

Saint Bernard Church



December 17, 2017 Third Sunday of Advent

Rev. John E. Unsworth, Pastor
Rev. Charles Maher, Weekend Assistant
Rev. Albino Barrera, OP, 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

Address: 275 Tower Hill Road
North Kingstown, RI 02852
Phone : 401-295-0387
E-mail: sbc.bus@verizon.net
Web: www.stbernardnk.org
Hours: Monday - Thursday
9:00 AM ~ 4:00 PM

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

Eucharistic 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.



Coming Home to the Manger

At this point in the season of Advent, many families are going through all the stored Christmas decorations to find the old family Manger Scene. Here is some information you might want to share with your family to make the Manger in your home a more special and holy place this year.

Tradition credits St. Francis of Assisi with creating and popularizing the manger scene. Many homes display a manger scene during the Advent and Christmas seasons. Making the Manger a focus of family prayer makes it into more than just another holiday decoration.

During the early part of Advent, set aside time when family members can set up the Manger together. As you take out each of the figures, explain their role in preparing for the welcoming of the Christ Child. Be sure to leave the crib empty, waiting until Christmas Eve to place the child Jesus there. The empty crib will serve as a reminder that we are still waiting for the coming of Jesus. You may also want to wait until Christmas to display the Wise Men, or you could place them on the other side of the room, then, move them closer to the crib as the Feast of Epiphany approaches.

Our parish too has a Manger Scene, or should I say, three Manger Scenes. In addition to the beautiful and warmly inspiring scene inside the Church we also have one outside at the front entrance to the church and now a Manger in the Parish Hall. This newest Manger is really the oldest. Many years ago it was used in the Old church and has not been seen in nearly 20 years. Stop by and see it, there are many memories there.

Finally, there is an old Christian custom whereby children place a piece of straw in the manger every time they do a good deed. The straws of their good deeds will soften the bed where the newborn baby Jesus lies.

A blessed and happy Christmas to all.



A Family Prayer before the Manger

Loving God, as we stand before this manger, help us to make a place for Your Son in our home and in our hearts. Help us to welcome Him by being kind to one another and reaching out to those who need us. May we make a fitting home for Him, who has prepared a home for us in His Eternal Kingdom. We thank You for the great gift of Jesus, in whose name we pray. AMEN.



Christmas Mass Schedule

Please make a note that, because Christmas falls on a Monday, the Sunday Morning Masses on Christmas Eve are the Mass for the 4th Sunday of Advent. Attendance at the morning Mass fulfills the Sunday Obligation, but is not a Christmas Mass. In other words, you are asked to attend Mass twice, on Saturday or Sunday morning for the Sunday Mass and on Sunday evening or Monday morning for the Christmas Mass.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES, December 24th

- 4:00 PM - Family Liturgy
- 6:00 PM - Christmas Eve Mass
- 10:00 PM - Traditional Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY, December 25th

- 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, Decemebr 18:

8:00 AM – **Charles Kerr**
by *Daniel & Madeleine O’Leary*

TUESDAY, December 19:

8:00 AM – **Fenwick Gardiner**
by *his family*

WEDNESDAY, December 20:

8:00 AM – **Paul McAdams**
by *his wife*

THURSDAY, December 21:

8:00 AM – **Thomas Dilick, Sr.**
24th Anniversary by his wife

FRIDAY December 22:

8:00 AM – **Fenwick Gardiner**
by *his family*

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, December 23

5:00 PM – **Kevin Chamberlain**
by *his family*

SUNDAY, December 24:

7:00 AM - **Deceased Members of Nikitas & Welch Families**
by *their families*

8:30 AM - **Kathleen Asher**
by *her family*

10:30 AM – **Domenick Conetta**
by *his family and friends*

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM: **Deceased of the Parish**
6:00 PM: **Deceased of the Parish**
10:00 PM: **Deceased of the Parish**

Christmas Day

8:30 AM: **Deceased of the Parish**
10:30 AM: **Deceased of the Parish**

ANNUAL COLLECTION

This past week a copy of the Annual Parish Financial Report was mailed to all of our active parishioners along with an appeal for our **Annual Collection**. This is the single most important collection of the year because it helps us meet the many needs we have which are not funded by the regular Sunday Collections. Please be as generous as your means allow, and we ask in a special way that those who do not contribute regularly to the support of the parish might consider using this as an opportunity to make at least one annual gift to your parish and donations will be accepted until December 31st. A more detailed version of the Finance Report is available on the Parish Web Site and you are always welcome to call the office with any questions you might have.



St. Bernard’s Family **Christmas Party**

TODAY, December 17th from
4 PM to 7 PM in the Parish Hall

Our Parish Community Outreach Committee is sponsoring a **Parish Family Christmas Party** on Sunday, **December 17th from 4 to 7 PM in the Parish Hall**. Entrance is free and we are inviting all the members of our Parish Family, young and “older”. There will be a variety of activities for all ages including a Christmas Carol Sing-along, Gift Basket Raffles, Cookie Decorating, plenty of refreshments and a “Secret Santa Shop” for the kids. We will also have a **Visit From Santa** at 5:15 PM and he will stay to talk to the kids who want to meet with him. Plan to spend at least part of that evening with us so that our Parish Family can celebrate together these great days of Christmas Cheer.



Bring your Christmas Treats to the Party!

If you are planning to join us for the Parish Family Christmas Party, we would love to have you bring with you some of your favorite home-made Christmas Cookies and other treats to share with us. It will be a wonderful exchange of the very best Holiday Cookies in Town.

Announcements

<u>Upcoming Meetings</u>		
Sun 12/17	Family Christmas Party , Parish Center	4:00 PM
Tue 12/19	Children's Mass Rehearsal , Church	6:00 PM
Wed 12/20	Children Choir , Large Meeting Room	5:30 PM
	Teen Choir , Large Conference Room	6:15 PM
Thu 12/21	Adult Choir Large Conference Room	6:45 PM



FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS

We are accepting donations for flowers to decorate the Altar for Christmas. Donations may be made in memory of loved ones. The names of the deceased will be published within the next few weeks.



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 the Parish Office at 295-0387.

Parish Support

	<u>December 3, 2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Basket	\$8,859.00	\$9,248.50
ACH	\$1,913.00	\$1,927.50
	<u>December 10, 2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Basket	\$6,247.50	\$7,845.50
ACH	\$2,438.00	\$2,260.50
YTD	\$225,984.00	\$222,075.47



Holiday Food Drive

The Holidays are a time of plenty for some and a time of need for others. Let us remember those who do not have enough and who struggle to feed their families during these festive days. Please bring to Church non-perishable food items so that we can share them with those in need. All donations will help support the North Kingstown Food Pantry.

2018 March for Life

The Office of Life and Family Ministry will be sponsoring a bus trip to Washington, DC for the Annual March for Life and the 45th Anniversary of the Supreme Court decision to legalize abortion. The cost for the overnight ride is \$83.00 per person and will leave RI on Thursday, January 18th. This year's trip will take us to the Capital One Arena for the Youth rally and Mass. There will be confession, Rosary, popular Catholic recording artists, presentations and a Mass for Life. For more information and to register, call Carol Owens at 401-421-7833 x 218. Registration and payment must be received by January 10, 2018.

Emmanuel House Homeless Shelter

We are always in need of **new socks, bath towels, and backpacks, twin-sized bedding, hats, gloves, and cans of coffee, etc.** Drop off items at the Parish Center or contact the office at 295-0387 for more information.

Faith Formation Program
SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Weather related Class Cancellations!

Please log on to www.turnto10.com, the local TV/
Radio Channels and our website
www.stbernardnk.org for updates

Religious Education Schedules

First Communion 1 & 2: (Grades 1 & 2)

Next Class: January 6th 9:00am - 11:00am in the Parish Center (8:45am arrival time)

Grades 3,4,5:

Next Class: January 7th
8:30am-Children's Mass-9:30-11:30am Class in the Parish Center

Grades 6 & 7 & Confirmation 1 & 2: Grades 8 & 9

Next Class: January 28th
5pm in the Parish Center. Concluding with a Mass at 6:30pm which all students must attend.

Reminder: Confirmation Candidates are asked 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.

Christmas Vigil Mass



**Christmas Eve
Children's Mass**
with a special program for the
children
December 24, 2017 at 4pm

For those children who have been assigned a role in the children's program:
There will be a REHEARSAL
on Tuesday Dec. 19 at 6:00 pm in the Church.
We will be fitting costumes, rehearsing parts, and practicing the readings.
Please arrive on time.



Thank You for fulfilling a gift tag. Due to the time it takes Santa's elves to sort, check, bag and distribute the gifts, we ask that you wrap or bag the gift, attach the tag and return it to the Church by December 18, unless otherwise noted on the tag. For some individuals it will be their only gift so we need time to process them well before Christmas. If you find you cannot, for any reason, fulfill your item, please return the tag to the tree or the Parish Office as soon as possible.

Advent Reflection

Rev. Joseph Creedon, Parish Priest Emeritus of Christ the King Parish, Kingston, RI has written: "Advent 2017- Will it Be a Carousel that Goes Round and Round or a Faith Experience that Goes Deeper and Deeper?" These daily reflections are available at: <https://adventreflection.wordpress.com>

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children between the ages of 4 and 11 are welcome to join us each week for the Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 10:30 Mass. Children are dismissed to the Gathering Space for the readings and a "child friendly" homily. They return to their families at collection.

