



# St. Bernard

## Catholic Church, Middleton

7450 University Avenue (corner of University Avenue & Parmenter Street)

*A Catholic, eucharistic community, glorifying God through prayer, sacraments and service; building oneness with God and neighbor.*

**Office:** (608) 831-6531  
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**Web:** [www.stbmidd.org](http://www.stbmidd.org)  
**Parish Office/Mailing Address:**  
2015 Parmenter Street  
Middleton, WI 53562-2627

### PASTORAL TEAM

#### Pastor

Rev. Brian J. Wilk/[frbrian@stbmidd.org](mailto:frbrian@stbmidd.org)

#### Pastoral Associate

Kevin Laufenberg/[kevin@stbmidd.org](mailto:kevin@stbmidd.org)

#### Director of Music

Joy Bauman/[joy@stbmidd.org](mailto:joy@stbmidd.org)

#### Coordinator of Evangelization and Parish Outreach

Kevin Sullivan/[kevins@stbmidd.org](mailto:kevins@stbmidd.org)

#### Director of Rel. Ed. (Grades 6-12)

Zoe Bernard/[zoe@stbmidd.org](mailto:zoe@stbmidd.org)

#### Director of Rel. Ed. (Grades Pre-K-5) and Baptism Preparation

Jenna Ripp/[jenna@stbmidd.org](mailto:jenna@stbmidd.org)

#### Financial Specialist

Laurie Zimmerman/[laurie@stbmidd.org](mailto:laurie@stbmidd.org)

#### Communications Coordinator

Ellen Krenke/[ellen@stbmidd.org](mailto:ellen@stbmidd.org)

#### Administrative Assistant

Barb Harrington/[barb@stbmidd.org](mailto:barb@stbmidd.org)

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

#### Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00 & 10:30 AM

#### Morning Masses

Tuesday-Friday: 8:15 AM

First Saturday: 8:15 AM

### SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

#### Private:

All Saturdays: 3:45 to 4:45 PM

By Appointment: Contact Parish Office

### EUCCHARISTIC CHAPEL

Private Prayer: 7 AM to 5 PM daily

Adoration: 8:45-11 AM on Tuesdays

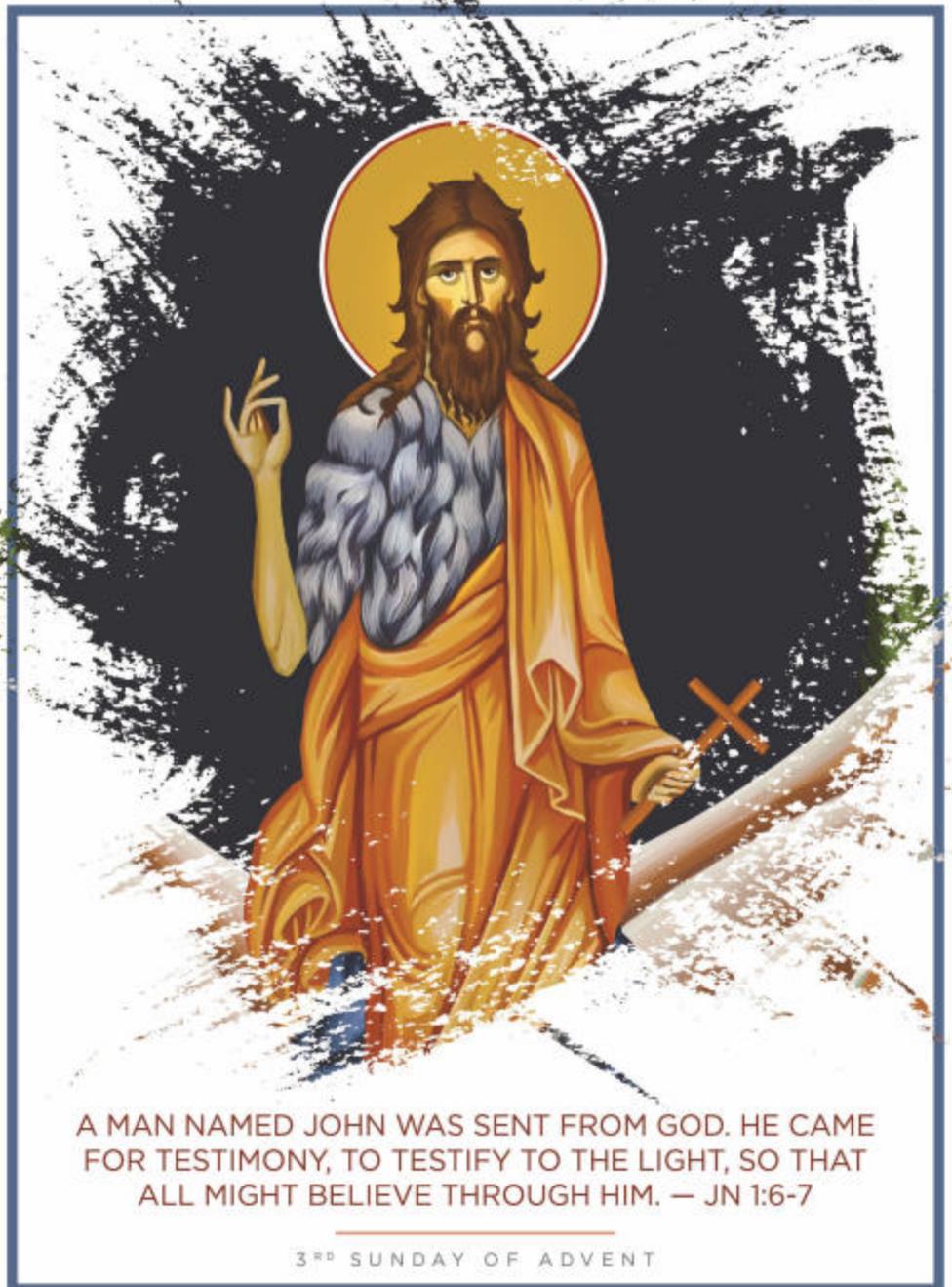
### DEVOTIONS

Chaplet of Divine Mercy: 8:45 AM

on Thursdays

Mother of Perpetual Help: 8:45 AM

on first Saturday of the month



A MAN NAMED JOHN WAS SENT FROM GOD. HE CAME FOR TESTIMONY, TO TESTIFY TO THE LIGHT, SO THAT ALL MIGHT BELIEVE THROUGH HIM. — JN 1:6-7

3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

**December 13, 2020**

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, December 13 - Third Sunday of Advent**

8:00 St. Bernard parishioners  
10:30 †Kristi Duhr

**Monday, December 14 - St. John of the Cross**

**Tuesday, December 15**

8:15 †Clarence Breunig Family

**Wednesday, December 16**

8:15 †Cletus and Rose Schey Family

**Thursday, December 17**

8:15 †Cindy Gilles

**Friday, December 18**

8:15 †Ann and Maureen Rogan

**Saturday, December 19**

5:00 St. Bernard parishioners

**Sunday, December 20 - Fourth Sunday of Advent**

8:00 †Julie, Christopher and Dick Thiel  
10:30 †Delores and Jack Simon



**GOSPEL READING**

“I am the voice of one crying out in the desert,  
‘Make straight the way of the Lord.’” —John 1:23

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**December 13, 2020**

Sunday: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11/1 Thessalonians 5:16-24/  
John 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday: Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17/Matthew 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13/Matthew 21:28-32

Wednesday: Isaiah 45:6-8, 18, 21-25/Luke 7:18-23

Thursday: Genesis 49:2, 8-10/Matthew 1:1-17

Friday: Jeremiah 23:5-8/Matthew 1:18-25

Saturday: Judges 13:2-7, 24-25/Luke 1:5-25

Next Sunday: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16/Romans  
16:25-27/Luke 1:26-38

USCCB daily Bible readings:dailyreadings@usccb.org



The Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday. The word Gaudete means rejoice.

We rejoice today for the coming of the Lord is so near that we cannot help but think about it.

Maybe we are feeling a bit overwhelmed as Christmas nears, particularly in the difficult times in which we are living.

Let this week be an opportunity to refocus our attention on the true reason we celebrate this time of year. Rejoice!

In today’s Gospel John the Baptist has a central role to play in the coming of the Savior. He was to be a witness for the light. The light in question is Jesus.

For each of us we cannot be a witness to the light if we are living in darkness. We have to be living in the light.

A good life is a strong and effective witness, and in itself is a proclamation of the Gospel.

When religious practice is divorced from life a vital element is missing. But when religious practice leads to deeds, a very effective witness is given.

We are called to witness to what Jesus commanded. This is a task not only for the individual but for the Christian community as a whole.

Christ opened the way to salvation for all of us. We must strive to walk as disciples in his light and avoid being sources of darkness to others. The only way to find peace and happiness is to forget ourselves and love others.

Have a blessed week. Rejoice! Fr. Brian

**Town hall set for parish center renovation**

A virtual town hall will be held at 7 p.m., this Wednesday, Dec. 16 to present plans that have been developed for renovating the parish center and kitchen and the building of a narthex or gathering space adjacent to the east side of the church.

A link will be sent out via Flocknote. It will also be posted on our website. Contact Barb Harrington in the parish office at 831-6531 if you have any questions.



**2020 Advent and Christmas season schedule**

**Reconciliation Schedule- Private Confessions**

Saturday, Dec. 12 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 15 5-6 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 19 3:45-4:45 p.m.

**Christmas and New Year’s Mass Schedule**

Christmas Eve, Thursday, Dec. 24 4 p.m., 6 p.m., 9 p.m.

Christmas Day, Friday, Dec. 25 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Vigil for The Holy Family, Saturday, Dec. 26 5 p.m.

The Holy Family, Sunday, Dec. 27 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Vigil for Solemnity of Mary, Thursday, Dec. 31 5:00 p.m.

Solemnity of Mary, Friday, Jan. 1 9:00 a.m.

## Liturgical Life

### Sign up now for Christmas Mass

In an effort to balance capacity limitations with a joyful celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ this year, we have created a sign-up for families to attend one of the Christmas liturgies.

A sign-up link is available in Fr. Brian's Dec. 4 Flocknote and on our website at [stbmidd.org](http://stbmidd.org). Click on the banner at the top of the page titled, "Christmas Mass."

You can also make a reservation by calling Barb Harrington in the parish office at 831-6531.

Please sign-up as a group with those whom you are planning to sit with (from the same household) by Friday, Dec. 18.

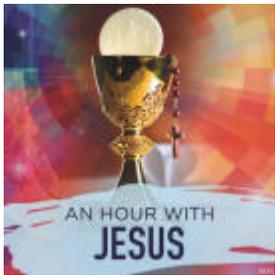
If you are experiencing any symptoms or have a possible exposure the week before Christmas, we would ask that you connect online instead of worshiping in-person.

If you do need to cancel at the last minute, please let us know so we can make room for another family.

All of the Christmas liturgies will be livestreamed on our parish website at [stbmidd.org/live](http://stbmidd.org/live). For other questions, please contact Harrington at 831-6531.

### 'An Hour with Jesus' on Jan. 13

On Jan. 13, "An Hour with Jesus" will be held from 7-8 p.m., in the church here at St. Bernard Parish.



Come spend an hour with the Lord in Eucharistic Adoration!

"Spending quiet time with the Lord can be life-changing," said Fr. Brian. "It can change our hearts and allow the Holy Spirit to ... give us direction in our lives."

This hour of adoration will be held every second Wednesday of the month through May.

If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Sullivan at 829-5879.

### KCs to lead novena in January

Knights of Columbus Council #4549 will lead a Novena for Life starting with a Rosary on Jan. 21 and ending nine days later with a Rosary on Jan. 29.

The protection of life is a sustained prayer intention of the Church, and in particular of the Knights of Columbus. Knights remain firmly committed to defending the right to life of every human being – from the moment of conception to natural death.

To commemorate and bolster this important cause, councils will promote a novena, nine days of sustained prayer, to build up a culture of life in our parishes, homes and wider community.

More information will be available in the next few weeks.

If you are interested in participating in this event, please contact Andrew Wagner at [andrewwagner@tds.net](mailto:andrewwagner@tds.net).



## FORMED®

Pray for all those things  
that lay deep in your heart.

**Today's Action Item:**  
Pray "Come Lord Jesus" today.

### How can you have Christmas without 'Silent Night'?

If you had told me a year ago that we would be planning for an Advent and Christmas season in 2020 without choirs and congregational singing, I would have laughed in your face.



Advent without singing "O Come, O Come Emmanuel?" And how can you have Christmas without singing "Silent Night" in church?

As the director of music, this stark reality of a "quieter" church Christmas is a bit challenging for my spirit.

It's not a stretch to say this has been a tough year for pretty much everyone, and I think we were all hoping and praying that by Christmas, we'd be gathering together in church and welcoming the birth of the Christ child like we do every year – with voices raised in song and the church full of sound!

But that's not to be this year. While we won't be able to have every voice sing or enjoy the beautiful prelude music our choirs would provide before our Christmas Eve Masses, there will still be music – maybe some

instrumental, maybe some vocal solos.

People long to hear the familiar songs of Christmas when they come to church and we want to keep that treasured tradition going.

If you'll be joining us virtually, I hope you and your family will sing out those carols in your homes!

As I write this, I'm still trying to figure out exactly what the music will look like for Christmas this year. We all know how quickly things can change with this pandemic.

But one thing is certain. Even though Christmas 2020 will look and feel different this year, the love, joy, and hope that come from the celebration of the birth of Jesus remain constant and strong. — Joy Bauman, Director of Music

# Stewardship

## A constant companion

As Christians, we are called to a life of prayer. This is not just during seasons like Advent, but all year long.

When we talk about being prayerful everyday stewards, we are speaking about cultivating an awareness of God being with us at all times.

Each day we begin by offering God the entirety of our day. Each night we rest in Him and hope that the hours that passed gave Him glory.

During this busy time of Advent, it is hard to cultivate this life of prayer, but without it we can too easily lose sight of the reason for the season.

It is during this time of year we need to heed the words of St. Paul more than ever when he wrote to the Thessalonians, "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing."

This is how we will be able to avoid the pitfalls of consumerism and secularism and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Bring Jesus with you into the office Christmas party. Take him with you shopping for gifts in the department store. Be aware of him when you sit down to watch television specials you have seen every year of your life. Give him all your time and let his presence fill your every moment.

By striving to be connecting with Jesus at all times, you will bear greater fruit and the joy you experience will be much greater than you could imagine.

You might even spend a few less dollars and spend more time with those you love, particularly the one who loves you the most, the Incarnation himself.— Tracy Earl Welliver

## Bless Our Priests collection this weekend

Make sure to remember the retired priests of our diocese by making a gift to the Bless Our Priests collection.

This collection is used to directly support all retired priests welfare including the rising cost of healthcare, long-term care and medical costs.

Please return your gift in the envelopes available in your envelope packet and at all church entrances this weekend.

Your generosity supports retired priests from all 11 counties of our diocese!

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP

November 22, 2020

God's Plan.....	\$15,243.25
Building Maintenance.....	\$360.00
Offertory.....	\$272.00
Christmas.....	\$10.00
National Combined Collection.....	\$1.05

You can submit your weekly contributions by electronic bank transfer, mailing your envelopes to the parish office or by credit card through Vanco at [stbmidd.org/online-giving](http://stbmidd.org/online-giving).

If you are interested in submitting your contributions by electronic bank transfer or need to make changes in your financial support, please call Laurie Zimmerman at 829-5875 for more information. Thank you for using envelopes.

# Calendar

## 'Keep Christ in Christmas' magnet sale this weekend



Knights of Columbus Council #4549 will hold a "Keep Christ in Christmas" magnet sale after all Masses on Dec 12-13.

Tables will be set up near the church entrances for you to take a magnet and make a suggested donation of \$5 per magnet.

### Sunday, December 13 - KC Magnet Sale

7:00 PM AA/Alanon Meeting/REC LL

### Monday, December 14

### Tuesday, December 15

8:45 AM Eucharistic Adoration/Chapel

9:00 AM Our Lady's Good Helpers/REC

1:30 PM Rosary hosted by the Living Rosary/Via Zoom

5:00 PM Reconciliation/Church

### Wednesday, December 16

### Thursday, December 17

### Friday, December 18

### Saturday, December 19

3:45 PM Reconciliation/Church

### Sunday, December 20

7:00 PM AA/Alanon Meeting/REC LL



## Parish Events



From left to right: Fr. Mike Bertrand, the pastor at St. Francis of Assisi in Milwaukee; Jessica Luebbering, the executive director of Fr. Gene's Help Center in Milwaukee; St. Bernard parishioner Bob Krenke; and Steve Calme of the St. Vincent de Paul conference at St. Francis helped to unload about 175 coats and two large bags of scarves, hats and mittens at the parish office. Many of the coats will be distributed at the help center.



Neal and Connie Bickler of St. Bernard's St. Vincent de Paul Conference picked up the gift cards and other items to be delivered to the Little Drummer program in Madison.

### Prayer shawls to warm your body and soul

If you know someone who could use some extra prayers, please feel free to take a prayer shawl from the wood chest located at the back of church.

These beautiful shawls are made by and prayed over by the women of the parish and blessed by Fr. Brian.

They will warm you and your loved ones— body and soul!

If you would like to make a monetary or yarn donation, contact Sharon Braem at [scbraem@tds.net](mailto:scbraem@tds.net) or 608-335-9001 to arrange a pick-up of your items.

## IN & AROUND THE DIOCESE OF MADISON

**Advent Deaf Retreat:** Evangelizing the Love of Christ with Fr. Christopher Klusman from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee will be held from noon to 5 p.m., Dec. 12 at **St. Dennis Parish** in Madison. Please RSVP to Sue Gudenkauf at [sueginterpreting@gmail.com](mailto:sueginterpreting@gmail.com). Please also let her know if you are interested in the virtual option.

Let us appreciate our spouses by attending the next virtual Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend from Jan. 12 to Feb 2, in a series of two sessions per week for three weeks of roughly two hours each. Call 888-574-5653 or visit our website at [alifetimeoflove.org](http://alifetimeoflove.org).

**Catholic women ages 20-35:** You are invited! Consider the **Franciscan Sisters'** upcoming "Discern Your Calling" Zoom events. Discernment of Spirits Retreat and four-day silent retreats are among choices designed for you. For more information, contact us at [fsc-calledtobe.org](http://fsc-calledtobe.org).

Praying for the dead is a spiritual work of mercy, and your Catholic cemetery takes this responsibility to heart. Join Fr. Chad Droessler in praying the Mass for the dead at **Resurrection Cemetery** at 10a.m., Dec. 18. All are invited. For more information or to purchase graves or headstones, please call the office at 608-238-5561.

### Virtual Baby Bottle Campaign!

Pro-Life Wisconsin's Helping Both Program fills the gap for families and gives hope to moms in crisis pregnancies. Your generosity provides the financial resources to continue supporting families in need.

Donate at: [www.prolifewi.org/donate](http://www.prolifewi.org/donate)



### Winter 'Bee' now available

The winter edition of "The Bee" is now available on our website at [stbmid.org/bulletins-1](http://stbmid.org/bulletins-1).

It has also been mailed to each of the 1,700 families of the parish.

It includes details about the renovation of the parish center, a history of the St. Nick program, and photos of the bishop's recent visit with our preschoolers.





Concrete work was recently completed on the outside of the church by Kraemer Brothers Construction. The base was prepared for the brick-covered beam that will be installed in the space.

## Creation Care Corner



*"... to defend the earth and to safeguard water is to protect life."*

*— Pope Francis*

### WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP RECOMMENDATION:

**Plastic waste** is a huge and growing problem. Only 9% of the 9 billion tons of plastic produced has been recycled. There is very little demand for the plastic you do recycle. 40 % of all plastic is designed to be used once and tossed. Plastic doesn't decompose easily and can last 100s of years. The waste clogs landfills and waterways, and poses hazards to animals and fish life. It breaks up into ever smaller microplastics getting into our air and food chain with unknown health effects.

#### What you can do:

- Say NO to single-use plastic. Carry your own cups, bags, to-go containers, utensils and forget the straws.
- Say NO to bottled water and pop. Carry refillables.
- Choose more biodegradable/recyclable materials like glass, paper, cardboard and metal instead of plastic... and then recycle those items.
- Avoid products with excessive packaging, excessive plastic packaging, and parts. If it leaves behind plastic trash, try not to buy it.

*Recycle what you can't refuse, reduce or reuse.*

### DEATHS

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the family of **Doreen Laufenberg**, who passed away on Dec. 5. May God grant her the peace and joy of heaven; and to her family, the consolation of their Catholic faith. May she rest in peace.

### FLOCKNOTE

If you do not receive Fr. Brian's weekly email in your inbox, please contact Barb Harrington in the parish office at 831-6531 to add your email to our list. In our changing environment, Fr. Brian sends updates to our schedule as well as making other important announcements.

### BAPTISM

If you are expecting a child, please register for a Baptism Preparation Class, which is normally held from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the third Saturday of each month in the parish library. For more information, contact Jenna Ripp at [jenna@stbmidd.org](mailto:jenna@stbmidd.org) or 829-5878.

### HOSPITAL/HOME VISITS

Please call Kevin Laufenberg at 829-5876 whenever you or someone close to you is seriously ill so that he can plan a time for a visit. Also call if you or someone you know is homebound and would like a visit, a phone call or the Eucharist.

### LOST AND FOUND

Have you lost or misplaced car keys, jewelry, religious items or umbrellas in the church? If there is a particular item that you have lost, please check the table in the usher's room. If it cannot be found there, please call the parish office at 831-6531.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you plan to move, change your address or leave the parish, please contact the parish office at 831-6531, so we can update our records.

### HEARING AIDS

If you cannot hear what is being said during Mass, St. Bernard has several Williams Sound brand hearing assistance receivers available to parishioners. Just ask one of the ushers for help. The sound amplifier works through the parish sound system. If you have checked out a receiver and no longer need it, please return it to the church for others to use.

### PREGNANCY HELPLINE

Pregnancy Helpline of Madison recently moved to a new warehouse on the east side of Madison. Go to [www.pregnancyhelpline.net](http://www.pregnancyhelpline.net) to find out how you can help by volunteering or donating.

### St. Bernard Cemetery

All gravesite decorations that families wish to keep should be removed this month in preparation for winter. All debris should also be discarded. If you have any questions, call Tom Theis at 831-6531.

**SIMON HOME TEAM**  
 Nick Simon  
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 E-Mail: simonn@firstweber.com

Sam Simon Gladys Simon  
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