

# Saint Bernard Church



## January 7, 2024 The Epiphany of The Lord

### Rev. David F. Gaffney, Pastor

sbc.pastor@aol.com

Rev. John E. Unsworth, Pastor, Emeritus

Rev. Charles Maher, Weekday Assistant

Rev. Albino Barrera, OP Weekend Assistant

**Pastoral Assistant:** Angelo Giacchi  
**Business Manager:** David Cote  
**Elementary Faith Formation:** Dawn Masterson  
**Youth Faith Formation:** Christina Pichette  
**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 (David)  
sbc.pa@verizon.net (Angelo)

**Web:** www.stbernardnk.org

**Hours:** Mon - Tues: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
Wednesday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
Thursday & Friday: Closed

**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 11:00 AM

### Family Faith Formation Program

Our programs provide parishioners of all ages opportunities for learning, growing and living our Faith through common experiences, age-specific learning and interactive sharing. Please call the Parish Center for information regarding any of our programs or email:

First Communion Grade 2:  
sbcreligiouseducation@gmail.com

Confirmation Grades 8 & 9: sbc.teenff@gmail.com

Gospel Weeklies Grades 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7:  
stbernardgospelweeklies@gmail.com

## Ponderings

Pope Francis addressed the members of the Roman Curia with Christmas Greetings on December 21<sup>st</sup>. In this annual address he has had the tradition of speaking to them with some ‘challenging words’. This group is made up of mostly cardinals and bishops who are the directors and heads of various departments in the Vatican structure. In addition, our Holy Father issued his “Urbi et Orbi” message ---- translated as ‘to the city and to the world’ on December 25<sup>th</sup> (Christmas Day).

### ADDRESS TO ROMAN CURIA

He writes, “The mystery of Christmas fills our hearts with awe---a key word—and an unexpected message: God has come, God is here in our midst, and his light has forever pierced the darkness of the world.” He then reflects on three words, ‘listen, discern and journey’. He writes, “First, there is Mary, who reminds us to listen.” Mary listens to the message of the angel and opened her heart to God’s plan. He continues, “Listening, in the Bible, refers to hearing not only with the ears, but also with the heart and one’s entire life.” He goes on to say, “Really listening to another person, however, requires interior quiet and making room for silence between what we hear and what we say.”

The pope speaks about discernment in the life of John the Baptist. Matthew’s Gospel says, “when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, ‘Are you he who is to come, or shall we look for another?’ He says, “In a word, Jesus was not what people had expected, and even the Precursor (John the Baptist) had to be converted to the newness of the Kingdom. He had to have the humility and courage needed to discern.”

The third word he used was ‘journey’. He says, “Here we naturally think of the Magi. They remind us of the importance of journeying.” He continues, “He sends us on a journey, draws us out of our comfort zones, our complacency about what we have already done, and in this way he sets us free; he changes us and he enlightens the eyes of our heart to make us understand the great hope to which he has called us.”

What was especially striking to me in his address was the following: “Today we strive to kindle passion in those who have long since lost it. Sixty years after the Council, we are still debating the division between ‘progressives’ and ‘conservatives’, but that is not the difference: the real, central difference is between lovers and those who have lost that initial passion. That is the difference. Only those who love can fare forward.” In our faith lives we all run the risk of letting the ‘flame’ turn to ‘embers’----something fades, the energy, the passion, the strong connection----fades, diminishes, flattens in some way. I continue to love being a priest and serving as your pastor. I hope to do so for a few more years! How important it is for each of us to ‘fan into flame’ the embers of our faith. Perhaps the start of a new year will encourage us. Perhaps the celebration of our 150 years will inspire us.

### URBI ET ORBI MESSAGE

The second text I draw your attention to is the pope’s annual, “Urbi et Orbi” message----to the city and to the world. He writes, “Brothers and sisters, today in Bethlehem, amid the deep shadows covering the land, an undying flame has been lighted. Today the world’s darkness has been overcome by the light of God, which ‘enlightens every man and woman.’ He continues, “Rejoice, you who have abandoned all hope, for God offers you his outstretched hand; he does not point a finger at you, but offers you his little baby hand, in order to set you free from your fears, to relieve you of your burdens and to show you that, in his eyes, you are more valuable than anything else.”

“Brothers and sisters, we are approaching the season of grace and hope that is the Jubilee, due to begin a year from now (2025). May this time of preparation for the Holy Year be an opportunity for the conversion of hearts, for the rejection of war and the embrace of peace, and for joyfully responding to the Lord’s call, in the words of Isaiah’s prophecy, “to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners.” ----have you thought of coming to Rome on our parish pilgrimage in May 2025?



## Mass Intentions

### **MONDAY, January 8**

10:30 AM — Jerome Sands  
by a friend

### **TUESDAY, January 9**

8:00 AM – Jean Reilly  
by her family

### **WEDNESDAY, January 10**

8:00 AM – Thomas Cavanagh

### **THURSDAY, January 11**

8:00 AM – Bob Viera  
by his family

### **FRIDAY, January 12**

8:00 AM – Deceased of the McCrudden family  
by the Wells family

### **WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

### **SATURDAY, January 13**

5:00 PM – Eileen Ferri

### **SUNDAY, January 14**

7:00 AM – Marilyn Kane  
by Margaret Williamson

8:30 AM – Edward Walsh  
by the Field family

10:30 AM – Regina Salisbury

## Worship 101

Finding More Meaning in the Mass (An Adult Faith Formation program). The meetings will be on **Tuesdays at 7:00 PM**, in the parish hall. The schedule is:

January 16, January 30  
February 13, February 27, March 19

## Grief Group

The schedule of meetings are:

**Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30:**

January 9, February 6, March 12,  
April 16, May 14

If anyone would like more information about the group, please see Fr. Gaffney.



## St. Bernard Church

Celebrates 150 Years

1874—2024 : MISSION 150



Watch for upcoming announcements of special events and programs for 2024!

## Coffee & Donuts

Our next Coffee and Donuts is scheduled for next weekend, **January 14** after the 10:30 AM Mass in the Parish Hall. Come spend some time socializing with your fellow parishioners.



We welcome families to bring their children—our youngest parishioners—in their strollers to Mass.

### Parish Support

December 17, 2023 2022

Basket	\$8,678.00	\$7,166.00
ACH	\$3,357.00	\$3,111.00

December 24, 2023 2022

Basket	\$7,162.00	\$8,828.00
ACH	\$2,879.00	\$2,215.00

YTD	\$265,807.00	\$259,823.00
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### Annual Collection

Participation is its own goal. We are grateful for all who have sent in a contribution to our annual collection. Do you think we could get 100% participation? How about 75% or 50%? Are you able to participate? Any and all contributions are gratefully accepted. As of now 203 households have donated. Imagine what might be contributed if everyone of our 1,400 families participated. Your contribution is an important factor in maintaining our financial viability as a parish.

### Income Tax Statements

We will not be mailing out donation statements for Income Tax purposes to all our parishioners. The cost of mailing hundreds of statements is no longer affordable for us. If you would like us to mail or email you your statement, please contact the office by phone (295-0387) or email us at

[sbc.pa@verizon.net](mailto:sbc.pa@verizon.net)

### Stormy Weather and Daily Mass

If the public schools in North Kingstown are **closed or delayed** because of bad weather, our daily 8 AM Mass is also cancelled. We hope this will prevent people from venturing out in dangerous conditions just so see if we are open.

### When a loved one is approaching death.....

+ Call the pastor to administer the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. (this can be done any time we experience declining health, hospitalization, illness, etc.)

+ After your loved one's death you will contact the funeral home. The funeral director will call the church to arrange the day and time for the funeral. You will then be contacted by the parish for the planning of the Funeral Mass. (scripture readings, music, etc.)

+ As St. Bernard Church was so important to your loved one during this life, we are always so very grateful if you would consider listing 'St. Bernard Church' as a recipient of donations in your loved one's memory. We want our parish to remain vibrant and healthy for generations to come.

### Morning Glory Gathering

Please join us for coffee and socializing on **Thursday, January 11** after the 8:00 AM morning Mass in the Parish Hall.

### Mission 150: Soup Dinner

Recognizing our 'humble beginnings' as a 'mission church' in 1874 and in conjunction with our "Soup-er Bowl" Outreach to help the Poor----we will have a "Soup Supper" on Saturday, January 27 after the 5:00 p.m. Mass. Please return the RSVP---so we have an accurate count. *A free will offering will be accepted.* Our collection of cans of soup will take place: January 1, 2024 through February 11, 2024 (Super Bowl Sunday). Thank you for your generosity as we reach out to those in need.

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Faith Formation 2023-2024**

Weather related Class Cancellations! Please go to <https://turnto10.com/> or the local TV/Radio Channels for updates

### **Gospel Weeklies Program**

Grades 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

In-person class schedule 9:25-10:25 am

Next Class: 1/21/2024

\*\* Return completed assignments to next in-person class

### **Sacramental Preparation Program**

Grades 2, 8, 9

In-person class schedule: 9:30-10:45

Class Today: 1/7/2024

Next Class: 1/20/2024

Grade 2 & 8 is expected to return each Gospel Weekly to the next in person class. This is so the lesson from the Gospel of the week is reviewed in a timely manner and the program stays on track.

For more detailed information, please refer to your Weekly News Family email.

## **Teen Life Ministry**

St. Bernard, together with St. Francis de Sales Parish, is offering a new program called Teen Life Ministry. This ministry is open to any current middle school or high school students. This will be an opportunity for local teens to socialize, share their faith, and get involved in community service. The ministry will meet once a month throughout the school year on a Friday or Sunday evening. Meetings will be held at either St. Bernard's or St. Francis de Sales on a rotating basis. This will be an uplifting and fun ministry. No commitment is necessary. To sign up, or for more information, please contact Christina Pichette at

[sbc.teenff@gmail.com](mailto:sbc.teenff@gmail.com)

The next Teen Life Ministry gathering will take place at St. Francis de Sales parish center on Friday, January 19th from 6PM-7:30PM. For a list of all the upcoming dates, please refer to our website:

<https://www.stbernardnk.org/youth-ministry/>

## **The Visitation of the Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe**



Friday, January 5 through Wednesday, January 31  
The Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be visiting our diocese in various parishes throughout Rhode Island from Friday, January 5 through Wednesday, January 31, 2024.

The image is an exact replica of the original image of Our Lady which She left on the Tilma of

St. Juan Diego in December 1531. The image is among four blessed at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico by the Rector of the Basilica, Msgr. Monroy, to bring conversions, reverence for life, sanctity of the family and solidarity of the Church in America. The Missionary Images are known to have been associated with many miracles and healings. The Image will be here at St. Bernard's on **Tuesday, January 16** during adoration. The schedule and locations can be found by visiting the diocesan website at

<https://dioceseofprovidence.org/OLG>

## **Steubenville East 2024**

Calling all high schoolers! In our ever-changing world, Jesus is the answer to the longing of our hearts for meaning, fulfillment, security, and love. Join hundreds of Catholic teens at Steubenville East in Springfield, MA on the weekend of July 26th-28th to be illuminated in the light of Christ. All rising freshmen in high school through rising freshmen in college are invited to attend this retreat with our group which features live music and dynamic speakers. We will be having two interest meetings which are open to students and a parent. The first will be at St. Francis de Sales following the January Teen Life meeting (1/19) from 7:30-8PM. The second will be on Sunday, January 28th following the 10:30AM Mass in the Parish Center. For more information contact Christina Pichette at

[sbc.teenff@gmail.com](mailto:sbc.teenff@gmail.com)



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