

DECEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

St. Bernard's Parish Faith Formation

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Jesus Christ.

Philippians 4:6-7

CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

Grade 1:

The 1st grade class worked hard on their Advent Paper Chains this month. There were a variety of daily tasks for everyone in your family to share that hopefully got you into the Christmas Spirit.

We also worked on our first poster for the Knights of Columbus "Keep Christ in Christmas" poster contest. There are a lot of creative 1st grade students!

Starting in January we will get back into the religion books. Some of the topics that we will cover will be God's Kingdom, sharing ways that we can say "Yes" to God, and learning about being a follower of Jesus.

Wishing everyone a Blessed Holiday Season,

-Janel Zurliene and Chris Huegen

Grade 2:

Congratulations to Kate, Kailey, Cole, Liam, Sam, and Dylan on making their First Reconciliation at St. Damian's Church on Sunday, December 2nd.

After the Christmas break, we will be preparing for First Eucharist.

Have a wonderful and joyous break over the Christmas holiday. I look forward to seeing the kids back in January!

-Angie Winkeler

Grades 3 and 4:

December is always a busy month for Faith Formation! We worked on Keeping Christ in Christmas posters, participated in the sacrament of reconciliation as we prepare for Christmas, created cards for a St. Bernard parishioner who is in basic training, and continued to work on our Old Testament books - they have them all now!

We look forward to learning more about our faith in the coming year! Merry Christmas!

-Robbin Netemeyer



UPCOMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 24

- [St. Damian 1st grade Faith Formation Christmas Eve playlet](#) at St. Damian 4:00 pm Mass

JANUARY 1



Grades 5 and 6:

December was devoted mostly to preparing for the celebration of the birth of Jesus. When we return in January, we'll begin with the seasons of the church year.

Deacon Glenn treated the 6th grade class to donuts for achieving 100 percent participation in the Christmas collection drive for the Daystar Mission program in Cairo, Illinois. Thanks to them and to those 5th graders who participated. Your thoughtfulness brightened the day for others, knowing that others are thinking of them.

We hope everyone enjoys a Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with good health and much happiness!

Miss Kate will be busy with her Senior Service Project for most of the month of January. If any of the parents would like to join us for class, you're welcome to do so.

-Kathy Engelmann and Kate Toennies

Grades 7 and 8:

The students are continuing to prepare for receiving the Holy Spirit in the sacrament of Confirmation. Every week we pick a student and light a candle for that student. We pray for them to receive the Holy Spirit more fully into their lives.

Wishing everyone a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

-Dana Lake, Pops Kennedy & Kelly Jansen

FATHER ANTHONY'S GUIDANCE

"Christmas is usually a noisy party: we could use a bit of silence, to hear the voice of Love."

Christmas is you, when you decide to be born again each day and let God into your soul. The Christmas pine is you, when you resist vigorous winds and difficulties of life. The Christmas decorations are you, when your virtues are colors that adorn your life. The Christmas bell is you, when you call, gather and seek to unite. You are also a Christmas light, when you illuminate with your life the path of others with kindness, patience, joy and generosity. The Christmas angels are you, when you sing to the world a message of peace, justice and love. The Christmas star is you, when you lead someone to meet the Lord. You are also the wise men, when you give the best you have no matter who. Christmas music is you when you conquer the harmony within you. The Christmas gift is you, when you are truly friend and brother of every human being. The Christmas card is you, when kindness is written in your hands. The Christmas greeting is you, when you forgive and reestablish peace, even when you suffer. The Christmas dinner is you, when you serve bread and hope to the poor man who is by your side. You are, yes, Christmas night, when humble and conscious, you receive in the silence of the night the Savior of the world without noise or great celebrations; you are a smile of trust and tenderness, in the inner peace of a perennial Christmas that establishes the Kingdom within you. A very Merry Christmas for all those who look like Christmas.

Pope Francisco

-Fr. Anthony Onyango

THE DEACON'S CORNER

Christmas is the season of Love and Joy. God has come to earth, not as a warrior but as a defenseless child. This is the ultimate Hope that God has in us, and that we have in God.

DARKNESS AND LIGHT

So many times in the past it was illegal to worship as we wished, so we, as inventive people of God, came up with codes to teach our children. The twelve days of Christmas is one such code that teaches us our Catholic Faith.

It has two levels of meaning: the surface meaning, plus a hidden meaning known only to members of their church. Each element in the carol has a code word for a religious reality which children could remember.

- The partridge in a pear tree was Jesus Christ.
- Two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments.
- Three French hens stood for faith, hope and love.
- The four calling birds were the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke & John.
- The five golden rings recalled the Torah or Law, the first five books of the Old Testament.
- The six geese a-laying stood for the six days of creation.
- Seven swans a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit - Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership, and Mercy.
- The eight maids a-milking were the eight beatitudes.
- Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit-Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control.
- The ten lords a-leaping were the Ten Commandments.
- The eleven pipers piping stood for the eleven faithful disciples.
- The twelve drummers drumming symbolized the twelve points of belief in the Apostles' Creed.



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 Living Bible (TLB)

ADORATION WITH BENEDICTION

Starting Wednesday October 3rd – St. Bernard and St. Damian will be hosting a weekly Holy Hour with Benediction **every Wednesday**.

Adoration will start at 7:00 p.m. and will conclude with Benediction at 8:00 p.m.

The location will rotate on the SAME schedule as the Saturday Masses:

- October – St. Bernard
- November – St. Damian
- December – St. Bernard

And so on...

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

WE ARE ALL ALIKE

On January 6, we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany – Jesus, the Son of God revealed to the nations. This is also the beginning of National Migration Week. It gives us the opportunity to look around and see those who have come from other countries to be part of our community, village and parishes.

If we consider our own roots from Germany or other European countries, we may not notice many differences because we have melded into mid-western citizens of the United States.

In our community can you identify people from Guatemala, Honduras or Mexico? Although it may seem like “they” are all the same, some come from Oaxaca, o Jalisco, and o Guanajuato, which are states of Mexico like the 50 United States that we know.

Let's use this time to recognize how much we are all alike as children of our wonderful God.

-Sister Ellen Orf

COLLECTION/CHARITY OPPORTUNITIES

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

For the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Hispanic community raffled off this beautiful embroidered tablecloth from Mexico and a Christmas crib set. The winners of the raffle were:

Tablecloth – Alvaro Onate

Christmas Crib set – Lorena Avalos

Congratulations!



FAITH FORMATION WEEKDAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

St. Bernard's Ministry Schedule - January 2019

Contact Info: Angie Winkeler
 Phone: 618-789-1699
 Email: awinkeler@ezeeweb.com

Period start date: 1/8/2019
 Period end date: 1/31/2019

Day	Date	Readers	Servers	Cantors	Voc. Prayer	Class Host
Tuesday	1/8/2019	Jillian K. Hayley L.	Ashlyn G. Landon S Brady R.	Tessa S. Jessenia T.	Austin M.	7
Thursday	1/10/2019	Ana A. Alaina H.	Herbert H. Jake K. Madi W.	Tessa S. Jessenia T.	Justin M.	7
Tuesday	1/15/2019	Ben M. Clayton J.	Cole W. Violet H. Andrew C.	Corinne W. Madi W.	Kara M.	6
Thursday	1/17/2019	Jordyn S. Cristina R.	Sophia K. Mallory S. Corina H.	Corinne W. Madi W.	Kayle R.	6
Tuesday	1/22/2019	Kalie W. Kellen R.	Lydia E. Gavin N. Wyatt J.	Corina H. Lucero H.	Jack R.	5
Thursday	1/24/2019	Bradley S. Riley R.	Alaina H. Carson Rickhoff Jessenia T.	Corina H. Lucero H.	Brock S.	5
Tuesday	1/29/2019	Corina H. Landon S.	Elliott R. Tessa S. Ana A.	Aidan V.	Oliver V.	4
Thursday	1/31/2019	Marco A. Jack K.	Carson Richter Avery W. Cayden L.	Aidan V.	Brynley A.	4

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS "KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS"

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS CONTEST WINNERS

8 th Grade – 1 st Place	Makenna Lake	4 th Grade – 1 st Place	Chloe Engelmann
2 nd Place	Rylee Jansen	2 nd Place	Brock Schulte
7 th Grade – 1 st Place	Lydia Engelmann	3 rd Grade – 1 st Place	Mason Schroeder
2 nd Place	Jillian Kloeckner	2 nd Place	Adelyn Wuebbels
6 th Grade – 1 st Place	Alaina Huegen	2 nd Grade 1 st Place	Cole Huegen
2 nd Place	Hayley Lucas	2 nd Place	Kailey Engelmann
5 th Grade – 1 st Place	Violet Hernandez	1 st Grade 1 st Place	Kynley Barth
	Madi Wuebbels	2 nd Place	Kelsie Rolves



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS EVE - MONDAY, DEC. 24TH

- *4:00 pm Mass @ St. Damian*
- *7:00 pm Mass @ St. Damian - Mass in Spanish*
- *10:00 pm Mass @ St. Bernard*

CHRISTMAS DAY - TUESDAY, DEC. 25TH

- *9:00 am Mass @ St. Damian*

