

**St. Bernard Church
275 Tower Hill Road
North Kingstown, R. I.**

A Stewardship Parish

**The Third Sunday in Lent
March 19, 2017**

Rev. John E. Unsworth, Pastor
Rev. Charles Maher, Weekend Assistant

Pastoral Assistant: Angelo Giacchi
Administrative Assistant: Michael Saunders
Elementary Faith Formation: Dawn Masterson
Rel. Ed. Office Manager: Deborah Fortin
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

Parish Center: 275 Tower Hill Road
North Kingstown, RI 02852

Phone #: 295-0387

E-mail: ParishCenter@SBCWickford.org

Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 AM ~ 4:00 PM

Please visit us on the web:
<http://www.SBCWickford.org>

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.

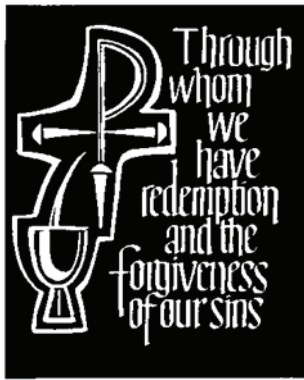
Holy Orders: Tel: 401-831-8011
www.catholicpriest.com

Project Rachel: Post abortion counseling
Tel: 401-421-7833, ext. 118

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:00 PM ~ 4:30 PM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:
Following Tuesday's 8:00 AM Mass
until 11:30 AM

Family Faith Formation Program:
This family based program provides parishioners of all ages opportunities for learning, growing and living our Faith through common experiences, age-specific learning and interactive sharing and is designed for families with children in grades 1 through 7. Our Confirmation Program accepts students in grades 8 and 9, but any high school student is welcome. For information contact sbc.reled@verizon.net.



Third Week OF LENT

I can remember when people who had not been to confession for many years would come to the priest with a long list of sins. Today, however, when those who have been away for 10 or more years come to confession, they are likely to say something like, “Well, I’ve done a few things, but I’ve tried to be a pretty good person.” It presents a problem for us priests when people say they have nothing to confess. We learned from our Catechism that neither Jesus nor Mary ever sinned, but it seems that modern folks think they too have remained sinless!

Perhaps this is one of the reasons why today’s confessional lines on Saturday afternoons are so short. Even Saint John Paul II once lamented, “...*we have lost the sense that we all sin daily.*”

Young people are startled when I tell them that when I was their age I went to confession every week. I always found that the more often I went to confession, the more I was aware of my sinfulness. So, why do good people need to go to confession regularly? Perhaps we need to discover that we are sinners. Put simply, the sacrament of Penance provides an occasion for us to discover the deep truth that we are all sinners. A theologian named Edward Vacek, S.J. once said: “*Put paradoxically, confession makes us sinners and Penance is the sacrament of honesty.*”

Very often we are guilty of self-deception when we sin. We convince ourselves that our mistakes and wrong doing (sin) is acceptable because *a)* everyone else is doing it, *b)* we did it without thinking, and therefore didn’t realize we were doing it, or *c)* we simply don’t believe that what we did was wrong at all even though the Law of God says it is wrong.

To overcome our self-deception we really need Confession. We should want to confess our sins because in this sacrament God says “I don’t care what you’ve done, I will forgive it.” It is to our advantage to face up to our sins and be honest. The Sacrament of Penance is a call to accountability. Whenever we examine our conscience we are calling ourselves to accountability and, in doing so, we are growing in our understanding of who we are. The Sacrament of Penance allows us to “take count” of our life and our responsibilities and it makes us honest about ourselves.

Don’t let this Lent go by without giving yourself a chance to find out who you are. Be honest about your sins and discover how liberating God’s forgiveness can really be. Do yourself a favor, stop thinking of yourself as sinless and start confessing.

This year I have decided to offer Confessions more frequently so that people will find a convenient time to celebrate this Sacrament of Healing and Forgiveness. I will be in the Church, hearing Confessions next Saturday, March 25th from 11 AM until 1 PM and from 3 PM until 4:30 PM. Then again on Monday, March 27th in the late afternoon from 5 PM until 7 PM. Our neighboring Parishes are doing the same and we will publish their schedules when we receive them. St. Veronica Chapel in Narragansett will have All Day Confessions on Friday, March 24th from 9 AM until 2 PM.

Fr. Jack



2017 CATHOLIC
CHARITY APPEAL

Today we begin the Annual Catholic Charity Fund Appeal in our Parish. The Charity Appeal is the main source of support for our diocesan agencies providing for the physical, educational and spiritual needs of Rhode Islanders each year. Some of our parishioners have already responded to a personal appeal directly from Bishop Tobin, and soon we will make the general appeal to the entire Parish. With your help we are sure to reach our parish goal of \$90,000 this year.

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, March 20:

8:00 AM – *Ed Cooney*
by his family

TUESDAY, March 21:

8:00 AM – *Robert Melanson*
by his family

WEDNESDAY, March 22

8:00 AM – *The Deceased of the Parish*

THURSDAY, March 23:

8:00 AM – *The Deceased of the Parish*

FRIDAY, March 24:

8:00 AM – *Mary Quinn*

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, March 25:

5:00 PM – *Ricky Santos*
by his family

SUNDAY, March 26:

7:00 AM - *Maj. Robert Motherway*
by his wife Maureen

8:30 AM - *Catherine Storti*
by her husband

10:30 AM – *Kathleen Asher*
by her family

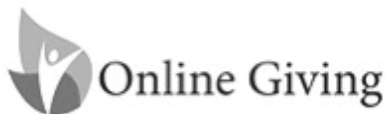
Upcoming Meetings		
Sun 3/19	Grades 6 & 7 (Pre-Confirmation) Grades 8 & 9 (Confirmation 1&2) Youth Mass	5:00 PM 5:00 PM 6:30 PM
Mon 3/20	Adult Choir, Parish Center	6:45 PM
Wed 3/22	Lenten Soup Lunch, Parish Hall Children's Choir, Parish Center	12:00 PM 5:30 PM
Fri 3/24	Lenten Bible Study, Parish Center Stations of the Cross, Church	9:00 AM 5:00 PM
Sat 3/25	Confessions, Church: 11 AM– 1 PM And 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM	

ANNUAL COAT DRIVE

Please drop off your **GOOD, USED COATS** at the Church or Parish Office to be distributed to those in need. For more information or to help, please contact us at ParshCenter@SBCWickford.org or 295-0387.

The N. K. Food Pantry

The Pantry needs juice boxes, granola/nutrition bars, tuna, jelly, mayonnaise, ketchup, relish, coffee, crackers, juice, cereal and hygiene products. Drop off your donations in the entry-way of Church.



We offer an online option that complements our offering envelope use. By signing up to give your weekly offertory and special collections online, you will help the parish more accurately forecast our finances and plan more strategically. Online Giving is a safe, secure and dependable means of income for the parish. Visit SBCWickford.org, click on "Support your Parish" and follow the link to OSV, Online Giving.

PARISH SUPPORT		
	Mar 12, 2017	2016
Basket	\$7,469.50	\$7,440.00
On Line Giving	\$1,124.50	\$1,270.50
	Mar 5 2017	2016
Basket	\$8,551.50	\$9,108.50
On Line Giving	\$1,287.50	\$1,213.50

Announcements

Interested in World Youth Day 2019?

Join us for a **preliminary meeting to gauge interest and discuss possible travel options for the Diocesan Pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Panama, January 22-27, 2019**

How about taking a cruise ship with Bishop Frank Caggiano and other pilgrims from around the country?

We will be meeting at the Diocesan Chancery Building

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

6:30 PM

One Cathedral Square

Providence Rhode Island, 02903

Young adults, priests, deacons, religious, youth ministers, catechists, parents, interested youth, and anyone who would like to listen and contribute are welcome. Sponsored by the Diocese of Providence Young Adult Ministry and Office of Youth Ministry. For more information please contact Michael Aoyama at mjpaoyama@dioceseofprovidence.org.

Music Ministry Rehearsal Schedule

Children's Choir: Wednesdays at 5:30 pm.
Teen Choir: Wednesdays at 6:30 pm.
Adult Choir: Thursdays at 6:45 pm

If you would like more information on any of the choirs, see Alison after Mass or email Alison at alison.shea72@gmail.com

Bible Summer Camp

(June 26 - June 30, 2017)

A weeklong, half day camp hosted at St. Bernard Church for Students entering grade K-5 in the fall of 2017. The theme is Maker

Fun Factory - Created by God, Built for a purpose. There will be a variety of activities including, games, story time, crafts and snack time. More details and registration information will be announced in April. Adult volunteers are needed as "Station Leaders" and High School Students are needed as 'Crew Leaders". If you are interested please contact the Faith Formation Office at 295-0387 or sbc.reled@verizon.net as soon as possible.



Lenten Bible Study

During the Season of Lent, Fr. Unsworth will lead a 4-week study entitled, "*The Gift of Mary*". This study is in conjunction with the "Year of Mary" promulgated by Bishop Tobin for the 2017.

In this bible study we will examine the understanding and the role of Mary in the Church as seen in the Scriptures with a special emphasis on *Mary, the Mother of Sorrows*. We will see the many ways that Mary helps us to better understand the saving message of her Son, Jesus. Sessions will continue on Fridays in Lent on **March 24 and March 31**. Sessions will be held in the Parish Center Meeting Room from **9 AM until 10:30 AM**. All are welcome.

Soup and Spirit Lenten Lunches:

12:00 – 1:00 PM

The Churches: Then and Now
Based on the Seven Churches in the
Book of Revelation

March 22nd at St Bernard's
275 Tower Hill
Rev. Jack Unsworth

Lenten Fast and Abstinence Regulations

A gentle reminder that Church law requires abstinence from meat, meat soups or other dishes made from meat (for those 14 and older) on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent. In addition, Good Friday is a fast day. Adults between the ages of 18 and 59 should eat less: that means, take no solid food between meals and only one meal that day should be a full one. Those with special health restrictions should always follow their doctor's advice before fasting.

FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM
SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION
SAVE THE DATES!

Weather related Class Cancellations!

Please log on to www.turonto10.com
or check the local TV/Radio Channels for updates

First Communion 1:

Next class, April 1st, from 9:00-11:00 AM
in the Parish Center

First Communion 2:

First Communion Retreat: Sunday April 2, 1-4 PM
in the Parish Center.

Middle Grades-3, 4, 5 (Post First Communion)

Next Class Sunday April 2nd, begins with
the 8:30 AM Monthly Children's Mass (all stu-
dents must attend this Mass). Immediately follow-
ing the Mass, class will be held in the Parish Cen-
ter from 9:30-11:00 AM

Grades 6 & 7 (Pre-Confirmation)

Confirmation 1 & 2-Grades 8 & 9

Next Class: April 19 at 5:00 PM in the Parish Cen-
ter followed by a Youth Mass at 6:30 PM.

(All students must attend this Mass)

Reminder: Confirmation Candidates are re-
quired to sign in to record their attendance at
weekly Mass in the book located in the gathering
space. If you attend Mass at a different church,
please return a signed bulletin to the Parish Center
on a regular basis.

St. Bernard Scholarship Fund

Applications are now available on the Parish web
site and at the Parish Office for graduating high
school seniors of the Parish. Eight \$1,250 scholar-
ships will be awarded in June 2017. To be consid-
ered, completed applications must be returned by
April 15, 2017.

Men's Conference

Roman Catholic Diocese of Providence

**"Are You in a Battle? Draw Your Strength from
the Lord"**

Saturday, April 29, 2017

8:30 AM to 3:00 PM

Keynote Speakers: Ken Yasinski and Fr. Matthew
Williams

The day begins with Holy Mass celebrated by Bish-
op Thomas J. Tobin and will include inspiring talks,
live music, prayer, morning coffee, and lunch car-
tered by Venda Ravioli. The Men's Conference will
be held at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul and
McVinney Auditorium. For more information and to
register, please visit [discovercatholicfaith.org/mens-
conference](http://discovercatholicfaith.org/mens-conference), or call the Diocesan Office of Faith For-
mation at 401-278-4646. Deadline to register is
April 22nd.

Start Collecting your Junk!

Join us for the 2nd Saint Bernard Church / The Hai-
tian Project **Yardsale Fundraiser!**

When: Saturday April 29, 2017 @ 9am-1pm

Where: Parish Center

Gently-used or new household items donated by pa-
rishioners will be collected and sold. Donations may
be dropped off beginning on March 1. Collection
containers will be placed in the gathering space at the
entrance of the church. **Please contact Zach Overly with
any questions. Phone: (401) 400-9038 Email: zover-
ly36@gmail.com**



Sunday Community Dinners

The Sunday Community Dinners are held at 1st Baptist
Church of Wickford, 44 Main Street. Dinners are served
at 12:30 p.m. (new start time) and are open to all,
FREE. St. Bernard's will be providing the meal today
March 19. If you would like to help, please call Chris
Kosak at 294-2885 or the Parish Center at 295-0387.