

# Saint Bernard Church



March 13, 2022  
Second Sunday of Lent

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

[sbc.pastor@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:sbc.bus@verizon.net)

**Web:** [www.stbernardnk.org](http://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](http://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](mailto:sbcreligiouseducation@gmail.com)

Confirmation Grades 8 & 9: [sbc.teenff@gmail.com](mailto:sbc.teenff@gmail.com)

Gospel Weeklies Grades 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7:  
[stbernardgospelweeklies@gmail.com](mailto:stbernardgospelweeklies@gmail.com)

## *Ponderings*

This coming week we celebrate St. Patrick and St. Joseph. No matter your ethnic heritage, these two saints have been traditionally associated with special celebrations, food, parades, etc. Since these two saints are saints of the entire church, we can legitimately claim allegiance to both of them! So, in advance I wish you a Happy St. Patrick's Day! And a Happy St. Joseph's Day!

Pope Francis during the year dedicated to St. Joseph spoke about this saint at his Wednesday weekly audience. Beginning with the General Audience on Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> he has begun a new catechesis on the topic of "Old Age". Before we ponder for too long on whether we should read these reflections on 'old age'-----are these for me? ---it would be fruitful to revisit some of the reflections of Pope Francis on the topic of 'Saint Joseph'.

One of the final 'catechetical presentations' on St. Joseph given on January 19<sup>th</sup> is also helpful for us as we continue on our Lenten journey. He reminds us that Jesus always uses the word 'father' to speak about God and his love. The 'father' figures prominently in many of the parables. We can see how the 'father' acts in the parable and we can assume that Jesus not only experienced his own "Father" in this way, but also experienced his 'foster-father' Joseph in this way, also. Consider the parable of the Prodigal Son (or sometimes called The Merciful Father). The Holy Father writes, "This parable emphasizes not only the experience of sin and forgiveness, but also the way in which forgiveness reaches the person who has done wrong." The text in the Bible says, "While he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him." While the son expects punishment, he instead finds he is 'wrapped in his father's embrace." The pope writes, "Tenderness is something greater than the logic of the world. It is an unexpected way of doing justice. That is why we must never forget that God is not frightened by our sins: let us fix this clearly in our minds." What God is afraid of is when we close our hearts.

So, what is the connection to Joseph? Pope Francis writes, "There is great tenderness in the experience of God's love. And it is beautiful to think that the first person to transmit this reality to Jesus was Joseph himself. Indeed, the things of God always come to us through the mediation of human experiences." There is great tenderness in the experience of God's love. And it is beautiful to think that the first person to transmit this reality to Jesus was Joseph himself."

"So, we can ask ourselves if we ourselves have experienced this tenderness, and if we, in turn have become witnesses...For tenderness is not primarily an emotional or sentimental matter: it is the experience of feeling loved and welcomed precisely in our poverty and misery, and thus transformed by God's love." In his document *Patris Corde* he writes, "Tenderness is the best way to touch the frailty within us." Returning to a favorite theme, he writes, "God always forgives: keep this clearly in your head and your heart. God always forgives. We are the ones who tire of asking for forgiveness."

The Holy Father sees Joseph's fatherhood as a mirror of God's fatherhood and so he makes the connection that Joseph would have loved Jesus with great tenderness. He encourages us to ask ourselves if we allow the Lord to love us with his tenderness, transforming each one of us into men and women capable of loving in this way. Without this 'revolution of tenderness'----we risk remaining imprisoned in a justice that does not allow us to easily rise up again and that confuses redemption with punishment. '

Let us then imitate Joseph in this 'revolution of tenderness'!

--Fr. Gaffney



## Mass Intentions

**MONDAY, March 14**

8:00 AM – *Joseph O’Keefe*

**TUESDAY, March 15**

8:00 AM – *Anthony Nicolosi*

**WEDNESDAY, March 16**

8:00 AM – *Carl Gregory Battaglia*  
by his aunt

**THURSDAY, March 17**

8:00 AM – *Margaret O’Leary*  
by Dan & Madeleine O’Leary

**FRIDAY, March 18**

8:00 AM – *Hector Jaso*  
by his family

### **WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

**SATURDAY, March 19**

5:00 PM – *Edward Cooney*  
by his family

**SUNDAY, March 20**

7:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*

8:30 AM – *Bro. Benilde Loxham, FSC*

10:30 AM – *Kathleen Asher*  
by her family

### Lenten ‘Soup and Scripture’ Series:

#### The Gospel of Luke

**Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>**

Arrival: 11:30-11:45 a.m.

Bible Study with soup lunch: Noon.

End time: 1:00 pm.

Bring your Bible.

Please register me for this session:  
(Name)

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### Lent at St. Bernard

Weekdays: Mass at 8:00 a.m. *Come for Morning Mass, Monday-Friday at 8:00 a.m.*

The Magnificat Lenten Companion. *Pick up a copy of this publication with daily reflections. One per household, please.*

Stations of the Cross. *This devotional prayer will take place on Friday mornings immediately after the Morning Mass. (This worked out well last year!)*

Soup and Scripture Series. *Fr. Gaffney will offer a “Bible Study” focusing on the Gospel of Luke on three Saturdays at Noon. A simple meal of ‘soup’ will be offered. The dates are: March 5, March 19 and April 2. Bring your Bible. Arrive at the parish center 11:30-11:45. Each session will begin at Noon and end at 1:00 p.m. A free will offering will be accepted. Please call, e-mail, or return response slip in the bulletin to the parish center one week in advance.*

Rice Bowls. *These will be available if you would like to use them for ‘sacrificial giving’ during Lent.*

Children’s Lenten Packet. *Something new! We have assembled a packet of Lenten activities appropriate for grades K-5. Why not get one for your child, grandchild or godchild! There is a \$5.00 offering per packet. (A limited number of packets are available)*

Sacrament of Penance. *We will increase the time available on Saturday afternoons. We will add 30 minutes to the time for ‘confessions’. For the Saturdays of Lent we will offer the sacrament of Penance from 3:30-4:30 p.m.*

All Day Confessions. *On Saturday, March 26, at Our Lady of Mercy Church, East Greenwich, there will be several priests available from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. for the sacrament of Penance.*



### **Parish Support**

	February 27, 2022	2021
Basket	\$7,611.00	\$5,897.00
ACH	\$2,141.00	\$3,680.00
	March 6, 2022	2021
Basket	\$10,483.00	\$8,995.00
ACH	\$3,135.00	\$2,865.00
YTD	\$351,270.00	\$338,347.00

### **Debt Reduction Collection**

Thank you!  
February total: \$5,020.  
Year-To-Date: \$10,361.  
Thank you for your generous response to this monthly collection!

### **Catholic School Tuition Aid**

The deadline is May 15<sup>th</sup>. You need to apply each year you are requesting tuition aid. Please use the form found on our website:

[www.stbernardnk.org/forms](http://www.stbernardnk.org/forms)

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place immediately after the morning Mass on Tuesdays (approximately 8:30 a.m.) Benediction and reposi-tion at 11:00 a.m. This is an opportunity for quiet, prayerful reflection before the Blessed Sacrament.

### **Catholic Charity Appeal**

The 2022 Catholic Charity Appeal Goal for St. Bernard Parish is \$80,750. Previous donors were contacted by mail and many of you have sent in your contribution already! As of March 4<sup>th</sup> parish-ioners had pledged \$34,359 towards our goal. Thank you! Additionally, there is good news that as of March 3<sup>rd</sup> the appeal had surpassed \$3.1 mil-lion in pledges and one-time gifts. This is 46% of our diocesan goal of \$6,800,000. Thus far there have been 8,400 donors. There is good momen-tum to the appeal. On the weekend of March 13/14 we will have the donor cards available in church. We ask that you take one home and prayerfully consider making a donation to the Catholic Charity Appeal this year. This Appeal is the main source of support for our diocesan agen-cies providing for the physical, educational and spiritual needs of our brothers and sisters in Rhode Island. We want to make sure that these agencies and programs have the resources they need! Thank you for your generosity. (In this year of celebrating our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a dio-cese it would be great to meet or surpass our par-ish goal and our diocesan goal!)

### **Bishop Hendricken Open House**

Bishop Hendricken High School will hold an Open House on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Information on academics, college placement, athletic and extracurricular activities will be available. The entrance exam for prospec-tive 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grade students will be held on Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM. For more infor-mation, please call the Admissions Office at 401-889-5425.

### **Young at Heart March Luncheon**

Tuesday, March 15, 2022 (sign in at 11:30 AM)

Menu: To Be Determined

Name (s): \_\_\_\_\_

Cost: \$12.00 per person.      Cash: \_\_\_\_\_      Check \_\_\_\_\_ (Made out to St. Bernard)

**Please respond by Tuesday, March 8, 2022.**

## **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  
Class Today: 3/13/22  
Next Class: 3/27/22

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

### **SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAM**

*Grades 2, 8, 9*

In-person class schedule:  
Next Class: 3/20/22, 4/3/22

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.

## **Youth Ministry Events**

We are planning a trip to Steubenville East this year. Steubenville East will be held Friday, July 29th to Sunday, July 31st at the Mass Mutual Center in Springfield, MA. Steubenville East is a high school Catholic Youth Conference hosted by Life Teen. This year's theme is 'Fearless,' and will feature a ministry team that includes nationally recognized speakers such as Mark Hart, Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT, and Chika Anyanwu. More details can be found at [/steubenvilleconferences.com/events/conf-east/](http://steubenvilleconferences.com/events/conf-east/). If you are interested, please email Christina at [sbc.teenff@gmail.com](mailto:sbc.teenff@gmail.com) soon. Your \$50 non-refundable deposit to secure your spot is due by March 31st.

## **The Pilgrim Icon of St. Joseph**

will be hosted by St. Bernard Church on Tuesday, March 15, 2022. The program will begin immediately after the 8:00 a.m. Mass with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and ending with Benediction at 11:00 a.m. The Pilgrim Icon of St. Joseph is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and the Men of St. Joseph. The St. Joseph Icon is the latest icon to be a part of the Knights of Columbus Pilgrim Icon Program. Every few years the Knights select an icon of a saint whose patronage is particularly inspiring to the Knights and their communities to be featured in the program. The icons travel from council to council and serve as the centerpieces for prayer services in parishes throughout the order.

## **150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Speaker**

George Weigel, a distinguished Catholic intellectual and author will give a lecture entitled, "The Catholic Moment: The Church in the United States and the Redemption of American Democracy" at Our Lady of Mercy Church on Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The church in America is living through one of the greatest transitional periods in the two millennia of Catholic history. George Weigel, biographer of St. John Paul II, will explore what that transition means and how an evangelically vibrant Church could help heal a fractured American public culture

## **St. Bernard Scholarship Fund**

Applications are now available on the Parish web site and at the Parish Center for graduating high school seniors of the Parish. Three \$2,500 scholarships will be awarded in June 2022. To be considered, completed applications must be returned by April 15, 2022.

## **Catholicism 101**

Fr. Gaffney is conducting an adult education series on Monday evenings (7:00-8:00 p.m.)---We will take a first look (or second look) at the basic tenets of the Catholic faith. The next meeting will be **Monday, March 21st**. 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).