

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

www.stbernadettewv.org

Office Hours: Monday—Friday 10am—2pm

Office is located in the Religious Education Building

Administrator, Rev. Fr. Aloysius Boh

Parish Secretary, Lynette Kammerer

Music Director, Linda Abrahamian

Sacristan, Kevin Ferrell

Religious Ed., Deb Mackesy

reled@stbernadettewv.org

RCIA, Theresa Highlands

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 Friday: Perpetual Adoration of the
Blessed Eucharist after 9 AM Mass
with Divine Mercy & Benediction at 3 PM

1st Saturday: 9 AM
Rosary immediately following

Confession

Wednesday: 5:20—5:50PM

Saturday: 4—4:45PM

Sunday: 8:15—8:45 AM
or by appointment

August 7, 2022

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Be Ready At All Times



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

Our readings for this Sunday are centered on 'Faith'. What is faith? Faith is complete trust or confidence in someone or something. In the context of religion, it is a strong belief in God, or in the doctrines of a religion, based on spiritual apprehension rather than proof. Believing in what we have not seen underlines our faith in the Lord. The first reading from the Book of Wisdom gives us insights into how to believe. It tells us that just as God came to the rescue of the Jews in Egypt, so He will save those who put their trust in him. The second reading from the Letter to the Hebrews invites us to imitate the faith of the patriarchs, especially that of Abraham, 'our father in faith'. And the Gospel urges us to a constant watchfulness and faithfulness.

Dear friends in Christ, let us commit ourselves again to the Lord and to His word. God loves us despite our many failures. May His love and Word shape our lives.

Fr Boh

Vacation Bible School – Another First at St. Bernadette Catholic Church

After the launch in January 2022 of monthly Eucharistic celebrations led by children; after the setting up last year of a Teen Choir; and after the start in October 2021 of the celebration of Holy Mass with the African Community, Vacation Bible School (VBS) is another first at Saint Bernadette Catholic Church, Hedgesville.

The first edition of VBS closed last Friday after five days of Bible study and loads of fun for a first cohort of graduates numbering 15 children.

Parents thronged the main hall of Saint Bernadette's Religious Education facility Friday evening to attend their children's graduation from their week of learning.

Excited voices exclaimed "Awesome God!" each time one of their teachers prompted them by pointing out that "God is surprising".

"Some people think God is boring," the teacher's voice rang out. To which the students roared in united chorus: "Awesome God!"

"Pray to Saint Matthew to help you be opened to surprises in your own life," students were told as they reviewed why Matthew, the Evangelist, must have been surprised by Jesus inviting him, a tax collector and public sinner, to become one of His Apostles.

Graduation events on Friday started earlier in the pavilion where students shared an early dinner of pizza, culminating with students each receiving a certificate of recognition and savoring a piece of their end-of-course celebratory cake.

Joined by the Administrator of Saint Bernadette, Rev. Father Aloysius Boh, parents followed attentively as Parish Secretary, Lynette Kammerer, made a presentation rounding-up what students had learned during the week. They watched as their kids, in their new role as "Young Bible

Scholars", answered questions, chanted, and playfully danced to "Monumental Love" the theme song of their week of Bible study.

CCD teacher Suzy Kinn and Cindy Lathwell (one of the parent volunteers) alongside Lynette – taught the Bible lessons supported by teenagers who served as "crew leaders" for each of the four breakout groups, with some of them doubling as babysitters for the youngest kids. VBS unfolded more as a summer Bible camp than as a school. Students had great fun every day, getting to know each other better and, whenever given the chance, demonstrating that they can be trusted to show love and care to each other. "One of my students – one of only three girls in attendance this week – was rather shy at the beginning until the older girl took her by hand and essentially played 'big sister' to the younger one and being her companion throughout the week," explained Suzy, who is a retired teacher. Children engaged in playing "Jumping Jet" under the supervision of Cindy and were taught the values of patience, forgiveness, and reconciliation. A series of lessons dubbed "From Joseph to Jesus" used details from the story of the biblical Joseph to teach the beauty of the forgiveness and extraordinary kindness which Joseph showed to his brothers who had sold him into slavery in Egypt. Teaching involved dramatizing, with each student taking turns to play Joseph. Once in this character, the student adorned a cloth symbolizing the royal mantle of authority Joseph wore as governor in Egypt in the period following the seven years of drought and severe famine. As is often the case, some of the teaching was students teaching their own teachers. "Tears filled my eyes when I saw how intently one of the children focused on Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament during the adoration session we held with the kids during the week," explained Linda Abrahamian, the music director at Saint Bernadette. The child had asked and received permission from Linda to get as close to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament as possible. Linda narrated that as the child knelt in prayer, her gaze fixed on the place of repose of the Blessed Sacrament, she (Linda) realized that the child had taught, anew, the big lesson of the joy and love one experiences by merely getting close to God.

PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING GIVING SUMMARY

| | |
|--|------------|
| Reg. Envelopes | \$ 1939.00 |
| Online Giving | \$ 740.88 |
| Capital Improvements..... | \$ 525.00 |
| Poor Box..... | \$ 7.00 |
| Diocesan Collection– Catholic Sharing Appeal . | \$ 700.00 |

THANK YOU FOR TAKING A STEP TOWARD A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP

Another example occurred during the Holy Mass celebrated with the VBS class, recalled Cindy, the mother of three of the students in this cohort. The kids demonstrated how much better they understood what the Eucharistic celebration is through their reverence, the keen attention they paid, kneeling and standing, when it was required of them, and being most respectful in the House of the Lord.

Teachers did a fantastic job of breaking down the Bible lessons so that they could be easily understood by children across the various age groups and different levels of education in attendance: from kindergarten through 6th grade.

"One of the kids in my class basically served as my substitute teacher, ensuring that the class was interactive, asking questions, and being quick to offer answers or suggestions as well as in motivating his classmates to speak up and get involved," explained Suzi.

VBS used songs, games, snacks, giant posters, flashcards, art, attendance at Holy Mass, adoration of the Eucharist, and a five-part series of videos to tell stories of God's awesomeness to His Creation on land, sea, forest, or desert. Videos projected to the students used the stories of animals but also the stories of ordinary human beings – Samuel, Bronson, Fabio, Riley, and Wesley and Hannah - performing extraordinary deeds of kindness, to encourage the students to pray to God to lead them to their own vocations.

"Hit your knees on the floor every morning you wake up and say three 'Hail Mary's' followed by the prayer of purity to start every day," Linda told the first set of graduates from VBS, reminding them to pray for the gift of holy priests, religious, good citizens, and loving parents.

"We want our children to soak themselves in the Bible as the foundation of their faith so that they can find strength in it when they face the trying years of adolescence and the many temptations they must deal with in a world full of distractions," said Father Boh about the goal of VBS.

Happily, and most helpfully, organizing future editions of VBS should be easy. Students who graduated Friday as "Young Bible Scholars" intend to be ambassadors to others. Replicating VBS will rely on a curriculum that is available for purchase through Our Sunday Visitor.

Through their children, several of the parents who had been seeing each other but not interacting during activities at Saint Bernadette, got formally introduced to each other, spent some time together during the VBS, and will henceforth, hopefully, embark on making Saint Bernadette Catholic Church a truly loving family, full of surprises and blessed by our truly "Awesome God".

For full disclosure, the author, Herbert Boh, is a journalist and Rev. Father Boh's elder brother.

WHAT IS GOING ON?

There will be a **Religious Education Teachers Meeting**, August 14th in the Religious Education Building after the 11 o'clock Mass. Substitutes need not attend.

Bishop Brennan has approved a **special collection** to be held next weekend to support recovery efforts related to the series of disasters that have occurred in areas of southern West Virginia and eastern Kentucky. Checks should be made out to the St. Bernadette with "Disaster Relief" on the memo line. Special disaster relief envelopes are available in the narthex.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, August 7th

9 AM Mass

Intention for Edmund & Rebecca Colliflower

10 AM Welcome Social
(Donut Sunday)

11 AM Mass

Intention for the People of the Parish

Tuesday, August 9th

9 AM Mass

Intention for Edith Colliflower

10 AM Stitches from the Heart

Wednesday, August 10th

9 AM Mass

Intention for Edgar Colliflower

5:20—5:50 PM Confession

6 PM Mass

Thursday, August 11th

9 AM Mass

Intention for the Alcon Family

Friday, August 12th

9:00 AM Mass

Intention for Paula Green

Adoration following 9 AM Mass

12 NOON Benediction

Saturday, August 13th

4—4:45 PM Confession

5:00 PM Mass

Intention for Blaine Brumbaugh

Sunday, August 14th

9 AM Mass

Intention for Lil Eakle

11 AM Mass

Intention for the People of the Parish

PRAYERS REQUESTED

Bernie Guy, Mary Cordelli, Rose Stefanko, Sharee Buberl, Chris Ridley, Bonnie Hart, Margaret Kistner, Angela Ramsey, Kathy Skane, Msgr. Patrick Fryer, Randy Bookwalter, Kathy Weaver, Nancy Barnholt, Isabella Blackshear, Ginger Spice, Colleen O'Neill, Ernie Montano, Christine D'Angelo, Monica Straley, Beth Sclama and her unborn baby

*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.*



Awesome God!



Listening to the lesson



Singing along to Monumental Love



Awesome Bible Adventures



Imagination Station



KidVid Cinema



Red Rocks Rec



Fr. Boh observing classroom switch

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday 8th—St. Dominic, Priest; Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c; Ps 148; Mt 17:22-27

Tuesday 9th—Ez 2:8-3:4; Ps 119; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Wednesday 10th—St. Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr; 2 Cor 9:6-10; Ps 112; Jn 12:24-26

Thursday 11th—St. Clare, Virgin; Ez 12:1-12; Ps 78; Mt 18:21-19:1

Friday 12th—Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 or Ez 16:59-63; (Ps) Is 12:2-3, 4BCD, 5-6; Mt 19:3-12

Saturday 13th—Iz 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32; Ps 51; Mt 19:13-15

Sunday 14th—Jer 38:4-6, 8-10; Ps 40; Heb 12:1-4; Lk 12:49-53

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 one of the Bishop's designees at 888-434-6237 or 304-233-0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; Fr. Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304-230-1504. Please visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.

Loaves & Fishes School Supply Drive

General Needs

Kleenex, Quart Size Sandwich Bags,
Dry Erase Markers

Pre-K 1 student in need

Scissors, Elmer's Glue, Crayons, Markers, Play-Dough, Plain
White Paper, Colored Construction Paper, Small Dry Erase Board

Kindergarten 3 students in need

2 Boxes of 24 crayons, 12 glue sticks, 12 #2 pencils, safety
scissors

Grade 2 2 students in need

2 Boxes of 24 crayons, 12 glue sticks, 24 #2 pencils, safety
scissors, pencil bag, dry erase markers, composition books,
two pocket folders, wide rule notebook paper, highlighters

Intermediate 7 students in need

24 count crayons, #2 pencils, glue sticks, scissors, pencil bag,
two pocket folders, colored pencils, wide rule notebook paper,
yellow highlighters, 3 ring binder, post it notes, 2-pocket plastic
folder, composition notebook

Middle 9 students in need

2 pencils, erasers, zipped pencil bag, wide-rule notebook paper,
colored pencils, pocket folders

Parish Picnic

@St. Bernadette Church

Sign up Now: Join us for our yearly gathering
Food, Fun, and Games

The Parish will provide the meat, dessert, drinks;

Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex, please sign up
no later than September 7, 2022.

Include: Name, number attending, contact
information; and what side dish you will bring to
share.

September 11, 2022 -- 2 to 5 pm

Donations for prizes are needed for Bingo. Please contact
Cindy Lathwell for any questions, 304-989-2040

Please bring your own chair
and a serving utensil for your dish.

@St. Bernadette Church

