

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

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

February 5, 2023

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Feed the Hungry



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

We are used to hearing statements made at graduation ceremonies such as: We're so proud of you and honored to celebrate graduation day with you! You are a star in the making! Congrats and shine on! In my native village in Cameroon, people say that 'when someone close to you is dancing well in a public display you are full of smiles'. A fighting context was organized in a certain village to determine which of the young men in the village will marry the princess of that kingdom. The father of the young man who emerged as the winner shouted at the top of his voice: "And that is my son, you always make me proud". Some people like to put stickers on their cars with certain inscriptions. It is quite common nowadays to see car stickers that say things like: "Proud Parents of a Navy Sailor"; "Proud Parents of an honor Student"; "Proud Mother of a Pilot"; etc. Like the parent who shouted; "And that is my son", we readily claim a wonderful performer – we are quick in such circumstances to interject, for example, he/she is from WV, he/she is my friend, he/she is my brother or my sister, he/she is my son, my daughter, etc. When a performer is thrilling the public, we want people around us to know that we share in that performance by our relationship to the performer. It is like saying to the onlooker: that wonderful performance you are enjoying, I am part of it, I contributed something to it.

Of course, when the reverse is the case, that is, when the performance is second-rate, is substandard, is unsatisfactory and simply disappointing we hide our heads in the sand, we refuse to acknowledge the performer, at times we even play out Peter at the trial of Jesus: "I don't know what you are talking about, I don't know that man, he is not from my place. Yes, we do not happily associate with discreditable performance.

"Just so, your light must shine before others, that they see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father", Jesus tells us in today's gospel passage. You cannot subscribe to have somebody represent you in a public display whose performance you know to be questionable. Is it not therefore amazing that God lets us represent him even though he knows of what staff we are made, even though he knows that we are not reliable, even though he knows that there are great chances that we would disgrace him. And yet he lets us represent him. Should we not allow ourselves to be moved by this blank check that God has given us, by this untested vote of confidence?

Do we really live up to this challenge? How many people have done us proud in the public service as men and women of integrity whom you could hold up to everybody's gaze and say, that man/woman is a true Christian/Catholic? I remember a pastor of the Apost-

olic Church who walked up to me and told me that the day the president of Cameroon would be a member of their Church then the Cameroonians will realize that a true Christian is in leadership of the country. I tried to argue with him, but I knew that the president's integrity was very questionable. Very few of our leaders carry their faith into service.

The question that each one of us needs to ask himself or herself is: how am I salt to the earth and light to the world? Or in other words, do I carry my faith into my daily interactions with people especially the poor and the downtrodden? The prophet Isaiah in the first reading points out some ways that helps us be the light to the world around us: feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, giving drink to the thirsty, visiting those in prison, visiting the sick, burying the dead. The early Church did them and the Church does them today. Saint Bernadette does them. These are tangible ways of being salt and light. May the words of Christ: "Just so, your light must shine before others, that they see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father", encourage us to continue doing these things personally or through our parish ministries, and the poor box. May God bless us to always be that shining light on a mountain wherever we find ourselves.

Fr Boh

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Lent Wednesday, February 22, 2023: Please bring the palms that were blessed last Palm Sunday so that they can be burned and the ashes ready for Ash Wednesday by February 14th.

Wednesday Confession and Mass: We shall NOT have confessions and Mass this Wednesday, February 8th, 2023.

Remodeling of McFadden Hall: Remodeling of the McFadden Hall is currently underway. We will not be able to use the hall until the work is completed. It would take approximately THREE MONTHS for the work to be completed. This might interrupt some of our weekday Masses. Joe Comer, who is coordinating the work shall always keep us posted. However, the bathrooms shall remain open for use, especially on Sundays. Thanks for your understanding and cooperation.

PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING

General Fund	\$ 3468.00
Online Giving	\$ 432.51
Capital Improvements.....	\$ 10.00
Diocesan	\$ 20.00

THANK YOU FOR TAKING A STEP TOWARD A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP

WHAT IS GOING ON?

First Sunday Donuts (Welcome Sunday) are suspended at this time.

THANK YOU!! On behalf of the Social Concerns Ministry, we want to thank you for your generosity that made the outreach program a great success. The items which we collected will be distributed in February at St. John's Lutheran Church in Martinsburg. We collected a van full of various items, such as blankets, hats, socks, coats and sweaters. Originally the plan was to have the distribution in January, but due to illness it was moved to February. Once again, your generosity is amazing and very much appreciated.

As Fr. Boh mentioned last week in the bulletin, "Blessing of those who are celebrating birthdays and other keys events in their lives from now hence, will be on the first Sunday of every month and not the last Sunday of the month." Below is a list of those celebrating birthdays in February. If you see them when you are out and about, wish them a Happy Birthday!

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|-------------------|-------------------|
| Cynthia Lathwell | MeganStotler |
| Matthew Atha | David Irwin |
| Alaithea Domich | Jose Rodriguez |
| Shaun Dunn | Sergio Flores |
| Abbigayle Conley | James Fritzes |
| Theresa Highlands | Darren Keller |
| Anthony Lathwell | Cynthia Burkhardt |
| Lawrence Hudy | Ashton Kammerer |
| Dylan Lathwell | Zony Manongdo |
| Colleen O'Neill | Lucianna Wakelin |
| Manmeet Walker | Ivo Zamora |
| Mary Beth Kearns | Patrick Finney |
| Colin Weaver | B. Sylvain Kao |
| James Donato | Shelley Zalek |
| Susan Fawcett | Robert Warburton |
| Blake Gentry | Jacob Lathwell |
| Alykha Seghanka | Ryan Haggerty |
| Martha Glover | Suzan Kinn |
| Joseph Walker | Joshua Hudy |
| Frank Buberl | Fergus Farabaugh |
| Ariadne Domich | William Stegmaier |
| Kevin Lathwell | |



WEEKLY CALENDAR



Sunday, February 5th
 8:15—8:45 AM Confession
 9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh
Intention for Theresa Highlands
 10:15—11:30 AM Religious Ed
 11 AM Mass—Fr. Boh
Intention for the Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, February 7th
 9 AM Mass—Fr. Pooch
 9:30 AM Stitches from the Heart

Wednesday, February 8th
 9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar
 9:30 AM Social Concerns
 Ministry Meeting in Rel Ed Bldg

Thursday, February 9th
 9 AM Mass—Fr. Pooch

Friday, February 10th
 9:00 AM Mass—Fr. Pooch
 Memorial Mass for Ernie Montañó with
 brunch to follow

Saturday, February 11th
 9—10:30 AM RCIA
 4—4:45 PM Confession
 5 PM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar
Intention for the People of the Parish

Sunday, February 12th
 8:15—8:45 AM Confession
 9 AM Mass—Fr. Pooch
Intention for Floyd Middleton
 10:15—11:30 AM Religious Ed
 11 AM Mass—Fr. Pooch
Intention for the Souls in Purgatory

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, Joe Schlegel, Walter Shenk, Helena Shenk, Isabella Horning, Brenda Inclima, Robin Marlin, Betty Foley

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.

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 6th—St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs; Gn 1:1-19; Ps 104; Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday 7th—Gn 1:20-2:4a; Ps 8; Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday 8th—Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Ps 104; Mk 7:14-23

Thursday 9th—Gn 2:18-25; Ps 128; Mk 7:24-30

Friday 10th—St. Scholastica, Virgin; Gn 3:1-8; Ps 32; Md 7:31-37

Saturday 11th—Gn 3:9-24; Ps 90; Mk 8:1-10

Sunday 12th—Sir 15:15-20; Ps 119; 1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37

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.

ST. BERNADETTE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY FINANCIAL RECAP FOR 2019 -- 2022

INCOME

	2019	2020	2021	2022
Sunday Collections	\$ 198,530	\$ 172,756	\$ 179,299	\$ 199,182
Building/Mort/Organ/Maint	\$ 34,015	\$ 39,112	\$ 19,857	\$ 22,075
Memorials & Donations	\$ 52,441	\$ 13,200	\$ 87,063	\$ 56,257
Catholic Sharing Appeal	\$ 4,437	\$ 5,383	\$ 10,229	\$ 24,252
Fund Raising (Net)	\$ 6,931	\$ 3,986	\$ 4,788	\$ 6,519
Diocesan Collections	\$ 5,727	\$ 3,845	\$ 7,451	\$ 16,225
Non-Diocesan Collections	\$ 15,080	\$ 16,930	\$ 21,699	\$ 38,298
Other	\$ 2,773	\$ 14,595	\$ 3,376	\$ 4,216
Total Income	\$ 319,934	\$ 269,807	\$ 333,761	\$ 367,024

DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries & Benefits	\$ 85,400	\$ 83,541	\$ 80,471	\$ 108,538
Transportation	\$ 13,748	\$ 12,840	\$ 13,603	\$ 14,395
Office Expense	\$ 3,668	\$ 9,167	\$ 9,428	\$ 8,908
Rectory Food/Supplies		\$ 4,930	\$ 5,500	\$ 4,259
Liturgical Expenses	\$ 6,210	\$ 11,454	\$ 23,918	\$ 8,468
Ministries	\$ 19,019	\$ 5,646	\$ 7,051	\$ 12,825
Social Concerns	\$ 23,697	\$ 17,943	\$ 21,298	\$ 39,930
Utilities/Fees	\$ 22,343	\$ 24,625	\$ 20,380	\$ 24,599
Maintenance & Facilities	\$ 21,526	\$ 48,227	\$ 66,107	\$ 111,748
Diocesan Collections	\$ 5,877	\$ 3,895	\$ 7,451	\$ 16,225
Diocesan Fees & PHRA	\$ 3,306	\$ 10,797	\$ 17,232	\$ 16,713
Mortgage Interest	\$ 187			
Mortgage Principle	\$ 19,826			
Total Expenses	\$ 224,806	\$ 233,065	\$ 272,439	\$ 366,607

NET INCOME

\$ 95,127 \$ 36,742 \$ 61,322 \$ 417

12/31/2022 Balance Sheet	
Checking	\$ 284,634
Reserves	\$ 76,390
Assets	\$ 361,025
Payables	\$ (35,906)

Net Cash Available	
12/31/2020	\$ 280,355
12/31/2021	\$ 320,061
12/31/2022	\$ 325,119

COMMENTS:

- 1.) 2022 was a good start on returning to normal after COVID. The parish has grown in activity and membership. Fr. Boh is now our Pastor, weekend collections have returned to 2019 levels and capital projects are on-going with the help of our Capital & Maintenance fund and grants from the Diocese. Even though we only broke even in 2022, our cash position is still favorable for completing our planned capital projects.
- 2.) Revenue in 2022 was at its highest level in 4 years due to generosity to special causes. Relief was provided to several national weather disasters and to social concern work in our local area like Mary's Refuge, C-CAP, Hedgesville Loaves and Fishes, Immanuel's House, the homeless, and the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Funding for these projects come from our donations into the Diocesan and Non-diocesan collections. We also had a major revenue increase in the amount of Catholic Sharing Appeal (CSA) money returned to St Bernadette. In 2021 we achieved 130% of our goal and 145% of our 2022 goal of \$20,505.. The end result is the return of \$17,692 from 2021 and \$19,475 in 2022. The money comes back in 2 different calendar years.
- 3.) Catholic Sharing Appeal is a unique program in our Diocese. Each parish receives a goal. The first 50% of the goal stays at the Diocese to assist the Bishop in charitable and educational areas. Any receipts above 50% is returned to the parish, free of the usual revenue assessments. This year 53 families contributed to the CSA program. The funds returned will be utilized on our hall renovation.

In the past two years the CSA has also offered grant opportunities to Parishes. Last year we were awarded a \$4000 grant from the program to buy a small color printer and new microphones in the sanctuary. This year we have applied for a grant to buy an AED for the church. That way an automated external defibrillator will be available before emergency personnel arrive if a sudden cardiac arrest occurs.

- 4.) Expenditures equaled revenue so that St Bernadette broke even for the year. Diocesan collections are sent directly to the Diocese, and most non-diocesan collections are utilized in Social Concerns. Salaries and benefits are higher with a Pastor in residence. We currently employ four part-time staff. Much of the work is done by volunteers and more are needed if we are to continue to improve. Major expenditures in the past three years have been in the area of maintenance and major projects. In the past, maintenance was delayed as we focused on paying off the mortgage to save interest costs. Since then, we have renovated the rectory, moved the church office, demolished the building next to the church, resurfaced the parking lot, and started to renovate the parish hall. Again, the Diocese had been helpful in approving these projects. They also have a new program for 2022 and 2023, if a parish is current on all their obligations, they will match the cost of a capital project at a 50% level up to \$50,000. A 2022 grant has been awarded for \$45,000 for our Hall. Any 2023 grant proposal must be submitted by 3/31/2023, so we are currently searching for ideas.
- 5.) Diocesan fees include the Cathedraticum and PHRA. We also include Berkeley County fire fees in this number. Cathedraticum is a tax on assessable income usually used by Bishops to fund chancery operations. Our Diocese is different than most Dioceses in the US and the tax is entirely returned to parishes in need of support for priest's wages and benefits if collections are not sufficient to sustain their operations. No Cathedraticum collected by our Diocese is used to fund chancery operations. The base tax rate for Cathedraticum is 3%.
- The PHRA is an insurance program for Diocesan Priest Health and Retirement. It is funded by Parishes at a base rate of 6% of assessed income plus a monthly premium for each priest in the Parish..
- Like your income tax, after exemptions, the actual rates for St Bernadette in 2022 were 1.9% and 3.8% respectively. In reality we received much more from the Diocese than we sent to them.
- 6.) The goals for the Finance Council are to see the completion of the Hall renovation, prepare the new grant proposal by March and maintain the good work that has been done. We also plan to work with the Parish Council to focus more funding into the parish ministries as activities increase. Parishioners have been very generous. In addition to contributing to St Bernadette, they have donated food, clothing, sleeping bags, and over \$65,000 to Diocesan and Social Concerns collections. This does not include all the volunteer hours in the time, talent, and treasure categories of stewardship.
- 7.) The Finance Council would like to see growth for St Bernadette from people moving into our area and from parishioners who have not yet returned from COVID concerns. The new method of sending out envelopes will keep our mailing list more current. We currently have 250 registered families in St Bernadette.
- 8.) There are many ways besides envelopes of contributing to the financial success at St Bernadette. Other methods include on-line, Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) from IRAs for those over 72, appreciated stocks and bonds, and gifts from estates and wills.

Questions regarding finances should be directed to our Finance Council listed below. Additional information can be obtained through the Parish Office.

Thank you for your generosity of your time, talent and treasure!

You can contribute on-line at www.stbernadettewv.org
Sunday Bulletins are also on this website

Finance Committee
Neil Shanholtzer
Jeff Ferrell
Paul Guttmann, Finance Chair
paulgutm@comcast.net