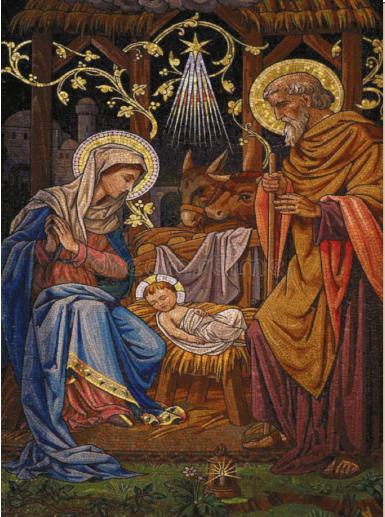
St. Bernard of Clairvaux Roman Catholic Church December 31, 2023

God Is With Us







On behalf of Fr. Fred, Fr. Ryan and the parish staff:

We wish to express our gratitude to God for the gift of Our Savior and for your commitment and generosity to Saint Bernard of Clairvaux.

Christmas Blessings 2023



Let us commit together as a people of God to; Personal Holiness Develop Godly Relationships Witness Christ



2-December 31, 2023



Solemnity of Mary Mass Schedule <u>December 31, 2023:</u> 4:00pm Vigil Mass <u>January 1, 2024:</u> 9:00am Mass

Dear Parishioners,

I pray that this Christmas season is filled with peace and joy for you and your family. It is important to remember Christmas is not a day—but a season of joy. It is a time we as Christians focus on the gift of a God who became flesh and dwelt among us. He reveals Himself in simplicity and humility. This is how God acts and exposes His Divine Love. It is true, beautiful and good....human hearts are drawn to this mystery in the infant Jesus and the Holy Family.

This weekend we celebrate the Solemnity of the Holy Family. We look to Joseph, Mary and Jesus for strength and grace. I often hear people say, "Well Father, we aren't a perfect family." That is true...no family is perfect, but with God's grace we can be HOLY. This is the mystery of God's love revealed in the Nativity, that even in imperfect situations, if we are open to His Divine Will, we can be holy. With Jesus and His grace we can be holy. Let us renew our commitment to draw closer to Jesus and His Church as we strive for holiness as individuals, families and a community.

Be sure to leave some Christmas decorations up through next weekend, The Solemnity of Epiphany on January 7th. They are a reminder of the season, of God's love. Even if we are tired of them being out it is a reminder we should never tire of God's ordinary regular love.

This year we will be blessing Holy Water and chalk at all Masses on Epiphany for you to take home to bless your home and mark your entrance to remind you to live your faith at home. Each family is a domestic Church so everything we can do to remind ourselves of His love and protection is good. There will be more details and direction next week.

I am grateful for all the people who came home to Church for Christmas this year. It was a busy place but so was Bethlehem. It reveals to me that the strings of the heart are pulled by God and His Church at these special times in the year. Thank you for your hospitality and regular commitment each week to your spiritual home. This is YOUR parish—your place to draw from the well of holiness and be fed by God's love. It is a place of blessing.

Finally, this year the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God is NOT a holy day of obligation-but is an opportunity to come together to ask God's blessings and Our Blessed Mother's intercessions as we enter the Year of the Lord 2024. We will have a Vigil Mass at 4:00pm tonight, December 31st to start our New Year's Eve festivities and a 9:00am morning Mass on January 1st. It is a wonderful way to begin the year and keep focused on God's blessings in our lives. Fr. Ryan and I are looking forward to offering the Mass for blessings on all of you and your families.

May the light, peace and joy of this Christmas season fill each soul that desires to draw close to Him in these special days.

Christmas peace,

Fr. Fred



3-December 31, 2023

5th Sunday Collection for Society of St. Vincent de Paul

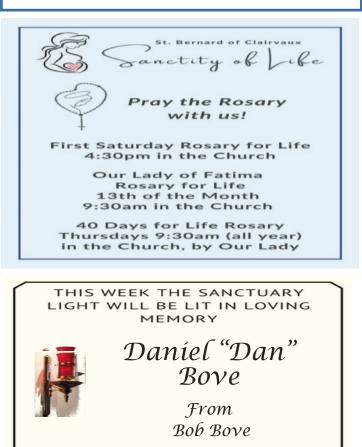
December 30-31, 2023

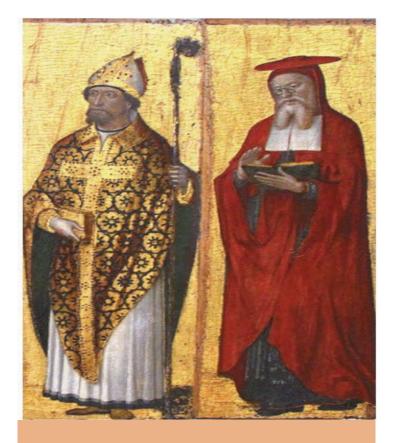
This weekend the second collection will support the works of the St. Vincent de Paul. Your support assists those living within our parish boundaries who are struggling financially. We also will be accepting personal sized toiletry items for the homeless served through the SVdP facilities in Phoenix.

We appreciate your generosity for the works of SVdP conference here at St. Bernard's.

- Vincentians of St. Bernard of Clairvaux







Women's Bible Study

The Bible and The Church Fathers

All Women of the parish are invited to join us for our Spring Bible Study. We will meet on Tuesday mornings at 10:00am beginning January 23, 2024 running through April 23, 2024.

To register please email nlpaulus9602@gmail.com before January 16, 2024. This is a video study. The cost of the class is \$20.00 for the workbook.



Mothers and Others

Would you like to meet other moms of infants, toddlers, teenagers?

Come join us at our next meeting: January 8th 11:30 AM-1:30 PM Parish Hall Room 101 Babysitting Provided. Bring an appetizer to share. Guest Speaker: Cathy Mitchell. Spiritual director / children's book author "My Guardian Angel".

> RSVP BY JANUARY 5TH TEXT SANDY 847.275.2545

SAVE THE DATE

All are invited to the Sanctity of Life "PIZZA NIGHT" Thursday, January 18, 2023 6:30PM - BYOB Special Guests: Fr. Fred & Fr. Ryan Topic: "Pro-Life in Parish Life"

and the states

Rsvp, necessary; Sally(srbamonte@cox.net) for reservation Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. -2 Cor 5:17 (ESV)

> May God's peace be upon you and remain with you throughout the year.



That Man Is You

Will resume again for the Spring Semester on

Friday, January 12, 2024.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Everyday Stewardship

I have heard people say, "You don't get to choose your family!" I believe that to be only partially true. I did not choose my father and mother, but my family is greater than my family tree of ancestors. My family includes those who have been there when both my father and mother passed away. My family includes those who came to see my newborn children in the hospital. My family includes those who celebrated with me my greatest triumphs and consoled me in my greatest times of trial. Each and every one of them I have chosen to be a part of my family.

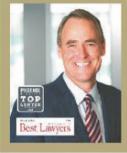
Most of the time we talk about stewardship in terms of time, talent, and treasure. We quantify the size of our gifts, seeing them as things that have a finite value. However, true stewardship has no limits. What we are called to give is everything. When we fully empty ourselves into another and into the reality of God we find ourselves transformed. We truly grow into our own as the creations we became at baptism.

It is in that transformation that we find ourselves connected to others in a profound way. Those who were not connected to us by blood are now connected to us by spirit. Our family, the body of Christ, grows and becomes stronger. In this family, a man can be father to a Son not of his flesh and a woman mother to a Son of a divine origin. In this family, we find our hope and our home. And we must never make the mistake of thinking that is not a choice.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

- LPi

Live The 12 Days, For Bethlehem's Sake



My name is John Even, and I am an estate planning and probate attorney here in Phoenix and one of the supporters of your Parish Magazine. For this month's article, I would like to introduce you to my wife Rebecca and her very important work benefiting Holy Family Hospital in Bethlehem, a primary work of the Order of Malta. Holy Family Hospital is a maternity hospital that serves all people and is located just 1,500 steps from the birthplace of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

In 2011, our parish priest sent us a letter stating that the 12 Days of Christmas song may be a 17th century Irish Catholic code instead of an 18th century English children's nursery rhyme. Intrigued, my Irish wife set out to learn more

Later, Rebecca interviewed Father Stockert, the Byzantine priest who, while researching his doctoral thesis at Georgetown, found letters dated in the late 1600's from a Jesuit in Dublin, Ireland to a Jesuit in Douay, France explaining the origins of the song. Based on her research, Rebecca and I changed the way we celebrate Christmas as a family, and it has been a blessing! Rebeccawent on to create tools for families to #Live The TwelveDays by creating a song on iTunes, a bookon Amazon, and an ornamentkit on Etsy.

> What: Keep Christ in Christmas! How: Live The Twelve Days For Bethlehem's Sake!

Twelve years later, when making giving tree ornaments to help support Holy Family Hospital, Rebecca was inspired to reignite the challenge for families to #LiveTheTwelveDays and to raise money for Holy Family Hospital in Bethlehem at the same time. Rebecca enthusiastically said "if we donate 33% of each \$37.00 digital bundle, all we need is 82,000 families from across the United States to raise \$1 million for Holy Family Hospital Let's doit!"

Please join Rebeccaand me as we "Live the Twelve Days" and transform Christmas one family at a time!



Please join the challenge: www.LiveThet2Davs.com





Christmas and New Year

Obligations

Any Mass celebrated on December 23-24 concluded before 4:00pm on December 24 fulfills the obligation for the 4th Sunday of Advent.

Any Mass celebrated on December 24 after 4:00 pm must be a Christmas Mass and fulfills the obligation to attend Mass on Christmas.

This year, New Year's Day (The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God) falls on Monday. Though it remains a Holy Day, there is no obligation for the faithful to attend Mass on that day.

Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family, January 1st, 2024, will be at 9:00 am.

6-December 31, 2023



PRAYER BEFORE A CRECHE

Heavenly Father, as we gaze upon this nativity scene, which commemorates the Advent of your Son amongst us, we ask that you may fill our hearts with the joy of Christmas.

Help us to be watchful and faithful in prayer as St. Joseph was; help us to be devout and intimately united to you, as Our Lady was; help us to bow down in worship as the Magi did; help us to tremble in wonder and awe at the mysteries of your power and love as the Shepherds did; help us to sing your praises as the angels did and help us, above all, to imitate your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, and to strive to love Him and serve Him in this life, so as to be happy with Him forever in the next.

In your mercy and kindness, help our own family to imitate the Holy Family and to make Christ the center of our family life, most especially Christ present to us in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. Strengthen us with your grace to be faithful, so that one day we may enjoy the gifts of heaven which are prefigured in the Nativity of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

Readings for week of December 31, 2023

Sunday:	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 Or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40
Monday:	Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 (2a)/Gal 4:4-7/ Lk 2:16-21
Tuesday:	1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 1:19-28
Wednesday:	1 Jn 2:29—3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6/Jn 1:29-34
Thursday:	1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Jn 1:35-42
Friday:	1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Jn 1:43-51
Saturday:	1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38
Next Sunday:	Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 (see 11)/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Observances for the week of December 31, 2023

Sunday:	The Holy Family; New Year's Eve
Monday:	Mary, The Holy Mother of God,
	New Year's Day, World Day of Peace
Tuesday:	Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen,
	Bishops and Doctors of the Church
Wednesday:	The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Thursday:	St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
Friday:	St. John Neumann, Bishop
Saturday:	St. Andre Bessette, Religious
Next Sunday:	The Epiphany of the Lord

STEWARDSHIP CORNER +

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS					
DECEMBER	17,	2023	\$	13,786.00	
DECEMBER	24,	2023	\$	*	
TOTAL OFFERING:					
DECEMBER	4,	2023	\$	31,969.00**	
**ELECTRONIC GIVING:					
BUILDING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER					
(NEW RECTORY CAMPAIGN)					
DECEMBER	4,	2023	\$	1,850.00**	
DECEMBER	17,	2023	\$	1,050.00	
**ELECTRONIC GIVING:					
**Electronic Giving received twice a month on Account					
* Unavailable at time of printing.					
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ON-GOING GENEROSITY					

MASS INTENTIONS

1					
	31	Sunday	7:30	AM	Christmas Novena
			9:00	AM	Arthur Markus †
			11:00	AM	Alice Green +
			4:00	PM	St. Bernard Parishioners
	1	Monday	9:00	AM	Alex Pruneda † Christmas Novena
	2	Tuesday	9:00	AM	Dr. Rosalinda Yu †
	3	Wednesday	9:00	AM	James Krugh †
			7:00	PM	Sandy Anderson
	4	Thursday	9:00	AM	Angelo Aleo †
	5	Friday	9:00	AM	Rosemary Alexander +
	6	Saturday	9:00	AM	Dino D'Angelo †
			5:00	PM	Thomas H. Baynard +
	7	Sunday	7:30	AM	Carol Gauer +
			9:00	AM	St. Bernard Parishioners
			11:00	AM	Joseph Hauer +

Eucharistic Adoration

You are invited to spend time with the Lord every Wednesday of the month for Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction. WEDNESDAY'S 3:00 PM TO 7:00 PM IN THE CHURCH

Divine Mercy Prayer Group

Join us every Wednesday in the church for the Divine Mercy Chaplet, Rosary and prayers. All are welcome.

Wednesday at 6:00 pm in the church.



This week at St. Bernard of Clairvaux MASS MONDAY-SATURDAY MORNINGS AT 9:00 AM						
31	December	Sunday				
	7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am	Masses				
	4:00pm	Vigil Mass				
1	January	Monday				
Нарру	New	Year				
	9:00am	Mass				
2	January	Tuesday				
	10:00am	Seniors Playing Cards				
3	January	Wednesday				
	3:00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament				
	5:00pm	Confessions				
	6:00pm	Divine Mercy Prayer Group				
	7:00pm	Divine Mercy Mass				
4	January	Thursday				
5	January	Friday				
	9:30am	First Friday Devotions				
	10:00am	Charismatic Prayer Group				
6	January	Saturday				
	9:00am	Mass				
	3:30pm	Confessions				
	4:30pm	First Saturday Rosary- Sanctity of Life				
	5:00pm	Mass				

Schedule subject to change.



Expecting a child is life changing, and you're not the first person to question what to do now that you're pregnant. Catholic Charities Joining Hearts can help you during your unexpected pregnancy. YOU ARE NOT ALONE.

Help support pregnant mothers, adoptive families, and parents in need by donating items to Catholic Charities Joining Hearts Program: • Bus Passes (monthly) • Uber & Lyft gift cards • TracFones—prepaid phones • TracFone Prepaid Minutes • Diapers • Gift Cards to purchase food and household items (Food City, Fry's, Safeway, Walmart, Target, etc.)



Text or call anytime, it's free & confidential. We help statewide. Search us at joiningheartsaz.org. We are here to help YOU 24/7.

To learn more about Joining Hearts or to donate, call 602-230-4910 or visit us at CatholicCharitiesAZ.org

"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you" Jeremiah 1:5

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS FAMILY AND FRIENDS WHO ARE ILL.

Christina A Emily Rudy Albany Noelle Anderson Grea Axe Mary Bathauer Kathy Beard Stephen David Bell **Terry Bourget** Bob Bove Brown, Krueger Family Steve Cassar Clare Collins Morino Dolores Colman Ed Connell Marcia J. Corella Jennifer Crowley James Dandy Elizabeth Edwards Tom E. Mercy Evert Jean F. Sean Gaughan Kim Green Sonia Hanopol Shannon Hards Susan Johnson

Carlos Julio Carmen K Clair & Thorsten Kampmann Ava Marie Kiplinger Mary Francis Klupar Charles LaPlant Nancy Leach Yazid LeBeau Philip Leveque Ryan Lewis James Linse Janie Lopez Marlene Lopez Baby Parker Luedtke Sydney Meneses Darlene McCabe Jill McCabe J. Meins & Family Maria Miller Tom Moylan Ron Nurz Pillar Paschke Phil Pecora Joan Pelecki Art Perez Michael R. Postel Rita Postel

Julie Wick Powell Mary Pradarelli C. Richardson Marv & Sam Romano Nancy Rossiello Judith (Jude) Rusk Paul Sanger Rita Sargis Dale Schafernak Gary Schulte Marie Shutts Jennifer Sladek Michael Smolka Colleen Sotelo Theresa Stewart-Bouhdida Joanne Stonaczko Kelly T. Maureen Thomas Phil Troilo Orlando Villarreal Vera K W Jerry Ward JY Lester Zietlow

Names will be removed from the list after 6 months. Please contact the office if the name is to remain on the list. Thank you.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Friday: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm LITURGY: Monday - Saturday: 9:00 am Saturday: 5:00 pm Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am

RECONCILIATION:

Wednesday: 5:00 - 6:00 pm Saturday: 3:30 - 4:30 pm Church and Chapel will close: Monday - Thursday: Fridays: Saturdays: Sundays:

4:00 pm 2:00 pm 6:00 pm 1:00 pm

SACRAMENTS:

Adult Confirmation: Are you a baptized Catholic, received First Communion, and are looking to received Confirmation? Please contact the Parish Office at 480-661-9843.

Baptism: If you are interested in arranging a baptism, please contact Nancy Boettcher, nboettcher@stboc.org or visit our parish website for more information.

Becoming Catholic: Are you interested in the Catholic Faith? We invite you to learn what Catholics believe in an open and welcoming environment. For more information, please contact the Parish Office at 480-661-9843.

Marriage Preparation: Congratulations on your engagement! As you are taking your first step on the path of love, we are here to assist you on your journey. Please contact the Parish Office at 480-661-9843 to begin marriage preparation.

Parish Office & Staff

Parish Office: (480) 661-9843				
(480) 614-8092				
www.stboc.org				
church@stboc.org				
Parish I T Communications:				
Director, Parish Business:				
Pastoral Assistant:				
Administrative Assistant:				
Administrative Assistant				
Director, Music & Liturgy:				
LifeTeen & Edge:				
Children's Catechesis:				
Facilities Supervisor:				
Maintenance Manager:				

Shannon Hards Mike Huesman Nancy Boettcher Nancy Paulus Mary Harty-Hill Kent Campbell Ashley Kaschl Kathie Stine Steve Cassar Ben Carlson

extension 310

extension 302

extension 300

extension 301

extension 301

extension 311

extension 316

extension 314

480-309-9443

extension 307

NOTICE FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

Please do not leave any religious articles or pamphlets in the Church Narthex without prior permission from the front office. Thank you.

Parish Council Members

Fr. Fred Adamson Bob Gomez, President 480-695-3229 Dan Mueller Deb Bacorn Louise Larkin Barry Markl Lynne McPherson Mike Mollere Lisa Schiffer Jim Stubert

fradamson@stboc.org

bob@RJGomez.com dcmueller1@gmail.com debbacorn@gmail.com 4jllarkin@comcast.net blmgolf@cox.net lynne.a.mcpherson@gmail.com mr.precision@hotmail.com lawschiffer@cox.net jwstubert@gmail.com

Ministries at St. Bernard

Altar Servers	Kathie Stine	480-661-9843
Alter Cociety	kstine@stboc.org	100 007 0000
Altar Society Baptism Preparation	Dolores Lonergan Parish Office	480-837-3668 480-661-9843
Charismatic Prayer Mtg	Elena Konerko	400-001-9043 602-741-8259
Edge (6th to 8th Grade)	Ashley Kaschl	480-661-9843
Life Teen (High School Teens)	Ashley Kaschl	480-661-9843
Faith Formation:	Asiliey Nasuli	400-001-3043
Children's Catechesis	Kathie Stine	480-661-9843
Finance Council	John Roehm	480-329-0110
I T Communications	Shannon Hards	480-661-9843
Funeral Hospitality	Ellen Florea	480-816-3551
Hospitality	Paul & Gina Wise	480-661-7767
Knights of Columbus	Mike Stevens	602-692-2538
5	KOFC12313@gmail.com	
Lectors (Min. of Word)	Dr. Richard Rutkowski	480-836-0568
	sbclectors@outlook.com	
Liturgy Coordinator	Kathie Stine	480-661-9843
Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	John Zikias	602-315-9139
Ministry of Care	Mary Harty-Hill	602-370-9104
Mothers and Others Ministry	Sandy Fruehe	847-275-2545
Music Ministry	Kent Campbell	480-661-9843
OCIA	Parish Office	480-661-9843
Our Lady of Guadalupe Ministry	Alma De Doldan	952-687-7138
	Ministryvirginof	
Dadra Dia Dravan Gravn	Guadalupe@gmail.com	400 204 4057
Padre Pio Prayer Group	Nancy Rossiello	480-391-1257
Pastoral Council Renewal—Men	Bob Gomez	480-661-9843
Sanctity of Life Committee	Steve Feyrer-Melk Shirley Towers	602-819-5578 480-661-9843
Spiritual Direction	Terri Hofmann	480-001-9843
Spinitual Direction	tmh@hofmann84.com	400-313-1343
St. Vincent de Paul	On-Call cell phone	480-332-8742
Stewardship/Development	Mike Huesman	480-661-9843
That Man Is You	Kont Comphall	480-540-8850
Walking with Moms in Need	Kent Campbell Jill McCabe	460-540-6650
Walking with Mons in Need Women's Spirituality	Valerie DiCaudo	480-816-3901
	ErikaYadron	100010-0001
Young Adult	erikayadron04@gmail.con	n
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For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

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