

Saint Bernard Church



April 30, 2023
Fourth 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

A news item caught my attention this past week. It was a story about the 24th anniversary of the Columbine High School shootings. It was April 20, 1999, and twelve students, one teacher and the two gunmen would be dead after that terrible school invasion.

It was a typical day for the students and teachers. Waking up, packing their bags and heading off for school. Locals of Littleton, Colorado said ‘nothing ever happened’ in their small-town set against the backdrop of the Rocky Mountains. It was at 11:19 on that morning when killers Eric Harris, 18, and Dylan Klebold, 17, donned long black trench coats and armed themselves with guns, knives and explosives to carry out their plan. The gunning down of their fellow students and teachers was random. Thirteen were killed and twenty-four were injured.

One student, Kacey Ruegsegger Johnson says she was about to leave for school when she had a strange feeling wash over her. The 17-year-old was in her usual rush to get to class, but something made her stop, go back inside the house and yelled to her mother, ‘love you, mum’ and she said she loved me back. She was a junior at the high school and was meant to meet a friend for lunch, but when she couldn’t find her, she went to the library. She was just reading a magazine waiting to catch up with her friend. She heard ‘pops’ from outside. She said the thought of gunshots never entered her mind. A few minutes later a teacher came running into the room telling them to get under the tables. She told them that there were boys outside with guns. Kacey ran and hid under a small computer desk, praying for her life. She recalls, “As they entered the library, they started laughing and shooting, telling us this was our day to die. I felt like I had been punched in the stomach.” She turned around and saw one of the shooters kneeling five or six feet away from her. He was pointing a gun at the boy next to her. He shot him. He then shot at her---the bullet going through her right shoulder, through her hand and straight across her neck. She yelled out in pain. Then she pretended to be dead. She thinks that move saved her life.

She was hospitalized for two weeks undergoing a number of operations. The doctors rebuilt her shoulder. She has suffered from chronic pain since the day of the shooting. Part of her recovery was physical. The other part of the recovery has had to deal with psychological trauma. She said in her book, Over My Shoulder, “something like Columbine changes everything about a person.” She continues, “We endured something that nobody can understand. We were thrown into a club that no one signed up for.”

One student who lost her life on that terrible day was Rachel Scott. She was a sophomore at Columbine. She was a devoted Christian teenager, open about her faith at school and unashamed to witness to others. She was bullied and felt ostracized by other students. Three weeks before the shooting she spoke about her faith to the shooters, Eric and Dylan. She thought they, too, had been bullied and ostracized. They did not welcome her message. They made videotapes mocking her Christian faith. IN her diary she wrote, “I have no more personal friends at school, but you know what? I am not going to apologize for speaking the name of Jesus. I am not going to justify my faith to them, and I am not going to hide the light that God has put into me. If I have to sacrifice everything I will. I will take it. If my friends have to become my enemies for me to be with my best friend Jesus, then that’s fine with me.” In another entry she wrote, “I have this theory that if one person can go out of their way to show compassion, then it will start a chain reaction of the same. People will never know how far a little kindness can go.” On the day of the shooting, Rachel was the first person shot on the school’s campus. Dylan grabbed her by the hair and asked, “Do you still believe in your God?”

Her parents were given her backpack in which there was a drawing of her shedding thirteen tears. Thirteen people were killed that day. Rachel’s parents, devastated by the loss of their daughter, started a nonprofit organization called ‘Rachel’s Challenge’. The purpose is to help students, especially those who are bullied.

Such a trauma as a school shooting impacted Kacey, now a 41-year-old mother, the parents of Rachel and so many others that day. Our prayers are with all those who have faced the trauma of such an event—of course for those who lost their lives, but also for the family members and survivors. Trauma is difficult. Let us pray for all those who suffer traumatic events.

--Fr. Gaffney

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



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, May 1

8:00 AM – *Salvatore & Mary Baldino*
by their family

TUESDAY, May 2

8:00 AM – *Joseph & Edna Gillen*

WEDNESDAY, May 3

8:00 AM – *Michael J. Gaffney*
by the Kosak & Grabowski families

THURSDAY, May 4

8:00 AM – *Amato & Angelina Sciola*
by their family

FRIDAY, May 5

8:00 AM – *Michael J. Gaffney*
by Jack Newman

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, May 6

5:00 PM – *Linda Newman*
by her family

SUNDAY, May 7

7:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*

8:30 AM – *Patricia Sarazen*
by Rita McCann

10:30 AM – *Mary T. Murphy*
by John Gibbons

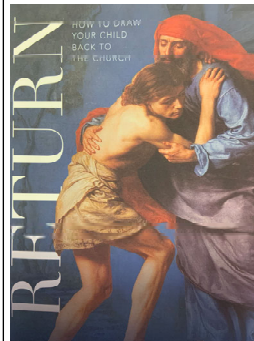
Coffee & Donuts



Our next Coffee and Donuts is scheduled for next weekend, **May 7** after the 10:30 AM Mass in the Parish Hall. Come spend some time socializing with your fellow parishioners.

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 meeting dates

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

Please return the form below to the parish office by May

Name(s): _____

May 30: _____ June 6: _____ June 13: _____

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 “Donna” DeCesare and George Silva

Ticketed Hors d’oeuvres . Reception in the Parish Center to follow.

(tickets: \$15. per person; cash bar available)

Name(s): _____

Number of Tickets @ \$15.00 Each: _____ Cash: _____ Check: _____ (Payable to St. Bernard)

Please make your reservation and payment on or before May 27th.

Parish Support

	April 16, 2023	2022
Basket	\$6,983.00	\$6,603.00
ACH	\$3,899.00	\$3,321.00
	April 23, 2023	2022
Basket	\$4,752.00	\$6,722.00
ACH	\$2,809.00	\$2,974.00
YTD	\$462,767.00	\$452,210.00

The 2023 Catholic Charity Appeal !



As of: 4/23/2023
 Parish Goal: \$80,750
 Pledged: \$62,732
 Number of donors: 158

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, May 3 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.

Spring Cleaning at St Bernard's



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

Last Class Today: 4/30/23

Return completed assignments to the parish center.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAM

Grades 2, 8, 9

Return completed assignments to the parish center.

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!!!!



Homebound Parishioners

Please let the parish know of any ‘homebound’ parishioners---those who cannot leave their homes---and might like to receive Holy Communion at home. Also, we like to ‘keep in touch’ with greeting cards for them. Call the parish office. Thank you.

K of C Breakfast (Public Invited)

The Knights of Columbus will hold a Breakfast at the Council Hall, 1265 Tower Hill Road, North Kingstown, on Sunday, May 7th, from 7:30 to 10:30. Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, JohnnyCakes, Home Fries, Breakfast Pastries, Orange Juice, Coffee and Tea will be served. The cost is \$10.00, children 6 and under are free.

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

May 3 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, 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.

Catholic School Tuition Aid

The deadline is May 15th. You need to apply each year you are requesting tuition aid. Please use the form found on our website:

www.stbernardnk.org/forms

“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 Tickets are \$50.00 each. (Please make checks payable to ‘St. Bernard Church’)

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Address _____

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

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