

# The First Sunday Of Advent

November 30, 2025

## Mass Intentions

December	1	8:00 AM	Sharon Ford requested by Mary Reed
December	2	8:00 AM	I/O Matthias Nikolai requested by Deacon Robinson
December	3	8:00 AM	Connie Krause requested by The Strazisar Family
December	4	8:00 AM	Anthony Noyalis requested by Jerry & Karen Kupris
December	5	8:00 AM	Joseph A. Sharman
December	6	8:00 AM	I/O Tonya Sands requested by Deacon Robinson
		5:00 PM	Cathy Steiner requested by Pat Harshberger
December	7	8:00 AM	People Of The Parish
		10:30 AM	Ann & Anthony Fedock

## Liturgical Ministries December 6-7

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Servers
5:00 PM	Jessica Grindle	Betty Berry	Dave Suydam
8:00 AM	Jory Harlan	Matt Morrison	Joe Morrison, Julia Sheaffer
10:30 AM	Kathy Dubois	Nancy Stanton	The Morrison Family

## Schmidt Center Cleaning

December 7

Madeline Rogers & Pat Harshberger

December 14

Gabby Brandt & Jen Meek

## Next Sunday's Readings

*Please prepare for Mass and the Homily by reflecting on these texts from the Sacred Scriptures*

Isaiah 11:1-10

Romans 15: 4-9

Matthew 3:1-12

## Christian Stewardship

Last Sunday's Collection amounted to: \$4,612.99

The Collection One Year Ago amounted to: \$4,307.00

November Contingency Amounted to: \$2,445.00

**May God Bless you for your generous and responsible stewardship!!!**

## Church Calendar

### ***Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup> (Advent Sunday I)***

Masses, 8:00 and 10:30AM  
CCD Classes, 9:15-10:15AM

### ***Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>***

Mass, 8:00AM  
Parish Advent Penance Service, 7:00PM

### ***Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>***

Mass, 8:00AM  
OCIA, 6:45PM

### ***Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>***

Mass, 8:00AM  
Prayer Group, 8:30AM

### ***Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>***

Mass, 8:00AM, Sacred Heart Holy Hour, 7:00PM

### ***Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>***

Mass, 8:00AM

### ***Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>***

Mass in Honor of BVM, 8:00AM  
Confession, 4:00-4:45PM

Mass, 5:00PM

Widow/Widowers Dinner, 6:00PM

### ***Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> (Advent Sunday II)***

Masses, 8:00 and 10:30AM  
CCD Classes, 9:15-10:15AM

## **From the Pastor's Desk:**

For many in the upper latitudes of the northern hemisphere, this is the darkest time of the year, the time when the duration of daylight is at its lowest. It's providential, then, that our first reading calls us to "walk in the light of the Lord!" Paul tells us that we do this by "throw[ing] off the

works of darkness" and "put[ing] on the armor of light."

While we might not struggle with the vices listed in Paul's Letter to the Romans, each of us has our own

struggles against sin. As we begin this Advent season, let us take time to do a thorough examination of conscience to discern areas of weakness and sin – those "works of darkness" Paul talks about – in our own lives. Then, consider taking up practices that help you to foster the opposing virtues to arm yourself against these



temptations. As you grow in these virtues, you'll certainly be on your way up the mountain of the Lord and walking in his light!

Today's Gospel calls us to vigilance. Jesus tells us, "Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." While he is speaking about our need to be ready to meet the Lord when he comes at the end of our lives, it's also an invitation for us to always be ready to share our faith with others whenever the opportunity presents itself. As Scripture says, we should "always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you a reason for your hope." (1 Pt 3:15) We never know the moment when someone will come to us in need of prayer, a word of encouragement, or with questions related to their own spiritual hunger. We must always be ready to meet them where they are and offer a word of hope.

Take a moment to pray this week for those "divine appointments" – those individuals who might come your way – seeking encouragement or insight into the spiritual questions in their lives. Ask for the grace to be "awake" so that you're ready to meet them when they come. We can't always predict when these encounters will happen, but we can prepare ourselves to receive these persons as Christ and offer them our full attention and love.

**Remember the Sick of our Parish** in your charity and prayers: Marietta McQuaid, Marie Dishman, Suzanne Matunis, Pat Widdowson, Gene Odato, Annetta Round, Shirley Scotta, Samantha Strazisar, Ellen White, Louise Kline, Emerson Zahn, Virginia Klug, Ron Scheib, Karen Peters, Jeff Galgon, and all the long-suffering in our community and at Perry Village.

**Online Information:** You can access the weekly bulletin and other information at our parish website ([www.stbernardsnbpa.org](http://www.stbernardsnbpa.org)).

**Deacon Robinson's Contact Information:** Contact Deacon Robinson at his cell phone (602-6298) or [deacon.robinson@analogyapologetics.com](mailto:deacon.robinson@analogyapologetics.com).

**Notification of Hospitalization:** If you or a family member is hospitalized or if you know of someone homebound who would like to be visited, please notify the parish office so Father Sharman can make a pastoral visit. Each month

Holy Communion is brought to our homebound parishioners.

### Youth Group Christmas Widows/Widowers Dinner:



Christmas Dinner

The Saint Bernard's Youth Group will be hosting its annual dinner for widows and widowers of Saint Bernard's Parish on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Hall after the 5 PM Mass. The youth of our parish extend a warm invitation to all those who can attend. Please look forward to a night of fun, conversation, service, and entertainment given by our youth. We look forward to joining you that evening. ***Please sign up at the bulletin board if you can attend. Please feel welcome to bring a friend or family member, especially if they are your means of transportation. Also, please note the number of people attending when you sign up.***

**Advent Penance Service:** As we spiritually prepare during the Advent season to celebrate Christ's birth again in glory, please make the Sacrament of Penance part of your family's preparation. A penance service is scheduled for Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup> beginning at 7:00 PM.



Four additional priests will be present to help us celebrate this Sacrament of God's mercy and love.

**Advent Wreath Materials:** As we prepare for the Advent Season in spiritual preparation for the birth of Christ, all the materials you will need for creating a home Advent Wreath will be available in the narthex on the weekend of November 29/30. Our parish will supply the oasis, ribbon, and candles. All you will need, in addition, is a waterproof container and some evergreens to complete your wreath. This is one way we can keep Christ in Christmas as we prepare to celebrate His birth.



**Advent Vespers and Covered Dish Dinner:** All parish families, especially our children, are cordially invited to an Advent Vesper Service and

Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, followed immediately with a covered dish dinner in the Parish Hall on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 4PM. A special visitor will arrive for the children. You are requested to bring a salad, vegetable dish, or dessert. The meat course will be provided by the parish. Please sign up at the bulletin board so adequate provisions can be made. For further information, please call Erin Jenkins at 834-6946.



**Retrouvaille Marriage Healing Weekend:** Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage. Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication, build intimacy and heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track. For more information, contact Mike and Dawn at VISITHELPOURMARRIAGE.ORG or call 717-356-2185.

**Church Cleaning for Christmas:** We will gather to clean the church for the coming Christmas Season on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:00AM. An hour of your time will help us welcome our guests and parishioners to our parish church for the Christmas Season. If you can assist us, please sign up at the bulletin board in the narthex.

**Church Decorating for Christmas** will take place on Tuesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 PM. Your gracious assistance is needed to help with the Christmas trees and poinsettias that beautify our sanctuary. Please sign up at the bulletin board if you can assist us.



☉ Come, ☉ Come, Emmanuel!