

# Saint Bernard Church



## November 24, 2024 Our Lord, Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

### 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*

Happy Thanksgiving. On behalf of the parish staff, I wish all of our parishioners and their families a wonderful Thanksgiving Day. It is always great to see so many of you at our Thanksgiving Mass on Thanksgiving Day at 8:30. If you can, please join us! The word Eucharist means “thanksgiving”----a really nice way to start your Thanksgiving Day.

I invite you to spend some time in quiet prayer----even for a few minutes to think of the people, personal blessings, past events for which you give thanks. I am going to give it a shot here in Ponderings.....not an exhaustive list, for sure.....but a sincere one!

**Family** --as you may recall from previous columns when I introduced myself to the parish---I am the youngest of the five sons of my parents, Charles and Josephine (both now deceased). My brother Michael passed away after a battle with cancer nearly two years ago. I also have twelve nieces and nephews and 23 great-nieces and nephews. Growing up, we spent our summers in Bonnet Shores in a house my father and uncle built---with my three cousins.

**Friends** --I am grateful for friends---some of whom go back to elementary and high school. Many of my college friends live some distance away---not easy to keep contact with them. During my years of ministry in education and in parishes I have kept in touch with a small number of friends. Maintaining friendships does take time. They are life-giving relationships! I am also grateful for priest-friends---who I do get together with more regularly---it’s important for me to stay connected to this group.

**Faith**---my parents passed on the faith! We always went to Sunday Mass. (except if you were sick----and if you were sick----you stayed in bed the whole day----there was no miraculous recovery once the family returned from Mass! The Sisters of the Holy Union taught me in elementary school; the De La Salle Christian Brothers taught me in high school; the Jesuits taught me in college; the Dominicans taught me in graduate studies----something of the ‘spirituality’ of each of these groups stuck with me. I give thanks for the “living faith” I have been given---I continue to grow in my faith---I continue to learn who God is and what he is doing in my life!

**Education**---I am grateful for my years of education. While working in catholic high school ministry I earned a M.A. in Agency Counseling---and worked as a high school guidance counselor; I earned a M.A. in Religious Studies and a M.A. in Biblical Studies----helped in my teaching of theology and campus ministry. I earned my M.Div. degree in the seminary at (then) Blessed John XXIII Seminary in Weston, MA. When I began the ministry of Spiritual Direction I earned a M.A. in Christian Spirituality. I enjoyed being a student!

**Ministry as a Brother**---I entered the order---De La Salle Christian Brothers after college and spent approximately 18 years with that group. I was a teacher, campus minister and guidance counselor in four high schools (two in RI and two in NY). These were wonderful years----in ministry to young people---working with some great colleagues.

**Ministry as a Priest**---I have now served in four parishes. I was pastor of Blessed Sacrament in Providence and am now pastor of St. Bernard’s. I spent about 10 years in seminary formation ministry---as a spiritual director---five of those years in Rome at the Pontifical North American College. I have had wonderful priest-mentors along the way and worked with very dedicated parish staffs. Celebrating the sacraments every day is joyful and fulfilling!

**Pastor of St. Bernard’s**---I am now in my fifth year! Where does the time go? When I arrived in 2020 we were emerging from the restrictions of the Covid pandemic. This presented many possibilities----building parish programs, enhancing our liturgical life, creating social opportunities. I very much enjoy being your pastor and am very thankful for this present assignment.

So.....give it a try.....reflect a bit on what you are thankful for on this Thanksgiving Day!

--Fr. Gaffney



## Mass Intentions

### **MONDAY, November 25**

8:00 AM — *Donald Barker*  
by his wife

### **TUESDAY, November 26**

8:00 AM – *Frank & Bonnie Palana*  
by Jason & Nicole Palana

### **WEDNESDAY, November 27**

8:00 AM – *Anu Tomy*  
by her family

### **THURSDAY, November 28**

8:30 AM – *Parishioners of St Bernard's*

### **FRIDAY, November 29**

8:00 AM – *Catherine & James Wells*  
by their family

### **WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

### **SATURDAY, November 30**

5:00 PM – *Richard Grabowski*  
by his family

### **SUNDAY, December 1**

7:00 AM – *Parishioners of St Bernard's*

8:30 AM – *Joseph Spiro*  
by Dan & Madeleine O'Leary

10:30 AM – *Leo Lemoi*  
by Maureen

## Thanksgiving Day Mass

Please join us on Thanksgiving Day for Mass at 8:30 a.m. In a year when there have been so many challenges and difficulties we pause to recall God's blessings, as well.



## St. Bernard Church

### Celebrates 150 Years

1874—2024 : MISSION 150

### Upcoming Events

### **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/)



## The Giving Tree

The Giving Tree is up. Please take a tag and fulfill the suggested gift. Attach the tag to the gift and place it under the tree:

**No Later than December 15<sup>th</sup>.**

If your family, or any family you know, needs help with gifts this Christmas, please contact the parish office at 401.295.0387 or email [sbc.pa@verizon.net](mailto:sbc.pa@verizon.net).



## The North Kingstown Food Pantry

For the month of October, 2024  
204 pounds of food were donated.

Thank you so much for all your donations.



**Parish Support**

**November 10, 2024 2023**

**Basket \$7,729.00 \$8,833.00**  
**ACH \$2,712.00 \$3,404.00**

**November 17, 2024 2023**

**Basket \$7,179.00 \$7,633.00**  
**ACH \$3,222.00 \$3,109.00**

**YTD \$235,197.00 \$216,572.00**

**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:

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. Our meetings will be at 7:00 PM in the parish hall and follow the schedule listed below.

December 3, 2024  
 January 14 & 28, 2025  
 February 11 & 25, 2025  
 March 11 & 25 2025  
 April 8, 2025



Tim Cranston’s Presentation  
 (left and below)

The presentation is available on our website  
 (scroll to the bottom of the page):  
<https://www.stbernardnk.org/mission-150/>



**Young at Heart December Luncheon**

**Monday, December 16 at Noon** (sign in at 11:30 AM)

Menu: TBD

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Cost: \$15.00 per person. (Please make out checks payable to St. Bernard)

Please respond by **Monday, December 9th.**

## **Faith Formation 2024-2025**

Weather related Class Cancellations!

Please go to: [turnto10.com/](http://turnto10.com/) or the local TV/Radio Channels for updates

### **Gospel Weeklies Program**

Grades K, 1, 3-6

In-person class schedule 9:25-10:25 am

Class Today: 11/24/2024

Next Class: 12/8/2024

\*\* Return completed assignments to next in-person class

### **Sacramental Preparation Program**

Grades 2, 7, 8, 9

In-person class schedule: 9:30-10:45

Next Class: 12/1/2024

Grade 2 & 8 is expected to return each Gospel Weekly to the next in person class. This is so the lesson from the Gospel of the week is reviewed in a timely manner and the program stays on track.

For more detailed information, please refer to your Weekly News Family email.

## **Warwick Symphony Orchestra**

Sunday - December 8, 2024

St. Bernard's Church at 3 pm

For more information or to purchase tickets visit:

[www.wsori.org/performances](http://www.wsori.org/performances)

## **Youth Christmas Choir and Instrumentalists**



The Youth choir will sing once again for our 4pm mass on Christmas Eve. Rehearsals will be in the parish center for 3 Tuesdays starting December 3rd, from 5-5:45pm.

Open to ages 6 through high school. Also looking for older teens who play an instrument who would be interested in playing during the Christmas season or at other times during the year. if you're interested or have any questions please email: [alison.shea72@gmail.com](mailto:alison.shea72@gmail.com).

## **Are you registered?**

By registering at a parish, you are declaring your desire to be part of a Catholic faith community. If you have recently moved to the area or if you are a long-time resident who attends Mass here--- please take time to fill out a 'registration form'.

Top Reasons to Register as a Parishioner

1. As a registered parishioner you will have a greater sense of belonging and identity in this parish community.
2. By registering, you are committing to the practice of the faith.
3. Registration enables the pastor and parish staff to get to know you better, to welcome you and to minister to you. This is especially true in a challenging time, such as the illness or death of a loved one.
4. Registration helps you to stay connected with the parish and helps your parish stay connected to you. Providing your contact information is important so that the parish can provide you with e-mails, land mails, other kinds of contact.

You can find a registration form on our website ([www.stbernardnk.org/forms/](http://www.stbernardnk.org/forms/)) Print out the one-page form, fill it out, and drop it in the collection basket, or mail it to the parish office. Thank you!

## **K of C Breakfast** **(Public Invited)**



The Knights of Columbus Council 2011 North Kingstown RI will hold a Breakfast at the Council Hall, 1265 Tower Hill Road, North Kingstown, on Sunday, December 1st, from 7:30 to 10:30. Scrambled Eggs, Pancakes, Home Fries, Bacon, Baked Beans, Breakfast Pastries, Christmas Streusel, Orange Juice, Coffee and Tea will be served. The cost is \$10.00, children 6 and under are free.

## **Annual Coat Drive**



Please drop off your good, used coats and hats at the Church or Parish Office to be distributed to those in need.

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