

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST. BERNARD

615 H St. Eureka, CA 95501 (707) 442-6466

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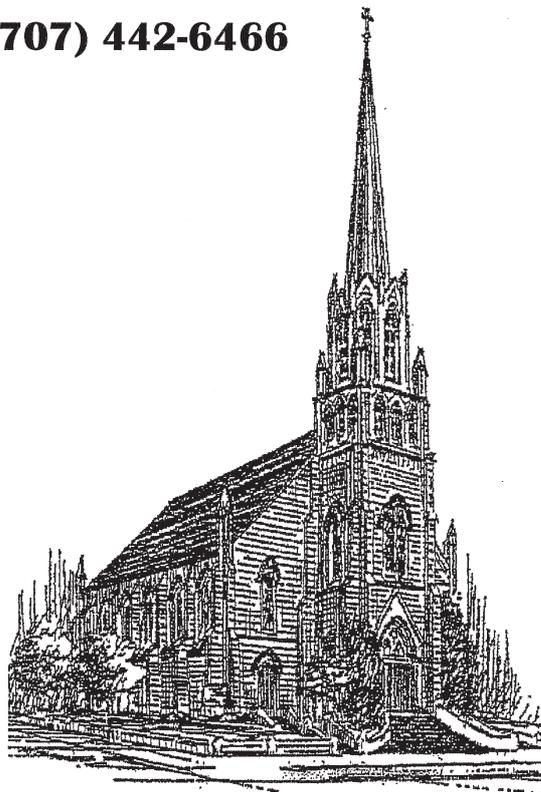
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Office Hours

Monday — Friday, 8am – 2pm
E- Mail: office@saintbernards.org
FAX: (707) 443-0914

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Mass Schedule at St. Bernard

Sundays: 10:30 am

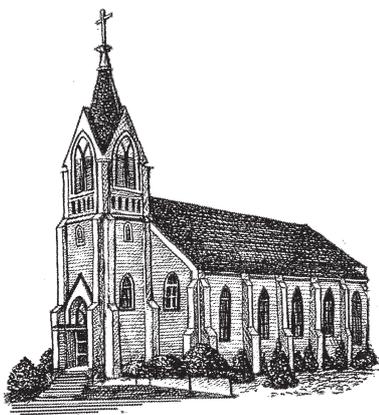
Weekdays: 12:15 pm. Mon, Wed, Fri

Holy Days: Vigil 7:00 pm, 12:15 pm

Confessions: Wednesdays 1:00 pm-

& by appointment

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Wed. 1-9pm



St. Joseph Mission Church Mass Schedule

(Located on the corner of C & Henderson St.)

Saturdays: 4:00 pm. (vigil), Sundays: 7:30 am.

Weekdays: Tuesdays & Thursdays 7:30 am.

Holy Days: 7:30 am

Confessions: Saturdays 3:15-3:45 pm & by appt.

Third Sunday of Advent, December 11, 2016



No Offense, But In the First Reading, the prophet Isaiah predicts that when the Messiah comes, he will make the blind see, the deaf hear, the mute speak, and the lame walk and leap. In the Gospel Reading, when John the Baptist sends his disciples to ask Jesus whether Jesus is the one the Israelites have been waiting for, Jesus says they should tell John that Jesus has done all these things and more. Even the dead are raised!

This is, of course, a spectacular list of wonders. Anyone who can make the blind see is amazing. Anyone who can raise the dead is working great miracles. And so a person who does what Jesus did clearly has the power of God. For that reason, he is to be admired, loved, and feared.

So why does Jesus finish his list of miraculous deeds by saying “Blessed is the one who takes no offense at me?” Offense? Offense at what?

Well, think about it this way. What is God anyway, a pure act? Being itself? Utterly unknowable by us? Those phrases have a lot of dignity about them, don’t they? Somehow, they seem worthy of the Deity. Why would we think our puny minds could know anything about something so magnificent, so great, as God? Why wouldn’t God be something totally other than any of his creatures?

We can know God, and we can see God’s face in the face of Jesus. But notice that it’s hard to have a personal relationship with being itself, and pure act doesn’t seem like a person who can seek you first. At any rate, if God is unknowable by you, then you don’t have to worry about facing him on a daily basis. You can’t face what you can’t know. And for how many people is that subterranean thought deeply comforting? But Christ wrecks it.

Christ is not unknowable and he is not something abstract, like being itself. He is a particular person, and he has a face. True, he is God incarnate, and his face is human. But, still, his face is the face of God. “If you have seen me, you have seen the Father,” Jesus tells Philip (John 14:9).

So we can know God, and we can see God’s face in the face of Jesus. God is present to us as a person in the person of Christ. And God in the person of Christ is always with us (Matt. 28:20)! We can know him and face him every day.

Blessed is the one who takes no offense at this.

Eleonore Stump

Question: John asked Jesus if he was “the one who is to come.” Jesus answered with the above statement. The people who came to John were seeking the deepest desires of their hearts. How was Jesus’ response an answer to those desires?

Today’s Readings

Reading I: Isaiah 35:1-6A, 10

Reading II: James 5:7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Next Sunday’s Readings

Reading I: Isaiah 7:10-14

Reading II: Romans 1:1-7

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

St Joseph Church

12/10 Sat 4:00 pm Don Michael †
12/11 Sun 7:30 am Mass for the People
12/13 Tue 7:30 am Int. Eve Misztal
12/15 Thu 7:30 am Don Giacomini †
12/17 Sat 4:00 pm Louis Bonomini †
12/18 Sun 7:30 am Jim Nickols †

St Bernard Church

12/11 Sun 10:30 am Ernie & Lisa Domingo †
12/12 Mon 12:15 pm Cerini Family †
12/14 Wed 12:15 pm Douglas Williams †
12/16 Fri 12:15 pm Int. Adam Hogue
12/18 Sun 10:30 am Gerrilyn Becksted †

St Joseph Hospital

12/13 Tue 11:30 am Dec. Mem. ICF †
12/15 Thu 11:30 am Joe, Rosemary, Billy Simera †

Prayer Line “If you have a special need of any sort, we have a prayer team who will pray on your behalf. Call our prayer line leader Toni at 445-3616-24/7.

Pray for the sick: Cathy McCormack, Mervyn Dody, Yvette Logan, Petra Cortec, Erin Ford, Ryan Pepper, Heather Walsh-Redner-Ringwald, Nancy Elgin, Kathi Branum, Allie, Isela Adams, Evelyn Avila, Jim Avila, Jeri Becksted, Nancy Brunner, Ed Dickinson, Sr. Gertrude Connolly, Barbara Hayes, Elizabeth McCaskill, Paul Shabata, Ashley Suthlund, Nancy Tompkins, Patricia Tritten, Victor Vellejo, Jenie Wood and John Kusters.

Please pray for the soul of Fr. Walter Rogina who passed away recently.

Stewardship The collection last weekend was **\$4,222.** This weekend the second collection is for Building & Maintenance.

Parish News & Events This Week

12/12 Mon 6:15 pm Children's Faith Formation
12/14 Wed 7:00 pm Confirmation Formation
12/15 Thu 1:00 pm Bible Study/Sacred Heart
12/15 Thu 7:00 pm RCIA/Sacred Heart Rectory

Children's Faith Formation News: We are beginning the 3rd week of Advent and there are also 3 important feast days to celebrate this week as a family. Beginning with Mon., Dec.12, Our Lady of Guadalupe. Our Lady reminds us that standing with the poor gets us ready for Jesus. How can you and your family share with the poor? Tues.13th, St. Lucy. Today in Sweden, the oldest daughter puts a wreath of candles on her head and brings breakfast to the family. Can you bring breakfast to your parents in bed? Wed. 14th, St. John of the Cross. Does your family have a favorite holiday cookie recipe? Bake some to share with someone. Have a wonderful week! Peace in Christ, Melanie Broswick

Youth Ministry: Confirmation will meet at our usual time Wednesday, Dec 14th at 7pm. We will break for Christmas and New Years and return January 11th. Hope you are all enjoying this advent season in preparation for our Lord. - In Christ, Analisa Alegria.

News This Week

Posada: You are invited to join the Hispanic Community at Sacred Heart Parish for the Posada Novena. We will pray the rosary, ask for Posada (a dwelling place for Jesus, Mary and Joseph), sing songs and have refreshments in the Sacred Shed. We will begin December 15th and end on December 23rd, 2016. The schedule is as follows: December 15, 18, 19, 20, 22, and 23 at 7:00pm and December 16, 17, and 21 at 8:00pm. On the 24th of December we will have the "Rocking to Sleep of the Baby Jesus" at 11:00pm in the Church. We will sing songs, meditate on the Scriptures passages of Christ's birth and venerate Baby Jesus on his birthday. These events will be in Spanish.

Topic for the Bible Study on Thursday: St. Matthew's Baptism of the Lord and the Temptation in the Desert, Chapters 3-4.

Pastor's Corner I would like to thank those who volunteered to bring cookies etc. for the Parish Advent Retreat this past week.

The Christmas schedule is out and there is a major change this year. It is not easy being a pastor of two parishes and trying to please all.

The Christmas Schedule

Sat, Dec 24 4:00 p.m. Children's Mass at Sacred Heart
7:00 p.m. Mass in Spanish
11:00 p.m. Mass at St. Bernard
Sun, Dec 25 7:30 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph
9:00 a.m. Mass at Sacred Heart
10:30 a.m. Mass at St Bernard
12:15 p.m. Mass in Spanish

Confessions in English (special times) Sat, Dec. 17th 10-11 a.m. at Sacred Heart and 12-1 p.m. at St. Bernard.

Pacific Coast Walk For Life The Pacific Coast Walk for Life, a Pro Life March, is scheduled in San Francisco on Saturday, January 21st. **The Knights of Columbus have organized a bus for the event. The bus will leave St. Eugene's at 8:00 a.m.** and go directly to Saint Mary's Cathedral where Archbishop Cordelone will be celebrating a Mass at 9:30am After Mass, participants will walk to Civic Center where the Walk for Life rally will begin. Afterwards, participants will walk the few block to the awaiting bus which will return everyone to St. Eugene's in the late afternoon. The cost is \$25 per person. If interested send a check and your contact information to Walk for Life 3485D Airway Dr, Santa Rosa, CA 95403. **Money must be received no later than Dec. 27th.** Any questions, please contact Mike Flanagan at 579-8982

St. Vincent de Paul These past several months have been challenging times for the St. Vincent de Paul Free Dining Facility. With the closure of the Palco Marsh, closure of the Budget Motel, and the shutting down of the overnight camping area we have seen our daily hot meals grow. As part of Eureka's plan for rapid re-housing the homeless, we are serving those waiting for housing opportunities with food and shelter as needed. For these increased services we receive no support from the City or County and rely on our generous community to keep us afloat. Please help us to serve the poorest of the poor by sending a donation to St Vincent de Paul, P. O. Box 1386, Eureka, CA 95502-1386. from 220 to 450 served. At Thanksgiving over 500 poor souls including the homeless, people on disability, senior citizens, fish plant workers, and children

Humor A woman went into a post office to buy some Christmas stamps "What denomination do you want" asked the lady at the counter. "Good Heavens" she replied, "Has it come to this? I suppose you'd better give me twenty Catholic, twenty Presbyterian and ten Baptists."

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