

*How to pray.....why pray? The Disciples had these questions and so, they asked Jesus:*

*“Lord, teach us to pray.”* Luke 11:1

*You don't know how to pray? Put yourself in the presence of God, and as soon as you have said, 'Lord, I don't know how to pray!' you can be sure you have already begun.'*

St. Josemaria Escriva

Our older Brothers & Sisters in faith—the saints--can teach. If there is a quote that speaks to you, you might try talking with that particular saint (even if you don't know him/her) asking their help in prayer....or just simply talk to God about the quote. FRGA

*Prayer in my opinion is nothing else than an intimate sharing between friends; it means taking time frequently to be alone with Him who we know loves us.* Saint Teresa of Avila

*Prayer is, for me, an aspiration of the heart; it is a simple glance directed to Heaven; it is a cry of gratitude and of love in the midst of trial as in the midst of joy!* St. Therese

*Acquire the habit of speaking to God as if you were alone with Him, familiarly and with confidence and love, as to the dearest and most loving of friends.* St. Alphonsus Liguori

*I have not the courage to force myself to seek beautiful prayers in books; not knowing which to choose I act as children do who cannot read; I say quite simply to the good God what I want to tell Him, and He always understands me.* St. Therese

*Prayer is a deep conversation which takes place when we exchange not only words, but thoughts, hearts, feelings, in other words when we give our own selves.* St. John Paul II

*Without prayer we have neither light nor strength to advance in the way that leads to God.* St. Alphonsus Liguori

*I used to think that prayer changes things, but now I know that prayer changes us, and we change things.* St. Mother Teresa

*We do not have to talk very much in order to pray well. We know that God is there in His holy tabernacle; let us open our hearts to Him; let us rejoice in His Presence: This is the best prayer.* St. John Vianney

*Prayer is to our soul what rain is to the soil. Fertilize the soil ever so richly, it will remain barren unless fed by frequent rains.* St. John Vianney

*We need to find God, and God cannot be found in noise and restlessness. God is the friend of silence. See how nature--trees and flowers and grass--grow in silence. See the stars, the moon, and the sun, how they move in silence. The more we receive in silent prayer, the more we can give in our active life.* St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

*Prayer is not asking. Prayer is putting oneself in the hand of God, at His disposition, and listening to His voice in the depths of our hearts.* St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

*The highest form of prayer is to stand silently in awe before God.* St. Isaac the Syrian

*And every day, when your heart especially feels the loneliness of life, pray.* St. Padre Pio

*Be not afraid to tell Jesus that you love Him; even though it be without feeling, this is the way to oblige Him to help you, & carry you like a little child too feeble to walk.* St. Therese

*In the struggle of prayer, it is absolutely necessary to force oneself & compel oneself to pray.* St. Barsanuphius of Optina

*There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot solve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary.* Sr. Lucia of Fatima

*Those who pray, have hope. Those who pray little, are in great danger. Those who do not pray, are lost.* St. Padre Pio

*Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you, all things pass away; God never changes. Patience obtains all things. He who has God lacks nothing; God alone suffices.* St. Teresa of Avila

*When you say the Our Father, God's ear is next to your lips.* St. Andre Bessette

*My Jesus! What a loveable contrivance this holy sacrament was--that You would hide under the appearance of bread to make yourself loved & to be available for a visit by anyone who desires You!* St. Alphonsus Ligouri

*Silence.....does good to the soul.* St. Therese

*Prayer is an act of love; words are not needed. Even if sickness distracts from thoughts, all that is needed is the will to love.* St. Teresa of Avila

*Prayer is the oxygen of the soul.* St. Padre Pio

*And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.* Luke 2:19

St. Bernard's Finance Council Bulletin Summary

08/21/2017

Attendance: Fr. Gregory, Ralph Laumann, Andy Kleindl, Laura Templin, Leo Willems, Sherry Witte, Kelli Starkey

7: 00 meeting started with prayer from Fr. Gregory.

Approved July meeting minutes with minor change.

Adopted August 21, 2017 meeting agenda.

Stewardship Conference: Five parishioners from St. Bernard's and Ascension attended

Ministry software – a software that organizes and manages parish communications with parishioners. Cost of \$216 per year. Doris Mielke would like to have the software to assist her with Volunteer Coordinator duties. Doris will be obtaining additional information on functionality and use.

Laura Templin introduced the concept of a giving kiosk. The kiosk could be housed in the Narthex and be available to parishioners to obtain cash for Sunday/special day giving. In addition, the parish could consider a mechanism which would allow its parishioners to give electronically while at church. Both giving options would help in situations where parishioners are not able to write a check. Council members indicated these services do exist, and Ascension utilizes a service for electronic payments.

Sherry reported on financial and other matters:

- For fiscal 2017, the parish had a \$14,000 surplus, which was approximately \$760 over budget
- The A/C unit came in under budget by approximately \$13,700 (estimated cost of \$25,000, actual cost of \$11,300)
- Shared Services Agreement: the Archdiocese has recommended that all cluster parishes report shared services through a special account on their financial statement. Under this recommendation, St. Bernard's would show a professional services expense for its portion of the shared costs of shared employee and Faith Formation expenses, which are paid by Ascension.
- In July, 2017, the parish received \$2,500 from Fr. Ardolf's estate. This amount was allocated to Faith Formation. It is undetermined how much additional funds the parish may receive from the estate.
- The parish obtained a loan from the cemetery of \$8,095. This amount will be repaid by the parish.
- Building and Grounds capital investments: Projects, in order of priority, include the choir stairs, church redecorating and the school roof.
- Items of note from the Archdiocese Standards meeting:
  - It is recommended that parishes use a disclaimer when conducting capital campaigns which states that the parish can use funds in whatever way it deems necessary.
  - Estate donations to a parish must be used in the manner dictated by the donor.
- Procedural audit is being scheduled
- Census letters being completed
- Chili Feed – motion to apply funds 50-50 to the choir stairs and paydown of the roof loan. Motion Approved.

Father Gregory:

- Could the Joint Leadership Team become a Joint Parish Council? Meetings are becoming unmanageable for the Trustees and others.
  - A review of each Parish Council's organizational documents would be needed to determine separation of responsibility between Parish Councils and Finance Councils.

Next meeting will be held October 16<sup>th</sup>.

9:00 Father ended the meeting with a prayer.

# Matching Grant Fundraiser

Ascension NYA CUF

*Sponsored by Catholic United Financial*

## Turkey Bingo



*Sunday, November 5, 2017 1:00 - 3:00 pm*

*"Chamber Bucks" & "gift cards" given away between games  
Concessions will be served*

### Intermission Prize

*For anyone 15 and under there will be two special drawings  
for a free bike! Must be present to win.*

*All you need to do is be there!*

*Event Held At :*

*Ascension Catholic Church Basement  
323 Reform Street, NYA, MN*

*Ascension Catholic United of NYA is helping every generation of  
our Catholic community thrive and grow. Together with CUF  
we've raised \$96,000.00 in support of religious education.*



# St. Bernard Church—November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>“There is not better way to get to heaven than through song at</i></p> <p>5 ADULT CHOIR LEADS SINGING AT 10AM MASS</p>	6 MASS 8AM	<p>7 <i>Out Reach Mass At Ascension-Eucharistic Adoration begins at 5:35 with Reconciliation from 5:40-6:05pm. Mass at 6:15pm</i></p>	<p>1 EUCHARISTIC ADORATION 8:00 AM UNTIL 6:30PM. 6:45PM MASS. HOLY DAY OF OBLI-</p>	<p>2 All Souls Memorial Mass 6:45 pm.</p>	<p>3 NO MASS</p> <p><b>EARLY DEADLINE FOR NOV. 12TH BULLETIN ALL COPY TO OFFICE</b></p>	<p>4 Church: Sharon Willems &amp; Donna Cebulla. Narthex: Koolman, Storms, Hammers.</p>
<p>12</p>	13 MASS 8AM	<p>14 <i>Out Reach Mass &amp; Light supper- At Ascension-Eucharistic Adoration begins at 5:35pm with Reconciliation from 5:40-6:05pm. Mass at 6:15pm</i></p>	<p>15 MASS 8AM</p> <p><b>EARLY DEADLINE FOR NOV. 26TH BULLETIN ALL COPY TO OFFICE</b></p>	<p>16 NO MASS</p>	<p>17 NO MASS</p>	<p>18 <b>CHRISTMAS BAZAAR/LUNCHEON</b> Church: Judy Glander &amp; Peggy Eiden. Narthex: Kellie Starkey</p>
<p>19 FREE SPIRIT'S LEAD SINGING AT 10AM MASS.</p>	20 MASS 8AM	<p>21 <i>Out Reach Mass At Ascension-Eucharistic Adoration begins at 5:35 with Reconciliation from 5:40-6:05pm. Mass at 6:15pm</i></p>	<p>22 MASS 8AM</p>	<p>23 NO MASS THAKSGIVING MASS AT 9 AM AT ASCENSION</p>	<p>24 NO MASS</p>	<p>25 Church Mary Lou Wildung. Narthex: Hammers</p>
26	27 MASS 8AM	<p>28 <i>Out Reach Mass At Ascension-Eucharistic Adoration begins at 5:35 with Reconciliation from 5:40-6:05pm. Mass at 6:15pm</i></p>	29 MASS 8AM	30 NO MASS	<p>SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH. CHRISTMAS BAZAAR/LUNCHEON 11AM TO 1PM.</p>	