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# THE SPIRIT OF ST. BERNARD

Volume 10 Issue 5

November/December 2009

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## **A LETTER FROM FR. MIKE**

We are now into the holiday season as we anticipate Thanksgiving Day, Christmas and New Years. It is important that during this sacred and joyous time of the year, we pause and prayerfully give thanks for our many gifts, adore our Lord and Savior who became one of us, and reflect on the blessings of the New Year. It is also a time to participate and share in special liturgies with our parish family and to cherish and enjoy wonderful times with family and friends.

Recently during the weekend Masses, we introduced the Parish Offertory Program for the year 2010. Many of you completed a commitment card in which you indicated your financial support for our parish on a weekly, monthly, quarterly or annual basis and for that I thank you most sincerely. You have made my job in the area of financial administration of our parish almost worry free. I have said this so often, but it is no less sincere. I think I am the luckiest priest in the Diocese of Madison to be blessed to be here at Saint Bernard's.

We have had a very favorable response to our monthly stewardship forms which in August we began placing in the pews for the two weeks preceding the month in need. I invite and encourage you to participate in the many activities and ministries that need the volunteer help of many people if they are to be viable and successful. You are an extraordinary parish family and you are wonderful stewards in sharing your time, talent and treasure.

Over the past couple of months we have incurred some extraordinary expenses relating to needed repairs of the rectory. During the past year it has

become noticeable that many of the fifty-five year old rectory windows are beginning to dry-rot and the casement hardware on most of the windows is beyond repair. The windows themselves are not energy efficient. At our September parish leadership meeting, it was decided that the 66 windows should be replaced. We have contracted with Daniels Construction to remove and dispose of the existing windows, prep openings for new windows, install parish purchased Anderson clad double hung windows, insulate around the perimeter as required, caulk and seal, stain and varnish the interior and trim, trim out interior and exterior, and clean-up. The total cost of this project is \$51,788.80. As a separate project, we contracted this past summer to replace in the rectory breeze-way the worn out aluminum patio doors and windows for a total cost of \$13,146. Also, the front wood entrance door to the rectory is beyond repair and needs to be replaced; however, because it is an oversized entry door the cost to replace it as is would necessitate a custom made door and the cost would be enormous. Instead, we will trim and fill-in around the opening from the existing oversized door to make it the size of a normal entry door and then install a new wood grained metal door, which will be maintenance free. The total cost of this project is \$2,762.

Two weeks ago, we experienced a serious leak in the rectory kitchen from the apartment bathroom on the second floor. It was determined that the leak was coming from worn-out tile enclosure around the tub and that the drywall in back of the surrounding tile was damaged and needed to be replaced to avoid any problems with mold. The most economical thing to do would be to repair the drywall and replace the tile and old tub with a new fiberglass tub surround, faucet/shower head, and shower door. Because the bathroom is so

small, the existing toilet and vanity needed to be removed in order to remove the old tub so it was decided to install a new toilet and vanity. The total cost for this project is \$2,700. Finally, and I hope this is the end, last month the twenty-year-old small oven in the rectory kitchen stopped working and it was decided it would be most economical not to have it repaired but to replace it with a new oven. The cost of the new wall oven with installation is \$875.00.

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## **GENERATIONS OF FAITH**

(Aka-Religious Formation)

2009-2010 "Responding in Prayer"

Session Three: "We Are Called To Pray - Advent"

**Sunday, December 6, 11AM -1PM**

**Monday: Attend the Holy Day Mass**

**Gathering** - Share a meal

**Opening** – Music, Prayer and Intro  
Large Group experience

**Going deeper** - Age appropriate groups

**The Sharing** - Large group sharing

**The Sending** - Closing Prayer

**The Celebration** - Participate at Mass

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## **ST. BERNARD PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

The people of St. Bernard Parish  
Endeavoring to deepen our relationship with God  
proclaim the Good News:

Through prayerful liturgical celebrations,  
education, ministry, hospitality, and  
evangelization.

Provide outreach that meets the needs of our local  
and universal community.



## **NOVEMBER PARISH COUNCIL Pastoral Council met in November 2009 and the following was discussed:**

**Two-Minute Reports: (Leadership night will  
now be held the third Tuesday of the month.)**

### **Administration:**

- ❖ Monthly stewardship forms are working fairly well.
- ❖ Numerous repairs to windows and plumbing in the rectory are underway as well as front doors to the church. Total cost of many items is \$79,000.00.
- ❖ The pictorial directory is close to being done.
- ❖ The website has been updated and we encourage all to take a look at it.

**Members:** Dick Rinehart, Bernie Haskins, Jack Rebholz, Carol Doran, John Baggott

**Council Members:** Carol Doran & John Baggott

### **Human Concerns**

- ❖ St. Vincent de Paul needs more volunteers from St. Bernards, possibly one Thursday during the month from 2:00-7:00 pm. Volunteers would be stocking shelves, assisting clients, registering people, participating in home visits on Saturday mornings. We will put notices in the bulletin. Plan for January. Mike Hoffman will put notices in the newsletter and bulletin.
- ❖ Habitat for Humanity didn't have room to accommodate us on October 17. Nancy Smith will check on Northport Habitat dates for spring.
- ❖ Clarify future of Easter basket project, is it moving or not?
- ❖ Care Ministry Team didn't have a big response. Connie Hultman will follow-up with Linda K. of Catholic Charities.
- ❖ The "Giving Tree" will be going up in Church the weekend of, November 14 and 15, 2009.

**Members:** Kay Sweeney, Nancy Smith, Connie Hultman (Staff), Sally O'Malley, Mike Hoffman (President of St. Vincent de Paul)

**Council Members:** Kay Sweeney & Vacancy

### **Parish Life & Community Commission**

- ❖ We need to decide on the Christmas gift to parishioners from the parish.
- ❖ We decided on a couple of ideas but need to present them to Fr. Mike.

- ❖ We will be calling people to ask them to help us distribute them at the Christmas Masses.

**Members:** Phyllis Daggett, Cathy Scott, Mary Ellen Rickert, Gloria Brockman (Staff)

**Council Members:** Phyllis Daggett & Cathy Scott

### Liturgical & Spiritual Life Commission

- ❖ The commission will assist in planning a prayer service for Generations of Faith. One member of our commission will attend the monthly GOF meetings. December 8 will be Margie Christoph and January 12 will be Sue Richgels.
- ❖ Ken and Michelle will meet to get readers. The bells will play *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* for the December GOF.
- ❖ One member had a conflict in changing to the third Tuesday of the month of Leadership Night.

**Members:** Michelle Eisenrich (Trustee), DiAnne Raczek, Margie Christoph, Sue Richgels, Carol Grovesteen, Judy Nelson, Joan Phelan, Josh Bogovich (Youth), Ken Sosinski (Staff)

**Council Members:** Margie Christoph & DiAnne Raczek

### Religious Education

- ❖ Planned the Generations of Faith, next session is on Advent.
- ❖ The commission invited us all to join them for Evening Prayer every second Wednesday, and every third Thursday in Church. You can also go online for morning prayer at:

<http://www.universalis.com/lauds.htm> and evening prayer at <http://www.universalis.com/vespers.htm>

**Members:** Meghan Stern, Ruth Wiegel-Sterr, Rich Bogovich, Geri Nehls (Staff), Sr. M. Marcia Vinje (Staff) (including Generations of Faith Planning Team, Shana LaFore, Manolo Prandini, Georgia Strebe, Paul Kachelmaier, Mary Ann Haack, Jan Rinehart).

**Council Members:** Rich Bogovich & Vacancy

### Parish Council Minutes

(The Parish Council meets right after the Leadership meeting)

**Members Present:** Rich Bogovich (Council Chair), Carol Doran, Nancy Smith, Kay Sweeney (Council Vice-Chair), DiAnne Raczek, Margie Christoph, Cathy Scott, Phyllis Daggett, Mary Ann Haack, Geri Nehls, Andy Milkowski (Parish Trustee), Michelle Eisenrich (Parish Trustee)

Kay Sweeney led the Council in prayer. Margie Christoph agreed to do so for the January meeting.

Rich Bogovich is the new Council chairperson and Kay Sweeney is the vice chairperson. The Council did not name a secretary but will consider a rotation schedule for minute taking at its next meeting.

So far, only one Leadership Night participant has reported that switching from the second to the third Tuesday in odd-numbered months would pose a conflict.

The Council discussed new strategies for getting more parishioners involved in Leadership Night, a topic that will be explored more at the next meeting. To begin with, the Council is considering discarding the name “Leadership Night” because some parishioners have assumed incorrectly that if they aren’t a handpicked or formally elected “leader” then they aren’t supposed to attend.

Rich Bogovich will identify appropriate updates to the Covenant Booklet that provides the parameters for Leadership Night.

The Council discussed whether the role of the Human Concerns and Social Justice Commission should change with regard to the annual preparation of Easter baskets. The sense of the Council was that the Human Concerns and Social Justice Commission should play a similar role for next year and beyond, but it will be made clearer to Generations of Faith attendees who help with the baskets that the task requires volunteer work not limited to a single week.

*Submitted by: Rich Bogovich, Council Chair*

### WOMEN OF ST. BERNARD

The Women of St. Bernard have set dates for their upcoming events. Please mark your calendars for the following dates:

#### December 5

**Baby Jesus Shower** (Mass & Breakfast)  
In the Church & Church Hall

Contact: Phyllis Daggett at 249-7024

Speaker: Zara Nehls- Romanian Mission Trip

(continued on next page)

**December 12 & 13**

**Christmas Cookie Sale** after all Masses in the Church Lobby

Contact: Mary Ann Haack at 249-5018 or Jan Rinehart at 223-9146

The Women of St. Bernard will hold their next business meeting on **Thursday, December 17, 2009 at 7:00 pm** in Room 1 of the Parish Center. All women of the parish are welcome to attend.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

St. Bernard's Knights of Columbus Council #9082 is a small group of men dedicated to helping the parish and surrounding community. Faith, family and fraternity make up our foundation.

In recent months we have held several fundraisers including two Brat Stands this summer and "More Than a Pancake Breakfast" in October. We thank the parish and the community for their support of these events. Some of the profits from these events have been given in support of our seminarians, handicapped, Right to Life, and various parish programs.

In spring and fall we also clean up the parish grounds.

In March of 2010 we will be celebrating 25 years as a Knights of Columbus Council in St. Bernards Parish.

Our meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm in the Parish Rectory.

We gladly welcome all parish gentlemen to join our group. Please call Phil Lord at 241-2904 or Jim Alt at 221-8961 if you are interested.

*Submitted by: Larry Esser*

**TRAVELING CHALICE**

Please help us pray for vocations! You can do so by taking part in our Parish's "Traveling Chalice" program. It's very easy to join, we will have sign-up sheets at the parking lot entrance to Church after all Masses the first part of December or you can call Gloria Brockman, Administrative Assistant at 249-9256 and schedule a time with her

All you need to do is pick-up the Chalice after the weekend Mass you attend and keep it until the following Friday. There is a prayer card that comes with it for you to pray with your family daily. The following is a list of people that have signed-up for the next few weeks:

**November 22, 2009**

Cathy & Guy Scott – 10:00 am Mass

**November 29, 2009**

Kay Sweeney – 10:00 am Mass

**December 6, 2009**

Dave & Mary Ann Haack – 8:00 am Mass

**December 13, 2009**

Scott Rentmeester – 8:00 am Mass

**December 20, 2009**

Eugene & Gloria Brockman – 10:00 Mass

**December 27, 2009**

Available for someone to take home



**ALL COOKIE BAKERS!!!**

The Women of St. Bernard are hosting their annual Christmas Cookie Sale, December 12 and 13, 2009 after the Masses. Please dig out your rolling pins and share your favorite cookies with all of us! We are asking each of you to please donate six dozen homemade holiday cookies. The cookies can be dropped off in the Church Hall on **Friday, December 12** between **4:00-7:00 pm**. Please make sure your name is on your container. Empty containers can be picked up in the Church Hall after any of the Masses the weekend of the sale. If you have any questions please call Mary Ann Haack at 249-5018. Thank you so much! Happy Baking!!



### SPAGHETTI DINNER DATE

The annual spaghetti dinner is scheduled for **Saturday, January 23** in the Parish Center Gymnasium. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.



### ST. BERNARD CATHOLIC PRESCHOOL

The Preschool enjoyed our first field trip of the school year. We picked pumpkins and observed some animals that live on the farm. The children have made one of several planned trips to St. Mary's Adult Center. On this visit we paraded in our costumes and sang a few fall songs. We continue to practice recognizing and writing our alphabet. Parent-Teacher conferences went well and will be held again at the end of February. Reminder to parents the preschool will be closed on **Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27**. Enjoy Thanksgiving with your loved ones!

#### BAPTISMS

Gabriella Williams,  
daughter of Vince & Karen Williams  
Simon Seidl,  
son of Michael & Gwen Seidl  
Eric Morehead  
son of Christopher & Christine Morehead

#### MARRIAGES

Brandon Ballweg & Stephanie Chadwick  
Andrew Pieper & Elizabeth Radke  
Samuel Harshner & Amber Wichowsky  
Jonathan Schultz & Tiffany Bernhardt  
Scott Brooks & Carlee Haack  
Joshua Ptaszynski & Shawn Rogers

### REST IN PEACE

Ruth M. Baldinus  
Dorothy M. Betts  
JoAnn M. Halvorsen  
Mary F. Montgomery  
Helen F. Pecosky  
Mary M. Powers  
Gregory T. Smith



### YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

A number of exciting things have been happening with our youth here at St. Bernard Parish. The middle school recently hosted a Family Movie Night, watching *Akeelah and the Bee*, about a young girl preparing for a national spelling bee with help from her whole community. Our audience ranged from one month old to grandparents. It was a lot of fun and we plan to do it again.

The High School Youth Group is currently planning a service project for the community. Stay tuned to hear what, where, when and for whom. Walking in the footsteps of Jesus motivates us to reach out to our neighbors as He did. We are calling this project "*Love Continues Here*" as a follow-up to the summer diocesan project "*Love Begins Here*."

We currently have nine youth in the final preparation year for Confirmation that will take place on **May 2, 2010** at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church. Another class has started for the first year of the two-year preparation cycle. Please keep these young people in your prayers as they grow deeper in their love for Jesus and respond to His call to serve His Church.

In addition, members of the St. Bernard Youth are participating in diocesan events and retreats. Jesus is alive in our youth!



## **YOUTH 2000 RETREAT**

Following the generous blessings the Lord granted us in last March's YOUTH 2000 Retreat, the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis is excited to announce the date for the next YOUTH 2000: **February 26-28, 2010**. Again, the retreat will be lead by the *Franciscan Friars and Sisters of the Renewal* from the Bronx, NY, and held at the Bishop O'Connor Catholic Pastoral Center in Madison. This weekend long retreat is aimed at helping young people "meet Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, in a life changing way," and provides an excellent opportunity for a Confirmation preparation retreat as well. Youth and young adults ages 13-30 are invited.

## **FOR YOUTH & PARENTS**

### **CHASTITY PANEL**

**WHEN:** January 24, 2010 – 7:00-8:30 pm, Christ the King Parish, 5306 Main Street, McFarland, WI.

Panel to include: Dr. Michael Kloss, Fr. Eric Sternberg, Leah Stader and Matt and Rebecca Sande

### **LIVING OUT JOHN PAUL'S II THEOLOGY OF THE BODY**

Sunday, April 11, 2010 – 7-8 pm  
Location: St. Ann Parish – Stoughton, WI  
Panel to include: Monica & Ryan Freng, Chris Gernetzke, Marissa Mastrangeli, and Brad Lipinski and a single UW male and female.  
Cost: free-will offering. Register at [www.madisondiocese.org/youth](http://www.madisondiocese.org/youth) Questions: contact Andy Galvin at 821-4517 or Sarabeth Bowe at 838-9797.

### **RESURRECTION RALLY 2010**

Madison Area Catholic High School Youth Rally

You are invited to come, spend time with 300 area youth and grow in your Catholic faith by attending Resurrection 2010, **February 5-7, 2010**, at the Chula

light-hearted speaker and musician who shares his faith through story, humor, and audience participation. (See [www.cooperray.com](http://www.cooperray.com))

Why should you come to Resurrection 2010? Jesus wants us to put out into the deep. Sometimes going outside our comfort zone is tough. But if we do so and give up a weekend for Him, we may just make some sort of a great catch. The chances are VERY high that you will have a blast while doing it! Parishioner Elizabeth Wendt is on the planning team.

A nationally-known keynote speaker, break-out sessions, indoor water park, food, prayer, Reconciliation, Adoration, celebration of the Eucharist, banquet, for only \$80.00 per person if registered by November 20, 2009. After November 21 the registration fee is \$100.00. Lodging is additional. \$40.00 deposit is due with registration. Contact Sister Marcia at [stb-ym@charterinternet.com](mailto:stb-ym@charterinternet.com) or 259-9256 Ext. 232 for registration or more information. Adults are welcome as chaperons.



## **SERVICE PROJECT**

**Our high school youth are planning a service project. If you would like to take part in planning or helping please call Sr. Marcia at 608-249-9256 Ext. 323**

Parish of Saint Bernard  
2450 Atwood Avenue  
Madison, Wisconsin 53704

**Mass Schedule**  
**Saturday at 5 PM**  
**Sunday at 8 & 10**

**Parish Telephones/Email:**

**Parish Administration – 249-9256**

Pastor, ext. 222	stb-pastor@chartermi.net
Parish Administrative Asst., ext. 221	stb-office@chartermi.net
Financial Secretary, ext. 223	stb-finance@charterinternet.com

**Pastoral and Education Ministries – 249-7288**

Catholic Preschool, ext. 228	stb-preschool@chartermi.net
Religious Formation Director, ext. 230	stb-education@chartermi.net
Youth & Family Minister, ext. 232	stb-ym@charterinternet.com
Worship and Music, ext. 225	stb-worship-music@chartermi.net
Pastoral & Bereavement Ministry – including Respite Care and Befrienders, ext. 229 or 318-2122	

Parish FAX – 244-3773

Website: [www.stbernards.net](http://www.stbernards.net)

Non-Profit Organization  
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Madison, WI  
Permit No. 1427



**3½ Stories  
of Christmas**

Celestial choirs...  
The shadow of wings...  
A flash of white light...  
AND.... he appears!  
**And he's not quite what you expected.**

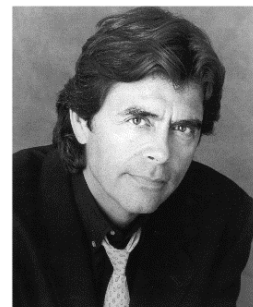


**Sunday, December 13, 2009, 6:00 p.m.**

**St. Dennis Church  
505 Dempsey Rd., Madison WI  
Free-will offering**

**Sponsored by EMCA**

(St. Bernard Parish, St. Dennis Parish, Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish and St. Peter Parish)



As part of our Christmas preparation, we invite the whole parish to join us at St. Dennis. Children and adults will be delighted as all the parts of the Christmas story are tied together for the first time: from the lights of Creation to the manger in Bethlehem, from the origin of Santa Claus to the secret of the Christmas Angel himself!

Frank Runyeon has starred in over 1000 television shows over the past 20 years... opposite Meg Ryan on AS THE WORLD TURNS, on SANTA BARBARA, FALCON CREST, GENREAL HOSPITAL, LA LAW, and MELROSE PLACE. He is an honor graduate of General Theological Seminary and Princeton University.