



# St. BERNARDINE of SIENA

Catholic Church and School

24410 Calvert Street, Woodland Hills, California 91367 (818) 888-8200



#### PASTORAL TEAM:

PASTOR: Rev. Fr. Robert J. McNamara  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Rev. Fr. Daniel A. Fox  
PASTOR EMERITUS: Rev Msgr Richard H Murray  
SUNDAY ASSOCIATE: Rev Fr. Thomas Schrader, O.Carm.  
DEACONS: Jerry Cellner, Dale Taufer

#### MASS SCHEDULE:

SUNDAY: 7:00am, 8:30am, 10:00am, 12:00nn, 5:30 p.m.  
WEEKDAY: Mon thru Fri.: 6:30am & 8:30 a.m. (1st) Fri: 11:30 a.m.  
Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00pm.  
Confessions: Sat: 3:30 to 4:30 p.m


Dear Friends,

The movie "The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe" deals with good and evil, sin and forgiveness. I presume that we all know sin, but I hope we know forgiveness even more. Come and celebrate forgiveness and reconciliation tomorrow evening, Monday, December 19th, as we will have a group of priests to help us as we pray and confess our sins. As Advent draws to a close, a good confession is a perfect way to prepare for the birthday of Jesus.

Are you wondering which Mass to attend for Christmas? You have a choice of eight, four Christmas Eve and four Christmas morning. The Christmas morning Masses are likely to be less crowded, and at 8:30 and 10:00 a.m. you can enjoy the music of *Shantigarh*. Christmas Eve is another story. The 3:30 and 5:30 p.m. Masses will be full with music from our Children's Choirs, the 10:00 p.m. (midnight) Mass with music by *Joy of the Harvest* will be full as well. The 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass is likely to be a lighter crowd.

For the next few weeks we have two guest priests whom many of you know, my brother, Fr. Leslie and Fr. Geoff Wheaton. If you are going to be alone Christmas Day and would like to join us priests for dinner, call my office at 888-8200 and leave your name and number. I will be honored for you to join us. May the Lord bless you this final week of Advent with freedom from tension and the excitement of anticipation of the birthday of Jesus.

~ Father McNamara



**Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 18, 2005**

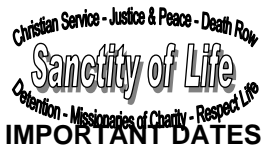
**The child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.**

—Luke 1:35

The Parish Office will be closed from Thursday, December 22nd through Thursday, December 29th. The office will reopen on Wednesday, January 3rd with new carpeting and a new look. *For emergencies call 888-8200.*



Mark your calendars for our  
**Communal Reconciliation Service**  
at 7:30 p.m.  
**Monday, December 19th**



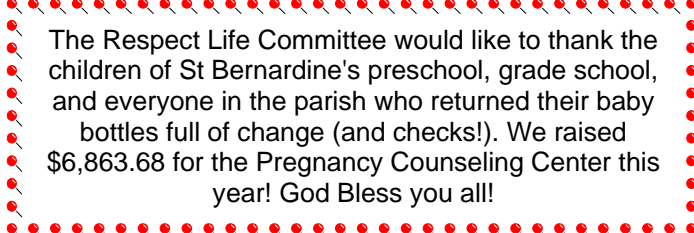
**December 17 & 18** **Food Gathering** for the Guadalupe Center and the Loaves and Fishes Pantry.

**December 19** **Justice & Peace Committee Meeting** at 7:30 p.m.

**January 7/8** **Sandwich Sunday** for the homeless. Please bring bagged meal and bottled water to any of the Masses. Blankets and new socks are always appreciated. Those interested in helping distribute to the homeless men and women on Skid row, we meet in the parish parking lot after the 5:30 Mass. Email sandwichministry@earthlink.net with any questions.

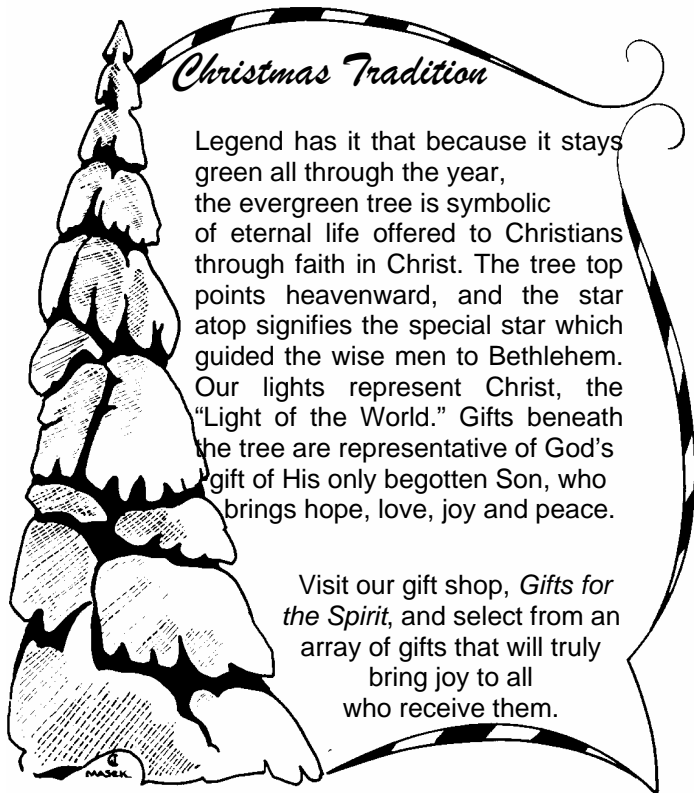
**Have you remembered your parish or school in your will or trust?**

For further information, please contact the rectory or H. Richard Closson, Director, Trust and Estate Programs at (213)637-7472 or HRClosson@la-archdiocese.org or visit [www.estateplanning.com/trustsacc](http://www.estateplanning.com/trustsacc).



The Respect Life Committee would like to thank the children of St Bernardine's preschool, grade school, and everyone in the parish who returned their baby bottles full of change (and checks!). We raised \$6,863.68 for the Pregnancy Counseling Center this year! God Bless you all!

**ALTAR CARE December 23, 2005**  
**Bob & Fran Van Buskirk, Theresa & Jerry Cofsky, Lil Grandinetti.**



*Christmas Tradition*

Legend has it that because it stays green all through the year, the evergreen tree is symbolic of eternal life offered to Christians through faith in Christ. The tree top points heavenward, and the star atop signifies the special star which guided the wise men to Bethlehem. Our lights represent Christ, the "Light of the World." Gifts beneath the tree are representative of God's gift of His only begotten Son, who brings hope, love, joy and peace.

Visit our gift shop, *Gifts for the Spirit*, and select from an array of gifts that will truly bring joy to all who receive them.

We are located upstairs in the parish Center across from the Hall. The shop is open Sundays from 9:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and Monday through Friday from 9:00 to 12:00.

Attention! Attention! Please come to the Justice & Peace Committee's Christmas Party! The December Meeting is also our traditional Christmas Party. Join us TOMORROW, Monday, December 19th at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Please bring finger food to share with the whole group, the "heartier" the better, and desserts are welcome too! Come hungry, we plan to eat at 7:45.

There will be no rosary this month before the meeting.

BONE MARROW DRIVE ~ Please Help! Shepard of the Valley Lutheran Church, in conjunction with City of Hope, is organizing a Bone Marrow Drive, to benefit Jeff Mailes, a 17 year old senior at El Camino Real. Jeff has been diagnosed with a rare form of cancer, T-cell Lymphoma, where a Bone Marrow transplant is part of the required treatment. Donors can be 18 years of age or older. The Drive will be held on Thursday, December 22nd, from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Shepard of the Valley (East Hall, 23838 Kittridge St., West Hills). In this season of giving, what better gift to give than the Gift of Life?

"Safeguard the Children Parish Committee" The Safeguard the Children Committee is holding "Protecting God's Children Awareness Sessions." The archdiocese requires all teachers, staff, volunteers, and ministers who are directly involved in teaching or caring for youth under 18 years of age to attend one of these sessions. The parish recommends the training for everyone who is interested in preventing sexual abuse of children. Sessions will be offered on Saturday, January 7th from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and on Wednesday, January 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in the Veranda Room. To register for a session, please call Eileen Fewless at (818)340-1440.

Grief Support Group

The death of a loved one can be a very difficult experience. A support group with others who have also had deaths can be helpful in the grief journey. An adult, faith-based Grief Support Group will be held at St. Bernardine's on nine Monday evenings, beginning January 16th and ending on March 20th (skipping February 20th, President's Day). Pre-registration is required. Attendance at all nine meetings is highly recommended for your benefit. To register, please call The Parish Center at 888-8200, Monday through Friday (9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.)

Registration closes January 6, 2006.

SAVE THE DATE

Parish Father/Daughter Dance February 4th, 2006

In the Parish Hall - Details to follow Hosted by the St. Bernardine's Social Committee

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CHRISTMAS BREAK Elementary Religious Education Classes that meet on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons are on Christmas Vacation. Classes will resume on January 10th & 11th. Have a blessed Advent and a holy, happy Christmas

YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

Attention, the youth ministry office will be closed from December 22nd until January 2nd during the parish center's recarpeting over the holidays. Junior High: Ignore your old schedules! New ones are on the way. We have cancelled our December 23rd Christmas Party and our December 27th youth night. We will not meet again until Tuesday, January 17th. Happy Holidays. Confirmation: "Parenteen Night" for parents and their teens this Sunday, December 18th in the parish hall from 6:45 - 8:15 p.m. We will begin with a potluck dinner (bring your favorite dish, we'll provide the drinks and paper products). Youth in the Confirmation program and their parent (s) are required to attend at least one of these nights together. The next Confirmation sessions are on Sunday, January 8th.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need adult chaperones and small group leaders for our Year One Confirmation retreat February 10th-12th (we leave here on Friday at 6:00 PM). Please contact the youth ministry office at (818) 710-1662 or email agafvert@stbernardine.org as soon as possible if you can be available to help out. Thanks!

PRIME TIMERS: The Santa Barbara Culinary Institute/Oxnard Heritage Square Trip has been RESCHEDULED for Tuesday, February 7th. If you are unable to make the trip or want to be put on the waiting list, Call Angela Adams at 347-6709. The bus will depart from St. Bernardine's 10:00 a.m. Elections for the Prime Timers Board will be held in January. We need volunteers and/or nominations from our membership to fill some positions. Nominations will be taken at the January General Meeting.



In your charity please pray for the sick of the parish, Mildred Jansen, wife of Jerry; Richard Camarillo, brother of Erminia Chavey; Don Kaszynski; Paul Garibaldi; Betty Albrigo; Sharon Clark; Ed Fraker; Keith Farr; Corinne Ramirez; Fr. Liam McCarron; Charles Barkley; Diane Casey; Bob Van Buskirk; Ama Pablos; Dennis Hoehn; Wayne Smith; Shirin; Rosalind Messick; Elaine Pittman; June Quinby; Helen Ellescas; Eileen Wicks; Michele Pepin; Frank Anzalone; Julianna Morin; Janny Vogel Zang; David Espinozsa; Marvin Asbury; Mary Biondo; Rose Marie Imber; Gabino Cruz; Dorothy Dhesse.



Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of Angelina Martin, mother of Ray.

Mass Intentions



**December 18 through December 24, 2005**

**7:00 a.m.** Pro Populo

**8:30 a.m.** Eleanor Kozelka+

**10:00 a.m.** Claire Cruttenden+

**12:00 noon** Dottie & Ron Woldrich

**5:30 p.m.** Francisco Yap+

**MONDAY**

**6:30 a.m.** Benedatta Rotolo+

**8:30 a.m.** Patricia Sostak+

**TUESDAY**

**6:30 a.m.** Ashley Mazur

**8:30 a.m.** Vicente & Beatriz Avena+

**WEDNESDAY**

**6:30 a.m.** Evelyn McNeil+

**8:30 a.m.** Noah Gonzales+

**THURSDAY**

**6:30 a.m.** Ashley Mazur

**8:30 a.m.** Wilfred Bathan+

**FRIDAY**

**6:30 a.m.** Noel Kiser+

**8:30 a.m.** Vic Galindo+

**CHRISTMAS EVE**

**3:30 p.m.** Robert Brogan+

**5:30 p.m.** Jeremy Edwards

**7:30 p.m.** Juliet Ortiz+

**10:00 p.m.** Mass of Thanksgiving

Pick up a copy of the next **Book Discussion Group Selection *A God of Incredible Surprises*** outside of church **TODAY, December 18th**, after all of the Masses. Written by Virgilio Elizondo, former rector of the Cathedral in San Antonio, Texas, the book offers stunning perspectives on why God chose to reveal himself to us in Jesus of Galilee. The first chapters on the gospel narratives of Jesus' conception and birth make great Christmas reading. Father Doug Glassman, OFM will present a series of four seminars on the book early next year. The book will also make a great Christmas gift!

Everyone is asked to attend the **Annual Holy Innocent Procession and Rosary** on **Thursday, December 28th** at the San Fernando Mission Cemetery. Please meet at **2:00 p.m.** in front of the mausoleum inside the first entrance into the cemetery, just past the floral shop. The Prayer Service and Rosary Procession will proceed to the Statue of the Unborn in remembrance of the 40 million innocent victims of abortion.

*Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus are requested to come in full regalia to lead the procession.*

**Attention Children! *The Knights of Columbus*** invite you, your family and friends to a **FREE Christmas Party** in their hall **TODAY, Sunday, December 18th** at **12:00 noon** until **4:00 p.m.** (21433 Strathern St.). Join us to enjoy Santa and his elf, a clown, refreshments, a jumping castle, movies and FUN! Santa will have toys for children aged 5 to 11.

Teens needing service hours are welcome to volunteer.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!**

Call David at **345-4189** for more information.