

THIRD SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

December 11, 2011

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ST. BERNARD CHURCH

1 SAINT BERNARD LANE * BELLA VISTA, AR 72715

www.bvstbernard.org e-mail office@bvstbernard.org

office (479)855-9069 * Fax (479) 855-9067

Parish Staff**Fr. Barnabas Maria-Susai, IMS***Pastor***Phillip Fredrich***Parish Manager***Katie Green***Office Manager***Roxanne Birchfield***Finance***Kay Smith***Director of Youth Ministry***Howard Hunt***Director of R.C.I.A.***Ann Kedrowski***Choir Director***Musician***Dipendra Sunam***Joe Moloney***Maintenance***Office Hours**

Monday thru Thursday 8:00a.m.-3:00p.m.

(Office closed on Friday)

Mass Schedule

Sunday 9:00a.m.

Monday, Tuesday, 8:30a.m.

Thursday and Friday

Wednesday 6:00p.m.

Saturday (*Sunday Vigil*) 5:00p.m.Holy Day (*Vigil*) 7:00p.m.

Holy Day 9:00a.m.

**Reconciliation Schedule**

Wednesday-5:30p.m.; Saturday-4:15p.m.-

4:45p.m; Sunday-8:15a.m.-8:30a.m. Please call the Parish Office if an appointment is needed.

Baptisms

By appointment. Preparation classes required.

First Communion

Two years in a religious education class is required for the Sacrament of First Communion.

Confirmation

Two years enrolled and attending class is required for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Marriage

Preparation must begin a minimum of six months before a proposed wedding date whether in this church or any other. Dates will be finalized after consultation with the pastor.

Prayer Intention Book

Special intentions may be recorded in the Prayer Intention Book located in the Lobby of the Church. The book is brought to the altar at presentation of the gifts.

Hospitalized/Homebound

The sick and homebound of the parish can arrange Holy Communion by calling the Parish Office. (855-9069)

FOOD PANTRY

Our food pantry is open for those in need on Tuesday each week from 9:00a.m. to 1:00p.m.

NEW PARISHIONERS

If you are new to our parish, we would like to welcome you and invite you to become a member of our parish. Membership cards are available in the Lobby or you may ask an Usher for one. You are always welcome to come by the office and register.

GIFT BEARERS	VOCATIONS CROSS		WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS CONT'D
<p>Saturday, December 17: Arlyn & Rose Engelken</p> <p>Sunday, December 18: Marlyn & Ruth Schroepfer</p>	<p>December 17: Tom & Marlene Murray</p> <p>December 18: Chuck & Elaine Roth</p> <p>MASS INTENTIONS FOR December 11 - December 18, 2011</p> <p><i>Sunday (12-11-11) . . . For the Living and Deceased † members of Our Parish, especially Jerry Sweiger</i></p>		<p>12-13-Tuesday 8:30a.m.-3:00p.m. Mass & Day of Reflection in Church and Hall 9:00a.m - 1:00pm - Food Pantry open 11:30a.m.- 1:00p.m. - AA Mtg - Room 202a/b 7:00p.m.-8:30p.m.-Scripture Study (Wenzel) - Room 203</p>
<p>Phone Number (855-9069) and Extensions</p>			<p>12-14-Wednesday 11:30a.m.-1:00p.m.- AA Mtg - Room 202a/b 6:00p.m.-7:30p.m.- AA Mtg - Room 202a/b 5:30p.m.-Reconciliation 6:00p.m.-Mass 6:00p.m.8:30p.m.-Teen Youth Ministry Conference room-parish office 6:30p.m.-7:30p.m.- KC Council - Hall 6:30p.m.-9:00p.m.-Choir Practice 7:00p.m.-9:00p.m.-RCIA- Room 203</p>
<p>Office 100 Manager 101 Pastor 102 Finance 104 Volunteer 106 Education Bldg 107 Adoration 108 Kitchen 110 Library 111 Maintenance 112 Youth Ed 114</p>	<p>12-12-11</p>	<p>† Lilah Koval By Jack & Betty McCarthy</p>	<p>12-15-Thursday 8:30a.m.- Mass 11:30a.m.-1:00p.m.- AA Mtg - Room 202a/b 6:30p.m.-8:00p.m.-Bingo-Hall</p>
<p><u>E-MAIL INFORMATION</u></p>	<p>Thursday 12-15-11</p>	<p>† Bob Etzel By Harold & Luci Vanhorn</p>	<p>12-16-Friday 8:30a.m.-Mass 9:00a.m.-Our Lady of Refuge Prayer Group - Chapel 9:00a.m.-Noon - Mah Jongg 6:00p.m.-9:00p.m.-KC 4th Degree - Hall</p>
<p><u>GENERAL MESSAGES:</u> office@bvstbernard.org <u>MANAGER:</u> manager3@bvstbernard.org <u>FINANCE:</u> finance3@bvstbernard.org <u>PASTOR:</u> barnabasmsusai@gmail.com <u>SECRETARY:</u> katie3@bvstbernard.org</p>	<p>Friday 12-16-11</p>	<p>Fred & Mary Goerke 50th Wedding Anniversary By Mary Hogan</p>	<p>12-17-Saturday 11:30a.m.- 1:00p.m.- AA Mtg.- Room 202a/b 12:00p.m.-1:30p.m.-AA Christmas Lunch-Hall 2:30p.m.-4:30p.m.- Private Party -Hall 4:15p.m.- 4:45p.m.- Reconciliation 5:00p.m. - Mass 6:00p.m.7:00p.m.-Marion Movement of Priests - Chapel 6:00p.m.- 7:30p.m.- AA Mtg - Room 202a/b</p>
<p><u>PRAYER FOR OUR TROOPS</u></p> <p>Hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as the protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Our Lord and Savior. Amen</p>	<p><u>WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS</u></p> <p>12-11-Sunday 8:15a.m.-8:45a.m. Reconciliation 9:00a.m. - Mass 10:30a.m.-12:00p.m.-Youth Education in Chapel and Hall</p> <p>12-12-Monday 8:30a.m.-Mass 11:30a.m.-1:00p.m.- AA Mtg - Room 202a/b 6:00p.m.-7:30p.m.- AA Mtg - Room 202a/b 6:00p.m.- 9:00p.m. - Pinochle - Hall 7:00p.m.-8:00p.m.- Al-Anon-Room 203</p>	<p>12-18-Sunday 8:15a.m.-8:45a.m. Reconciliation 9:00a.m.Mass 10:30a.m.-12:00p.m.-Youth Education in Chapel and Hall 4:00p.m.-6:00p.m.-Adult Religious Education - Hall</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>WE WELCOMED November 26 288 November 27 372</p> </div>	

WOMEN'S VOCATIONS RETREAT

The Vocations Office of the Diocese of Little Rock is holding a Women's Vocations Retreat at St. John's Catholic Center in Little Rock over the dates of January 13-14, 2012. This is a 24-hour retreat dedicated to a woman's personal reflection of God's will in her life. For additional information, please contact Maria Izquierdo or Liz Tingquist at (501) 664-0340.

CIRCLE OF LIFE SUPPORT GROUP

The December 12th Circle of Life's support group meeting has been cancelled. Thank you so much.

Cristie Ginther,
*Bereavement & Spiritual
Care Coordinator*

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS 2011

Visit the Diocese of Little Rock website to find online resources to help you get the most from this holy season. This includes daily Mass readings, reflections, a calendar of events, holy days, bible studies, blessings for your Advent wreath, Christmas tree and nativity, Christmas recipes, movies, family activities, the story of St. Nicholas, the meaning behind the "Twelve Days of Christmas" song and much more. Remember to visit the website regularly throughout the season because new features will be added as information becomes available, including the Christmas Mass schedule.

Check it out today at www.dolr.org



PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:



- Marsha Bush**
- Mary Lou Boerger**
- Elva Douthat**
- Norm Drimmel**
- Tom Duffy**
- Gene Gallea**
- Fran Heinen**
- Audrey Jurgens**
- Don Rowe**
- Fred Luecke**
- Janice Manuel**
- Ann Marlowe**
- Michael Miciotto**
- Ray Potkay**
- Tom Welch**
- Jewel Whelan**

Pray for all who care for the ill and infirm.

Remember the deceased of our parish.
May they and all our departed loved ones
rest in peace.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

December 11, 2011 through December 18, 2011

- Monday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of The Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
- Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32
- Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Lk 7:18b-23
- Thursday: Is 54:1-10; Lk 7:24-30
- Friday: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8; Jn 5:33-36
- Saturday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17
- Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38



PASTOR’S CORNER

Just a reminder on the Day of Recollection on Tuesday, December 13th I would like to see everyone present and participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

I will look forward to seeing you there.

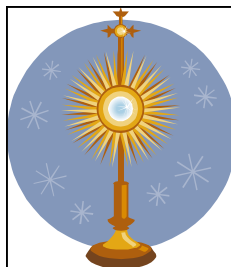
May God bless you,

Father Barnabas

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Today there is an abrupt shift in the season of Advent. From here on the tone is more joyful and expectant and the tug of the Christmas message is irresistible. At daily Mass tomorrow we begin to unfold the story of Jesus’ birth. Who can resist the beauty of the first reading today—deserts aflame with flowers, arthritics set to dancing, the tone-deaf singing hymns? So we don’t miss the change, the parish may take rose-colored vestments out of mothballs, we may light rose-colored candles on the wreath, or fill in our wreaths with desert flowers, pink seashells, seed pods, cones and berries. The seeds of God’s kingdom have been sown in us. In these shining days of Advent they are sprouting in many ways. How do we bring the promise to light? This is the week to prepare gifts for the poor. It is the week to invite a lonely neighbor to your Christmas dinner, the week to write a note forgiving a lost friend, the week to shatter a family grudge so that even in the desert places of your heart, Christ’s life may blossom.

-James Field



ADORATION

Everyone Likes a Party. But a good party requires a good preparation. Heaven is the “The Ultimate Party” and this life is the preparation! One “surefire”

way to prepare is Eucharistic Adoration. St. Bernard’s has a beautiful Perpetual Adoration Chapel where Jesus waits for you with burning love. Can you hear His invitation, “I thirst”?

Come for a little visit often. If you have a desire to make a deeper commitment to show your love, call 855-6285 or 876-2821 for further information.

SUBIACO ACADEMY

Subiaco Academy, a Catholic Benedictine college preparatory boarding and day school for boys in grades 7-12, is hosting a Parent/Student Information Meeting at St. Vincent de Paul School in Rogers on Monday, December 12, at 6:30p.m.

Representatives of the Academy, located in Subiaco, Arkansas will be available to give information and answer questions.

The gathering will be held in Meeting Room A at St. Vincent de Paul School, 1315 West Cypress Street, Rogers.

Anyone interested in learning more about Subiaco Academy is welcome and encouraged to attend.

For more information please call 1-800-364-7824 or email at admissions@subi.org.

ADVENT DAY OF RECOLECTION

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2011

Presenter: Monsignor Scott Friend, V.G. of Little Rock

8:30a.m. - Mass

Refreshments following Mass

9:30a.m. - 10:15a.m. Presentation

10:15a.m. Break - Sign up for lunch, available for
\$3.00 per person

10:30a.m.– 11:30a.m. Presentation

11:30a.m. Lunch

1:30p.m. Presentation

2:00p.m. Reconciliation (Msgr. Friend,
Fr. Barnabas and area priests will be
confessors).

COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION SERVICES 2011

- St. Bernard Church, Bella Vista** **2:00p.m.-Tuesday**
December 13th
- St. Joseph Church, Fayetteville** **7:00p.m. -Tuesday,**
December 13th
- St. Vincent de Paul, Rogers** **7:00p.m. - Thursday,**
December 15th, bilingual
- St. Raphael Church, Springdale** **7:00p.m.-Tuesday,**
December 20th, bilingual
- St. Mary Church, Siloam Springs** **7:00p.m. -Thursday,**
December 22nd, bilingual

**ST. SCHOLASTICA RETREAT CENTER**

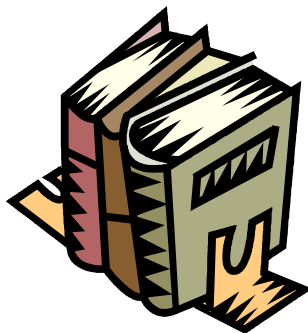
St. Scholastica Gift Shop is now open regular hours: Monday-Friday from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. and Saturdays (except second Saturdays) from 12:30-3 p.m. Sister Macrina Wiederkehr's new book, *Abide Keeping Vigil With the Word of God*, and her 2012 Calendar, *A Year of Grace*, are available individually or as a set (with a special discount.)
For information call (479) 783-4147.

Save the Date! This year's Silent Directed Retreat, based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius, will be held at St. Scholastica Retreat Center January 5-8, 2012. Make 2012 the year that you deepen your prayer life and grow closer to Jesus through this transformational four-day experience. For more information, or to register by December 15, call (479) 783-1135, visit www.stscho.org or e-mail retreats@stscho.org

Newly Purchased Books - St. Bernard Library
November, 2011

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|-----|---|--------------------------|
| 1. | <i>When Life Doesn't Go Your Way</i> | <i>Kath Zeno</i> |
| 2. | <i>*Falling Upward, A spirituality for
Second Half of Life</i> | <i>Richard Rohr</i> |
| 3. | <i>Word of Light
Inspiration from His Letters</i> | <i>Padre Pio</i> |
| 4. | <i>Becoming Fully Human</i> | <i>Joan Chittister</i> |
| 5. | <i>*Holding God In My Hands
Personal Encounters with
The Divine</i> | <i>Paul Wilkes</i> |
| 6. | <i>Eternal Wisdom from the Desert</i> | <i>Desert Fathers</i> |
| 7. | <i>Rule of Benedict
A Spirituality for the 21st
Century</i> | <i>Joan Chittister</i> |
| 8. | <i>Pope History
A History of the Popes</i> | <i>Fr. John O'Malley</i> |
| 9. | <i>*Habits of Change
An Oral History of American Nuns</i> | <i>Katarina Schuth</i> |
| 10. | <i>In Good Company</i> | <i>Fr. James Martin</i> |
| 11. | <i>A Jesuit Off-Broadway</i> | <i>Fr. James Martin</i> |

** to be listed on 2012 Book Club Reading List
2 DVD packets of CDs 2011 Trip to India*



SUPPORT ELDERLY RELIGIOUS
Retired Religious Need Your Support

By 2019, it is projected that retired religious will outnumber wage earning religious by nearly four to one. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps ensure that elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests receive the care they so richly deserve, now and in the future. Please give generously to today's second collection.

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

Holy Land Pilgrimage from April 9-20, 2012 with Fr. Greg Hart, Pastor of St. Joseph's, Tontitown, as chaplain. The price per person with double occupancy is \$4,163 and includes round trip airfare from North Arkansas Regional Airport, ten nights in first-class hotels, daily Mass, daily breakfast and dinner, two lunches, travel escort, deluxe motorcoach transportation. Our pilgrimage includes the following sites in the Holy Land: Tiberias, Nazareth, Cana, Capernaum, Mt. Tabor, Jericho, Dead Se, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, and Petra in Jordan. For more information and a brochure, email Travel Tyme at info@traveltyme.com or call 1-800-886-2151. A brochure of the trip may also be downloaded from St. Joseph's website www.stjoetontitown.org or you may contact Fr. Hart at frgreghart@att.net or (479) 361-2612 and a brochure will be mailed to you. Come walk in the footsteps and experience the beauty of the Easter Season in the Holy Land!



**CHRISTMAS FLOWER
MEMORIALS / HONORARIUMS**

It's time to make your Christmas Flower Memorials & Honorariums. Your donation will be used to purchase floral decorations for the Sanctuary for the Feast of Christmas. An insert will list all those being remembered and honored. Minimum offering is \$15.00.

From: _____

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ *Deadline: December 21st.*

Third Sunday of Advent
Reasons to Rejoice

St. Paul seems to be throwing out a handful of sayings that may sound overly optimistic, but are actually very practical. “Rejoice always? Who can do that?” It sounds absurd, but the next two lines give it context: If we pray constantly and thank God for all that happens to us, we have reason to rejoice. Whatever happens is the will of God for us. Even the bad things, things we don’t like, can be allowed by God, so that he can bring good out of them. God allows sin because it leads to forgiveness, an experience of God’s love for us. And God allows even death, because he can bring us to eternal life.

The next two sayings may be a little obscure. When Paul tells us not to quench the Spirit he means we should be open to what the Holy Spirit moves us to do. “Prophetic utterances” refer to things that other people were inspired to proclaim. If we pray constantly (1Thess 5:17) we won’t be so distracted by the things of this world that we cannot hear the prompts of the Holy Spirit in us. We won’t be so critical of others that we miss what the Spirit is telling us through them.

How do we know if something really is from the Spirit? The next phrase helps with that: Test everything. Retain what is good. (1Thess 5:21) Use the Scriptures, the teachings of the Church, and your conscience to decide whether the Spirit is moving you, or if advice you hear is worthwhile. And most of all trust God to help with all this because he wants us to be holy. God will make us holy if we only let him. Then we will be ready for the coming of the Lord, whether through the sacraments, the celebration of Christmas, or his final coming in glory. I’d say that’s a reason to rejoice.

