

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 10am—2pm; Fri 10am—12pm
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
tcmulberry@aol.com

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

May 14, 2023 Sixth Sunday of Easter Happy Mother's Day

Christ Taking Leave of the Apostles



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

“I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.”
 Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,
 In many parts of the world, including here in the United States, where many households are headed by single mothers and where so many millions of women are the breadwinner of the family, the widow and the orphan are generally still considered among the most vulnerable human beings. In Kom, the traditional kingdom in the Northwest Region of Cameroon, where I was born and raised, the vulnerability of orphans and widows is made worse by abuse, notably the younger the victims are. Under the matrilineal system, it is your younger brother – not your son – who is your heir in Kom. If you do not have a brother, the heir is automatically your nephew - one of the sons of your sister. This is a hard-to-swallow tradition, and the outrage only adds on when a brother or nephew-successor mistreats the orphans and the widow, including in the case of young widows. Young widows have had to fight off abusive marital arrangements and sexual abuse. Wicked successors have driven widows out of the estate she worked so hard to build with her late husband. About 60 percent of successors in Kom sell either part or all the property they inherit. Orphans are often disinherited. You can easily imagine how troubled wives and children are to know that their spouse or father is nearing the end of their earthly life. In ancient biblical culture and among the Jewish people, who share the Kom tradition, orphans along with widows and resident aliens were among the most vulnerable people. As a Jew, Jesus Christ knew the culture of His people and the vulnerabilities His young bride (the Church) and His followers (orphans) would face once He was gone. That is why Christ, as the Head of His Family (the Church) insisted on reassuring His followers that He will continue to assume His responsibility to guard and protect them. He promises them protection and guidance: “... I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you”. Husbands who are aware of the abuse inherent in all traditions – whether in a small, traditional kingdom like my native Kom, or in a modern democracy like the United States, try to pre-empt or forestall any fears. In my native Kom, fathers apportion their children land and help them build their own homes before any abusive successor comes along. They make similar arrangements to protect their widows. In today’s gospel passage - a continuation of Jesus’ farewell speech, a part of which we heard last Sunday – He acknowledges that His young bride (the Church) and disciples (orphans) would face the harsh realities of life without their family head. Thus, Jesus promises: “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you”,

(John 14:18). Further, He says: “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him.” Jesus refers to this Spirit as “Paraclete” – the word used to refer to one’s advocate/lawyer, comforter, protector, or counsellor. The Holy Spirit, the “Paraclete”, will be on their side, speak on their behalf, and help them overcome difficulties, whether these come from the community or from the sins, frailties, or personal evil inclinations of the disciples themselves. Petrified and feeling as vulnerable as orphans and widows tend to be when they lose their family head, the disciples waited, in prayer, in the Upper Room for the outpouring of this Spirit. It empowered them to carry out their mission faithfully and successfully as we hear in the Acts of the Apostles regarding conversions in Samaria. Today’s gospel passage renews that assurance to the Church and to us, members of the Church. We are invited to have hope that the world cannot explain because our Father will never leave us as orphans! Nor will He abandon us (Philippians 1:3–6; Hebrews 13:5). He has given us a Helper to fill and equip us. Let us pray, notably during this Mass and during our Novena Prayer in preparation for Pentecost, for a personal relationship with the Holy Spirit. God bless you!
 May Saint Bernadette Soubirous, pray for us.
 Fr Boh, Pastor

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

Today is Mother’s Day. As we celebrate this day on this Sunday, I wish all mothers in our Saint Bernadette Parish Happy Mother’s Day. As we honor and celebrate the gift of motherhood, many of you have special messages prepared to send or have already sent to your moms on this special day. Mothers are special; indeed, she is the person God choose to carry you in her womb for nine months and brought you forth into this world. A famous Nigerian musician, Prince Nico Baraga, in one of his songs in praise of the gift of motherhood titled “Sweet Mother” sings: ‘Sweet Mother, I will never forget you, because of all the suffering you endured for me; if I don’t eat, my mother will not eat, if I

PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING

General Fund	\$ 2633.00
Online Giving	\$ 1620.15
Capital Improvements	\$ 1119.00
Outreach	\$ 242.00

THANK YOU FOR TAKING A STEP TOWARD
 A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP

CONTINUED FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

don't sleep, my mother will not sleep. You're never tired Sweet Mother because of all that you have endured for my sake'. Today, in a special way, we are grateful for our mothers, either by birth or adoption, who nurtured us and supported us through life. Again, Happy Mother's Day to all mothers especially those of our parish.

Please mark your calendars for the following upcoming events.

Confirmation: Bishop Mark Brennan will be here at Saint Bernadette on Saturday May 20th, 2023, to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. Mass begins at 9:00 am.

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord: This solemnity has been moved from Thursday May 18th to Sunday May 21st.

Novena Prayer: We shall begin our Novena in Preparation for the feast of Pentecost on Friday May 19th. This prayer shall be recited at the end of every Mass before the Exit Song.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction: "Could you not watch with Me one hour?" (Mt 26:40). Exposition and adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament takes place every Friday from immediately morning Mass and ends with Benediction at 12 noon. Come spend some quiet time with our Eucharistic Lord!

First Holy Communion: Relive some of the key moments as Caroline and Sylvia make their First Holy Communion here at Saint Bernadette on Sunday May 7, 2023.



WHAT'S GOING ON?

The **Social Concerns Ministry** would like to thank St. Bernadette's for their generous support in our quilt raffle. We are pleased to announce that Allison Ferrell won the St. Bernadette's quilt on May 7th. The proceeds from the raffle will enable us to help the homeless in our area with sleeping bags and tents. May God bless you for all your love and support of God's blessed poor.

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Mary Cordelli, Sharee Buberl, Bonnie Hart, Angela Ramsey, Kathy Skane, Msgr. Patrick Fryer, Randy Bookwalter, Ginger Spice, Joe Schlegel, Walter Shenk, Isabella Horning, Robin Marlin, Betty Foley, Wayne Montañó, Beverly Barrett, Cathy Poplawski, Tim Umrysz, Theresa Comer, Victoria Porter, Tommy Mackesy

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, May 14th

8:15—8:45 AM Confession

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for the People of the Parish

11 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Karen Bennett

Tuesday, May 16th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Gabriel Martin

9:30 AM Stitches from the

Heart

Wednesday, May 17th

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Intention for Rosemary D'Angelo

5—5:45 PM Confession

6 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

Rosary immediately following in the Grotto

Thursday, May 18th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Alexander D'Angelo

Friday, May 19th

9:00 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Mary Hickey

Adoration following the 9 AM Mass

12 NOON Benediction

Saturday, May 20th

4—4:45 PM Confession

5 PM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Intention for the People of the Parish

Sunday, May 21st

8:15—8:45 AM Confession

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for the Elaine Stanley

11 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Joanne D'Angelo

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 Guttmann, and Neil Shanholtzer

St. Bernadette Finance Ministry: Paul Guttmann, 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 15th—Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149; Jn 15:26-16:4a

Tuesday 16th—Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138; Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday 17th—Acts 17:15, 22-18:1; Ps 148; Jn 16:12-15

Thursday 18th—Acts 18:1-8; Ps 98; Jn 16:16-20

Friday 19th—Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47; Jn 16:20-23

Saturday 20th—Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47; Jn 16:23b-28

Sunday 21st—The Ascension of the Lord—Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47; Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20

**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.