

Saint Bernard Church



January 21, 2024 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

This year the Church celebrates “Catholic Schools Week” from January 28th through February 3rd. The theme this year is, “United in Faith and Community”. I am happy to write about Catholic Schools Week since I attended a few Catholic Schools and have worked in several of them over the years.

I started at St. Lawrence Elementary School under the care of the Sisters of the Holy Union of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary (S.U.S.C). The school closed when I was about to enter the 4th grade so I, and many of my classmates, transferred to the brand new Lymansville Elementary School (since renamed, the Doctor Ricci School)—in North Providence. I then went to high school at La Salle Academy. From there to the College of the Holy Cross and then graduates degrees from: Rhode Island College, Providence College, St. John XXIII National Seminary, and Creighton University. As a religious brother I taught at St. Raphael Academy, Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School (Brooklyn), La Salle Academy and La Salle Military Academy (Long Island). As a priest I was the assistant pastor at two churches that had parish elementary schools: St. Luke, Barrington, and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Bristol. I was pastor at Blessed Sacrament, that still has an elementary school. In addition, I served as chaplain at Roger Williams University and for five years was chaplain at Bishop Hendricken High School.

Enough about me! I do write this to you since I have had more than my fair share of associations with educational institutions, both public and private (Catholic). Did I mention that two of my brothers were public school teachers for their entire professional lives? I have an appreciation for all of those engaged in the field of Education---either as an administrator or teacher. I do think that the job of teacher has become more demanding and complex in recent years. There are expectations placed on teachers that had not been there in the past.

As pastor of St. Bernard Church, I am aware of the good work that continues in Catholic Schools in our diocese, especially in local area. We have parishioners who are students at Msgr. Clarke Regional School, the Prout School, Our Lady of Mercy School---and perhaps four or five other Catholic schools---that I am aware of! Parents (and other family members) do make a financial sacrifice to send their sons and daughters to these Catholic schools. So, why did my parents send me to a Catholic school and why do parents today send their children to Catholic schools?

The NCEA, the National Catholic Educational Association, has listed a ‘Dozen Reasons’ to choose Catholic schools. I thought I would ‘ponder’ these reasons and provide a short reflection on each of these reasons from my perspective as a student and/or a teacher in a Catholic school. If you are a Catholic school graduate or a parent of a Catholic school student you might also want to ‘ponder’ these ‘Dozen Reasons’.

Number One: “We offer an education that combines Catholic faith and teachings with academic excellence.” As a student, yes, I recall that ‘religion’ was a subject we had every day. Sr. Rose Joseph, SUSC, (who is still alive!) was my first-grade teacher and she helped prepare me to receive my First Holy Communion. That memory really stays in my brain! I recall the names of the religion teachers I had at La Salle Academy. One of my favorites, Brother Benilde, FSC, passed away not so long ago. He taught Scripture (Old and New Testament) to me as a sophomore. For the first time I had my own Bible---and was actually learning how to use it! I began to understand the complexity of Salvation History! It gave me a life-long interest in studying scripture. Many years later I would receive a Master of Arts degree from Providence College in Biblical Studies---and my love for that subject began for me as a 15 or 16 year old sophomore in a Catholic high school. While in high school we also began a ‘Christian Action’ program as part of our religion class. We would work in the community for a couple of hours of service, my assignment was to tutor students at St. Augustine School in Providence under the watchful eye of principal, Sr. Isaac Jogues. Tutoring is not something I had done before---but not so many years later, I would begin my career as a high school teacher at St. Raphael Academy, teaching religion, World History and Civics. The roots of my ‘teaching’ could, I suppose, be traced to that community service as a Catholic high school student. When I was a teacher of religion, I mostly taught courses like “Introduction to Catholicism” and “Morality”. My work in education was a great help when I was ordained a priest and was a kind of ‘visiting teacher’ in the parish elementary schools and in my work in Adult Faith Formation.

Since I only got to “Number One” I will continue on the next “Eleven Reasons” in next week’s ‘Ponderings’ column!!

--Fr. Gaffney



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, January 22

8:00 AM — Edward Phillips

TUESDAY, January 23

8:00 AM – *Maureen Kerin*

WEDNESDAY, January 24

8:00 AM – *Edward O’Keefe*

THURSDAY, January 25

8:00 AM – *John & Kathleen Casey*

FRIDAY, January 26

8:00 AM – *Clifford Shults*
by Sal & Linda Sanfilippo

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, January 27

5:00 PM – *Giuseppina D’Angella*

SUNDAY, January 28

7:00 AM – *Arthur Flynn*
by James Rawson

8:30 AM – *Thomas Savoie*

10:30 AM – *Jerry Sands*
by his wife

St. Bernard Church

Celebrates 150 Years

1874—2024 : MISSION 150



If you did not receive our recent mailing about the 150th (with calendar of events) please see Fr. Gaffney after Mass---we have extra copies. !

Knights of Columbus “25 Week Club” Raffle

The Knights of Columbus will be holding a “25 Week Club” raffle from February through July.

Weekly drawing of \$25 for 25 Weeks!

Grand Prizes to be drawn in July!

First Place Grand Prize - \$500

Second Place Grand Prize - \$300

Third Place Grand Prize - \$200

Tickets are \$25

Proceeds to go to charitable causes supported by the Knights. Tickets

will be on sale after masses during the weekend of Jan 28. You can also contact a member of the Knights or email:

r_dimaria@hotmail.com



The 2024 Catholic Charity Appeal



"A State of Hope" has begun.

Our parish goal remains the same as last year, \$80,750 with an overall diocesan goal of \$7 million. Please prayerfully consider a gift to the appeal as we strive for 100% parish participation. To make a difference visit

Dioceseofprovidence.org/CCA

Soup-er Bowl! (Super Bowl!)

Outreach to help the Poor.

232 Cans Collected so far....

From January 1st through February 11th (the day of this year’s Super Bowl) we will be collecting cans of SOUP for the North Kingstown Food Pantry. We are setting a ‘challenge’ to collect 500 cans of soup! Then on the weekend of February 10/11 the young people of the parish will hold ‘Soup Bowls’ at the exit for a ‘free will’ donation---which will support our parish’s outreach to the poor and needy. (We purchase ‘food cards’ for those in need who approach us year-round). Thanks for your support!

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

Parish Support

	January 7, 2024	2023
Basket	\$6,058.00	\$6,463.00
ACH	\$3,249.00	\$2,051.00
	January 14, 2024	2023
Basket	\$7,974.00	\$6,055.00
ACH	\$2,624.00	\$3,401.00
YTD	\$306,307.50	\$303,745.00

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 251 households have donated \$76,165.00 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

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 30, February 13, February 27, March 19

Grief Group

The schedule of meetings are:

Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30:

February 6, March 12,
April 16 ,May 14

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

Coffee & Donuts

Our next Coffee and Donuts is scheduled for next weekend, **February 4** after the 10:30 AM Mass in the Parish Hall. Come spend some time socializing with your fellow parishioners.



Join us for a “Mini-Reunion” of anyone who has in the past or is now a teacher in our CCD/ Religious Education/Faith Formation and SPRED programs - as part of our MISSION 150 Events!

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

Grade 2: First Reconciliation 1/20/2024,
10:30 AM in the church

Grades 2, 8, 9

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

Next Class: 1/28/2024

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

The next Teen Life Ministry gathering will take place at St. Bernard's parish center on Friday, February 9th from 6PM-7:30PM. For a list of all the upcoming dates, please refer to our website:

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

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 an interest meeting for students and a parent on Sunday, January 28th following the 10:30AM Mass in the Parish Center. For more information contact Christina Pichette at

sbc.teenff@gmail.com

North Kingstown Food Pantry

“Thank You for your donations totaling 4,051 pounds of food and other needed items from January through December 2023 to the North Kingstown Food Pantry. Your generosity means families facing food insecurity in North Kingstown will have food on the table today.”

Kimberly Page,
President of the Board of Directors

DIOCESE OF PROVIDENCE
UPCOMING
YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

FEB Cathedral of Sts. Peter & Paul 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM	2 First Friday Holy Hour Join us for a Eucharistic Holy Hour. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be offered. Then, join us for fellowship in the Church Hall, where food and beverages will be served.
FEB Cathedral of Sts. Peter & Paul 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM	10 Lenten Retreat Join us as we prepare our hearts and minds to enter the sacred and penitential season of Lent. May the Holy Spirit purify each of us so that we may have deeper union with the risen Christ this Easter.
MAR Cathedral of Sts. Peter & Paul 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM	1 First Friday Holy Hour Join us for a Eucharistic Holy Hour. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be offered. Then, join us for fellowship in the Church Hall, where food and beverages will be served.

FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO:
www.evangelizeri.org/yae

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