

SAINT BERNADETTE CATHOLIC CHURCH



ST. BERNADETTE DIRECTORY

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

April 7, 2024 Divine Mercy Sunday

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



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

On that day, all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come forth from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Divine Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy. (Diary of Divine Mercy #699)

This message, spoken by Jesus to Saint Faustina in 1931, has now come true. What was spoken in the solitude of a cloistered convent in Plock, Poland, now is celebrated by the Universal Church throughout the whole world!

Each year, on the Second Sunday of Easter — the last day of the Easter Octave — the Church celebrates the Sunday of Divine Mercy. This feast is based upon the private revelations of Jesus to St. Faustina. In extending this Feast to the entire Church, Pope John Paul II re-emphasized the resurrection context of Easter, citing St. Faustina’s diary: “Humanity will never find peace until it turns with trust to Fount of My Mercy.”

The readings for this Sunday show us our need for God’s Mercy, which is offered to us through the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the forgiveness of our sins, and through each celebration of the Sacraments (all instituted to sanctify us), when we receive them in trusting Faith.

The first reading from Acts of the Apostles gives us a picture of how the first Christian community grew every day because of the acts of mercy -- sharing, sacrificial agápe love -- practiced by the early Christians. In the first section of the Responsorial Psalm (Ps 118), we repeat three times, “His mercy endures forever!” In the second reading, St. Peter glorifies God, the Father of Jesus Christ, for showing us His mercy by granting His Son, Jesus Resurrection from the dead and a glorious Ascension into Heaven, thus giving us the assurance of our own resurrection. Today’s Gospel vividly reminds us of how Jesus instituted the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a sacrament of Divine Mercy. The risen Lord gave his Apostles the power to forgive sins with the words, “Whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain, they are retained” (Jn 20:19-23). Through the Sacrifice of the Holy Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the Church celebrates God’s mercy throughout the year.

The Merciful Savior invites all of us to celebrate and practice mercy in our Christian lives. We can heed this invitation by carrying out the corporal works of mercy (feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, ransom the captive, and bury the dead) or the spiritual works of mercy (instruct the ignorant, counsel the doubtful, admonish

sinners, bear wrongs patiently, forgive offenses willingly, comfort the afflicted, and pray for the living and the dead), as a starting point. May God grant us the loving heart we need to show mercy to others in our daily lives. Jesus, I trust in You.

May Saint Bernadette Soubirous, pray for us.

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

Monday, April 8, 2024 - Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. This feast celebrates the moment when Mary said ‘yes’ to God’s call to be the mother of His Son. The Solemnity of the Annunciation is celebrated every year on March 25, but this year since it occurred during Holy Week, its observance was transferred to the Monday after Divine Mercy Sunday.

REQUESTING A MASS INTENTION

Holy Mass is the memorial of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Christ. The celebration of the Eucharist transcends time and space as it makes sacramentally present the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross. The one and only sacrifice of Christ is the central event of human history that brings creation to its fulfillment in God. When Holy Mass is celebrated Christ’s redemption becomes reality for each individual person.

It is an ancient Christian tradition for the faithful to give an offering to apply a Mass for their intention. In doing that, they also contribute to the good of the Parish and they support her works and ministers. Canon Law regulates this matter very strictly to avoid even any appearance of trafficking or trading. For example, Canon Law states that “nobody is permitted to accept more offerings for Masses to be applied by himself than he can satisfy within a year.”

We are happy to receive your personal intention request for a particular time and date. If you would like to request it, please stop by the parish office at your convenience. Please note, we can only receive one offering per Mass. Of course you are welcome, indeed you are encouraged, to come to Mass on that day your intention is to be taken up. Also, note that a generous donation, is welcome, but it is not the price you pay for a Mass. Also, we would like you to know that even if you cannot make a donation, we will be happy to offer Mass for the intention you request.

Happy Divine Mercy Sunday!

Fr Boh (Pastor)

PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING

General Fund	\$ 5646.75
Online Giving	\$ 1077.89
Maintenance	\$ 25.13
Outreach	\$ 81.00

THANK YOU FOR TAKING A STEP TOWARD A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Prayer Garden: "It's very heartwarming that we will soon have a holy place, a prayer space." Work is in progress on the soon to be 'Prayer Garden', located in the open space between the parish church and 105 building. We'll install Stations of the Cross in this garden. We have a couple of spots remaining at the cost of \$200.00 for memorialization. If we have more than enough requests for the Stations of the Cross, the rest of the money will go in for the purchase of the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Thanks in advance for your generosity. -Fr. Boh

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!

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.

St. Joseph's Angels would like to express their gratitude for the generosity of the parishioners at St. Bernadette's. In addition to clothing for sizes 1-5T, they will take other gently used and clean baby items. There is a space in the narthex for this collection.

Last Day of Religious Education Classes: Please note that the last day of Religious Education Classes has been rescheduled to Sunday, April 21. Make sure to mark your calendars accordingly.

First Holy Communion: We are excited to announce that First Holy Communion will now take place on Sunday, April 28. Please plan accordingly and join us in this special celebration. Thank you for your attention to these changes. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Religious Education office, reled@stbernadettewv.org or 307-754-7830.

Save the Date! Yard Sale, May 18th. Purchase a spot and/or tables for \$10 each. Flyer coming soon.

The **Baby Grand Piano** in the Religious Education Building is for sale. Call the office to make an offer!

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 Montano, 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 7th**

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for the People of the Parish

10—11 AM Donut Sunday

10:15—11:45 AM Religious Education

11 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for All Priests and Religious in Purgatory

Tuesday, April 9th

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Wednesday, April 10th

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Intention for Joseph Bogdonawics

5-5:45 PM Confession

6 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

Thursday, April 11th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

9:30 AM Hospitality Ministry Meeting

Friday, April 12th

9:00 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Marie Françoise Kao

Adoration following the 9 AM Mass

12 NOON Benediction

Saturday, April 13th

4—4:45 PM Confession

5 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Ralph Moch

Sunday, April 14th

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Intention for Sue Comer

10:15—11:45 AM Religious Education

11 AM Mass—Fr. Gallagher

Intention for Kathy Reeser

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 8th—Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday 9th—Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93; Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday 10th—Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34; Jn 3:16-21

Thursday 11th—St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr; Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34; Jn 3:31-36

Friday 12th—Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27; Jn 6:1-15

Saturday 13th—Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33; Jn 6:16-21

Sunday 14th—Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Ps 4; 1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48

**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.

Congratulations!

We would like to extend our congratulations to our newly Baptized, Confirmed and Professed Catholic Adults who came into the Church during the Easter Vigil celebration. Carolina Ortiz-Gonzales received the Sacraments of Baptism and First Holy Communion, Crystal Ortiz received the Sacrament of Baptism, and Samantha Meyer received the Sacrament of Confirmation.



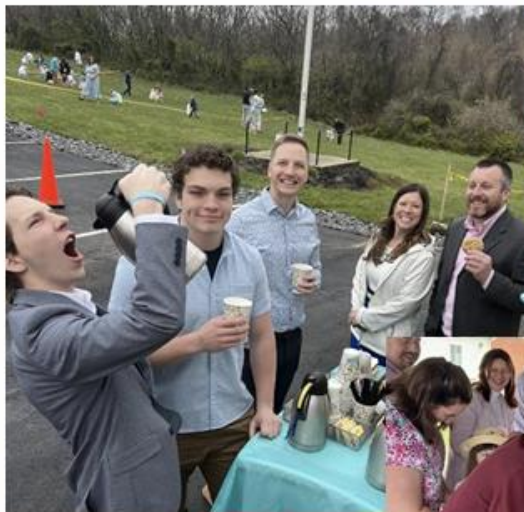
We commend them and their generous sponsors for steadfastly participating in the eight-month OCIA process of coming into the Church and receiving these Sacraments of Initiation. Our prayers are with each of you as you begin the adventure of living the challenging life of a faithful Catholic. Please continue to keep all our new Catholics and their Sponsors in your prayers for their continued growth and perseverance in the Faith.



Easter Vigil



Easter Egg Hunt



Our church decorators hard at work making the church beautiful for Easter. From left to right, Suzy Kinn, Barbara Loeffler, Mary-Frances Smith, Kathy Zier

Dear parishioners of St. Bernadette,

We are delighted to invite you to see and purchase handmade religious articles made by the Sisters of St. Elisabeth Convent (Belarus).

The exposition will take place on **Friday, April 12th after the 9 AM Mass.**

Sisterhood of St. Elisabeth was founded in 1996. Our missionary began in National mental hospital located not far from the Convent. Sisters take care of mentally challenged children and adults. Life of the child with diagnoses such as Down syndrome, birth traumas or congenital physical defects may be quite short and it is painful to see them suffering. Also the adult patients need constant support owing to the fact that their illnesses make it impossible for them to adapt socially.

In the recent years a shelter and house of Labor for former drug and alcohol addicted people was organized 20 miles away from the Convent. A lot of homeless, struggling and lost people get a chance for new start in life to find the God.

In order to help these people some workshops were organized on the premises of the Convent where vulnerable people have a possibility to express themselves in art for God working together with nuns and sisters and making icons (including hand painted), crosses, crucifixes, wood carvings, embroidered and ceramic gifts, rosaries and vestments. All these goods made with love and prayer bring blessings to their owners.

We are happy and thanking God for the opportunity to introduce and offer them to you.

*With Love in Christ,
Sisters of St. Elisabeth Convent*



DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS!



The Sisterhood of St Elisabeth takes care of children and adults with mental and physical disabilities in boarding homes and patients of the National Psychiatric Hospital.



Sisters offer love and spiritual help to the sick and work hard to improve the living conditions for the children suffering from Down's syndrome, birth traumas and cerebral palsy.



They also help ex-prisoners, drug and alcohol addicts at rehabilitation center established for this purpose.

We will have a visiting sister from the Convent of St. Elisabeth (Minsk, Belarus) on

Friday, April 12th after the 9 AM Mass.

The Sisterhood of St. Elisabeth was founded in 1996 and was named in honour of the Holy Martyr and Grand Princess Saint Elisabeth.



PLEASE TAKE THIS SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY to support beautiful work and mission of the sisters by purchasing the items of devotion.

www.obitel-minsk.by stelisabethconvent@gmail.com



Sisters brought with them beautiful religious handcrafts made in the workshops of the Convent.



Handcrafts are available after Masses in our church. The goods at display:

- church vestments;
- icons;
- crosses;
- rosaries;
- other religious items;
- souvenirs;
- Cds.





Help Fill the Pantry 2024

April

Toiletries
Seeds

May

Hot Dogs
Ground Beef
Buns

*** Monetary donations for**

Hot Dogs and Ground Beef are preferred

Additional Pantry items are always needed:

Pasta Sauce, Pasta, Canned Fruit, Soup, Peanut Butter,
Mac & Cheese, Canned Vegetables, Baked Beans, Rice, Syrup,
Pancake Mix, Cereal, Hamburger Helper

Monetary donations can be made to **St. Bernadette
Catholic Church** with "Loaves and Fishes"
on the memo line.

For more information contact:

Karen - 301-992-1368 or Bill - 571-216-9320



Loaves & Fishes GROW YOUR OWN



The HACC (Hedgesville Area Community of Churches) is sponsoring a program to encourage folks to grow their own fresh vegetables. In the spring we will be distributing **Vegetable & Flower Seeds** through


Loaves & Fishes.

 **But we need your help!**

 We will be collecting packets of **SEEDS** donated through the area churches.

 Tomatoes, herbs, peppers, peas, beans, radishes, lettuce, flowers, etc. Last year's seeds are fine!

Partial packs are welcome!

 Please bring your seed donations to church by April 21 for distribution at the April 27th Loaves and Fishes

Thanks for your support!