

# 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

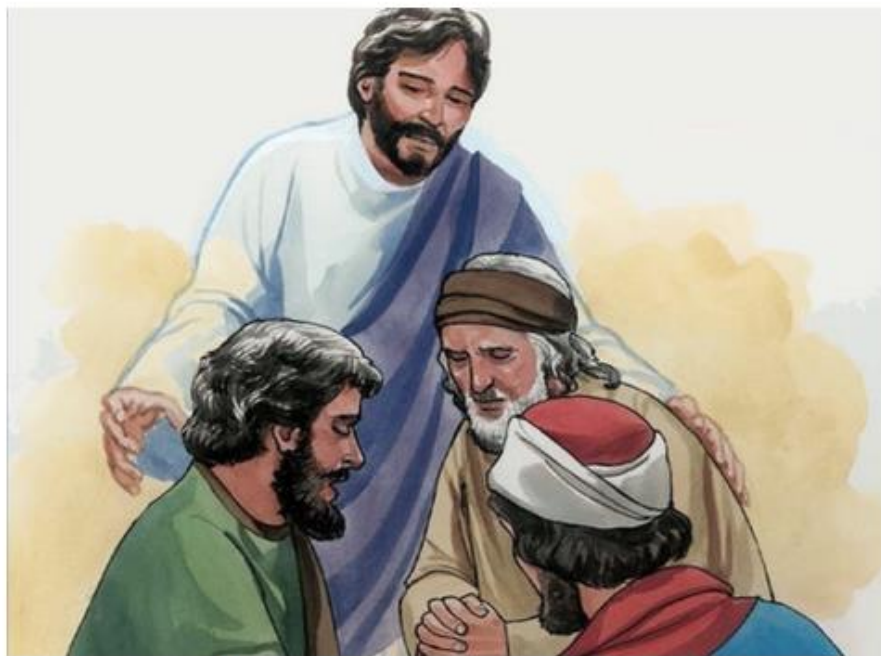
Wednesday: 5:20—5:50PM

Saturday: 4—4:45PM

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

## September 10, 2023

### 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Matthew 18:15-20

### 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,

Most of us – I would even dare to state that only a few of us – like conflict of any kind. We would much rather be at peace with everyone. By nature, we abhor confrontation and take no pleasure in confronting people over issues.

Our readings for this weekend deal with situations in which Christians have a duty to confront one another. Commenting on them, John Bergsma says that they “...don’t make for comfortable reading in a culture that puts a high value on keeping the peace and minding one’s business”.

Naturally, we hold back from trying to correct others, let alone confronting them. If our friend or our relation is doing something we know to be wrong, the tendency for so many of us is to “let sleeping dogs lie”. We live in a culture which basically dictates that we dare not be caught trying to discipline someone else’s child.

This may sound nostalgic of “the good old days”, but there was a time in almost every culture across the globe when disciplining children was a collective responsibility. In my native Kom Kingdom in Cameroon, our people have a popular saying: “A child belongs to the mother only in the womb”. In other words, once the child is born, he or she belongs to the community. That means the child can be disciplined by the neighbor or by any elderly person if the child errs.

Growing up in Njinikom (my village), I remember one occasion when I was disciplined by one of our neighbors for refusing to run an errand for him. I went away angry after being disciplined, which involved corporal punishment. Deep down in me, I thought that it was all over. However, the neighbor showed up at our home in the evening and narrated all that had happened to my parents. And guess what? I got treated to a few more strokes of the whip.

You are probably asking yourself how this story squares up with Ezekiel’s counsel in today’s reading.

In the then Kom community, where everybody was his brother’s/sister’s keeper, where anybody could discipline an erring child, this approach was acceptable by all. In our times, it has become suspect. Few people have the courage to discipline their own children, talk less of confronting the children of their neighbors. We are all aware of the litigation consequences we could face if we dared to act like the elders in my native Kom while I was growing up.

In the same way, many of us shy away – and understandably so – from speaking clearly and openly about the most widespread – even popular – sins in our culture today. We condemn the corruption in politics, but very often we blame only the other side; seeing nothing wrong with what those we consider our political friends are doing. Admittedly, it is not easy. While it is generally safe to condemn wrongdoing in America, it takes an extraordinary dose of courage to do so in a dictatorship like Cameroon. It is not popular to speak up against abortion or to voice opposition to distortions to what marriage is.

Given the world in which we live; the real risks of litigation, we need a lot of courage to follow the counsel provided by the Prophet Ezekiel in today’s reading to give timely warnings to reprobates. Our second reading and gospel passage tell us how this Christian obligation can be judiciously

carried out.

In our second reading, St. Paul suggests that we “avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love”. This, in my opinion, is all we need to effectively carry out the function the Prophet Ezekiel assigns to us. Ordinarily, if a person we love deeply, runs into error, we do not feel comfortable just letting that person persist in error. The love we have for that person incites us to do something to bring that person out of the error. We merely lack the courage and wisdom in our choice of words to fulfill our duty to love to them. We will not fix everything the first time we try, no matter how good we can get at doing this, but if we truly love the reprobate, we will not content ourselves with one attempt at correcting that person. This is the reason our gospel passage counsels a three-step approach: personal approach, semi-public and communal approach. Let us pray that even when all these approaches fail, we will not give up but resort to commending that person in persistent prayer to God. God bless you!

May Saint Bernadette Soubirous, pray for us.

Fr Boh (Pastor)

## FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

Dear brothers and sisters, welcome!

For those of you worshipping with us for the first time, thank you for choosing to worship with us this weekend. If you are new in the area and you are looking for a home parish, know that St Bernadette is the right home for you. To register as a member of this parish family, please contact the parish office by calling 304-754-7830, Monday thru Thursday from 10 AM to 2 PM, Friday 10 AM—12 PM, or by emailing [office@stbernadettewv.org](mailto:office@stbernadettewv.org).

**Martinsburg Vicariate Pastoral Council:** In the days/weeks ahead we shall be electing two members of our parish community to serve on the Martinsburg Vicariate Pastoral Council. Please be generous to avail yourself to serve our parish in this role if elected or be thinking of someone you know can serve Saint Bernadette in this capacity.

**A few reminders:**

**Wednesday Evening Mass:** We have Holy Mass every Wednesday at 6 pm. The Mass is preceded by confessions from 5 to 5:45 pm.

**First Saturday:** We have Mass every First Saturday of the month at 9 am in the parish church and this is followed by Rosary prayer.

## PARISH SACRIFICIAL OFFERING

General Fund .....	\$ 3231.00
Online Giving .....	\$ 1070.65
Maintenance .....	\$ 770.00
Outreach .....	\$ 111.00

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



## WHAT'S GOING ON?

THANK YOU! I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all of you who participated in making the dinner for the Boh family a great success. To all of you who prepared dishes, helped set up, purchased flowers, served dinner, picked up purchased items, and stayed to help clean up, a heartfelt thank you. The family expressed their appreciation throughout the evening. St. Bernadette's is very fortunate to have such a wonderful group that works together in times of need.

Thank you, Maureen Sabol, Bereavement Ministry Leader

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

Our **Parish Picnic** is this Sunday, September 10th, after the 11 AM Mass. Please join us!

All those who are willing to **help to set up for the picnic** please stay after the 9AM Mass this Sunday and meet April by the pavilion.

The **Catholic Daughters, Martinsburg Court #392** would like to invite women ages 18 and above to come and learn more about our court. Our next meeting is September 12 at 6:30 p.m. We meet at the Knights of Columbus building at the corner of Stephen and Church St. It is best to reach the Knights of Columbus off Church St. from King St. Please email Monica Straley at mlstraley05@gmail.com for more information.

**Catholic Daughters, Martinsburg Court #392** is hosting bingo, a bake sale, basket sale, and silent auction to benefit Saint Joseph School on Sunday, Oct. 8, at Saint Leo Catholic Church in Inwood. Doors open at noon; games begin at 2 p.m. Some proceeds will also benefit Saint Leo Catholic Church. Tickets cost \$30 in advance. For more information, call Judy at 703-928-4977 or email CDA392BINGO@gmail.com.

**Register your Weis Rewards card** to support St. Joseph School with the Weis 4 School program. You can help St. Joseph School earn money every time you shop. Visit [weis4school.com](http://weis4school.com) or scan this QR code and enter St. Joseph School or the school ID 86909.



**Saint Joseph School (SJS) is seeking a maintenance supervisor** to keep the school buildings and grounds clean, in good repair and orderly condition, while supporting and advancing the mission of the school. The full-time position pays \$14 to \$18 hourly. To apply, please send a letter of introduction and resume to Principal Maria Byrd at [mbyrd@sjsvw.org](mailto:mbyrd@sjsvw.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, Linda & Bernie Guy, Carol Bogacz

*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, September 10th**

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 Barb Loeffler*

12 PM Parish Picnic

**Tuesday, September 12th**

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

9:30 AM Stitches from the Heart

**Wednesday, September 13th**

9 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

6 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

**Thursday, September 14th**

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

**Friday, September 15th**

9:00 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

*Intention for Jeanne & Harry Millios*

Adoration following the 9 AM Mass

12 NOON Benediction

**Saturday, September 16th**

9—10:30 AM OCIA

4—4:45 PM Confession

5 PM Mass—Fr. Boh

*Intention for the People of the Parish*

**Sunday, September 17th**

8:15—8:45 AM Confession

9 AM Mass—Fr. Boh

*Intention for Religious Education Teachers*

10:15—11:30 Religious Education

11 AM Mass—Msgr. Ansgar

*Intention for Mary Montaño*

2:30 PM African Mass

**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 11th—Col 1:24-2:3; Ps 62; Lk 6:6-11

Tuesday 12th—Col 2:6-15; Ps 145; Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday 13th—St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church; Ps 145; Lk 6:20-26

Thursday 14th—Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross; Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17

Friday 15th—Our Lady of Sorrows; 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 16; Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

Saturday 16th—Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs; 1 Tm 1:15-17; Ps 113; Lk 6:43-49

Sunday 17th—Sir 27:30-28:7; Ps 103; Rom 14:7-9; Mt 18:21-35

### 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.





**Catholic Daughters  
of the Americas®**

**Martinsburg Court #392**

Presents 1<sup>st</sup> Ever.

## Eggs Bernadette

Served by our very own **Catholic Daughters**

On September 17<sup>th</sup>, October 22<sup>nd</sup> and November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023

In McFadden Hall between our 9:00am and 11:00am Mass

**All are Welcome... Men,  
Women and Children**

Cost \$5.00 per person, and \$5.00 family!

Our **Catholic Daughters** want to Share, who we are in Unity and  
Charity.

Don't miss out on this 1<sup>st</sup> ever Eggs  
Bernadette Breakfast, Yum!

**At St. Bernadette**