

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 10 AM—2 PM; Fri 10 AM—12 PM
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., Sara Struemke
reled@stbernadettewv.org

O CIA, 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

January 12, 2025

The Baptism of the Lord



“You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” (Luke 3:22)

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

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord concludes for us the Christmas Season and transitions us into the beginning of Ordinary Time. From a scriptural point of view, this event in Jesus' life is also a transitional moment from His hidden life in Nazareth to the beginning of His public ministry. As we commemorate this glorious event, it's important to ponder a simple question: Why was Jesus baptized? Recall that John's baptism was one of repentance, an act by which he invited his followers to turn from sin and to turn to God. But Jesus was sinless, so what was the reason for His Baptism?

First of all, we see in the quoted passage above that Jesus' true identity was made manifest through His humble act of baptism. "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased," spoke the voice of the Father in Heaven. Furthermore, we are told that the Spirit descended upon Him in the form of a dove. Thus, Jesus' baptism is in part a public declaration of Who He is. He is the Son of God, a divine Person Who is one with the Father and the Holy Spirit. This public testimony is an "epiphany," a manifestation of His true identity for all to see as He prepares to begin His public ministry.

Second, by His baptism, Jesus' incredible humility is made manifest. He is the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, but He allows Himself to become identified with sinners. By sharing in an act that was focused upon repentance, Jesus speaks volumes through His action of baptism. He came to unite Himself with us sinners, to enter our sin and to enter into our death. By entering the water, He symbolically enters into death itself, which is the result of our sin, and rises triumphantly, allowing us to also rise with Him to new life. For this reason, Jesus' baptism was a way of Him "baptizing" the waters, so to speak, so that water itself, from that moment onward, would be endowed with His divine presence and could be communicated to all who are baptized after Him. Therefore, sinful humanity is now able to meet divinity through baptism.

Lastly, when we share in this new baptism, through water that has now been sanctified by our divine Lord, we see in Jesus' baptism a revelation of who we become in Him. Just as the Father spoke and declared Him as His Son, and just as the Holy Spirit descended upon Him, so also in our baptism we become the adopted children of the Father and are filled with the Holy Spirit. Thus, Jesus' baptism gives clarity as to whom we become in Christian baptism. (*mycatholic.life*)

Beloved brothers and sisters, fellow pilgrims, welcome!

On Christmas Day we celebrated the birth of Jesus Christ. His birth is then announced to the whole world at the feast of the Epiphany which is symbolized by the wise men who came to adore the King of the Jews. The mystery of the Incarnation at Christmas comes to its fullness with the Baptism of the Lord, the feast we are celebrating today. The celebration of the feast of the Baptism of the Lord inaugurates Jesus' mission. Today's feast reminds us that through our baptism, our life is to be ordered to that of Jesus as sharers in his threefold mission of Priest, Prophet, and King.

The Disciple Maker Index Survey: I would like to cease this opportunity to thank Bill and Sara Struemke for accepting to be our Parish Point-of-Contact-Persons for the evangelization efforts in our diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, WV.

Just a quick reminder that our survey on Disciple Maker Index started last Tuesday and the final day to complete this survey is Thursday, February 6, 2025, and we would love to hear your thoughts. The survey takes just 15 minutes to complete, and we'll use your valuable feedback in our evangelization efforts in the diocese of Wheeling-Charleston, WV. As a reminder, here is the link to our parish's survey. Thanks!

<https://portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/x1b72x>



Scan me!

PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING FOR 1/5

General Fund.....	\$ 4334.08
Online Giving.....	\$ 1807.26
Maintenance.....	\$ 1496.38
Local Outreach.....	\$ 45.01

Attendance 5 PM—8 9 AM—180 11 AM—108

THANK YOU FOR TAKING A STEP TOWARD A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP

Epiphany House Blessing

This is a long-held Catholic tradition to bless one's home on (or near) the celebration of the Epiphany by using chalk to write a special inscription above the home's entrance. This weekend, we are handing out blessed chalk and holy water for you to take home and participate in this tradition. The inscription written over the door this year is: "20 + C + M + B + 25."

The letters C, M, and B have two meanings. They are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They are also the first letters of the Latin words *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*, "May Christ bless the house." The + signs represent the cross, while 20 and 25 stands for the year.

When all are gathered in a suitable place in the house, an adult/ whoever is chosen to lead, begins with the sign of the Cross:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen

Priest/Adult: Our help is the name of the Lord:

All: The maker of heaven and earth.

Priest/Adult: The Lord shall watch over you're going out and you're coming in:

All: From this time forth forever

As the leader sprinkles everyone present, he/she says

Lord, bless my/our home by the sprinkling of this holy water, in the name of the ✠ Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Using the blessed chalk, mark the lintel of your front door (or front porch step, or a wall within your home) as follows: 20 + C + M + B + 23 saying:

The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty-five years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the New Year. Amen.

Then say the following prayer:

Leader: Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Mary Cordelli, Sharee Buberl, Bonnie Hart, Kathy Skane, Msgr. Patrick Fryer, Randy Bookwalter, 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, January 12th

8:15—8:45 AM Confession

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Abby Conley (L)

10—11:45 AM Religious Education

11 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Libby Conley (L)

Tuesday, January 14th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Msgr. Ansgar (L)

10 AM Stitches from the Heart

Wednesday, January 15th

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

5-5:45 PM Confession

6 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Joseph Maresh (+)

Thursday, January 16th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Sal Strazzeri (+)

Friday, January 17th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Adoration following the 9 AM Mass

12 NOON Benediction

Saturday, January 18th

3—4:30 PM OCIA

4—4:45 PM Confession

Intention for Ralph Moch (+)

5 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

Sunday, January 19th

2nd Collection—Church in the Developing World

8:15—8:45 AM Confession

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for the People of the Parish

10—11:45 AM Religious Education

11 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Intention for Ginger Spice (+)

2:30 PM African Mass

**OUTREACH DISTRIBUTION
JANUARY 28, 2025 @ 5:00 PM
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

ITEMS NEEDED

- ♦ **WOMENS SOCKS**
- ♦ **COATS**
- ♦ **BLANKETS**
- ♦ **WIPES**
- ♦ **3 in 1 BODYWASH**
- ♦ **DEODORANT**
- ♦ **\$10.00 MCDONALD'S GIFT CARDS**

The Outreach Program distributes these items periodically throughout the year. It reaches out to numerous people in our community, providing essential items. The McDonald's cards provide not only a meal but a temporary refuge from the elements.

Please place donated items in the cart located in McFadden Hall by Sunday, January 26th.



**Help Fill the Pantry
2025**



**January
Toiletries
Toilet Paper**

**February
Coffee
Tea
Hot Chocolate**

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 out 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

ST. BERNADETTE 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

Jeff Ferrell 202-441-6308

jeffrey.ferrell@gmail.com

Where:

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

Who:

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

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



Soup Sale Fundraiser

Order your soup today!!

**Vegetable
Ham and Bean
Beef Barley
Chicken Noodle**

Taking Pre-Orders NOW!

Payment and Pickup February 1st and 2nd



DIOCESE OF KUMBA

KD/B/L.-363A/2025/7
Saturday 04 January, 2025

Contacts: nfonagapitus@gmail.com, kumbadiocese16@yahoo.com

Dear Church Family of Saint Bernadette,
Hedgesville, West Virginia,

Re: A LETTER OF GRATITUDE

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I hope this letter finds you all in good health and high spirits. I am sorry for my delay in writing to you. Since I got back to Kumba I have been tied up with some urgent pastoral matters, but I knew it was important for me to write and thank you for your wonderful hospitality. I regret the wait you have had to endure.

As we celebrate the joyous seasons of Christmas and the New Year, I wish to extend on behalf of the Christ's faithful of the Diocese of Kumba, Cameroon, our heartfelt wishes to you and your loved ones for a blessed and joyful Christmas season and a New Year.

I wanted to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude to you all, Christian faithful of Saint Bernadette parish and the African Catholic Community of the Easter Panhandle, Hedgesville, West Virginia, for your generous financial assistance towards the construction of the Bishop's House in Kumba, Cameroon. Words cannot fully express my profound gratitude to each of you for the generous financial assistance of a total of seventeen thousand one hundred fifty dollars (\$17,150.00). Your kindness and commitment to step in and support the Catholic Church's mission in the Diocese of Kumba, Cameroon are a testament to the spirit of global solidarity and Christian charity.

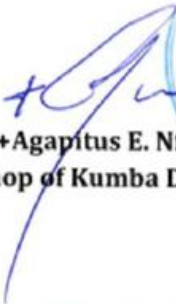
Please, know that your financial assistance has had such a significant impact on the progress of the project. I am confident that sooner than later, the bishop of Kumba will have a safe and dignified residence and enough office space for all the diocesan offices, thus, enabling the bishop and his collaborators to better serve the local Church and community in Kumba Diocese.

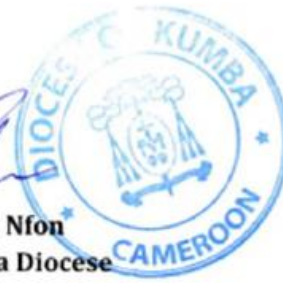
Dear brothers and sisters, I thought I should share some pictures of the construction work in progress with you for a better appreciation of what has been accomplished so far.

Once again, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your kind and generous support. We are deeply grateful for your trust in our mission and for your willingness to support our endeavors.

Be assured that your generosity will be remembered in our prayers.

Happy New Year!


+Agapitus E. Nfon
Bishop of Kumba Diocese



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 13—Heb 1:1-6; Ps 97; Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday 14—Heb 2:5-12; Ps 8; Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday 15—Heb 2:14-18; Ps 105; Mk 1:29-39

Thursday 16—Heb 3:7-14; Ps 95; Mk 1:40-45

Friday 17—St. Anthony, Abbot; Heb 4:1-5, 11; Ps 78; Mk 2:1-12

Saturday 18—Heb 4:12-16; Ps 19; Mk 2:13-17

Sunday 19—Is 62:1-5; Ps 96; 1 Cor 12:4-11; Jn 2:1-11

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.