

Saint Bernard Church



December 23, 2018: Fourth Sunday of Advent

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
Web: 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

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 11:30 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. Please call the Parish Center for information regarding any of our programs.



Dear Friends:

As our friends in St. Bernard Parish,
we extend to you best wishes for a Happy and Holy Christmas.

We warmly welcome all who will come to celebrate this
glorious Feast with us.

We welcome the stranger, the traveler and guest!

We welcome our students, home from college for a good
Winter's rest!

We welcome parishioners who moved far away but join us
this week as old friends and guests!

We welcome all who have not been active of late in their
Catholic Faith; and hope they will find new hope and
inspiration this Christmas to come back again and again!

We welcome our faithful parishioners, loyal and true;
May the Lord bless you for all that you do!

Welcome to all! May our gathering this Christmas
gladden our hearts and deepen our bonds.

We are, after all, one People of God –
redeemed by His Light.

May we walk by the Light and live by the Light –
together in love.

On behalf our entire Parish Staff, we wish you and your families a very Blessed Christmas!

Fr. Jack & Fr. Maher

Angelo Giacchi, Pastoral Assistant

Michael Saunders, Administrative Assistant

Dawn Masterson, Director of Faith Formation for Elementary Grades

Christina Pichette, Director of Faith Formation for Middle School & High School

Deb Fortin, Religious Education Office Manager

Alison Shea, Director of Music

Michael Allen, Director of Facilities





Mass Intentions

MONDAY, December 24

8:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*
4:00 PM – *Deceased of the Parish*
6:00 PM – *Deceased of the Parish*
10:00 PM – *Deceased of the Parish*

TUESDAY, December 25

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

WEDNESDAY, December 26

8:00 AM – *Edward O’Keefe*

THURSDAY, December 27

8:00 AM – *Kathleen Casey*

FRIDAY, December 28

8:00 AM – *John Casey*

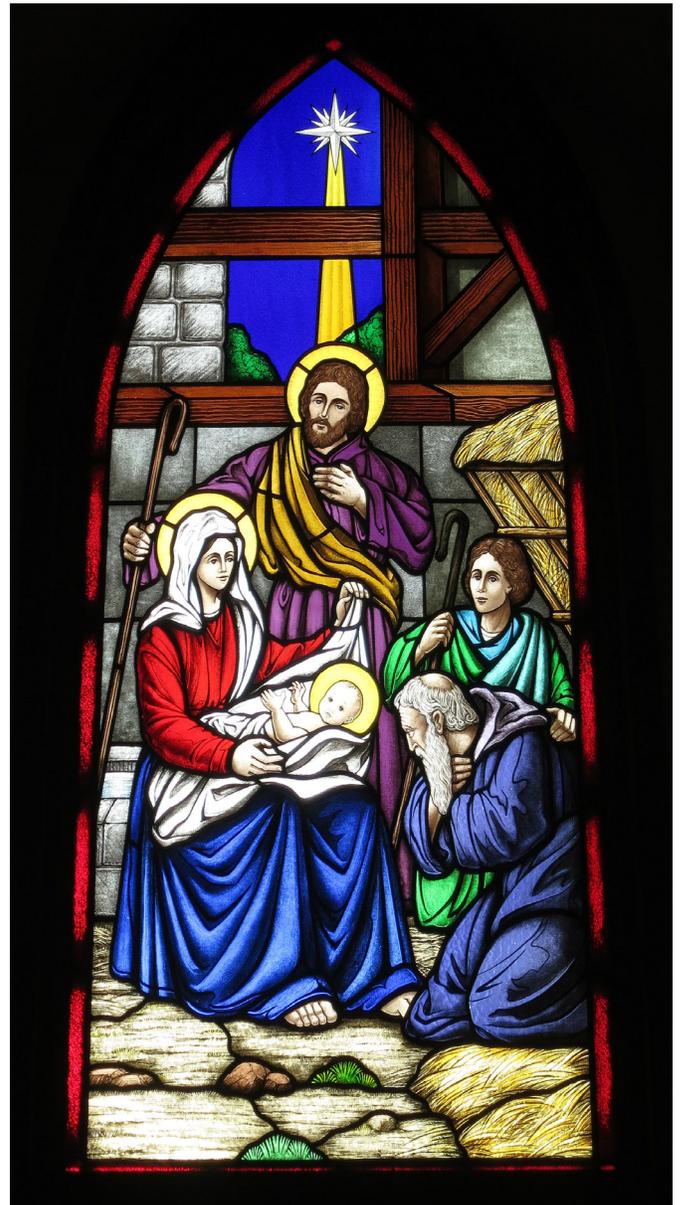
WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, December 29

5:00 PM – *William Arnold, Jr.*
by his family

SUNDAY, December 30

7:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*
8:30 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*
10:30 AM – *Jean Reilly*
by her family



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

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES:

(Monday, December 24)

4:00 PM - Vigil Mass with Children’s Choir
6:00 PM - Carol Singing
10:00 PM - Traditional Midnight Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES:

(Tuesday, December 25)

8:30 AM - Mass with music
10:30 AM - Mass with vocalist and instruments

Announcements

Upcoming Meetings

No Meetings Scheduled this Week

Holiday Parish Office Hours

The parish office will be closed on Monday, December 24th and re-open at 9:00 AM on Wednesday, December 26th.

Treasures from Our Tradition

In ancient pagan Rome, these days in mid-December were a time for general slacking off at work and far too much rejoicing. The period of leisure after the harvest and a whole cluster of pagan festivals were a force for the church to reckon with. The Saturnalia, breaking out on December 17, was a time of high living and loose morals. Christians were advised by their bishops to drop out of the mayhem and do some serious fasting. A famous church council at Saragossa in Spain made a season of fasting mandatory from December 17 to December 23, exactly coinciding with the Saturnalia. The bishops at that time were perhaps less concerned with preparing for Christmas than with resisting the kind of loose living going on.

Modern times have restored a bit of the Saturnalia spirit to our culture, so that a general period of partying with a vague connection to religion is now upon us. How does a Christian keep balance? The practice of charity by remembering the poor in our gift-giving, of hospitality in finding a place at our holiday tables for the poor and lonely, and of daily prayer in the home and at church are great helps. Although Advent is not a penitential season like Lent, it is a time for making room in our lives for what matters most.

Parish Support

	<u>December 2, 2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Basket	\$7,680.00	\$8,865.00
ACH	\$1,925.00	\$1,913.00
	<u>December 9, 2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Basket	\$7,632.00	\$6,247.50
ACH	\$1,512.00	\$2,438.00
YTD	\$230,927.00	\$226,655.00

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, click on "Support your Parish" and follow the link to ParishSoft, Online Giving.

Annual Collection

Recently 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. If you did not receive a copy of the report, please contact us and we will get one out to you.

Sacramental Preparation

Weather related Class Cancellations!

Please log on to www.turonto10.com, the local TV/
Radio Channels and our website
www.stbernardnk.org for updates

Religious Education Schedules

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

Saturday, January 5th 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Class (8:45 AM arrival time)
First Communion 2: First Penance 10:30 AM

Grades 3, 4, 5:

Sunday, January 6th
Children's Mass 8:30 AM
Class-9:30-11:30 AM in the Parish Center

Grades 6 & 7 and Confirmation 1 & 2

Sunday, January 27th
Class: 5:00 PM in the Parish Center
Mass: 6:30 PM (All Grades)

Reminder: Confirmation 1 & 2 are required 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.



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 Church gathering space. Contact the office at 295-0387 for more information.

Shelter Guests Receive Assistance with:

- SNAP (Food Stamps) Applications
- Shower Facilities & Hygiene Products
- Access to Clothing Room
- ID Vouchers
- Obtaining Health Insurance
- Mental Health Referrals & Recovery Support
- Employment Search & Resumes
- Apartment Hunting & Applications
- Referrals to Diocese's Immigration Office
- Case Management Services & After Care
- Ability to take part in Community Garden

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 with you non-perishable food items so that we can share them with those in need. All donations will help support the North Kingstown Food Pantry.

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.



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 Holy Family Room for the readings and a "child friendly" homily. They return to their families at collection.