

# Saint Bernard Church



## August 19, 2018 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

**Pastoral Assistant:** Angelo Giacchi  
**Administrative Assistant:** Michael Saunders  
**Elementary Faith Formation:** Dawn Masterson  
**Youth Faith Formation:** Christina Pichette  
**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](mailto:sbc.bus@verizon.net)  
**Web:** [www.stbernardnk.org](http://www.stbernardnk.org)  
**Hours:** Monday - Wednesday  
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
Thursday 9:00 AM - 12:00 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](http://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

Our programs provides parishioners of all ages opportunities for learning, growing and living our Faith through common experiences, age-specific learning and interactive sharing. Our First Communion program is designed for children in grades 1 and 2. The Elementary program is for children in grades 3 through 5. The Pre-Confirmation Program is for students in grades 6 and 7. The Confirmation program is for students in grades 8 and 9, but any high school student is welcome. There are also Adult programs available. Please call the Parish Center for information regarding any of our programs.



## ***THE CHURCH AND CAPITAL PUNISHMENT***

I am sure you have heard on the news this past week that Pope Francis has issued an adjustment to Article 2267 of the official *Catechism Of The Catholic Church* concerning the Church's teaching on the issue of Capital Punishment. This is really not a change as such, but now, after a long period of study and reflection, the issue has been clarified and reformulated. In the past the Church stated that "*the death penalty may be, in some rare cases, expedient because of the need for society to protect people from murderers*". It now has become clear that almost every nation on earth has the means to incarcerate murderers effectively. Society can protect the people at large from extreme acts of violence without resorting to execution for capital crimes. The new wording in the Catechism now states, "*the death penalty is inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person.*"

Going back as far as Pope Pius XII in the 1950's, after a long a brutal war that saw millions of people put to death in Nazi death camps and in the War Trials and executions that followed, the Church has sought to reconcile our belief in the sacredness of all human life and the death penalty. All popes since Pope John XXIII (1958) have condemned the death penalty as a violation of the dignity of a human person. The United States remains one of the few countries on earth that still executes criminals and so this issue is of particular concern for us.

There are some Christians who believe that because the Bible does not condemn capital punishment, but rather saw it practiced in ancient Israel, we should not condemn it either. After all it is a behavior found in the Bible. The Catholic Church has never taken the Bible that literally. In ancient times the death penalty was seen as a necessary deterrent for those who threatened society with violence. After all there were no local police forces, no prisons and no army/militia to protect the ordinary citizens. Justice was handed out violently and swiftly. The Bible speaks more powerfully about God's love for His people and how He wishes them to live together in peace.

We see what St. John Paul called "*The Gospel of Life*" as a seamless robe extending from the first moments of conception through to the natural death of a person. While the Church's moral teachings place a strong emphasis on the protection of the unborn we should see this protection extending to the whole of the rest of life prohibiting euthanasia and capital punishment.

There are some other concerns regarding capital punishment we should consider as well. First there is the risk of error. Recently there have been some cases where people on death row were found innocent years after being condemned to death because of new DNA evidence. We may have a very advanced judicial system in this country, but it is never completely free from error. We have no way of knowing how many innocent people have been executed in the past because of this. The other issue is the reality that an execution, even if it is done in a "humane" way, is the extinction of a human life. Being removed from society and imprisoned for life is punishment enough and also provides the criminal an opportunity to repent and seek God's mercy. We should all be deeply concerned that justice systems worldwide should focus on repentance and rehabilitation rather than retribution and revenge.

*Fr. Jack*



## Mass Intentions

**MONDAY, August 20: Feast of St Bernard**

8:00 AM – *Maria Luz Cruz*  
by her family

**TUESDAY, August 21:**

8:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*

**WEDNESDAY, August 22**

8:00 AM – *Nicholas Decarlo*

**THURSDAY, August 23**

8:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*

**FRIDAY, August 24**

8:00 AM – *Catherine & Melvin Sherman*  
by their grandchildren

**WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

**SATURDAY, August 25**

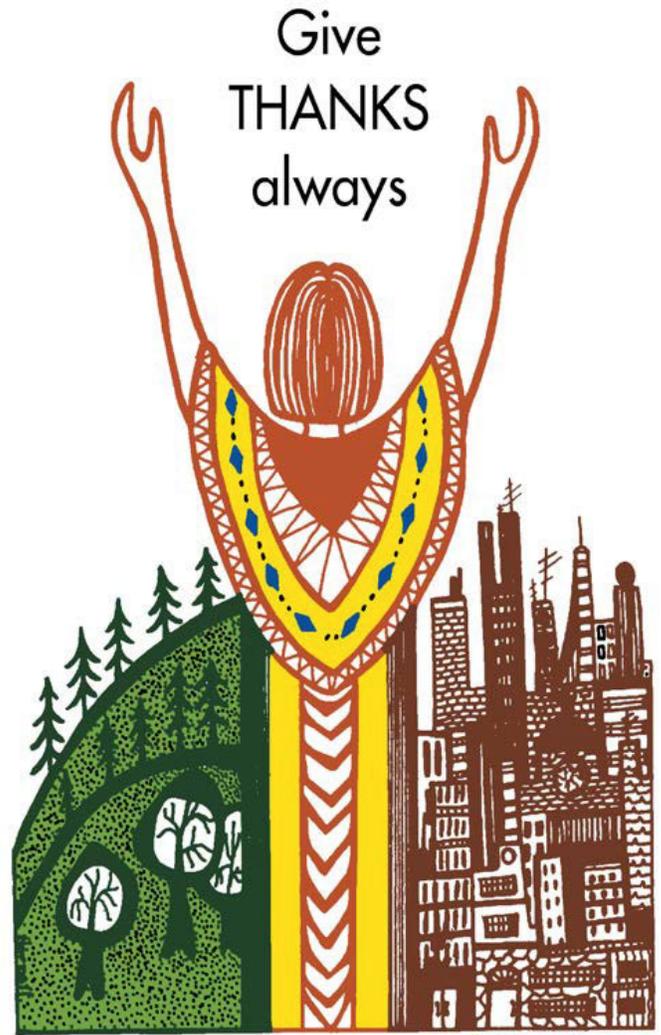
5:00 PM – *Claire & Bernard Sherman*  
by their family

**SUNDAY, August 26**

7:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*  
by his family

8:30 AM – *Lawrence O’Connell*  
by his family

10:30 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*



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## Children’s Liturgy Of the Word (CLOW) WE NEED YOUR HELP!



Our Children’s Liturgy Of The Word is taking a break until **September 9th**.

Over the years many wonderful and generous teachers have helped us to coordinate and teach in this program which provides a Special Liturgy of the Word for young children at the 10:30AM Mass. This 20 minute program each week has a guide and outline for teachers to follow. However, recently many of our volunteer teachers have expressed a desire to “move on” and we are grateful for their help. This leaves us, however, with too few teachers to continue the program. We are looking for a few teachers and a Master Teacher to help us get this program going again in the Fall. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact the Religious Education Office at [sbc.reled@verizon.net](mailto:sbc.reled@verizon.net) or call 295-0387 ask for Deb Fortin.

## Announcements

<u>Upcoming Meetings</u>		
<b>Wed 8/22</b>	<b>Men of St. Joseph, Small Conference Room</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>



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### Treasures from Our Tradition

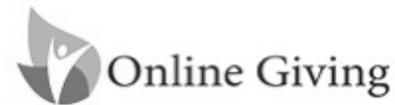
Sometimes the heat of summer translates into unrest in a city's streets. In the summer of 1834, popular sentiment against the presence of the Ursuline nuns near Boston reached a boiling point. An influx of Irish laborers had an impact on the work force in the city, and a deep-seated resentment against Catholics fueled the fire. The nuns supported themselves with a school, and most of the young women students were drawn from patrician Protestant families. Nevertheless, rumors fed by the saga of an unhappy junior sister and a later episode of a senior sister fleeing the place increased tensions. The city's selectmen were given a tour by the disgruntled sister, who by then had returned, and found all things in good order. That didn't please the mob, and the mother superior didn't help matters when she said that the bishop had platoons of Irishmen at hand, twenty thousand strong, to do marauders harm. By August 11, the convent had been invaded, ransacked, and burned to the ground. The nuns fled to Maine and Canada. The diocese attempted to recover losses, but the commonwealth offered only ten thousand dollars, which was rejected. Years later, a legislative bill for the state to rebuild the convent and school was roundly defeated. Yet the enterprise of Catholic education had great resilience, and in 1946, more than a hundred years after the riots, the Ursulines returned to Boston to re-establish an academy that endures to the present day.

### Parish Support

	<u>August 5, 2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
<b>Basket</b>	<b>\$8,113.00</b>	<b>\$7,162.50</b>
<b>ACH</b>	<b>\$2,408.00</b>	<b>\$2,092.00</b>
	<u>August 12, 2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
<b>Basket</b>	<b>\$6,424.50</b>	<b>\$6,862.50</b>
<b>ACH</b>	<b>\$2,488.00</b>	<b>\$2,547.00</b>
<b>YTD</b>	<b>\$65,672.00</b>	<b>\$61,896.50</b>

### 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!



### Online Giving

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 [www.stbernardnk.org](http://www.stbernardnk.org), click on "Support your Parish" and follow the link to ParishSoft, Online Giving.

## Sacramental Preparation

Religious Education Schedules

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

**Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>** 5:30 PM  
Open House & Parent/Student Meeting  
Mass at 6:30 PM

**Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup>** 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM  
First Class (8:45 AM arrival time)

### Grades 3, 4, 5:

**Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>** 5:30 PM  
Open House & Parent/Student Meeting  
Mass at 6:30 PM

**Sunday, September 30<sup>th</sup>**  
Children's Mass 8:30 AM  
Class-9:30-11:30 AM in the Parish Center

### Grades 6 & 7 and Confirmation 1 & 2

**Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>** 5:30 PM  
Open House & Parent/Student Meeting  
Mass at 6:30 PM

**Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup>** 1:00 - 4:00  
Retreat in the Parish Center (**Grade 8 Only**)

**Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>**  
First Class: 5:00 PM in the Parish Center  
Mass: 6:30 PM

### Confirmation Candidates for 2018

**Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup>** 6:30-7:30 PM  
Candidate & Sponsor Meeting: Parish Center

**Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>** 1:00-6:30 PM  
Confirmation Retreat in the Parish Center

**Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup>** 6:30-7:30 PM  
Confirmation Rehearsal in the Church

**Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>** 11:00 AM  
Confirmation with Bishop Evans

If you have not registered your child for classes, registration and payment can be done on our website: [www.stbernardnk.org](http://www.stbernardnk.org). If you have any questions, please contact the Faith Formation Office at [sbc.reled@verizon.net](mailto:sbc.reled@verizon.net) or 295-0387.

## Diocesan Youth Day

Diocesan Youth Day, the first of its kind will be held on Saturday, September 8 from 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM at Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Cumberland. This event, held rain or shine (much of it will be outdoors) is for high school and college aged youth. It includes MUSIC, GAMES, WORKSHOPS, MASS, ADORATION, FOOD, FUN, AND SO MUCH MORE. Please visit [catholicyouthri.org](http://catholicyouthri.org) or the Facebook page: Diocesan Youth Day 2018 for more information. If you are interested please contact: Christina Pichette at the parish office.

## American Sign Language Interpreted Masses

The Office of the Apostolate for People with Disabilities and St. Patrick Church in Providence has announced that American Sign Language interpreted Masses will be scheduled at St. Patrick Church for the 9:00 AM Sunday Masses on August 26<sup>th</sup> and throughout the month of September. Updated schedules of future interpreted Masses will be posted on the diocesan website: [www.dioceseofprovidence.com](http://www.dioceseofprovidence.com). For more information contact the Office of the Apostolate for Disabilities Office at 401-278-4578.

## The N K Food Pantry

*For August the Pantry needs:*

Jelly & jams, Pasta, Condiments-(ketchup, mustard, relish), Fresh Produce, Hygiene Items such as toothpaste, deodorant, shampoos, mouthwash, feminine hygiene products, adult diapers, dental floss, tooth brushes.

## Sunday Community Dinners



The Sunday Community Dinners are held weekly at First Baptist Church of Wickford, 44 Main Street. Dinners are served at 12:30 p.m., are open to all, and **FREE**. St. Bernard's will be providing the meal, **TODAY August 19 and September 9**. If you would like to help, please call Chris Kosak at 294-2885 or the Parish Center at 295-0387.



August 15, 2018

## **Statement of the Diocese of Providence Regarding Recent News Reports About the Sexual Abuse of Minors in the Church**

With the recent allegations of incidents of sexual abuse committed by Archbishop Theodore McCarrick, former Archbishop of Washington, D.C., and the release of a Grand Jury Report involving several dioceses in Pennsylvania, and similar reports coming from other dioceses across the globe, the sad spectacle of the sexual abuse of minors in the Catholic Church has once again resurfaced. We cannot but feel profound shame, regret and remorse for the immeasurable harm these incidents, even if from the distant past, have caused the victims/survivors and their families, and we mourn the incalculable harm these incidents have inflicted upon the Church, the Body of Christ.

For many years now, particularly with our “Diocesan Child Protection and Outreach Policy” (2004), the Diocese of Providence has employed a very aggressive response to credible allegations of sexual abuse of minors by any member of the clergy. The accused perpetrators have been immediately removed from office and placed on administrative leave, with all ministerial faculties revoked; the church communities in which the clergy have served have been promptly notified; law enforcement officials, including the State Police and the Attorney General’s Office have been immediately notified; as required by the law of the Church, a report of the allegations has been forwarded to the Vatican; and pastoral outreach and tangible assistance have been offered to the identified victims/survivors.

In recognition of these efforts, last year a national audit confirmed that the Diocese of Providence is in full compliance with the USCCB “Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.”

Incidents of sexual abuse of minors in the Church – or wherever they occur – must be aggressively addressed, eliminated, and punished. In light of the news of recent days, in our country and around the world, the Diocese of Providence renews its commitment to provide a safe environment for children and youth. We are equally determined to purge the Church of these horrible acts, and to respond compassionately to all those who have been harmed. May God forgive us our sins and grant us the grace to follow a path of reform and renewal.

*(For more information on diocesan policies and procedures on this effort, please visit our website: [www.dioceseofprovidence.org](http://www.dioceseofprovidence.org) and click on the “Promise to Protect” button on the homepage.)*