

# SAINT BERNADETTE CATHOLIC CHURCH



## ST. BERNADETTE DIRECTORY

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 10 AM—2 PM; Fri 10 AM—12 PM  
Office is located in the Religious Education Building

**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 Guttmann**

**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*

## September 1, 2024

### 22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time, Year B

“Why do your disciples not follow the tradition of the elders but instead eat a meal with unclean hands?” Mark 7:5



#### 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 once served in a parish back in my native Cameroon in a city that had four parishes. One day I received an invitation to attend the farewell party of one of the pastors in one of the parishes in that city who had been transferred. That day, I joined the other invitees at the party. The time for speeches came. I listened to what was being said. One speaker after the other, sang the praises of this pastor. I heard words like; we're sorry to see him leave our parish, he was such a nice and caring pastor. I was a little surprised because I had often heard other things about this same pastor said by some of these very people. A few days later, I was talking with one of the parishioners and I said to him: it seemed to me that you – parishioners, loved your pastor very much. Did you hear how they praised him during his farewell party, and how sorry they were that he was leaving?

It shows that you are not from our parish, my friend retorted. If you were, then you would know that we are all delighted that finally he is leaving our parish. Don't pay attention to what they were saying, they were not speaking from the heart. Some of them had even written petitions to the bishop to transfer him from the parish. He was not a good pastor. They spoke like that at the party only because they had to say such things in front of the people who had come for the party.

I was surprised, and yet I was not surprised. It happens often that people speak not from the heart.

After meditating for five Sundays on the sixth chapter of John's Gospel, today we return to the Gospel of Mark which we will continue reading up to the end of the liturgical year. Today's Gospel brought back to me the memory of the farewell party narrated above. I recall the words of my friend: "Don't pay attention to what they say, they don't speak from the heart". What Jesus says to the Pharisees sounds the same.

In today's Gospel passage, we read that "the Pharisees with some scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus." They observed/watched Jesus and his disciples, to see what they do, and what they do not do. Then, they asked Jesus a question, not an ordinary question, but something that sounded like an accusation: "Why do your disciples not follow the tradition of the elders but instead eat a meal with unclean hands?"

The Pharisees are not trying to find fault with Jesus' disciples, but it is to accuse Jesus himself. He answered them; "Well", it was about you hypocrites that Isaiah prophesied: "This people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me".

Long before Jesus, God had spoken those words

through the prophet Isaiah. Jesus repeats them to teach the Pharisees and all of us. What does Jesus teach us?

To look at what our lips say, and to see if it matches what is in our hearts. It is easy to say: "My God, I love you, I would do anything for you". Saying this with our lips is easy, but carrying out the action day after day is less easy.

Appearances, pretenses, and trying to make other people believe what is not the truth in us, is hypocrisy – the great sin of the Pharisees. Today Jesus teaches us that true religion is deeper than appearances and pretenses. It is stronger than what the lips can say. What is spoken by the heart, is what God is happy with.

We can, at times, deceive other people. We can succeed in flattering them with our words as happened at the farewell party for the pastor who was transferred. We can succeed in making people believe that we are what, in fact, we are not. We can even manage, on some occasions, to deceive ourselves. But we cannot deceive God. He, who has made us, knows the depths of our hearts, and He wants to see the truth coming from our hearts. And only so can we be admitted to dwell on His Holy Mountain so says the Psalmist in today's Psalm: "LORD, who may abide in your tent? Whoever walks blamelessly and does justice; who thinks the truth in his heart and slanders not with his tongue" (Ps. 15:1b,-3a).

May Saint Bernadette Soubirous pray for us.

Fr Boh (Pastor)

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

Beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, welcome! We are in a new month, the month of September. We thank God for bringing us to this new month, a month dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows, whose memorial the Church celebrates on September 15. For all those for whom this month is special, we accompany you with our prayers and beg Almighty God to bless you and grant your heart's desire.

**The Pope's Prayer Intention for September 2024:** For the cry of the Earth, that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all

**PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING—8/25**

|                     |            |
|---------------------|------------|
| General Fund .....  | \$ 2915.00 |
| Online Giving ..... | \$ 912.67  |
| Maintenance .....   | \$ 75.13   |
| Outreach .....      | \$ 3262.25 |

Attendance 5 PM—85 9 AM—176 11 AM—116

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

will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.

God bless you and your loved ones! Happy Sunday

**Marriage Banns—Second call:** Roosevelt N. Boh and Lisa E. Thottumari. If you know cause or just impediment why these persons should not be joined together in Holy Matrimony, you are to declare it.

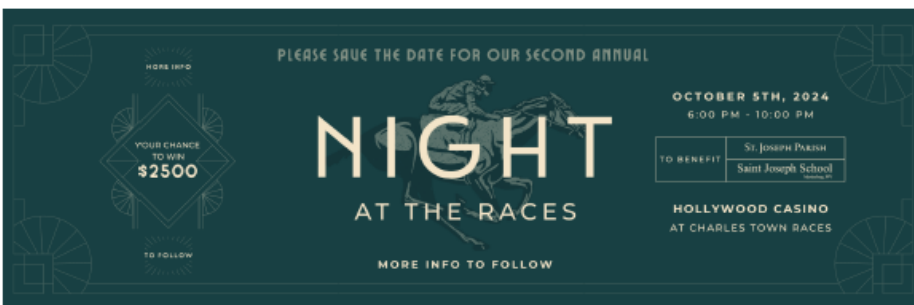
**WHAT'S GOING ON?**

**Mark your calendars:** *OCLIA* starts September 7th from 3—4:30 PM. *Religious Education* for Kindergarten through 8th grade will start Sunday September 8th 10—11:45 AM. If you haven't signed up yet and would like to attend either class, please call the Parish Office at 304-754-7830. It's not too late!

**Meet the teachers:** Please plan to come early to pick your child up from Religious Education on September 8th. Meet the teachers/open house starts at 11:15 AM and plan to stay for the picnic directly following.

Our **annual Parish Picnic** will begin directly after the 11 AM Mass on Sunday, September 8th in the pavilion. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex. Everyone is asked to bring a side dish to share. Fried chicken and desserts will be provided by the church.

**The CSA campaign** will still be ongoing for several more months. Even though we are above target, only 54 gifts were given. All additional funds are returned to St Bernadette's free of diocesan fees and will continue to support our capital projects. Visit [www.dwc.org](http://www.dwc.org) to contribute online.



**PRAYERS REQUESTED**

Mary Cordelli, Sharee Buberl, Bonnie Hart, Kathy Skane, Msgr. Patrick Fryer, Randy Bookwalter, Ginger Spice, Walter Shenk, Robin Marlin, Betty Foley, Beverly Barrett, Tim Umrysz, Sharon Peterson, Theresa Comer, Betty Beniot, Hank Chase, Linda & Bernie Guy, Jackie Crouse, Kevin Lathwell, Dorothy Knipe, Rebecca Ramsey, Linda Spiker, Vicki Lowery, Eric Heartley, Michael Huey, Patricia Baker, Isabella Homing, Raymond & Connie Roscoe, Ruth Warner, Glenda Bonfila, Jammie Dobson, Jose M. Boursiquot

*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, September 1st**

8:15—8:45 AM Confession  
 9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh  
*Intention for Nestorine Boh (+)*  
 11 AM Mass—Fr. Boh  
*Intention for Lois Jean Howard (+)*

**Monday, September 2nd  
 Labor Day—Office Closed**

**Tuesday, September 3rd**

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh  
 10 AM Stitches from the Heart

**Wednesday, September 4th**

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

**Thursday, September 5th**

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

**First Friday, September 6th**

9:00 AM Mass—Fr. Boh  
 Adoration following the 9 AM Mass  
 12 NOON Benediction

**First Saturday, September 7th**

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh  
 Rosary immediately following  
 4—4:45 PM Confession  
 5 PM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar  
*Intention for Irene Dzifa King Arthur (+)*

**Sunday, September 8th**

8:15—8:45 AM Confession  
 9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh  
*Intention for Moise Nelson Eta Oben*  
 11 AM Mass—Fr. Boh  
*Intention for Margarita Lannon (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, 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 2nd—1 Cor 2:1-5; Ps 119; Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday 3rd—St Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church; 1 Cor 2:10b-16; Ps 145; Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday 4th—1 Cor 3:1-9; Ps 33; Lk 4:38-44

Thursday 5th—1 Cor 3:18-23; Ps 24; Lk 5:1-11

Friday 6th—1 Cor 4:1-5; Ps 37; Lk 5:33-39

Saturday 7th—1 Cor 4:6b-15; Ps 145; Lk 6:1-5

Sunday 8th—Is 35:4-7a; Ps 146; Jas 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37

## 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.



## A Visit from the Bishop of the Diocese of Kumba, Cameroon

Father Boh came to us from the country of Cameroon in Africa. In March 2016, Pope Francis divided the Buea Diocese (Father Boh's diocese of incardination in Cameroon) and created the Diocese of Kumba to which Father Boh is now incardinated. Headquartered in Kumba, the newly named bishop is Agapitus E Nfon and the diocesan cathedral is the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart. Bishop Agapitus E Nfon will be visiting the USA

starting September 28, 2024. Father Boh has asked Bishop Agapitus to join him for the 9am Holy Mass on Sunday the 29<sup>th</sup>. It is also Father's wish that St Bernadette parish present his Bishop with a generous financial gift when he is here.

When the new Diocese was established, it came with little financial resources. The main church in the capital of Kumba was named the Cathedral, but there was no home for the Bishop. There was a convent and when the sisters went into the field for several years the Bishop utilized the convent for his residence. They will be returning soon, and Bishop needs a home. Father Boh would like this gift to go towards building the foundation of this house.

In addition to any fundraising, the Finance Council thought a second collection might start a fundraising drive. In order not to distract from other Diocesan collections such as Catholic Sharing Appeal, Education of Seminarians (Aug 18), and The Catholic University (Sept 29), **this second collection will be taken up at all Masses on the weekend of Sept 8<sup>th</sup>**. If you miss the collection, you can place your check into a later collection by writing KUMBA on the memo line of your check.

The Demographics of Kumba and our Wheeling-Charleston Dioceses

| Diocese                 | Kumba         | Wheeling-Charleston |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| Year Diocese Formed     | 2016          | 1850                |
| Sq Miles                | 4,415         | 24,240              |
| Population              | 574,000       | 1,800,000           |
| % Catholic              | 45% / 267,000 | 6% / 110,000        |
| # Parishes              | 21            | 92                  |
| Diocesan Priests        | 36            | 108                 |
| Religious Order Priests | 8             | 36                  |
| Male religious          | 11            | 41                  |
| Sisters                 | 23            | 76                  |
| Catholics/Priest        | 5,855         | 763                 |

*Youth Group* **Open to all 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders**



# 2024-2025 EVENTS

SEPT

9/04- Bingo at Harmony Assisted Living  
9/15- Kickoff with Kayaking

OCT

10/06- Life Chain  
TBA- Fall Retreat Day

NOV

11/02- All Souls Day Cemetery Cleaning  
11/16- Bagged Lunches and Coats for the Needy

DEC

12/06- Christmas Caroling and Treats

JAN

1/11- Feed the Homeless at the Rescue Mission - Youth Group Christmas Party  
1/25 - NET Retreat- High School Teens  
1/26- NET Retreat- Middle School Teens

FEB

2/7-2/9-Mt. 2000 Retreat Weekend

MAR

TBA- Franciscan Sisters

MAY

5/04- Minature Golf and Party to Honor our Graduating Seniors

**Teens- Join Us for Any or All Events- Call Linda Abrahamian for More Info- 304-279-2315**



# Vacation Bible School

St. Bernadette Catholic Church



Wed. Evening Mass welcomed VBS

### Tidal Eats

We dove into yummy dinners from chicken tenders to walking tacos. Thank U St. B's.

### Daily Saints

We took a shallow dive into 6 special people who served God and how their friendship with Him is an example for us to have friendship with God.

Blessed Carlo Acutis

St. Margaret Mary

St. John Bosco

St. Mary Magdalene

St. Damien & St. Marianne



## SAVE-THE-DATE

June 9-13

## SCUBA Dive into Friendship with God

This year's VBS was tailored to be 'Totally Catholic', took kids on an amazing undersea adventure. Through this deep dive, children explored the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God, immersing themselves in the Word to discover the true meaning of living water and building a strong, faith-filled foundation.

1

### DEEP BIBLE ADVENTURES

Immersed kids in the heart of the Bible, allowing them to experience and participate in the stories, bringing Scripture to life in a dynamic and memorable way.

2

### IMAGINATION STATION

Kids engaged in hands-on, sciency-fun activities that build their faith while exploring the wonders of God's creation together with their Crew.

3

### STICKY SCRIPTURE

Children learned to apply the daily Bible Verse to their own lives, making God's Word real & relevant through engaging activities.

4

### REEF REC

Outdoor play centered around reinforcing our Bible Adventures and theme for the day in growing in Friendship with God. Lots of water.



Reef Rec  
Outdoor Games



Imagination  
Station

Sticky Scripture  
Submarine



**Acting out Isaiah and the Israelites soaking the alter in water and trusting in God through both good and challenging times. ~Deep Bible Adventures**

God is a friend who is real. Thanks, God.

God is a friend who loves. Thanks, God.

God is a friend we can trust. Thanks, God.

God is a friend forever. Thanks, God.

God is a friend for everyone. Thanks, God.

## THREADS OF FRIENDSHIP: A SPECIAL GIFT FROM THE PARISH

Fr. Boh and the parish graciously provided purple T-shirts for the children this week, symbolizing the deep friendship Lydia found in Jesus, even though she never met Him in life. The story of how Paul introduced her to Jesus inspired this thoughtful gesture. A few dedicated ladies from the parish hand-cut each letter from fabric scraps and ironed on our primary weekly theme: "God Is My Friend." These shirts serve as a beautiful reminder of the love and friendship we share with God throughout the week.



If you see anyone wearing these about give them a smile and ask them about VBS.