

Saint Bernard Church



September 8, 2019: 23rd 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
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.



Jesus was a great teacher. When He taught in the synagogue at Nazareth, people were amazed at the wonderful words He spoke. They could all identify with the characters he developed in the parable stories. They truly believed that He felt their joys and their pains, and the words He spoke touched their hearts. The Gospels tell us that people were astonished at His teaching because of the way He taught with authority and great power.

Our Religious Education classes begin this month and in a special way I think we should express our gratitude to the many people who volunteer their time to provide a quality Religious Education Program for our children and young adults. The volunteer teachers and group leaders of our parish are called to teach as Jesus taught, with authority and with power. They help others understand the Faith not only by word, but also by example.

We are also grateful to our Director of Religious Education for the elementary grades, **Mrs. Dawn Masterson**, and **Mrs. Deborah Fortin** who is the Office Manager for the Program and who is there to help parents and teachers with information and resources. **Mrs. Christina Pichette**, who oversees the program for grades 6 & 7 as well as the Confirmation Program for grades 8 & 9. Christina is also the Director for Youth Ministry.

Today we also remember the most important teachers, or catechists of all – the parents of our children. Our religious Education Program builds on the work of parents. Religious Education today is a family activity, just as worship on Sunday is a parish family activity.

There are, however, some serious concerns we now have for the future of our Program and the serious consequences it will have as we strive to “Teach as Jesus did”.

Fewer families are registering their children for Religious Education Classes. In May we celebrated First Communion for 28 children. Only 13 of them have registered this year for grade 3 classes.

High School students have vanished. We confirmed 38 students last year. We see less than 20% of them at Mass with any regularity and their parents have stopped going to Mass as well.

Mass Attendance is down. Since last May we have seen a 30% decrease in the number of parishioners (and children) attending Mass on Sunday. Some families we have not seen in months. Some have simply stopped going to Mass at all. (This has a major impact on our income as well.)

Fewer people are willing to help. There are far less parishioners willing to volunteer in almost every area of parish life including, Altar Servers, Religious Ed. Teachers and aids, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and volunteers for parish events.

I realize, of course, that my words today are only reaching the 40% of parishioners who attend Mass and the other 60% are not here to take home a Parish Bulletin. And so, I am asking those who are concerned for the vitality of our Parish to join me in encouraging the families you know who have children, to register their children for our program. This is where they can encounter the Jesus who shows them how to live a successful life of service, love and faith. They will not learn this anywhere else.

Fr. Jack

BECOMING CATHOLIC—BEING CATHOLIC

We will soon be starting our RCIA program. We invite you to contact the office if you, or some adult you know would like to complete their initiation into full membership in the church by receiving Baptism, First Communion or Confirmation.. Come and see!



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, September 9

8:00 AM – *Joseph Caprara*
by his family

TUESDAY, September 10

8:00 AM – *Ryan Cole*

WEDNESDAY, September 11

8:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*

THURSDAY, September 12

8:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*

FRIDAY, September 13

8:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*
2:00 PM – *South County Rehabilitation*

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, September 14

5:00 PM – *Mark Tripp*
3rd Anniversary by his wife

SUNDAY, September 15

7:00 AM – *Deceased of the Parish*

8:30 AM – *Robert Viera*
by Dorothy Madusky

10:30 AM – *Dee Ann Devine*
by her family

Priest Retirement Fund

Catholics throughout the Diocese have a unique opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of our senior priests. Next weekend's second collection will benefit the Senior Priest Retirement Fund, a significant source of support for priests that provides for basic needs such as food, housing, transportation and medical care. Please consider your generous support of this important effort that benefits those who have selflessly served the faithful for decades. For more information about the senior priest retirement fund, or to make a donation online, please visit www.srpriestri.org.

A Day of Remembrance

September 14: The Office of Life and Family Ministry invites you to gather at the Guardian Angel – Baby Land area of the Gate of Heaven Cemetery, 550 Wampanoag Trail, Riverside on Saturday, September 14 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. This special prayerful event is dedicated to all babies that have died from an abortion, a miscarriage, stillbirth, and early infant death. It will include reflections, the Rosary and other prayers for all the babies. This event is being held simultaneously with the National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children. For more information, contact Carol Owens at 278-2518 or email: cowens@dioceseofprovidence.org.

Catholic Women's Conference

Saturday, September 21, 2019

7:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Featuring: Kelly Wahlquist and Dr. Angela Franks

The day begins with Holy Mass celebrated by Bishop Tobin and will include dynamic and encouraging talks, live music ministry, Sacrament of Reconciliation, swag bags, coffee and lunch. The Women's Conference will be held at the Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit discover-catholicfaith.org/womens-conference or call the Diocesan Office of Faith Formation at 401-278-4646.



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Announcements

Upcoming Meetings

Sun 9/8	Faith Formation Open House Parish Hall	5:30 PM
	Faith Formation Family Mass	6:30 PM
Thu 9/12	Morning Mass Coffee Parish Hall	8:30 AM
	Adult Choir Large Meeting Room	6:45PM

Treasures from Our Tradition

Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Christians share a love for the Byzantine liturgy because it is during the Eucharist that the Church is most true to its identity, expresses its integrity, and discovers its vocation. Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Christians celebrate essentially the identical liturgy, with only very slight variations. It is a fairly complex ritual weaving together three separate layers of prayers: a liturgy prayed in the sanctuary by priests, often hidden by a curtain or screen; a liturgy sung by the assembly and led by a deacon in front of a screen formed of painted icons; and a third layer of private prayer by the priest, who prays in support of the deacon and the faithful. It is an eyes-wide-open experience, gorgeous in visuals, and filled with the sound of God's people singing prayer. The energy of the worship centers on the presence of Christ, largely through an awareness of heaven touching earth when the Church gathers to celebrate.

In the late twentieth century, Latin Rite Catholics were encouraged to embrace a style of worship that was "full, conscious, and active," a value that has never been lost in the East. The liturgy has great impact in its beauty, in its poetry and contemplation, and by the actions of bowing, signing with the cross, and chanting that are required of the assembly. Contact with the Eastern Church reveals some key values that have been obscured in our own Church and are slowly being recovered.

Parish Support

	August 25, 2019	2018
Basket	\$6,870.00	\$6,795.50
ACH	\$1,267.00	\$1,618.00

	September 1, 2019	2018
Basket	\$7,158.00	\$8,236.50
ACH	\$1,527.00	\$2,398.00
YTD	\$85,166.50	\$94,500.00

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.

The N K Food Pantry

NK Food Pantry needs:



Canned vegetables-corn, peas, spinach, Canned fruit, Hearty soups, Pasta (other than spaghetti), Cereal, After School Snack, Stuffing, Shampoo.

Annual Coat Drive



ONE WARM COAT®

Please drop off your **GOOD, USED COATS** and **HATS** at the Church or Parish Office to be distributed to those in need. For more information or to help, please contact the Parish Office.

Sacramental Preparation

Religious Education Schedules

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

Sunday, September 8th 5:30 PM
Open House & Parent/Student Meeting
Mass at 6:30 PM

Saturday, October 5th 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
First Class (8:45 AM arrival time)

Grades 3, 4, 5:

Sunday, September 8th 5:30 PM
Open House & Parent/Student Meeting
Mass at 6:30 PM

Sunday, October 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, September 8th 5:30 PM
Open House & Parent/Student Meeting
Mass at 6:30 PM

Sunday, September 29th
First Class: 4:45 PM in the Parish Center
Mass: 6:30 PM

Sunday, October 6th 12:30 - 4:30
Retreat in the Parish Center (**Grade 8 Only**)

Confirmation Candidates for 2019

Sunday, September 15th 6:30-7:30 PM
Candidate & Sponsor Meeting: Parish Center

Sunday, September 22nd 10:30 AM Mass
Followed by Confirmation Retreat
in the Parish Center: 11:30 AM—3:00 PM

Tuesday, October 15th 6:30-7:30 PM
Confirmation Rehearsal in the Church

Saturday, October 19th 11:00 AM
Confirmation with Bishop Tobin

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 sbc.reled@verizon.net or 295-0387.

It's Time to Sing!!

Have you always liked to sing? Are you looking for a new way to worship at church? Please consider joining the Adult Choir. We are always looking for new members. Rehearsals are on Thursdays at 6:45 PM and begin **September 12th**. No experience necessary! Just your desire to sing! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to see our Music Director, Alison Shea or any choir member.

Taste & Sea



to Benefit Monsignor
Clarke School
Saturday, September 14th
6-10pm
Purchase tickets online

www.monsignorclarkeschool.org

21+ Event

Come sample a wide variety of Beer, Wine & Spirits. Live music, silent auction and more!

Emmanuel House Homeless Shelter

We are always in need of new socks, bath towels, and backpacks, twin-sized bedding, etc. Drop off items in the Church gathering space or at the Parish Center.

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 September 15, October 20, November 17, December 1 and January 19. If you would like to help, please call Chris Kosak at 294-2885 or the Parish Center at 295-0387.