

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

OCIA, 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

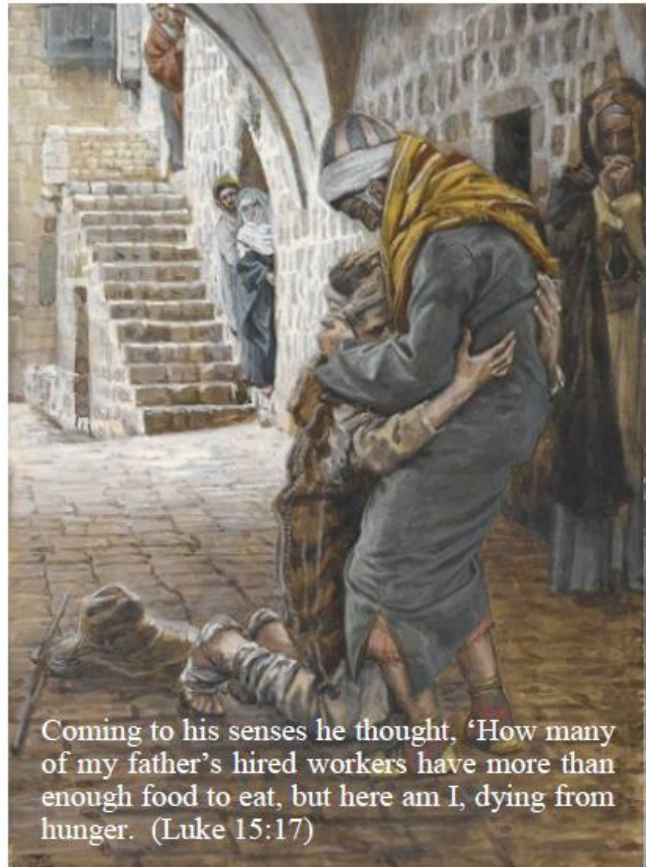
Adoration every Friday after 9 AM Mass
with Benediction at 12 NOON

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

March 30, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Lent



Coming to his senses he thought, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. (Luke 15:17)

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

“Coming to his senses.”

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ. Welcome!

Today, the Church gives us the most beautiful of all the parables of Jesus for our meditation – ‘The Parable of the Prodigal Son’. This parable is only recorded in the Gospel of Luke and is one of three parables, including the lost sheep (Luke 15: 3-7) and the lost coin (Luke 15:8-10) that talk about repentance. The phrase ‘coming to his senses’ caught my attention. It marks a turning point in the young man’s journey, where he recognizes the error of his ways and begins to make amends.

I grew up in a little village in the Northwest Region of Cameroon, called Njinikom. The village had a Second Division soccer team called Njinikom Sportive. Second Division league is the equivalent of USA is USL Championship. I was first selected to play in this team when I was in Grade 7, and I named the team captain when I was in Grade 9. Being both the captain of a Second Division soccer team and my secondary school soccer team came with a cost. I spent most of my spare moment practicing soccer skills to the detriment of my studies. My grades suffered, and at the end of that school year I failed to be promoted to Grade 10. My dad was angry, and rightly so. A few days later he told me that he has decided that at the start of the next school year, I will go and learn carpentry with his cousin, Charles. I was heartbroken because carpentry was the last thing I wanted to do. And secondly, it was seen as a ‘mean job’ in my village, and I didn’t want to be associated with it. I pleaded with my dad to reconsider, but he was firm. I couldn’t blame my dad for my failure because he had done all that he was supposed to do as a parent, but I disappointed him. Recognizing that I had wondered away from my goal, I went to my dad and asked his forgiveness. A few days later he sent me to go a tailor so that he can take my measurements and sew new daily school wear, as well as my official uniform. That was a teaching experience for me.

In today’s parable, we are told that the prodigal son came back to his senses when it dawned on him that his father’s hired workers had more than enough to eat while he was dying of hunger. He got up and went back to his father. This is an indication of what the Season of Lent should bring us to. During the imposition of ashes on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday, we’re reminded of this Lenten goal in these words; “Repent and believe the Gospel.” Coming to our senses, like the prodigal son, requires acknowledging our mistakes. It’s the beginning of conversion. To come to your senses, means that at one point or the other you lose your senses. And the question is, what leads a person to lose his/her senses? Let’s use the prodigal son as our guide. What caused him to leave his father’s house? It was his desire for freedom. He wanted to be his own boss. He wanted his own way. Apparently, he thought that his father was in his way. There is no indication that his father did anything that led to his decision to leave his father’s house. But judging from the

kind of life that he was living after departing from his father’s house is an indication of what might necessitated his moving out of his father’s house. He knew he couldn’t live that type of life in his parents’ house - bringing in his women at will and doing what he wanted with them, even if his parents did not have a tight control over him. So, his decision to move out of his father’s house was motivated by the desire to live a free life.

Beloved in Christ, is the desire to want to be free, to do what we like, the way we like it, not part of the reason many of us still leave our parental homes today? The story of the prodigal son should serve as a reminder to us of the disastrous consequences that awaits us if we decide to move in the direction of the prodigal son. This danger is more in the case of young people. Fr Anthony Chukwuma A, in his book ‘Reflections on Sunday Readings Years A, B, and C, says “Once you see yourself preferring freedom to parental control, know that you are moving in the direction of the prodigal son. Young ones who love smoking and using drugs prefer moving outside the home of their parents where they can have the liberty to do what they like. Sometimes this may not come in the crass form of completely packing out of the parents’ house but in the form of spending more time in homes of friends who have loose parental control or no parents at all. The preference of such homes is often engineered by the desire for the liberty to smoke, dope, drink, and indulge in all sorts of reckless fun.” Young people in this category should make theirs the experience of the prodigal son. They should come to their senses.

The same is true for the many Catholics who have left their spiritual homes, the Church, because they think that the teachings of the church or the celebration of the Holy Mass, etc., stifle them. They leave to go to churches where they can freely express themselves, for example, become an elder, a pastor, speak in tongues, dance their fill at services, etc.

My brothers and sisters in Christ, the Lenten Season affords us the opportunity to see where you have wondered away from your values, relationships, or goals and be inspired by the prodigal son’s story to come to your senses, seek forgiveness, and embrace the boundless love and mercy of our Heavenly Father. Once back in your Father’s house, you’ll “taste and see His goodness” (Ps. 34:8)

PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING FOR 3/23

General Fund.....	\$ 3957.00
Online Giving.....	\$ 782.27
Maintenance	\$ 170.00
Local Outreach	\$ 605.00
Diocesan Collection	\$ 1835.25

As of April 1st—315 active families and 708 total members
Attendance 5 PM—106 9 AM—187 11 AM—94

**THANK YOU FOR TAKING A STEP
TOWARD A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP**

Stations of the Cross: Join us for the Stations of the Cross every Friday at 6 PM during Lent. This devotion will help you deepen your spiritual journey and prepare you for the celebration of Easter.

Pope's Prayer Intention for April 2025: For the use of the new technologies. That the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction: Join us for weekly Eucharistic Adoration in the Parish Church every Friday immediately after morning Mass and it ends with Benediction at 12 PM.

This is what St Mother Teresa of Calcutta (1910 - 1997) had to say about the importance of Eucharistic Adoration in our lives: "Every Holy Hour we make so pleases the Heart of Jesus that it will be recorded in Heaven and retold for all eternity."

The time you spend with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the best time you will spend on earth.

May Bernadette Soubirous continue to pray and intercede for us!

Happy Sunday

Fr. Boh (Pastor)

WEEKLY CALENDAR



Sunday, March 30th

8:15-8:45 AM Confession
 9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh
 10—11:45 AM Religious Education
 11 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar
Intention for Linda Guy (L)

Tuesday, April 1st

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh
Intention for Clinton Azagba (+)
 10 AM Stitches from the Heart

Wednesday, April 2nd

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar
Intention for Clinton Azagba (+)
 5-5:45 PM Confession
 6 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

Thursday, April 3rd

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh
Intention for Clinton Azagba (+)
 9:30 AM Teen Religious Ed Class

First Friday, April 4th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh
Intention for Clinton Azagba (+)
 Adoration following the 9 AM Mass
 12 NOON Benediction
 11 AM—2 PM Fish Fry
 6 PM Stations of the Cross
 after Stations Meatless Supper

First Saturday, April 5th

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar
 Rosary immediately following
 3—4:30 PM OCIA
 4—4:45 PM Confession
 5 PM Mass—Fr. Boh
Intention for Ernie Dold (+)

Sunday, April 6th

NO CONFESSION
 9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh
Intention for the People of the Parish
 10—11:45 AM Religious Education
 11 AM Mass—Fr. Boh
Intention for Kurtis Struemke (L)



Below is a list of those celebrating birthdays in April. If you see them when you are out and about, wish them a Happy Birthday!

Jonathon Gautreaux	Ezekiel Rivera	Reid Boswell
Mary Jane Drummond	Grace McCoy	Lucia Crotti
Jennifer Fretz	David Pelletier	Sophia Britner
Isabella Blackshear	Christopher McCusker	Michael Huntsberry
Herbert Boh	Alexander Robertson	David Symuleski
David Cumley	William Weigle	Sara Lettal
Maria Domich	Ivo Zamora	Tommy Todas
Clara Gulbranson	Olivia Gould	Sarah Beutler
Michael Kesecker	Bernard Guy	Laura Beutler
Katherine MacKinnon	Gene Podeszwa	Treyvon Boh
Carolyn Farabaugh	Samson Bland	Prenam Kao
Sophia Maria Heredia	Arnold Burghgraef	Laura Rihn
Kurtis Struemke	Tara Cumley	Ryker Swisher
Eamonn MacKinnon	Lisa Keller	John Wakelin
Joshua Welsh	Rachel Popelka	Jerome Zalek
Burrie Takwa	Mary MacKinnon	Marianne Kusmitch
Lena Miller	Nancy Landreville	
Robert Folk	James Wynkoop	

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, Joseph Bosco, Richard Monroe, Gary E. Manley, Maggie Keating, Sandy Robertson, Irene Zarembo, Gail Sanders, Ruby

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.



Chrism Mass in Charleston, WV, Monday, April 14th at 4 PM
Chrism Mass in Wheeling, WV, Tuesday, April 15th at 4 PM

Wednesday, April 16th

Daily Mass: 9 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4-5:45 PM

Weekday Mass: 6 PM

Holy Thursday, April 17th

Lauds (Morning Prayer): 9 AM

Mass of the Lord's Supper: 7 PM

Solemn adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
immediately following Mass until 12 midnight

Night Prayer: 9:30 PM

Good Friday, April 18th

Lauds (Morning Prayer): 9 AM

Stations of the Cross: 9:30 AM

Celebration of the Lord's Passion: 6 PM

Holy Saturday, April 19th

Lauds (Morning Prayer): 9 AM

Easter Vigil: 8 PM

Easter Sunday, April 20th

Mass: 9 AM & 11 AM



**Help Fill the Pantry
2025**

April

*Ground Beef
Tomato Sauce
Toiletries*

*Canned Tomatoes
Manwich
Seeds*

May

*Hot Dogs
Baked Beans
Bread*

*Ketchup
Mustard
Seeds*

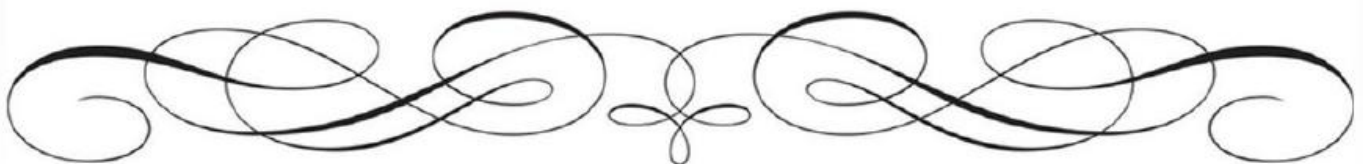
*** Monetary donations for Ham and Ground Beef are preferred**

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 to St. Bernadette.
Please put Loaves and Fishes on the memo line.

For more information contact:
Karen - 301-992-1368 or Bill - 571-216-9320

St. Bernadette's continues to collect items for Hedgesville Loaves and Fishes. Our donations have always been much appreciated. Donations can be put on the shelves on the left as you walk into the McFadden Hall closet. Please, no clothing donations.



St. Joseph Catholic Church is a Designated Pilgrimage Site for the Jubilee Year 2025- A Jubilee Indulgence Can be Obtained This Day



WOMEN'S DAY OF RECOLLECTION

LEARNING TO RECEIVE THE FATHER'S HEART

Presented by the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy
(St. Faustina's Order)

*Mass, Talks, Adoration, Confession, Time for Personal Prayer
and Spiritual Conversations with the Sisters*

Saturday, May

3

2025

Mass and Rosary-8:30 AM

Check in- 9:30 AM

Day Ends at 3:00 PM

St. Joseph Catholic Church

Martinsburg, WV



\$10- CDA Member \$15- Nonmember. Lunch is included. Tickets will be available starting the weekend of April 5th. Please call the Parish Office (304)267-4893 by Friday, April 25th.

Space is Limited

Sponsored by Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court 392





**Camp
Carlo
2025**



**June 29 - July 5
July 6 - July 12
July 13 - July 19
July 20- July 26**

**Register
online at
campcarlowv.org**



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 31—Is 65:17-21; Ps 30; Jn 4:43-54

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

Wednesday 2—Is 49:8-15; Ps 145; Jn 5:17-30

Thursday 3—Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106; Jn 5:31-47

Friday 4—Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34;
Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday 5—Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7; Jn 7:40-53

Sunday 6—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.