

Saint Bernard Church



September 10, 2023 Twenty-Third 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 from previous 'Ponderings' I try to keep you informed about 'Church News' that is not covered very much, if at all in print media, or on-line. You may not have known, for example, that Pope Francis just recently traveled to Mongolia for a three-day visit. The Holy See and Mongolia have had diplomatic contact since the 13th century but the presence of Christianity in this country has undergone many changes over the centuries and was practically eliminated altogether during the country's nearly 70-year Communist rule. With the fall of the Soviet Union in 1992, religious freedom was restored, and Catholic missionaries returned.

To this day, Mongolia is one of the Catholic Church's smallest flocks, composed of a few dozen foreign missionaries and around 1,450 Catholics. (on our parish official roster we have about that number of families registered at St. Bernard's). Pope Francis went to the capital, Ulaanbaatar from August 31-September 4. This marked his 43 international trip and the 61st country he has visited in his decade-long papacy.

A vast, nomadic territory, Mongolia is the third most sparsely populated country in the world, where livestock outnumber humans roughly 20-1. It occupies six different ecological zones which stand at the center of both European and Asian life.

During the first full day Pope Francis spent recovering from the 11-hour flight from Rome to Ulaanbaatar. He then met with local civil authorities as well as the country's missionaries and clergy. He presided over an interreligious event, celebrated Mass and inaugurated a new charitable center. The interfaith service was attended by representatives of the Islamic, Jewish, Buddhist, Mormon, Shamanist, Evangelical, Hindu and Sinto communities, among others. The Mass brought together approximately 2,500 people including Mongolia's 1,450 Catholics along with pilgrim groups from surrounding countries. These would include Russia, China, Hong Kong, Macau, Thailand, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan and other nearby countries. The missionaries in the country come from Belgium, the Congo, South Korea, the Philippines and Italy.

In one address the Holy Father said, "How can we fail to mention the diplomatic missions of the 13th century, and the apostolic care manifested by the appointment, around the year 1310 of John of Montecorvino as the first Bishop of Khanbalik, with responsibility for this entire vast region of the world under the Mongolian Yuan dynasty? He provided the first translation of the Psalms and the New Testament into Mongolian." Since 1992 missionary work has resumed in Mongolia. Pope Francis said, "In these thirty-one years of presence in Mongolia, you, dear priests, consecrated persons and pastoral workers, have embarked upon a wide variety of charitable initiatives, which absorb much of your energy and reflect the merciful face of Christ the Good Samaritan."

Pope Francis often makes reference to some local, unique cultural element in his presentations. He speaks about the 'ger'----the round hut that is still the home for many Mongolians. He says, "Upon entering a traditional ger, our gaze is directed upwards to the highest central point, where there is a round window open to the sky. I would like to emphasize the importance of this fundamental attitude that your tradition helps us to appreciate: the ability to keep our eyes fixed on high. Raising our eyes to heaven----the eternal blue sky you have always venerated---means persevering in an attitude of docile openness to religious teachings. A profound spiritual sensitivity belongs to the very fiber of your cultural identity, and it is proper that Mongolia should be a symbol of religious freedom. In the contemplation of boundless and sparsely settled horizons, your people have developed a refined spiritual sense, born of nurturing silence and interiority."

We belong to a 'universal Church'-----that stretches to the four corners of the world. Let us be proud of all those who have and continue to 'proclaim the Good News' at home and abroad.

--Fr. Gaffney



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, September 11

8:00 AM – *Angelo & Lois Imondi*

TUESDAY, September 12

8:00 AM – *Greyson Lee Toillion*

WEDNESDAY, September 13

8:00 AM – *Rocco Simeone*
by his family

THURSDAY, September 14

8:00 AM – *Bill Falvey*
by Mary Lynch

FRIDAY, September 15

8:00 AM – *Angelo & Vincenza Imondi*
by their family

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, September 16

5:00 PM – *Mark Tripp*
by his family

SUNDAY, September 17

7:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*

8:30 AM – *Thomas Orsi*

10:30 AM – *Margaret Gibbons*
by her family

CHOIR NEWS

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It's Time to Sing!!

Have you always liked to sing? Are you looking for a new way to worship at church? Please consider joining the Adult Choir. We are always looking for new members. Rehearsals are on

Thursdays at 6:45 PM

and will begin September 21st. No experience necessary, just your desire to sing! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to see our Music Director, Alison Shea or any choir member.

Senior Priest Retirement Fund

After decades of faithful service, many retired priests continue to serve where they are needed, while others require assisted living or nursing home care. Since priests are paid a very modest wage, they cannot rely upon Social Security to make ends meet. No longer able to rely upon parishes for basic living needs, senior priests depend upon support from this fund. Your generosity will make a difference in the lives of many who have served faithfully for many years in ministry – some of whom continue to serve well after their 'retirement'. At Masses on September 16-17, our parish will join others throughout the diocese in a special collection in support of the Senior Priest Retirement Fund. The collection is also our way of saying 'Thank You' for that service. Please consider a generous donation in support of our senior priests. To learn how this fund benefits senior priests or to make an online donation, please visit:

www.srpriestri.com

Thank you for your support of this worthy endeavor.

Worship 101

Finding More Meaning in the Mass (An Adult Faith Formation program). Our first meeting will be on Tuesday, September 26th at 7:00 p.m. in the parish center. Please call or e-mail the parish center to register.

Wedding Anniversary Celebration at the Cathedral

The Office of Marriage Preparation and Enrichment is hosting the annual Wedding Anniversary Celebration to honor couples of the Diocese of Providence who will be observing their 25th, 40th, 50th and OVER 50 years wedding anniversaries in 2023. The celebration will be held on Sunday, October 22, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul, Providence. It will include Mass, renewal of marriage vows, a personalized certificate for each couple and a reception for the couples and their families. Bishop Richard G. Henning will be the main celebrant and homilist. You must register with the parish by September 10. Please call the parish office or e-mail the parish office (sbc.pa@verizon.net) if you would like to attend this special celebration.

Parish Support

	August 27, 2023	2022
Basket	\$7,227.00	\$4,457.00
ACH	\$1,954.00	\$2,856.00
	September 3, 2023	2022
Basket	\$6,398.00	\$9,041.00
ACH	\$5,429.00	\$2,461.00
YTD	\$109,363.00	\$99,758.00

Debt Reduction Collection

August Total: \$3,050.00
Year-To-Date: \$28,429.00

Thank you for your generous response to this monthly collection!

Baby Bottle Boomerang

You will see empty baby bottles at each exit of the church (next weekend, September 16-17). Please take a bottle home and fill it with your spare coins -- cash or checks are also much appreciated -- and return the bottle to church next week or the weekend after. Collection bins will be located near each exit. Your generosity will help Right to Life Services, the charitable arm of the Rhode Island State Right to Life Committee, continue providing pregnancy tests and ultrasounds throughout Rhode Island in their Ancora Women's Mobile Care Center. Your contribution also helps to stock the shelves of their Maternity Hope Chest, which serves many hundreds of mothers who have courageously chosen LIFE but need a helping hand caring for their precious little ones, whether it be diapers and wipes, clothing and blankets, bassinets and strollers, and many other must have baby items. May the Good Lord bless you many times over for your generosity, which has enabled us to serve tens of thousands of moms for more than 50 years.

St Bernard Third Annual Golf Tournament

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>

Women's Bible Study

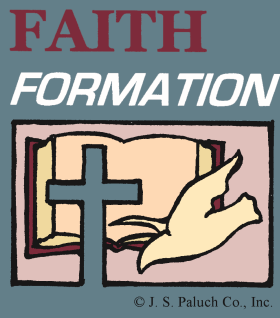
Touching The Divine - A Study of the Gospel of John by Walking With Purpose is a 22-week Catholic women's Bible study designed to bring ALL women together for authentic relationship and meaningful discussion around the Word of God.

Day session will meet each Wednesday starting October 4, from 9:30am - 12:00pm in the Parish Center. Refreshments are served weekly. All women and their friends are welcome. NO Bible experience is necessary! Sign ups are required so that workbooks can be pre-ordered for each woman.

A 6-week evening session could be available utilizing Living the the Father's Love by Walking with Purpose if enough women are interested. Mid October start date meeting from 6:30 - 8:00pm with choice of evening dependent upon the group's availability.

We are very excited! Please RSVP and/or share any questions with:
Mary Capobianco
(marykcapobianco@gmail.com) or Jean Martish
(jibbam2@aol.com)

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



Faith Formation
It's Registration
Time!!!!

Check out our website:

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

Grief Group

The schedule of meetings for the fall are:
 (Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30)

- September 12
- October 10
- November 21
- December 5

If anyone would like more information about the group, please see Fr. Gaffney.

Name Tag Sundays

From Labor Day weekend to Columbus Day weekend we will once again ask you get a name tag as you enter church. We will take a moment at the start of each of the masses to greet our neighbors. So often we recognize faces, but don't know the names of those who sit near us in the pews. The mantra goes: "See a Face, Learn a Name, Share a Story, Love Your Neighbor"!

RCIA

Any adults who may not have received one or more of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Holy Communion, Confirmation) and would like to prepare to receive the sacrament(s)-----please contact the parish office. The first class is September, 26 at 7:00 PM.

Morning Glory Gathering

Please join us for coffee and socializing on
Thursday, September 14
 after the 8:00 AM morning Mass in the Parish Hall.



Maui Relief

For those who would like to donate to help the victims of the wildfires in Maui, the diocese recommends: www.catholiccharitiesusa.org. There is specific tab on this site to contribute to the people of Maui.

Young at Heart September Luncheon

Monday September 25, 2023 (sign in at 11:30 AM)

Menu: TBA

Name (s) _____

Cost: \$15.00 per person. (Please make out checks payable to St. Bernard)
 Please respond by Monday September 18, 2023.

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