

ST. BERNADETTE

8200 W. Denver Ave. • Milwaukee, WI 53223

OUR LADY OF GOOD HOPE

7152 N. 41ST St. • Milwaukee, WI 53209

ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA

8661 N. 76TH Pl. • Milwaukee, WI 53223



MEMBERS OF NORTHWEST MILWAUKEE CATHOLIC PARISHES

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MAKE STRAIGHT HIS PATHS.

MATTHEW 3:3



St. Bernadette

stbernadette@nwmcp.org

Office: 414-358-4600



St. Catherine of Alexandria

st.catherine@nwmcp.org

Office: 414-365-2020



Our Lady of Good Hope

olgh@nwmcp.org

Office: 414-352-1148

www.nwmcp.org

DECEMBER 7, 2025 | SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Bulletin Deadline Changes

Weekend	Deadline, 10:00AM
December 13-14	was December 1
December 20-21	was December 4
December 27-28	December 10
January 3-4	December 15

Parish calendar scheduling

Parish organizations, groups, and committees: Our three parishes are blessed with many gatherings and ministries. To keep our shared calendar accurate and to ensure harmony in the use of parish facilities, we ask that all meetings and events be scheduled through the parish offices. Since the offices work together to maintain one calendar, please send your 2026 dates and times to your parish office promptly, along with the contact person for any scheduling concerns. This way, we can keep our parish life running smoothly.



OLGH home prayer network

OLGH Parish has a confidential home prayer network made up of parishioners who have offered to pray for your needs. All calls are confidential. If you are in need of prayers or would like to become involved in our home prayer network, please contact Mary Jansen at 414-731-2780 or jansenmc@sbcglobal.net.

Adult formation on FORMED

Deepen your relationship with God to know Him better.
December 7 ~ Adore: Advent with Fr. John Burns
Week Two: <https://app.formed.org/app/videos/1887661?cid=1129019>

December 8 ~ What Catholics Believe About Mary:
Immaculate Conception, Virginity, & the Rosary
<https://app.formed.org/app/videos/3561162>



St. Bernadette: All those on the long-term prayer list in the Book of Assembly Prayer and posted in the gathering area

St. Catherine of Alexandria: All those on the long-term prayer list posted at the back of church

Our Lady of Good Hope: Jane Kirst, Marie Lore, and all those on the long-term prayer list posted at the back of church

33 Days to Eucharistic Glory

Please join us for a book read of *33 Days to Eucharistic Glory*, at OLGH in room 2, Tuesdays through December 30, 9:00 to 10:00AM with Br. Joe Pense and Simon Biagui. The book *33 Days to Eucharistic Glory* will be provided.



A Place at the Table-part 2 rescheduled

Due to the snowy weather, part 2 of our viewing and discussion of *A Place at the Table* has been rescheduled to December 20 at 9:30AM at StB-cafeteria.

Submit Christmas Memorials



A Christmas Memorial is a gift for the parish in memory of a loved one. Donations for Christmas Memorials, in whatever amount you choose, may be placed in the collection basket or sent to the parish office anytime before December 15. Please include the legible names of your departed loved ones to be held in memory and your name to receive credit for the donation. Identify it as Christmas Memorial. Your loved ones' names will be remembered on display in the back of church at OLGH and StCA or in the gathering area at StB, and they will be mentioned in the Prayer of the Faithful at the Christmas Masses.

Donations needed for the food pantry

Our pantry is grateful for the support of NWMCP! We are stronger when we work together. *For December, we are asking for donations of boxed potatoes (mashed, au gratin, scalloped, etc.) and boxed cereal.* Please bring nonperishable food items and leave them in the drop-off containers at any of our parishes. Thank you for making it possible to feed more needy families in our neighborhood.

Eucharistic Adoration

December 16, 2:50-3:50PM at StB

December 20, 2:50-3:50PM at OLGH

January 8, 10:50-11:50AM at StCA

Our calendar raffles are back for 2026!

We're thrilled to announce that even though we expect to be a merged corporation as of July 1, St. Bernadette and St. Catherine of Alexandria are still able to hold calendar raffles for the full year of 2026.

Let's kick off the season with joy and generosity:

- Calendars are \$25 each.
- Daily prizes range from \$25 to \$100.
- Winning tickets go back in the hopper—you can win more than once!
- They make perfect Christmas gifts—easy for you, meaningful for them.

Calendars will be available in the back of each church after Masses, at events such as StB fish fry and bingo, and in any parish office. Please consider purchasing calendars for yourself, your friends, and your loved ones this holiday season. Your support helps our parishes and spreads cheer all year long.

We must sell enough tickets by December 31 or the raffles cannot be held. Let's make this year's raffles a joyful success!

OLGH Outreach Ministry

Next weekend is the second weekend of the month when the loose collection at OLGH will go to support the parish's outreach activities. If you can, please remember to put an extra dollar or two in the collection basket so this vital ministry will continue. If you want to donate toward the Outreach Ministry outside of the offertory collection at Mass, there is a line for it on the bottom section of the monthly letter. May God continue to bless your generosity.

Donut Sunday at StCA

Next Sunday is our donut social, which provides us an opportunity to come together in a relaxed community setting. Please come and socialize with new and existing parishioners in the Granville room after Mass.



4:30-7:00PM in the StB cafeteria

December 19	February 20	March 20	April 17
January 16	March 6	April 3	May 15

Catholic trivia

Question: What are the names of the three biblical archangels?

Answer: Gabriel, Michael, and Raphael

©LPi

Congratulations to our StB Calendar Raffle winners

11/20/25	Diane F. Garhart
11/21/25	Michael S. Stroik
11/22/25	Barbara Yauger
11/23/25	Gayle Land
11/24/25	Kenny Meyer, Jr.
11/25/25	Mr. & Mrs. Phil Manthey
11/26/25	Tim Thorn
11/27/25	Glenn Spaulding
11/28/25	Moualee Thao
11/29/25	Robert D. Bongard
11/30/25	Kristen Moncher

Congratulations to our StCA Calendar Raffle winners

11/20/25	Andrew Schmutzler
11/21/25	Shawn Stamm
11/22/25	Natalie Fersch
11/23/25	Jack Sordahl
11/24/25	Diane Marie Schmutzler
11/25/25	John Buckley
11/26/25	Gary Stamm
11/27/25	Pat Lehman
11/28/25	Ginny Jacoby
11/29/25	Sophia Burkart
11/30/25	Debby Korpela

On our journey to become one parish, pastoral care is available

Rev. Mark, Pastor: 414-358-4600, ext. 143

Rev. Francis, Associate Pastor: 414-461-6073

Br. Joe Pense, SDS, Pastoral Associate: 414-461-6073

Mary Dahl, Pastoral Minister: 414-365-2020, ext. 301

Together, this team stands ready to nurture our faith and to bring peace into our lives and the lives of those around us. If you or someone you know needs pastoral support, contact your parish office to connect with someone on our pastoral team.

*God, grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change;
Courage to change the things I can;
And wisdom to know the difference.*

Prayer for Advent - Peace

Come, Lord Jesus!

Bring Your peace to our world. Inspire reconciliation, heal divisions, bind wounds, rewrite scripts. You are the Prince of Peace; bring that light into every space. Amen. ©LPi

"Consult not your fears, but your hopes and dreams. Think not about your frustrations, but about your unfulfilled potential. Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do." ~ Pope Saint John XXIII

Gospel reflection: Second Sunday of Advent

In this season of waiting, John the Baptist calls out to us from the wilderness with an urgent message: repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near. His voice echoes across the centuries, reminding us that Advent is not merely about nostalgic preparation for Christmas, but about genuine transformation of our hearts. John stands at the Jordan River, clothed in camel's hair, proclaiming a baptism of repentance—and the religious elite who come to him receive not comfort, but challenge. He warns against placing our confidence in spiritual pedigree or past achievements, insisting instead that true faith produces fruit worthy of repentance in our daily lives. As we light our Advent candles and prepare our homes, John asks us to examine what needs to change within us to make room for Christ. The One who is coming, John tells us, will baptize not just with water but with the Holy Spirit and fire—a promise both wonderful and sobering. This Advent, may we have the courage to let John's prophetic voice disturb our complacency and prepare our hearts for genuine encounter with the living God. Let us clear away the debris of our pride, hypocrisy, and self-righteousness, making straight paths for the Lord who comes to dwell among us.

~ Blessings, Fr. Mark Payne

Christmas Mass schedule

December 24

4:00PM at StB, StCA, OLGH

December 25

10:30AM at StMM

Hmong New Year Mass celebration

All are invited to join the StB Hmong community's New Year Mass celebration on Saturday, December 27, at 10:00AM. Potluck to follow Mass.

A note from Sr. Jane Mary

I'm praying for you not only at this special time of Thanksgiving but for all that is part of the collaboration effort and reality of the upcoming merger of parishes. I especially remember the good folks at OLGH where I volunteered as cantor and choir member and my service as pastoral minister at both OLGH and StB.

For all that has been - THANKS!

For all the will be - YES!

Peace,

Sr. Jane Mary Lorbiecki, SSND

Important announcement: parish merger and transition plan

We are pleased to announce that St. Bernadette, St. Catherine of Alexandria, and Our Lady of Good Hope will unite as a corporate sole effective July 1, 2026. This merger represents an important step forward in our shared mission to serve God and our community.

As we navigate this transition together, we want to share why we will continue to celebrate Mass and hold liturgical services at all three church sites. Until the properties of Our Lady of Good Hope and St. Catherine of Alexandria transition to new ownership, maintaining an active presence in these sacred spaces serves several important purposes. It helps us preserve and protect these beloved buildings that have been houses of worship for generations, ensures a gradual and prayerful transition for all parishioners, and allows us to remain good stewards of these properties while supporting our unified parish community.

Therefore, after July 1, 2026, we will maintain the same Mass schedule that we currently observe across all three locations. This means you will continue to attend Mass at your current parish church as you do now. All liturgical events, including weddings, funerals, baptisms, and other sacramental celebrations, will continue at their respective locations during this transition period.

As the properties of Our Lady of Good Hope and St. Catherine of Alexandria are sold, those faith communities will gradually transition to worship together at our St. Bernadette location, where we will unite as one parish family in a shared sacred space.

We ask for your patience, prayers, and continued support as we journey together as one faith community while honoring the sacred spaces that have nurtured our faith.

StCA StVdP food pantry report

The volunteers at the StCA StVdP food pantry thank you for your generous gifts of food, clothing, and money. All of this has given us the opportunity to carry out our mission of serving the people in our community.

In the past year we have distributed food to 1,980 families. We made 120 home visits and aided 286 people. In addition to food, we helped them get beds, appliances, and other household items purchased at the StVdP stores. The onsite pantry also gave clothing and many miscellaneous items to 1,260 families.

We are very grateful and look forward to your continuing support.

Schedule of Masses & Intentions

Sunday, December 7, 2025: 2nd Sunday of Advent

8:30AM MP at StCA: FATP

10:30AM MP at StB: †Fred & Shirley Berger

Monday, December 8, 2025: Immaculate Conception of Mary

6:30PM MP at StCA: FATP

Tuesday, December 9, 2025: St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

4:00PM MP at StB: †Jane Bongard

Wednesday, December 10, 2025: Our Lady of Loreto

8:15AM FA at OLGH: †Lee Cesarec

Thursday, December 11, 2025: St. Damasus I

12:00PM FA at StCA: †Teresa Chieu

Friday, December 12, 2025: Our Lady of Guadalupe

No Mass

Saturday, December 13, 2025: St. Lucy

3:00PM Sacrament of Reconciliation at OLGH

4:00PM FA at OLGH: †Rita Neuner

Sunday, December 14, 2025: 3rd Sunday in Advent

8:30AM FA at StCA: †Foster & Gladys Braby

10:30AM FA at StB: †Dumke family

†Nick & Joanne Nigro

MP = Fr. Mark Payne

FA = Fr. Francis Assisi

AJ = Fr. Alan Jurkus

RM = Fr. Roman Mueller

FATP = For all the parishioners of StB, BIS, StCA, StMM, OLGH

Parish Staff

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Northwest Catholic School, Nick Lee, Principal:

414-352-6927; www.nwcschool.org

This Week at Our Parishes

Sunday, December 7, 2025

- Blood pressure screening, after Mass at StB-cafeteria
- Christian Formation classes, 12:00PM at StCA-school
- Bingo, 5:00/6:00/7:00PM at StB-cafeteria

Monday, December 8, 2025

- Advanced tai chi, 9:30AM at OLGH-NH
- Beginner tai chi, 11:00AM at OLGH-NH
- StB/OLGH StVdP mtg, 1:00PM at StB-LMR
- Prayer & Worship Cmte mtg, 6:00PM at StCA-GR
- Consecration to Jesus through Mary, at the 6:30PM Mass at StCA

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

- *33 Days to Eucharistic Glory* book read/discussion, 9:00AM at OLGH-room 2
- Strength Training for Seniors, 2:00PM at StCA-GR
- Praise & worship/rosary, 3:00PM at StB

Wednesday, December 10, 2025

- Intermediate tai chi, 9:15AM at OLGH-NH
- December 28th bulletin announcement deadline, 10:00AM
- Seated tai chi, 10:15AM at OLGH-room 2
- *33 Days to Morning Glory* book read/discussion, 6:30PM at StB-LMR

Thursday, December 11, 2025

- Pulpit announcement deadline, 12:00PM

Friday, December 12, 2025

- StVdP food pantry open, 9:00AM-12:00PM at StCA

Sunday, December 14, 2025

- New member registration & donut Sunday, after Mass at StCA-GR
- Blood pressure screening, after Mass at StCA-GR
- Christian Formation classes, 12:00PM at StCA-school
- Bingo, 5:00/6:00/7:00PM at StB-cafeteria

Readings for the Week of December 7, 2025

Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-3 and 10ac, 11-13/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9-13ab/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Next Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-1



Northwest Milwaukee Catholic Parishes
Choir presents

Lead Me Back to Bethlehem

**Tuesday, December 23, 2025,
6:30PM, in the church at
St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish
8661 North 76th Place, Milwaukee**

Join us for *Lead Me Back to Bethlehem**, a musical journey told through story and song as we rediscover the joy, peace, and love of Christmas. Our choir—accompanied by a vibrant twelve-piece orchestra—will lead an uplifting concert experience, complete with a festive singalong that invites everyone into the celebration.



Bring your favorite Christmas cookies to share after the concert and enjoy a sweet time of time gathering with friends old and new.



*Words and music by Pepper Choplin
Instrumentation by Michael Lawrence