

# 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: 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](mailto: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

## October 9, 2022

### 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time



## 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



## FROM THE ADMINISTRATORS DESK

Today's readings present us with two beautiful stories of healing: Naaman the Syrian who was cleansed of his leprosy through the help of Elisha the prophet, and the ten Samaritan lepers healed by Jesus' power. They remind us of the powers of the waters of baptism and of the Word of God. In our first reading, we are told that Naaman was cleansed of his leprosy and his skin became smooth, soft, and tender like the flesh of a baby. In our gospel passage, Jesus only speaks the Word, and the ten lepers are cured. Notice that Jesus does not pray over the ten lepers. He does not bless them. He does not touch them. He does not ask them to go and plunge themselves in a river to be cleansed. He simply says: "Go, show yourselves to the priests" and – by only saying the Word – the lepers are cured.

Naaman was a foreigner, not a member of God's chosen people. Through his healing, he received salvation and expresses his gratitude to the God of Israel. His cleansing in the waters of the Jordan is a symbol of our baptism. We, too, like Naaman, were once sickened by the leprosy of sin. When we were plunged into the waters of Baptism, we died to sin and rose to a new life with God. The healing of the ten lepers by Jesus in the gospel, points to the power of His word – "Go, show yourselves to the priests", and while they were still on their way, they were cured. All ten had their skin cured by Jesus, but only one, the Samaritan came back to Jesus to express thanks. The attitude of Naaman in the first reading and the Samaritan in the gospel depict and invite us to meditate on our attitudes when we receive blessings from God. The question we must ask ourselves today is am I like Naaman the Syrian and the Samaritan who returned to express their gratitude to God, or I am like the nine or the many lepers who were cured in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha?

My dear friends in Christ, many people today feel that they have a right to all kinds of blessings, and this can easily make us lose a sense of gratitude for the blessings we have received or have been given. Let the attitude of Naaman in the first reading and that of the Samaritan in the gospel help us to reflect on our attitude for the blessings we receive. Do come back to thank God for the blessings He bestows on us? Or are we like the nine who never returned to say, "thank you"?

As you know, leprosy – a dreadful, dehumanizing disease which robs its victims of dignity – has been largely eradicated. Modern medicine has a cure for it and those sickened by it today are, often, no longer treated as outcasts, as was the case in times past. Thanks to better compassion for those afflicted by the disease, victims have been largely reintegrated back into society. They are no longer outcasts.

Today, by virtue of our baptism, we are children of God and heirs to the Kingdom. We are no longer outcasts. Like Naaman and the ten lepers, we, too, were once lepers and outcasts from the Kingdom of God. We, too, have been cleansed of our sins in the waters of baptism and can now call God "Abba, Father". The question we should each ask ourselves is: do we show any or enough appreciation for this wonderful gift of our faith? For the price that Jesus paid for our redemption. Alas for us if we opt to be like the thankless nine lepers or the many who were cured in Israel in the time of Elisha. Permit end this reflection with these words of Vima Dasan, SJ: "Gratitude is a natural virtue; it is the most exquisite form of courtesy. Hence it must be as spontaneous as our heartbeat. You can't extract gratitude as you would extract a tooth" (cf. His Word Lives, p. 460). Only the Samaritan returns to thank Jesus; the other nine do not recognize the mercy and help shown them. How do you respond to God's mercy? Do you respond like a Jew or a Samaritan? Fr Boh

## REFLECTION

**October is Respect Life Month**, a time the Church in the United States focuses and celebrates life at every stage from conception through natural death. During this moment in history the theme "Called to Serve Moms in Need" has been chosen to amplify the compassion and support needed for mothers before, during, and after the birth of their child. Please, see the insert in the Bulletin for Bishop Mark Brennan's letter on Respect for Life and Human Development.

**Vocations Club:** This is a group that brings together young boys and girls on a regular basis to talk about, pray about, and recreate around the subject of vocation discernment. We encourage young people to kindly sign up to become members of this club. A sign-up sheet is available at the Narthex.

**Blessing of Animals:** This will take place today Sunday October 9th, after the 11 am Mass around the Grotto.

PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING  
GIVING SUMMARY

Reg. Envelopes.....	\$ 3246.65
Online Giving.....	\$ 678.63
Capital Improvements .....	\$ 950.00
Poor Box.....	\$ 85.00
Diocesan .....	\$ 175.00

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

## WHAT IS GOING ON?

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 the weekend of Oct. 15th- 16th where you can place them. Thank you for helping them with this important charitable event.

Social Concerns Ministry is collecting glove, hats, socks and gently used blankets and tarps for the homeless. Small household items are also needed. There will be a box in McFadden Hall starting next weekend.

Monthly Youth Masses will begin October 30, 2022. We are looking for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students to join our youth choir and to become youth lectors. Contact Linda Abrahamian at [linda.abrahamian@gmail.com](mailto:linda.abrahamian@gmail.com) for youth choir and contact Deb Mackesy at 304-754-7830 to become a youth lector.

St. Leo Catholic Church will host the Mary's Refuge Gala on November 11th at 6 PM. Attendance and dinner are free but registration is required. Visit [office.mayrsrefuge@gmail.com](mailto:office.mayrsrefuge@gmail.com) today!

The Princess Street Players are returning this year with a new murder mystery dinner presentation to raise funds for SJS! Those 21 and older are invited to join us for "Abra Cadaver" at 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, in the school cafeteria. Tickets cost \$45 each and include a spaghetti dinner and beverage. A cash-only bar will be available.

We've reached 90% of our Catholic Sharing Appeal goal! The first half of St. Bernadette's \$20,505 goal benefits various ministries and outreach efforts throughout the diocese. The second half of that \$20,505 will come right back to St. Bernadette's—free of Cathedralricum and PHRA. You will start to see your donations at work as we renovate and update parts of our parish. To donate, visit [dwc.org/csa](http://dwc.org/csa) and select St. Bernadette Catholic Church.

Bishop Brennan would like to have Mass, a dinner, and a Q & A with young adults of the diocese. By young adults, we generally mean individuals and couples ages 18 to 35, or so.

**November 8<sup>th</sup>** – Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Charleston – 5:00pm Mass with dinner and a Q&A to follow with Bishop. For this one, please register with the diocese: Meet and Greet with Bishop Brennan ([wufoo.com](http://wufoo.com))

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

**Sunday, October 9th**

9 AM Mass  
*Intention for the People of the Parish*  
 10:15—11:30 AM Religious Education  
 11 AM Mass

**Tuesday, October 11th**

9 AM Mass  
*Intention for the Franklin Family*  
 10 AM Stitches from the Heart

**Wednesday, October 12th**

9 AM Mass  
*Intention for Marie Françoise Kao*  
 5—5:45 PM Confession  
 6 PM Mass

**Thursday, October 13th**

9 AM Mass  
*Intention for Mark Mackesy*

**Friday, October 14th**

9:00 AM Daily Mass  
*Intention for Marie Françoise Kao*  
 Adoration following the 9 AM Mass  
 12 NOON Benediction

**Saturday, October 15th**

9—10:30 AM RCIA  
 4—4:45 PM Confession  
 5:00 PM Mass  
*Intention for the People of the Parish*

**Sunday, October 16th**

9 AM Mass  
*Intention for Christine D'Angelo*  
 10:15—11:30 AM Religious Education  
 11 AM Mass  
 2:30 PM African Mass

## PRAYERS REQUESTED

Linda Guy, 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, Ginger Spice, Ernie Montano, Monica Straley, Rose Boarman, Laura Samford, Joe Schlegel

*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.*



**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.

**Rite of Christian Initiation:** The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA—15 years or older) and the Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC—7 to 14 yrs. of age), begins in August and ends during the Easter Vigil. These classes are for members who wish to enter in full communion with the Catholic Church. If you need to receive Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Communion and/or Confirmation, and are interested in attending RCIA/RCIC, 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, Kacie Morrell Humbert, 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 10th—Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31-5:1; Ps 113; Lk 11:29-32

Tuesday 11th—Gal 5:1-6; Ps 119; Lk 11:37-41

Wednesday 12th—Gal 5:18-25; Ps 1; Lk 11:42-46

Thursday 13th—Eh 1:1-10; Ps 98; Lk 11:47-54

Friday 14th—Eph 1:11-14; Ps 33; Lk 12:1-7

Saturday 15th—St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church; Eph 1:15-23; Ps 8; Lk 12:8-12

Sunday 16th—Ex 17:8-13; Ps 121; 2 Tm 3:14-4:2; Lk 18:1-8

### 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.



## **SOCIAL CONCERNS OUTREACH PROGRAM**



Social Concerns will be collecting gloves, hats, socks, (adults and children) plus gently used/new blankets and tarps for the homeless. In addition we are asking for small household items for people that are just moving into an apartment.

**We will be collecting them for two weeks starting  
October 15<sup>th</sup> – October 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

Some of these items will be distributed to the homeless in the fields. The other items will be distributed at the Outreach Program on:

**October 24<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 – 7:00 PM**

**On the Square in Martinsburg,**

**Please place all your items in the box in McFadden Hall.**

**Thank you in advance for your generosity.**





## DIocese of Wheeling-Charleston

1311 BYRON STREET  
POST OFFICE BOX 230  
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA 26003

### **Letter on Respect for the Lives of Mothers and Children +Mark E. Brennan Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston**

September 29, 2022

My brothers and sisters in Christ, as you likely know, the West Virginia legislature recently passed a bill regulating the practice of abortion in the State and the Governor signed it into law. The new law offers much greater protection to preborn human beings than was formerly afforded in West Virginia. It treats women who seek an abortion with commendable restraint while holding medical practitioners accountable for their actions, should they violate the law.

As Governor Justice said, neither those who support abortion nor those who oppose it got everything they wanted from the new law. Some on one side wanted no restrictions or very few on abortion and no consequences for those who practice the procedure. Some on the other side did not want the exceptions allowed by the law for cases of rape, incest and a serious threat to the mother's life. While acknowledging the genuine hardship of women in such situations, they saw a greater injustice in taking the life away from a baby conceived in those circumstances or caught in a tragic crisis the child could not avoid.

All in all, however, the new law makes life in the womb much safer for preborn children in West Virginia. We must remember that God Himself gave us the commandment, "You shall not kill," and that Jesus has taught us to feed the hungry and clothe the naked, which is irrelevant if we stand by and let the smallest, most vulnerable human beings be killed. I applaud the national Knights of Columbus and our local Knights Councils for providing sonogram machines to pregnancy centers. Seeing their tiny child alive, many women have changed their mind about getting an abortion.

Be clear about this: abortion is a gruesome matter. While there are a number of ways in which a preborn child is killed, two are most common: either a painful surgical procedure, in which the child is dismembered within the womb, or a similarly painful, chemically induced expulsion of the preborn child from the mother's womb. What humane person, especially a God-fearing one, could approve of such a brutal act? My personal experience counseling women who have had abortions has also taught me how scarred their abortions often leave them, once they recognize that they have done the most unnatural thing for a woman to do: allow her child to be killed. We should spare women that trauma.

My brothers and sisters, our Church is both pro-child and pro-woman. As the prolife movement long ago realized, seeking only to limit or eliminate abortions is not enough. We



must also provide support to mothers before and after they give birth and to their families. Pregnancy centers around the nation have been doing that for decades, often helped by volunteers and money from Catholic parishes. The American bishops' program, "Walking with Moms in Need," will strengthen the connection between Catholic parishes and local pregnancy centers. Stay alert for more information about this initiative.

We must work as well to ensure that hospitals in our State provide quality prenatal and postpartum care, especially to those women who lack health insurance and other financial resources. Having checked with the administrators of Catholic hospitals in West Virginia, I can assure you that, as a matter of faith and respect for the dignity of the person, they will not turn away women who lack health insurance but need quality prenatal and postpartum care.

An inspiring example of what we can do together comes from St. Joseph's Parish in Martinsburg. Assisted by other Catholic parishes and other churches in the Eastern Panhandle, St. Joseph's is renovating a former convent to provide a place for pregnant women to live who have nowhere else to go. "Mary's Refuge" will be able to accommodate nine pregnant women, who can live there for up to a year while they work and receive counseling on healthy lifestyle choices and how to raise a child. Could not such a project go forward in other parts of our State?

The State, too, has a role to play. Our legislature and Governor have created a law that will shield many preborn children from an untimely and atrocious death, but the State can and should do more. Especially now, with large budget surpluses, but even in difficult times, the State should prioritize funding programs directed toward helping young families pay for quality childcare when both parents or a child's only parent must work outside the home. Paid maternity leave would help mothers in postpartum recovery and give them time to bond with their newborn children. Giving more support to adoption services, promoting adoption and reducing financial obstacles in the adoption process would benefit adopted children and their new family. More must be done to support women subjected to domestic violence, which often harms their children as well. Government cannot do everything, but these are some of the things it could do.

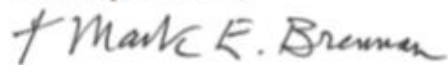
Pope St. John Paul II often spoke of "building a culture of life." That is the larger goal to which we Catholics must be committed. Building that culture includes all of the positive steps that the Church, other private groups and our governments can take to uphold the right to life and promote the welfare of families. But building a culture that respects all human life also means resisting evil, the "culture of death" that has gained a strong foothold in our country.

We see the culture of death at work now in attempts to discredit and damage pregnancy centers. We see it in attacks on Catholic churches that have occurred across the nation and in the vilification of Catholic Supreme Court justices for supposedly imposing their religion on the country by overthrowing the *Roe-Casey* abortion regime. We see it in programs advanced by major corporations that will provide funds for their pregnant employees to travel to states that make abortion readily available. We must defend and support pregnancy centers, speak out against attacks on churches, Catholic groups and individuals and others who support both child and mother, and challenge big companies who facilitate abortions but are less generous in supporting their pregnant employees who want to give birth to their children. In the latter case,

look up on the internet the names of those corporations. Do they deserve our patronage? We have to resist evil as well as do good.

These are tumultuous times. We cannot be certain of what may come from our efforts to build a culture of life. We can only entrust ourselves and our cause to the Lord and do our best. St. Teresa of Kolkata said that God has called us not to be successful but to be faithful. Yet we must trust that, in seeking to be faithful to the God who has given us life, we will be able to stem some of the evil that threatens human beings and accomplish some substantial good for them. St. Paul said, "Bear one another's burdens and so you will fulfill the law of Christ" [*Galatians 6:2*]. Let us bear the burden of standing up for life and promoting the good of our brothers and sisters, the little ones and the bigger ones. As a contemporary song says, "Go make a difference. You can make a difference. Go make a difference in the world." Let us not shrink from the struggle but engage in it with confidence in the God who has made the ultimate difference in the world by sending His Son as our Savior. United to him, we can make a difference in today's world for women, children and families. May God bless and guide us.

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Mark E. Brennan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'M'.

+Mark E. Brennan  
Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston