

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 9, 2025

First Sunday of Lent

The Temptations of Jesus Material Possessions

Power Idolatry

LENT

*Fast
Pray
Give*



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

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the desert for forty days, to be tempted by the devil. Luke 4:1-2

If someone is attacked or feels threatened, it is common to be defensive. For example, if soldiers suddenly find themselves under attack from an enemy, they will most likely take up a defensive position. Similarly, when we feel personally attacked by another or are tempted by the devil, we will often try to defend ourselves. However, within the worlds of games, sports, and military activity, there is a common adage that says, “the best defense is a good offense.” In other words, the best way to keep the opponent from winning is to go on the offensive rather than to sit back and take up a defensive position.

In many ways, this is what Jesus did when He entered the desert. He was aware that the evil one wanted to destroy Him. Therefore, when Jesus entered the desert for 40 days to pray and fast, He did so in a sort of offensive attack upon the devil. Jesus’ temptations in the desert were not primarily difficulties He had to endure and resist. Rather, they were first and foremost ineffective attacks from the evil one, because Jesus had already embraced the opposite virtues.

What temptations and sins are among your greatest struggles? In what ways do you find yourself experiencing defeat? In what ways have you taken up a defensive position to try to overcome your struggles? Too often we approach temptations in the wrong way. We see them as attacks from the evil one that we must resist and defend ourselves against. And though that is true, it is not the full truth. The full truth is that the best way to overcome the struggles we face is to confront them directly in a vigorous and offensive way by choosing the opposite virtue.

Consider the three temptations Jesus overcame in the desert: gluttony, vainglory and greed. Jesus’ entrance into the desert for those 40 days was the way by which He destroyed these temptations before they were even presented to Him. By voluntarily choosing to fast from food for those 40 days, Jesus rendered the temptation toward gluttony ineffective. By choosing the humility of entering into the solitude of the desert to be alone with His Father, Jesus robbed the temptation toward vainglory of its power. By choosing a life of poverty and simplicity, He overcame any temptation toward earthly wealth, even before it was offered to Him.

As we begin this forty-day Lenten journey, reflect, today, upon the sins and temptations in your life that need to be overcome. If you find yourself in an ongoing defensive position toward certain struggles, especially if you find yourself losing the battle at times, it’s time to change your strategy. Embrace the opposite virtue of the sins you are most tempted with this Lent. Embrace those virtues in an offensive manner. Choose kindness if you struggle with anger. Choose fasting if you struggle with gluttony. Choose generosity if you struggle

with greed. Whatever your struggle, turn to the virtue you need the most and make it your focus this Lent so that you, too, will be well-prepared to reject the evil one and his lies when temptation comes your way.

My tempted Lord, You resisted all temptation in Your life by choosing every good virtue and living them to perfection. Please help me to see the virtues I need the most right now and give me the strength I need to run toward them this Lent with all my heart. Jesus, I trust in You.

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, welcome!

Today we celebrate the First Sunday of Lent in Church Year C. As we enter the Lenten season, it is appropriate to ask the question: What is Lent? Lent is a 40-day period in the Church’s Liturgical Calendar during which Christ’s faithful go on retreat, for an annual spiritual renewal. It prepares us to celebrate Christianity’s most fundamental belief, that is, that Christ died, rose from the dead, and is alive. During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by reading and meditating on Sacred Scripture; we serve by giving alms; and we practice self-control through fasting. We are called not only to abstain from luxuries during Lent, but to a true inner conversion of heart as we seek to follow Christ’s will more faithfully. The prophet Joel directed this call to us on Ash Wednesday in these words: “Rend your hearts, not your garments, and return to the LORD, your God” (Joel 2:13). This week, try to identify what you want to give up for the sake of Christ and His Kingdom?

Some Communal Spiritual Activities for Lent 2025

Stations of the Cross and the Season of Lent: This is one of the traditional and most popular communal devotion for faithful Catholics across America and across the world. Although this devotion is not limited to any one season, it is especially dear to us all during the Season of Lent. The Stations of the Cross is a spiritual pilgrimage that one makes to the sights of Jesus’ last few hours on earth. The Stations of the Cross affords us the opportunity to participate in the Lord’s Passion and Death through meditation, contemplation, and prayers. Join us for Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 6:00 PM in the Parish Church. The Stations of the Cross typically lasts only about 30 minutes. You can take advantage of the outdoor Stations of the Cross in our Prayer Garden for your personal or group prayer.

PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING FOR 3/2

General Fund.....	\$ 4481.00
Online Giving.....	\$ 1409.01
Maintenance	\$ 1219.13
Local Outreach	\$ 2416.00
Diocesan Collection—Disaster Relief	\$ 1077.00

Attendance 5 PM—94 9 AM—164 11 AM—130

THANK YOU FOR TAKING A STEP TOWARD A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP

Lectio Divina: Let this Lent be a time of spiritual growth for you by joining us every Tuesday thru Friday after the morning Mass for Lectio Divina starting this week.

Pilgrimage to the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes, Emmitsburg, Maryland. Projected day is Saturday, April 5, 2025. Departure from the parking lot is 8 AM. We're still working out the details. Fellow parishioners, I invite you to be part of these activities that we intend to carry out as a parish community during this Season of Lent. In his Lenten message, 2025, Pope Francis calls us to make this Lenten 'journey together in hope'.

I wish you all a blessed and holy Lent.

Fr Boh (Pastor)

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Considering Joining the Catholic Church? Are you or someone you know discerning a journey into Catholicism? Join us for a light gathering of Christian fellowship this **Thursday, March 13, at 5:45 PM** in the **Great Room of the Religious Education Building**. Tacos will be served! If you are currently in OCIA or a new member of the Catholic Church, you are warmly invited to attend. We look forward to sharing this time of faith and community with you! RSVP via text 307-712-0001.

Attention Homeschool High Schoolers! All homeschool high school students are invited to help form their own Christian community! We'll build this together based on what you want, centering it around **Father Boh's educational classes** held most Thursday mornings.

Here's the plan: **9:00 AM** – Attend **weekday Mass** on Thursdays. **After Mass** – Join **Father Boh's educational class**. **Following Class** – Gather briefly in the **Great Room of the Religious Education Building** for conversation and fellowship. Students are welcome to bring a breakfast bread or other items to share. We'll meet for a few weeks to see what works best and shape the structure moving forward. Join us as we build something meaningful together! **Concludes at 10:45 AM**.

Join the Choir for Holy Week and Easter. Do you like to sing but cannot make a long term commitment? Then just join the choir for Holy Week and Easter! Practices start in March. After Mass you can talk to our Music Director, Linda Abrahamian. 304-279-2315 or call the Parish Office.

Attention all middle and high school girls! Join us for lunch with the Franciscan Sisters. Sunday, March 23rd, from 12:30—1:30 PM in the St. Joseph school cafeteria. Sr. Sarah Rose and Sr. Rita Clare will share stories and teach how to hear God's call for our lives. RSVP to Linda Abrahamian at 304-279-2315 or call the Parish Office. RSVP by Monday, March 17th.

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

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 9th

2 AM Daylight Savings Time Begins
 8:15-8:45 AM Confession
 9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh
 Rite of Sending
 10—11:45 AM Religious Education
 11 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Tuesday, March 11th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh
Intention for Fr. Ansgar Happy Birthday
 10 AM Stitches from the Heart
 6 PM Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday, March 12th

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar
 5-5:45 PM Confession
 6 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

Thursday, March 13th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Friday, March 14th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh
 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

Saturday, March 15th

11 AM Rite of Election St. Agnes
 4—4:45 PM Confession
 5 PM Mass—Fr. Boh
Intention for JoAnn Small (+)

Sunday, March 16th

8:15-8:45 AM Confession
 9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh
Intention for Angela Gentile (+)
 10—11:45 AM Religious Education
 11 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar
Intention for JoAnn and Butch Rogers
 2:30 PM African Mass

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 10—Lv 19:1-2, 11-18; Ps 19; Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday 11—Is 55:10-11; Ps 34; Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday 12—Jon 3:1-10; Ps 51; Lk 11:29-32

Thursday 13—Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Ps 138; Mt 7:7-12

Friday 14—Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130; Mt 5:20-26

Saturday 15—Dt 26:16-19; Ps 119; Mt 5:43-48

Sunday 16—Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 27; Phil 3:17-4:1
Lk 9:28b-36

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.