

# THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST. BERNARD

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

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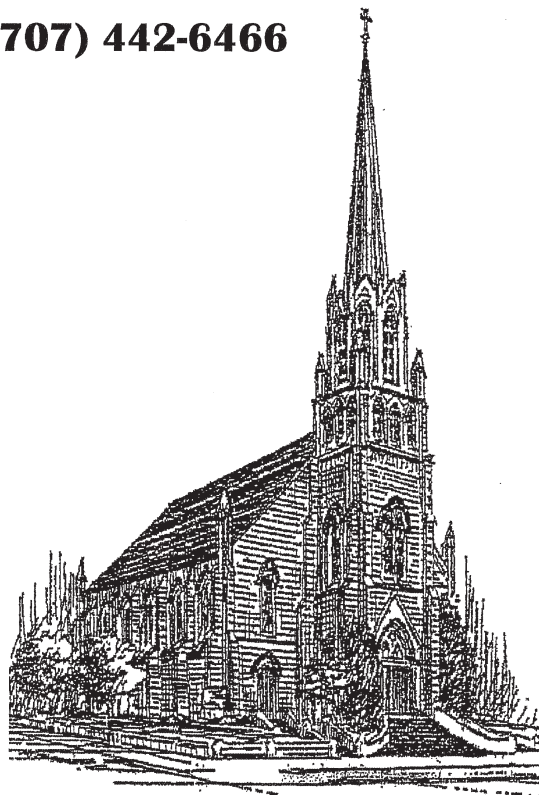
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Fritz Sorensen, Maintenance 442-6466  
Dianne Luzzi, RCIA 442-8812  
Issa Stemler, Music Director 840-9514  
Toni Lee Estevo, Prayer Line 445-3616 (24/7)

## **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

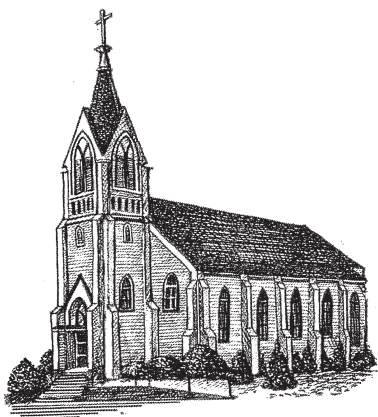
Weekdays: 12:15 pm. Mon, Wed, Fri

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.

# 4th Sunday of Lent-March 26, 2017



**The Blind Man Who Wanted for Nothing:** The Psalm says, "The Lord is my Shepherd. There is nothing I shall want." But the Gospel Reading tells the story of a man born blind. How is the Psalm supposed to be made consonant with the Gospel Reading? Doesn't the

man born blind have something that he lacks?

The disciples of Jesus are anxious about this blind man too, and they try to allay their anxiety by finding some explanation for his blindness. "Why was this man born blind?" they ask Jesus. "Did this man sin or was it his parents? Then they can reasonably hope that such suffering won't come to their families, at least if they all try hard not to sin.

But this is an appalling way to think about suffering. It is terrible to suppose that all suffering is punishment for sin. What kind of God inflicts blindness on a newborn as a punishment for sin?

Jesus dismisses their attitude entirely. This man's blindness has nothing to do with the sins of anyone, Jesus says. It's something about the future, not something about the past that explains his blindness. God let this man be born blind that the works of God might be manifest through him.

But Jesus' explanation looks at least as bad as the thought of the disciples, doesn't it? What kind of God inflicts blindness on a newborn so that the works of God can be manifest in him later? But think about that blind man himself.

At the outset of the story, he is an impoverished, outcast nobody of a beggar. Then the mighty works of God are manifest in him, and he takes the Lord as his Shepherd. The result is that he himself becomes glorious. When the story ends, he has become an icon of faith and courage. He has stood up to the worldly power of the leaders of his community and witnessed to the goodness of God in very challenging circumstances. He has become an example to us all. Who would not want to be like him?

That is why it was true for him that the Lord was his shepherd, even though he was born blind. In the end, the Lord was his Shepherd, and there was nothing the blind man lacked, just as the Psalmist says. Eleonore Stump

**Question:** In the beginning of the Gospel, the blind man was simply a man on the street. By the end of the Gospel he was thrown out of the synagogue for defending Jesus. What changed him into a disciple? What has changed you into a disciple?

## Readings for today

Reading I: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

Reading II: Ephesians 5:8-14

Gospel: John 9:1-41

## Readings for next Sunday

Reading I: Ezekiel 37:12-14

Reading II: Romans 8:8-11

Gospel: John 11:1-45

## FR TOM IS ON DUTY THIS WEEK

### Mass and Intention Schedule with Celebrant

#### St Joseph

Sat. Mar 25 4 pm. – FE/DD- +Henry Lutje

Sun. Mar 26 7:30 am. – FT/ DF- +Pompati Family

Tue. Mar 28 7:30 am. –FT- +Jena Angelini

Thu. Mar 30 7:30 am. FT -+Anita Pera

Sat. Apr 01 4 pm. – FT/DD +Jim Nickols

Sun. Apr 02 7:30 am. –FE/DT- For the People

#### Saint Bernard

Sun. Mar 26 10:30 am – FE/DD For the People

Mon. Mar 27 12:15 pm. – FT Int. Matilde Vega

Wed. Mar 29 12:15 pm – FT +Edwin & Mildred Ruess

Fri. Mar 31 12:15 pm. – FT- Int. Chad Kryla

Sat Apr 1 8:30 am. -FT- Lenten Retreat Mass

Sun. Apr 02 10:30 am. – FT/DD- +Douglas Williams

#### St Joseph Hospital

Tue. Mar 28 11:30 am. – FT- +Dec. Mem ICF

Thu. Mar 30 11:30 am. – FE +Maria Bosnar

FT=Fr Tom, FE=Fr Eddie, DD=Deacon Dance, DT=Deacon Tony, DF=Deacon Frank, DJ= Deacon Jesus

To request a Mass intention please call the office

**Finance / Stewardship** Collection: \$3,536

Catholic Relief Services: \$1,101

Please put your **envelope number on all loose checks**. Your envelope number will be above your name on the Easter mailing which will go out next week. If you don't receive the Easter letter you are not registered. It is important that you register!

**Please Pray for:** Matilde Vega, Benita Roman, Debbie McCollister, Mervyn Dody, Bill Bergesen, Jenie Wood, Lilia Hornilla, Steve Mill, Patricia Tritten, Sondra Lindstrom, Ryan Pepper, Edgar Dickinson, and Nancy Taylor.

## Events for the Week

3/27 Mon. 6:15 pm. English Religious Education SH

3/28 Tue 7pm. Reconciliation Services SB

3/29 Wed. 7pm. Confirmation Formation – SB Hall

3/30 Thu. 1pm. Bible Study- SH Rectory

7pm. RCIA -SH Rectory

7pm. Youth Group - SB Hall

3/31 Fri. 6pm. K/C Fish Fry – SB

7pm. English Stations of the Cross- SB

4/1 Sat. 8:30-3:30 pm. Day of Lenten Reflection-SB

**Today, March 26<sup>th</sup>, The Immigration Program at Catholic Charities** will provide a workshop at 1:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart Parish Center on "Know about your rights" workshop. If you will like to know what the rights of the undocumented are and how your family can prepare, please come.

#### **St Bernard Parish Pancake Breakfast**

Prepared by the Knights of Columbus will be held **April 2** in St Bernard Parish Hall. 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

**Lenten Regulations:** Fridays of Lent are days of **abstinence** from meat. The law of **abstinence** from meat applies to all persons who are fourteen years old and older. However, it is highly recommended that children from ages seven to fourteen years also follow the law of **abstinence**. All Catholics are encouraged to receive Holy Eucharist frequently during Lent and to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

#### **Children's Faith Formation News:**

Congratulations to all of the kids who made their 1st Reconciliation this past weekend: **Briseida Cortes, Madalynn Hardin, Eliana Omev, Garrett Shanahan, Allison Wibbenhorst, Crystal Barber, Jorge Cortes, Fernando Perez, Christian Amora, Mariela Barber, and Aidyn Campbell**. Also, all of us want to give Fr. Tom a huge Thank You, for providing such a wonderful Sacramental experience for all of them! Please keep all of these children in your prayers as they now begin to prepare for their upcoming First Communion. Peace in Christ, Melanie Broswick 442-6466 x1104.

**Youth Ministry News:** Confirmation Parents: I will be sending home a note with your child asking them to bring something to share for the evening of our Confirmation Retreat, which is Wednesday, April 5th at 6pm-9:15pm at St Bernard's Parish Hall. If any parents are interested in helping that evening please contact me as soon as possible. In Christ, Analisa Alegria - Youth Minister 442-6466 x1103.

#### **Pro-life news: Please Join '40 Days For Life'**

Please join us in peaceful prayer for an end to abortion through April 9 7am-7pm on the corner of Walford Ave and Wilson St in Eureka. You can sign up for 1 hour shifts at: [40 daysforlife.com/Eureka](http://40daysforlife.com/Eureka). If you have questions please call Stephanie Goodwin @ 498-7758.

**Pastor's Corner:** I am looking for volunteers to assist with Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil planning. Please call the office if you want to help plan the services.

**Pope Francis** On Wednesday Pope Francis said we must strive to imitate the perseverance and consolation of God, which not only gives us the strength to keep going, but also to help others who are in difficulty.

"Perseverance we can also define as patience; it's the ability to support, to remain faithful, even when the weight seems to become too big, unsustainable, and we are tempted to negatively judge and abandon everything and everyone  
Consolation, on the other hand, "is the grace of knowing how to welcome and show in every situation, even those largely marked by delusion and suffering, the presence and compassionate action of God."

He noted how these two attitudes are highlighted by St. Paul in his letter to the Romans, both in reference to scripture and to God himself, who is "the God of perseverance and consolation.

Francis noted in Romans Chapter 15, St. Paul reminds us that these attitudes are communicated throughout scripture. The Word of God, he said, "leads us to turn our gaze to Jesus, to know him better and to conform ourselves to him, to increasingly become more like him."

By calling the Lord "the God of perseverance and consolation," the apostle is revealing the nature of God as someone "who always remains faithful to his love for us and takes care of us, covering our wounds with the caress of his goodness and his mercy."

**Humor** Father Norton woke up Sunday morning and realizing it was an exceptionally beautiful and sunny, spring day, no rain. Decided he just had to play golf. So... he told the Associate Pastor that he was feeling sick and persuaded him to say the Masses for him that day.

As soon as the Associate Pastor left the room, Father Norton headed out of town to a golf course about forty miles away. This way he knew he wouldn't accidentally meet anyone he knew from his parish as it was Sunday morning. Setting up on the first tee, he was alone

At about this time, Saint Peter leaned over to the Lord while looking down from the heavens and exclaimed, "You're not going to let him get away with this, are you?" The Lord sighed, and said, "No, I guess not."

Just then Father Norton hit the ball and it shot straight towards the pin, dropping just short of it, rolled up and fell into the hole. IT WAS A 420 YARD HOLE IN ONE!

St. Peter was astonished. He looked at the Lord and asked, "Why did you let him do that?"

The Lord replied, "Who's he going to tell?"

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