

Saint Bernard Church



February 19, 2023 Seventh 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
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

On Ash Wednesday we hear the words from the prophet Joel, “.....return to me with your whole heart”. As we begin another season of Lent, how can we make it a ‘new’ experience----perhaps we can reflect on what it means to return to the Lord with our whole heart.

What do the following have in common? Olive oil, pomegranates, whole grains, fatty fish, walnuts, berries, dark chocolate, garlic, green tea, and leafy greens? If you guessed “items recently spotted in Fr. Gaffney’s refrigerator”---you’d be wrong. If you guessed “items on one of those TV shows where chefs have to prepare a meal with ‘random’ items”----you’d be creative, but incorrect. The correct answer is that all of those items are part of a heart-healthy diet. How important it is to take care of our hearts! We have come to know so much about nutrition, lifestyle and exercise that can work together to keep our hearts healthy.

How about our ‘spiritual hearts’? In scripture, the heart has a variety of meanings---mostly focusing on that which is at the core of a person—or the total response of the person. Jesus often cautions about how our hearts can become ‘hardened’. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts! So, how do we know if our spiritual heart is becoming ‘hard’?

One writer has suggested five items we might consider as we do an ‘analysis’ of our spiritual hearts.

(1) Have I stopped celebrating? There are many reasons to celebrate---birthdays, anniversaries, a marriage, a new baby, a promotion, a retirement---think of the ‘greeting card aisle’ in your local card store! Celebration always contains joy---we are happy, grateful and joyful for a person or a group of people who are marking an important event. If our hearts are ‘hard’ then it might just be that there is not much ‘joy’ in them. Joy is not looking at life with naivete, rather, it recognizes that all gifts come from God and our God will not be outdone in generosity.

(2) Have I stopped caring? The phrase “who cares” is often part of our daily vocabulary. We might not really mean it, but we say it. It conveys an attitude of dis-interest, of not wanting to get involved, of selfishness. Caring requires a kind of investment on my part. Perhaps it is an investment of my time or talent or treasure. To care means to ‘put ourselves out there’----to do what we can. We can become overwhelmed by problems in our own lives, or the lives of family members, or the lives of people in my community, or the lives of people around the world. I can always, from the quiet of my home---offer a prayer for them---to show I care.

(3) Have activities that were meaningful now just mechanical? Think of the variety of activities in your daily life, from preparing meals, to doing household chores, to contacting family and friends, to planning events, etc. At one time they may have caused some excitement and anticipation. Have these kinds of things become just ‘mechanical’. I recall my mother becoming so tired of cooking---it was a chore, just a mechanical response. Sometimes, we can become tired. That’s different from a ‘hard heart’.

(4) Is there passion in your activities? I would define ‘passion’ in this sense as meaning some intensity, investment, or energy. I can have passion in planning a holiday or I can ‘do what we’ve always done’. I can have passion in so many activities---or they can be somewhat tired, boring and ho-hum.

(5) Do you find that you don’t believe the ‘best’ about people? Do you assume the best of people? Do you take people at their word? Or have you become cynical, judgmental and overly critical of others? We can sometimes act like ‘everyone’s out to get you’---don’t turn your back---they’ll stab you---‘you have to have eyes in the back of your head’. Yes, bad things happen. Bad things happen because we make bad decisions. Our actions can be sinful. We can fail in “loving God and loving our neighbor”.

The writer recommends a few ‘solutions’----to help the ‘hardness of heart’. Watch for next week’s Ponderings for the ‘remedy’! For now---let’s take time to ponder the condition of our hearts! Maybe some hardness has been creeping in.....

--Fr. Gaffney

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



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, February 20

8:00 AM – *Carl Gregory Battaglia*

TUESDAY, February 21

8:00 AM – *Theodore McKendall (L)*

WEDNESDAY, February 22: Ash Wednesday

8:00 AM – *Bob Verdi*

by his family

7:00 PM *Ryan Cole*

THURSDAY, February 23

8:00 AM – *Luz Pelkey*

4th Anniversary by Randy & Linda Pelkey

FRIDAY, February 24

8:00 AM – *Holy Souls of Purgatory*

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, February 25

5:00 PM – *Dennis Beauregard &*

Jacqueline Lainhart

by the Kirkutis family

SUNDAY, February 26

7:00 AM – *Margaret & James Flynn*

by their family

8:30 AM – *Norman John Schartner*

by his family

10:30 AM – *Anna Keenan*



Earthquake Relief for Turkey and Syria

On February 6, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake devastated large areas of central Turkey and northwest Syria. The death toll has surpassed 36,000 and continues to climb. The earthquake is the worst to strike Turkey this century. Later that day, the region experienced a second magnitude 7.7 quake.

Catholic Relief Services will support emergency relief efforts led by local partners in both Syria and Turkey with Caritas Turkey, Caritas Syria in Aleppo and Lattakia—where extensive damage has been reported—and other local partners. Already in Turkey, Caritas Anatolia, in coordination with authorities, is bringing displaced people to safe, open spaces and distributing hot meals and clothing.

To donate, please visit:

<https://www.crs.org/>

Soup-er Collection: Beats Record.

St. Bernard parishioners donated cans of soup to the North Kingstown Food Pantry from January 1st through February 12th (Super Bowl Sunday). The goal was 500 cans. Last year we donated more than 700. This year we donated more than 1000 cans of soup. Photo: Stephen Souls, Operations Manager of the North Kingstown Food Pantry congratulates St. Bernard pastor, Fr. David Gaffney.



Parish Support

	February 5, 2023	2022
Basket	\$9,724.00	\$12,852.00
ACH	\$3,299.00	\$2,640.00
	February 12, 2023	2022
Basket	\$6,698.00	\$7,767.00
ACH	\$2,474.00	\$2,648.00
YTD	\$345,265.00	\$339,998.00

40 Days for Life Lenten Campaign

Monday through Saturday 7am to 7pm
From Ash Wednesday, February 22 through
Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023.
At a public right-of-way outside
175 Broad St., Providence
Bring a friend and together be a peaceful and
prayerful witness for life!

Join us at the Cathedral of SS. Peter & Paul on
Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023 where we will
pray the Rosary for Life following the 12:05 PM
Mass and Distribution of Ashes.

For more information contact Office of Life &
Family Ministry, Lisa Cooley, Coordinator at
401-278-2518,
lcooley@dioceseofprovidence.org or
services@rirtl.org.

Women’s Bible Study

Wednesday February 22 from 10am to 12pm in
the parish Hall.

Lenten ‘Soup and Scripture’ Series
The Gospel of Matthew

Saturday, February 25th

Arrival: 11:30-11:45 a.m.
Bible Study with soup lunch: Noon.
End time: 1:00 pm.
Bring your Bible.
(Free Will Offering)

Please register me for this session:
(Name)

Baby Clothing

Used (clean and in good condition) Infant
through 5T may be dropped off in a special bin in
the vestibule. This clothing will be given to St.
Gabriel’s Call (a ministry of the Diocesan Life
and Family Office). This collection will take
place during Lent. Diapers are always needed!

Lenten Fast and Abstinence
Regulations

A gentle reminder that Church law requires absti-
nence from meat, meat soups or other dishes
made from meat (for those 14 and older) on Ash
Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent. In addi-
tion, Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are fast
days. Adults between the ages of 18 and 59
should eat less: that means, take no solid food
between meals and only one meal that day should
be a full one. Those with special health re-
strictions should always follow their doctor’s ad-
vice before fasting.

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: 2/26/23

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

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAM

Grades 2, 8, 9

Next in person class: 3/12/2023

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.

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/>

Scholarship Fund

“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 2023. To be considered, completed applications must be returned by April 15, 2023.”

Lent at St. Bernard 2023

Ash Wednesday (February 22nd) 8:00 a.m. *Mass with Distribution of Ashes; 12 Noon-Prayer Service with Distribution of Ashes; 7:00 p.m. Mass with Distribution of Ashes.*

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 has worked out well for the past two years)*

Soup and Scripture Series. *Fr. Gaffney will offer a “Bible Study” focusing on the Gospel of Matthew on three Saturdays at Noon. A simple meal of ‘soup’ will be offered. The dates are: February 25, March 11 and April 1. 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 on the gathering space table if you would like to use them for ‘sacrificial giving’ during Lent.*

Children’s Lenten Packet. *We have assembled a packet of Lenten activities appropriate for children in 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.*

