

# 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)

**OCIA, 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*

## August 27, 2023

### 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Keys to the Kingdom

#### 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

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,  
Human beings have reactions and emotions at two ends of a spectrum when they hear one or the other of two phrases: The first phrase is “you are fired”. The second is “you are hired”. Every time we hear those words spoken to us, our emotions and reactions are at two extreme ends of the spectrum.

While God, in His infinite mercy, does not speak in terms of hiring or firing us, our readings for this 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, Church Year A, offer God using those two phrases.

The Lord effectively tells Shebna, in our first reading (Is 22:19-23) that he has been fired as “master of the palace”. By contrast, God tells Eliakim, son of Hilkiyah, in the same reading, that he has been hired to “be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah”. God has taken away authority from those who previously had it and has given it to a mere servant.

In our Gospel passage (Mt 16:13-20), Our Lord Jesus Christ tells Peter “you are hired” as the head of the Church of Christ. “I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.”

Jesus, to whom all authority in heaven and on earth has been given, tells Peter the extent of the authority he has received: “whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”

Eliakim receives similar authority: “I will place the key of the House of David on Eliakim’s shoulder; when he opens,” says the Lord “no one shall shut, when he shuts, no one shall open”.

The message for all of us in today’s readings is very clear. We, too, who are mere servants in the House of God; all of us, who come from lowly upbringings and are in trades and professions reserved for the poor and the outcasts, like the fisherman Peter, God is reminding us that to us, too, He has given free access to the kingdom of God. We, too, can receive the keys to God’s kingdom if we, too, like Peter, know and confess who He is.

Which raises the question: do we know who Jesus is? Or do we just repeat what other people say He is? Have we asked the Holy Spirit to reveal Jesus to us? Do we truly accept Him as our Lord and Savior? Do we confess Him, as Peter did, in today’s gospel passage?

Just as neither Peter nor Eliakim were not found unworthy by God to be raised to the levels of authority that we read about in today’s readings, all of us Christians, should rest assured, as the Psalmist says, that God sees the lowly. While we may think ourselves unworthy by virtue of our sins, God considers us “like a peg in a sure spot” in His House. The Psalmist reminds us that God’s “love (for us) is eternal”; that God will “not forsake the work of (His) hands.”

How do we benefit from the depth of God’s “riches, wisdom and knowledge” that Saint Paul writes about in our second reading (Rom 11:33-36)?

We cannot do so by trying to understand God’s ways.

Saint Paul reminds us that they are “unsearchable”. We cannot do so by trying to understand His judgements. Saint Paul tells us His judgements are “inscrutable”. We cannot do so by living by the flesh and blood. As Jesus tells Peter in our gospel passage “for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my heavenly Father”.

Let us pray for the grace to Our Father in Heaven to lift us up from our lowly status; to reveal Jesus to us as Our Lord and Messiah; to accept us as “like pegs in sure spots” in the House of God here at Saint Bernadette and in the kingdom of God when our life on this earth is spent and we return to our Creator using the key into the kingdom that Jesus bought for us by dying on the cross for our sins.

God bless you!

Fr Boh

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

Dear brothers and sisters, welcome to Saint Bernadette! We welcome especially those worshipping with us for the first time. Thank you for choosing to worship with us this weekend. Please know that you are always welcome here at Saint Bernadette.

Dear friends in Christ, today, Jesus asks us a very challenging question: “But who do you say that I am?” I know that there are some of us who have never thought of this question before. Take some more time this week to sit quietly aware of His presence with you and listen to Him who has told you that He Himself will tell you who He is. I thank all of you, who, as parishioners, manifest your faith in the Lord. We have seen an increase in mass attendance every weekend. I have you in my prayers, and may Saint Bernadette Soubirous, pray for us.

**Marriage Banns** – Third and last Call: Mark Meyer and Samantha Meyer. If you have any objections to this marriage, kindly make those objections known to the pastor before the wedding day.

**Appeal for Altar Servers:** Dear parents and families, kindly encourage your children to join the Altar Servers in our parish. For the children who have already made their minds to join, please, take a few minutes after Mass and fill out your child’s information on the sign-up sheet at the Narthex. Thanks in advance.

**Pope’s Prayer Intention for September 2023:** For the People living on margins – We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING

General Fund .....	\$ 3443.00
Online Giving .....	\$ 1765.79
Diocesan .....	\$ 356.00
Maintenance.....	\$ 150.00
Outreach.....	\$ 112.00

THANK YOU FOR TAKING A STEP TOWARD  
A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP

## WHAT'S GOING ON?

The **Hospitality Ministry** will hold their next meeting Wednesday, September 6th after the 9 AM Mass. We would love to have new members join us.

The **Social Concerns Ministry** will hold their next meeting Thursday, September 7th after the 9 AM Mass. We would love to have new members join us.

**Religious Education** classes begin Sunday, September 10th from 10:15—11:30 AM.

There will be a **parent/teacher meeting on Wednesday, September 6th** at 6:30 PM in the Religious Education Building.

Save the Date: Our **Parish Picnic** is scheduled for Sunday, September 10th after the 11 AM Mass. Food and fun provided.

**Catholic Daughters Martinsburg Court # 392** would like to invite any lady eighteen and over to our August 8th meeting at 6:30 PM at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 108 W. Stephen St., Martinsburg, WV. You may contact Monica Straley Court Regent at 304-240-4901 or email Monica at [mlstraley05@gmail.com](mailto:mlstraley05@gmail.com). Thank you and hope to see you there.

The Diocese of Wheeling—Charleston will provide a one-day in-person spiritual retreat for **grieving parents who have lost a child**. The retreat will be held at St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Wheeling on October 14th from 9:30 AM—7:30 PM. Visit [www.emfgp.org](http://www.emfgp.org) for more information and to register.

**Two five-week courses** are being offered through the University of Dayton's Virtual Learning Community for Faith Formation (VLCFF). These courses are hybrid models. They are composed of both weekly live two-hour zoom lectures as well as a rich variety of online course materials and discussion experiences through the University of Dayton's Virtual Learning Community For Faith Formation (VLCFF). The courses are being underwritten by the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston's Office of Evangelization & Catechesis, who pays 100% of the tuition and the cost of any books associated with the courses. Classes open the week of August 28th. For further information or to register, please contact Dr. Stoiciu at [rodicastoiciuphd@gmail.com](mailto:rodicastoiciuphd@gmail.com).

## 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, Theresa Comer, Victoria Porter, Bob Baker, Theresa Highlands, Betty Beniot, Hank Chase, Freddy Highlands, Margaret Klover, Linda & Bernie Guy

*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, August 27th**

8:15—8:45 AM Confession  
9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh  
11 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

**Tuesday, August 29th**

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh  
9:30 Stitches from the Heart

**Wednesday, August 30th  
Happy Birthday, Fr. Boh!**

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

**Thursday, August 31st**

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

**First Friday, September 1st**

9:00 AM Mass—Fr. Boh  
*Intention for those who have no one to pray for them*  
Adoration following the 9 AM Mass  
12 NOON Benediction

**Saturday, September 2nd**

**No First Saturday Mass**  
9—10:30 AM OCIA  
4—4:45 PM Confession  
5 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

**Sunday, September 3rd**

8:15—8:45 AM Confession  
9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh  
*Intention for Nestorine Boh*  
11 AM Mass—Fr. Boh  
*Intention for Mary Montaño*

**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 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 28th—St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps 149; Mt 23: 13-22

Tuesday 29th—Passion of St. John the Baptist; 1 Thes 2:1-8; Ps 139; Mk 6:17-29

Wednesday 30th—1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139; Mt 23:27-32

Thursday 31st—1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90; Mt 24:42-51

Friday 1st—1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97; Mt 25:1-13

Saturday 2nd—1 Thes 4:9-11; Ps 98; Mt 25:14-30

Sunday 3rd—Jer 20:7-9; Ps 63; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27

## 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.

# YOUTH GROUP



Learning  
and Living  
Your  
Faith by  
Service  
and Fun!  
All Middle

and High School Youth -Join Us for  
Mini- Golf at Jaydee's On Sunday,  
September 24<sup>th</sup>- 4pm-6pm.

Please RSVP the Parish Office, (304)754-7830  
or Linda Abrahamian, (304)279-2315,  
[linda.abrahamian@gmail.com](mailto:linda.abrahamian@gmail.com) by Friday,  
Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>.

**PARENT/TEACHER MEETING**  
**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

A Parent/Teacher meeting will be held on  
Wednesday, September 6, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.  
In the Religious Education Building.

All teachers will be there to answer any  
questions you may have and complete the  
necessary paperwork for Religious Education.  
Your attendance will be greatly appreciated.

Deb Mackesy, Director  
Religious Education