

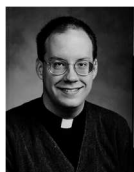


The Spirit  
of Saint Bernard



A publication of St. Bernard Parish  
May, June and July 2015

**AN OCEAN OF GOD'S LOVE:  
THE SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**



Fr. Michael Radowicz  
Pastor

"Come to me, all of you! Behold, for you I have established a throne of mercy on Earth, and from this throne, I desire to enter into your heart!" These were the words of our Lord to St. Faustina in His many revelations to her. We have been given such a beautiful treasure in the Eucharist, friends, and as we look at the state of our world, we are in such desperate need of prayer - on a personal level, on a family level, on a world level!

Eucharistic Adoration is one of those spiritual disciplines that we know what it is and don't know what it is ... all at the same time. For many of us, we know that Eucharistic Adoration involves sitting before Jesus, present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. The Blessed Sacrament is placed in a beautiful reliquary, called a monstrance, and the monstrance is usually surrounded by candles. We sit for an hour or so and say some prayers, and then we're done. The semantics of this description may be correct, friends, but it doesn't even begin to touch the great spiritual benefit that a devotion to our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration can bring to us.

You might be surprised to learn that with the breadth of our Church, Eucharistic Adoration is only about 800 years old. The practice of Eucharistic Adoration can be traced back to the medieval times. In the year 1226, King Louis VII won a very decisive victory over the Albigensians, whose teachings were contrary those of the Church and deemed heretical. To honor our Lord, King Louis petitioned the bishop of Avignon to expose the Blessed Sacrament at the Chapel of the Holy Cross. There were so many people who came that the bishop decided to extend the time of adoration *in perpetuum* - day and night.

At first, the custom was to worship Christ reserved in the tabernacle. The practice then evolved to opening the tabernacle doors, and eventually to the placing of our Lord in the monstrance, which is our current practice today. This practice spread throughout Europe, and led to the establishment of the feast of Corpus Christi in 1263. More and more people came to our Eucharistic Lord as a loving devotion to Him to help them cope with times that were highly volatile. Sound familiar?



As a priest, I certainly know of the importance of adoring our Lord in the Eucharist, as it is in the heart of every priest. What I pray for each day, friends, is for this love to come to your heart as well - to know that there is a place where you can come to Jesus and to lay yourself before Him, as He stands before you to heal you, to console you, to give you whatever you are asking from Him. Imagine the joy of a mother as she holds her newborn son or daughter for the very first time after they are born. This should be the image in our minds when we come to adore our Lord, friends. Jesus is so happy with those who come to spend time with Him - He wraps His arms around us as we delight in Him, and He in us.

Here at St. Bernard, we have time set aside each week for Eucharistic Adoration. On Friday mornings, following the 8:30am Mass, our Lord is placed in the monstrance and adored until 11:00am. I realize that this time isn't convenient for everyone, and that many work during the day, or have daytime obligations. For this rea-

son, I instituted First Friday devotions during the evening, which includes an hour of adoration before our Lord. It is one hour, once per month. Surely, friends, we can bring ourselves to adore our Lord for one hour, once a month, can't we? In order to encounter Christ and to have a life-changing relationship with Him, we must encounter Him in the gift of prayer, and there is no better time for prayer than when He is exposed before us.

Many people think that an hour is a long time to just "sit there". Others think that we're simply "keeping Jesus company" and nothing more. If I would hazard a guess as to why Eucharistic Adoration isn't overly popular in our parish, it might be



because we simply don't know what to do for an hour as we sit before the Lord. When it comes to prayer, we tend to like structure, and that's OK. It's certainly not bad to place a bit of structure on our holy hour, which will give us attainable goals in those 60 minutes with Jesus. Perhaps I might offer the following items as food for thought when you come to spend an hour with the Lord:

First Five Minutes. Use these opening minutes to simply empty yourself. Allow your cares, your worries, your anxieties to leave you for a short time. Allow Christ's presence in the Holy Eucharist to bring calm and peace to your heart and mind.

Next Five Minutes. Call to mind the many issues that are present in the world, and how, at this very moment, you are uniting your heart with the millions of hearts around the world who are adoring at this very same time. Ask the Lord to open your heart to His voice and to allow the gifts of healing and consolation to touch our world, which is broken in so many ways. Jesus made a great sacrifice for our salvation; we, too, are mindful of this sacrifice as we sacrifice our own time to be open to Him.

Next 10 Minutes. What do you need from our Lord? What are your longings, your desires, your hopes and your aspirations? What can He help you with? Who do we need to mention by name and bring before the Lord as we remember them and their needs? This is a time in which we can lay our burdens upon the Good Shepherd,

"for His yoke is easy, and His burden, light".

Next 15 Minutes. Offer this time in devotional prayer. Perhaps it might be a rosary, a Chaplet of Divine Mercy, a litany to our Blessed Mother, spiritual reading or some kind of formal prayer that you are comfortable with and which speaks to your heart.

Next 10 Minutes. Use this time to reflect on a passage from Sacred Scripture. If you don't

come to the Scriptures all that often, perhaps you could reflect on the reading of the day - be it the first reading, the responsorial psalm or the gospel. Focus yourself on the words you are praying and

ask the Lord, "How, Lord, will these words of Scripture move me to follow you more faithfully and come to know you more deeply?"

Next 10 Minutes. Just "be" with Jesus. This is a time in which you open your heart to Jesus, and allow Him to speak to you through the graces you have received in your spiritual exercises from the past 45 minutes. You have faithfully come to Him and have prayed with Him; now, allow Him to move your heart and pour His life into you.

Last 5 Minutes. Use these closing minutes to offer prayers of thanksgiving for all that you have experienced in the past hour, and the grace that Christ has not only given to you, but has given to the world by your sacrifice and your wanting to be with Him.


If we break our hour of adoration up using these simple tools, you'll be amazed at how quickly an hour will go by! Making a commitment to adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament takes discipline. If you don't feel like you can last an entire hour, perhaps you can start by staying with our Lord for 30 minutes. Then, 45 minutes. Then, a full hour. Build yourself up as you become more comfortable with this great spiritual exercise.

It saddens me when we have a parish family of almost 1,000 households and we cannot get 10 people to come for one hour, once a month on First Fridays. I would invite you to bring this article to prayer, friends, and to consider how much more fulfilling your life would be if only you would

take one hour and offer it to Jesus - for yourself, for others and for the world. Perhaps none of our times for adoration work for you. I've got an answer for that! The Cathedral Parish offers adoration *in perpetuum* (24 hours per day, 7 days per week) at the Holy Redeemer campus on Johnson Street. You can make a holy hour at a time you choose that's convenient for you. While it would be wonderful to share this time with you here at St. Bernard, I'd be just as happy if you would find a place with a time for adoration that would work for you.

We need this devotion, friends. I cannot stress enough how important it is to have a fruitful relationship with our Eucharistic Lord as we see hatred, bloodshed, injustice, calamity and tragedy all around us. As blessed Dina Belanger said, "if souls but understand the treasure they possess in the divine Eucharist, the churches would overflow with adorers no less by night than by day." St. John Paul said that if Eucharistic devotion for our Lord grows around the world, we will solve world problems and bring an end to abortion and other offenses against human life. The Lord awaits, friends - let us make haste to meet Him, to adore Him and to love Him with all our heart as He reveals the vast ocean of His love and His grace in the precious gift of the holy Eucharist.

**REMINDER:  
ST. BERNARD E-OFFERTORY AVAILABLE**

 We've had a great response to those wanting to take advantage of e-offertory. There's always room for more! Please feel free to sign up at our parish web site, <http://www.sbmsn.org>. Under the "Announcements" section, click on the link to create your account. Existing users can click the second link to log on to your account. It's a great way to contribute to the parish and support our special collections.

**ALTAR SERVER RECRUITMENT!**

We will be training new servers for weekend Masses in June and invite you and your family to consider becoming involved in this ministry. Children must be going into grade four this fall and have completed their First Holy Communion. The new servers will start beginning in July. If interested or if you have questions, please contact Fr. Michael or Ken in the office.



**NATIONAL COMBINED COLLECTION  
TO TAKE PLACE IN MAY**

The National Combined Collection will take place in May. The collection supports the Black and Indian Missions, Catholic Promotion of Authentic Human Development, Catholic Communications Campaign, Catholic Home Missions, the Catholic University of America and the Retirement Fund for Religious. e-Offertory users may contribute to each of the special collections using your online account. Special envelopes will also be available. Thanks for your generous support of these collections!

**NEWS FROM THE  
WOMEN OF ST. BERNARD**

Our next event is our annual garage sale, which will take place on Friday, July 24th from 8:00am until 6:00pm, and on Saturday, July 25th from 8:00am until 1:00pm.

Donations will be accepted beginning July 13th. From this time until the time of the sale, we'll be needing lots of extra hands to help sort and organize items.

We take a variety of items, including:

- ▶ Books
- ▶ Kitchenware
- ▶ Toys
- ▶ Children's Clothing
- ▶ Decor
- ▶ Small Furniture



We cannot accept the following items:

- ▶ Computers
- ▶ Televisions
- ▶ Large Appliances
- ▶ Car Seats
- ▶ Adult Clothing

Have an item to donate, but you can't get it here? No problem! Feel free to contact Carol (249-0082) or Jan (223-9146), and we'll be happy to pick the item up at your home. Thank you for your generosity!

2015 Garage Sale Committee Members  
*Carol Doran, Jan Rinehart,  
Michelle Rinehart, Marcia Haskins*

**ST. BERNARD PARISH WELCOMES  
LOVE BEGINS HERE YOUTH**

St. Bernard Parish is very excited to be hosting a group of youth who will be participating in the *Love Begins Here* program this summer. Young people



from across the Diocese participate in this week-long program, which incorporates fun, fellowship, ministry and prayer. We will welcome the youth and diocesan staff on Sunday, July 26th. They will be residing on the campus through Thursday, July 30th.

The youth will be looking for projects to do during the days they are here. Do you have some work that needs to be done around your home or another project that the children could help you with? Please feel free to contact Geri or Carol and let them know what kind of help you need, and they will do their best to accommodate your request. Ideas for projects include yard work, cleaning, light painting, moving items, organizing, light building projects, etc. Every group will be supervised by adult volunteers.

We're excited to host our young people for an experience that promises to be uplifting, faith-filled and influential. We're helping our youth to become faithful leaders, and this will be a great opportunity to help them move in the right direction!

**PRIESTS FOR OUR FUTURE,  
ZEAL FOR GOD'S HOUSE:  
PROVIDING A BRIGHT FUTURE  
FOR OUR PARISH & COMMUNITY**

*Fr. Michael Radowicz, Pastor*

When I look at the calendar and realize that I'm going to be celebrating my 10th year of priesthood at the end of this month, it's hard for me to believe it. The years have flown by, and I have enjoyed four parish assignments already! There have been wonderful days, and there have been some not-so-good days, but with every day, the Lord is there beside me to help me be the best priest and pastor that I can be. It is with great joy

and zeal that I serve you, friends, and when the time comes for me to move on to my next assignment (hopefully not too soon!), I can say with great confidence that we have some fine young men who will graciously, selflessly and joyfully serve you, joining a fine history of pastors who have provided sound leadership since the found-

ing of St. Bernard.



It has taken a long time to get there, but God has blessed us so richly with men who are

willing to discern a calling to priestly and religious life. When I was in the seminary, there were six of us. We joked about becoming pastors of entire counties if things didn't change. I give thanks every day that they have, and now, we look to a future that is vastly different from 10 years ago. Why the big surge in the number of seminarians? It's due namely to three things:

1. Vision. I commend Bishop Morlino for his pastoral zeal and great focus on fostering vocations. As the bishop assumed his duties here in Madison, one of the crises that became apparent to him very quickly was the lack of vocations. He has worked tirelessly in this area, and has made vocations one of his top priorities to ensure that our parishes will have good, holy priests who are capable of assuming the duties that face pastors today.

2. Leadership. One of the first changes Bishop Morlino made was to appoint a full-time director of vocations. We have had some excellent directors, and their hard work shows. One of the most important parts of discernment is to be available to those who are discerning. Bishop Morlino understands this very well, and having a full-time director not only allows discerning men better access to resources and priestly presence, the vocations director also has better contact with those who are in seminary formation. The key to any vocations program is good leadership, and we have been truly blessed with good priests and mentors who help our discerning men and are available to them when they have questions. When our Lord called the disciples, He invited them to "come and see". By having a full-time vocations director, he can focus on those who are discerning, and help them to hear God's voice as they look at priesthood and religious life.

3. Prayer. The Serra Club of Madison rose to the occasion to increase vocational awareness and to pray for vocations through regular attendance at Eucharistic Adoration. There has also been greater awareness on the need for vocations coming into the parishes, and parishes have responded through vocation commissions, outreach to our seminarians and opportunities for vocational discernment at the parish level. All of these efforts have enjoyed great blessings over the past several years.

When I started high school, my local parish in Milwaukee was directly affected by the declining number of priests. When we lost our pastor, there was no one to send us. The Archdiocese of Milwaukee began a program to train lay people as parish administrators, and we were one of the first parishes that received one. She was female, and within a few months of her coming, she began preaching the homily. Eventually, she would, more or less, take the role of an ordained deacon. People were unhappy with what was happening, and they left - in droves. It was heartbreaking to see a once vibrant parish and school brought to its knees. The school was forced to close due to a lack of enrollment, and the parish assumed debts that it was not able to repay in order to keep the lights on and compensate the few employees that were left. It was a difficult time, and when I came to the Diocese of Madison, I prayed that we wouldn't be forced into a similar fate. Needless to say, God has answered those prayers a hundredfold!

I've had a chance to get to know some of our seminarians, and they are all outstanding men. Each brings unique gifts and talents that will surely benefit them in parish ministry. We have been given a wonderful opportunity to support them in their vocational discernment, and it is my prayer that we will number among the other parishes in the Diocese who have responded to this tremendous financial need with overwhelming support and zeal. Seminary education isn't cheap, that's for sure! When one factors in tuition, room and board, travel expenses, living expenses, insurance and incidentals, a typical year

of education for a seminarian can range from \$30,000-\$45,000 per year. Multiply that by 33 men, and you're looking at \$990,000 - \$1,500,000 annually. God has given us the men, friends, and now He looks to us to provide for their needs - to help them become good, faith-filled, holy priests equipped with the tools to effectively administer a parish and its many dimensions. By our generous support of the appeal, we'll be making a personal investment in our parish and our Diocese many years into the future. With every man that is ordained, we can say to ourselves, "I played a role in his priestly formation." What an incredible gift!

As we look forward to the future of our diocesan Church with great joy and zeal, we also have a great zeal for our house - God's house - and the place where we encounter the meeting of heaven and earth in the glory of the Eucharist. I chose the name "Zeal for God's House" for our restoration project as it beautifully describes the deep desire we need to have in our hearts for making our home a place where we can encounter Christ, the saints and our Blessed Mother, and provide a place of prayer and devotion. The scope of our project is very small, but each change will transform our space into a place where the presence of Christ will be front and center, allowing the life of our parish to flow from the Eucharist. I have great excitement in my heart to begin, and soon, we'll be setting a timeline as to how we will move forward to accomplish the restoration in the coming year. The changes will happen slowly and gradually, most likely beginning in the fall. At this time, I don't expect us to be displaced from our worship space on the weekends. Most of the work will be able to be accomplished during the week as we work around the weekend Mass schedule.

I made a very conscious choice to combine these two campaigns together, because they are naturally attracted to each other. If we have a great zeal for encountering Christ in our worship space, God uses that goodness to accomplish His work, allowing His will to be carried out in us. Every dollar that we pledge to the seminarian campaign will also benefit our restoration project.



These campaigns are all about providing for the future, friends. They're not about a person, a desire or a shallow decision. These campaigns have been the result of much prayer, fruitful dialogue and allowing the Lord to speak to my heart, and to the hearts of our diocesan leaders. I pray that you will join me in offering your generous support of these campaigns as we now enter into the active phase of raising funds. I only ask one thing of you, friends: When your time to pledge comes, please spend some time in prayer with our Lord, dialoging with Him about how you can play an important part in these campaigns. If your gift has been given with prayer and a grateful heart, that is worth more than the amount you write on the line. I am grateful for your support and prayers, and look forward to working together as our diocesan Church comes to know the generous and loving hearts of this parish that I have the joy of ministering to each day. We entrust our campaigns to Mary's intercession and blessing and we trust that, together, we'll provide a beautiful home and a strong future for our parish, and our diocesan Church.

**LIVES OF THE SAINTS:  
ST. BONIFACE**

*By: Ken Sosinski  
Director of Liturgy & Pastoral Music*

St. Boniface, the "apostle of Germany" and considered to be "one of the truly outstanding creators of the first Europe," was born, interestingly enough, in the Anglo-Saxon part of England. While there is some question of exactly where, it is believed to be in Crediton which is near Devon, part of the kingdom of Wessex, around the year 675, with the given name of either Winfrid, Wynfrith, or Wynfryth. He became a Benedictine monk, becoming a priest at the age of 30. When the abbot of the monastery died in 716, Winfrid, instead of accepting the role of becoming the new abbot, embarked to become a missionary to Frisia (modern day Netherlands). This first trip ended after a year in frustration due to political conflicts, and Winfrid returned to England.

A year later, Winfrid returned to the European continent and traveled directly to Rome. Pope Gregory II renamed him "Boniface" after the legendary 4<sup>th</sup> century martyr, Boniface of Tarsus, and Pope Gregory appointed him missionary

bishop for Germania. Essentially, he was a bishop without a diocese for a territory that lacked any concrete church organizational structure.

Boniface received the political support of the Frankish ruler, Charles Martel, the grandfather of King Charlemagne. Boniface is credited with establishing the long alliance between the papacy and the Carolingian kings (i.e. the dynasty established by Charles Martel). This stemmed in part from Boniface's great success in rooting out paganism in Germania, which politically was ruled by the non-Christian Saxons, and Boniface's efforts were seen as politically helpful to the Christian Carolingian kings. One well known episode depicts Boniface cutting down the Donar Oak at a well-known pagan site. He was not struck down by the pagan gods for this act and many converted to Christianity as a result. Over this period of time, Boniface is thought to have baptized thousands of people.



Boniface also dealt with issues related to the organizational church. He resolved issues with Christians who had fallen out of direct contact with Rome and the hierarchy of the Catholic Church. Boniface is regarded highly for his commitment to Christian orthodoxy and fidelity to papal authority. When Boniface traveled to Rome for a third time in 737-38, he was made papal legate for Germany. Charles Martel set up four dioceses in Bavaria which were given to Boniface as archbishop over all of Germany east of the Rhine River. Boniface eventually became Archbishop of Mainz, which became the metropolitan see for this region. Boniface was also able to secure the adoption of stricter guidelines for priests, many of whom came from the nobility, and was part of his efforts to bring the Frankish/Germanic church under the authority of the pope. Boniface had to balance political interests with promoting the growth and independence of the church apart from the authority of secular rulers.

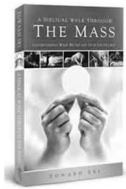
We return now to Frisia, where Boniface made his first missionary effort. Boniface returned to Frisia in 754 and renewed his efforts to convert the Frisians to Christianity. At a location where

he was to hold confirmations, he and his party of 52 or 53 other individuals instead were attacked and killed by Frisian bandits on June 5, 754. Rather than find earthly treasures, the bandits instead found that the chests carried by Boniface's party contained sacred manuscripts. An early story tells of an eye-witness account maintaining that Boniface held up a "gospel" to protect himself from the bandits. Supposedly, three books were discovered by Christians on the field where Boniface was killed, and one, now known as the Ragyndrudis Codex, bears marks that could have been made by a sword or an axe.

Boniface was eventually buried at the abbey church in Fulda, which later became Fulda Cathedral. The Codex is held at the cathedral as a Bonifacian relic. St. Boniface's feast day is June 5, the day he was killed. Boniface truly was one who followed the way of the cross. His crosses were borne not only of the struggle of bringing new followers to Christ and willingness to die for his faith, but also the struggles of the cross through healing the church via the reforms he helped to establish.

Sources cited: [americancatholic.org](http://americancatholic.org); [wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org)

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
NEWS**



We have many exciting opportunities for catechesis over the summer months! We'll begin a six-week course entitled *Biblical Walk Through the Mass*. So many aspects of the Mass come directly from Sacred Scripture, and this series will look at these connections in greater detail. The series will be held on Tuesday mornings beginning June 2nd. Please register by May 15th by contacting Geri. Cost is \$20 for materials.

We also have another Faith on the Road tour coming up on July 2, with a day planned at the National Shrine of St. Maximilian Kolbe. Located at Marytown in Mundelein, IL, the shrine was designated a National Shrine by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2000. St. Maximilian Kolbe is best known for his selfless humility when he sacrificed his own life to save the father of a family during his imprisonment at Auschwitz in the time of the Second World War. It is a life-changing experience, and

a wonderful opportunity for prayer. Time permitting, we'll make a short visit to the University of St. Mary of the Lake-Mundelein Seminary, a national seminary run by the Archdiocese of Chicago and Fr. Michael's alma mater! The seminary is located right next door to the shrine. A dinner stop on the way home will be planned. If you'd like to join us on this pilgrimage, please contact Geri to register. Transportation and cost will be determined by the number of those who sign up to go.



Keep an eye out for the 2015-16 faith formation registration form as we look to another exciting year of programming which will center on the family!

**ANNUAL TRIP TO  
NOAH'S ARK**

St. Bernard's annual trip to Noah's Ark will take place on Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. We will leave the parish at 9:15 am, and return around 6:30 pm. The cost is \$16.00 for parishioners and \$18.50 for non-parishioners. Permission slips are available at the church entrances and in the Parish Center offices. If you would like to attend or like additional information, please contact Ken Sosinski.



*Congratulations to Our  
First Communicants!*



*St. Bernard Festival in the Park  
Sunday, June 28 | 11am-4pm*



ST. BERNARD PARISH  
2438 Atwood Ave.  
Madison, WI 53704

Have a new address or phone number?  
Don't want to receive these anymore?  
Let us know and help us keep  
our contact information up-to-date!

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## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Mondays	Confessions 5:45pm—6:15pm Rosary at 6:10pm Evening Mass at 6:30pm
Tuesdays	Rosary at 11:50am Mass at 12:10pm Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal devotions following Mass
Wednesdays	Rosary at 8:10am Mass at 8:30am Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions following Mass
Thursdays	Mass at 7:00am
All Fridays	Rosary at 8:10am Mass at 8:30am
2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Fridays	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following Mass until 11:00am. Confessions following 8:30am Mass, dependent on president's schedule
Sundays	Saturday Anticipatory Mass 4:30pm Saturday confessions 3:30pm—4:15pm Sundays at 8:00am and 10:00am Sunday confessions
First Fridays	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 6:00pm. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available during this time. Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Acts of Consecration and Reparation and Benediction at 7:00pm.
First Saturdays	Rosary at 8:10am Mass at 8:30am Marian devotions following Mass Confessions following devotions

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For e-bulletins, a full calendar of events  
and other late-breaking information,  
visit us on the internet!!

<http://www.sbmsn.org>