

Saint Bernard Church



May 7, 2023
Fifth 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

Last week I wrote about the anniversary of the shootings at Columbine High School---it has been 24 years since that shooting rocked our schools, our communities, indeed, our entire country. Much attention has been given---and rightly so---to the victims---to those who lost their lives or were injured and to their families. So many people are impacted by such a horrific, violent action. Teachers, neighbors, family members, friends---so many people are affected. What about the parents of the shooters? I came across an article that spoke about this rather unique group of people. The author says, “Many families of killers are left to sort through their confusion and shock as some assume they are to blame.”

In the summer of 2019, a shooter killed nine people in Dayton, Ohio before being killed by the police. The suspect was identified as Connor Betts, a 24-year-old, and among the victims was his younger sister, Megan. The Dayton police chief said, “It seems to just defy believability that he would shoot his own sister. But it’s also hard to believe he didn’t recognize that was his sister, so we just don’t know.” Their parents lost two children. They then had to make sense of having a child who killed several people.

Author, Andrew Solomon, who has spoken to multiple parents of people who committed violent crimes says he was struck by how different parents’ reactions could be. The mother of Dylan Klebold, who killed several students and a teacher at Columbine, said, “When it first happened I used to wish that I had never had children, that I had never married. . . . But over time, I’ve come to feel that, for myself, I am glad I had kids and glad I had the kids I did, because the love for them---even at the price of this pain---has been the single greatest joy of my life.” (she was speaking of her own pain, she clarified, not the pain that others suffered because of her son)

In these conversations with parents, one commonality Solomon has noticed ---in addition to a sense of disbelief and confusion---is that parents often dwell on who their children used to be. He recalled interviewing a mother whose child was in prison for committing a violent crime: “I said,” ‘Do you miss seeing him?’ She said, “I don’t miss who he is at all, but I miss who he was. And I miss the person I thought he would turn out to be.”

One psychologist has said that the love for ‘who a child used to be’ is not easily extinguished. He says, “Parents love their kids, even though they’ve committed a horrible act.” Trying to make sense of a child’s actions can be torturous. After a shooting, everybody starts asking, ‘what made this person do that?’ Parents of shooters are often at a complete loss because they feel like they should be able to explain it---they knew their child, probably better than most people. In a way, the parents and family members of the shooter are also experiencing a loss. In addition, the general social response to a shooting is to presume the child came from an awful, terrible family that somehow caused it---and families can feel enormous guilt for the behavior of their children. Solomon concludes that a troubled home environment seems to be one factor of many that can put kids at risk for extreme, violent behavior. But, the author concedes, in most cases, ‘the parents actually were pretty good, loving parents doing their best.’

He says that parents of shooters shouldn’t be cast as being at fault. “I think if we could move away from a narrative of blaming those parents it would be a great liberation. . . . These families deserve our compassion, rather than our disgust.”

What a challenging situation! To bring compassion to the family of the shooter----even as a community grieves the victims of their child’s violent behavior. Jesus forgave those who put him on the cross. We continue to marvel at the gift of forgiveness as we journey through these Easter days. What must holidays, like Mother’s Day or Father’s Day be like for the parents of these shooters?

--Fr. Gaffney

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



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, May 8

8:00 AM – *Edith & Giuseppe DeQuattro*
by their daughter

TUESDAY, May 9

8:00 AM – *Margaret Hand*

WEDNESDAY, May 10

8:00 AM – *Frank J. Baldino*
by his family

THURSDAY, May 11

8:00 AM – *Nelia Jones*

FRIDAY, May 12

8:00 AM – *Madeline McGrath*
by her daughter

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, May 13

5:00 PM – *Douglas & Barbara Cox*
by the Kirkutis family

SUNDAY, May 14

7:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*

8:30 AM – *Florence Fulford*
by her family

10:30 AM – *Thomas Bradley*
by his family

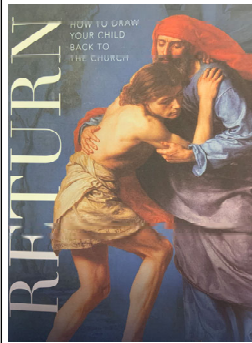
Morning Glory Gathering

Please join us for coffee and socializing on
Thursday, May 11
after the 8:00 AM morning Mass in the Parish
Hall.



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 10 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.

Catholic Relief Services

Dear Father Gaffney:

During the best of times, the poor are at a disadvantage with respect to access to what they need. At a time when even wealthy countries are struggling, may your gift help bridge the gap between those who have the means to give and those who need it. Catholic Relief Services helps those in need all over the world and are in partnership with many organizations of good will.

I am extremely grateful to you and the members of St. Bernard Parish for your donation of \$2,604.00.

I would be remiss if I did not remind you of the fact that the Rice Bowl collection sends 75% of all that is collected to the missions throughout the world, while 25% of the money collected remains here in our own Diocese. It supports local organizations that reach out to our own population that struggles daily to survive.

Sincerely yours,

Rev Francesco Francese, Director

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

Return completed assignments to the parish center.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAM

Grades 2, 8, 9

Return completed assignments to the parish center.

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

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.

Mass of Graduation

At St. Bernard Parish we are very proud of our High School Seniors who are now preparing to graduate from area schools. We would like to recognize them for their achievements, and let them know we wish them well in their endeavors. We will have a special ‘Mass of Graduation’ on Pentecost Sunday, May 28th at the 8:30AM Mass. If you have a graduating Senior, please RSVP by Wed., May 24th to Christina at sbc.teenff@gmail.com or by calling the office. Please be sure to let us know what your plans are for next year, and how many people will be accompanying you to Mass in order to reserve you and your guests a pew.

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!!!!



St. Gabriel’s Call

Dear Rev. Gaffney & Parishioners of St. Bernard:

Thank You for your recent generous donations to our special minister, St. Gabriel’s Call which helps families and especially their babies in a time of need. Your consideration will be a blessing for the clients we serve.

Our mission with St. Gabriel’s Call is to reach out to women who are pregnant and in need of friendship and love. We try to make things easier through this confidential intervention program during and beyond pregnancy. We offer support, love and spiritual help in a compassionate and personal way. God’s blessing to you all.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Lisa Cooley, Coordinator
Office of Life and Family Ministries

“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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