

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



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

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026 | TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Our new parish has a name

Thank you to everyone who attended our potluck and name reveal event on August 30. For those who weren't there to hear the announcement, the archbishop chose St. Christopher as the name for our new parish. Look at the inside flap in this bulletin for information about our patron.

Please note: The date of our merger is January 1, 2027. Until we officially become St. Christopher Parish, please continue to make any checks payable to your current parish.

Wednesday Mass at OLGH resumes

Now that school is back in session at NWCS, our 8:15AM Wednesday morning Mass at OLGH has resumed. All are welcome to attend school Masses.

Q&A on the new contribution system

We are offering a Q&A on Wednesday, September 9, at 5:30PM at StCA for anyone who is struggling with the new monthly letter contribution system. A staff representative will answer your questions about how to handle different giving situations while using the new tear-off portion of the letter. Please come with your questions ready.

Donations needed for the food pantry

Our StVdP food pantry volunteers are grateful for the support of NWMCP! We are stronger when we work together. ***For September, we are asking for donations of personal hygiene items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouthwash, bar soap, and deoderant. We are also in need of more brown paper bags, sturdy plastic bags, and egg cartons.*** Please put these items in the drop-off containers at any of our parishes. Thank you for making it possible to help more needy families in our neighborhood.



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, and all those on the long-term prayer list posted at the back of church

Visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Champion

You are invited to travel to the Shrine of Our Lady of Champion on Saturday, September 26. There will be a Mass, reconciliation, healing service, lunch, and time for self-exploration of the first and only approved Marion apparition site in the United States.

The coach bus will depart from StB at 7:00AM. To reserve your spot, please contact Sue at riedijks@nwmcp.org or 414-365-2020.

Pictorial directory reminder

We have scheduled an additional day of photography sessions for anyone who is new to the parish, missed the previous sessions, or had a change in the household that would require a new photo. The session is on Tuesday, September 29, from 2:00 to 8:30PM at StB. To register for a time slot, go to ucdir.com and click on the Photography Session Sign-up button. Enter our Church Code *wi398* and Church Password *photos* or call your parish office.



Wedding Banns



Debra Thao and Michael Nelson: September 11, 2026

"Father, hear our prayers for these who will be united in marriage before Your altar. Give them Your blessing, and strengthen their love for each other. We, your people at Northwest Milwaukee Catholic Parishes, ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen!"

Adult formation on FORMED

Deepen your relationship with God to know Him better.

September 6 ~ Cabrini

<https://app.formed.org/app/videos/4161266>

FORMED for families with children

Teach your children about our Catholic faith.

September 6 ~ The Mark 10 Mission: The Parable of the Sower

<https://app.formed.org/app/videos/4101379?cid=1496885>

Eucharistic Adoration

September 15, 2:50-3:50PM at StB

September 17, 10:50-11:50AM at StCA

September 19, 2:50-3:50PM at OLGH

Gospel Reflection

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives us a roadmap for healing broken relationships within the community of faith. He doesn't ask us to ignore conflict or pretend it doesn't exist, but instead invites us to approach it with courage, humility, and love. The process He outlines—speaking privately first, then involving others only if needed—reminds us that correction should always aim at reconciliation, never at humiliation. This is hard work; it's far easier to gossip about a grievance than to bring it directly to the person who hurt us. Yet Jesus trusts us with this responsibility because He knows that unresolved division wounds the whole Body of Christ. The passage closes with a beautiful promise: wherever two or three gather in His name, He is present among them. That presence is not just a comfort for prayer groups or liturgies. It's an assurance that Christ walks with us even into the uncomfortable conversations that community life demands. May we have the courage this week to seek peace honestly, trusting that Christ Himself is guiding the process. ~ *Blessings, Fr. Mark*

Strength training for seniors

Is it getting harder to lift a bag of groceries or to get up from a chair? Do you feel weaker every year? Let's work on that.

Thanks to an anonymous donation, professional trainer Tyler Schuette, of Milwaukee Professional Training, will be leading another eight-week session of strength training classes. These classes are a heartwarming tribute to Carol Hasenyager, who spearheaded them before her unexpected death last year.

Classes are scheduled on Tuesdays, September 29 through November 17, at 2:00PM, at StCA-Granville room.

All physical abilities are welcome. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes, and join us for exercise, companionship, and fun.

It is always wise to consult with your healthcare provider before beginning an exercise program.



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.

Congratulations to our StB

Calendar Raffle winners

08/25/26	Cathy Westfall
08/26/26	Franciscan Missions
08/27/26	Mark Spaeth
08/28/26	Anjelica Zirbes
08/29/26	Linda Vogeler
08/30/26	Sam Jabara
08/31/26	Greg & Shawna Poganski

Congratulations to our StCA

Calendar Raffle winners

08/25/26	Penelope Fischer
08/26/26	Audrey Fredock
08/27/26	Katie Pietsch
08/28/26	Sarah Rosingana
08/29/26	Diane Schmutzler
08/30/26	Neil Hintz
08/31/26	Renee Clark

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.*

Labor Day Blessing

Dear God,

We thank You for this Labor Day. Bless the men and women who serve in our workforce, and grant them strength and protection in their work. Bless, too, those who courageously seek to build fairer and more just working environments for all our brothers and sisters. Bless all of us as we gather to rest and recreate during this holiday weekend. 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



Getting to know our patron, St. Christopher

As our three beloved parish communities become one, Archbishop Jeffrey S. Grob has given our new family of faith a new name and a new patron: St. Christopher. Many of us grew up with a St. Christopher medal in the car or on a keychain, but you may be wondering: who was he, why was his feast day removed from the Church calendar, and is he really still a saint? Here are the answers.

Who was St. Christopher?

Tradition holds that Christopher was a large, powerful man of the third century who devoted his strength to serving Christ, earning his name from the Greek Christophoros, “Christ-bearer.” The most cherished legend tells of him carrying travelers across a dangerous river. One night he carried a child who grew impossibly heavy with each step. The child, he realized, was Christ Himself, bearing the weight of the whole world. Christopher is honored as a martyr who died for the faith, and for centuries he has been invoked as the patron of travelers, motorists, and all who journey, which is fitting, as our three parish families now begin a journey together as one.

Is he still a saint in the Catholic Church?

Yes, absolutely. Saint Christopher was never “de-canonized,” and there is no process by which the Church removes someone from sainthood. He remains listed in the Roman Martyrology, the Church’s official record of saints, and his memorial may still be celebrated on July 25, especially in local calendars, religious communities, and parishes like ours that carry his name. Removing a feast from the universal calendar simply means it is no longer required everywhere; it does not erase a saint’s holiness or the Church’s honor for him. Saint Christopher is still invoked today by the faithful around the world as a powerful patron and intercessor.

Why was he removed from the Roman calendar?

In 1969, Pope St. Paul VI reformed the General Roman Calendar following the Second Vatican Council. The goal was to focus the Church’s universal, obligatory calendar on saints with solid historical documentation, since many feasts had accumulated over centuries and some rested on legend more than verified fact. Because so little can be historically confirmed about St. Christopher’s life beyond popular tradition, his feast day (July 25) was removed from the universal calendar’s list of required celebrations. This was a housekeeping decision about the calendar, not a judgment on his holiness or his place among the saints.

As we unite as St. Christopher Parish, may our patron who bore Christ across troubled waters help us carry one another and carry Christ into this new chapter of our shared journey.

Archdiocesan donations

When making donations to Archdiocesan causes, such as the Catholic Stewardship Appeal, Combined Collections, or Love One Another, **please send the checks directly to the Archdiocese** in the envelopes they provide.

Please do not return them to the parish office.

Thank you!

NWMCP donation envelopes

If you are visiting from one of our collaborating parishes, envelopes are available for your cash offering so that you can designate which parish the funds should be transferred to. Checks, made out to the parish that you intend your donation to go to, can also be put in the envelopes if you desire. Contributions are transferred to the intended parish after the weekly count. Any loose cash in the collection basket stays at the parish where it was received. Thank you for your generosity to our parishes!

Schedule of Masses & Intentions

Sunday, September 6, 2026: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM MP at StCA: †Thomas H. Hoppa

10:30AM MP at StB: †Herbert & Maria Gross, & daughter
Arlene Schlicht

Monday, September 7, 2026

No Mass

Tuesday, September 8, 2026: Nativity of Mary

4:00PM Fr. Tom Perrin at StB: †Jane Bongard

Wednesday, September 9, 2026: St. Peter Claver

8:15AM FA at OLGH

Thursday, September 10, 2026

12:00PM RM at StCA

Friday, September 11, 2026

No Mass

Saturday, September 12, 2026: Most Holy Name of Mary

3:00PM Sacrament of Reconciliation at OLGH

4:00PM MB at OLGH (Praise): †Rose Steele & Amanda
Banks

Sunday, September 13, 2026: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30AM RM at StCA (Praise)

10:30AM MB at StB (Praise): †Lena Pitzenburger

MP = Fr. Mark Payne	FA = Fr. Francis Assisi
MB = Fr. Mike Barrett	RM = Fr. Roman Mueller
FATP = For all the parishioners of StB, BIS, StCA, StMM, OLGH	

Parish Staff

Fr. Mark Payne, Pastor:

414-358-4600, ext. 143; paynem@archmil.org

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Tony Dompke, Pastoral Coordinator:

414-461-6073; pc@stmmmp.org

Northwest Catholic School, Nick Lee, Principal:

414-352-6927; www.nwcschool.org

This Week at Our Parishes

Sunday, September 6, 2026

- Bible study: Gospel of Matthew, after Mass at StCA-GR
- No bingo

Monday, September 7, 2026

- Parish offices closed ~ Happy Labor Day!
- Fr. Mark out of the office through September 25
- September 13th bulletin announcement deadline, 10:00AM

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

- Rosary/Praise & Worship, 3:00PM at StB

Wednesday, September 9, 2026

- Q&A on the new contribution system, 5:30PM at StCA-GR

Thursday, September 10, 2026

- Pulpit announcement deadline, 12:00PM

Friday, September 11, 2026

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

Sunday, September 13, 2026

- Bible study: Gospel of Matthew, after Mass at StCA-GR
- Bingo, 5:00/6:00/7:00PM at StB-cafeteria

Readings for the Week of September 6, 2026

Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20

Monday: 1 Cor 5:1-8/Ps 5:5-7, 12/Lk 6:6-11

Tuesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/
Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

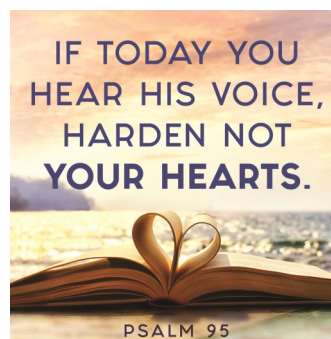
Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45:11-12, 14-17/Lk 6:20-26

Thursday: 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-24/
Lk 6:27-38

Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27/Ps 84:3-6, 12/Lk 6:39-42

Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22/Ps 116:12-13, 17-18/Lk 6:43-49

Next Sunday: Sir 27:30-28:7/Ps 103:1-4, 9-12/Rom 14:7-9/
Mt 18:21-3



Catholic trivia

Question: The word "Catholic" comes from the Greek "katholikos," meaning what?

Answer: Universal

©LPi



**St. Bernadette Parish
Fish Fry Dinner
Schedule: 2026-2027**

Served 4:30 - 7:00PM

September 18, 2026

October 16, 2026

November 20, 2026

December 18, 2026

January 15, 2027

February 12, 2027

February 26, 2027

March 12, 2027

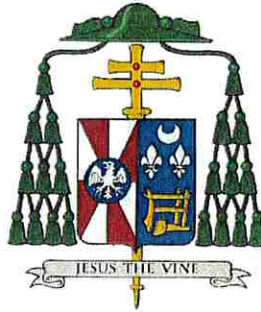
March 26, 2027

April 16, 2027

May 21, 2027

**8200 West Denver Avenue, Milwaukee
Our facilities are handicapped accessible.**





Most Reverend Jeffrey S. Grob
Miseratione Divina et Apostolicae Sedis Gratia
Archiepiscopus Milvaukiensis

DECREE

A parish is a definite community of the Christian faithful established on a stable basis within a particular church. The bishop is responsible to erect parishes as the needs of the faithful require. It is also the responsibility of the bishop to alter the configuration of parishes as conditions change and circumstances warrant.

In studying the needs of the whole diocese, consideration needs to be given to a new configuration of pastoral care in certain locales. Recognizing the significant collaboration among three parishes in Northwest Milwaukee and recognizing that the mission of the parishes could be stronger if they had less administrative duplication, it seemed desirable for some time to study the question arising from this community of the possibility of their merger.

After a series of consultations with the communities involved and with those who have been charged with their pastoral care, we are more than ever convinced that the time is right for this merger. The opinions of those concerned have been heard. The matter was presented to the Council of Priests. The results of this consultation were positive.

Accordingly, we now proceed to the canonical merger of St. Catherine's Parish (76th Place), St. Bernadette Parish, and Our Lady of Good Hope Parish in Milwaukee. With this document, we declare this merger accomplished and decree that out of this merger shall arise a new canonically established parish. The titular for the parish shall be St. Christopher. The patronal feast of the parish is to be celebrated on July 25.

We herewith also assign to St. Christopher Parish the territory previously assigned to the original three parishes. Members *de iure* of St. Christopher Parish shall be all Catholics living within these parish boundaries.

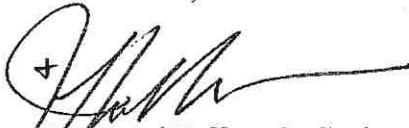
The newly merged parish shall use the worship sites of the existing churches, retaining their original names, unless or until an alternate plan is proposed in the future. All rights and obligations attached to the former parishes shall be assumed by the new parish which results from this merger.

Having done all things necessary according to the norms of law, we hereby declare St. Catherine's Parish, St. Bernadette Parish, and Our Lady of Good Hope Parish, in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee formally merged. St. Christopher Parish enjoys all of the privileges, rights, faculties, and obligations which other parishes of the Archdiocese have and we wish it to be considered as such by all.

This decree is effective on January 1, 2027.

Given this 25th day of July, 2026.

In witness of this, we have set our hand and our seal.



Most Reverend Jeffrey S. Grob
Archbishop of Milwaukee

Witnessed:



Barbara Anne Cusack
Chancellor