

# Saint Bernard Church



## September 22, 2024 Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Rev. David F. Gaffney, Pastor

sbc.pastor@aol.com

Rev. John E. Unsworth, Pastor, Emeritus

Rev. Charles Maher, Weekday Assistant

Rev. Albino Barrera, OP Weekend Assistant

**Pastoral Assistant:** Angelo Giacchi  
**Business Manager:** David Cote  
**Elementary Faith Formation:** Dawn Masterson  
**Youth Faith Formation:** Christina Pichette  
**Music Director:** Alison Shea

### Mass Schedules

#### Weekends

Saturday Vigil ~ 5:00 PM

#### Sundays

7:00 AM      8:30 AM      10:30 AM

#### Weekdays

8:00 AM Monday through Friday

**Address:** 275 Tower Hill Road  
North Kingstown, RI 02852

**Phone :** 401-295-0387

**E-mail:** sbc.bus@verizon.net (David)  
sbc.pa@verizon.net (Angelo)

**Web:** www.stbernardnk.org

**Hours:**  
Mon - Tues: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
Wednesday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
Thursday & Friday: Closed

**Baptism:** Please call Angelo at the Parish Center for information about scheduling and preparation.

**Communion to the Sick:** Please notify us of those sick and in need of Communion at home.

**Marriage:** Please call 10 months in advance.

**Holy Orders:** Tel: 401-831-8011  
www.catholicpriest.com

**Project Rachel:** Post abortion counseling  
Tel: 401-421-7833, ext. 118

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturdays 4:00 PM

### Eucharistic Adoration

Following Tuesday's 8:00 AM Mass until 11:00 AM

### Family Faith Formation Program

Our programs provide parishioners of all ages opportunities for learning, growing and living our Faith through common experiences, age-specific learning and interactive sharing. Please call the Parish Center for information regarding any of our programs or email:

First Communion Grade 2:  
sbcreligiouseducation@gmail.com

Confirmation Grades 8 & 9: sbc.teenff@gmail.com

Gospel Weeklies Grades 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7:  
stbernardgospelweeklies@gmail.com

## *Ponderings*

Recently I came across an article whose title caught my attention. Appearing in America magazine, the title is “The secret to raising kids that stay Catholic? Family prayer, helping others and hugs.” In previous Ponderings columns we have considered the reality that many ‘grown children’ have an irregular practice of the faith in which they were raised, or they do not practice at all. I have heard the frustrations from parents and grandparents----they go something like this, “I brought them to church every weekend when they were young, now they don’t go at all. What happened?” or “We sent them to Catholic schools----elementary and high school----and now they don’t go to church. What happened.” or “I was upset they did not get married in church and now they haven’t had the baby baptized? When will they do that?” Perhaps you are one of the parents or grandparents who have expressed your concern in these or similar ways. A couple of years ago we had a “Book Club” where we read a book about children who do not practice the faith. The reality of why someone who had a Catholic upbringing does not practice their faith any longer is a complex reality. There are ‘family influences’ that impact young people and there are ‘cultural influences’ that impact young people. For the most part, the current cultural influences are not leading young people (or any of us) back to church.

So, I was struck by this article. The author presents a few suggestions worthy of our consideration. I don’t think it is a ‘magical, guaranteed, one-size-fits-all’ solution----by some ideas might be appropriated by your family. Being ‘pro-active’ when it comes to raising your child in the catholic faith is a good way to begin. The author begins by saying that a recent study has found that only 15% of children raised in Catholic homes will grow up to be faithful Catholic adults. That statistic, in and of itself, should make us pause, wonder----and spend some time in prayerful reflection.

The Peyton Institute for Domestic Church Life (an apostolate of Holy Cross Family Ministries) worked with the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) to create the Future Faithful Families Project. The study looked at a representative sample of 2,600 Americans, to identify the general characteristics of families that have successfully raised faithful adult kids. They interviewed both parents and faithful adult children from those families. They found that while things like regular Mass attendance, Catholic education, youth ministry and parish involvement were important, they were seen by families as secondary and supportive of the way they lived their faith at home.

What mattered most was a family dynamic in which the family (especially the children) experienced their faith as the source of the warmth in their homes. Children raised in these households experienced their family’s faith as something that drew them together in good times and bad.

They asked families to complete three standardized tests that examined relationship health, religious commitment (i.e., the degree to which their faith was lived in real life) and healthy attitudes toward God. These families scored on the highest ends of these instruments, indicating very healthy relationships, a practical faith, and a healthy attachment to God. The more a family struggles to be happy, healthy, and holy, the more that can benefit by cultivating the habits these families practice, which fall into three categories: relationship, rituals and reaching out.

In general, families who successfully raised all their children to a faithful adulthood were intentional about scheduling regular family time and not letting extracurricular activities squeeze out time for things like family meals, family day or other important family rituals.

Families were also generously affectionate. Participants often used the word ‘Huggy’ to describe their family dynamic. They created structures to encourage good behavior but did not shame their children for failures or use heavy handed punishments. The adult children interviewed reported feeling ‘listened to’ not ‘lectured.’

Strong family rituals were important—they regularly worked, played, talked, and prayed together. They made a point of having fun together regularly. They reported using screens (tablets, etc.) less often than they saw other families doing. Instead, they played games and did activities together, sometimes daily, but at least weekly.

They prayed together regularly. Many families reported some kind of brief morning time, mealtime, and bedtime prayers. A family rosary was a popular prayer. In addition, these families regularly discussed ways they could be a blessing to others. They encouraged good manners, they cooked for others, some welcomed foster children, they discussed saving money for charitable giving.



## Mass Intentions

**MONDAY, September 23**

8:00 AM — *Fenwick Gardiner*  
28th Anniversary by his family

**TUESDAY, September 24**

8:00 AM — *Rev. Dennis Reardon*

**WEDNESDAY, September 25**

8:00 AM — *Anne Delaney*  
by her family

**THURSDAY, September 26**

8:00 AM — *Allison*  
by a friend

**FRIDAY, September 27**

8:00 AM — *Edna Gillen*

### **WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

**SATURDAY, September 28**

5:00 PM — *Gregory Dilick*  
by his family

**SUNDAY, September 29**

7:00 AM — *Thomas Daley*  
by Norma LaSalle

8:30 AM — *David Crowley*

10:30 AM — *Joyce Brian*

### Name Tag Sundays

From Labor Day weekend to Columbus Day weekend we will once again ask you get a name tag as you enter church. We will take a moment at the start of each of the masses to greet our neighbors. So often we recognize faces, but don't know the names of those who sit near us in the pews. The mantra goes: "See a Face, Learn a Name, Share a Story, Love Your Neighbor"!

### St Bernard Fourth Annual Golf Tournament



Sunday October 6, 2024  
Richmond Country Club

Visit : [www.stbernardnk.org/golf/](http://www.stbernardnk.org/golf/)

## St. Bernard Church

Celebrates 150 Years

1874—2024 : MISSION 150

Upcoming Events

**150th Anniversary Mass with Bishop Henning**

Sunday, October 20th

Refreshments in Parish Hall after Mass

**Presentation by Tim Cranston**

Sunday, November 3rd at 3:30 PM in Parish Hall

**Closing Mass for 150th with Bishop Tobin**

Sunday December 15th 10:30 AM

Refreshments in Parish Hall after Mass

Visit our website for complete information

[www.stbernardnk.org/mission-150/](http://www.stbernardnk.org/mission-150/)



### Family Pasta Lunch A Success!



### Herald of Good News

Thank You Very Much for your generous contribution to the Mission Coop \$4,703.00 was sent to the Heralds of Good News.

### Parish Support

	September 8, 2024	2023
Basket	\$6,364.00	\$9,922.00
ACH	\$3,578.00	\$4,724.00
	September 15, 2024	2023
Basket	\$6,368.00	\$8,209.00
ACH	\$3,368.00	\$3,149.00
YTD	\$140,599.00	\$125,732.00

### Blessing of the Pets

Tuesday, October 1st, at 6:00 p.m. in front of the Parish Center. Please make sure that your pets are on a leash or in a pet carrier.



### The North Kingstown Food Pantry

For the month of August, 2024  
221 pounds of food and  
12 pounds of hygiene  
products, were donated.



Thank you so much for all  
your donations.

### Grief Group

The Grief Group meets on Tuesdays, from 6:30 pm-to 7:30 pm in the large conference room. If anyone would like more information about the group, please see Fr. Gaffney. The schedule is:

October 8, 2024  
November 12, 2024  
December 10, 2024  
January 7, 2025  
February 8, 2025  
March 18, 2025  
April 22, 2025  
May 27, 2025

### Adult Faith Formation.

Our “topic” for this year will be Prayer. The disciples asked Jesus to teach them how to pray. We ask Jesus the same question. Topics will include: Our Interior Life; Struggles in Prayer; Trust and Surrender in Prayer; Interior Peace; Humility in Prayer; the Healing Power of Prayer; Prayer and its Relationship to Charity and Works of Mercy. In addition, we will consider what the Catechism of the Catholic Church says about Prayer. This is open to any adult in the parish. There are no “pre-requisites” ---except an openness to learn! We will also look at various ways to pray—forms of prayer and traditions of prayer. Our meetings will be at 7:00 PM and follow the schedule listed below.

October 1 & 15, 2024  
November 5 & 19, 2024  
December 3, 2024  
January 14 & 28, 2025  
February 11 & 25, 2025  
March 11 & 25 2025  
April 8, 2025

(Return to office or drop in collection basket)

#### **Adult Faith Formation: Prayer**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Women’s Event

**September 28, 2024 8:00 - Noon**

Professor Holly Taylor Coolman of Providence College is coming to teach on The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit. She is delighted to come to address our hearts in regard to the work of women, mothers, and grandmothers, especially in regard to our concerns of loved ones who might not be practicing their Catholic faith. We will begin with Mass at 8:00am followed by a hot breakfast. Professor Coolman will give two presentations and then lead us into small group discussions. \$15/person payable to St. Bernard Church. (Memo Line: Women’s Event) due by September 22. Fill out form below and drop off at the office or collection basket.

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Email/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number/s \_\_\_\_\_

## Faith Formation



A BIG thank you to all those families who have already registered for the upcoming school year! We are looking forward to a joyful and blessed year of Faith Formation with your child and family.

- 9/22/2024 - Grade K,1,3-6: 1st In-person Gospel Weeklies class
- 9/29/2024 - Grades 2,7,8,9: Sacramental Preparation Kick-off

If you have not registered yet, please register online at:

[www.stbernardnk.org/religious-education-registration/](http://www.stbernardnk.org/religious-education-registration/)

In order for us to plan for the program year, please register as soon as possible. Please be aware that **Grade 7** has been shifted to the Sacramental Preparation schedule as a Pre-Confirmation class.

## Young at Heart Returns!

Our Young at Heart Luncheon returns on the following dates at noon with sign in at 11:30 am

October 28, 2024  
November 18, 2024  
December 16, 2024  
February 10, 2025  
March 24, 2025  
April 28, 2025  
June 2, 2025

## Attention “Young Couples”

Our Fall event will take place on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> after the 5:00 p.m. Mass. We will have a “Chili and All Things Apple” event. Please e-mail the parish office if you plan to attend.



## Maintenance Update:

**Rectory:** You may have noticed the rectory has been ‘power washed’. It will soon be ‘stained’. Our insurance company requires this upkeep. We are evaluating four different proposed solutions for the water in the basement of the rectory when there is a heavy rainfall. We have one sump pump now----but need to add to that.

**Church:** There are several areas where we have discovered leaks in the roof. Two of them are in the corridor from the church to the parish center. One leak is in the church roof. We have had a couple of companies look at the situation. We are working with them and the insurance company at the present time.

**Grounds:** Our ten trees (memorials) have survived due in part to the faithful ‘watering teams’ who have watered them since last May. The base for the statue (Bruges Madonna) is almost complete. It was recommended that a piece of granite be used for the top of the base. That is on order and should be in soon. Later in the Fall, the landscaping crew will descend on the ‘wetlands’ and clear out all of the growth that is there. We are required to keep those areas clear so that water can flow in and out.

Needless to say, but we are very grateful for your contributions to the Maintenance Collection and your overall generous support of the parish.

The Rectory has been power washed and is ready for staining.



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"Those who hath ears to hear, let them hear."  
-Matthew 11:15

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