

# Saint Bernard Church



## July 16, 2023 Fifteenth 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 (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

As you know I recently went on vacation to the Azores. I was with another priest and a group of 40 people---for many of us it was our first time visiting those islands. There are many of our neighbors in Rhode Island and Massachusetts that have their roots in the Azores. A terrible earthquake/volcano eruption on the island of Faial in 1957 resulted in a special immigration bill sponsored by Sen. John Kennedy and Sen. John Pastore (Azorean Refugee Act of 1958) which brought many survivors of that natural disaster to southeastern New England. (1500 visas were made available for the victims of the volcanic eruption/earthquake) It is referred to as the ‘Capelinhos eruption’.

One of the important religious images that is deeply imbedded in the faith of the people of these islands is “Senhor Santo Christo”—Lord, Holy Christ. It is a wooden image of Christ by an unknown artist in a Renaissance style. It is a representation of the “Ecce Homo”----"Behold the Man"----the episode in Jesus’ life during the Passion when he was presented to the crowds by Pilate. There is a great contrast between the violence on the body---crown of thorns, bruises, etc. and the serenity of Jesus’ expression. The statue is normally on display in the convent chapel of the main church—Church of Nossa Senhora da Esperanca (Our Lady of Hope) in the capital city of Ponta Delgada on the island of Sao Miguel.

Devotion to the image began in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The first procession in honor of the Lord Holy Christ occurred through the initiative of Mother Teresa da Anunciada, with the support of the island population, following a series of earthquakes where the nun hoped to obtain divine intervention. The islands had been experiencing earthquakes and tremors---causing much death, damage and destruction. Following the first procession the tradition continues with an annual procession with the statue. Over the years statue and cape have been adorned with many precious jewels.

This devotion to the Lord Holy Christ quickly spread to the other islands of the Azores. As many Azoreans immigrated to the United States, they brought this devotion with them. Processions with an image of “Santo Christo” take place throughout the summer months in many places, including Fall River and New Bedford. I was told that after the devotion the people of Portugal have for Our Lady of Fatima, the next most important devotion is to Santo Christo.

I learned during my visit that the door to the chapel where the image is housed was opened at 5:30 p.m. every day and people could visit the image/pray in the chapel from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. I found the ‘side door’---not clearly marked! ---where I could enter. I made my way through the garden into the chapel. Several other people came into the chapel around the same time-----they knelt and quietly said their prayers.

I went to visit the image on a second afternoon and sat on a bench in the park across the street from the church since I was about ten minutes early. A man came and sat on the bench and asked if I knew what time they opened the doors. I told him ‘5:30’. I asked where he was from---he said the island of Faial. He was in Sao Miguel on business and was coming to see the image for the first time. I told him it was ironic that an “American tourist” showed him—an Azorean---how to get into the chapel! We both had a good laugh at that! I told him I would have to share this story---which I am now doing!

Our Church has so many rich faith traditions and devotions often associated with various cultures and countries---some of the origins of these devotions, customs and traditions go back many years---and often they are part of the fabric of the lives, the lives of their children and down through the generations. Let us treasure the richness of so many devotions and customs and traditions in our Catholic tradition.

--Fr. Gaffney

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



## Mass Intentions

**MONDAY, July 17**

8:00 AM – *Tom Flatley*  
6th Anniversary by his wife

**TUESDAY, July 18**

8:00 AM – *Innocents of Abortion*

**WEDNESDAY, July 19**

8:00 AM – *Sara & Elizabeth Sullivan*  
by Arlene

**THURSDAY, July 20**

8:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*

**FRIDAY, July 21**

8:00 AM – *Rev. William Jenkinson*

### WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

**SATURDAY, July 22**

5:00 PM – *Deceased Members of the Gaffney & Moriarty families.*

**SUNDAY, July 23**

7:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*

8:30 AM – *Bob Verdi*  
by his family

10:30 AM – *Michael J. Gaffney*  
by Team Dotty

## Grief Support Group.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, July 18, 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.

## Annual Mission Appeal

We thank Fr Carl Chudy for his visit last weekend. More information can be found at:

[www.xaverianmissionaries.org](http://www.xaverianmissionaries.org).

## Save the Date:

### St. Bernard Parish Feast Picnic: Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>.

After the 5:00 p.m. Mass we will have our parish picnic----hamburgers, hotdogs, water will be provided. Start time is approximately 6:00 p.m. Bring the whole family!



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## Steubenville East

This upcoming weekend of July 21st-23rd a group from our parish will be going to the Steubenville East Conference in Springfield, MA. We have 9 teens who are attending this year, and for 5 of them this is their second year going. These teens will get the chance to experience the peace of Christ through inspiring talks, praise and worship, and the Sacraments. They will also connect with hundreds of other Catholic teens and return home with memories that will last a lifetime knowing they are never alone. Please keep Carolina, David, John Paul, Maeve, Robert, Rose, Ryan, Sydney and Veronica in your prayers this weekend as they experience the peace of Jesus Christ, who is our refuge and never wearies of loving us.

## Community Dinners

These dinners have returned! Area churches provide a free 'homecooked meal' on Sundays at 12:30 at the First Baptist Church, 44 Main Street, Wickford. **Make a referral:** If you know someone who might benefit from these dinners and the social time with others, please let family, neighbors, friends know about these Community Dinners. **Go yourself:** An invitation is especially extended to our seniors, those who live alone, those who might enjoy a homecooked hot meal----try it out! Just show up---no reservations required! You can also get a 'meal-to-go'. Spread the word about this great opportunity!

### Parish Support

	July 2, 2023	2022
Basket	\$9,162.00	\$7,939.00
ACH	\$3,324.00	\$3,223.00
	July 9, 2023	2022
Basket	\$8,557.00	\$5,830.00
ACH	\$3,316.00	\$2,918.00
YTD	\$24,359.00	\$19,610.00

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

### Debt Reduction Collection

June Total: \$3,175.00  
Year-To-Date: \$20,055.00

Thank you for your generous response to this monthly collection!

### While You're Away Don't Forget

If you are away this summer enjoying the beach or far-away places, please don't forget that back home in old St. Bernard's, we still have to pay our bills. If you are away and miss a few weeks of your budget contributions, please try to make them up so that we can keep going or you can use the Online Giving Option. We miss you while you're away, and we miss your generosity too!

### Eucharistic Adoration

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place immediately after the morning Mass on Tuesdays (approximately 8:30 a.m.) Benediction and reposi-tion at 11:00 a.m. This is an opportunity for quiet, prayerful reflection before the Blessed Sacrament.

### St Bernard Third Annual Golf Tournament **SAVE THE DATE!**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023**



**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 and register on our website: <https://www.stbernardnk.org/golf>

### When a loved one is approaching death.....

- + Call the pastor to administer the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. (this can be done any time we experience declining health, hospitaliza-tion, illness, etc.)
- + After your loved one's death you will contact the funeral home. The funeral director will call the church to arrange the day and time for the funeral. You will then be contacted by the parish for the planning of the Funeral Mass. (scripture readings, music, etc.)
- + As St. Bernard Church was so important to your loved one during this life, we are always so very grateful if you would consider listing 'St. Ber-nard Church' as a recipient of donations in your loved one's memory. We want our parish to re-main vibrant and healthy for generations to come.

### 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 greet-ing cards for them. Call the parish office. Thank you.



**Faith Formation**  
**It's Registration**  
**Time!!!!**

Check out our website:

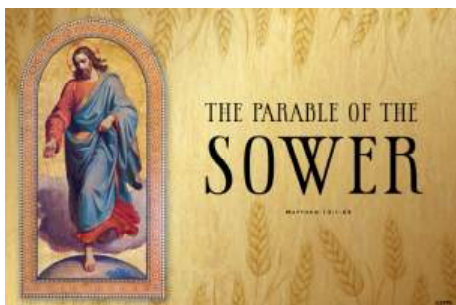
[www.stbernardnk.org](http://www.stbernardnk.org)

for all details about the changes to the program for this year. Please view Fr. Gaffney's introduction video and the informational slideshow first for an explanation of how the program will be running this year and then review the instructions on how to register your child. Also, registration and payment can be done on our website. Upon your review of the documents, should you have any questions, please contact the Faith Formation Office at 295-0387 or email at:

[sbcreligiouseducation@gmail.com](mailto:sbcreligiouseducation@gmail.com)

**Quo Vadis Days**

Attention all Catholic high school boys! Do you know where your life is going? The Lord Jesus has a great plan for you! You are invited to attend the Quo Vadis Days Camp to spend time with other young men your age looking at the Lord's call in your life while having fun. QVD is led by priests and seminarians of the Diocese of Providence and is supported by the Office of Vocations. QVD will be held from July 30th – August 2nd at the Seminary of Our Lady of Providence. The cost of the camp is \$25.00. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Brian Morris at (401) 331-1316 or email [rev.brian.morris@gmail.com](mailto:rev.brian.morris@gmail.com) or visit [CatholicPriest.com](http://CatholicPriest.com) for more information.



**Mission 150**

In 2024 St. Bernard Church will celebrate its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary-----the parish started as a “mission” of Our Lady of Mercy in 1874. There were, at that time, many Irish and French-Canadian mill workers in the area who were Catholic and desired to have Mass and the sacraments. The parish would like to mark this milestone anniversary with a few special events and celebrations. A planning committee will be formed during the summer months. If you would like to be a part of that planning committee, please contact the parish office.

**Sacraments of Initiation for Adults?**

Yes! Adults do receive the Sacraments of Initiation. On Pentecost Sunday four adults from the parish received Sacraments of Initiation: Hayden Almeida, Jennifer Horsfield, Thomas Wilkinson, and Timothy Schartner. Two of the adults were “received into the Church”---having been baptized in a different church. Both of them received Holy Communion for the first time as Catholics. All four of them received the sacrament of Confirmation. Each has had their own unique faith journey, which, through the prompting of the Holy Spirit---brought them to ask questions like these: “How do I become Catholic?” “How do I make my Confirmation?” “How do I prepare for Holy Communion?” If you are an adult and would like more information about receiving the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation)---contact Fr. Gaffney.



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