

# THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST. BERNARD

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

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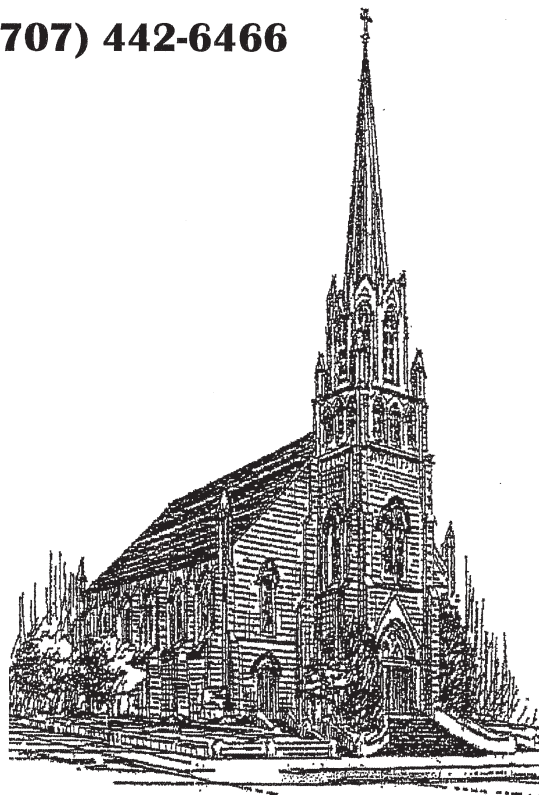
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Rev. Mike Cloney, Retired, in residence

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Fritz Sorensen, Maintenance 442-6466  
Dianne Luzzi, RCIA 442-8812  
Issa Stemler, Music Director 840-9514  
Toni Lee Estevo, Prayer Line 445-3616 (24/7)

## **Office Hours**

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

[www.saintbernards.org](http://www.saintbernards.org)



## **Mass Schedule at St. Bernard**

Sundays: 10:30 am

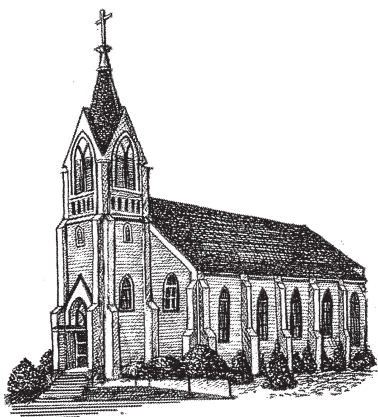
Weekdays: 12:15 pm. Mon, Wed, Fri

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.

# December 25, 2016, Christmas



CHRISTMASTIME

Giving and Receiving Have you ever worried about the gifts you give for Christmas? Well, not the gifts themselves but whether they will please the ones who receive them?

For instance, what if the giftee forces a courtesy smile and says, "Oh it is just what I wanted," or something similar? What if, later in the year, by accident, waiting for the person to answer their door which you have just knocked on, you glimpse the family rushing to bring your last year's gift up from the basement and hang it up in the living room?

So I used to keep second-guessing myself on every gift I shopped for. Look there, I would say, that is the perfect gift for this person, just right! But wait a minute, they don't have a fireplace mantle to sit it on. Or, will it go with their décor? Or does he or she even like that kind of thing. Maybe I will look like a fool. Or, or, or, or. That's normal, isn't it? Normal agonizing.

So I began to choose gifts that just felt right for each person on my Christmas list. I did not worry and worry whether it would please them, I let the person fill my mind and when I saw something that matched my sense of them, I bought it. Without worry. Every gift did actually delight the one who received it, but that isn't the point. My job was to open my heart and give. I let them take care of receiving it.

Maybe this is what God does at Christmas. So many people do say "No thanks" to the Christ child. But the Christmas babe is not born in order to get accepted. He is the spilling over of God's immense love for us. When God lets each of us into his mind, he senses that the baby Jesus is the perfect gift. Merry Christmas!

John Foley, SJ

**Question:** 1. If you want to find God today where might you start looking?

## Readings for Today

Reading I: Isaiah 9:1-6

Reading II: Timothy 2:11-14

Gospel: Luke 2:1-14 or Luke 2:15-20

## Readings next Sunday

Reading I: Numbers 6:22-27

Reading II: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

**Next Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, is a Regular Sunday Schedule**

## St Joseph Church

12/25 Sun 7:30 am For the Parish  
12/27 Tue 7:30 am Cathy McCormack †  
12/29 Thu 7:30 am Ivania Lopez †  
12/31 Sat 4:00 pm Int. Tomas Gonzales  
01/01 Sun 7:30 am Fr. Walt Rogina †

## St Bernard Church

12/24 Sat 11:00 pm Janet Barnum Downing †  
12/25 Sun 10:30 am Christmas Mass  
12/26 Mon 12:15 pm Frank & Rita Cizek †  
12/28 Wed 12:15 pm Special Intention  
12/30 Fri 12:15 pm Dr. Jack Walsh †  
01/01 Sun 10:30 am Fr. Eric Freed †

## St Joseph Hospital

12/27 Tue 11:30 am Marilyn Murphy †  
12/29 Thu 11:30 am Rene Alvarado †

**The 2017 calendars are on their way!**

**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:** Abby, Mervyn Dody, Yvette Logan, Petra Cortec, Erin Ford, Ryan Pepper, Heather Walsh-Redner-Ringwald, Nancy Elgin, Allie, Isela Adams, Evelyn Avila, Jim Avila, Nancy Brunner, Ed Dickinson, Barbara Hayes, Elizabeth McCaskill, Paul Shabata, Ashley Suthlund, Nancy Tompkins, Patricia Tritten, Victor Vellejo, Jenie Wood and John Kusters.

**Stewardship** The collection last weekend was **\$3,372** and Retirement Fund for Religious was **\$1,663**.

**Parish News & Events This Week**

**No gatherings this week because of holidays.  
The Office will be closed Monday and Tuesday.**

**Children's Faith Formation News:**

Merry Christmas to all of you! May God bless you during this happy Holy Season of Jesus' birth and my He bless your homes with peace and love. Enjoy this time off! Melanie

**Youth Ministry:**

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas! I hope you are all enjoying the time with your family and friends. In Christ, Analisa.

**Pastor's Corner:**

As a Christmas gift to the parish I have bought copies for most families of "**Resisting Happiness**" by **Matthew Kelly** Please take a copy for your family.

I will be gone my vacation time from Christmas Night to January 10<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon.

A blessed Christmas to you all!  
Fr Tom

**Humor** ON CHRISTMAS MORNING THE PRIEST NOTICED LITTLE ALEX STANDING IN THE FOYER OF THE CHURCH STARING UP AT A LARGE PLAQUE. IT WAS COVERED WITH NAMES WITH SMALL U.S.A. FLAGS MOUNTED ON EITHER SIDE OF IT.

THE SEVEN YEAR OLD HAD BEEN STARING AT THE PLAQUE FOR SOME TIME, SO THE PRIEST WALKED UP, STOOD BESIDE THE LITTLE BOY, AND SAID QUIETLY, "GOOD MORNING ALEX."

"MERRY CHRISTMAS FATHER," HE REPLIED, STILL FOCUSED ON THE PLAQUE. "FATHER, WHAT IS THIS?" HE ASKED THE PRIEST.

THE PRIEST SAID, "WELL, SON, IT'S A MEMORIAL TO ALL THE YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WHO DIED IN THE SERVICE."

FINALLY, LITTLE ALEX'S VOICE, BARELY AUDIBLE AND TREMBLING WITH FEAR, ASKED, "WHICH SERVICE, THE 9 OR THE 10:30?"

**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 the few blocks to Civic Center where the Walk for Life rally will occur. At 1:30pm, the Walk down Market Street begins. Afterwards, participants will walk the few blocks to our awaiting bus which will return everyone to St. Eugene's in the late afternoon. The cost is \$25 per person If you are 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. 27<sup>th</sup>.** Any questions, please contact Mike Flanagan at 579-8982.


**Save the Date** — Boy Scouts will hold its annual Crab Feed on Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>. Event will be held at St. Bernard's High School from 5-8 pm. All you can eat crab with Silent and Dutch auctions. Cost is \$30. For tickets call Frank at 499-5554 or Mike at 616-8692. All proceeds go to support the Scouts year round program of camping and summer adventures.

**A Christmas Prayer**

O sweet Child of Bethlehem,  
grant that we may share with all our hearts  
in this profound mystery of Christmas.  
Put into the hearts of men and women this peace  
for which they sometimes seek so desperately  
and which you alone can give to them.  
Help them to know one another better,  
and to live as brothers and sisters,  
children of the same Father.  
Reveal to them also your beauty, holiness and  
purity.  
Awaken in their hearts  
love and gratitude for your infinite goodness.  
Join them all together in your love.  
And give us your heavenly peace. Amen.

**St. Pope John XXIII**

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