

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 10am—2pm; Fri 10am—12pm
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., Deb Mackesy
reled@stbernadettewv.org

RCIA, Theresa Highlands

Finance Chairperson, Paul Guttman

Youth Ministry Coordinator, Linda
Abrahamian

Maintenance, Joe Comer

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 9 AM & 11 AM

Saturday: 5 PM

Tuesday: 9 AM

Wednesday: 9 AM & 6 PM

Thursday—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: 5:20—5:50PM

Saturday: 4—4:45PM

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

April 30, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Easter

I am the gate for the sheep. John 10:1-10



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

Theme: “The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want” (Ps. 23:1).

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, Welcome to our celebration on this Fourth Sunday of Easter, also known as “Good Shepherd,” Sunday. On this Sunday, the World Day of Prayer for vocations is celebrated. We are exhorted to pray especially for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. In today’s Gospel passage, Jesus presents Himself as the Good Shepherd who alone tends his flock with deep tenderness and protects it from evil. “The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want,” says the Psalmist.

Growing up in my native village, Njinikom, in Cameroon, we had a dog called Jack. Jack was very protective of us. We treated him as one of us, that is, one of the members of the Boh family. Young and weak as we were, we would go out and look for trouble with any young person in the village, no matter his/her height, size, or physical strength because we knew Jack will always do the fighting for us. Poor creature! We led him into many of such unnecessary fights. When the family was at lunch or dinner, Jack would always lie across the main door to the dinner room to prevent any stranger from coming into the house. So, we always had our meals knowing that nobody can come to shorten our ratio. Being the good security dog that Jack was, when we went to bed in the night we slept peacefully, knowing that Jack will prevent us from any danger. Jack knew us and knew whenever we were in danger, and he would come to our rescue.

Jesus, the Good Shepherd, presents himself as the Good Shepherd who tends his flock with deep tenderness and protects it from evil, and in Him alone can the faithful put absolute trust. He says that He is the door of the sheepfold. He ensures that all the sheep come into the sheepfold. Once they are in, He remains at the door or even lies down at the door in the night. Thus, He watches over the sheep in the night. This presence of the Shepherd who acts as the door prevents sheep from going out of the fold. It also protects the sheep from the attack of thieves and of wild animals.

Jesus knows His sheep intimately and they know Him and hear His voice. As a Good Shepherd, He will not abandon His flock. He is ready to die to protect His sheep. Indeed, He did die on the Cross for His flock. He laid down His life so that we, His sheep might be able to have life: “I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly” (Jn. 10:10). As a Good Shepherd, Jesus shows His love for His sheep. He knows them and calls each of them by name. “Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, before you were born, I dedicated you, ...” (Jer. 1:5). He does not own an anonymous collection of animals; he takes an interest in each sheep. It is so comforting to know that Jesus knows my name, that He calls me by name. But do I hear Him when He calls?

Palestine shepherds used to gather their flocks together into one-fold in the night. One shepherd guarded them while the others rested. In the morning when a shepherd showed up and spoke to the gatekeeper his sheep would recognize his voice out of all other voices and gather around him.

In today’s Gospel Jesus says, “When the shepherd has

driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice”. The question to ask ourselves today is How can we hear the voice of the Lord amidst the many voices in our world or society all promising us security, happiness, and peace? The voice of Jesus the Good Shepherd will be recognized by those who are accustomed to listening to Him speak to us in the Gospel. Reflecting on this Gospel passage, Pope Benedict XVI had this to say: “We can listen to the voice of the Lord in the preaching of the Apostles and their Successors in which Christ’s voice rings out calling us in communion with God and to the fullness of life” (Papal Message for Day of Prayer for Vocations, 2011).

Growing up, my siblings and I would put our trust in Jack and challenge any child in the village to a physical fight. We would go to bed in the night and have a good sleep because we trusted that Jack was protecting us. May we put our absolute trust in Christ the Good Shepherd who alone protects His flock from evil. Once you put your absolute trust in Him, then you can rest secure within His fold. That is why the Psalmist could say: “Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil; for you are at my side with your rod and your staff that give me courage”. Let’s examine our lives today. Are you a good shepherd or are you more like a brigand?

Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Risen Lord, may God bring forth and sustain many holy vocations for the service of the church and of the world. Amen.

Saint Bernadette Soubrouse, pray for us.

Fr Boh

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

Beloved brothers and sisters, Welcome! A special welcome to those who are worshipping with us for the first time and who are coming back after a long period of time. Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. Please know that you are always welcome to worship with us here at Saint Bernadette whenever you are in the area.

Eucharistic Congress: We thank all those who represented Saint Bernadette for the Martinsburg Vicariate Eucharistic Congress last weekend at Saint James Parish, Charles Town.

Priest Convocation 2023: I shall be in Charleston, WV from Tuesday, May 2nd to Thursday, May 4th for Priest Convocation 2023.

PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING

General Fund	\$ 3214.00
Online Giving	\$ 337.90
Capital Improvements	\$ 545.00
Diocesan	\$ 100.00
Outreach	\$ 43.00

THANK YOU FOR TAKING A STEP TOWARD
A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP

CONTINUED FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction: "Could you not watch with Me one hour?" (Mt 26:40). Exposition and adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament takes place every Friday from immediately morning Mass and ends with Benediction at 12 noon. Come spend some quiet time with our Eucharistic Lord!

Pope's Prayer Intention for May 2023 - For church movements and groups: That Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

The month of May is well-known as "Mary's Month," a specific month of the year when special devotions are performed in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We shall honor her this month by praying the Rosary every Wednesday after the 6 PM Mass at the Grotto.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Please pray for our First Communion candidates, Caroline Goodman and Sylvia Hudy, as they will be receiving their sacrament next weekend during the 9 AM Mass.

Quilt Raffle Sales will take place after all Masses on April 29th & 30th and May 6th & 7th. Tickets are 2 for \$5. Fr. Boh will draw the winning ticket after the 11AM Mass on May 7th. (Need not be present to win). Proceeds will be used to purchase sleeping bags and tents for the homeless.



There is a **Hospitality Ministry meeting** this Wednesday after the 9 AM Mass. We have a lot going on as the school year comes to an end. All who are interested in helping are invited to attend.

All are welcome to attend a goodwill Mother's Day brunch, sponsored by Mary's Refuge, to celebrate and give thanks to and for mothers on Saturday, May 6th at 10 AM at St. Joseph School cafeteria. This is a free event but donations will be accepted. RSVP is required by May 3rd by emailing office.marysrefuge@gmail.com.

If you know of someone who is **sick or homebound**, please call the Parish Office at 304-754-7830 so that we can bring them communion and send them a bulletin.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Linda Guy, Bernie Guy, Mary Cordelli, Sharee Buberl, Bonnie Hart, Angela Ramsey, Kathy Skane, Msgr. Patrick Fryer, Randy Bookwalter, Ginger Spice, Joe Schlegel, Walter & Helena Shenk, Isabella Horning, Robin Marlin, Betty Foley, Wayne Montañó, Beverly Barrett, Cathy Poplawski, Tim Umrysz, Theresa Comer, Victoria Porter, Tommy Mackesy

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 30th**

8:15—8:45 AM Confession

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Those on the Prayer List

10:15—11:30 AM Religious Ed

11 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Herold Watkins

Tuesday, May 2nd

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Intention for Clarence Franko

9:30 AM Stitches from the Heart

Wednesday, May 3rd

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

9:30 AM Hospitality Ministry Meeting

5—5:45 PM Confession

6 PM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Rosary immediately following in the Grotto

Thursday, May 4th

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Friday, May 5th

9:00 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for those that have no one to pray for them

Adoration following the 9 AM Mass

12 NOON Benediction

First Saturday, May 6th

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Intention for those who are persecuted

Rosary immediately following

4—4:45 PM Confession

5 PM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Intention for Lydia Francisco

Sunday, May 7th

Donut Sunday

8:15—8:45 AM Confession

9 AM Mass—1st Communion
—Fr. Boh

Intention for the People of the Parish

10:15—11:30 AM Religious Ed

11 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Sacrament of Baptism: Parents must be registered with the Parish Office and must have regular attendance at Sunday Mass for at least six months and are required to attend a Preparation Class 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.

Rite of Christian Initiation: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA—15 years or older) and the Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC—7 to 14 yrs. of age), begins in August and ends during the Easter Vigil. These classes are for members who wish to enter in full communion with the Catholic Church. If you need to receive Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Communion and/or Confirmation, and are interested in attending RCIA/RCIC, 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, Deb Mackesy, 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 1st—Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42; Jn 10:11-18

Tuesday 2nd—St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday 3rd—St. Philip and James, Apostles; 1 Cor 15:1-8; Ps 19; Jn 14:6-14

Thursday 4th—Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89; Jn 13:16-20

Friday 5th—Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday 6th—Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98; Jn 14:7-14

Sunday 7th—Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33; 1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

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.



FIRST QUARTER FINANCES 2023

Thanks to your generosity, finances at St Bernadette Catholic Church are still doing well! Through the first quarter, income averaged about \$1000 per month more than the same time last year. Expenses continue to be high because of planned capital projects. We have completed the rectory, the parking lot, the bulk of the Parish Hall, and demolished the building next door. Two days before a bereavement luncheon and the fish fry, the compressor on the commercial refrigerator in the hall went out. Thanks to fast work by several volunteers, a new unit was obtained for \$2,250 in time for the events. When the hall is completed, we will have received \$44,645 in grant money from the

Diocese. Our next project is to replace the concrete handicap walkway, concrete in the grotto, and complete a prayer garden next to the Church at an estimated cost of \$41,500. A 50% matching grant from the Diocese has been requested and work will not begin until grants are awarded in June.

CATHOLIC SHARING APPEAL – A true opportunity for St Bernadette – Good News! St Bernadette has reached the 54% level of our Diocesan goal of \$20,320. This has been accomplished through only 33 donors. This means our Parish has donated sufficient funds for the Diocese to carry out its mission and charitable goals with our portion. All additional funds donated from St. Bernadette will be returned to the Parish, assessment free. Everyone can contribute either through the Diocesan website www.dwc.org or with the cards in the pews. If you have not contributed, you will be receiving encouraging letters from Father Boh and the Bishop. This program has really helped both the Diocese and St Bernadette, which has received two CSA grants from the Diocese for sound equipment and an Automatic External Defibrillator. It is not too late to donate!

ONLINE GIVING – An easy way to donate. – Parishioners are finding this as an easy way to contribute to our success. In the first quarter, the Parish received over \$12K online. We now have 42 recurring donors, who have their donations taken directly from their bank or credit card. The portal is easy to use and if recurring, you no longer need to receive envelopes. The portal also permits donations to Diocesan second collections and outreach programs such as Loaves and Fishes, St Vincent de Paul and the African Catholic Community. Don't hesitate to call the Parish office if you need assistance in using the Portal.

VOLUNTEERS – We always need volunteers, but here are 2 new ones.

1. We have received a grant from the Diocese to purchase an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED). This is a life-saving device should a cardiac arrest occur before the arrival of emergency crews. We need a coordinator to track training activities of volunteers in CPR and the AED. This person does not need to do the training. If there are medical personnel or others who are trained in AEDs, we would also appreciate their names for our list.
2. We are looking for a volunteer who knows QuickBooks online to assist in the accounting function of the Parish. This person should also know accounting processes. This position could lead to part-time employment, mostly from home.

If you are interested in volunteering, please call the office at (304) 754-7830.