

# St. Bernard Church Benton Cemetery Project

This cemetery overlooks Benton Lake Northwest of the Church Building. The first person buried there as recorded in parish records was Nicholas Theis, May 4, 1857, 166 years ago. In 2009 an effort was made to identify who was buried in this cemetery.

The parish asked Sister Irene Feltz SSND to translate parish records written in German/Latin. For your information Microfiche records are available for viewing at the Carver County Historical Museum in Waconia. Marcia Tellers reviewed Sister Feltz work to correct spelling of family names.

Marcia Tellers and JoAnn Wickenhauser used parish burial record cards to delete names buried in the present St. Bernard Cemetery resulting in 469 persons buried in the St. Bernard Catholic Church Benton Cemetery.

We have created a plan to mount plaques to granite stones in Benton Cemetery to list these 469 people. The granite stones are similar to the Remember The Unborn monument at the front entrance of the church. They will be installed the same way raised off the ground. A concrete patio will be provided around the memorial monuments.

Mr. James F. Worm a former student of St. Bernard School who lives in Waconia has donated the funds for this project. Mr. Jim Storms has agreed to share his talent to donate the plaques with the names. A sample of his work Is displayed in the Narthex.

The St. Bernard Finance council has approved the project at the September 28, 2023, Finance Council meeting.

Mr. Roger Storms has taken initiative for this project and collecting fund for it. His initiative is greatly appreciated. And thank you all who are donating fund, materials and talent for this wonderful project.

We are asking for parishioners to form a committee to oversee the project. It has been 14 years since the list of names was created. One last review of the data we have needs to be done.

Please contact Roger Storms if you are interested in serving on this committee.  
Mobile: 612-618-8365 or [rstorms55318@aol.com](mailto:rstorms55318@aol.com).

Sincerely,  
Fr. Abraham, Pastor & Finance Council.