

ST. BERNADETTE

8200 W. Denver Ave. • Milwaukee, WI 53223

OUR LADY OF GOOD HOPE

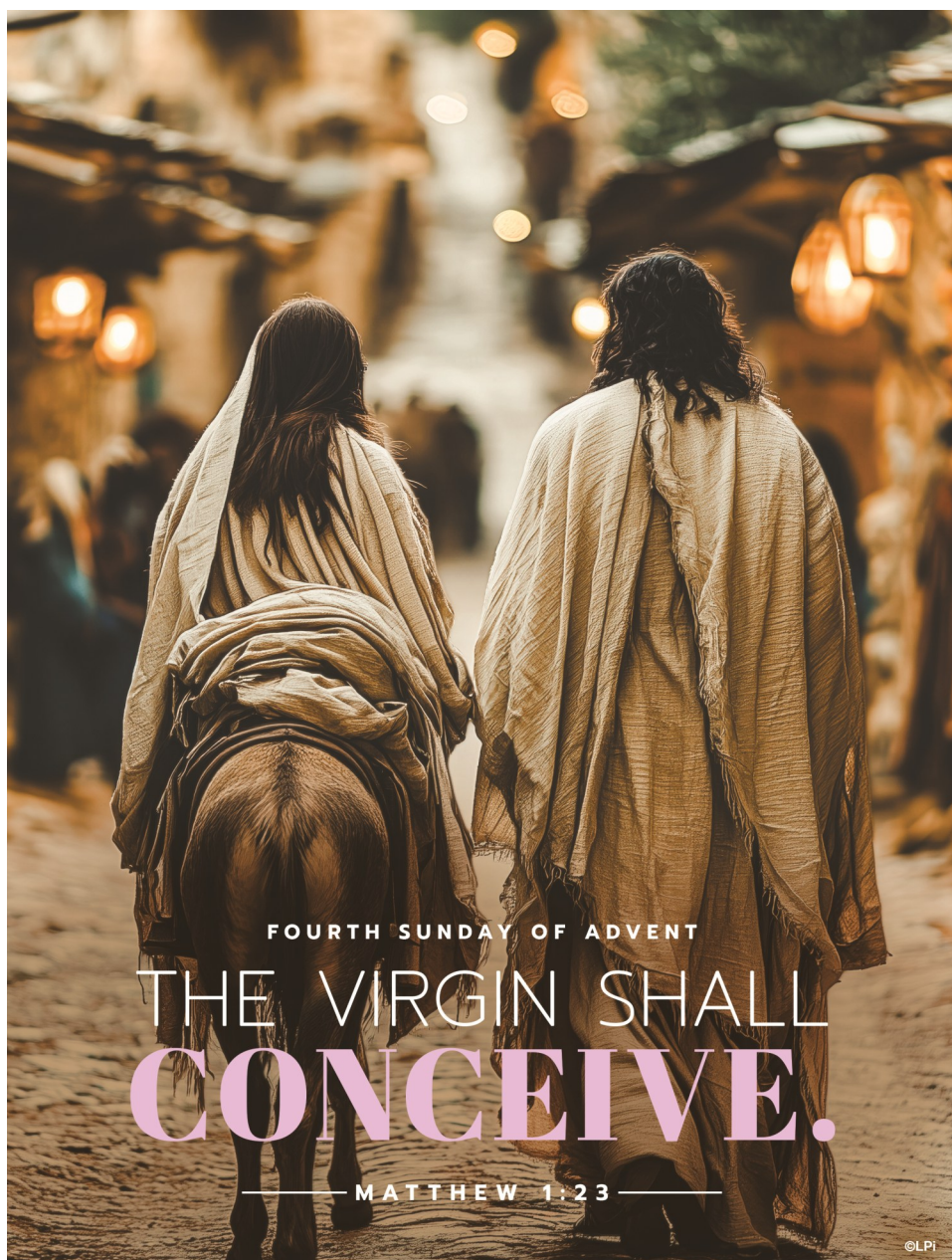
7152 N. 41ST St. • Milwaukee, WI 53209

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

DECEMBER 21, 2025 | FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Bulletin Deadline Changes

Weekend	Deadline, 10:00AM
December 27-28	was December 10
January 3-4	was 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.

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.

Year-end contributions

IRS regulations declare that contributions are deductible in the year that they are made. Cash or check donations for 2025 will be credited to your year-end statement as long as they are received in the parish office by December 31, 2025. If you mail your contribution to the parish, the postmark should be no later than December 31, 2025. All contributions postmarked January 1, 2026, or later will be recorded as 2026 contributions. Thank you for your continued support of your parish!



St. Bernadette: Anita Apazeller, Anonymous Special Intention, Mia Berger, Holly Biersack, Guy Gromala, Lois Hermann, Marge Hoffman, Irene Mumm, Lenard Mumm, Carol Valla, Ann Washnesky, and all those on the long-term prayer list in the Book of Assembly Prayer and posted in the gathering area

St. Catherine of Alexandria: Leslie Christofferson, Patrick Christofferson, Sandra Coffey, Maureen Conaty, Winnifred Glasshof, Bruce Nead, Kathy Nead, Amanda Nunez, Liz Oke, Becky Parr, Barbara Schuetz, Kay Thompson, and all those on the long-term prayer list posted at the back of church

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

StB new member registration will be held after Masses next weekend. There will be a table in the cafeteria where you can sign up. We will be pleased to have you join our parish family!

New Year toast at OLGH

All are invited to join us after the 4:00PM Mass at OLGH on December 31 for a New Year toast and fellowship, with snacks and refreshments. If you'd like, you may bring a bottle of wine to share.

Gospel reflection: Fourth Sunday of Advent

In this powerful passage, we encounter Joseph at a crossroads of faith, facing circumstances that must have shaken him to his core. When confronted with Mary's unexpected pregnancy, Joseph's first instinct was to protect her dignity even in his confusion, planning to divorce her quietly rather than expose her to public disgrace. Yet God interrupted his plans with a dream that would change everything, calling him to step into a role far greater than he could have imagined. Joseph's "yes" to God required tremendous courage—he had to set aside his own understanding, risk his reputation, and trust in a divine plan he couldn't fully comprehend. As we stand on the threshold of Christmas, Joseph reminds us that faith often asks us to embrace mystery and move forward even when we cannot see the full picture. His obedience was not passive but active and costly, requiring him to love sacrificially and protect both Mary and the Christ child. In our own lives, we too are called to listen for God's voice, to trust when the way forward seems unclear, and to say "yes" even when it means stepping into the unknown. This Advent, may we find inspiration in Joseph's faithful response, remembering that God works through ordinary people willing to surrender their plans for His greater purpose.

~ Blessings, Fr. Mark Payne

Adult formation on FORMED

Deepen your relationship with God to know Him better.

December 21 ~ Adore: Advent with Fr. John Burns

Week Four: <https://app.formed.org/app/videos/1887664?cid=1129019>

FORMED for families with children

Teach your children about our Catholic faith.

December 21 ~ The Saints and Heroes Collection

Nicholas: The Boy Who Became Santa: <https://app.formed.org/app/videos/578433>

Buy and sell calendar raffle tickets!

Don't miss your chance to win multiple prizes in the StB and StCA calendar raffles. They make excellent Christmas gifts, too! *All tickets are \$25 each.* Please put the completed ticket stubs and cash or check in an envelope marked calendar raffle and put it in the collection basket or return it to any parish office.

All tickets must be purchased by December 31, 2025.

If we do not sell enough tickets, the raffles cannot be held. Our goal for each parish is to sell at least 500 tickets per parish. Tickets sold as of December 11:

StB: 147 StCA: 80

A Warm Welcome ... to the following new members who recently registered at StCA Parish:

☺ Allan Beckmann & Tyronda Williams



We extend an invitation to all who regularly worship with us to become registered members of any of our parishes at a New Member Registration event after Mass. Alternatively, you are welcome to register at the parish office where you are joining.

Christmas & Mary, Mother of God Holy Day Mass schedule

Christmas

Saturday, December 24, Mass of Anticipation
4:00PM at StB, BIS, StCA, StMM, & OLGH

Sunday, December 25
10:30AM at StMM

Mary, Mother of God (January 1)

Saturday, December 31, Mass of Anticipation
4:00PM at OLGH

Sunday, January 1
10:00AM at StCA

Eucharistic Adoration

January 8, 10:50-11:50AM at StCA
January 17, 2:50-3:50PM at OLGH
January 20, 2:50-3:50PM at StB

Catholic trivia

Question: Which saint's nickname is "Santa Claus"?

Answer: St. Nicholas ©LPi

Congratulations to our StB Calendar Raffle winners

12/08/25	Clara Statz Fairfax
12/09/25	Karl Eichler
12/10/25	Amy Blimbergs
12/11/25	Michael Thao
12/12/25	Diane Smith

Congratulations to our StCA Calendar Raffle winners

12/08/25	Tom & Anne Silio
12/09/25	Sue Riedijk
12/10/25	Sandy Conrady
12/11/25	Christian Puckhaber
12/12/25	Bobbi Conrad

Due to an early bulletin publication deadline, a full week of winners is not shown. Winners for the remainder of the week will be listed in the next bulletin.



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

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

Prayer for Advent - Miracles

Dear God,

You are in the miracle business. I still believe that You can move mountains and separate seas. Break into every unknown and astound us with Your goodness and grace. Amen.

©LPi

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.*


"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

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



*from the staff of
Northwest Milwaukee Catholic Parishes*

Schedule of Masses & Intentions

Sunday, December 21, 2205: 4th Sunday of Advent

8:30AM MP at StCA: †Lorraine Jacobs

10:30AM MP at StB: †Resop, Stapelfeldt, Odenbrett, & Westenberger families

Monday, December 22, 2025

No Mass

Tuesday, December 23, 2025: St. John of Kanty

4:00PM MP at StB: †Barb Hoida

Wednesday, December 24, 2025

4:00PM RM at StB: †Wild family

4:00PM MP at StCA: †Michael Kramoris

4:00PM AJ at OLGH: †Rosemary Hackett

Thursday, December 25, 2025: Nativity of the Lord

10:30AM MP & FA at StMM: FATP

Friday, December 26, 2025: St. Stephen

No Mass

Saturday, December 27, 2025

10:00AM MP at StB-Hmong New Year Mass: †Jim Hoida

3:00PM Sacrament of Reconciliation at OLGH

4:00PM FA at OLGH: †Anne Harris

Sunday, December 28, 2025: The Holy Family

8:30AM FA at StCA: †William Mente

10:30AM FA at StB: FATP

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

Fr. Mark Payne, Pastor:

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

Fr. Francis Assisi Sebamalai, Associate Pastor:

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Diane Govern, Dir. of Finance:

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Mary Dahl, Pastoral Minister:

414-365-2020, ext. 301; dahlm@nwmcp.org

Northwest Catholic School, Nick Lee, Principal:

414-352-6927; www.nwcschool.org

This Week at Our Parishes

Sunday, December 21, 2025

- Continental breakfast, 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 22, 2025

- OCIA class, 6:00PM at StCA-parish ofc

Tuesday, December 23, 2025

- *33 Days to Eucharistic Glory* book read/discussion, 9:00AM at OLGH-room 2
- Pulpit announcement deadline, 12:00PM
- Strength Training for Seniors, 2:00PM at StCA-GR
- Rosary, 3:25PM at StB
- *Lead Me Back to Bethlehem* choir concert, 6:30PM at StCA-church

Wednesday, December 24, 2025

- Parish offices closed

Thursday, December 25, 2025

- Parish offices closed

Friday, December 26, 2025

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

Saturday, December 27, 2025

- Hmong New Year Mass followed by potluck, 10:00AM at StB-church & cafeteria

Sunday, December 28, 2025

- New member registration, after Mass at StB-cafeteria

Readings for the Week of December 21, 2025

Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-6/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Monday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-8a/Lk 1:46-56

Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

Wednesday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79

Thursday: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-3, 11-13/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

Friday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

Saturday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-5/Col 3:12-21/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23





*YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
TO THE*

*Installation
OF
Fr. Mark Payne*

AT ST. BERNADETTE PARISH

*8200 West Denver Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53223*

*10:30am Mass
Sunday, January 11, 2026
Archbishop Jeffrey S. Grob presiding*

Please join us after Mass in the cafeteria for food and fellowship.

Please RSVP to the St. Bernadette Parish Office at 414-358-4600 by January 5.



Hello Everyone —

After a season of watching and waiting, at the Christmas Midnight Mass we hear the wonderful words:

“The people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light.”

Isaiah 9:1

Can you imagine for a moment being a part of the nativity scene? Forget the sanitized view born from nativity plays — beautiful though they are — the stable is a dark and muddy place. It is quaint and almost forgotten. In this humble place a cry pierces the night: an infant is born and swaddled in rags. For all intents and purposes, this could be any baby in any place in the world. But what unfolds in this scene is a miraculous birth that forever changed the world. The Savior of the world is not a king born in a grand palace with finery, but an infant born of poor parents in a modest stable.

It's hard for us to imagine who would take offense at a baby born in a manger — a defenseless infant in such a lowly place. Yet even then, some did. And still today, many turn away. But God holds nothing back. He enters our darkness, our “stables,” our forgotten places. Jesus comes to us not as a princely dignitary who rules with power and decree, but as one meek and humble of heart, bringing light to our darkness and inviting us into a life of humility, gentleness and grace.

Through his miracles and mercy, Jesus shows us that everyone — especially those pushed to the margins — is worthy of dignity and love. He continues to invite us to see his presence: in the beauty of creation, in the love of family and friends, and most profoundly, in the presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

My hope and prayer for you this Christmas is that your heart will be filled with the light of God's inbreaking love — that the eternal Son may shine into your life, your heart and your family. May his light, which no darkness can overshadow, fill you with peace, joy and freedom that the world cannot give.

May God bless you, and Merry Christmas!

Most Reverend Jeffrey S. Grob
Archbishop of Milwaukee