

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: Monday—Friday 10am—2pm
Office is located in the Religious Education Building

ST. BERNADETTE DIRECTORY

Administrator, 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 Guttmann

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

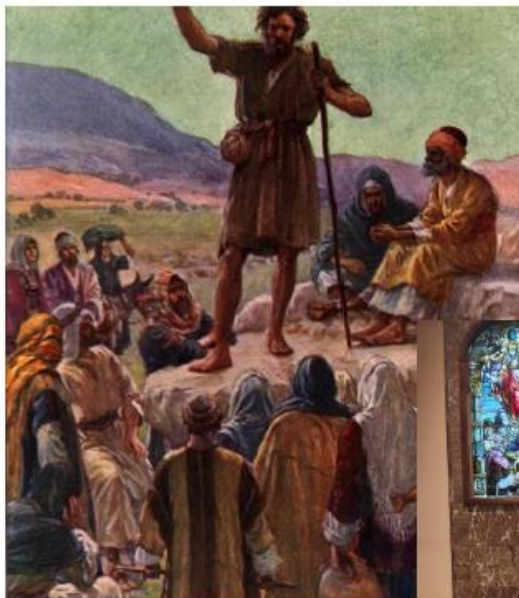
Adoration every Friday after 9 AM Mass
with Benediction at 12 NOON

1st Friday: Perpetual Adoration of the
Blessed Eucharist after 9 AM Mass
with Divine Mercy & Benediction at 3 PM

1st Saturday: 9 AM
Rosary immediately following

Confession
Wednesday: 5:20—5:50PM
Saturday: 4—4:45PM
Sunday: 8:15—8:45 AM
or by appointment

December 4, 2022 Second Sunday of Advent



John the Baptist
preaches in the desert

The Relics of Blessed
Carlos Acultis and
Saint Manuel Gonzalez
displayed for veneration
at St. Bernadette



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

Our readings on this second Sunday of Advent teach us how to prepare the way for the coming of Jesus Christ to us at Christmas and at the end of time. The Prophet Isaiah in the first reading invites us to make “faithfulness” a belt we wear around our hips, leading lives guided by “a spirit of wisdom and of understanding... a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the Lord”. In the second reading, Saint Paul writing to the Romans talks about the importance of hope, and how we should treat others in the same friendly way Christ has treated us. Matthew, in our gospel passage, reminds us of the need to prepare the way for the coming into our world and into our lives of Jesus Christ, Our Savior. We are to do so by acknowledging our sins and by repenting of them. John the Baptist confronts us with this challenge in his relentless and disturbing call to look at ourselves and our sinfulness, to change. Saint Matthew warns that we cannot count on being saved simply because we are Christians and, therefore, sons and daughters of Abraham, our father in faith. The only way we can escape “the coming wrath” of God; the only way we can avoid being gathered up with the chaff and thrown into “the unquenchable fire” of Hell is by producing “good fruit as evidence of your repentance,” says Saint Matthew.

Here is a blunt warning none of us, Christians, should ever forget: we are not as indispensable as we may be tempted to believe. God will not be unable to fulfill His promise to Abraham simply because we fail to live up to the expectations God has for us as children of Abraham, because “God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones”.

We are, therefore, to hear the voice of John the Baptist calling us to repentance. Repentance is today’s take-home message. We must undergo a change of heart if we want to please God. We must identify and let go of any unchristian attitude and start practicing virtue. Church going, belonging to a parish ministry, participation in church activities, church donations – these things are good in themselves, but will serve no purpose if they are not rooted in and accompanied by this change of heart. The season of Advent is a time for us to make amends in our lives and make straight the paths for “the Kingdom of Heaven is close at hand”.

The Church offers us many ways to prepare. One of the most important ways is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. I would like to encourage all of us to identify a bad habit you have to abandon and a virtue you must learn; ask Jesus to give you his Spirit with his seven gifts, so that you may confess the sin(s), strive for holiness, and refuse to give up. Let us take advantage of this Sacrament and so prepare ourselves to welcome Jesus anew into our lives at Christmas.

Fr Boh

FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR’S DESK

Celebrating with Gratitude:

Warm greetings to you fellow parishioners, friends, and benefactors of Saint Bernadette. May the Grace and peace of God be ours today as we celebrate the fortieth anniversary when the first Holy Mass was celebrated here at Saint Bernadette. Since the first Mass in 1982 until today, a lot has happened, so many memorable moments to recall, so many inspiring stories to cherish and share, so many graces to be thankful for. Let us thank Him today for His faithfulness to us as a parish community. We thank Him for the many Eucharistic Sacrifices that have been celebrated in this Church for the past forty years and for the lives those celebrations have touched. We thank God for all the priests who have led in these Eucharistic celebrations especially—**Fathers Nolte, Di Bacco, Wash, Denis, Linhares, Judge, Fryer, Hall, Gallagher, Pucciarelli, Ansgar, Bill Kutchinsky, and Boh.** We also thank all those who over the past forty years have helped to setup for the Eucharistic celebrations, to serve at the altar, to lector, lead in singing, ushering, cleaning of the linens, and decorating the church. Without you doing all these, our Eucharistic celebrations wouldn’t have been the same. And for that, we are truly grateful. In prayer and thanksgiving, let us entrust our parish, our families, and ourselves to our Lord and Savior, truly present in the Eucharist, as we celebrate forty years of this Precious Gift to our Church. May our celebration be truly meaningful.

God bless us all.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception: This Thursday December 8th, we will be celebrating the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that is, Mary was conceived without Original Sin.

The visit of the Relics of St Manuel Gonzalez and Blessed Carlos Acultis to Saint Bernadette: Last Friday November 25th, we were honored by the presence of the relics of St Manuel Gonzalez and Blessed Carlos Acultis from 8:45 am to 12:15 pm. It was a blessing to our parish.

PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING
GIVING SUMMARY

Reg. Envelopes.....	\$ 2679.33
Online Giving.....	\$ 423.01
Capital Improvements	\$ 30.00
Diocesan.....	\$ 100.00
Outreach.....	\$ 1490.00

WHAT IS GOING ON?

Christmas Flower Offerings can be made using the envelopes provided in the narthex. Please have your envelopes returned by December 18th.

2022 Contributions must be submitted before Monday, December 26th in order to be counted towards the 2022 tax year.

Weekly and special collections can be made with online giving. Visit our website at www.stbernadettewv.org and click the blue Online Giving button at the top-right of the page.

Catholic Charities is in dire need of the following items for their pantry (all items are purchased from donated funds and are used solely for those in need):

Bleach Tablets (WalMart)

Laundry Detergent (Pods)

13 Gallon Trash Bags

Dishwashing Soap

Soap (mild brands – no Zest or Irish Spring)

Shampoo (3 in 1 is preferred - shampoo, conditioner, body wash) If not, individual items will do.

Conditioner

Deodorant (men and women)

Razors (men and women)

Toothpaste

Shaving Lotion

Toilet Paper

Cleaning Supplies (Pine Sol, Fabalouso or another liquid cleaner)

All donations are sincerely appreciated and very much needed. Our needs are year-round. If you are unable to shop, cash donations will enable us to shop for you. Items can be dropped off at the Catholic Charities office at 224 South Queen Street, Monday through Friday from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM. Donations can be mailed to Catholic Charities, Attention: Laura Brigantic, 224 South Queen Street, Martinsburg, WV 25401.

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is currently accepting applications for the **Permanent Diaconate Formation Program 2023-2028**. Applications will be accepted until April 15, 2023. The application and additional information may be found at <https://dwc.org/directory-listing/permanent-diaconate-formation-office-of/2275/>. For questions, please feel free to contact the diocesan Office of Permanent Diaconate Formation: Deacon John Yaquinta, Coordinator, jyaquinta@dwc.org, or Tina High, Secretary, thigh@dwc.org or (304) 233-0880, ext. 271.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Linda Guy, Bernie Guy, Mary Cordelli, Rose Stefanko, Sharee Buberl, Bonnie Hart, Margaret Kistner, Angela Ramsey, Kathy Skane, Msgr. Patrick Fryer, Randy Bookwalter, Kathy Weaver, Ginger Spice, Monica Straley, Joe Schlegel, Vicki Lowery, Walter Shenk, Isabella Horning

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 4th**

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Helena Shenk

11 AM 40th Celebration

Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for the People of the Parish

NOON Anniversary Lunch

Tuesday, December 6th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Lyle (Cam) Tabb

10 AM Stitches from the Heart

Wednesday, December 7th

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Intention for Souls in Purgatory

5—5:45 PM Confession

6 PM Solemnity of the

Immaculate Conception of Mary,

Vigil Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Ron Lindsay

Thursday, December 8th

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

OFFICE CLOSED

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Deb Mackesy

Friday, November 9th

9:00 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Lyle (Cam) Tabb

Adoration following the 9 AM Mass

12 NOON Benediction

Saturday, November 10th

9—10:30 AM RCIA

4—4:45 PM Confession

5 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention of the People of the Parish

Sunday, December 11th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Lynette & Michael

Kammerer

10 AM Tree Blessing/
Lighting/Decorating

No Religious Education

11 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Intention for Lyle (Cam) Tabb

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 5th—Is 35:1-10; Ps 85; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday 6th—Is 40:1-11; Ps 96; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday 7th—St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; Is 40:25-31; Ps 103; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday 8th—Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary; Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Friday 9th—Is 48:17-19; Ps 1; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday 10th—Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday 11th—Second Sunday of Advent; Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

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.

Christmas Flower Offering

Christmas flowers and decorations for St. Bernadette Catholic Church are supplied through donations given by members in memory of deceased loved ones or in honor of the living. If you wish to make such a memorial, please fill out the envelope found in the Narthex and place your gift in the collection basket or turn it in to the Parish Office by **Sunday, December 18th**.



Retirement Fund for Religious



Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Elderly religious need your help. Like those pictured, nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have devoted their lives to prayer and ministry—educating the young, tending the sick, aiding the needy, and more. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left a profound shortage in retirement savings. Your support of the Retirement Fund for Religious helps furnish care, medicine, and other necessities. Please give generously.

Standing, from left: Fr. William Graham, OFM Cap, 75; Sr. Mary Lucille Stelly, SSF, 89; Sr. Angele Marie Sadlier, O Carm, 91; Fr. Bertrand Ebben, OP, 90.

Seated, from left: Sr. Joan Flores, SSF, 81; Sr. Denis Rodrigue, O Carm, 93; Sr. Ann Martinez, MSC, 82.

retiredreligious.org

To give at your parish: Make your check payable to your parish. (Write RFR on the memo line.)

To donate by mail: Make your check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious. Please do not mail cash.

Amount: \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Email address (for e-newsletters) _____

(Arch)diocese _____

Data Preference (Please check Yes or No.)

The data I provided may be used to complete this transaction and used and stored for United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Retirement Fund for Religious records.

Yes, I agree.

No, the data I provided may only be used for this transaction.

Please check with your employer about matching gifts.

National Religious Retirement Office • 3211 Fourth Street NE • Washington DC 20017-1194 • Phone (202) 541-3215 • Fax (202) 541-3053