

# SAINT BERNADETTE CATHOLIC CHURCH



109 West Main St. • PO Box 11 • Hedgesville, WV 25427

Phone: 304-754-7830 • Email: [office@stbernadettewv.org](mailto:office@stbernadettewv.org)  
[www.stbernadettewv.org](http://www.stbernadettewv.org)

Register online at [www.flocknote.com/stbernadettewv](http://www.flocknote.com/stbernadettewv)  
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](mailto:kevin.a.ferrell@gmail.com)

**Religious Ed.**, Sara Struemke  
[reled@stbernadettewv.org](mailto:reled@stbernadettewv.org)

**OCIA**, Eric Colliflower

**Finance Chairperson**, Paul Guttman

**Youth Ministry Coordinator**, Linda Abrahamian

**Maintenance**, Joe Comer

**Knights of Columbus**, Greg Hilleary  
[dustyboy1025@gmail.com](mailto:dustyboy1025@gmail.com)

## 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—8:40 AM  
*or by appointment*

## March 8, 2026 3rd Sunday of Lent, Year A



### 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**

Welcome to our celebration of the Third Sunday of Lent. As we reach the midpoint of our Lenten journey, the Gospel for this weekend's Masses brings us to a well, where Jesus breaks down barriers to meet a Samaritan woman with unconditional love and mercy.

In Kom land and the broader northwest region of Cameroon, as well as in most African countries, the death of a husband often marked the beginning of a nightmare for women in general and for Catholic women in particular. Widows were and are still subjected in some parts of the region to "cleansing" rituals, treated as property of the deceased husband's family, risking homelessness and inheritance denial if they refuse to be inherited (married) by a relative of the deceased.

From the moment her husband passes away until the burial, the widow is not allowed to take a shower, nor wash her hands before and after meals. She's required to sleep directly on the dirt floor, with only a plantain leaf for protection. It is only after her late husband has been laid to rest that she's led by some widows to a stream in the village, where she is shaved and given a bath. Under these circumstances, a Catholic woman had to attend the funeral mass of her late husband unkempt.

In the early 90s, the Catholic Women Association - established as a lay apostolate group in the English-speaking part of Cameroon - and rooted in Small Christian Communities, succeeded in stopping this abuse (practice).

In today's Gospel passage, we read the wonderful story of Jesus meeting the Samaritan woman at the well. This meeting of Jesus with the Samaritan woman serves as the ultimate "barrier breaker," systematically dismantling religious, social, gender, racial, and spiritual walls to redeem humanity. Jews and Samaritans had intense, mutual hatred. Jews viewed Samaritans as "half-bloods" with a corrupted, deficient religion, often refusing to even share vessels for drinking. It was considered inappropriate for a Jewish man, especially a rabbi, to speak to a woman—even his own wife—in public. A public conversation with a stranger who had a controversial, immoral past (five husbands, current live-in partner), which made her socially and ritually despised, was even more taboo.

This act of Jesus, like that of the Catholic Women Association in my country, replaces the broken walls with a community united by faith, rather than social standing, race, or pedigree. United by faith, the Catholic Women Association succeeded in their mission and has provided a haven for Catholic widows as well as widows of other Christian faith in Kom land

and other parts of the northwest region of Cameroon. This radical, boundary-breaking encounter of Jesus and the Samaritan woman challenges his followers to continue this work by crossing our own comfort zones to reach the marginalized.

As we continue our Lenten journey towards Easter, as a faith community, let us pray for the grace of true conversion and actively work to break down all barriers – visible and invisible, that we have erected to create one new humanity.

Let's continue to pray for peace in the world.

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

**Marriage Banns:**

The Banns of Marriage are announced for the second time for Jack Burford and Keli Burford, both of this parish, and Kevin Michael Day and Michelle Anne Grimes, both of our parish. The Banns of Marriage are announced a third time for George Burghgraef and Marjorie Beth Applebaum, both of our parish, and Maria Maskaluk & Garry Bock, both of this parish. If any of you know of any just cause or impediment why these persons should not be joined together in Holy Matrimony, you are bound in conscience to make it known to the pastor. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**OCIA Scrutinies:** The 1st Scrutiny of our Catechumens and Candidates will take place this Sunday, the 3rd Sunday of Lent, during the 9 AM Mass. The 2nd and 3rd Scrutinies will be celebrated on the 4th and 5th Sundays in Lent, respectively.

**Parish Day of Recollection:** As we journey through this holy season of Lent, you are invited to step away from the busyness of daily life to deepen your faith and prepare your heart for Easter. Join us for a Parish Lenten Recollection Day! This is a wonderful opportunity for spiritual renewal, quiet reflection, and, as Pope Francis says, "a time to return to God."

Theme: "Renew Me in the Likeness of Your Mercy".  
When: Thursday, March 26, 2026, from 10 AM—2 PM (Ending with Confession/Refreshments)

Please sign up at the parish office or on the sign-up sheet in the narthex by March 23rd for planning

**PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING FOR 3/1**

General Fund .....	\$ 4190.00
Online Giving .....	\$ 1003.45
Maintenance.....	\$ 875.00
Local Outreach .....	\$ 1114.00

Weekend Mass Attendance: 5 PM—106 9 AM—223 11 AM—101

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

purposes. All are welcome!

**Lenten Penance Service:** "Return to Me with Your Whole Heart" We are reminded that Confessions are available every Saturday from 4-4:45 PM, on Wednesdays from 5 - 5:45 PM, and on Sundays from 8:15 - 8:40 AM. Additionally, our parish Lenten Penance Service with individual final confessions is scheduled for Wednesday, April 1st, from 4 - 5:30 PM in the parish Church. All are welcome to experience the joy of God's mercy.

**Friday Stations of the Cross:** A reminder that Stations are held every Friday at 6 PM to walk with Jesus on the way to Calvary.

**Lenten Soup Suppers:** Following Stations of the Cross, in McFadden Hall.

I wish you a blessed week. Remember that we are in Lent, and we must work hard on our conversion.

Fr Boh, Pastor

### WHAT'S GOING ON

Next weekend, representatives of **The Good Shepherds of Bethlehem** will be visiting our parish to offer a beautiful collection of hand-carved olive wood religious items made by Christian families in Bethlehem and the surrounding Holy Land villages. Your purchase directly supports these families and helps sustain Christian presence in the land of Jesus' birth, where many are struggling due to conflict and limited economic opportunities. Please take a moment after Mass to visit their display and consider purchasing a hand-crafted item for yourself or as a meaningful gift. Your support makes a real difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Holy Land.

**Save the Date!** Join us as we celebrate **Father Boh's 25th Anniversary of Ordination** on **April 19<sup>th</sup>** from 1 - 4 PM at the Hedgesville Fire Department's Community Hall. This special event will require a ticket for admission; however, there is no cost to attend. Tickets will be available after Masses on March 14th and 15th. Please plan to join us as we give thanks for Father Boh's faithful 25 years of priestly service!

**Garden Ministry News:** We are planning a Spring Clean Up day for the St. Bernadette's Gardens! Please mark your calendars for April 25th from 10am-12pm. We will need help spreading bags of mulch, trimming bushes, planting annual flowers into pots, and sprucing up the campus grounds. If you would like to volunteer your time and talents, please contact Elaine Comer at 304-261-9230 or email her at veunnone@gmail.com. You can also contact the parish office at 304-754-7830 and share your contact information with us.

### PRAYERS REQUESTED

Mary Cordelli, Bonnie Hart, Kathy Skane, Msgr. Patrick Fryer, Randy Bookwalter, Walter Shenk, Helena Shenk, Robin Marlin, Betty Foley, Beverly Barrett, Hank Chase, Jackie Crouse, Vicki Lowery, Michael Huey, Raymond & Connie Roscoe, Glenda Bonfila, Jose M. Boursiquot, Joseph Bosco, Gary E. Manley, Maggie Keating, Sandy Robertson, James Wynkoop, Carol Bogacz, Lynn Fitzharris, Fr. Ansgar, Marianne Henterly, Thomas Mackesy, Florence Dellasanta, Isabella Horning, Carl Drummond, Susan Clark, Betty Anne Powell, Mike Donato, Chuck Kinn

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 8th**  
**Second Collection for the Priests' Retirement Fund**

8:15—8:40 AM Confession

9 AM Mass

*Intention for the living and deceased members of the Abrahamian family*

10:15—11:45 AM Religious Ed

11 AM Mass

*Intention for the People of the Parish*

**Tuesday, March 10th**

9 AM Mass

*Intention for Theresa Eileen Wanns (+)*

10 AM Stitches from the Heart

6 PM Parish Council meeting

**Wednesday, March 11th**

9 AM Mass

*Intention for Fr. Ansgar (L)*

5—5:45 PM Confession

6 PM Mass

6:30—8 PM OCIA

**Thursday, March 12th**

9 AM Mass

**Friday, March 13th**

9 AM Mass (in the Rel Ed Bldg)

Adoration following the 9 AM Mass

12 NOON Benediction

11 AM—2 PM Fish Fry Lunch

6 PM Stations of the Cross

6:30 PM Meatless Supper

**Saturday, March 14th**

4—4:45 PM Confession

5 PM Mass

*Intention for the People of the Parish*

**Sunday, March 15th**

8:15—8:40 AM Confession

9 AM Mass

*Intention for Thomas & Maria Dihm and all souls in purgatory*

10:15—11:45 AM Religious Ed

11 AM Mass

*Intention for Bonnie Hart (L)*

**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](http://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, Jeff Ferrell, and Freddy Gibb

**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 9—2 Kgs 5:1-15ab; Ps 42; Lk 4:24-30

Tuesday 10—Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25; Mt 18:21-35

Wednesday 11—Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147; Mt 5:17-19

Thursday 12—Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95; Lk 11:14-23

Friday 13—Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81; Mk 12:28-34

Saturday 14—Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51; Lk 18:9-14

Sunday 15—1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Ps 23; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41

## 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](http://www.dwc.org) under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.

*Loving God,*

We thank You for the many gifts  
You have entrusted to us.  
Open our hearts to generosity,  
that we may share in the  
mission of Your Church.  
May our gifts bring hope,  
healing, and faith to those in  
need.

As Your Son reminds us,  
"I am the light of the world,"  
help us to walk in that light and  
reflect it through our giving.  
We ask this through Christ our  
Lord.

*Amen.*



## Giving Options



### CHECK

Checks should be made payable to Catholic Sharing Appeal and dropped at the parish office or mailed to: Catholic Sharing Appeal, PO Box 230, Wheeling, WV 26003.



### CREDIT CARD / ACH - ONLINE GIVING

To donate by credit card, debit/ACH or automatic draft, please visit:  
[csa.dwcministries.org/donate](https://csa.dwcministries.org/donate) or scan the QR code.



### TAX-SMART STRATEGIES

- Gifts of Appreciated Securities (Stocks)
- Donor Advised Funds
- Qualified Charitable Distributions
- Life Insurance

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH.**

# A Message from Our Bishop

Dear Friends in Christ,

The Catholic Sharing Appeal is an invitation to come together as one Church to support vital ministries and strengthen our local parishes.

I ask you to prayerfully consider how you can participate in this year's Appeal and help advance the mission of the Church throughout West Virginia.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

*Mark E. Brennan*

Bishop of  
Wheeling-Charleston



The Catholic Sharing Appeal is one of many ways that we are united in God's love as Catholics and as members of our Diocesan Family. In addition to providing funding for our own parish community, it also delivers essential support for shared ministries, Catholic Education, Evangelization and Outreach efforts across the state.



## The Catholic Sharing Appeal

**YES, I WANT TO SUPPORT THE CSA!**

with a monthly gift of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

for a total commitment of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

with a one-time gift of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Checks can be made payable to CSA and mailed to: P.O. Box 230, Wheeling, WV 26003

Credit card donations can be made online at:  
[csa.dwcministries.org/donate](http://csa.dwcministries.org/donate)

BI

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parish \_\_\_\_\_