

# Saint Bernard Church



May 14, 2023  
Sixth 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

I came upon an article recently entitled, “Dear Parents With Young Children in Church.” It caught my attention. Why? I am trying my best to encourage our young parents ----and all parents----to bring their children to church. The article was written by a woman who does bring her children to church. She writes, “I know it’s hard, but thank you for what you do when you bring your children to church. Please know that your family---with all of its noise, struggle, commotion, and joy ----are not simply tolerated, you are a vital part of the community gathered in worship.” Yes! I wholeheartedly agree. She continues, “I know you’re wondering, is this worth it? Why do I bother? I know you often leave church more exhausted than fulfilled. But what you are doing is so important.” Again---yes!

Whenever I see young parents (with infants and toddlers) coming into church I try to always approach them with this message: “You have a free pass-----to get up and move around any time you need to! Walk around the back of the church. Walk into the vestibule. Walk to the restrooms. Walk outside for a few minutes.” I try to give them the freedom to do what they need to do as they engage in the all-important responsibility, they accepted at their child’s Baptism to be the ‘first teacher’ in the way of faith. Learning takes time! It takes time for young children to understand what ‘church’ is all about. It is different from their home, different from grandma’s home, different from the playground, different from the grocery store-----they are ‘young learners’-----and parents are always in the process of ‘teaching’-----so, we want to encourage you as ‘teachers of your children’ in the ways of faith.

The writer of the article continues, “When you are here, the church is filled with a joyful noise. When you are here, the Body of Christ is more fully present.....When you are here, I have hope that these pews won’t be empty in 10 years when your kids are old enough to sit quietly and behave in worship. I know that they are learning how and why we worship now, before it’s too late. They are learning that worship is important.” Yes!

We are fortunate to have celebrated First Holy Communion and look forward to Confirmation. I am so very grateful to our catechists and to our parents for encouraging and helping their children prepare for these sacraments. The writer of the article might have written these words for them, “It matters that they learn that worship is what we do as a community of faith, that everyone is welcome, that their worship matters. When we teach children that their worship matters, we teach them that they are enough right here and right now as members of the church community.” Yes. They are valued members of this faith community. By their Baptism they belong----they became ‘members of the church’ on that important day.

So, I offer my congratulations especially to the parents of our First Holy Communion class and our Confirmation class! I want you to ‘keep going’ with them. In receiving these sacraments, they are deepening their faith---now, it is time to continue living that faith---and coming back to the celebration of the Eucharist each and every week to have that faith nourished. Sacraments are not ‘mini-graduations’----- completions-----I like to think of them as new ‘launching pads’-----to now live their faith in every mature, deeper and more committed ways.

For those who have received First Holy Communion, we invite you to become an altar server. We have only within the past year ‘brought altar servers back’----and we need more. We would love to have altar servers at all of our masses. That depends on your generosity and commitment----the ‘training’ is the easy part! For those who have received Confirmation, we invite you to become involved in one of the ministries of the church----being a catechist (perhaps team-teaching with a more experienced teacher at the start); to serve as a lector; to serve as an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion.

It is always great to welcome young families to the celebration of Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation.....and even greater, to see these same families each week---sitting next to us in the pews! A sign of hope----now and for the future!

---Fr. Gaffney

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



## Mass Intentions

### MONDAY, May 15

8:00 AM – *Michael J. Gaffney*  
by Mike Leonard

### TUESDAY, May 16

8:00 AM – *Innocents of Abortion*

### WEDNESDAY, May 17

8:00 AM – *Clementina & James Birch*  
by their family

### THURSDAY, May 18: Ascension

8:00 AM – *Anne Lacey*  
1st Anniversary by her family

7:00 PM *Michael J. Gaffney*  
by the Fischer family

### FRIDAY, May 19

8:00 AM – *Teresa Palermo Romano*  
by her family

### WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY, May 20

5:00 PM – *Stephen B. Kusmierz*  
by his family

### SUNDAY, May 21

7:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*

8:30 AM – *Kathleen Walsh*

10:30 AM – *Everett W. Salisbury and deceased of St. Bernard School Alumni*

## Ascension of the Lord

Thursday, May 18, Holy Day  
Masses will be celebrated  
at 8:00 AM and at 7:00 PM.

There will be NO Noon Mass.

Congratulations to Nicholas & Mary Smith and baby Kian Mackenzie who was baptized on Sunday April 30, 2023



Congratulations to Matthew & Marissa Lynch and baby Chloe Margaret who was baptized on Sunday April 30, 2023



## 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 23, 2023	2022
Basket	\$4,752.00	\$6,722.00
ACH	\$2,809.00	\$2,974.00
	April 30, 2023	2022
Basket	\$6,707.00	\$6,430.00
ACH	\$2,074.00	\$3,116.00
YTD	\$469,593.00	\$461,756.00

### The 2023 Catholic Charity Appeal !



As of: 4/30/2023  
Parish Goal: \$80,750  
Pledged: \$67,857  
Number of donors: 165

Visit  
[www.givecentral.org/2023CCA](http://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!

Remember St. Bernard Church in your will and estate planning. Thank you.

### 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.

### Lafayette Band Armed Forces Salute Concert

The annual Lafayette Band concert honoring veterans, members of the military, and their families will be held here at St. Bernard on Memorial Day weekend. Under the direction of Charles Johnson this concert features familiar patriotic music and new selections.

**Date and Time:**

Sunday, May 28, 2023, at 2:00 PM

**Concert Location:**

St. Bernard Church  
275 Tower Hill Road  
North Kingstown, RI

**The concert is free** - good will donations are welcome. Donations are shared between the Providence VA Medical Center Voluntary Services Office, which aids veterans in need, and the band to support their free community concert program. For more information about the band visit their website, [lafayettebandri.org](http://lafayettebandri.org), or follow them on Facebook, Lafayette Band - Rhode Island.

### 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 15<sup>th</sup>. You need to apply each year you are requesting tuition aid. Please use the form found on our website:

[www.stbernardnk.org/forms](http://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](mailto: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.

## **Community Dinner & Presentation By The Haitian Project**

Join us on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 6pm in the Parish Center to share in a meal and learn about how the St. Bernard community has helped provide Catholic education to students in Haiti for over 20 years. All are welcome and entrance is free! Please RSVP by Wednesday, May 17th at 401-351-3624 or [development@haitianproject.org](mailto:development@haitianproject.org)

## **2023 St Bernard Vacation Bible School: Save the Date**

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

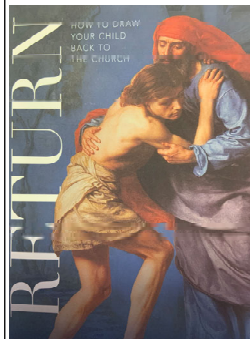
A week-long, half day camp for students entering grades K-5 in the fall of 2023. In this wet and wild VBS, kids learn that what they do today can change the world around them. When we put our trust in Jesus, we can "make waves" because of His Spirit living inside us. Through fun activities, engaging 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!!!!



## **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 23rd.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

May 30: \_\_\_\_\_ June 6: \_\_\_\_\_ June 13: \_\_\_\_\_

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