

SAINT BERNADETTE CATHOLIC CHURCH



109 West Main St. • PO Box 11 • Hedgesville, WV 25427

Phone: 304-754-7830 • Email: office@stbernadettewv.org

www.stbernadettewv.org

Office Hours: Mon—Thurs 10 AM—2 PM; Fri 10 AM—12 PM

Office is located in the Religious Education Building

ST. BERNADETTE DIRECTORY

Pastor, Rev. Fr. Aloysius Boh

Parish Secretary, Lynette Kammerer

Music Director, Linda Abrahamian

Sacristan, Kevin Ferrell

kevin.a.ferrell@gmail.com

Religious Ed., Sara Struemke

reled@stbernadettewv.org

OCIA, Eric Colliflower

Finance Chairperson, Paul Guttman

Youth Ministry Coordinator, Linda
Abrahamian

Maintenance, Joe Comer

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5 PM
Sunday: 9 AM & 11 AM
Tuesday: 9 AM
Wednesday: 9 AM & 6 PM
Thursday: 9 AM
Friday: 9 AM

Adoration every Friday after 9 AM Mass
with Benediction at 12 NOON

1st Saturday: 9 AM Mass
Rosary immediately following

Confession

Wednesday: 5—5:45 PM

Saturday: 4—4:45 PM

Sunday: 8:15—8:45 AM
or by appointment

April 21, 2024 Forth Sunday of Easter

I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. (John 10:11)



Mission Statement:

St. Bernadette Catholic Church is a Christian community in the Catholic tradition following the direction of the Holy Spirit in building the kingdom of God and the church in Hedgesville and beyond. Through Word, Worship, Ministry, and Service we celebrate our common faith given in baptism. Grateful for our faith, we seek to grow in love toward all. “It is by your love for one another that everyone will recognize you as my disciples.” —John 13:35

REFLECTION

Laying Down Your Life

Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. A hired man, who is not a shepherd and whose sheep are not his own, sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf catches and scatters them. This is because he works for pay and has no concern for the sheep." John 10:11

Traditionally, this Fourth Sunday of Easter is called "Good Shepherd Sunday." This is because the readings for this Sunday from all three liturgical years come from the tenth chapter of John's Gospel in which Jesus teaches clearly and repeatedly about His role of being the Good Shepherd. What does it mean to be a shepherd? More specifically, how is it that Jesus most perfectly acts as the Good Shepherd of us all?

The image of Jesus being a shepherd is an endearing image. Many artists have shown Jesus as a gentle and kind man holding a sheep in His arms or on His shoulders. In part, it is this holy image that we put before our mind's eye to ponder today. This is an inviting image and one that helps us to turn to our Lord, as a child would turn to a parent in need. But though this gentle and endearing image of Jesus as a shepherd is quite inviting, there are other aspects of His role as Shepherd that should also be considered.

The Gospel quoted above gives us the heart of Jesus' definition of the most important quality of a good shepherd. He is one who "lays down his life for the sheep." He is one who is willing to suffer, out of love, for those entrusted to his care. He is one who chooses the life of the sheep over his own life. At the heart of this teaching is sacrifice. A shepherd is sacrificial. And being sacrificial is the truest and most accurate definition of love.

Though Jesus is the "Good Shepherd" Who gave His life for us all, we must also daily strive to imitate His sacrificial love for others. We must be Christ, the Good Shepherd, to others every day. And the way we do this is by looking for ways to lay our lives down for others, putting them first, overcoming every selfish tendency, and serving them with our lives. Love is not only about experiencing endearing and heartwarming moments with others; first and foremost, love is about being sacrificial.

Reflect, today, upon these two images of Jesus the Good Shepherd. First, ponder the tender and gentle Lord Who welcomes you and cares for you in a holy, compassionate, and endearing way. But then turn your eyes to the Crucifixion. Our Good Shepherd did, indeed, give His life for us all. His shepherding love led Him to suffer greatly and to lay His life down so that we could be saved. Jesus was not afraid to die for us, because His love was perfect. We are the ones who matter to Him, and He was willing to do anything necessary to love us, including sacrificing His life out of

love. Ponder this most holy and pure sacrificial love and strive to offer this same love more fully to all those whom you are called to love.

(From My Catholic Life! A journey of personal conversion!)

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, welcome!

I especially extend a warm welcome to anyone who is visiting with us for the first time. Thank you for choosing to worship with us this weekend. Please, come again. As we gather on this Fourth Sunday of Easter, we continue to celebrate the joyous season that illuminates the mighty works of God through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Thank you for your presence and prayers as we gather as a family of God to offer this Eucharistic Sacrifice.

In today's gospel passage, Jesus outlines the characteristics of an authentic shepherd and shows how we can recognize him; a good shepherd cares for the flock to the point of giving his life to protect them. A good shepherd knows each of the sheep well 'by name'. He cares about all of them, even those who stray. Jesus tells us that the sheep hear the voice of the shepherd. Do I recognize and follow that voice? Let us pray for the grace to hear and follow His voice in a very noisy world. Amen.

Eucharistic Adoration: Come adore the Lord for one hour or more in Eucharistic Adoration. The Most Blessed Sacrament is exposed upon the altar of our parish church each Friday from 9:30 AM and end with Benediction at 12 PM. We must have at least one person present during each hour as the Most Blessed Sacrament may not be left alone while exposed. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. What is Adoration? It is a silent time for you to have some time alone with Jesus to recite your favorite prayers, read the bible, contemplate acts of faith, hope, charity, thanksgiving, or reparation, or do whatever type of prayerful devotion that suits you before our Lord. You can sit quietly and say nothing, just keeping Him company like you would with a dear friend. Stay for one minute or for the entire hour. Feel His love and His peace! May you receive many blessings during Adoration this week.

Thank You All: We want to let you know that the fourteen Stations of the Cross and the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mother have been memorialized. A sincere thanks to all those who made a donation. Thanks for your generosity.

PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING

General Fund	\$ 3456.50
Online Giving	\$ 913.02
Maintenance	\$ 1015.00
Outreach	\$ 223.00

THANK YOU FOR TAKING A STEP
TOWARD A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP

CONTINUED FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

African Catholic Eastern Panhandle Community to Celebrate Easter 2024: Join the ACPC at Mass and at a cookout to celebrate Easter 2024 this Sunday, April 21, 2024. Mass will begin at 2:30 PM at St Bernadette Parish Church. Because of the weather, we shall be having dinner immediately after Mass in MacFadden Hall. Please, come hungry!

May Saint Bernadette Soubirous, pray for us.

Happy Sunday, Fr Boh (Pastor)

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Most Rev. Mark Brennan, Bishop of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, has approved a special collection to be held the weekend of April 20-21, 2024, in all parishes and missions throughout the diocese to support recovery efforts related to the series of disasters that have occurred in West Virginia earlier this month. Checks should be made out to St. Bernadette with **"Disaster Relief"** on the memo line. Specially marked envelopes are available in the narthex.

First Holy Communion: First Holy Communion will take place next Sunday, April 28 at the 9 AM Mass. Please join us in this special celebration and continue to pray for those receiving their First Holy Communion: Hannah Beutler, Mary Beutler, Elijah Crotti, Sebastian Domich, Thomas Gautreaux, Lincoln Hey, Marcus Hunstberry, Michael Rivera, Madalyn Smith, Sylvie Swisher, and Alex Weaver

Raffle Tickets are being sold again this weekend to benefit Mary's Refuge Maternity Home. Please stop by to pick up a chance to win a beautiful themed basket on display in the Narthex. The drawing will be held May 4th - Just in time for Mother's Day.

Mary's Refuge is holding a Mother's Day dinner on May 5th from 4-6 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Martinsburg. All are welcome! More information can be found at marysrefuge.com under events tab. Please RSVP no later than April 19th.

Save the Date!! Dive into an unforgettable "underwater" adventure with us at the Totally Catholic Scuba VBS!

Dates: August 5th - 9th

Location: St. Bernadette Church

Theme: "Scuba-Diving into Friendship with God"

Get ready to explore the depths of faith through fun activities, engaging lessons, and exciting adventures! Whether you're a seasoned diver or just dipping your toes in the water, there's something for everyone at our Totally Catholic Scuba VBS. Mark your calendars and join us for an ocean of faith-filled fun! Stay tuned for more details coming soon!

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Mary Cordelli, Sharee Buberl, Bonnie Hart, Kathy Skane, Msgr. Patrick Fryer, Randy Bookwalter, Ginger Spice, Walter Shenk, Robin Marlin, Betty Foley, Beverly Barrett, Tim Umrysz, Theresa Comer, Bob Baker, Betty Beniot, Hank Chase, Freddy Highlands, Linda & Bernie Guy, Jackie Crouse, Kevin Lathwell, Dorothy Knipe, Rebecca Ramsey, Abby & Libby Conley, Shane Terry, Linda Spiker, Carol Bogacz, Vicki Lowery, Wayne Montañó, Ron Robertson, Pat Reeser

Please keep the sick and homebound, and those that have no one to pray for them, in your thoughts and prayers. You may call the Parish Office at 304-754-7830 to add a name to our Prayer List.

WEEKLY CALENDAR



Sunday, April 21st

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for the People of the Parish

10:15—11:45 AM Religious Education

11 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Intention for Fr. William Appel

2:30 PM African Community

Mass

Africa Community Easter Picnic

Tuesday, April 23rd

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Vincent Gonzalez

10 AM Stitches from the Heart

Wednesday, April 24th

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Intention for Carmela Gonzalez

5-5:45 PM Confession

6 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

Thursday, April 25th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Vincent Gonzalez, Jr.

Friday, April 26th

9:00 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Pocholo Gayoso

Adoration following the 9 AM Mass

12 NOON Benediction

Saturday, April 27th

10:30 AM Book Club

4—4:45 PM Confession

5 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for the People of the Parish

Sunday, April 28th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Joe & Anita Edwards

11 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Intention for Theresa Highlands

Sacrament of Baptism: Parents must be registered with the Parish Office and are required to attend a Preparation Session before the Baptism can be scheduled. To register for the Preparation Class, please call the Parish Office at 304-754-7830.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Will be held Wednesday evening from 5:20—5:50 PM, Saturday 4—4:45 PM, and Sunday 8:15—8:45 AM. Confession is also available by appointment at anytime. Please call the Parish Office to schedule an appointment.

Order of Christian Initiation: The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults begins in August and ends in April. These classes are for members who wish to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church. If you need to receive Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Communion, and/or Confirmation, and are interested in attending OCIA, please call the Parish Office at 304-754-7830.

Sacrament of Marriage: Engaged couples planning to marry at St. Bernadette Catholic Church should be practicing Catholics, participating in Sunday Eucharist regularly. Also they must participate in a Marriage Preparation Program. Call the Parish Office for information. At least six months notice is required. No date for a wedding will be set over the phone.

Holy Communion to the Sick and Homebound: When a Parishioner is confined to home or hospital because of illness or advanced age, call the Parish Office. We will be happy to make arrangements to bring Holy Communion.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick: Upon request and Communally as scheduled.

Parish Membership: We give a heartfelt welcome to all new people moving into our Parish. You can get a registration form from the Parish Office or you can register on our website at www.stbernadettewv.org. Those who plan to move from our Parish Community are asked to inform us.

St. Bernadette Pastoral Council: Pat Winkelman, Chairperson; Cindy Lathwell, Secretary; Members: Tom Bibby, Lynette Kammerer, Carol Sloan, Sara Struemke, Jean Ridley, Linda Abrahamian, Maureen Sabol, Joe Comer, Paul Guttman, and Neil Shanholtzer

St. Bernadette Finance Ministry: Paul Guttman, Neil Shanholtzer, and Jeff Ferrell

Ministries: If you are interested in training for any of the following ministries: Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, Lector, Altar Server, or Usher, please contact the Parish Office.

Hospital Visits: Because of the HIPPA regulations, we are not notified when someone from our Parish is in the hospital. If you want a Priest to visit you, please contact the Parish Office yourself, have a close family member contact us, or ask someone at the hospital to contact us. Friends and neighbors do not make the decision for a Priest to visit the sick. It must be at the request of the family. If you are local, we can make the visit. If you are in Winchester, please let the hospital know that you want a priest or contact the local parish.

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday 22nd—Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42; Jn 10:1-10

Tuesday 23rd—Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday 24th—Acts 12:24-13:5a; Ps 67; Jn 12:44-50

Thursday 25th—St. Mark, evangelist; 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89; Mk 16:15-20

Friday 26th—Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday 27th—Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98; Jn 14:7-14

Sunday 28th—Acts 9:26-31; Ps 22; 1 Jn 3:18-24; Jn 15:1-8

**SAFE ENVIRONMENT
CARING FOR GOD’S CHILDREN**

To report an incident of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800-352-6513. In addition to civil authorities, to report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact the Diocese at 888-434-6237 or 304-233-0880. Please visit www.dwc.org under “Accountability” for additional information and reporting methods.