

# Saint Bernard Church



## December 10, 2023 Second Sunday of Advent

### 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

Advent is upon us! At Mass we pray the following prayer after the Our Father: “Deliver us, Lord, from every evil, and grant us peace in our day. In your mercy, keep us free from sin and protect us from all anxiety, *as we wait in joyful hope* for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.”

What does it mean to ‘wait in joyful hope’? I believe part of waiting is to experience silence. It seems that in our technological age we have less and less silence----or rather, there are many more distractions available----that we choose----think of our computers, tablets, phones-----just for a start! We live in a world where there can be ‘noise’ around us 24 hours per day. Advent invites us to ‘waiting’-----and how then can we embrace the silence we find in waiting? One spiritual writer has said, “At first silence might only frighten us. In silence we start hearing voices of darkness: our jealousy and anger, our resentment and desire for revenge, our lust and greed, and our pain over losses, abuses, and rejections. These voices are often noisy and boisterous. They may even deafen us. Our most spontaneous reaction is to run away from them and return to our entertainment.”

In the early 1960s, Dolores Hart stunned the Hollywood community when she left behind an acting career for the monastic life. She chronicled her story in The Ear of the Hart: An Actress’ Journey from Hollywood to Holy Vows. She writes, “I have been a professed nun of the Abbey of Regina Laudis in Bethlehem, Connecticut, for over fifty years.” She continues, “But before I was a nun, I was an actress! As a professional actress---trained for both film and stage---I knew well the power of silence to communicate something beyond words. The memory of Dame Judith Anderson stealing a scene by simply standing in silence and stroking a cat comes to mind. Silence is far more than the absence of noise---it can be full of whatever is not being said, whatever is rumbling around in the heart. That is why silence cannot be imposed or legislated from without. Neither can it be achieved by an act of will. Silence springs from deep within the core of a person, as all primal human instincts and responses do. Silence, like love itself, grows in the hidden depths of the soul. Far from being in opposition to communication and exchange, real silence depends entirely on growth in relationship, both with God and with other people.”

Advent is a unique time to grow in our relationship with God. Where can we find the silence in a short period of time that can insert so many activities and tasks to be accomplished? Perhaps we need to be more intentional about giving ourselves to the silence----letting that ‘quiet time’ surface.

You will recall the passage in First Kings when Elijah is asked to go out and stand on the mountain for the Lord was about to pass by. Elijah was discouraged, frightened and upset because he had been doing the Lord’s work and he was the only one left. A great and powerful wind came by, but the Lord was not in that. An earthquake and fire came, but the Lord was not in those either. After the fire, a gentle whisper came and that was where Elijah heard the Lord speaking to him. Can I take time for the whisper of God in my life. Advent invites us to listen to the whisper. In silence we can hear the voice of God. Silence allows a connection to God beyond what words can express. Psalm 46:10 says, “Be still and know that I am God.”

The spiritual writer mentioned earlier speaks of ‘dark voices’----yes, we can sometimes hear these dark voices when we become quiet, when we await the whisper of God---but this author also tells us, “But if we have the discipline to stay put and not let these dark voices intimidate us, they will gradually lose their strength and recede into the background, creating space for the softer, gentler voices of the light. These voices speak of peace, kindness, gentleness, goodness, joy, hope, forgiveness and most of all, love.” He continues, “They (these voices) have been speaking to us since before we were born, and they reveal to us that there is no darkness in the One who sent us into the world, only light. They are part of God’s voice calling us from all eternity: ‘My beloved child, my favorite one, my joy.’”

Let us wait in joyful hope.....

Fr. Gaffney



## Mass Intentions

**MONDAY, December 11**

8:00 AM – *Mark Delaney*  
by The Counters

**TUESDAY, December 12**

8:00 AM – *Greyson Lee Toillion*

**WEDNESDAY, December 13**

8:00 AM – *Stella Dabrowski*

**THURSDAY, December 14**

8:00 AM – *Thomas Delaney*  
by his family

**FRIDAY, December 15**

8:00 AM – *John McGrath*  
by his daughter

### **WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

**SATURDAY, December 16**

5:00 PM – *Fr. Bob Hawkins*  
by Nancy Field

**SUNDAY, December 17**

7:00 AM – *Vincent & Barbara Pellegrino*  
by their family

8:30 AM – *David Calderone*  
by his family

10:30 AM – *Alice Leonard*  
by her family



## Christmas Mass Schedule

Sunday, December 24:  
4:00 PM & 6:00 PM

Monday, December 25:  
7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM

### Confession Times Added for the Week Before Christmas

Many people are accustomed to ‘going to confession’ before Christmas. We have added some additional times for this opportunity.

**Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>** we have added 3:00 – 4:00 pm (in addition to the usual 4:00-4:40 pm).

**Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>** we have added 5:30 – 6:30 pm.

**Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>** we have added 9:00 – 11:00 am (this is during our usual time of Eucharist Adoration).

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered in the Reconciliation Room where there is a choice of ‘going anonymously’ (kneeling behind a screen) or sitting ‘face to face’.



### Morning Glory Gathering

Please join us for coffee and socializing on  
**Thursday, December 14**  
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

November 26, 2023 2022

Basket	\$6,011.00	\$5,249.00
ACH	\$2,604.00	\$2,156.00

December 3, 2023 2022

Basket	\$5,453.00	\$6,967.00
ACH	\$3,754.00	\$4,246.00

YTD \$234,394.00 \$229,371.00

## 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 151 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.

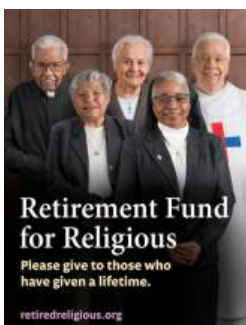
## Debt Reduction Collection

November Total: \$4,283.00  
Year-To-Date: \$41,689.00

Thank you for your generous response to this monthly collection!

## Retirement Fund for Religious

**Support a lifetime of service.** Women and men religious have spent their lives serving others in prayer, ministry, education and care for those in need—usually for little or no pay. Today, their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. As they age, they require essential care and medications. Please support them by giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Your donation makes a difference for nearly 25,000 senior men and women religious. Please give generously



Congratulations to  
Liz Russo and Kyle Cruz  
who were united in the Sacrament of  
Holy Matrimony on Saturday December 2.



## The Giving Tree

The tree is up. Please take a tag and fulfill the suggested gift. Attach the tag to the gift and place it under the tree by December 17, unless otherwise noted on the tag. For some individuals it will be their only gift. We need time to process them well before Christmas. If you cannot, for any reason, fulfill the request, please return the tag to the tree or the Parish Office as soon as possible. If your family, or any family you know, needs help with gifts this Christmas, please contact the parish center@ 401.295.0387 or email: [sbc.pa@verizon.net](mailto: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:

December 12  
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.

## **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: 12/17

\*\* 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: 12/10

Next Class: 1/7/2024

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.

## **St Bernard's Website**

You may have noticed a new look on our parish website. This is due to a cost saving measure. Our website is now hosted on our bulletin publisher's, John-Patrick, platform. Some pages were moved around but we are sure you will find them. The address remains the same:

<https://www.stbernardnk.org>

## **Annual Coat Drive**

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.

## **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 here at St. Bernard's parish center on Friday, December 15th from 6PM-7:30PM. For a list of all the upcoming dates, please refer to our website: [www.stbernardnk.org/faith-formation/youth-ministry](http://www.stbernardnk.org/faith-formation/youth-ministry)

**St. Bernard Church and the  
Knights of Columbus Council 2011 hosts**

## **PANCAKES WITH SANTA**

**Sunday - December 17, 2023  
10:30am-12pm**



**Visit with Santa,  
Crafts and Games**

**Breakfast Includes:  
pancakes, juice,  
coffee,  
hot chocolate**

*Free offering will be accepted*

## **Young at Heart December Luncheon**

**Monday, December 18 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, December 11.**

Family Owned & Operated  
for 5 Generations Since 1857

Pre-Planning &  
Pre-Financing Available



# FAGAN~QUINN

## Funeral Home & Cremation Services

**Traditional Funerals, Simple Cremation & Life Celebration Services**

825 BOSTON NECK ROAD, NORTH KINGSTOWN, RI  
401-295-5603 | [www.FaganQuinnFuneralHome.com](http://www.FaganQuinnFuneralHome.com)

Michael F. Quinn • Patrick J. Quinn • Jerome D. Quinn  
Christopher P. Quinn, Managing Director  
Chelsea M. Gaudreau • Steven A. DiLorenzo



3347 S. COUNTY TRAIL, EAST GREENWICH, RI 02818  
401.884.2880  
Sunday-Thursday 11:30am-11:30pm • Friday & Saturday 11:30am-12:00am



JOHN J. MICELI - OWNER  
401-433-ROOF  
[www.MiceliRoofing.com](http://www.MiceliRoofing.com)  
RI REG #10135 #210R MA REG #186095

**Welcome  
to Our Church!**



**Quidnessett Memorial  
Cemetery**

Since 1902  
NON-DENOMINATIONAL  
401-884-7691  
by appointment  
6365 Post Road  
North Kingstown, RI  
[www.qmcemetery.org](http://www.qmcemetery.org)



[meblandscaping.com](http://meblandscaping.com)

401.294.7546

**PAUL BAILEY'S**

CHRYSLER • DODGE • JEEP • RAM

425 Ten Rod Road (Route 102)  
North Kingstown  
295-8855 • 884-1900

Visit us at: [baileydeal.com](http://baileydeal.com)

**Give Yourself the Gift of Clear Vision**  
Schedule Your Appointment Today (401) 884-6066



**Total Family Eye Care**  
Contact Lenses • Quality Eyewear  
5393 Post Road • East Greenwich  
[www.eastgreenwicheye.com](http://www.eastgreenwicheye.com)

**DISTINCTIVE WINDOW DESIGNS**  
**HunterDouglas**

Don Altieri - Usher/St.Mary's  
444 Budlong Rd., Cranston, RI  
461-0990  
Featuring full lines of Window Shading,  
Window Treatments, Shutters, Draperies,  
Valences, Bedspreads & Curtains.  
NOW CARRYING SUNSETTER AWNINGS



401-999-2254  
[rinaldiroofingri.com](http://rinaldiroofingri.com)

**CENTURY 21**  
Topsail Realty



Christopher B. Perrotti  
REALTOR®  
Cell: 401.855.2594  
[cbperrotti@gmail.com](mailto:cbperrotti@gmail.com)  
[chrisperrotti.com](mailto:chrisperrotti.com)  
Loyal, Honest & Looking  
to Work Hard for You



Estate Planning & Elder Law  
401-738-1910  
[rampinolaw.com](http://rampinolaw.com)

**New England  
BOILER WORKS**

Providing Residential  
& Commercial Services  
in Rhode Island & Southeastern MA  
For Gas, Oil and Steam Systems  
401-256-9249  
270 Hopkins Hill Rd  
Coventry, RI 02816  
[www.neboilerworksri.com](http://www.neboilerworksri.com)



**Sponsor Support**

HOW YOU CAN HELP OUR COMMUNITY,  
OUR SPONSORS

Our sponsors pay for our parish bulletin.  
Help us support them, thank them, and show them  
the Finding FABER app  
when you visit their establishments.



JOHN PATRICK  
publishing company, inc.

For Advertising Information Contact  
**DAN LINNELL**  
Cell: 508-566-2717  
1-800-333-3166 x197



Make a Difference in Your Community

**VOLUNTEER**

with the American Red Cross

Join today at [redcross.org/Volunteer](http://redcross.org/Volunteer)

**Mallory's Army Foundation**

United Together In The Fight Against Bullying...  
Don't Just Teach Kindness... BE KINDNESS!

[www.MallorysArmy.com](http://www.MallorysArmy.com)  
(973) 440-8657 • [info@mallorysarmy.org](mailto:info@mallorysarmy.org)

It's easy to join our mailing list! Just send your email address by text message:  
Text MALLORYSARMY to 22828 to get started.



Message and data rates may apply.

**RIDESHARE ZONE**

**S** top

**A** sk

**M** atch

**I** nform

**#WHATSMYNAME**