

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: Mon—Thurs 10am—2pm; Fri 10am—12pm
Office is located in the Religious Education Building

July 30, 2023

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

OCIA, 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



Parable of the Hidden Treasure

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,

Every day we are faced with decisions that we must make; whether to take a new job, pursue a career, marry, become a priest or religious, buy a home, or commit to this ministry or that ministry in our parish community.

Our Liturgy of the Word for this weekend has decision making, or choices, as a kind of a central theme. In the first reading, Solomon is invited to make any request of God. Solomon, we are told, asked for wisdom to rule well. God was pleased with Solomon's request and in verse 13 (not included in today's reading) we are told that God granted him a heart shrewd and wise as none before has had and none will have after him. In the second reading, Saint Paul tells us that if we chose to love God, we can turn everything to our spiritual advantage. And in the Gospel, the man who discovers the treasure hidden in a field or a pearl of huge value goes and sells everything and buys it. Imagine a neighbor selling his/her pots, plates, cups, and just everything to buy a piece of land that seems like any other piece of land. You will conclude there must be something wrong with this neighbor. He or she is mad. Jesus says that whoever finds the Kingdom of God has discovered a great treasure. Once convinced, the person may seem to have gone mad. He gives up everything to have it. I have seen people in my native Cameroon sell the 'life wire' of the family (coco farms and other family assets) to foot the bills of a child who won the Diversity Visa Lottery to make sure the child doesn't miss that opportunity to travel to the United States of America. They consider this a worthwhile investment because, for them, the presence of this child in the USA will drastically change the life of the entire family for the better.

This neighbor who is actively selling his/her plates, pots, etc. to buy a piece of land; this neighbor who is selling his/her coco farms and other family assets does so with joy, the kind of joy with which the two people in Jesus' parables get rid of everything they had. Why such a joy in giving up or selling everything that you possess? What will make a person get rid of everything? There is only one motivation - they understand the value of the treasure. This can be likened to a student who changes his/her lifestyle, gives up parties and unhealthy relationships and settles down to study to become a judge to defend the rights of innocent children that are abused.

The two people in today's parables understand that Jesus and His Kingdom is so precious that it is worth everything. This is to teach us that if we fully appreciate the surpassing worth of Jesus and his kingdom, we will joyfully give everything up. We will love the Lord our God with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind and with all our strength, as the Book of Deuteronomy 6:5, and Mark's Gospel 12:30 tell us. We will joyfully give up our lives to Jesus and follow Him. We will joyfully say no to sin. We will joyfully lay down our lives for Jesus as Saint Paul puts it beautifully in his Epistle to the Philippians: "But whatever gains I had, these I have come to consider a loss because of Christ. More than that, I even consider everything as a loss because of the supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have accepted the loss

of all things and I consider them so much rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, ..." (Phil. 3:7-9a)

This should be the joy of every Christian who has truly found Christ, but for those who have not found Him, they think Christians are mad.

The lesson to take from these two parables, is the realization that to enter the Kingdom of God demands a lot more from us followers of Christ than just attending Mass and saying our prayers; one must be ready to give up everything, even life itself. Let's pray dear friends for the grace to say NO to anything that stands or wants to stand between us and God.

God bless you!

May Saint Bernadette Soubirous pray for us.

Fr Boh, Pastor

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Welcome! I hope you are all doing well. It's always a pleasure to welcome you to our weekend celebration of the Eucharist. A special welcome to those worshipping with us for the first time and to members of this parish family who are returning after a period of absence.

I want to use this message as an opportunity to wish all of us Happy New Month and to wish those who will be celebrating their birthday and other key events in their life during this month of August, Happy Anniversary.

- We are reminded of the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Tuesday, August 15th, 2023, with Holy Masses at 9 AM and 6 PM in the parish church. Note that this is a Holiday of Obligation.

- Lynette, our Parish Secretary, and I shall be attending a Tribunal Workshop on marriage related issues on Tuesday, August 1st at Priestfield from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM.

- We continue to thank Joe Comer for the good job he is doing. As most of us might have noticed, the bulbs in the church have been fixed and those in the narthex and the vestry have been changed.

- In the days ahead, a few trees and shrubs along the fence towards the shade, whose roots are causing considerable damage to the parking, lot will be cut down. We are using this as an opportunity to continue to beautify the property.

- The Prayer Intention of the Holy Father for the month of August 2023: We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

- Please continue to enjoy this great time of year of relaxing and vacationing so that we are ready and energized for the busy time that we all anticipate come September.

PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING

General Fund	\$ 2876.00
Online Giving	\$ 560.90
Maintenance.....	\$ 15.00
Outreach.....	\$ 270.75

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

WHAT'S GOING ON?

There will be a **Hospitality Ministry meeting** this Thursday after the 9 AM Mass. We will be discussing the Crab Feast. Volunteers are still needed to help on the evening of August 10th. All are welcome to attend this meeting.

Social Concerns is still looking for small fans. These can be left in McFadden Hall closet or brought to the office. Thank you!

Vacation Bible School will be held August 7th, 8th, and 9th from 5 PM—8 PM. This is a FREE event with dinner included. Please find sign-up sheets in the narthex. Call the Parish Office if you have any questions.

We are selling tickets for our **Crab Feast Fundraiser** after all Masses again this weekend. **We are now offering a non-crab price of \$40 for all-you-can-eat fried chicken.** Tickets can be purchased in the office during the week. Mark your calendars for August 10th from 4 PM—8 PM.

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.

We have noticed that some families have not registered their children for **Religious Education**. Please register by August 13th so that supplies can be ordered.

If you are:

- Non-Catholic who wants to find out more about the Catholic Faith
- Want to join the Catholic Church through Baptism, or Profession of Faith
- Were baptized Catholic as an infant but never received religious education, Confirmation, or First Eucharist **OCIA is for you.** Classes start Saturday, August 12th. Call the Parish Office to sign up today.

St. Bernadette Religious Education Program is looking for **Substitute Teachers** for all grades. Religious Education starts September 10th. Please call the Parish Office if interested. Thank you.

Saint Joseph School is seeking:

Teachers' aides for its infant/toddler and prekindergarten programs

Substitute teachers for all grades

Long-term substitute for second grade

Please send a letter of introduction and résumé to Principal Maria Byrd at mbyrd@sjsww.org.

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, Virginia Brock, Daniel Niedzwiecki, Penny Stritch

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, July 30th**

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 Nestorine Boh

Tuesday, August 1st

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Intention for John Stanley & family

Wednesday, August 2nd

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Nick Seasy

5—5:45 PM Confession

6 PM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

First Thursday, August 3rd

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

9:30 AM Hospitality Meeting

First Friday, August 4th

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

First Saturday, August 5th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Rosary immediately following

Intention for those who are persecuted

4—4:45 PM Confession

5 PM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

Sunday, August 6th

8:15—8:45 AM Confession

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Cecil Comer

10 AM Donut Sunday /

Welcome Social

11 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

Intention for Nestorine Boh

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. 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 31st—St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest; Ex 32:15-24, 30-34; Ps 106; Mt 13:31-35

Tuesday 1st—St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; Ex 33:7-11, 34:5b-9, 28; Ps 103; Mt 13:36-43

Wednesday 2nd—Ex 34:29-35; Ps 99; Mt 13:44-46

Thursday 3rd—Ex 40:16-21, 34-38; Ps 84; Mt 13:47-53

Friday 4th—St. John Vianney, Priest; Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27 34b-37; Ps 81; Mt 13:54-58

Saturday 5th—Lv 25:1, 8-17; Ps 67; Mt 14:1-12

Sunday 6th—Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord; Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97; 2 Pt 1:16-19; Mt 17:1-9

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.