

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST. BERNARD

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

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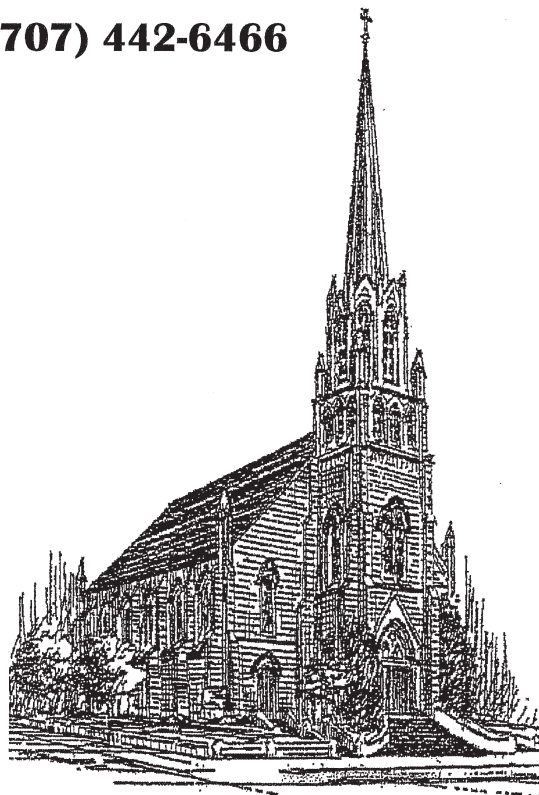
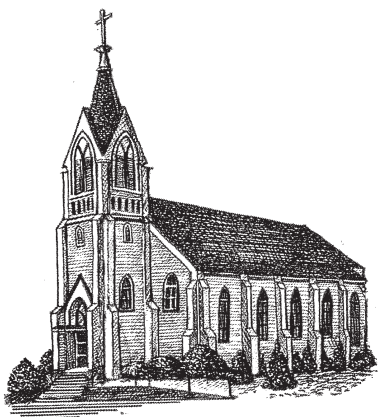
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Office Hours

Monday — Friday, 8am – 2pm
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FAX: (707) 443-0914

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 4, 2016, Second Sunday of Advent



The Gifts What things make you grateful? In this time of troubles? Maybe there aren't any. But maybe Advent is a time to rummage around your mind and look for some. You don't have to solve all the problems, just get some balance. Waiting calmly! Unthinking courtesy from strangers who stopped their car far down the street so that you can complete your jaywalk in safety! Your family. The dog. Your own life in its wonder and mystery even with all its losses and tangles. Trees shedding their leaves, wise about the snow and cold to come, The ability to see, if indeed you can do so. The holy darkness for those who cannot

And a paradox: the shocking smallness of your own self. This is good news, not bad. You are not the center of the universe. You do not have to control the everything or your neighborhood or even your own home. You can rest in God's everlasting arms and act when you can to help others. Smallness.

God will help us poor ones in the wrongs of this life. Once any of us gets a peek at how much God is giving, then gratitude might be on its way. For instance, Katharine Lee Bates took a trip to the top of Pike's Peak in Colorado and then wrote *America the Beautiful*. Her heart sat in awe at the spacious skies and amber waves of grain. Beautiful, and she put forth her gratitude for what she saw.

You and I do very little to "deserve" the mysterious goodness around us and in us. We are not required to be worthy of it because God gives everything out of pure generosity and love. God gazes in wonder at the world and each person in it, and says, "You are worth it. I will never leave you. Let me in." Such a gift.

Perhaps this gift is not tendered to you right now. Maybe life simply has too many problems, real problems. If so, then as you open your Advent eyes you will need to wait. God's delicate care for you and for us all is on the way. Maybe this year you will see a bit of it.

A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him: a spirit of wisdom and of understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength (First Reading).

God takes joy in small things. God will help us poor ones in the wrongs of this life. "He shall judge the poor with justice, and decide aright for the lands afflicted." He does not erase trouble, he loves us within it. If you cannot catch a glimpse of God's intimate love "for each hair on your head," then you must wait. God labors to give each creature the gift of a lifetime. It is well worth it.

I know, I know, with all the catastrophes in our world, how could any of this be possible? The answer? Wait. Clean your lenses. Open your eyes. Wait to see.

All shall be well,
and all shall be well,
every manner of thing shall be well.
The shoot of Jesse is sprouting fast.

John Foley, SJ

Question: Pope Francis summed up John the Baptists' vocation in three key words: "Prepare, discern and diminish." Why does he say we also need to diminish ourselves?

St Joseph Church

12/03 Sat 4:00 pm Mass for the People
12/04 Sun 7:30 am McKenna Family †
No weekday masses at 7:30 because of retreat
12/08 Thu 12:15 pm Mass Mary Hoffman †
12/10 Sat 4:00 pm Don Michael †
12/11 Sun 7:30 am Mass for the People

St Bernard Church

12/04 Sun 10:30 am Clarence Enos †
12/05 Mon 6:15 pm Frank & Rita Cizek †
12/06 Tue 6:15 pm Fr Walt Rogina †
12/07 Wed 6:15 pm Int. Chad Kryla
12/08 Thu 6:15 pm For the people of the parish
12/09 Fri 12:15 pm Rick Casanova †
12/11 Sun 10:30 am Ernie & Lisa Domingo †

St Joseph Hospital

12/06 Tue 11:30 am All Souls
12/08 Thu 11:30 am Int. Rutledge Family

Stewardship The collection last weekend was **\$2,745**. Next weekend the second collection is for Building & Maintenance.

Pray for the sick: Cathy McCormack, Brad Erickson, 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. Walt Rogina, a priest here in the late 80's who passed away on Thursday.

Parish News & Events This Week

12/04 Sun 8:30 am Knights of Columbus Breakfast

12/05 Mon 6:15 pm Children's Faith Formation

12/07 Wed 6:15 pm Confirmation class at
Mass/parish retreat

12/08 Thurs No Bible Study or RCIA because of
parish retreat instead at 6:15

Children's Faith Formation News: December is here and we are already celebrating the 2nd week of this holy season of Advent. I pray all of you are able to slow down a bit during the hustle and bustle and enjoy moments of reflection as we look forward to the birth of our Savior. Please note: for the children who meet with me for class on **Wednesday** evenings, there is **no class** this week on **December 7th** as Fr. Tom, would like all the kids in Confirmation to attend the **6:15pm** vigil Mass for the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the parish retreat. We will have class the following week. Peace in Christ, Melanie

Youth Ministry: Confirmation Class on DEC 7th will meet at 6:15 pm at St Bernard's Church for the 6:30 pm vigil mass of the Immaculate Conception, please be on time. In Christ, Analisa

Catholic Detention Ministries is requesting donations of small individually wrapped candies and unused Christmas cards with envelopes for the use of the inmates of the Humboldt County Correctional Facility. The facility requests that candies remain in their unopened store packages in which they are sold for safety reasons. Please leave donations at the church office no later than Monday December 12th for pickup. For information or questions call Bob at 677-1952.

St Bernard Parish Pancake Breakfast: Time 8:30 am till 12. Menu is pancakes, scrambled eggs, ham or sausage, applesauce, coffee and orange juice. Cost \$6 for adults, \$3 for children under 12. The proceeds go to the St. Bernard's Building Maintenance Fund.

"Save the Date!" On Sunday December 18th from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. there will be a Christmas Celebration for everyone in our Parish Communities at the St. Bernard's Parish Hall. This family event will include music, food, children's games, prizes and even a visit by Santa! Please plan to bring your favorite finger food or salad. Dessert and beverages will be provided. Please see the Knights of Columbus representative for more information.

Events outside the Parish, Today, Sunday

Beans & Linguica Dinner 4-7pm Ferndale Portuguese Hall –

Christ the King Annual Christmas Bazaar ends today, Sunday. Opens at 10am.



**“How Jesus’ Family
Is Just Like Your
Family...
How’s that?”**

**A Retreat this week
of Advent**

Dec 3rd - Dec 8th

**with Fr. Pat Foley, a renowned retreat master,
returning to Eureka
to St. Bernard and Sacred Heart Parishes
Come and rejuvenate yourselves during Advent**

**Father Pat Foley will preach at all the English
speaking masses this weekend then...**

St. Joseph

Monday-Wednesday: 12:15 pm. Prayer Service at St. Joseph Church with talk.

Thursday: 12:15 pm. Mass at St. Joseph Church with talk at 1 pm.

St. Bernard

Monday-Thursday 6:15 pm. Mass at St. Bernard Church with talk after mass at 7pm.

Refreshments after the evening talk.

Thursday is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and is a Holy Day of Obligation.


Pastor's Corner

Because of the Parish Retreat the Mass schedule is a bit different this week along with having The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. Please look to the schedule of masses on the former page.

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the womb of her mother, Saint Anne, free from original sin by virtue of the foreseen merits of her son Jesus Christ. The Catholic Church teaches that Mary was conceived by normal biological means, but God acted upon her soul (keeping her "immaculate") at the time of her conception.

Humor A little boy got lost at the YMCA and found himself in the women's locker room. When he was spotted, the room burst into shrieks, with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover. The little boy watched in amazement and then asked, 'What's the matter, haven't you ever seen a little boy before?'

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