

Saint Bernard Church



April 23, 2023
Third Sunday of Easter

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 (David)
sbc.pa@verizon.net (Angelo)

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 April 29th the Church celebrates the feast day of St. Catherine of Siena. She was an Italian member of the Third Order of St. Dominic. She was a mystic, activist and author who had a great influence on the Catholic Church. She was canonized in 1461 and is also a Doctor of the Church.

Born in 1347, she died in 1380 at the age of 33. During her life the Papacy had moved to Avignon (France)---there is a ‘long story’ to be told about how that happened! She influenced Pope Gregory XI to leave Avignon and return to Rome. The Pope also sent her to negotiate peace with Florence. Her writings include “The Dialogue of Divine Providence”. Her savvy political skills, her deep spirituality and her loyalty to the Church are just a few of her admirable features. Devotion around Catherine of Siena developed rapidly after her death. She and St. Francis of Assisi are the patron saints of Italy. She was the second woman to be declared a “Doctor of the Church” in 1970.

In 2010 Pope Benedict gave an audience in which he spoke of St. Catherine. He said, “When the fame of her holiness spread, she became the protagonist of an intense activity of spiritual guidance for people from every walk of life: nobles and politicians, artists and ordinary people, consecrated men and women religious, including Pope Gregory XI who was living at Avignon in that period and who she energetically and effectively urged to return to Rome.”

What can we learn from this saint that we can apply in our own lives? Pope Benedict explains, “Like the Sienese saint, every believer feels the need to be conformed with the sentiments of the heart of Christ to love God and his neighbor as Christ himself loves.” He continues, “And we can all let our hearts be transformed and learn to love like Christ in a familiarity with him that is nourished by prayer, by meditation on the Word of God and by the sacraments, above all by receiving Holy Communion frequently with devotion.”

St. Catherine experienced a ‘gift of tears’---what is this? “Another trait of Catherine’s spirituality is linked with the gift of tears. They express an exquisite, profound sensitivity, a capacity for being moved and for tenderness. Many saints have the gift of tears, renewing the emotion of Jesus himself who did not hold back or hide his tears at the tomb of his friend Lazarus and at the grief of Mary and Martha or at the sight of Jerusalem during his last days on earth,” according to Pope Benedict.

In the “Dialogue of Divine Providence,” she describes Christ, with an unusual image, as a bridge flung between Heaven and Earth. In this Easter season we do come to realize that Jesus has won the victory over sin and death and has opened for us the Gates of Heaven. He is the bridge by which we enter those gates.

Here are a few quotes from her writings:

1. “Start being brave about everything. Drive out darkness and spread light. Don’t look at your weaknesses. Realize instead that in Christ crucified you can do everything.” Certainly this is message appropriate with Easter---that we might have courage arising from our faith in Jesus’ greatest of gifts to us---his own life.
2. “Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire.” An encouraging thought for all of us! She will speak about ‘growing in virtue’---as we all grow in virtue we will grow into that person God meant us to be.
3. “He will provide the way and the means, such as you could never have imagined. Leave it all to Him, let go of yourself, lose yourself on the cross, and you will find yourself entirely.” We need to give ourselves generously to others----‘losing ourselves’ on the cross. We are called to imitate Jesus’ sacrificial giving of himself.
4. “You are rewarded not according to your work or your time but according to the measure of your love.” In Matthew’s Gospel we read of the final judgment---the criteria of ‘getting into heaven’ is love, charity---when I was hungry you fed me; in prison and you visited, etc.

St. Catherine is a remarkable saint! Let us open our hearts to be inspired by her! A final ‘mystical thought’ from her writings----“God is closer to us than water is to a fish”.

--Fr. Gaffney

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



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, April 24

8:00 AM – *Catherine Mattera*
by her family

TUESDAY, April 25

8:00 AM – *Michael J. Gaffney*
by Arlene Gardiner

WEDNESDAY, April 26

8:00 AM – *Edward O’Keefe*
by his family

THURSDAY, April 27

8:00 AM – *Rowland Hazard & family*
by their family

FRIDAY, April 28

8:00 AM – *Holy Souls of Purgatory*

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, April 29

5:00 PM – *Anthony Fargnoli*

SUNDAY, April 30

7:00 AM – *Ann & Francis Canning*
by their family

8:30 AM – *Timothy Gorton*

10:30 AM – *Luis Montoya*
by his family

St. Bernard Award
‘for love of God and love of neighbor’

The Second Annual St. Bernard Award
will be presented on Saturday, June 3, 2023
at the 5:00 p.m. Mass to

Danute DeCesare
and
George Silva

Reception in the Parish Center to follow.

(watch the bulletin for more information)

All in the Family

Members of the Sullivan family are ‘assigned’ to the same Mass for their particular ministries: Sons (James and Jack) are altar servers; Mom (Megan) and daughter, (Ava) are lectors; and dad (Shane) is an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. If you would like to serve as an altar server, lector or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion please speak with Fr. Gaffney.



Good, Used Baby Clothing Collection.

During Lent we have been collecting ‘good, used baby/infant clothing’ for our Diocesan Office of Family Life’s outreach organization, “St. Gabriel’s Call“. Thank you to all who have donated clothing, diapers and other baby/infant items.



Parish Support

April 9, 2023 2022

Basket \$9,144.00 \$24,748.00

ACH \$2,181.00 \$2,381.00

April 16, 2023 2022

Basket \$6,983.00 \$6,603.00

ACH \$3,899.00 \$3,321.00

YTD \$455,206.00 \$442,514.00

The 2023 Catholic Charity Appeal !



As of: 4/16/2023
Parish Goal: \$80,750
Pledged: \$52,232
Number of donors: 134

Visit

www.givecentral.org/2023CCA

to make a difference this year!

Attention!

St. Bernard School Alumni!

On Sunday, May 21st the 10:30 Mass will be offered for the "Living and Deceased Alumni" of St. Bernard School. After Mass there will be a "coffee an'" reception in the Parish Center. Please 'spread the word' about this Mass so that we might have an 'informal reunion' of graduates of St. Bernard School. Mark your calendars!

Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, April 26th from 10am to 12pm in the parish Hall.

St Bernard Third Annual Golf Tournament SAVE THE DATE!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2022

**GOLF, DINNER,
CONTESTS, PRIZES**

New Venue!

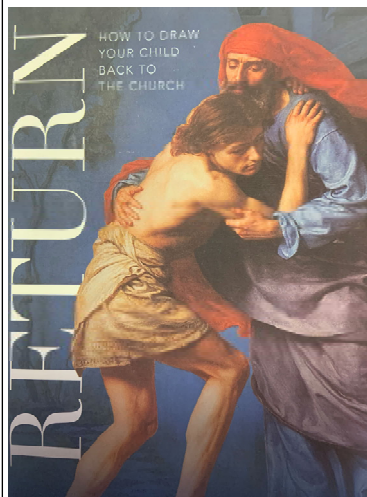
**RICHMOND
COUNTRY CLUB**



If you played last year, please join us again. If you did not play, please join us this year! A great time was had by all! Meet fellow parishioners. Enjoy the day! Look for additional information in the coming weeks.

Book Club for the Spring

Return: How to Draw Your Child Back to the Church, by Brandon Vogt.



Many parents and grandparents lament the fact that their grown children have stopped practicing the faith. They often ask, "Where did I go wrong?" or "How can I get them to come back?" We will have a book discussion about this work by Brandon Vogt. *Please purchase the book on your own.* The meet-

ing dates will be on Tuesdays: May 30, June 6 and 13 from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

Young at Heart May Luncheon

Tuesday, May 16, 2023 (sign in at 11:30 AM)

Menu: TBA

Name (s): _____

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

Please respond by Tuesday, May 9, 2023.

Faith Formation

GOSPEL WEEKLIES PROGRAM

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

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

Next in Person Class: 4/30/23

Return completed assignments to next in-person class

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAM

Grades 2, 8, 9

Last in person class: Today 4/23/2023

2nd Graders Mini Retreat 9:30 am to 1:30 pm

8th & 9th Graders until 11:30 am

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.

St. Bernard Scholarship

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 now be returned by April 30, 2023.

Grief Support Group.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 16, 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.

2023 St Bernard Vacation Bible School: Save the Date

August 14 -18, 2023 ~ 8:30am to 11:30am

A week-long, half day camp for students entering grades K-5 in the fall of 2023. In this wet and wild VBS, kids learn that what they do today can change the world around them. When we put our trust in Jesus, we can “make waves” because of His Spirit living inside us. Through fun activities, engaging lessons, and God’s Word, we’ll help the kids understand how they can share God’s love with the people around them.

More details to follow in the upcoming Weeks!!!!



Community Dinners

Community Dinners have begun. Community dinners started on Sunday, April 16th. St. Bernard’s “team” will prepare the dinner for Sunday, April 23rd. We are covering the “fourth Sunday” of each month. The other churches that prepare meals are: NK Baptist Church, First Baptist Church and the United Methodist Church. These dinners are open to all in the community---especially seniors; those who are experiencing any financial hardship; families are welcome. They provide a meal and a time for ‘fellowship’. There is also the possibility for ‘take out’---you can pick up a meal from the kitchen---you do not need to call ahead for take-out. All dinners are held at the First Baptist Church on Main Street beginning at 12:30 p.m. Dinners are offered every Sunday. You are welcome to attend any Sunday. Spread the word.!

“Progressive Jackpot Raffle”

Please complete and place in the collection basket or mail to the parish office at 275 Tower Hill Rd, North Kingstown RI 02852 (Please make checks payable to ‘St. Bernard Church’)

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Address _____

How Many Tickets: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____ Cash _____ Check _____

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