

Saint Bernard Church



September 24, 2023 Twenty-Fifth 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 a new year of “Faith Formation” begins I thought it appropriate to focus this column on the theme of ‘family’. The first part is about an article I read that spoke about the benefits of families attending church services together. The second part is about an extraordinary family that was recently beatified by Pope Francis.

Part 1: The benefits of coming to church as a family. Some of these might seem like ‘common sense’ ideas---and they may be, and perhaps they are not so common in our present culture. (1) Lowered Risk Factors. Reviews indicate that kids from religious backgrounds are less likely to be involved in violence, theft and vandalism or to struggle with substance abuse problems than their peers. (2) Talking Points That Facilitate Conversation. Being active in your church provides a wealth of ‘talking points’, helping families facilitate conversations and strengthen family bonds. (3) Instilling a Moral Compass. Our church provides guidance on how to live, how to make choices, how to grow in virtue---think of the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes. (4) Creating An Extended Support Network. You will find in church many ‘like-minded’ families---those who have the same beliefs and spiritual goals for their family. This can be a source of support and encouragement. (5) Decreased Likelihood of Developmental Problems. One study has suggested that religious participation by families is associated with a lowered risk of developmental and behavioral problems in school-aged children. (6) Establishing A Routine. Young people need a routine to thrive. It can provide a structure and sense of security and a way to understand the world around them. (7) Creating Your Own Traditions of Togetherness. Lots of families create traditions surrounding church services. Some families go out for breakfast or lunch after Mass. Some have special dinners together. (8) Exposure To Music. Young people are exposed to a whole genre of music that might not immediately be available to them from other sources. Engagement in vocal or instrumental music in church, according to one study, will result in their outscoring their peers in standardized tests. (9) Teaching Kids Organizational and Social Skills. Faith formation classes help young people develop social skills and organizational skills that will transfer to other parts of their life. (10) Church Activities Can Help Kids Learn Compassion. Our young people will learn the importance of helping the poor and needy. We regularly collect food for the poor as well as ‘used clothing’ and other needs----supplies for babies, etc. All of these efforts are a witness to our concern for the less fortunate.

Of course, the chief benefit of coming to church as a family---or for anyone coming to church is that we encounter our Living God-----in his Word and in the Eucharist. The celebration of Mass is the premier activity of our faith lives. We encourage our families to come to Mass each and every week of the year!

Part 2. I was reading about a recent Beatification ceremony----that is unique and involves a family. A mother, father and seven small children were beatified as martyrs---for risking their lives to save a Jewish family during World War II. Jozef and Wiktoria Ulma and their seven children were models of ‘evangelical love’, Pope Francis said. The entire family was exterminated by the Nazis on March 24, 1944, for sheltering some Jews who were being persecuted. The Ulma family eight guests, Saul Goldman and his sons, Baruch, Mechel, Joachim and Moses as well as Golda Grunfeld and her sister Lea Didner and young daughter Reshla, also were executed. Pope Francis prayed that “this Polish family, which represented a ray of light in the darkness of World War II, would be for all of us a model to imitate in striving for goodness and in the service of those in need.” Only six of the beatified children were mentioned at the Mass: Stanislaw, Barbara, Wladyslaw, Franciszek, Antoni and Maria. The Dicastery for the Causes of Saints said the seventh child was born during the massacre. “Without ever having uttered a word, today the little blessed cries out to the modern world to welcome, love and protect life, especially that of the defenseless and marginalized...”

Let us encourage and support our young families-----as they continue to help them grow in their knowledge and love of God-----and support them in coming to Mass together.

--Fr. Gaffney



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, September 25

8:00 AM – *Dolly Absi & Domenic Columbo*
by their sister

TUESDAY, September 26

8:00 AM – *Anne Delaney*

WEDNESDAY, September 27

8:00 AM – *Edna Gillen*

THURSDAY, September 28

8:00 AM – *Carmela Simeone*
by her family

FRIDAY, September 29

8:00 AM – *Holy Souls of Purgatory*

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, September 30

5:00 PM – *Julia Buckley*
by her family

SUNDAY, October 1

7:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*

8:30 AM – *Regina Chamberlain*
1st Anniversary by her family

10:30 AM – *Felicisimo Fuentes, Jr.*
by his family

Chesterton Academy

You are cordially invited to Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope's First Annual Gala! This fundraising Dinner will be hosted on Saturday, October 14, 2023 at the Crown Plaza in Warwick, RI. The evening begins at 5:00 pm with cocktails and a silent auction. Dinner and program will follow at 6:00 PM. To purchase tickets please visit

www.chestertonri.org/gala



Senior Priest Retirement Fund

Last Week's special collection was for the Senior Priest Retirement Fund. If you did not make a donation and would like to support this effort that provides critical resources for priests in their retirement years, please visit:

www.srpriestri.com

to make an online donation using a secure server or mail your offering to:

Sr. Priest Retirement Fund
Office of Stewardship & Development
1 Cathedral Square
Providence, RI 02903

Thank You for your support of this critical effort to provide for senior priests in their retirement years—years many priests continue to spend very active in ministry.

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.

Grief Group

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

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"!

Parish Support

September 10, 2023 2022

Basket	\$9,922.00	\$9,121.00
ACH	\$4,724.00	\$2,260.00

September 17, 2023 2022

Basket	\$8,209.00	\$5,230.00
ACH	\$3,149.00	\$2,822.00

YTD	\$125,762.00	\$119,191.00
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Remember St. Bernard Church in your will and estate planning. Thank you.

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.

Baby Bottle Boomerang

You will see empty baby bottles at each exit of the church. 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. Please make checks payable to:
Right to Life Services

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>

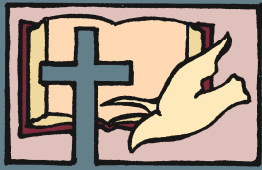
K of C: Silver Rose



The Knights of Columbus Council 2011 of North Kingstown will be hosting the Silver Rose on Tuesday, September 26th at 7:00 P.M. right here at St. Bernard's. All members of the parish are welcome to attend. The Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose has been a Knights of Columbus tradition for 58 years. In 1960, groups of Columbian Squires in Mexico, Canada and the United States decided to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe by carrying a rose across North America from Canada to the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Monterrey, Mexico. In recent years the program has expanded to eight silver roses traveling the western, central, and eastern corridors of North America, with Knights of Columbus from Canada to Mexico carrying the roses from destination to destination, and finally to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Monterrey, Mexico. Every stop along the route of the Silver Rose Pilgrimage is an occasion for prayer and spiritual renewal centered on the rosary. English, French and Spanish booklets containing recommended prayers, scripture readings and a litany accompany the Silver Rose.

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

FAITH FORMATION



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Faith Formation **CLASSES HAVE** **BEGUN!!**

If you have not registered your child for classes, registration and payment can be done on our website:

www.stbernardnk.org.

If you have any questions, please contact the Faith Formation Office at

sbcreligiouseducation@gmail.com or 295-0387

For all details about the changes to the program for this year visit our website. Please view Fr. Gaffney's introduction video and the informational slideshow first for an explanation of how the program will be running this year.

Halloween Fun Bags



On the weekends of October 21st/22nd and October 28th/29th we will be selling Halloween fun bags to support our next Steubenville East Trip. Each bag will include some candy, a craft, games, and other assorted Halloween themed

items. Each bag is a suggested donation of \$10, and is geared towards children in Preschool-Elementary school.

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.

Teen Life Ministry

St. Bernard, together with St. Francis de Sales Parish, is offering a new program called Teen Life Ministry. This ministry is open to any current middle school or high school student. This will be an opportunity for local teens to socialize, share their Faith, and get involved in community service. The ministry will meet once a month throughout the school year on a Friday or Sunday evening. Meetings will be held at either St. Bernard's or St. Francis de Sales on a rotating basis. This will be an uplifting and fun ministry. No commitment is necessary. To sign up, or for more information, please contact Christina Pichette at

sbc.teenff@gmail.com

The next Teen Life Ministry gathering will take place here at St. Bernard's parish center on Friday, October 13th from 6PM-7:30PM. For a list of all the upcoming dates, please refer to our website.

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
ijbbam2@aol.com

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