

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

December 22, 2024 Forth Sunday of Advent

“Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?” (Luke 1:42-43)



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

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 Guttmann

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

REFLECTION

Theme: “Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.” Luke 1:45

As we enter the fourth week of Advent, we are given our Blessed Mother and St. Joseph to reflect upon. Though our Blessed Mother was perfect, and St. Joseph was a deeply virtuous man, they were both still fully human and would have walked through Mary’s pregnancy and Jesus’ birth with every human emotion and experience.

St. Joseph was faced with an extraordinary mystery as he discovered his wife was pregnant. He knew her to be a woman of exceptional virtue and holiness and had to reconcile that with her surprising pregnancy. Even after the angel appeared to him in a dream, he would have had questions arise in his mind as he faced this situation.

Our Blessed Mother was also invited by God to face her pregnancy in faith. Her response was perfect, “Let it be done to me according to your word.” She could not explain nor understand what was happening but, nonetheless, she knew deep in her soul that God was in charge leading all to His glory.

Both Mary and Joseph are wonderful models of faith and obedience. They were obedient to the will of God even though the will of God drew them into an incredible and unfathomable mystery. They were first-hand witnesses to the salvation of the world and to the greatest act ever known. And they both embraced this mystery and accepted it in faith.

Reflect, today, upon your own invitations from God to embrace the mysteries of life. God’s ways are often more than we can comprehend and figure out. Mary and Joseph give us the witness of how we are to handle every mystery God invites us to participate in. Say “Yes” to the will of God just as this holy couple did.

Let us pray: Dearest Mother Mary and Saint Joseph, pray for me that I may have the faith you both lived. When questions arise in my heart, help me to respond generously to God as you did. May I trust in all that God has spoken in imitation of each one of you. Jesus, I trust in You. (From “Catholic Daily Reflections”)

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

My Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, We are already in the fourth week of Advent, with only two more days to go before we celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord! How time flies! On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light the last Advent purple candle. This final purple candle, also known as the “Angel’s Candle,” signifies love.



It reminds us of the angel’s message: “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests” (Lk. 2:14). I decided that we should light these Advent candles during our weekend Masses, and not before the start of Mass, so that our preparation for Christmas is done as a church family.

Penitential Service: Please do not forget that we have Penitential Service tomorrow Monday, December 23rd starting at 4 PM to 5:30 PM in the Parish Church. Msgr.

Ansgar and Fr. Boh will be there to hear your confessions.

Christmas Mass Schedule: Do not forget to put on your calendar the Christmas Mass schedule. This year we will have two masses on Tuesday, December 24th, Christmas Eve Mass at 5 PM (Children’s Mass) and at 7 PM. On Wednesday, December 25th, we will have ONE mass at 9 AM.

Parish Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony:

I wanted to take a moment to thank each one of you who made our Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony last Sunday such a special and



memorable occasion. From those who shopped for the tree and those who prepared the grounds, to our children who decorated and those who led us in the singing, to those who simply came to join in the joy and celebration - thank you!

May the light and love of Christ shine brightly in our hearts and homes this holiday season.

May Bernadette Soubirous, pray and intercede for us!

Happy Sunday, Fr Boh (Pastor)

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, As we gather at this time of the year as family and friends to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, I want to wish you and your loved ones a joyous and blessed Christmas.

This season provides us with many opportunities for fun and partying. But let’s not allow the hustle and bustle of this holiday season to overshadow what Christmas really is about - namely God coming to earth in human flesh, to live among us, and to die on the Cross for us.

PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING FOR 12/15

General Fund	\$ 3650.00
Online Giving	\$ 2221.01
Maintenance	\$ 275.00
Local Outreach	\$ 278.00

Attendance 5 PM—94 9 AM—175 11 AM—99

THANK YOU FOR TAKING A STEP TOWARD A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP

The tendency of the secular world is to make Christmas more about presents, food, Santa Claus, and self-indulgence, and less about celebrating its true meaning. Therefore, we, as Catholics must keep the hustle and bustle under control. We must remain focused on the real meaning and implications of Christmas for us. We must remain committed to professing our Faith in the Incarnation of Jesus and our salvation history and bear witness to this truth.

In this spirit, on November 26, 2024, our Bishop Mark released a pastoral letter on evangelization, "Bringing People to Christ," in which he called on all of us to engage in the evangelization work in the diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, WV. "If your faith matters to you," he said, "do your part." In this spirit, I encourage you not to be ashamed to give witness to Jesus during this festive season and beyond amid so many counter-testimonies. Let us boldly invite others to rejoice with us as we celebrate His birth!

And, as we reflect on the Nativity scene throughout this Christmas season, let us be reminded of the values that Jesus brings love, compassion, kindness, and generosity. May these values guide us as we celebrate Christmas and throughout the coming year. May they guide us and engage us in the evangelization work our bishop is inviting us to.

I extend the love and greetings of each of us at St. Bernadette Parish Office to you and your families. Please know that you are in our prayers and thoughts in this holy season, and our wish is that your hearts may experience the joy of the presence of the Newborn King. May the Virgin Mary and her Infant Son, Jesus, the King of Peace, fill your hearts with the choicest of blessings!

Thank you for being an important part of our parish community.

I encourage you to take a moment to pray for our country, for our world, for brothers and sisters who cannot celebrate Christmas because of one reason or the other. May they experience the healing and comforting touch of the heavenly physician.

I wish you all a Blessed Christmas!

Merry Christmas!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

The Knights of Columbus is interested in opening a new Council here at St. Bernadette. All men, baptized Catholic, age 18 and above and are practicing the Catholic Faith, are invited and encouraged to join. The Knights of Columbus offers many opportunities for men to serve their Parish Family, community and those in need. If you are seeking to enhance your faith journey, please give prayerful consideration to joining today. For questions or more information please see or contact: Greg Hilleary, WV State Warden, Knights of Columbus 304.702.3216 - Dustyboy1025@gmail.com.

Christmas Flower Memorial envelopes are available in the narthex.

Please have all 2024 contributions in by Sunday, 12/29, in order for them to count towards your 2024 tax year.

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, Sharon Peterson, Betty Beniot, Hank Chase, Linda & Bernie Guy, Jackie Crouse, Kevin Lathwell, Dorothy Knipe, Rebecca Ramsey, Linda Spiker, Vicki Lowery, Michael Huey, Isabella Horning, Raymond & Connie Roscoe, Ruth Warner, Glenda Bonfila, Jose M. Boursiquot, Kenny DeHaven, Joseph Bosco, Kathleen McAndrews, Richard Monroe, Barbara Loeffler, Gary E. Manley, Maggie Keating, Sandy Robertson, Irene Zaremba

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, December 22nd

8:15—8:45 AM Confession

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Sue Comer (+)

10:15—11:45 AM Religious Ed

11 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Ron Lindsay (L)

Monday, December 23rd

4—5:30 PM Penitential Service

Tuesday, December 24th

Office Closed

9 AM Daily Mass—Fr. Boh

(Being held in the Religious Ed Bldg.)

5 PM Nativity of the Lord: Vigil—Fr. Boh

Intention for John Slattery (+)

7 PM Nativity of the Lord: Night—Fr. Boh

Intention for June Williams (L)

Wednesday, December 25th

Merry Christmas

Office Closed

9 AM Nativity of the Lord: Day—Msgr.

Ansgar

Intention for Michael Ridley (+)

Thursday, December 26th

Office Closed

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Sarah Bright (+)

Friday, December 27th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for the Laura Samford (+)

Adoration following the 9 AM Mass

12 NOON Benediction

Saturday, December 28th

4—4:45 PM Confession

Intention for the People of the Parish

5 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

Sunday, December 29th

8:15—8:45 AM Confession

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Robert & Erica Lindsay (+)

11 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

St. Bernadette Church Merch



FRONT

BACK



Child sizes
YS, YM, YL, YXL
\$20



Adult sizes
S, M, L, XL, 2X, 3X
\$25



Adult sizes
S, M, L, XL, 2X, 3X
\$40



Adult sizes
S, M, L, XL, 2X, 3X
\$25

Shop online at www.sbcc.hauink.com

Choose "Local Pickup" for FREE shipping

**A volunteer will be available to assist you after all
Masses on 12/21, 12/22 & 1/4, 1/5 (cash or check
only if ordering in the church)**

Production begins January 6th

Big News Is Coming to St. Bernadette! Are You Ready?

We've been dropping hints over the past few weeks, and now it's time to give you the *inside scoop* on what's ahead.

Imagine this:

- A way to reflect on your journey of faith.
- A chance to make your voice heard.
- An opportunity to help **St. Bernadette** thrive as a community of discipleship and faith.

Intrigued? You should be!

Starting soon, our parish will participate in an important survey called the **Disciple Maker Index (DMI)**. This tool is designed to:

- Help you reflect on your personal discipleship journey.
- Provide parish leadership with valuable insights to better serve **YOU**.
- Strengthen our mission of growing together in faith and love.

The survey will take just 10–15 minutes to complete and will be completely confidential. Both **online and paper versions** will be available, so everyone can participate.

Why should you care? Because this is *your chance* to shape the future of St. Bernadette Parish! Together, we can ensure our community continues to grow, thrive, and be a place where Christ's love is at the center of all we do.

Stay tuned next week for all the details about how and when you can take part. For now, we simply ask this: **pray for our parish and for the success of this exciting initiative.**

Let's embrace this journey together—we can't wait to see where it takes us!



St Bernadette's Men's Retreat



Christ, Fellowship, & Nature

Please join us as we get to know each other outside of Church & enjoy the outdoors while deepening our love and knowledge of Jesus.

Reservations w/ payment required by Jan 21st. *Options below are per night, you can opt for 1 night (Saturday night).*

- Full Cabin - 2 queen rooms, 2 twin bunk rooms (\$252)
- Single Room - (\$63)
- Share a room to split the cost
- Cabins are heated and have bathrooms
- Food additional and TBD
- If cost is an issue, please reach out to us

Contacts:

Joe Desantis 718-751-6745 -- jodo716@aol.com

Jeff Ferrell 202-441-6308 -- jeffrey.ferrell@gmail.com

www.cacaponresort.com

Where:

Cacapon State Park, 818 Cacapon Lodge Dr, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

Who:

NOT just St Bernadette's, open to all men 18 and over.

Agenda:

Friday

-6pm: Arrival, introductions, campfire

Saturday

-8am: Mass w/ Fr. Boh onsite

-10am-1pm: Fellowship & lunch

-1pm-5pm: Nature hike, walk, fishing, or just hang out. Play an instrument? Bring it!

-6pm-??: Campfire dinner, prayer discussion

Sunday

-10am: Checkout

April 4-6, 2025





2024 Christmas Flower Offering



Donated By: **In Memory Of:**

John & Jane Batten	Deceased members of the Batten & Andrews families
Carol & Bruno Bogacz	Harmony Faith Bogacz/Vickers
Fred & Renee Gibb	Gibb & Vogt families
Pat & Dorothy Hess	Deceased members of the Robert & Mary Durkin Hess family
	Deceased members of the Francis Sr. & Elizabeth tosi Domenico family
Rick Inclima	Mom & Dad
Charles & Suzan Kinn	Cletus & Rita Kinn
	John & Nancy Rooney
Msgr. Ansgar	Laczko and Kostal families
Jean Ridley	Michael Ridley
Peggy Slattery	John Slattery
Ted Sternemann	Theodore R. & Charlotte G. Sternemann
	In Honor of Missy and Howard S.
Jim Wynkoop	Helen Wynkoop
	Deceased Zier family members
Kathy Zier	Harvey & Mary Jo Kenney
	Joseph & Norma Gasper

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 5:00—5:45 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: Lynette Kammerer, Carol Sloan, Sara Struemke, Jean Ridley, Linda Abrahamian, Maureen Sabol, Joe Comer, Kevin Ferrell, and Carol Bogacz

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 23—Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25; Lk 1:57-66

Tuesday 24—2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89; Lk 1:67-79
 Nativity of the Lord: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89; Act 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25
 Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Wednesday 25—The Nativity of the Lord
 Morning: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

Thursday 26—St. Stephen, First martyr; Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Ps 31; Mt 10:17-22

Friday 27—St. John, Apostle and evangelist;
 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97; Jn 20:1a and 2-8

Saturday 28—Feast of the Holy Innocents, martyrs;
 1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Ps 124; Mt 2:13-18

Sunday 29—Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph; Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128 or Ps 84; Col 3:12-21 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

**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.