

Saint Bernard Church



March 10, 2024
Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

How is Lent going for you? Prayer? Fasting? Almsgiving? We recently had our parish Lenten Mission with Fr. Jim Quigley, OP. It was very well received by those who were able to attend. His homilies for Mon-Wed focused on Forgiveness, Gratitude and Prayer. Those masses were filmed, and they can be found on our website---in case you were not able to join us.

A few Lenten “trivia” questions and answers-----

How is the date for Easter determined?

Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday after the Paschal full moon. The Paschal full moon is the first full moon occurring on or after the spring equinox. The ‘calendrical’ equinox is March 21st. So, look for when the full moon will appear after March 21st and then move to the first Sunday after that! Since the lunar calendar/lunar movement changes, the date of Easter changes each year. It is not a fixed date, like Christmas, which is always Dec. 25th. Easter can fall any Sunday between March 22nd and April 25th.

Why is Lent forty days in length?

We read in the Gospel of Mark (1:12-15) “The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan.” The number “40” echoes a number of events in the Old Testament. In Genesis 7:4 we read, “I will bring rain down on the earth for forty days and forty nights, and so I will wipe out from the surface of the earth every moving creature that I have made.” Except, of course, for Noah, his family and two of every living creature on the Ark! Genesis continues (8:5-6) “Tops of the mountains appeared. At the end of forty days Noah opened the hatch of the ark that he had made.” Moses spent forty years as a shepherd in the desert before God called him to lead the Israelites out of slavery. Moses fasted for forty days and nights on Mt. Sinai before receiving the tablets of the covenant— “So Moses stayed there with the Lord for forty days and forty nights, without eating any food or drinking any water, and he wrote on tablets the words of the covenant, the ten commandments.” (Ex 34:28). The Israelites spent forty years wandering in the desert, a time of testing, trial and purification of the people before reaching the Promised Land—“Now the Israelites had wandered forty years in the desert, until all the warriors among the people that came forth from Egypt died off because they had not obeyed the command of the Lord.” (Num 32:13) The prophet Elijah spent forty days in the desert before encountering God on Mt. Horeb---“Elijah got up, ate and drank; then strengthened by that food, he walked forty days and forty nights to the mountain of God, Horeb.” (1 Kgs 19:8) The Ninevites were given forty days before God was going to destroy the city allowing time for repentance and conversion.”

Why were hot cross buns banned and what is their religious significance?

The exact origin of hot cross buns is not known; however, one theory suggests that they were first distributed to the poor in the 14th century by the English monk, Thomas Rodcliff. At one point they became ‘illegal.’ Historians trace the reason for this ‘bun ban’ to Queen Elizabeth (16th century). Records suggest she issued a decree from the London Clerk of Markets completely forbidding the sale of hot cross buns and other spiced bread. The exceptions to this rule were Good Friday and Christmas. Anyone found to be breaking the law would have their hot cross buns confiscated and given to the poor. Many still debate the motivations behind the ban. One theory is that the queen considered them “too special to be eaten any other day.” Records also suggest that the Brits found a way around the ban by baking the buns in their own homes. The cross on the buns represents the crucifixion of Jesus---hence their association with Lent and Easter. (That’s why you only see this item in the markets in March and April). According to tradition---I wouldn’t bank on it---hot cross buns won’t grow mold or spoil at all over the coming year if you bake them on Good Friday. In addition, some believed that a bun taken on a sea voyage will guard against shipwreck. Others suggest that a bun hung in the kitchen will prevent fires and guarantee perfect baking---as long as you replace the bun every year. Again---I don’t advise it!

---Fr. Gaffney

Soup & Scripture Series: March 23

Name: _____

Number Attending: _____



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, March 11

8:00 AM — *Edward Keenan, Sr.*

TUESDAY, March 12

8:00 AM — *Mary M. McGrath*
Birthday Remembrance by her daughter

WEDNESDAY, March 13

8:00 AM — *Michael Gaffney*
by the Women's Bible Group

THURSDAY, March 14

8:00 AM — *Phyllis & Albert Sciola*
by their family

FRIDAY, March 15

8:00 AM — *John Coppa*
by his family

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, March 16

5:00 PM — *Giuseppina D'Angella*
by Dan & Madeleine O'Leary

SUNDAY, March 17

7:00 AM — *Chester Wachowicz*
by his family

8:30 AM — *John Walsh*

10:30 AM — *Michael J. Gaffney*

St. Bernard Church

Celebrates 150 Years

1874—2024 : MISSION 150



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

March 15th Event History of St. Bernard Church

On Tuesday, March 5th, Rev. Robert Hayman, professor emeritus of History at Providence College, gave a talk on the "History of St. Bernard Church". Father Hayman has written a multi-volume history of the Diocese of Providence. You can view his presentation on our website:

www.stbernardnk.org/history/

Fr. Quigley greets parishioners after a Lenten Mission Mass



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 next meeting is March 19th.

Grief Group

The schedule of meetings are **Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30**, March 12th, April 16th, May 14th. If anyone would like more information about the group, please see Fr. Gaffney.

Morning Glory Gathering

Please join us for coffee and socializing on **Thursday, March 14th** after the 8:00 AM morning Mass in the Parish Hall.

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

Parish Support

February 25, 2024 2023

Basket	\$6,880.00	\$5,581.00
ACH	\$3,934.00	\$2,469.00
	March 3 2024	2023
Basket	\$7,218.00	\$11,890.00
ACH	\$3,754.00	\$3,152.00
YTD	\$394,062.00	\$378,780.00

Debt Reduction Collection

February Total: \$5,945.56
Year-To-Date: \$34,458.56

Thank you for your generous response to this monthly collection!

All Day Confessions

Saturday, March 23, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Four confessors available all day

Our Lady of Mercy Church, 65 Third Street
East Greenwich, RI

Stations of the Cross

In case you can't be with us for Stations of the Cross on Friday mornings immediately after the 8:00 a.m. morning Mass, here are some local options:

Our Lady of Mercy (East Greenwich) at 7:00 p.m.
St. Francis De Sales (N. Kingstown) at 7:00 p.m.
St. Francis of Assisi (Wakefield) at 7:00 p.m.

Lent at St. Bernard 2024 Mission 150

Weekdays: Mass at 8:00 a.m. Come for Morning Mass, Monday-Friday at 8:00 a.m.

The Magnificat Lenten Companion. Pick up a copy of this publication with daily reflections. One per household, please.

Stations of the Cross. This devotional prayer will take place on Friday mornings immediately after the Morning Mass. (This has worked out well for the past three years.)

Lenten Mission: Our Lenten Mission was held on February 26th, 27th and 28th, with Mass celebrated and preached by Rev. James Quigley, OP. You can watch the Masses and listen to Fr. Quigley's homilies on our website at:

www.stbernardnk.org/lent/

Soup and Scripture Series. Fr. Gaffney will offer a "Bible Study" focusing on the Gospel of Mark on Saturdays at noon. A simple meal of 'soup' will be offered. The final date is:
March 23rd.

Bring your Bible. Arrive at the parish center 11:30-11:45. Each session will begin at noon and end at 1:00 p.m. A free will offering will be accepted. Please call, e-mail, or return response slip in the bulletin to the parish center one week in advance.

Rice Bowls. These will be available if you would like to use them for "sacrificial giving" during Lent.

Sacrament of Penance. We will increase the time available on Saturday afternoons. We will add 30 minutes to the time for 'confessions'. For the Saturdays of Lent, we will offer the Sacrament of Penance from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Young at Heart March Luncheon

Monday, March 18 at Noon (sign in at 11:30 AM)
Name (s) _____

Menu: Corned Beef & Cabbage

Cost: \$15.00 per person. (Please make out checks payable to St. Bernard)
Please respond by **Monday, March 11.**

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: 3/17/2024

** 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: 3/10/2024

Next Class: 3/24/2024

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.

Youth Easter Choir

The Youth Choir is looking for singers ages 6 years old to high school aged students!! We will be singing Easter Morning at the 10:30 am Mass. Rehearsals will be in the Parish Center March 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th from 5-5:45pm

North Kingstown Food Pantry

“Dear Friends,

Your thoughtful donation of 163 pounds of food during the month of January 2024 to the North Kingstown Food Pantry is so appreciated. Thank You!”

Kimberly A. Page,
President of the Board of Directors

St. Bernard Scholarship Fund

Applications are now available on the Parish web site and at the Parish Center for graduating high school seniors of the Parish. Three \$2,500 scholarships will be awarded in June 2024. To be considered, completed applications must be returned by April 15, 2024.

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 student. 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. Francis de Sales on Sunday, March 10th, from 6PM-7:30PM. For a list of all the upcoming dates, please refer to our website:

www.stbernardnk.org/youth-ministry/

The 2024 Catholic Charity Appeal **St. Martin De Porres Senior Center**



Every time a meal is provided to someone who otherwise may go hungry, you make a difference. Together as a Catholic Community of Hope, we can provide nourishment through a warm meal to someone through the St. Martin de Porres Center in Providence.

Please support all those going without in our state with a generous gift to the 2024 Catholic Charity Appeal.

Dioceseofprovidence.org/CCA

Hope Health and Hospice

Volunteer Opportunities
Call: (833) 818-1919

VolunteeratHopeHealth@HopeHealthCo.org
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