

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

March 19, 2023

4th Sunday of Lent, Year A

Healing of the Blind Man by Jesus Christ



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

Beloved sisters and brothers in Christ, Today we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Lent. Today is the halfway mark of the Sundays of Lent. This Sunday is known as Laetare Sunday – it is a Sunday of joy. It is a day of celebration because we have been living our Lenten promises and are beginning to see the light of Easter joy. Today’s Entrance Antiphon invites us to rejoice in these words: “Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were mourning; ...” Let us rejoice, like the man born blind and is given sight by Jesus in today’s Gospel story.

In our Gospel passage last Sunday, we encountered a Samaritan woman who came to draw water from the community well. At the well she met Jesus and because Jesus lovingly accepted her, she became Jesus’ first missionary. We were told that the people of Samaria were moved by the woman’s witness and came to believe in Jesus. In today’s Gospel passage, the Lord Jesus restores sight to a man who had been blind since birth and the people are divided on their opinion of Jesus. The healing of the blind man divides them into two camps: there are those who can see who Jesus is by the miraculous signs that He performs and those who are so blinded by their own preconceived notions about the coming Messiah and about their own Law that they condemn Jesus for this tremendous act of compassion. Jesus does not correspond to their idea of a religious man.

That’s the effect that Jesus always seems to have on people. Jesus and His words as well as His actions mean something and so there is always a reaction – a mixed reaction. We shouldn’t be surprised by that since He warned us about it Himself. The One who we call the Prince of Peace is the One who said: “Do not think that I have come to bring peace upon the earth. I have come to bring not peace but the sword” (Mt. 10:34).

What prevented the Pharisees from coming to the right conclusion about Jesus? It was because of the darkness of their hearts. They had bitterness in their hearts against Jesus, and this bitterness expressed itself in all their assessment of His words and deeds. In the Gospel passage last Thursday, we saw the Pharisees accuse Jesus of casting out devils by the power of Beelzebub. They could not see the goodness in the deeds of Jesus, not because Jesus lacked the goodness, but because they were bereft of goodness themselves.

What does this tell us? That our internal colors our perception of reality, that our internal influences our assessment of facts as they present themselves to us. There were many people who opposed one of Saint John Paul II’s encyclical, Veritatis Splendor, because it did not agree with their worldview. The encyclical sought to uphold the objectivity of morality. Because

its opponents didn’t like this idea, they took up bitter criticisms of the Pope and that encyclical. It was like calling the dog a bad name to hang it. There can be no denial that there are acts which are bad in themselves. Those who opposed the Pope for upholding this moral principle resemble the Pharisees in today’s Gospel who judge from their hearts rather than from their minds.

Beloved in Christ, let us examine ourselves to see who represents us in this Gospel passage: the blind man or the Pharisees? Do we allow our prejudices to dictate our evaluation of issues and persons – like the Pharisees – or do we allow facts to speak to us as they are – like the blind man?

Fr Boh

God bless you!

May Saint Bernadette Soubirous, pray for us.

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

Welcome everyone! A special welcome to those who are worshiping with us today for the first time. Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. Know that you are always welcome.

I hope you are having a wonderful Lent. We are halfway through Lent. This is a good time on your Lenten journey to see you far you have been faithful to the promises you made at the start of this holy season – to deny yourself some of your favorite things and to carry-out works of charity. Have you remembered to abstain from meat on Fridays, come to morning Mass everyday of Lent, or attend Stations of Cross every Friday of Lent? If you’ve done all these things, then that is a wonderful gift to give to the Lord. Keep going—we’re almost there. But do not become discouraged if you haven’t followed through on your resolutions; we still have time. You can start all over again and the Sacrament of Confession is just the perfect way to begin again.

Penitential Service: Have you been to the Sacrament of Confession in preparation for Easter? If you haven’t done so, please do not miss the opportunity on Wednesday March 29th, 2023, from 4:00 pm – 5:45 PM in the Parish Church to go for your Easter Confession.

PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING

General Fund	\$ 4217.00
Online Giving	\$ 1080.02
Capital Improvements.....	\$ 350.00
Diocesan	\$ 443.00
Outreach.....	\$ 176.00

THANK YOU FOR TAKING A STEP TOWARD
A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP

CONTINUED FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Day of Recollection for our Parish: Fr Boh will lead a day of prayer, and reflection on Friday March 24th, 2023. Time: 9 AM – 1 PM in the parish Church. THEME: "Sin and it's Effect on our Relationship with God". All are invited to this day of recollection.

Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Husband of Mary: Monday, March 19, 2023: The Solemnity occurs today, Sunday March 19th, but the observance is transferred to Monday, March 20. There will Mass at 9 AM. All are invited.

Chrism Mass: Monday, April 3, 2023, at the Basilica of the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Charleston, WV at 4 PM.

Tuesday, April 4, 2023, at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph, Wheeling, WV at 4 PM. The oils that are used for the sacraments are blessed at this Mass.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

This week we will be collecting new toys as part of a **Lenten Toy Drive** for Mary's Refuge sponsored by the Catholic Daughters. See the inserted flyer for more details. Monetary donations will be accepted. Please put CDA on the memo line of your check.

Lenten Recollection Day: Has been moved to Friday, March 24th so that it does not conflict with the fish fry on Friday, March 31st.

Donut Sunday will start back March 26th after the 9 AM Mass. Donuts will be served again on May 7th and every first Sunday after that.

We are collecting candy for our **Annual Easter Egg Hunt**. Donations can be left in the basket in the narthex. We will be stuffing the eggs during Donut Sunday on the 26th.

Hospitality is planning a fish fry and bake sale! Mark your calendars for March 31st. We will serve from 11 AM—5:30 PM. This is a perfect opportunity to enjoy a fish meal before Stations of the Cross at 6 PM.

Calling all bakers!! We will need baked goods for our bake sale being held in conjunction with our Fish Fry on Friday, March 31st.

We will resume distribution of the Sacred Cup starting on Holy Thursday. With that being said, we need additional **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**. Please sign up in the narthex if you would like to be contacted about this important ministry.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Linda Guy, Bernie Guy, Hilda Guy, Mary Cordelli, Rose Stefanko, Sharee Buberl, Bonnie Hart, Margaret Kistner, Angela Ramsey, Kathy Skane, Msgr. Patrick Fryer, Randy Bookwalter, Ginger Spice, Joe Schlegel, Walter & Helena Shenk, Isabella Horning, Robin Marlin, Betty Foley, Tristan Pressl, Wayne Montano, Beverly Barrett

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, March 19th**

8:15—8:45 AM Confession

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for The People of the Parish

10:15—11:30 AM Religious Ed

11 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

12 NOON Msgr. Ansgar's

Birthday Celebration

2:30 PM African Mass

Monday, March 20th

Solemnity of St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Tuesday, March 21st

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

9:30 AM Stitches from the Heart

Wednesday, March 22nd

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

5—5:45 PM Confession

6 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

Thursday, March 23rd

9 AM Mass—Fr. Pooch

Friday, March 24th

9:00 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for William & Margaret Devin

Day of Reflection

Adoration following the 9 AM Mass

12 NOON Benediction

6 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 25th

9—10:30 AM RCIA

4—4:45 PM Confession

5 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

Sunday, March 26th

8:15—8:45 AM Confession

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for The People of the Parish

10:15—11:30 AM Religious Ed

11 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Msgr. Ansgar

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 20th—Solemnity of St. Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary; 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Ps 89; Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22; Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a

Tuesday 21st—Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday 22nd—Is 49:8-15; Ps 145; Jn 5:17-30

Thursday 23rd—Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106; Jn 5:31-47

Friday 24th—Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday 25th—Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord; Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

Sunday 26th—Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45

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.



MARY'S REFUGE LENTEN TOY DRIVE

Catholic Daughters of America Court #392

MAKE THIS PROJECT PART of YOUR LENTEN SACRIFICE!

**Please prayerfully consider
donating a new toy to
Mary's Refuge Toy Room!**

Donations will be collected on the weekend of

MARCH 25th & 26th

**Place your toys in the baskets or box
at the entrance to the church.**

Suggestions for Toys:

(For ages 2 and younger ONLY)

Baby Books

Wooden Puzzles

Mega Bloks

Stacking Toys

Montessori Toys

Thank you for your continued support of Mary's Refuge and Court #392!

Vegetable Gardens at St. Bernadette's

Why should you consider growing vegetables either at the St. Bernadette's vegetable gardens or at your own home?



- **F**amily Community Service- Donate locally to organizations that relieve hunger. e.g., Hedgesville Loaves and Fishes, Martinsburg Union Rescue Mission, Immanuel's House, St. Vincent De Paul Society clients, Mary's Refuge, etc.
- **D**o Corporal Works of Mercy
- **L**earn or share knowledge of how to grow a better garden with other parishioners.
- **K**now precisely what went into growing the vegetables.
- **P**ossibly become part of a fresh produce distribution network which provides thousands of servings per year to those in need.
- **A**ssist home gardeners by gleaning their excess produce and tree fruits.
- **E**njoy a portion of the produce raised in your home at family meals.

At the St. Bernadette vegetable gardens, many hands can make growing vegetables an enjoyable encounter and opportunity to put your faith into action with fellow parishioners. We gather in small groups once per week for no more than 1.5 hours per session. Parents are welcome to bring their children. Our timeline is flexible within the limited windows of opportunity that "mother nature" gives us each growing season.

CONTACT FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Bill Klover, retired farmer
12 years' experience leading the vegetable growing ministry in other parishes
email: william.klover@yahoo.com phone: 360 461-8836