

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 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

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—5:45 PM
Saturday: 4—4:45 PM
Sunday: 8:15—8:45 AM
or by appointment

October 1, 2023

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Jesus told a parable of two brothers whose father asks them each to work in a vineyard. (Illustration by Linda Rivers)

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

Let Our 'YES' to God at Baptism, Remain 'YES'

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In Njinikom – the village, nesting in the rolling mountains of the northwest region of Cameroon where I was born and raised - it was, while I was growing up, and still is to this day, a taboo for a child to look their parents or an elder in the eye. You are expected to look away; to look to the ground; or even to look past the parent or elder giving you instructions. Doing so is considered a sign of respect.

This is the case in many cultures as well. I believe that in all cultures, it is a taboo for a child to rebel against instructions being given to them by their parents or an elder. Here in the United States as in my own culture, I believe it remains intolerable to give a grudging response to anything your father or mother say to you that is not morally wrong or evil. I take this roundabout route just to say the Fourth Commandment "Honor your father and your mother" – as many other commandments are already a part of our culture. Children are to obey their parents. They are expected to carry out their instructions or do their will in everything that's good.

So, when Jesus taught today's parable, He was aware that the culture of His followers prepared them to understand what it means to do the Will of the Father.

Today's gospel teaching is not only about a story. It is not about those two sons – one who said "YES" but did not do his father's will and the other who said "NO" and then did his father's will. We are invited by today's gospel passage to see ourselves in those two sons. As Christians and children of God; as sons and daughters of God, we have all said "YES" in Baptism, Marriage, and Holy Orders to do the Will of God. Today's gospel passage invites us to consider how well we have lived up to the "YES" we have given to Our Father in Heaven.

How different are we from the son who said "YES" to his father but did not execute on that "YES"? Are we any better than those who first rejected the teachings of Christ by saying "I will not, but afterwards changed (their) mind"?

As children of God, all of us, Christians, should be ashamed for saying "NO" to God or to our parents, for that alone constitutes sinning against the Fourth Commandment. With that prejudice in mind, I have always been tempted to condemn both sons. The answer given to Jesus was to recognize that the son who said "NO" but later changed his mind is the one who did his father's will.

The lesson to all of us, who call ourselves Christians because we have said "YES" to God Our Father, is that those whom we see today as having said "NO" may be the ones who change their minds, in the end, and will be rewarded for doing God's will. Yes, says Jesus, Israel made a lot of beautiful promises, but did not keep them. The pagans, judged by Israel to be unworthy to enter the Kingdom of God because they said "NO", will instead be the first to enter.

The story teaches us that God still has two kinds of sons. In our Church, in our parish community, in our families – whether those families live in my native Njinikom or here in Hedgesville or elsewhere around the world – these sons have two reactions upon receiving the Word of God.

As children of God, we are divided into two categories. There are those – sons and daughters of God - who have said "YES" at their baptism, and then spend the rest of their lives by

changing that "YES" into a "NO". Then, there are those sons and daughters of God who, even though not baptized, even if they initially said "NO" to follow God's Will, have changed their minds and walk as true children of God.

Let us all confess this truth: all too often, most – if not all – of us behave like the first son. We are rarely bold enough to say "NO". We behave as the culture in my village demands by not looking God in the face; we look to the ground or look past our parents when they give us instructions to follow God's ways, but we really have no intention of doing their will.

There is a second lesson we can draw from this parable. It is that God is always ready to leave our past behind when we change our mind and do His Will. This is what the first reading also addressed. This is the reason why God will not look behind to punish us. Consequently, we should not remonstrate with God when He admits the prostitute who repents and returns to Him. God is always ready to accept any sinner who repents and to punish any just person who changes his/her mind. Let us pray for the grace to be constant in doing good.

God bless you! May Saint Bernadette Soubirous, pray for us.
Fr Boh (Pastor)

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners, this weekend, we are given an opportunity for the first time as a Parish to welcome a missionary to our parish, Sister Marian Stenken, a member of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth. She is here on behalf of her congregation to solicit our support for their God-given mission. This is an opportunity for us to help spread the Word of God and to grow His Kingdom by supporting the mission of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth. Let's support generously the work the Sisters of Charity are doing all over the world.

Vicariate Pastoral Council Election: I would like to announce we had only two nominations. We have reached out to the two parishioners, and they have generously accepted to represent Saint Bernadette at the Martinsburg Vicariate Pastoral Council. With this, we do not need conduct an election again. Those to represent us are Cindy Lathwell and Carol Bogacz. We are grateful to you for accepting to serve our parish in this capacity.

Prayer to Saint Michael, the Archangel, and Prayer for Eucharistic Revival: We shall continue to recite the prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel as usual and the prayer for Eucharistic Revival will be recited just before the Post Communion Prayer.

The Pope's Prayer Intention for October 2023: For the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING

General Fund	\$ 2322.05
Online Giving	\$ 414.90
Maintenance	\$ 20.00
Outreach	\$ 120.00

THANK YOU FOR TAKING A STEP TOWARD
A LIFE OF STEWARDSHIP

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Please warmly welcome our **catechumens and candidates** into our faith family and support them with our prayers.

Annual Apple and Pumpkin Pies are on sale after all Masses this weekend.

Today we welcome **Sister Marian Stenken of the Sisters of Charity** of Nazareth, Kentucky, who will speak at the Masses this weekend on behalf of their ministries in Belize, India, Nepal, Botswana, Kenya and the home mission of the United States. Our prayers, encouragement, and the collection that will be taken up, align our parish in a very particular way with the work of their Sisters in mission. Let us be as generous as we can.

Our Catholic Sharing Appeal total is at 88% of our goal. We all have to sacrifice to reach our goal of \$20,370 for 2023. When you give to the *Catholic Sharing Appeal*, you directly impact the lives of those around you and we'll continue to share Christ's light and love in a genuine and authentic way.



The **Youth Group is asking for donations of gently used coats, jackets, and sweatshirts** in all sizes for men, women, and children for their annual coat drive. There will be a container in McFadden Hall on the weekends of Oct. 14th-15th and Oct. 21st-22nd where you can place them. Thank you for helping them with this important charitable event.

October Birthdays Below is a list of those celebrating birthdays in October. If you see them when you are out and about, wish them a Happy Birthday!

Alyssa Smith	Francis Viera	Bonnie Hart
Jonathan Gautreaux	Dawsin Wilburn	Kigani Kao
Devin Wilburn	Kevin Ferrell	Sandra Nelder
Dominic Hudy	Barbara Fincke	Dimaris Ortiz-Gonzalez
Raffaella Viera	Braddock Donato	Jean Bibby
Lisa Sobinovskoy	Dorin Takwa	James Borowczyk
Gina Sobinovskoy	Chad Beutler	Everett Cook
Eugene Stevens	Rebecca Hudy	Jessica Hott
Francis Bedard	Amanda Zaycosky-Null	Henry Hutton
Leah Boyce	Carol Sloan	Anna Gautreaux
Brynleigh Hott	Robert Fawcett	Linda Steele
Penelope Stritch	Joyce Alvarez	Sarah Bleigh
Dennis Murphy	Keri Givens	Shanna Fisher
Hayley Cotter	Ernestine Zamora	Annabelle Cook
Matthew Orsie	Ella Bell	Bobbie Kucharek
Tara Lynn Roscoe	Frances Deras	Frank O'Neill
Jane Foley	Alexander Keller	Mira Cotter
Janice Stevens	Debra Mackesy	Sandra Wojcicky
Carol Joseph	Anne Milton	Carol Borowczyk
Christopher Boyce	Stephen Scalia	Vincent Hudy
Scarlett Liberto	Mary Patrice Ulicny	

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, Bob Baker, Betty Beniot, Hank Chase, Freddy Highlands, Linda & Bernie Guy, Carol Bogacz, Jackie Crouse

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, October 1st

8:15—8:45 AM Confession
 9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh
Intention for the People of the Parish
 10 AM Donut Sunday
 10:15—11:30 Religious Education
 11 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar
Intention for Nestorine Boh
 2—3 PM Life Chain—downtown Martinsburg

Tuesday, October 3rd

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh
Intention for Norma Miller
 9:30 AM Stitches from the Heart

Wednesday, October 4th

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar
 6 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

First Thursday, October 5th

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

First Friday, October 6th

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, October 7th

8 AM—3 PM Heritage Days
 Bake Sale & Lunch
 9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh
Intention for those who are persecuted
 Rosary immediately following
 9—10:30 AM OCIA
 4—4:45 PM Confession
 5 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

Sunday, October 8th

8:15—8:45 AM Confession
 9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh
Intention for the People of the Parish
 10:15—11:30 Religious Education
 11 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar
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 2nd—Memorial of the Guardian Angels;
Zec 8:1-8; Ps 102; Mt 18:1-5, 10

Tuesday 3rd—Zec 8:20-23; Ps 87; Lk 9:51-56

Wednesday 4th—St. Francis of Assisi; Neh 2:1-8;
Ps 137; Lk 9:57-62

Thursday 5th—Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Ps 19;
Lk 10:1-12

Friday 6th—Bar 1:15-22; Ps 79; Lk 10:13-16

Saturday 7th—Our Lady of the Rosary; Bar 4:5-12,
27-29; Ps 69; Lk 10:17-24

Sunday 8th—Is 5:1-7; Ps 80; Phil 4:6-9; Mt 21:33-43

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.

The poster features a decorative border of autumn leaves and acorns in shades of orange, red, yellow, and green. The leaves are stylized with black outlines and are scattered around the central text area. Acorns are also visible, particularly in the top right and bottom left corners.

Hedgesville, WV

HERITAGE DAYS

St. Bernadette Catholic Church

Parking by donation

Coffee & Muffins for breakfast

Pulled Pork Sandwich Platter for lunch

includes Cole Slaw, Chips and a Drink

Bake Sale

(Bake sale donations may be dropped off at the church during the day Friday or before the event begins on Saturday)

Saturday
October 7th
8 AM - 3 PM

**Come out and support your
parish and your community.**