

Saint Bernard Church



February 4, 2024 Fifth 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

Installment #3 on Catholic Schools, “A Dozen Reasons to Choose Catholic Schools”! In my previous two columns I managed to get through #1-6. It has been a bit of a reflection on my experience in Catholic Schools as both a student and faculty member. So, bear with me!

#7 “We teach children respect of self and others.” How important is this!! Yes. As we reflect on our ‘school years’---especially middle school and high school, they were years when we came to understand our own ‘identity’---the question “Who am I?” is one that we all answer. At the core of that question there must be a respect for one’s dignity. As men and women of faith we believe that we always have that dignity in God’s eyes. That would be the motivation for a Catholic School to promote self-respect and respect of others. The “Golden Rule” was the unwritten rule in student handbooks. As a guidance counselor and campus minister I know that encouraging self-respect and respect of others was a key element of all we did!

#8 “We emphasize moral development and self-discipline.” One year I taught religious studies for juniors and the topic for one of the semesters was “Morality.” It was a very interesting course to teach. There were a number of Catholic principles that were conveyed---how to live a moral life---and there were many discussions about contemporary practice---about how to treat another person, dating, growing in virtue---and we looked at what society promoted or allowed---which was a ‘loose moral life’---students were bombarded with that message in advertisement; music; television programs; movies, etc.

#9 “We prepare students to be productive citizens and future leaders.” We want our Catholic School students to be good citizens. We, as Catholics, have a long history of good citizenship---we pay our taxes, we obey the laws, we vote, we serve in the military, we even run for public office. How important it is to encourage Catholics to bring their values into the ‘public square’---especially about the dignity of all human life. One of the first courses I taught (to freshmen) was a semester course in Civics. It was really an introduction to ‘Government.’ There is a great deal of media attention today about a lack of knowledge about civics. Maybe I should dust off my notes!

#10 “We have a 99 percent high school graduation rate. 85 percent of our graduates go to college.” I served as a guidance counselor/college advisor in three Catholic High Schools. I enjoyed that ministry. I did miss being in the classroom but helping young people in that the process of planning for ‘life after high school’---was a privilege---it was a way to help them discover “God’s plan” for them. I recall some of the advice from my own high school counselor (that, in itself should surprise you---remembering that far back!). He encouraged me to choose a vocation/job/career that would bring me happiness. He said there were far too many people ‘out there’ who really disliked or even hated their jobs. He conveyed the message that ‘a good job’ meant many things---including being a source of fulfillment and happiness.

#11 “We cultivate a faculty and staff of people who are dedicated, caring and effective.” In Catholic schools there is a goal---it takes time to achieve, to help the staff and faculty see their work as a ‘ministry.’ We wanted to convey to every teacher, not just the religion teacher, that they were promoting our ‘Catholic Identity’ by all they did in the classroom---what they taught, how they taught, how they interacted with students, etc.

#12 “We provide a safe and welcoming environment for all.” One of the great benefits of a school uniform---which just about every Catholic School has---uniform or dress code---is that it is ‘the great equalizer’---you do not know which student is from a poor family, a middle class family, a rich family---all receive the same treatment. Even with tuition costs that are getting to be quite high, Catholic Schools make great efforts to provide tuition assistance so that a catholic school education is possible for all families. It is a challenge, but through the generosity of alumni and benefactors there are endowments and funds that can be used for this purpose. My mother went to St. Xavier Academy, and she would tell us that the only reason she was able to go was that she was the second-to-youngest in the family and that her older brothers and sisters, now working, helped pay her tuition. I have come across so many families who make tremendous sacrifices to send their children to a Catholic School.

--Fr. Gaffney



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, February 5

8:00 AM — Mary Kusmierz

TUESDAY, February 6

8:00 AM — *Innocents of Abortion*

WEDNESDAY, February 7

8:00 AM — *James Meehan*

THURSDAY, February 8

8:00 AM — *Carl Gregory Battaglia*

FRIDAY, February 9

8:00 AM — *Mildred & Lawrence O'Connell*
by Mary & Jim McKay

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, February 10

5:00 PM — *Giuseppina Dangella*

SUNDAY, February 11

7:00 AM — *Francis Roberts*

8:30 AM — *Br. John J. Kusmierz, OP*
40th Anniversary

10:30 AM — *Rosemary Altieri*
by her family

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. !

K of C Breakfast (Public Invited)



The Knights of Columbus will hold a Breakfast at the Council Hall, 1265 Tower Hill Road, North Kingstown, on Sunday, February 11th, from 7:30 to 10:30.

Scrambled Eggs, Pancakes, Home Fries, Sausage, Baked Beans, Breakfast Pastries, Orange Juice, Coffee and Tea will be served.
The cost is \$10.00, children 6 and under are free.

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.

546 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 21, 2024	2023
Basket	\$5,235.00	\$5,083.00
ACH	\$3,314.00	\$2,761.00
	January 28, 2024	2023
Basket	\$22,190.00	\$9,095.00
ACH	\$2,959.00	\$2,391.00
YTD	\$340,005.00	\$323,086.00

Women's Retreat

Please join us for an incredible Women's Day Retreat with Danielle Bean.

St. Pius X Church
45 Elm Street, Westerly, Rhode Island 02891
Saturday - March 9, 2024 – 9am – 3:00pm
Mass, Confession, Talks
\$35 per person (lunch included)

Pre-Registration is required. Registration deadline: March 1, 2024. Please submit payment with registration to St. Pius X Church, 45 Elm Street Westerly, RI 02891 (Checks payable to: St. Pius X Church). To register and pay on-line visit www.saintpiuswesterly.org click the giving tab and select "Danielle Bean". For more information please contact Debra Carey at 401 596-2535 x3 or Email: pa@stpxri.org

Morning Glory Gathering

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

Mass Assistance

While Fr. Barera, OP is in Rome this semester teaching at the Angelicum, we are grateful for the assistance of three other Dominican priests: Rev. James Quigley, OP, Rev. Dominic Verner, OP and Rev. Bruno Shah, OP.

Rev. James Quigley



Rev.. Bruno Shah



Rev. Dominic Verner

Men of St. Joseph

The Men of St. Joseph International is a Catholic association of men committed to Jesus Christ. Our monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, **February 7th at 7:00 PM** in the Parish Hall. New members are welcome.

Young at Heart February Luncheon

Monday, February 26 at Noon (sign in at 11:30 AM)

Menu: TBD

Name (s) _____

Cost: \$15.00 per person. (Please make out checks payable to St. Bernard)
Please respond by **Monday, February 19.**

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

Class Today: 2/4/24

Next Class: 2/25/2024

** Return completed assignments to next in-person class

Sacramental Preparation Program

Grades 2, 8, 9

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

Next Class: 2/11/2024

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/>

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. on 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.

Our Mission 150 Soup Dinner **A Success**



Month	Date	Event	Location	Time
FEB	2	First Friday Holy Hour	Cathedral of Sts. Peter & Paul	7:00 PM - 9:30 PM
FEB	10	Lenten Retreat	Cathedral of Sts. Peter & Paul	8:30 AM - 2:00 PM
MAR	1	First Friday Holy Hour	Cathedral of Sts. Peter & Paul	7:00 PM - 9:30 PM

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