

Saint Bernard Church



January 8, 2023 The Epiphany of The Lord

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

The Church gives us a Christmas ‘season’----not just a day! Christmas is worth savoring! I know some people take down the Christmas decorations on December 26th. I like to enjoy them for a while longer! I especially like taking time to stare at the creche----the nativity scene. The one that I have on the mantle in the rectory is one that I brought back from Rome. (I spent five years living and working in Rome at the Pontifical North American College). I always enjoyed the day in early December when the creche in St. Peter’s Square was ‘unveiled.’ The custom in recent years is to have some country or some region in Italy provide the creche. For the five years I was able to stand in front of that creche there was quite a variety. As with all works of art there are typically a variety of opinions about the creche each year. For some it is too big or too small or too ‘modern’ or too ‘old-fashioned’ or too plain or too ornate----you get the idea!

This year the creche is entirely made of hand-carved wood. It was presented by the town of Sutrio in the Carnia region of Friuli Venezia Giulia, situated in the northwest province of Udine and nestled in the foothills of Mt. Zoncolan. In that region there is a long tradition of woodworking. I visited that region once and learned that the tradition of Italian woodcarving----the carving of religious statues----came about because the loggers could not work for long periods in the winter----so they remained ‘indoors’----and developed the craft of carving religious figures by the warmth of the fireplace. There are lots of forests in the area----and lots of wood for carving!

The theme of Sutrio’s 2022 Vatican creche is sustainability of natural resources, the importance of family and solidarity towards others. There are eighteen life sized figures in the scene: the traditional Holy Family; the Three Kings; a bull; a small donkey; sheep; a shepherdess seated beside her ‘gerla’ or backpack made of woven reeds, still a typical accessory of mountain people. The other eight sculptures include two children, a girl seated on the steps leading up to the Holy Family, and a boy peering into the grotto, a family of three embracing; two men, one helping the other, representing ‘solidarity’; a lady weaving at her loom, still today a typical female occupation in Carnia; a ‘cramar’ or peddler, who used to travel on foot in Carnia from town to town carrying a wooden chest of drawers on his back filled with handmade wares and spices for sale; a ‘marangon’ or carpenter intent on planning a wooden board on his work bench and the dome’s angel.

The baby Jesus is made of linden wood and his manger sculpted from the roots of one of the ten million trees blown over in the terrible windstorm ‘Vaia’ between October 26 and November 5, 2018. Otherwise, all the statues are carved out of cedar wood from Friuli Venezia Giulia. Not one tree was purposefully chopped down to make any part of the Nativity scene. There were eleven sculptors of the figures. The figures are distributed over a surface of 116 square meters and under a 5.65-meter-high dome made of larch with an overhanging angel. Fifty spotlights, shining down from the angel, illuminated the scene. After January 8th the creche will be permanently displayed in Sutrio’s main piazza.

As you can see a number of ‘local’ cultural additions are placed in the manger. Christ is born into every culture, every nation, every region----into every unique circumstance. If we had to add a figure or two or three into our Nativity Scene from our ‘unique culture’ who would it be? What would a Wickford nativity scene include? A ‘sailboat’? A fisherman? An artist?
Just a few thoughts to ponder..... before you put your creche away!

--Fr. Gaffney

A Word of Thanks: I do appreciate the thoughtfulness of all the parishioners who send a card or give a gift to me at Christmas. With all of the other people and things you need to remember at this time of year I am grateful that you remember me! ---Fr. Gaffney



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, January 9

8:00 AM – *Jean Reilly*

15th Anniversary by her family

TUESDAY, January 10

8:00 AM – *Bob Viera*

WEDNESDAY, January 11

8:00 AM – *James Francis Haggarty*

by daughter Arlene

THURSDAY, January 12

8:00 AM – *Theodore McKendall (L)*

by his family

FRIDAY, January 13

8:00 AM – *Al & Debbie Smith*

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, January 14

5:00 PM – *Raymond Flynn, Jr.*

SUNDAY, January 15

7:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*

8:30 AM – *Carmen Howard*

by the Miccolis family

10:30 AM – *Regina Salisbury*

by her family

Grief Support Group.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, January 17, 2023 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.

Morning Glory Gathering

Please join us for coffee and socializing on **Thursday, January 12** after the 8:00 AM morning Mass in the Parish Hall.

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

From January 1st through February 12th (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 11/12 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). Our Soup-er Bowl event is our initiative! Thanks for your support!



JANUARY 19-27

9 Days for Life is a novena for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Join today at www.9daysforlife.com!



3 WAYS TO JOIN



9DaysforLife.com

Image: A novena of Our Lady of Sorrows is observed a week after the Church of Santa Maria della Terra (San Maria della Terra) in the Vatican, Dec. 13, (DIX) Photo: Paul Hering)

And behold,
the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them,
until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.

MATTHEW 2:9

The Epiphany of the Lord

JANUARY 8, 2023

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Parish Support

	December 25, 2022	2021
Basket	\$8,828.00	\$6,893.00
ACH	\$2,215.00	\$2,815.00
	January 1 2023	2022
Basket	\$11,517.00	\$6,718.00
ACH	\$3,671.00	\$2,494.00
YTD	\$283,605.00	\$283,312.00

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

Annual Collection

Participation is its own goal! We are grateful for all who have sent in a contribution to our Annual Collection. Do you think we could get 100% participation? How about 75% or 50%. Are you able to participate? Any and all contributions are gratefully received. As of now approximately 259 households have made a donation. Imagine what might be contributed if every one of our 1400 families participated. Thank you for your participation! Your contribution is an important factor in maintaining our financial viability as a parish.

Income Tax Statements

We will not be mailing out donation statements for Income Tax purposes to all our parishioners. The cost of mailing hundreds of statements is no longer affordable for us. If you would like us to mail you your statement, please contact the office by phone (295-0387) or e-mail us at

sbc.pa@verizon.net

We will be happy to send it out to you.

Debt Reduction Collection

December Total: \$3,691.00
Year-To-Date: \$44,252.00

Thank you for your generous response to this monthly collection!

2023 March for Life Bus Pilgrimage to D.C., January 19-20

The annual March for Life Bus Trip joins Servants of Christ for Life in collaboration with the Diocese of Providence Office of Life and Family Ministry on a charter bus to D.C. This year's event is both the 50th anniversary of the March and an opportunity to pilgrimage to give thanks to God for the overturning of Roe v. Wade.

We leave Rhode Island Thursday morning, Jan. 19, and stay overnight in a Knights of Columbus Hall in Maryland and then join the March for Life on Friday morning, Jan. 20. We return to Rhode Island early Saturday, Jan. 21. Cost: \$200 per person.

Trip/schedule includes:

- -Bus transportation
- -Dinner Thursday and breakfast Friday, provided by the Knights
- -Overnight lodging Thursday night, provided by the Knights
- -Pro-Life speaker on Thursday night
- -Thursday evening and Friday morning Holy Masses
- -Marching in the historic March for Life Friday

To register, please contact:

Tyler Rowley, Servants for Christ for Life, at 401-290-7201 / t3rowley@gmail.com or
Lisa Cooley, Coordinator, diocesan Office of Life and Family Ministry, 401-278-2518 /
lcooley@dioceseofprovidence.org.

Stormy Weather and Daily Mass

If the public schools in North Kingstown are closed 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.

Young at Heart Luncheon

Our next Young at Heart Luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, February 21, 2023.

Faith Formation

Weather related Class Cancellations!
Please log on to www.turnto10.com
or the local TV/Radio Channels for updates

GOSPEL WEEKLIES PROGRAM

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

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

Next in Person Class: 1/22/23

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

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAM

Grades 2, 8, 9

Class Today: 1/8/2023

Next in person class: 1/29/2023

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.

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).

Annual Coat Drive

Please drop off your good, used coats and hats at the Church or Parish Office to be distributed to those in need. For more information or to help, please contact the Parish Office.

The Visitation of the Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Saturday, January 7 through Sunday, February 5
The Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be visiting our diocese in various parishes throughout Rhode Island from Saturday, January 7 through Sunday, February 5, 2023. The image is an exact replica of the original image of Our Lady which She left on the Tilma of St. Juan Diego in December 1531. The image is among four blessed at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico by the Rector of the Basilica, Msgr. Monroy, to bring conversions, reverence for life, sanctity of the family and solidarity of the Church in America. The Missionary Images are known to have been associated with many miracles and healings. The schedule and locations will be available beginning January 3 by contacting the diocesan Office of Life and Family Ministry at

401-278-2518

LCooley@dioceseofprovidence.org,
and by visiting the diocesan website at
dioceseofprovidence.org/OLG.

It will be at St. Bernard's on Tuesday, January 24, 2023 from 8:30 AM to 11:00 AM.

A Holy Mass for Life

In Thanksgiving for the overturning of Roe v. Wade

Saturday, January 21, 2023 at 9 a.m.

The diocesan Office of Life and Family Ministry is sponsoring a Holy Mass for Life, in Thanksgiving for the overturning of Roe v. Wade, on Saturday, January 21, 2023 at 9 a.m. in the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul, Providence. Most Rev. Thomas J. Tobin, D.D., Bishop of Providence, will be the main celebrant and Rev. J. Joseph Brice, Assistant Pastor, St. Patrick and St. Michael the Archangel, Providence, will be the homilist.

For more information, please contact Lisa Cooley, Coordinator, Office of Life and Family Ministry,
401-278-2518 or

lcooley@dioceseofprovidence.org.
More information at dioceseofprovidence.org/life.