade 3:

We recently finished the "Call to Faith" chapter on the mystery of the Holy Trinity. We will cover chapters that discuss celebrating, worshipping together, and praying (different ways, reasons).

We take breaks from the book occasionally to address special topics (in November--saints, veterans, thankfulness). In addition, the third graders have started on their "Keep Christ in Christmas" posters and will finish them in the next week.



IMPORTANT DATES

DECEMBER 1

- Parish Reconciliation at 1:00 pm at St. Damian
- First Reconciliation at 1:00 pm at St. Damian for both Albers and Damiansville 2nd graders



DECEMBER 10

- Faith Formation Reconciliation at 7:40 am at St. Bernard

DECEMBER 15

- Church Decorating at St. Bernard after 10:00 am Mass

DECEMBER 24

- Christmas Eve Mass
 - 4:00 pm at St. Damian
 - 10:00 pm at St. Bernard

The students have been well behaved during mass and are enthusiastic especially when it is their turn to serve as Mass hosts. They will soon be in the rotation to lead the Vocation Prayer at the start of weekday masses; please refer to the ministry schedule at the end of the newsletter.

We are thankful for our many blessings this Thanksgiving. Enjoy the upcoming holidays!

-Kathy Engelmann (660-5974)

Grade 4:

The 4th grade class has been working hard over the past two months! They have spent time learning about the Holy Trinity and different ways to pray. They also learned about the Gospels and the Kingdom of God.

The students recently made their "Keep Christ in Christmas" posters to help prepare for the Christmas season. As December approaches, they will learn about Advent.

All of the students have had a chance to say the Vocation Prayer before Mass and carry the Faith Formation prayer box to the altar.

The year has been great so far and we look forward to the upcoming months!

-Matthew Fuehne & Judy Albers

Grade 5:

No submission

-Shannon Netemeyer & Phyllis Albers

Grades 6 & 7:

The 6th and 7th grade classes have enjoyed quite a few class periods together over the past couple months due to work demands of both teachers. The time in class has been well spent working on projects, praying the rosary and preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation.

The students learned about the Fruits of the Holy Spirit and recently used the Fruit of Kindness with a service project of making cards for our Veterans, thanking them for their service. The cards were delivered to local nursing homes and senior living centers.

The students have done a wonderful job on their "Keep Christ in Christmas" posters and plan to finish the posters early December. We also plan to continue their learning journey on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and the Eight Beatitudes.

Enjoy the Holiday Season with your family and friends.
Many thanks.

-Kelly Jansen and Dana Lake

Grade 8:

The 8th grade is doing such a good job as leaders of their school.

IMPORTANT DATES CONT'D

DECEMBER 25

- Christmas Day Mass at 9:00 am at St. Bernard



They will be working on their "Keep Christ in Christmas" posters as they also prepare in Advent for the coming of Christ on Earth. Parents please reinforce the stories of Advent by praying daily as a family, especially at the meal as you break bread together in honor of Jesus and his family.

Please pick up an Advent booklet in the back of Church to help you pray and an Advent Calendar is a great way to build up that sense of expectation.

-Deacon Glenn & Jamie Jung

FATHER ANTHONY'S GUIDANCE

Opinions

We can see the same thing and yet have our individual and differing points of view and opinions. We are entitled to our opinions. Our opinions are neither right nor wrong, because we see it from our own angle and perspective. However, when we impose our opinions on others, and put a judgement tag to it, then that is where other moral issues may arise.

Let us always remember that everyone's opinion is important, but not everyone's opinion is a fact! Others may be influenced by our judgements, which are actually mere opinions, and they in turn will subscribe to the same judgement.

"You should never pass judgement on a brother or treat him with contempt, as some of you have done. We shall all have to stand before the judgement seat of God. It is to God therefore that each of us must give an account of himself." (Rm. 14, 10)

When the tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what He had to say, the Pharisees and the scribes complained, and made a judgement when they said, 'This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.' In addition, even when we hear the parable of the shepherd leaving the ninety-nine in the wilderness to look for the missing one, we might think it is rather absurd to do so. However, if we are that missing one, then we will certainly change our opinions.

So instead of letting our opinions turn into a judgement, let us judge ourselves first. Then we will be able to give an account of ourselves before God.

-Fr. Anthony Onyango

THE DEACON'S CORNER

Advent is the season of expectations. This is the time of the taking the breath before the plunge, to prepare ourselves for the Advent of God coming to earth. Please explain to your children the meaning of the Advent wreath and the names of the four Sundays in Advent.

DARKNESS AND LIGHT

The Advent candles readily demonstrate the strong contrast between darkness and light. In the Bible, Christ is referred to as the "Light of the World" contrasted with the darkness of sin. Human history spanned long ages before our prophesied Savior would finally make his appearance, and God's promise to make all things new through Him.

As His Advent, or "coming," draws nearer another candle is lit, with each candle dispelling the darkness a little more. Thus, the Advent wreath helps us spiritually contemplate the great drama of salvation history that surrounds the birth of God Incarnate who comes to redeem the human race.

- The 1st Sunday of Advent symbolizes Hope with the "Prophet's Candle" reminding us that Jesus is coming.

- The 2nd Sunday of Advent symbolizes Faith with the "Bethlehem Candle" reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem, which becomes ours through faith in Jesus Christ.
- The 3rd Sunday of Advent symbolizes Joy with the "Shepherd's Candle" reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus.
- The 4th Sunday of Advent symbolizes Peace with the "Angel's Candle" reminding us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."



Just an added note of the importance of the children coming to Mass regularly on weekends with their families. On weekdays they attend Mass during Faith Formation sessions, but the children need to pray with their moms and dads at Mass also on the weekends. Praying together strengthens a family in more ways than we'll ever realize!!!! Joshua says', "as for me and my house, we will serve God".

Thank you for bringing the children to Mass!

-Deacon Glenn

"May you always be doing those good, kind things that show you are a child of God." Phil 1:11

ADORATION WITH BENEDICTION – **CHANGE IN SCHEDULE**

Beginning October 1st, there is a change to the Weekly Holy Hour with Benediction held at St. Bernard and St. Damian parishes.

**Tuesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:00 pm @ St. Bernard (even months - Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)
Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:00 pm @ St. Damian (odd months - Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sept, Nov)**

Adoration starts at 7:00 p.m. and concludes with Benediction at 8:00 p.m.

Here is a link of things to do during a Holy Hour... <http://www.therealpresence.org/eucharst/pea/holyhour.html>

If you have any questions, please contact me at 314-660-3976.

-Deacon Kevin

THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY

December is a very busy time for the Hispanic community. The first Sunday of Advent with the Advent wreath and the liturgy's focus on the coming of the Messiah in our time comes at the same time that we are preparing to celebrate the feast of our Lady of Guadalupe. This a very important celebration because it speaks not only of the apparition in a religious sense but it also proclaims Mary's particular intervention when Mexico and all of Latin America had been subjugated by Europe (Spain and Portugal) in the name of God. Mary shared the compassion of a mother and won the heart of the nation.

We gather on December 7 at 10 pm to serenade (las mañanitas) Mary. Then on Sunday, we celebrate with Mass at 11:00 am and the fiesta. A mariachi group will provide music for the Mass and the fiesta.

Also in December, with the posadas, we recall the journey of Mary and Joseph seeking shelter where Jesus could be born. Dec. 16 at St. Damian, Dec. 20 at St. Dominic, Dec. 21 at St. Bernard, Dec. 22 at St. Anthony in Beckemeyer. Each night at 6:30 pm. The Christmas Mass will be on December 24 at 7 pm.

Diciembre es un tiempo ocupado en la comunidad hispana. El primer domingo de Adviento con su corona de Adviento y el enfoque liturgico en la venida del Mesias en nuestro tiempo, viene al mismo tiempo que estamos preparando a celebrar la fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. este es un celebrante importantisima porque tiene que ver no solo con la aparicion een sentido religioso pero Tambien proclama la intervencion particular de Maria cuando Mexico y toda America Latina fue subyugada por Europa (España y Portugal) en el nombre de Dios. Maria compartia la compassion de una Madre y gano el corazon de la nacion.

Vamos a reunir el 7 de diciembre a las 10 pm para las mañanitas, serenar a nuestra Madre Morena. Desspues el domingo celebramos la Misa a las 11 y seguimos con la fiesta. Un grupo de mariachi acompaña la misa y la fiesta.

Tambien en diciembre por las posadas recordamos la busqueda de Jose y Maria a un albergue donde podria nacer su Hijo. Lunes 16 en S. Damian, viernes 20 en S. Dominic, sabado 21 en S. Bernard y domingo 22 en S. Antonio en Beckemeyer. Todas las noches a las 6:30 pm.

La misa de Navidad sera el 24 de diciembre a las 7 pm.

-Sister Ellen Orf

FAITH FORMATION WEEKDAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

St. Bernard's Weekday Ministry Schedule

Date	Readers	Servers	Cantors	Voc Prayer	Mass Hosting
12/3/2019	Kalie W. Cayden L.	Carson R. Modesto H. Alex A.	Ashlyn G. Alaina H	Lilly B.	1st
12/5/2019	Andrew C. J. Emiliano N.	Kellen R. Alex A. Omar A.	Ashlyn G. Alaina H	Trigg G.	1st
12/10/2019	Ana A. Riley R.	Avery W. Andrew C. Brock S.	Tessa S. Jessenia T.	Sam R.	8th
12/12/2019	Lydia E. Jessenia T.	Carson R. Modesto H. Omar A.	Tessa S. Jessenia T.	Cole H.	8th
12/17/2019	Corina H. Corrine W.	Kellen R. Alex A. Kara M.	Ana A. Jordyn S.	Dylan W.	7th
12/19/2019	Jacob K. Madi W.	Elliot R. Landon S. Chloe E.	Ana A. Jordyn S.	Waylon S.	7th



ST. BERNARD WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Date	Communion Ministers	Readers	Ushers	Servers	Collection Counters
Sunday, Dec. 1st 10:00 am <i>2nd Grade Host</i>	Dan Love Lee Love Robbin Netemeyer	Meg Schiefer	Ken Lake Dan Lake Tim Schroeder Elizabeth Schroeder	Lydia Engelmann Chloe Engelmann Brock Schulte	Tim Schroeder Dana Lake Keith Richter
Saturday, Dec. 7 th 4:00 pm	Steve Schomaker Deb Schomaker Kathy Engelmann	Janel Zurliene	Brian Zurliene Brooke Zurliene	Clayton Jansen Rylee Jansen Alex Athmer	
Sunday, Dec. 8 th 10:00 am <i>1st Grade Host</i>	Roman Kloeckner Lynn Athmer Kristen Templin	Reagan Rickhoff	Kurt Rickhoff Carson Rickhoff Brian Winkeler Nolan Winkeler	Connor Schomaker Eden Rolves Brooke Rickhoff	Lynn Athmer James Williams Kris Anne Becker
Saturday, Dec. 14 4:00 pm	Liz Nussbaumer Kathy Engelmann Melissa Netemeyer	Ken Nussbaumer	Nick Friederich Kathy Friederich	Coryn Toennies Kaitlyn Toennies Elliott Rakers	
Sunday, Dec. 15 th 10:00 am <i>8th Grade Host</i>	Ray Gill Meg Schiefer Vicki Pittman	Jackie Farrar	Brian Zurliene Brooke Zurliene Ed Wuebbels Sharon Wuebbels	Carson Richter Kellen Richter Madi Wuebbels	Janel Zurliene Keith Richter Vicki Pittman
Saturday, Dec. 21 st 4:00 pm	Steve Schomaker Deb Schomaker Melissa Netemeyer	Nettie Broeckling	Ed Broeckling Volunteer	Corina Hegger Tyler Robertson Landon Schroeder	
Sunday, Dec. 22 nd 10:00 am <i>7th Grade Host</i>	Sharon Wuebbels Lynette Huegen Kati Schwierjohn	Ray Gill	John Majchrzak Linda Majchrzak Ron Norrenberns Geri Norrenberns	Bradley Strubhart Mallory Strubhart Avery Wuebbels	Tim Schroeder Phyllis Albers John Majchrzak
PLEASE SIGN UP FOR CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY!!					
Saturday, Dec. 28 th 4:00 pm	Ken Nussbaumer Nettie Broeckling Kathy Engelmann	Liz Nussbaumer	Nick Friederich Kathy Friederick	Clayton Jansen Rylee Jansen Kalie Wellen	
Sunday, Dec. 29 th 10:00 am <i>6th Grade Host</i>	Dan Love Lee Love Cole Schomaker	Lynette Huegen	Tom Broeckling Mitchell Broeckling Dave Wuebbels Dave Langenhorst	Jillian Kloeckner Jake Kloeckner Ashlyn Gebke	Lynn Athmer James Williams Dana Lake