

Saint Bernard Church



**January 29, 2023
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

Christina Pichette

Youth Faith Formation:

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

You may not have seen much news coverage for the 50th Annual March for Life in Washington, DC held on January 20th. There usually is little or no coverage of the event. For several years I accompanied the seminarians of our diocese to the March. There was a wonderful spirit among the ‘marchers’---young and old---from all parts of the country. On the evening before the March there is a Mass at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception---a moving and impressive celebration.

Some have said that with the overturning of Roe v. Wade there is no longer a need to march. In reality the power to protect the unborn has returned to the American people through their elected representatives. This year, rather than marching to the steps of the Supreme Court, where they had for decades asked the highest Court’s Justices to undo the destructive decision that was Roe v. Wade, they marched to a new front in their battle for life, the steps of the United States Capitol. The organizers state that they need to build a culture of life on Capitol Hill and advocate for the advancement of federal pro-life policies. They also realize that they need to march in our state capitols urging state legislators to pass life-saving protections for the unborn. And, organizers say they want to support the creation of safety nets for mothers and babies, especially supporting pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes.

The fall of Roe means that battle for life must be fought on two fronts: state and federal. Pro-abortion politicians in the U.S. House and Senate have voted in favor of the most radical expansion of abortion in American history, a bill deceptively named the Women’s Health Protection Act. If passed, this extreme bill would nullify existing pro-life state laws, prevent passage of future state laws that protect the unborn, and force taxpayers to pay for abortion nationwide—up until birth. Going beyond Roe, it would eliminate parental-consent laws.

As I was reading some of the news from the March, I also came upon this rather unbelievable story of the life of Ryan Bomberger who is a Pro-Life Activist-----for good reason! Ryan recently discovered his birth mother’s identity. He shared the following: “Many say I should have been aborted.....my biological mother was raped. Despite her pain, she chose life.” For that reason, this father of four regards the fight against abortion as a very personal undertaking. “I wouldn’t exist if my birth mom had chosen abortion, so I choose to fight for the most marginalized among the marginalized. I choose to fight to protect women from a predatory abortion industry that exploits tragedy and profits from fear,” he said. Ryan was adopted at six weeks into a big family with 12 siblings and two loving parents, Andrea and Henry. Until recently he knew very little about his birth mom. A recent change in Pennsylvania’s state laws has allowed adoptees over the age of 18 to receive their original, non-certified, birth certificates. He saw the name of his birth mother, Sharon. He said, “I finally know the full name of the woman who chose life despite being a victim of the horrific violence of rape. Instead, she enabled me to be adopted and loved. I’m a Bomberger because of her courageous decision.” He also found out that he was born on her birthday. He recounts, “What that says to me is obviously there couldn’t have been a birthday that went by that she wouldn’t have thought about me.” He continues, “there is not a birthday or a day that goes by that I don’t think about her decision. I see it in my kids’ faces. They are here because of her courageous decision.” Tragically, Ryan also learned that his birth mother passed away in 2010. If he had been given the opportunity to meet her, Bomberger says he would have shared two simple words, ‘thank you’.

Ryan says simply, “Despite being a victim of rape, she did not make me a victim of abortion. For that, I am eternally grateful. I couldn’t control the circumstances of my conception. Nobody can. Yet, many act as arbiters of human value, determining one’s right to live based on worthiness or wantedness. Our value is not given to us by our situation. And the circumstances of our conception never change the condition of our worth.”

Powerful words worth pondering!

--Fr. Gaffney

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



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, January 30

8:00 AM – *Glenn Ouellette*

TUESDAY, January 31

8:00 AM – *Thomas Cavanagh*
by Peter DiBiase

WEDNESDAY, February 1

8:00 AM – *John V. Imondi*
by his family

THURSDAY, February 2

8:00 AM – *Catherine & Philip Haggarty*
by Arlene

FRIDAY, February 3

8:00 AM – *Edward Keenan*

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, February 4

5:00 PM – *Marsha Provost*
by her family

SUNDAY, February 5

7:00 AM – *Jacques A. P. Faulice*
by his family

8:30 AM – *Robert & Beverly Russell*
by Dan & Madeleine O'Leary

10:30 AM – *Theodore McKendall (L)*
by his family

First Penance January 21, 2023



Parish Support

	January 15, 2023	2022
Basket	\$6,055.00	\$7,019.00
ACH	\$3,401.00	\$2,460.00
	January 22, 2023	2022
Basket	\$5,083.00	\$6,246.00
ACH	\$2,761.00	\$2,830.00
YTD	\$311,600.00	\$310,342.00

Maintenance Update:

As mentioned in a previous bulletin, we were required by DEM to ‘clear out’ the wetland areas on the property. This was the first time this work was done and there was a great deal of ‘brush’ and even small trees that had grown in these areas. This work was done by our landscaper, MEB Landscaping. They gave us a discounted rate for the ‘man hours’ that it took for the job. More than 50 truckloads of debris were taken from the property. The cost: \$21,500. Going forward we will do an ‘annual clearing’ of these wetland areas. As mentioned in an earlier bulletin, our monthly maintenance collection averages \$1,000 per month. Thank you for your generosity as we keep our buildings and property in good order.

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.

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!

Men of St. Joseph



The Men of St. Joseph International is a Catholic association of men committed to Jesus Christ. Our monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday

February 1 at 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall. New members are welcome. Please join us and strengthen your faith through study of scripture and fellowship with other catholic men.

Grief Support Group

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, February 14, 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.

Young at Heart February Luncheon

Tuesday, February 21, 2023 (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, February 14, 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: 2/5/23

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

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAM

Grades 2, 8, 9

Class today: 1/29/2023

Next in person class: 2/12/2023

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.

RI Catholic Subscription Drive

Rhode Island Catholic's annual subscription drive is underway. Your diocesan newspaper depends on its faithful readers to continue its 146-year mission of bringing the good news of the church directly to you. If you are interested in starting a new subscription or continuing to receive Rhode Island Catholic in your mailbox each week, please either drop the specially marked parish budget envelope into the collection basket at Mass, call the Circulation Manager, Sue Richard at 401-272-1010, x 0, or visit the paper's website:

www.thericatholic.com

and click on subscribe to order and pay for a subscription. The cost of a year of in-home delivery of the newspaper is only \$30.

Online payments, checks or money orders (made payable to Rhode Island Catholic) is preferred.

Save the Dates

of July 21st-23rd for our Summer High School Trip to Steubenville East in Springfield, MA. We will be having a short informational meeting following the 10:30AM Mass on Sunday, February 26th for those student(s) who are interested and their parent. For questions contact Christina at

sbc.teenff@gmail.com

or check out the website at

<https://steubenvilleconferences.com/events/conf-east/>

St Mary Academy Bay View

St. Mary Academy – Bay View's Lower School, pre-K through Grade 5, invites you to Open Campus on Tuesday, January 31st at 8:30 AM. To learn more about our Lower School or to pre-register for Open Campus, go to:

baybiewacademy.org.

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 to 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, refreezes 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).