

# Saint Bernard Church



## January 2, 2022 Epiphany of The Lord

### **Rev. David F. Gaffney, Pastor**

sbc.pastor@aol.com

Rev. John E. Unsworth, Pastor, Emeritus

Rev. Charles Maher, Weekend Assistant

**Pastoral Assistant:** Angelo Giacchi  
**Business Manager:** David Cote  
**Elementary Faith Formation:** Dawn Masterson  
**Youth Faith Formation:** Christina Pichette  
**Music Director:** Alison Shea

### **Mass Schedules**

#### **Weekends**

Saturday Vigil ~ 5:00 PM

#### **Sundays**

7:00 AM      8:30 AM      10:30 AM

#### **Weekdays**

8:00 AM Monday through Friday

**Address:** 275 Tower Hill Road  
North Kingstown, RI 02852

**Phone :** 401-295-0387

**E-mail:** sbc.bus@verizon.net

**Web:** www.stbernardnk.org

**Hours:** Mon - Tues: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
Wednesday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
Thursday & Friday: Closed

**Baptism:** Please call Angelo at the Parish Center for information about scheduling and preparation.

**Communion to the Sick:** Please notify us of those sick and in need of Communion at home.

**Marriage:** Please call 10 months in advance.

**Holy Orders:** Tel: 401-831-8011  
www.catholicpriest.com

**Project Rachel:** Post abortion counseling  
Tel: 401-421-7833, ext. 118

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturdays 4:00 PM

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

Following Tuesday's 8:00 AM Mass until 11:00 AM

### **Family Faith Formation Program**

Our programs provide parishioners of all ages opportunities for learning, growing and living our Faith through common experiences, age-specific learning and interactive sharing. Please call the Parish Center for information regarding any of our programs or email:

First Communion Grade 2:  
sbcreligiouseducation@gmail.com

Confirmation Grades 8 & 9: sbc.teenff@gmail.com

Gospel Weeklies Grades 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7:  
stbernardgospelweeklies@gmail.com

## Ponderings

The celebration of Epiphany calls us to reflect on “gifts.” We read the scripture passage about the three kings who come to pay homage to the ‘newborn King’ with their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

It’s a good thing that they brought the gifts with them-----if they tried to bring those same gifts today there might be a ‘supply chain’ problem!! I am not sure if you have experienced the supply chain problem. We read about certain foods that are difficult to get or are much more expensive including: cream cheese, carbonated drinks, chicken, coffee, diapers, fish sticks, frozen meals, ketchup packets, rice krispie treats, sour patch kids and once again, toilet paper. The ‘goods’ in short supply, at least according to one article I read includes: electronics, video games, toys, cars and appliances.

Too bad for me that I was going to plan a menu that included all of the above ingredients: chicken with cream cheese and tomato ketchup and then for dessert rice krispie treats and coffee (no, not really!)

We like to receive gifts! Some of those gifts are wrapped and some of them are the ones that cannot wrap. What are those gifts in the second category----those cannot be wrapped?

From the prophet Isaiah we read, “For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.” Think of the Handel’s Messiah----where we hear this passage set to music----an inspirational piece of music. What if the gifts we were searching for came from those ‘titles’ for the Messiah?

What might a ‘Wonder-Counselor’ do for me? How is my sense of ‘wonder’? Young children have a sense of ‘wonder’----don’t we take delight when they discover something new----even watching them play with a new toy can bring a smile to our face! Do we still ‘wonder’ as we age? Do we look out at the winter sky at night, stare at the moon and stars and ‘wonder’ about how magnificent a Creator we have? Let the Christ child renew in you a sense of Wonder during this Christmas season.

What might a God-Hero do for me? We sometimes throw around the word ‘hero’ too much and too lightly. A hero is someone who is truly selfless-----always ready to reach out to help another. Sometimes we think of ‘super-heroes’-----in movies! Sometimes we think about professional athletes or music/performance artists as heroes. Rightly, during the pandemic we have recognized a whole different category of heroes-----first responders. The work of ‘first responders’ is to help others----to unselfishly provide for the needs of another. Is it possible to talk about Jesus as “First” among “First-Responders”?!

What might a Father-Forever do for me? A Father cares for his children. A Father provides for his children. A Father loves his children. A Father passes on wisdom to his children. A Father is ready to put the child’s needs before his own.

What might a Prince of Peace do for me? We live in a troubled world where we see violence in many places. We need peace. We often have turmoil in our own personal lives---perhaps it involves relationships or a job or a health issue. We do need peace. I think, too, of so many people who suffer from depression or are coping with mental illness who long for peace. Yes, we need peace in so many areas of our lives.

Some gifts can be wrapped! Let us enjoy those gifts! (I hope it fits-----and you don’t have too many ‘unhappy returns’!!) At this time of year my father, who grew up during the Great Depression, would tell us that the best Christmas gift he ever received was a ‘belt’----and that was because he did not think he would get any gift that year----there was no money.

Some gifts cannot be wrapped..... let us receive the gifts of Jesus, Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever and Prince of Peace-----throughout the coming year.

--Fr. Gaffney



## Mass Intentions

**MONDAY, January 3**

8:00 AM – *Special Intention*

**TUESDAY, January 4**

8:00 AM – *Pearl Vennard*  
by Karen Casey

**WEDNESDAY, January 5**

8:00 AM – *Egidio Capobianco*

**THURSDAY, January 6**

8:00 AM – *Bernard Casey*  
by his family

**FRIDAY, January 7**

8:00 AM – *Kathleen Geoghegan*

### WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

**SATURDAY, January 8**

5:00 PM – *Donald Chamberlain*  
by his wife

**SUNDAY, January 9**

7:00 AM – *Madeline & Raymond Reynolds*  
by their family

8:30 AM – *Joan Arnold*  
by her husband

10:30 AM – *John Allen*

by the Gibbons Family

## Soup-er Bowl! (Super Bowl!) Outreach to help the Poor.

From January 1<sup>st</sup> through February 13<sup>th</sup> (the day of this year's Super Bowl) we will be collecting cans of SOUP for the North Kingstown Food Pantry. We are setting a 'challenge' to collect 500 cans of soup! Then on the weekend of February 12/13 the young people of the parish will hold 'Soup Bowls' at the exit for a 'free will' donation----which will support our parish's outreach to the poor and needy. (We purchase 'food cards' for those in need who approach us year round). As part of the Diocese of Providence's observance of its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary Bishop Tobin has invited parishes to initiate or augment an 'outreach project' to help the community. Our Soup-er Bowl event is our initiative! Thanks for your support!

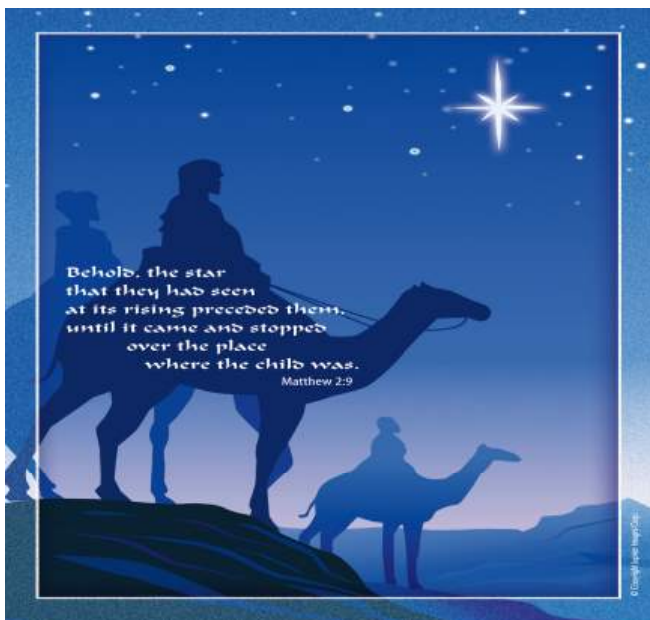
## Stormy Weather and Daily Mass

If the public schools in North Kingstown are closed or delayed because of bad weather, our daily 8 AM Mass is also cancelled. We hope this will prevent people from venturing out in dangerous conditions just so see if we are open.

## Please Be Careful!

The winter is just getting started. Cold and snow will surely come. The area around St. Bernard Church is especially difficult to keep clear from ice in winter weather. Our church has been built facing the north and the sun never shines on our front entrance. What melts during the day, re-freezes at night.

We always do our best to keep the walks clear, but it is never going to be perfect (unless we turn the building around to face the South), and so we ask you all, when it does snow please use extreme caution and good common sense when coming to church. Please be thoughtful of others and lend a hand to those who are in danger of falling (especially the elderly).



### Parish Support

	December 13, 2021	2020
Basket	\$6,350.00	\$7,642.00
ACH	\$2,710.00	\$1,351.00
	December 20, 2021	2020
Basket	\$6,900.00	\$5,977.00
ACH	\$2,965.00	\$2,292.10
YTD	\$247,268.00	\$233,088.13

### Annual Collection.

Thank you for the contributions to our Annual Collection that we have received thus far. As you know, this collection is important for our financial health and stability. We are grateful for your generosity. We ask every household to consider contributing to the Annual Collection (as you are able)----your participation is valued. Again, thank you!

### Debt Reduction Monthly Collection

As mentioned in an earlier bulletin we will begin a monthly 'debt reduction' collection----through our 'budget envelope' system (and those donations can also be made 'on line'). Our debt to the Diocese of Providence for the church, parish center and rectory is just over two million dollars. We are paying interest and principal every month. Under the current plan we will have a mortgage for the next twenty years. The new monthly collection is meant to do several things: (1) to remind us of the reality of our debt---it is easy to forget when we walk into church each week and the lights are on and there is heat (or air conditioning) (2) it is an opportunity to help 'pay down the debt' in fewer than twenty years. Wouldn't it be great to be done with our mortgage in 18 years or 16 years or 12 years or.....? For those who are able, we are so very grateful for your generosity. (3) those who are new to the parish since the church and parish center were opened now have a way to help with the debt---as they enjoy the facilities we have, they can assist with the cost---now that they are part of the parish family. (4) I think we would agree that we want to do what we can now so that we do not pass on the debt to our children and grandchildren.

### January 2022 Events for LIFE

**January 7 through February 6:**  
**The Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe** will be visiting various parishes throughout the Diocese of Providence from Friday, January 7 through Sunday, February 6, 2022. The full schedule will be available beginning January 3 by contacting 401-278-2518 or

**LCooly@dioceseofprovidence.org**,  
and by visiting the diocesan website at  
**www.dioceseofprovidence.org**.

#### **January 15**

**The Annual Respect for Life Mass** will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 15, 2022 in the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, Providence. Most Rev. Thomas J. Tobin, Bishop of Providence, will be the main celebrant. The Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be on the altar for veneration during Mass.

#### **January 19-27**

##### **9 Days for Life**

This annual novena for the protection of human life is January 19 - 27, 2022. Sign up here -  
**9daysforlife.com**.

#### **January 20- 22**

##### **Annual Respect for Life Bus Trip to the March for Life in Washington, DC**

Advance registration required, space is limited, first come, first served.

##### *Basic Itinerary:*

- Thurs. evening, Jan. 20 - bus leaves RI to DC
- Fri., Jan. 21 - Mass, Rally and March in DC
- Early morning, Sat., Jan. 22 - return to RI

Please contact 401-278-2518 or

**LCooly@dioceseofprovidence.org**  
to register and for all details. Groups are encouraged to register ASAP.

### Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

St. Bernard Church will host this on Monday, January 24, 2022. After the morning 8:00 a.m. Mass there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and a presentation on the Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Benediction will be at 11:00 a.m.

## **Faith Formation**

Weather related Class Cancellations!  
Please log on to [www.turnto10.com](http://www.turnto10.com) or the local TV/  
Radio Channels for updates

**\*\* For safety reasons, masks are required for both adults and students in the Parish Center during Faith Formation class hours. \*\***

### **GOSPEL WEEKLIES PROGRAM**

*Grades 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7*

In-person class schedule  
either 9:30-10:30am or 11:30am-12:30pm  
Next Classes: 1/2/22, 1/23/22.

**\*\* Return completed assignments to next in-person class**

### **SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAM**

*Grades 2, 8, 9*

In-person class schedule:  
2/6/22

Grade 2 & 8 is expected to return each Gospel Weekly to the next in person class. This is so the lesson from the Gospel of the week is reviewed in a timely manner and the program stays on track.

For more detailed information, please refer to your Weekly News Family email.

## **Catholicism 101**

Fr. Gaffney is conducting an adult education series on Monday evenings (7:00-8:00 p.m.)--- ordinarily twice per month. (the complete schedule will be posted) We will take a first look (or second look) at the basic tenets of the Catholic faith. The next meetings will **Monday, January 10th**. Call the parish office if you have not already registered. Those planning to take this class are asked to purchase a copy of Waking Up Catholic by Chad R. Torgerson (publisher is Assisi Media).

## **Young at Heart Luncheon**

Our next Young at Heart Luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, February, 15, 2022.

## **Youth Ministry Events**

We have some exciting Youth Ministry events coming up. These events are open to students in grades 8-12 and their friends. They will take place in the St. Bernard s Parish Center. Please RSVP to Christina at

**[sbc.teenff@gmail.com](mailto:sbc.teenff@gmail.com)**

the Monday prior to each event. Masks are required.

Thursday, January 27 6-8 PM Pizza and Movie Night. Please bring \$5 for pizza.

Thursday, February 24 6:30-8 PM Mardi Gras Party with Pancakes

Thursday, March 31 6:30-8 PM Family Feud Game Night

## **Steubenville East**

St. Bernard's will be planning a trip to the Steubenville East Catholic Youth Conference this summer. The conference takes place at URI July 22-24, 2022, and is open to students going into high school in the fall of 2022 and students who graduated in the spring of 2022. There will be a meeting on 1/16 after the 10:30AM Mass at the Coffee & Donuts social where Christina will have pricing information and other details. If you any questions please email Christina at

**[sbc.teenff@gmail.com](mailto:sbc.teenff@gmail.com)**

or check out the Steubenville East website at

**[steubenvilleconferences.com/events/conf-east/](http://steubenvilleconferences.com/events/conf-east/)**

## **Emmanuel House Homeless Shelter**

We are always in need of new socks, bath towels, and backpacks, twin-sized bedding, etc. Drop off items in the Church gathering space or at the Parish Center.