

# Saint Bernard Church



## November 27, 2022 First Sunday of Advent

### Rev. David F. Gaffney, Pastor

sbc.pastor@aol.com

Rev. John E. Unsworth, Pastor, Emeritus

Rev. Charles Maher, Weekday Assistant

Rev. Albino Barrera, OP 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

What's your "waiting story"? We all have them. They are about the time "when I had to wait....so long....." "You can't believe how long that line was....."

Were you an expectant mother (or father!) waiting for the delivery of your child?

Were you a high school senior waiting to hear about a college acceptance?

Were you on vacation and waited in line at the airport to reschedule a cancelled flight?

Were you in line on Black Friday to purchase that "unbelievable" bargain?

Were you at that really good restaurant that does not take reservations?

Were you in a hospital emergency room waiting to hear from the nurse about your loved one?

Were you waiting for your son or daughter to return from their prom (after curfew!)?

Were you waiting to hear about your application for a loan to buy your first house?

Were you waiting from a prospective employer about a job you had applied for?

Were you in a gymnastics competition waiting for your turn to perform?

Were you in the doctor's office waiting for your name to be called.....running a little behind!?

Were you waiting at the deli in the grocery store? I only want a few slices of cheese!?

Were you waiting for your tax return from your income taxes? It's my money!

Were you waiting for someone to leave a crowded parking lot so you could get a parking place?

We all have our "waiting stories"? Sometimes those stories are filled with frustration. Sometimes they are filled with longing. Sometimes they are filled with expectation. Sometimes they are filled with anticipation. Sometimes they are filled with hope. They usually all remind us that we need great patience to 'wait' for anything. I suppose in a world that moves quickly and has many "efficient ways" of delivering what we want----that there is a corresponding decrease in our supply of patience. Think of "next day delivery"!! What? I have to wait till tomorrow? OK. There is "same day delivery"!! What? I have to wait a few hours? You get it.

Some of my favorite stories of "waiting" involve correspondence by mail----letters sent whose delivery got interrupted, waylaid, or delayed for some reason. Consider this one: Chuck Kunellis of Fair Oaks, California, said he was "flabbergasted" to receive two letters written by his father, Chris Kunellis, to his mother, Phyllis, 69 years to the day they were penned by his late father in 1944. The letters had been mailed from Italy to Arlington, Virginia, but they never reached their intended destination. "I was astounded," said Kunellis. "I got this letter from Australia and had no idea who it was from. Chris Kunellis, who died in 1992, joined the Army just days after Chuck was born, the younger Kunellis adding that his father never spoke much about his wartime years. That made the tidbits he gleaned from the letters especially emotional, he said, adding that Chris Kunellis took part in battles near Anzio, Italy and on Monte Cassino in 1944. Kunellis' mother passed away in 1995. Kunellis said the letters finally reached him thanks to the efforts of John Armstrong, an Australian stamp collector who purchased a collection of letters from a US dealer and found the missives. Armstrong and Kunellis were soon emailing and Armstrong then relayed the letters. Waiting 69 years!!

Sometimes we wait. Many times, the waiting cannot be avoided. Let us grow in patience even as we wait. Advent is upon us. It is a season that calls us to 'wait for the Lord'. We know he was born in Bethlehem. We know he lives in our hearts. We know he is with us each and every day----especially in Sacred Scripture and the Sacraments. We know he will 'come again in glory'-----and so we wait for his return. Let us wait, not in fear or frustration---but in 'joyful hope'.

Let Advent begin!

--Fr. Gaffney

We welcome families to bring their children—our youngest parishioners—in their strollers to Mass.



## Mass Intentions

**MONDAY, November 28**

8:00 AM – *Dorothy Chevalier*  
by her family

**TUESDAY, November 29**

8:00 AM – *Ronnie Mancini*  
by *Joyce Calitri*

**WEDNESDAY, November 30**

8:00 AM – *Richard Grabowski*  
by his family

**THURSDAY, December 1**

8:00 AM – *Leo Lemoi*  
by Maureen

**FRIDAY, December 2**

8:00 AM – *Richard Hoke, Jr.*  
by his mother

### **WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

**SATURDAY, December 3**

5:00 PM – *Milton Tarbox*  
by his wife

**SUNDAY, December 4**

7:00 AM – *Rosemary & Tracy Walsh*  
by their family

8:30 AM – *Johanson Family*

10:30 AM – *William Gustafson*  
by his wife

## Our November Young at Heart Luncheon



“Checking In”

## Quilt Winner Ray Vallee



“Our Servers”

### Parish Support

	November 6 , 2022	2021
Basket	\$7,068.00	\$10,589.00
ACH	\$3,120.00	\$2,860.00
	November 13 , 2022	2021
Basket	\$8,374.00	\$6,580.00
ACH	\$2,257.00	\$2,640.00
YTD	\$201,490.00	\$198,107.00

Remember St. Bernard Church in your will and estate planning. Thank you.

### Annual Collection

Letters have been mailed to all registered households in the parish. (We have extra copies of the mailing if you did not receive it for some reason) We are grateful for your generous support of this "annual" collection in the past and look forward to your support this year. This collection literally enables us to pay our bills. It is our hope that every family will be able to contribute to the collection. Thank you to those who have already sent in their donation. The collection continues till the end of the calendar year.

### 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.

Visit with Santa, enjoy breakfast,  
Arts & Crafts and Games

# PANCAKES WITH SANTA

**SUNDAY  
DECEMBER 18, 2022  
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

**BREAKFAST INCLUDES:**  
Pancakes, juice, coffee, hot chocolate  
Free will offering will be accepted!

St. Bernards Parish Hall  
275 Towerhill Rd.  
North Kingstown, RI 02852

### Christmas Mass Schedule

Saturday December 24  
4:00 PM and 6:00 PM

Sunday December 25  
7:00 AM, 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

### Young at Heart December Luncheon

Tuesday, December 13, 2022 (sign in at 11:30 AM)

Menu: To Be Determined

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

Cost: \$14.00 per person.      Cash: \_\_\_\_\_      Check \_\_\_\_\_      (Made out to St. Bernard)

**Please respond by Tuesday, December 6, 2022.**

## **Faith Formation**

### **GOSPEL WEEKLIES PROGRAM**

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

In-person class schedule  
9:30-10:30 am

Class today: 11/20.  
Next in person class: 12/4

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

### **SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAM**

*Grades 2, 8, 9*

Next in person class: 12/11/2022

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.

## **Grief Support Group.**

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, December 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Center. Please contact the parish office by phone or e-mail to let us know if you want to be part of the group.

## **Knights of Columbus Hall Rental**

Hold your next event at the Knights of Columbus Council Hall, located at 1265 Tower Hill Road, North Kingstown. The hall is air conditioned and holds up to 80 people comfortably seated. There is a full bar, staffed with a bartender at \$75.00 per length of event if requested. Rates are \$75.00 per hour minimum 2 hours. You may set up your event with decorations on the day of the event or before. Clean up is included. Renter may bring in food or non-alcoholic beverages. List of caterers provided upon request.

*A great place to hold parties such as:  
Birthday Parties, Retirement Parties, Monthly Meetings, Wedding Reception Family Gatherings, Baby Showers, Educational Classes*  
For further information, please contact us at 401-295-0507

## **WARWICK SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

EST. 1966



SUNDAY - December 4  
3:00pm  
St. Bernard Church  
Tower Hill Road  
North Kingstown

[WSOri.org](http://WSOri.org)

## **Monsignor Clarke School Christmas Festival Sunday, December 4, 2022 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

- ❖ 70 + Vendors and Artists
- ❖ Gifts for Everyone on Your List
  - ❖ Kids Games and Crafts
  - ❖ Lunch and Snacks
  - ❖ Raffles
- ❖ Santa & Mrs. Claus

## **The Giving Tree**

The Giving Tree is up. All you need to do is take a tag and fulfill the suggested gift. The tag should be attached to the gift and placed under the tree by **Sunday December 10th**. For some individuals it will be their only gift so we need time to process them well before Christmas. If you cannot, for any reason, fulfill the suggested item, please return the tag to the tree or the Parish Office as soon as possible.

If your family, or any family you know, needs help with gifts this Christmas, please contact the parish center at 295-0387 or email:  
[sbc.pa@verizon.net](mailto:sbc.pa@verizon.net).

# ADVENT

## THREE COMPANIONS FOR OUR JOURNEY

**The Season of Advent** makes our journey toward Christmas more meaningful by revealing our deepest longings and greatest hopes, and teaching us to focus all our desires on Jesus Christ. Advent celebrates three dimensions of Christ's coming—first into the world some two thousand years ago, second into our hearts right now, and finally in his coming at the end of time.

As you journey through Advent, you will begin to understand Jesus more fully and recognize that his birth began our redemption and that his return in glory will complete it. Advent draws together the joy of his arrival as a helpless babe with the hope of his return when evil will finally be eradicated from our world.

Advent also presents us with **three companions** for our journey who speak to us about matters of the heart—about longing, fulfillment and hope.

### Isaiah

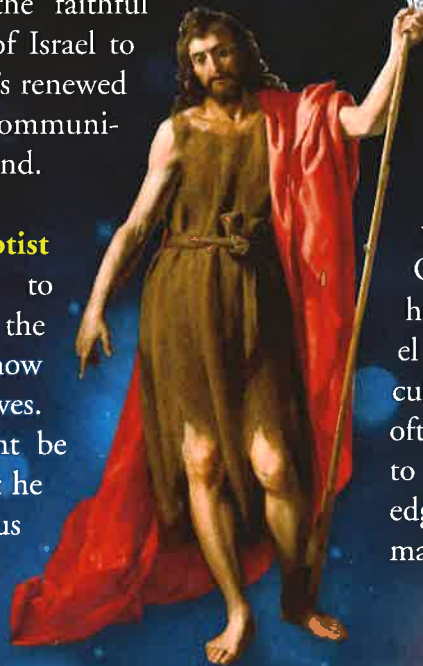
The great prophet foretold the coming of the promised Messiah and his kingdom. Isaiah's words are remembered especially during Advent because of his confident hope that God would restore the faithful remnant of Israel to live as God's renewed covenant community in their land.

### John the Baptist

John announced to the people that Jesus, the Messiah, had finally come and now was the time to change their lives. While some thought John might be the Messiah, he knew clearly that he was only the messenger and Jesus was the promised one. When we look carefully at our lives and those of others, we learn what we must change to follow him.

### Mary

Mary was transformed by God's grace from the first moment of her existence, which we celebrate on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Then when invited to share in God's plan, Mary accepted her role as Jesus' mother. Her willingness to allow God to work in her life is a model for us in a culture that often refuses to acknowledge God and fears to make any commitment.



## Origins of Advent

Advent began sometime after the 4th century as a time of preparation for Epiphany—not in anticipation of Christmas. Epiphany celebrates the manifestation of Christ by remembering the visit of the Magi and the baptism of Jesus. At this time new Christians were baptized and received into the faith, and so the early Church instituted a 40-day period of fasting and repentance.

Later, in the 6th century, Pope St. Gregory the Great was the first to associate this season of Advent with the coming of Christ. Originally it was not the coming of the Christ-child that was anticipated, but rather, the second coming of Christ.

By the Middle Ages the Church had extended the celebration of Advent to the familiar format we know today. The early weeks are rich with the prophecies of Isaiah, reminding us to wait and prepare for the coming Messiah. Later, the pace quickens and we focus more directly on the events leading up to Jesus' birth.

## The Three Arrivals of Christ

### Jesus Comes in Human History

Our celebration of Christmas focuses on the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. The Christmas crèche at home or in the church, Christmas pageants and liturgies all help us recall the moment Jesus was born as a human being to live his destiny as the Son of God and our redeemer.

### Jesus Comes in Our Hearts

Alive and among us through the Holy Spirit, Jesus continually reaches out to us. Advent renews our desire for the daily coming of Jesus as we recall the story of our salvation and look forward to the coming of the kingdom. We “wait in joyful hope,” as the eucharistic liturgy says, for the coming of that kingdom.

### Jesus Comes in Glory

The haunting melody and refrains of *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* serve to remind us of our longing for the completion of Christ's reign at the end of time. This season gives special meaning to the phrase from the Lord's Prayer, “thy kingdom come.”

## ADVENT F • A • Q

### What is the origin of the Advent Wreath?

The origin dates to pre-Christian Germany and Scandinavia where the people gathered to celebrate the return of the sun after the winter solstice. For us, the lighting of the Advent candles represents the promise of the coming of Jesus, the light of the world.

### Why is the rose-colored candle lit on the third Sunday of Advent?

The third Sunday of Advent is known as *Gaudete Sunday* because in Latin, the first words of the opening antiphon for that day's Mass are *Gaudete in Domino semper* (Rejoice in the Lord always) from Philippians 4:4-5. On this Sunday a rose-colored candle is lit as a reminder that we are called to rejoice.

### Was St. Nicholas Real?

Yes, St. Nicholas (270-343) was the Bishop of Myra (now Demre in southwest Turkey). He was imprisoned during Emperor Diocletian's persecution (303-5) and attended the first ecumenical council at Nicaea (325). Famous for his pastoral care, the many legendary stories of his charitable deeds became the basis for the figure of Santa Claus.

### What is a Jesse Tree?

An ancient tradition revived in the mid-20th century as an Advent practice, the Jesse Tree represents the family of Jesse, father of King David. Each day of Advent a home-made ornament is added to the Jesse Tree, a small tree made of evergreen branches. These symbolic ornaments each represent a prophecy foretelling of Christ.



### MASS READINGS FOR ADVENT 2022

<b>1st Sunday</b> .....	Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122:1-9; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44
<b>2nd Sunday</b> .....	Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12
<b>3rd Sunday</b> .....	Isaiah 35:1-6, 10; Psalm 146:6-10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11
<b>4th Sunday</b> .....	Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 24:1-6; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24
<b>Christmas Day</b> .....	Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98:1-6; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18