Parish Mission Statement
With enthusiastic spirit and welcoming hearts, we join together in our Catholic Faith to know, love and serve God through worship, education, service and mission opportunities for all.

Welcome to St. Bernadette
You may come as a stranger to us; yet you are known to the Lord, Jesus Christ, and in His name we bid you welcome; praying that you find peace, inspiration and our friendship in this His house of worship.

Stewardship
St. Bernadette is sustained by the generosity of our parishioners through time, talent, and treasure. Your generosity to our church makes it possible for us to prepare for the many challenges we face in proclaiming the Gospel. Thank you for your commitment to St. Bernadette Parish.

Parish Offerings
Prayer Requests
St. Bernadette Parish has a prayer chain. If you would like to request a prayer, please contact the parish office at 739-4157 or by email at prayers@saint-bernadette.org or drop your request in the collection basket. (All requests must be approved by the person whose name is being submitted).

Welcome Visitors!
We are happy that you have joined us in worship! If you would like to become a parish member, please contact the Parish office at 739-4157 to receive information on the upcoming Newcomer Welcome & Orientation gathering. The next session is Wednesday, January 6th at 6:30 pm in the resource room.

Pray the Rosary
Please join us in church at 7:00 am every Sunday to Pray the Rosary. We are also in need of volunteers to assist with Praying the Rosary. If interested please contact Sandy at 739-4157 or sreynolds@saint-bernadette.org.
Mass Intentions
December 14th  No Mass
Dec. 15th, 8:30 am  Bernard Kons
Dec. 16th, 8:30 am  Rev. Donald Shmauz
Dec. 17th, 9:00 am  Jim & Shirley Vander Heiden
Dec. 18th, 7:45 am  Marie Peters
Dec. 19th, 4:00 pm  Joseph & Rose Bickler
Dec. 20th, 7:15 am  Willis Dorton
9:00 am  Mary M. Tennessen
10:45 am  Parish Members

Readings for the Week of December 13th
Sunday:  Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18
Monday:  Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday:  Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday:  Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday:  Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17
Friday:  Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25
Saturday:  Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25
Next Sunday:  Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Liturgical Ministers  December 19th & 20th
4:00 pm  7:15 am  9:00 am  10:45 am
Cantor:  B. Bourassa  M. DeYoung
Choir:  Seraphim  Renewed Spirits
Greeter:  S. Humphrey  G. Siebers  L. Doney
Gr. Family:  Kohl  Fercy  Hamilton  Kennedy
   Reinl  Kolberg  Schreiber  Ourada
Lector:  S. Brock  R. Fercy  G. Bell  C. Kubiak
   S. Stefanik  C. Micke  P. Biwan  J. Kubiak
Servers:  E. Jore  D. Fercy  M. Hollenbach  K. Mazier
   N. Jore  B. Meyer  C. Pritzl  C. Rettler
Ushers:  M. Kinderman  V. Bressers  J. Hollenbach  P. Colien
   D. Schuh  K. Sanderfoot  B. Hollenbach  R. Doney
   R. Tuyls  J. Thomas  P. Hollenbach  J. Ourada
Captains:  S. Boeckman  R. Brickner  M. Woods  T. Doney

Sacraments
Confessions  Saturday 10:00 am or by appointment.

Baptisms
Infant Baptisms are celebrated during mass or after the last Sunday mass every second weekend of the month. To properly prepare for this sacrament, parents are asked to contact the parish office four months in advance and to attend a baptismal preparation program. The two-hour session is held every other month.

Weddings
Arrangements require at least twelve months for proper marriage preparation. Please contact the parish office as soon as possible. A one year active membership is required before planning the wedding.

Communion for the Homebound
Please contact the parish office to arrange for regular or occasional visits by the pastoral staff to the homebound or shut-ins. Holy Communion is brought by the pastor each month.

Eucharistic Assistance
If you are unable to come forward to receive the Eucharist, please notify any usher before Mass and they will have a Eucharistic Minister bring Holy Communion to you.

Eucharistic Worship
Winter Schedule
Labor Day Weekend - Memorial Weekend
Saturday..........................................................4:00 pm
Sunday.........................................................7:15 am, 9:00 am, 10:45 am

This Week December 14th–20th
Monday
1:30 pm  Human Concerns (RR)
4:00 pm  Religious Ed. Classes Gr. 1-6 (SCH/RE#)
6:30 pm  St. Bernadette School Christmas Concert (CH)

Tuesday
4:00 pm  Religious Ed. Classes Gr. 1-6 (SCH/RE#)
6:00 pm  Joint Finance/Parish Councils (Rectory)
6:30 pm  Boy Scouts (CAF)
6:45 pm  Women’s Fellowship (CH)

Wednesday
1:30 pm  Church Cleaning (CH/NX)
6:30 pm  Seraphim Choir Rehearsal (CH)
6:30 pm  Renewed Spirits Rehearsal (CR)
6:30 pm  Jr. High Religious Ed. (SCH/RE#)

Thursday
Friday
6:30 am  FV Bible Study (CAF)

Saturday
Blood Pressure Clinic after Mass
10:00 am  Confessions

Sunday
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Blood Pressure Clinic after All Masses
Church Decorating for Christmas after 10:45 Mass

KEY LOCATIONS
(CAF) = Cafeteria  (CL) = Chapel  (CH) = Church  (CR) - Choir Room
(NX) = Narthex  (PC) = Parish Center/Gymnasium  (RE#) = Religious Education Classroom  (RR) - Resource Room  (SCH) = School
Religious Education

Grades 1-6 Religious Education Classes
Monday, December 14th & January 4th at 4:00 pm in school.
Tuesday, December 15th & January 5th at 4:00 pm in school.

Jr. & Sr. High Religious Education Classes
Sr. High: Wed., January 13th at 6:30 pm in school.

1st Reconciliation/1st Eucharist Preparation
Letters went out the week of December 7th to parish families with children eligible to prepare for the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. If you have a 2nd grade child and did not receive a letter or have an older child you would like to prepare to receive these sacraments please call the Religious Education office at 734-7502.

Entertainment Books
Youth Ministry is also selling Entertainment Books for $30 for those interested. Stop into the Religious Education offices if interested in either coupon book.

St. Bernadette School

Peek into Preschool
It's time to think about preschool for the 2010 - 2011 school year! Please call the school 739-5391 for a tour or mark your calendar to come for our Peek into Preschool at 9:00 am on January 15, 2010.

Story Time
Come join us for Story Time on Friday, December 18th at 9:00 am in the St. Bernadette School Library.
St. Bernadette offers a free story time program from 9:00 to 9:30 monthly throughout the school year. Sue Taylor, a former kindergarten teacher at St. Bernadette, will lead story time which is open to children ages 2 to 5 and their parents or grandparents. Younger siblings are welcome to come and join us as well. Children will gather in the school library for fun, stories, songs and finger plays. The program is open to the public. To register, please call the school office 739-5391 or email crietveld@acesxavier.k12.wi.us.

St. Bernadette School Celebrates the Reason for the Season
Please join the St. Bernadette School community for their Christmas concert on Monday, December 14th at 6:30 pm in the church. If evening doesn’t work for you, stop by at 10:00 am that morning for the dress rehearsal. All students in preschool – Grade 5 will be performing. The younger children will sing several sacred and secular songs and the students in grades 1-5 will act out the story, “Super Gift from Heaven.” This whimsical story takes place in a shop filled with toys just waiting to be bought in time for Christmas. They hear the word “gift” used by the shoppers, but they don’t understand what the word means. They discover its meaning and realize the “Super Gift” is from heaven.
All are welcome and we’d love to share the Christmas spirit with all of you!

EasyPay Contribution Program
EasyPay is an online contribution service that allows parishioners to automate recurring and/or one-time contributions to the parish. By using EasyPay, you can make a direct contribution by electronic check or credit card for:

- Weekly Sunday Envelope Contribution
- Easter/Christmas Flower Donations
- Holy Days
- Special Collections
- Wish List Donations
- Budget Needs Collection
- Misc. Donations
- Rel. Ed. Tuition & Fees
- 2010 Bishop’s Appeal
- Advancing the Mission

The EasyPay Program is available 24 hours a day, it is located under Services on our website. For questions, please contact the parish office at 739-4157.
For a direct link, please visit our website at: www.saint-bernadette.org

Weekly Offerings

Sacrificial Offering Need 2009/2010

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Collected</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 12/06...................................$18,794.................$17,145.59</td>
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<tr>
<td>July-Nov........................................$308,541....................$304,082.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. Month to Date............................$18,794.................$17,145.59</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>July to Date....................................$327,335....................$321,227.59</td>
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“Advancing the Mission “Free to Serve”

Program Goal | Pledged to Date | Balance Needed
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<td>$729,000</td>
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<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Parish Obligation</th>
<th>ATM Collected YTD</th>
<th>Balance Needed</th>
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<tr>
<td>Old Bishops Appeal</td>
<td>$105,539</td>
<td>$72,630</td>
<td>$32,909</td>
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<td>Repair School Roof</td>
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<td>$110,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parking Lot Repair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Handicap Accessible School</td>
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<td>Parish Scholarship Fund</td>
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<td>$140,000</td>
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In your monthly Sunday envelopes you will find an Advancing the Mission envelope for you to use for your ATM donation if you haven’t already made a pledge through The Green Bay Diocese. Please be sure to make check payable to “Advancing the Mission”

THANK YOU to all who have contributed!
Catholic Queries

Q. What are the origins of the Advent wreath?
A. "...[T]he actual origins are uncertain. There is evidence of pre-Christian Germanic peoples using wreathes with lit candles during the cold and dark December days as a sign of hope in the future warm and extended-sunlight days of Spring. In Scandinavia during Winter, lighted candles were placed around a wheel, and prayers were offered to the god of light to turn "the wheel of the earth" back toward the sun to lengthen the days and restore warmth. By the Middle Ages, the Christians adapted this tradition and used Advent wreathes as part of their spiritual preparation for Christmas." — quoted from "The History of the Advent Wreath" by Fr. William Saunders, copyright 2003 by the Arlington Catholic Herald.

Q. What does the Advent wreath symbolize?
"The four candles represent the 4,000 years prior to Christ's coming and the four weeks of Advent. The unlighted candles represent the dark ages before Christ's coming. The lighted candles represent Christ, the Light of the World. Each week we light one more candle and that represents the idea that the coming of Christ is closer. The circular form of the wreath symbolizes that God has no beginning and no end. The green of the boughs indicates hope—just as the green of spring indicates new life." — quoted from "Symbolism of the Advent Wreath" on the Catholic Information Network web site (www.cin.org).

Q. Why is one of the Advent candles pink?
"The purple candles...symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and goods works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas." — quoted from "The History of the Advent Wreath" by Fr. William Saunders, copyright 2003 by the Arlington Catholic Herald.

This weekly column is presented by the St. Bernadette Adult Enrichment Committee. If you would like to submit a question of your own, please send it via e-mail to dgeenen@sbcglobal.net (subject line: Catholic Queries), or via surface mail to 2208 S. Horizon Drive, Appleton, WI, 54915.

John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." - Lk 3:16

Reflection Corner

Practical advice is the kind of thing elders would dole out to children and grandchildren. Be polite; wait your turn; say "thank you"; wash your hands before meals; take a walk; have regular check-ups. You know the routine.

While the simple practical advice of our elders was meant to situate us in a wholesome life that was respectful of self and others, the practical advice of John the Baptist has a great end in mind. The actions he promotes are directed toward the coming kingdom of God. John's vision takes in the whole world and extends beyond his moment in time. He is foreseeing a day when God's justice will reign supreme. He is asking his listeners to begin now to make that justice happen.

The kind things we do at this time of year are to be more than simple acts of charity. Donating food, bringing gifts for the poor, contributing to agencies that help those in need are all good things. But if we see our actions for what they can be—giving from what has been given to us to the many who have less—we then begin to understand our place in the kingdom of God. If we have more than someone else, it is always incumbent on us to share. That is the practical advice that John lays out for his listeners as preparation for the coming of the Messiah. And just to make it clear, John adds that this Messiah is coming with his winnowing fan to separate wheat from chaff. God's justice will not be denied.

Parish Office — 739-4157 Fax — 739-2795

Pastor Father Donald Zuleger
Deacon Deacon Michael Madden
Director of Parish Operations Pattie Eichhorst
Bookkeeper Caren Rohde
Worship Office Assist/Volunteer Coord. Sandy Reynolds
Administrative Assist/Bulletin Editor Michele Ciske
Maintenance Sam Ciske
Janitor Roland Tuyls

Religious Education Office 734-7502
Youth Ministry, RE Coordinator Gr. 7-12.....Peter Gagnon
RE Coordinator Gr 1-6.................................Shirley Riley
Religious Education Secretary...............Julie McMillan

St. Bernadette School Office (ACES) 739-5391
Principal.............................................Elizabeth Watson
School Secretary................................. Carol Rietveld

Council Members
Parish Trustees Lee Reynebeau, Paul Klister
Parish Council Fr. Zuleger, Lee Reynebeau, Scott Boeckman, Dave Sier, Carolyn Cox, Nancy Madden, Chris Sheptoski, Jim Thomes, Ken Washburn, Mike Zampaloni

Finance Council
Fr. Zuleger, Pattie Eichhorst, Paul Klister, Lydia Jansen, Steve Stefonik, Dean Basten, Fran Breuninger, Dick Christian, Luke Jacobs, Julie Lopas, Matt Oswald, Greg Seidl, Bob Zahn, Mary Zoeller

www.saint-bernadette.org
Parish News

The Little Blue Book
The Little Blue Book is your companion during the Advent and Christmas Seasons. It travels easily in your pocket, purse, or glove compartment. The goal is to find six minutes of quiet time every day for the next 43 days. You can give more than six minutes if you wish. But the main thing is to pray every day.

The Little Blue Books can be purchased for $1.00 each and are available in the narthex next to the sacristy. Please deposit your money in the marked collection box next to The Little Blue Books. Thank you!

Area Advent Reconciliation Services
Wed. Dec. 16th, St. Mary’s, St., Kaukauna 2:00pm
Thurs., Dec. 17th, St. John, Little Chute, 6:30pm
Sat., Dec. 19th, St. Mary, Appleton, 11:00am
Mon., Dec. 21st, St. Joseph, Appleton, 6:30pm

2nd Annual Men’s Steak & Ale Night
The Men’s Steak & Ale night will be Monday, December 21st at 6:30 pm, in the cafeteria of the school. The cost is $35.00 per person and includes a steak dinner and all beverages. We’ll have three big screen TV’s to watch NFL Football, a Cribbage tournament, TV Raffle, other raffles, & 50/50 cards. This is great way to meet other male parishioners—open to everyone—father/son—all are welcome. Tickets can be purchased from Joe Zoeller, Mike Kersten, John Van Able or the parish office. If you have any questions you can call the parish office at 739-4157.

Food Pantry Collections
The Human Concerns Committee will collect canned fruit or juice during the month of December. You may donate any other items as the pantry needs are great. Thank you for your generous support of the food pantry. If you wish to donate $5.00 monthly, check the pamphlet rack in the narthex for information or call the food pantry for details on becoming a member of the “Hi-Five Club”.

"Wrapped in Faith" Cookbooks for Sale
The Prayer Shawl Ministry has "Wrapped in Faith" cookbooks available for purchase in the parish office for $5.00 each. This 90 page cookbook holds many 'tried and true' baked goods recipes. They are a great Christmas gift, teacher's gift, hostess gift, and a must for every baker in your family! You may also contact Paulette Biwan at 954-6495, or Lori Baranowski at 749-1713 to get a book.

Wrighted Banms
Bann I I John Totzke & Debra Toliver

Christmas Mass Schedule
December 24th
5:00pm & 10:30pm
December 25th
8:30am & 10:30am

More Parish News

Mittens, Hats, Scarves & Gloves Needed
Next weekend will be the last collection of these new winter items until next November. Put items in the special box by the giving box in the narthex. The Renew group thanks you for your support of this collection for the Community Clothes Closet.

Help is needed for the Christmas Environment
On December 20th, after the 10:45 am mass we will set up the Christmas Trees, hang the wreaths and garland. We are looking for some strong young men to crawl under the stage at school to bring out the nativity set and carry the stable, which is located in the rectory garage, over to church.

Anyone available to help, please show up on December 20th. Thank you.

Server Training for New Servers
Any boys or girls in the fourth grade or older, who would like to become altar servers, are invited to ONE training session on EITHER Sunday, January 24th at noon OR Sunday, January 31st, at 1:00 pm. Training will be in the daily Mass chapel, and should be done in about an hour. You only need to attend ONE of the training sessions. Please call the parish office at 739-4157 to sign up for a session, so we know how many will be there. Any questions, please call Deacon Mike at 532-0945.

Women’s Fellowship
Our next meeting is December 15th from 6:45-8:45 pm at St. Bernadette Church. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Cindy Keep at 730-0729.

Year-End Contributions
Contributions must be received on or before December 31, 2009 in order to be claimed as a contribution deduction for 2009. Checks placed in the church offering on January 1, 2010 will not qualify for a charitable contribution deduction in 2009, even if the check is predated to 2009 and actually written in 2009. However, checks that are written, mailed and postmarked in 2009 will be deductible in 2009 though they are not received by the church until 2010. Please contact the parish office at 739-4157 if you have questions.

Carols of Christmas
Fox Valley Bible Study Group will host St. Joseph Middle School Choir on Friday, December 18th at 6:30 am in the St. Bernadette school cafeteria for a Christmas Concert.

Special Christmas foods from around the world will also be served. All are welcome to attend.

Please NO PARKING in Fire Zone
The Fire Zone is located on the north side of the church under the carport. A sign is posted indicating that it is a Fire Zone and No Parking is allowed. Please do not park in this zone at any time. We need to keep this zone open for emergency vehicles (police, fire or ambulance) in case there is an emergency. Thank you for your help in this matter.