

# 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)  
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](mailto:kevin.a.ferrell@gmail.com)

**Religious Ed.,** Deb Mackesy  
[reled@stbernadettewv.org](mailto:reled@stbernadettewv.org)

**RCIA,** Theresa Highlands  
[tcmulberry@aol.com](mailto: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 21, 2023

## Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord



### 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,

All of us pray to God, asking our Father in heaven to grant us certain favors and wishes. The Apostles and disciples had favors and dreams they hoped Jesus Christ would bring to realization. One example is the request by the mother of the sons of Zebedee, "Command that these two sons of mine sit, one at your right and the other at your left, in your kingdom" (Mt. 20:20-21).

During the three years of Christ's earthly ministry, the Apostles and disciples nursed their dreams. When Christ was unjustly condemned, crucified, and died on the cross, his followers were devastated and terrified. Even though they had heard Christ preach, they still thought he had come to extricate Israel from domination under the Roman Empire. They hoped that Christ would restore Israel in its earthly glory. So, when the Risen Lord appeared to them over those 40 days before His ascension (which was last Thursday in some Latin (Arch)dioceses where the feast was not transferred and this weekend in the United States because of the decision of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to transfer the Feast to this weekend), the Apostles and disciples wanted to remind Jesus of the mission they believed he had for them. They were not going to let this second opportunity slip before asking: "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" Jesus disillusioned them. The establishment of this Kingdom will be neither quick nor easy. He does not tell them when but how. Their request is a reminder that our prayers to God and our expectations of what God should do in our lives (most often than not) border on the earthly, rather than on the spiritual. We forget that Christ died on the cross to make us heirs, with Him, not of some earthly Kingdom (Israel), but of God's heavenly kingdom.

Sadly, we are like the Apostles and disciples. We spend way too much time gazing into the heavens and pleading with Christ to do our will, not the will of the Father. We demand an earthly kingdom for ourselves, instead of relishing in the kingdom of God which Christ has won for us. Instead of praying and truly meaning that we wish for God's kingdom to come and for God's will to be done on earth as in Heaven, we are asking God to do our will and bring about the kingdom of our earthly dreams. We are asking God to give us that big house, that latest model car. We are asking for that better-paying job; for that pay hike we have done nothing to deserve; and we are asking for a cure for our illnesses, etc. Scripture teaches us not to make it about our selfish desires. We have been created, the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us, to Know, Love, Serve God, and to be happy with Him forever in Heaven. We are, therefore, to lead lives that bring about, not our earthly kingdoms, but the heavenly kingdom. Appropriately, Saint Paul prays in our second reading, that the eyes of our hearts may be enlightened.

Jesus gives His apostles a very important task: "... you will be my witnesses". He honors them (and now honors

us) by entrusting them with the task of carrying on his mission not only in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and I dare add Hedgesville, but "...to the ends of the earth". It is this witness of the Apostles that will bring about the new Israel, the Kingdom of God, which is manifest visibly in the world as the Church. Fernando Armellini says, "The truth of Jesus' message will not be proved by prodigies, wonders or other extraordinary events, but by us when we live like people newly risen" (Celebrating the Word, Year A, Commentary on the Readings). Writing to the Ephesians and to all of us, Saint Paul reiterates that we have been given "a Spirit of wisdom and revelation resulting in knowledge" of Christ. We are endowed, Saint Paul notes, with "the surpassing greatness of his power". We are co-heirs with Him who is "head of all things", who is seated at God's right hand in the heavens. We are the brothers and sisters of Him, to whom "all power in heaven and on earth has been given"; beneath whose feet all things have been placed, "far above every principality, authority, power, and dominion". Like Him, our job in this world is not to restore some earthly Israel into its former glory, but to go out and change the world by our life of witness aware that He is with us "... always, until the end of the age". Dear brothers and sisters, the most effective way to witness to Jesus is by living a Christian life.

God bless you!

May Saint Bernadette Soubirous, pray for us.

Fr. Boh, Pastor

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Beloved sisters and brothers in Christ,

Welcome to our celebration of the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord! A very special welcome to those who are worshiping with us for the first time and for those returning today after a period of absence. Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. Know that you are always welcome.

**Novena Prayer:** Our Novena Prayer in preparation for Pentecost continues daily after morning Mass until this Saturday. We are encouraged to say the prayer at home or in your office if you cannot make it for morning mass.

**May, The Month of Mary:** As a community we continue to recite the Rosary prayer every Wednesday after the 6 PM Mass at the Grotto in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

## PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING

General Fund .....	\$ 3968.62
Online Giving .....	\$ 762.14
Capital Improvements .....	\$ 110.00
Outreach .....	\$ 205.00
Diocesan Collection .....	\$ 25.00

THANK YOU FOR TAKING A STEP TOWARD  
A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP

## WHAT'S GOING ON?

Please pray for the following students who made their Confirmation this Saturday morning. Alana Boyce, Alaithea Domich, Anthony Gautreaux, Dominic Hudy, Lawrence Hudy, Ashton Kammerer, Edith Kao, Laurence Kao, Serena Nana, Josiah Nichols, Amelia Power, Alykha Seghanka, Alexander Wakelin, Lucianna Wakelin.

Please register your children for Religious Education for the 2023 – 2024 school year to begin in September as soon as possible so that arrangements for teachers can be made.

After a 3-½-year hiatus, the Diocese will have its first “Mountain State TEC” Retreat, at St. Mary Parish, in Morgantown (Star City), on June 10th – 12th. This **Teens Encounter Christ** weekend is intended for rising High School Juniors through rising College Freshmen (roughly 15 to 19-year-olds). Its purpose is to help older teens grow closer to God and to a community of young people and adults, in and through Jesus Christ. It will consist of prayer, talks, activities, community building, games, music, fun, food, and the Sacraments. It begins on Saturday morning and ends on Monday afternoon. For more information, please contact Daniel Maul at the Office of Evangelization & Catechesis, 304-233-0880, ext. 376, or [dmaul@dwc.org](mailto:dmaul@dwc.org). The cost is \$40 (scholarships are available), and teens can register at [dwc.org](http://dwc.org) (click the logo on the homepage).



**“An Evening With The Bishop”** will take place on Tuesday, May 23rd, at St. James the Greater Parish, in Charles Town, beginning with Mass at 5:30 PM, at which the Bishop will preside. The evening is intended for young adults (approximately ages 18 to 35), but anyone and everyone is welcome to attend. It will consist of Holy Mass, followed by a dinner and a Q & A session, with the Bishop. He wants to hear the voice, needs, opinions, and faith of our young adults. If you happen to know of someone who, you believe, would enjoy such an event, please encourage that person to register for the evening, here, at our Diocesan website: Evening with Bishop Brennan | Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston ([dwc.org](http://dwc.org)). The dinner is free for all in attendance. We just ask that everyone registers, so that we’ll be prepared with enough food.

## 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, 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 21st****Ascension of the Lord**

8:15—8:45 AM Confession  
9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh  
*Intention for the Elaine Stanley*  
11 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar  
*Intention for Joanne D'Angelo*

**Tuesday, May 23rd**

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh  
*Intention for Rose Stefanko*  
9:30 AM Stitches from the Heart

**Wednesday, May 24th**

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar  
*Intention for Cathy Poplawski*  
5—5:45 PM Confession  
6 PM Mass—Fr. Boh  
Rosary immediately following in the Grotto

**Thursday, May 25th**

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh  
*Intention for Thomas, James, Andrew Bowling*

**Friday, May 26th**

9:00 AM Mass—Fr. Boh  
*Intention for Clarence Franko*  
Adoration following the 9 AM Mass  
12 NOON Benediction

**Saturday, May 27th**

4—4:45 PM Confession  
5 PM Mass—Fr. Boh  
*Intention for Gregory McDaniel*

**Sunday, May 28th****Pentecost Sunday**

8:15—8:45 AM Confession  
9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh  
11 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar  
*Intention for Mark Frederickson*  
2:30 PM African Mass



**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.

**Order of Christian Initiation:** The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA—15 years or older) and the Order of Christian Initiation of Children (7 to 14 yrs. of age), 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: 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 22nd—Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68; Jn 16:29-33

Tuesday 23rd—Acts 20:17-27; Ps 68; Jn 17:1-11a

Wednesday 24th—Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68; Jn 17:11b-19

Thursday 25th—Acts 22:30; 23:6-11; Ps 16; Jn 17:20-26

Friday 26th—St. Philip Neri, Priest; Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103; Jn 21:15-19

Saturday 27th—Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; Ps 11; Jn 21:20-25

Sunday 28th—Pentecost Sunday; Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

### 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.

**ST. BERNADETTE AND  
ST. JOSEPH YOUTH GROUP**

**~~CELEBRATION~~**

**COME AND EXPERIENCE  
OUR YOUTH GROUP!**

**WE WILL RECOGNIZE OUR GRADUATING  
SENIORS AT MASS AND THEN MOVE TO  
THE PAVILION FOR FOOD AND FUN!**

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**WEDNESDAY, MAY 31<sup>ST</sup> 6PM - 8PM**

St. Bernadette Catholic Church  
All Middle and High School Youth Are Welcome

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Please RSVP by calling the Parish Office at (304) 754-7830  
or contact Linda Abrahamian at (304) 279-2315 or  
linda.abrahamian@gmail.com by **Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup>**