

## LITURGICAL MINISTRY

### SATURDAY, MAY 18

Rosary Terri Ziliak  
 Sacristan Dennis Gress  
 Gifts Bailey Spindler, Miles Obert  
 Lector Rena Schleiter  
 Servers Blake Silva, Harrison Obert  
 Greeters Mary McKinney, Jess Anderson  
 Cantor Sarah & Maci Spindler  
 Money Counters Dennis Gress  
 Holly Heichelbech

Homebound EM Lori Spindler  
 Traveling Chalice Jess & Dan Anderson

### SATURDAY, MAY 25

Rosary Diane Hasenour  
 Sacristan Bernie Spindler  
 Gifts  
 Lector Senior Mass  
 Servers Participants  
 Greeters  
 Cantor  
 Money Counters James Silva  
 Jenny Fuhs

Homebound EM Dennis Gress  
 Traveling Chalice Jess & Dan Anderson

## MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, May 18 - 5:30 p.m.

+ Linda Folsom

Thursday, May 23 - 6:00 p.m.

+ Gerald & Mary Allen

Saturday, May 25 - 5:30 p.m.

+ Herb Bethé

### Stewardship of Treasure

May 11 Collection **\$2,201.00**  
 Needed for weekly budget \$1,795.38  
 YTD Collection \$105,795.71  
 Needed to meet budget \$82,587.48  
 YTD Variance **\$23,208.23**  
 Children's Collection \$3.00

*Thank you for your generosity!*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In keeping with my recent theme of writing about some of the great heroes of our Faith, I would like to share a few thoughts about St. Rita of Cascia, whose feast day we celebrate on Wednesday.

St. Rita may or may not be familiar to you. She is frequently called upon as a patroness of mothers of 'troublesome' children, as well as of difficult marriages. St. Rita was born in the late 1300s in central Italy, near the town of Roccaporena, the only child of her parents. She was raised practically next door to the church of St. Augustine, where a convent of Augustinian nuns resided. From an early age, she desired to enter the convent and commend her life to God in prayer. However, her parents had other designs. She was betrothed to a young man named Paulo, who was harsh, cruel, violent, and serially unfaithful to her. He was also essentially godless, and all of this was of course a great burden to her. Despite these heartaches, she bore him two sons.

However, she prayed constantly for his conversion, that he would leave his life of vice behind. Eventually, after nearly 18 years of marriage, her husband came around, and resolved to reform his life. Tragically, however, just when he was on the good path, he was killed by members of a rival family. While it was Divine Providence that he converted prior to his going to the judgement seat, the violence of his death was a shock to all. She worried constantly now not for her husband, but her sons, who now were hot-blooded youths bent on getting revenge on their father's murderers. She prayed fervently once again, this time that they would be prevented from carrying out these ill deeds. Again, providentially but tragically, before they could commit the sin of murder, both her sons took seriously ill and died.

Despite all her losses, she once again resolved to dedicate her life to God, now that her family had departed from her. There was an issue, however, with entering the convent she had always wanted to enter: there were family members of her husband's murderers there. The superior refused to allow her entry because of the turmoil it might cause. Determined, Rita went to both parties as a peacemaker, first to her husband's brothers, and then to the offending family, asking for peace between the families. Both agreed, and even had a formal reunion and signed a peace pact with one another and embraced.

All of this difficult work done, Rita finally was admitted at age 36 to the religious life, where she spent the next 40 years of her life in peace and mystical union with Christ. Such a painful, but inspiring life! I truly think it is not mystery why there are so many drawn to her as a patroness. Who doesn't understand what it's like to be wronged? Who doesn't find it such a challenge to forgive? Who doesn't know the pain of having loved ones taken from them suddenly or tragically? In all of these things, St. Rita, *Pray for us!!*

Fr. Chris

# ST. BERNARD PARISH NEWS



### Senior Mass and Party

Please join us to celebrate our high-school seniors on May 25. Dinner and dessert will be provided directly after Mass. **Everyone is welcome!** Please sign-up in the back of church if you can come. Our graduating seniors are Anthony Gress, Lydia Siekman, Blake Silva, and Mia Strickland.

### SMG T-Shirt Sales

We'll be selling our new Gorette t-shirts after Masses THIS weekend. Profits go to help cover expenses for the National Eucharistic Congress July 17-21. We have 16 youth and 3 adults going. Cost is \$15 each. Thanks for your support!



Memorial Day Service - 9:00 a.m. at St. Bernard Cemetery on Monday, May 27.

**We remember and honor the memory of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country.**

### Renovation of the Rectory

There are many items in the rectory that have been taken to the basement in preparation for the renovation. Please do not remove any items from the basement without talking to Jess or Sarah. We don't want any items to be confused as flea market items. Thanks!

Mary is our loving mother. Her maternal heart is full of **love** and **mercy** for her beloved children. She is always waiting for us to turn to her for her motherly guidance. She constantly presents all our prayers to her dear son, Jesus. Mary is known as the "**Gate of Heaven**". We need Mary to guide us to heaven so that we may not lose our way by falling into sin. We need to pray the [Rosary](#) every single day. If you cannot pray the entire rosary with dedication, pray at least **one decade** with all your heart, and if a decade is not possible, recite at least one [Hail Mary](#) with complete devotion. When we pray the [Hail Mary](#), we ask our heavenly mother to intercede for us now and at the **hour of our death**. We only need to pray to her without ceasing.



### **May Church Cleaners**

Lori Spindler, Madelyn & Audrey Spindler, Libby Ivy, Cathy Reising, Kristie Dubord  
**Men's Team**  
 Chris Fuhs Team

## UPCOMING EVENTS

May 18-19 – New SMG  
T-shirts sales  
June 5 – Holiday World



### New SMG T-shirt Sales

We'll be selling our fresh new Goretti t-shirts after Masses at each parish (Holy Cross, St. Bernard, St. James, and Sts. Peter & Paul) on the weekend of **May 18-19**. Profits go to help cover expenses for the National Eucharistic Congress July 17-21. We have 16 youth and 3 adults going. Cost is \$15 each.

### Youth Day to Holiday World

Any youth from **incoming 6<sup>th</sup> thru outgoing 12<sup>th</sup>** grades are invited to attend our Holiday World outing Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. Again, we will be going the same day as all the Westside parishes! So contact those friends you know from Savio, Siena or Source & Summit and meet up! Mass will be offered at 9:30 at St. Nicholas Church in Santa Claus (which is right next door to Holiday World). After Mass we will meet at the front gate of Holiday World and hand out the tickets. For those that need a ride you can RSVP a seat on the mini-bus (first come, first serve). Cost is \$25 per ticket. Look in back of church for permission packets. Read the packet carefully. **Parents:** All youth need a chaperone. We need your help chaperoning to make this possible! **Forms and payment due by Tuesday May 28<sup>th</sup>** in any parish office.

# GOODBYE FATHER SUDHAKAR

Father Sudhakar will be moving back to India in July. He served our parishes when he first arrived in 2014 for two years. Stop by and wish him well as he prepares to return to his home country in July.

OPEN HOUSE  
ST. BERNARD SCHOOL HALL

**SUNDAY, JUNE 9**

2pm – 4pm

St. Bernard Catholic Church  
5342 E State Road 168  
Fort Branch, IN 47648



### MASS SCHEDULE - ST. BERNARD

Saturday - 5:30 p.m.  
Thursday - 6:00 p.m.

### MASS SCHEDULE - ST. JOHN (DAYLIGHT)

Saturday - 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday - 6:45 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.  
Tuesday - 8:00 a.m.  
Wednesday - 5:30 p.m.  
Thursday - 8:00 a.m.  
Friday - 9:00 a.m.



## Welcome to St. Bernard A Catholic Community Since 1877

5342 E. State Road 168  
Fort Branch, IN 47648

**Pastor:** Fr. Chris Forler

**Deacons:** Vince Bernardin, Richard Leibundguth, Lonny Davis

**Catechetical Leader:** Rose Obert

**Office Managers:** Lori Spindler (lspindler@evdio.org)  
Terri Ziliak (tziliak@evdio.org)

**Maintenance:** Jeff Meny (812-385-6861)

**Parish Council President:** Nick Ivy

**Altar Society President:** Jessica Anderson

**School Hall Rental:** Terri Ziliak/Lori Spindler

**Table & Chair Rental:** Jeff & Tammy Meny

**Parish Website:** stbernardsnakerun.org

**Parish Office:** 812-615-0201

### Sacraments:

**Adoration:** First Friday of each month 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**Reconciliation:** Before Thursday evening Mass starting at 5:15 p.m.

**Baptism:** Must sign up for Baptismal Class. Call the parish office to make arrangements.

**Marriage:** Call the parish office at least six months in advance.

**Sacrament of the Sick:** Administered by appointment.



Our parish invites you to join our church family!

All new parishioners can register by emailing

lspindler@evdio.org or calling the parish office.

### PRAYER LIST

Kenny & Marcia Reising, Jim Lubbers, Ralph Elpers, Crystal Williamson, Julia Market, Frankie Rynkiewich, Dana Seninger, Doris Hagedorn, Mike Folsom, Ronnie Martin, Judy Schuth, Mary Lou Michel, Johnsie Michel, Fr. Bernie Lutz, Ed & Sue Miskovic, Mary Lou Wolf, Greg & Rose Obert, Haley Oing, David Weber, Jeff Williamson, Jeff Corn

Please call Terri to add or remove someone 677-0511. Let us know when someone can come off the list.

Saturday, May 18, 2024 ~ Pentecost

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH  
**Strawberry Festival**

JUNE 2, 2024 | 11 AM - 3 PM

FREE ADMISSION! JOIN US FOR FOOD & FAMILY FUN!