

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST. BERNARD

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Office Hours

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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.

October 9, 2016, 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time



What the Samaritan Sees When Naaman the Syrian is cured of his skin disease, he asks Elisha permission to haul off a pile of dirt. What is the deal about the dirt? This is a puzzlement for us twentieth-century readers because we do not link the presence of God with geography. Things were different in the world of the Ancient Near East that provides the context for Elisha's healing of Naaman. In that time and place, every group had their own, local god. It was a breakthrough for the Israelites to acknowledge that their god, Yahweh, was in fact not just the god of Israel; Yahweh was the creator of all and therefore God of all. Thus, when Naaman is healed in the name of the God of the Israelites, he comes to the same insight: "Now I know that

there is no God in all the earth, except in Israel". But, since he has come to recognize that the God of all is especially the God of Israel, he wants to honor that fact by taking home as much of the land of Israel as he can pack into a two-mule cart.

This interest in the proper place to find the presence of God carries over into the Gospel account of Jesus' healing of the ten lepers. Luke makes much of sacred geography in this narrative. The Samaritan is acknowledging that the proper place to encounter the presence of God is in the person of Jesus.

Luke is careful to note that this episode occurs "along the borders of Samaria and Galilee" (apart from Jericho, this is the only location he mentions during the whole nine-chapter journey from Galilee to Jerusalem). When Jesus instructs the ten lepers to "show [themselves] to the priests," two things are implied. First, he is telling them to do what Leviticus instructs those who recover from quarantined skin diseases to do: to get certified by the Temple personnel as cured, so that they might resume normal life in the community. Second, the lone Samaritan (whom we learn later is among the ten) has a dilemma: to which temple should he report? Jesus surely means the Jerusalem Temple, but as a Samaritan he recognizes Mount Gerizim as the true place to worship God, and his priests are, of course, the Samaritan priests at Gerizim.

Since both Gerizim and Jerusalem are south of Galilee, the Samaritan can begin heading south with the gang of ten, but eventually he must face this choice of the proper place to meet God's mediators. On the way, the ten are cleansed from their disease. The Samaritan, alone among the ten, gets an insight: neither Jerusalem nor Gerizim is the sacred place to meet the mediation of God's presence. That "sacred space" is now the person of Jesus. And so he comes back to Jesus "praising God in a loud voice." He falls at the feet of Jesus thanking him. There is more to that word "thanking" than meets our English-reading eye and ear. For Luke writes *euchariston*—a word that is used in the Greek Bible only for thanks and praise given God. And "God" in Luke's writings is reserved for the Father. Thus, in Luke's language, this sentence is saying, in effect, that the Samaritan is acknowledging that the proper place to encounter the presence of God is in the person of Jesus.

Jesus' own words affirm this insight: "Was no one found who turned back to give glory to God except this foreigner?" Even the Greek word used here for "foreigner" (*allogenes*) is a tip-off. It was the word used on the signs posted on the balustrade in the Jerusalem Temple precincts, separating the Court of the Gentiles from the Court of Israel, banning non-Jews such from that more sacred inner court on pain of death.

Ironically, as Luke will spell out in the Acts of the Apostles, it is the foreigner who sees that Jesus is now the privileged "place" to meet the presence and healing power of the God of all. Dennis Hamm, SJ

Today's Readings

Reading I: 2 Kings 5:14-17
Reading II: 2 Timothy 2: 8-13
Gospel: Luke 17: 11-19

Next Sunday's Readings

Reading I: Exodus 17:8-13
Reading II: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2
Gospel: Luke 18: 1-8

Mass Schedule and Intentions

St. Bernard Church

10/09 Sun 10:30 am Carol Durbin †
10/10 Mon 12:15 pm Robert Hurst, Frances
Burger †
10/12 Wed 12:15 pm Morrison Gardner †
10/14 Fri 12:15 pm Cerini Family †
10/16 Sun 10:30 am Fr. Eric Freed †

St. Joseph Hospital

10/11 Tue 11:30 am Fred Pepper, Sr. †
10/13 Thurs 11:30 am Int of Julia Waters

St Joseph Church

10/08 Sat 4:00 pm Mass for the People
10/09 Sun 7:30 am Lois Gardner †
10/11 Tue 7:30 am Mary Hoffman †
10/13 Thu 7:30 am Joe, Rosemary, Billy Simera †
10/15 Sat 4:00 pm Dec. Mem. ICF †
10/16 Sun 7:30 am Mass for the People †

Stewardship: The collection last weekend was **\$4,321**. This weekend the second collection is for The Building & Maintenance Fund.

Remember to use the Gallon by Gallon envelope in your envelope mailing as we have painted both churches and the fund has very little in for next summer's painting of the rectory and more.

Pray for the sick: 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, Therese Dick, Ed Dickinson, Sr. Gertrude Connolly, Barbara Hayes, Elizabeth McCaskill, Debbie McCollister, Paul Shabata, Ashley Suthlund, Nancy Tompkins, Patricia Tritten, Victor Vellejo, Jenie Wood and John Kusters

Parish News & Events This Week

10/10 Mon 6:15 pm Faith Formation in English for children at St. Bernard Academy

10/13 Thu 7:00 pm RCIA Upstairs Parish Hall

Monday - What Is Salvation from the perspective of the early Church Fathers. Fr. David Anderson 6 at St. Joseph PAC in Fortuna at 7pm

Children's Faith Formation News: We had a great 3rd week of Faith Formation on Monday evening! Parents who are still thinking of bringing your children to learn about their Church and Catholic Faith, you may still sign up, but the **cut-off** will be **October 10th** for this year's registration. Our catechists work very hard to provide a wonderful learning environment for your kids and it becomes too difficult to catch up children that are not in class near the beginning. Registrations forms are available at both Parish Offices.

Youth Ministry News...Confirmation registration is now underway! The registration forms have been printed on a purple colored sheet and have been placed in the back of both parishes. Please return them to either parish office. Confirmation is for students grades 6th-8th and or high school age who still need to receive the Sacrament. Confirmation begins Wednesday, October 19th on the 2nd floor of St. Bernard's parish hall in what will be our new youth room, from 7:00pm-8:30pm. If anyone is still interested in volunteering, please contact me. If you have any questions, please stop by the front of St. Bernard's rectory at our Catholic Faith Formation Office from 8:00 am - 2:00 pm Mon-Fri. Or feel free to contact me at 707.442.6466 ext. 1103 or a.alegria08@gmail.com.

"Women Only!" Are you a woman seeking a morning of faith, fellowship and fun with other women in our Diocese? Then please join us at St. Mary's Church in Arcata for a Women's Retreat, focusing on Biblical Women of Mercy, led by Sister Christine Hilliard. Bring an appetizer/finger food to share for lunch, and Bible. Saturday, Nov 5, 9:00am - 2:00pm. If you have any questions, please contact Paula at 822-9573 or mproctor@arcatanet.com.

Humor: Ketchup A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup out of the jar. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her 4-year-old daughter to answer the phone... 'Mommy can't come to the phone to talk to you right now, she's hitting the bottle.

The 76th Annual Assumption Parish Fall

Bazaar will be held Friday and Saturday evenings – **October 14th and 15th** – at the Ferndale Portuguese Hall on Ocean Ave. in Ferndale. A spaghetti dinner will be available both nights at 6 PM. Beginning at 7 PM, the Bazaar will feature a silent auction, nine fun-filled game booths with a huge variety of wonderful, quality prizes. There is fun for the whole family.

RCIA Adults interested in becoming part of the Catholic faith community are invited to the St. Bernard parish hall on Thursday evening, 7pm. Come and see!

SONS OF ITALY POLENTA DINNER Join your friends at St. Bernard Academy at 5 p.m. on Sunday 10/30 for our delicious polenta and chicken dinner! Participate in the raffle featuring great prizes and check out our Italian table for exciting new merchandise! Tickets are \$15 - contact Richard Luzzi, 443-8669.

Pastor's Corner

Not this week but **next week, Oct 17-21**, Fr Eddie and I will be on the diocesan priest retreat. Fr. Brady and Fr. Mike have graciously accepted the responsibilities of the parishes during the week. After the retreat Fr Eddie will take two weeks of vacation.

Circle your calendars for next year's BBQ/Picnic at Camp Bauer with our sister parish of Sacred Heart on Sept. 10th.

I want to thank the Knights for their reception/luncheon for Deacon Dance.

I would also like to thank Merle McDougal, Tami Walsh and all those who made the Parish Picnic so successful besides God who gave us the weather

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that He gave His only Son,
so that everyone who believes
in Him might not perish but
might have eternal life...

John 3:16
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