

Saint Bernard Church



December 1, 2024 First Sunday of Advent

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

We begin a new liturgical season and a new liturgical year this weekend with the start of Advent. This short season is a four-week faith journey. We call to mind the “three comings of Christ” ----the first is the historical birth of Jesus in Bethlehem; the second is the coming of Jesus at the Final Judgment; and the third is the daily ‘coming of Christ’ into my life in so many varied ways---through prayer, through the sacraments, through my interaction with my brothers and sisters.

Advent’s roots trace back to the early Christian church. It emerged as a period of preparation for new converts before Baptism on Epiphany. By the 6th century, Advent had evolved into a season of spiritual reflection and anticipation of Christ’s birth.

We find the Biblical roots of Advent in sacred scripture. In the Book of the Prophet Isaiah we read, “For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.” And in Luke’s Gospel we read, “Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus.”

How is it that we can prepare for the Lord during these Advent days? We do face the challenge of the ‘commercialization of Christmas’ ----retailers have been nudging us towards Christmas since the day after Halloween. We can easily be swept up into that ‘fast track’ to Christmas and not stop to take in the beauty, the peace and the expectation of the Advent season. We do need to be intentional to let the Advent season feed our spirit. It does not ‘just happen’.

Perhaps the following reflection questions might be of help as you try to embrace the Advent season! Take it one day at a time!

1. Invite the Holy Spirit to help you see the day as the newborn baby Jesus sees it. What joy have you found today? Where have you felt God’s love? What have you done today to prepare the way for Jesus being born into this world for you?

2. Now think about your day as if looking at it through the eyes of a child; what do you see? Did something surprise you? Was it something someone said to you or something you are grateful for? What did you recognize as gifts (thinking about the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh brought to Jesus)? Thank God for the gifts he has given you today. Which of those gifts have you brought to Jesus in gratitude?

3. Take a moment to reflect on the times today when God was especially present to you. Recognize your feelings in those moments. How did you prepare your heart for God’s presence in the coming of Jesus? Where did you feel God’s loving arms wrapped around you the way Jesus felt Mary’s arms? How did you prepare yourself to experience God’s love, forgiveness and hope?

4. Now take a moment to think about the times when God seemed to be hidden. Where did you struggle to see the Messiah in your life---the way some failed to recognize the birth of the Messiah when Jesus was born? When might you have seen the need for love and didn’t respond (maybe like the innkeeper), or the opportunity for forgiveness and you walked away? How was your heart prepared? Ask God to forgive you for anything that moved your heart away from God’s love and recognizing the birth of Jesus in you. And ask God to help you to open your heart and become the person that God created you to be.

5. Finally, prepare for the hope of Jesus Christ in your life. Think about what you are hopeful for, what you are looking forward to during Advent and the Christmas season. Is your hope like that of a child on Christmas morning? What gifts will you share to be hope for someone else? Ask God to bless all in your life as you prepare the way of the Lord, and ask God to be with you today and every day.

Let Advent begin!

--Fr. Gaffney

We welcome families to bring their children—our youngest parishioners in their strollers to Mass.



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, December 2

8:00 AM — *Richard Hoke, Jr.*
by his mother

TUESDAY, December 3

8:00 AM — *John Lord*

WEDNESDAY, December 4

8:00 AM — *Rev. Dennis Reardon*

THURSDAY, December 5

8:00 AM — *Frank & Bonnie Palana*
by Mark & Kayla Palana

FRIDAY, December 6

8:00 AM — *Maureen O'Connor*

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, December 7

5:00 PM — *John Sourgiadis*
50th Anniversary by his family

SUNDAY, December 8

7:00 AM — *Patricia & Maurice LaFreniere*
by their children

8:30 AM — *Fr. Dennis Reardon*

10:30 AM — *Dee Ann Madusky*

by her mother and brother



Eucharistic Adoration

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place immediately after the morning Mass on Tuesdays (approximately 8:30 a.m.) Benediction and reposi- tion at 11:00 a.m. This is an opportunity for quiet, prayerful reflection before the Blessed Sac- rament.

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/



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 15th.

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.



The Immaculate Conception of Mary



Monday, December 9th

Masses 8:00 AM and
7:00 PM

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

Annual Collection

Letters have been mailed to all registered households in the parish. (We have extra copies of the mailing if you did not receive it for some reason) We are grateful for your generous support of this “annual” collection in the past and look forward to your support this year. This collection literally enables us to pay our bills. It is our hope that every family will be able to contribute to the collection. Thank you to those who have already sent in their donation. The collection continues till the end of the calendar year.

Young at Heart

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

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

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

The Town of North Kingstown, Rhode Island, was recently designated by the National Park Service (NPS) as a [World War II Heritage Town](#). The Town is planning a Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day and World War II Heritage Town acceptance event scheduled for 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM, Saturday, December 7, 2024, to be held inside at the Chapel in the Pines located at the Seabee Museum and Memorial Park, 21 Iafate Way, North Kingstown, RI, 02852. The Town of North Kingstown is celebrating its 350th anniversary this year. The establishment of the Naval Air Station at Quonset Point and the U.S. Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) at Davisville greatly affected the character of the town and its relationship with the U.S. Navy for decades to come.

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/ 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

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

Class Today: 12/1/2024

Next Class: 12/15/2024

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.

Finance Council Update

We are saying 'good bye' to some very dedicated members of the council: Mark Bamford, Marry Gormally and Shannon Gilheaney. We welcome new members: Donna DiDonato, Gianni DelSignore, Jack Newman and Cathy Strecker. Continuing members: John Gibbons (trustee), Martha Dwyer (trustee), Mike Fortin and Bob Walsh. Members of the council have backgrounds in finance, accounting, business management, banking and law. We are fortunate to have council members with such expertise. The diocese suggests five-year terms---however, there can be reasons to extend those terms, for example, if there is a parish building project taking place. Those going off the council have served the parish well for many years---we are very grateful for their service and expertise. The council meets quarterly with the pastor and the parish business manager/accountant to review all parish financial matters.

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.

Men of St. Joseph



The Men of St. Joseph International is a Catholic association of men committed to Jesus Christ. Our monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, **December 4th at 7:00 PM** in the Parish Hall. New members are welcome.

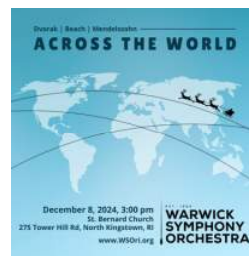
Youth Christmas Choir **and Instrumentalists**



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.

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

Family Owned & Operated
for 5 Generations Since 1857

Pre-Planning &
Pre-Financing Available



FAGAN~QUINN

Funeral Home & Cremation Services

Traditional Funerals, Simple Cremation & Life Celebration Services

825 BOSTON NECK ROAD, NORTH KINGSTOWN, RI
401-295-5603 | www.FaganQuinnFuneralHome.com

Michael F. Quinn • Patrick J. Quinn • Jerome D. Quinn
Christopher P. Quinn, Managing Director
Chelsea M. Gaudreau • Steven A. DiLorenzo

RICHARD'S PUB
DINING & DRINKS SINCE 1976

3347 S. COUNTY TRAIL, EAST GREENWICH, RI 02818
401.884.2880
Sunday-Thursday 11:30am-11:30pm | Friday & Saturday 11:30am-12:00am



Quidnessett Memorial Cemetery


Since 1902
NON-DENOMINATIONAL
401-884-7691
by appointment
6365 Post Road
North Kingstown, RI
www.qmccemetery.org

DISTINCTIVE WINDOW DESIGNS
HunterDouglas
WINDOW FASHIONS
Don Altieri - Usher/St.Mary's
444 Budlong Rd., Cranston, RI
461-0990

Featuring full lines of Window Shading, Window Treatments, Shutters, Draperies, Valences, Bedspreads & Curtains.

NOW CARRYING SUNSETTER AWNINGS

CENTURY 21
Topsail Realty

 Christopher B. Perrotti
REALTOR®
Cell: 401.855.2594
cbperrotti@gmail.com
chrisperrotti.com
Loyal, Honest & Looking to Work Hard for You

catholicmatch®
Rhode Island 

CatholicMatch.com/dateRI

PAUL BAILEY'S
CHRYSLER • DODGE • JEEP • RAM
425 Ten Rod Road (Route 102)
North Kingstown
295-8855 • 884-1900
Visit us at: baileydeal.com

CRANSTON-MURPHY FUNERAL HOME

OF WICKFORD

Andrew J. Correia, MBIE, Director/Embalmer

Proudly Serving St. Bernard Church

Edward L. Murphy, Director

140 West Main Street, North Kingstown, Rhode Island 02852

Tel: 401-294-4013

Give Yourself the Gift of Clear Vision
Schedule Your Appointment Today (401) 884-6066


Dr. Robert Miller
Dr. Stephanie Schultz
OPTOMETRISTS
Total Family Eye Care
Contact Lenses • Quality Eyewear
5393 Post Road • East Greenwich
www.eastgreenwicheye.com

New England
BOILER WORKS
Providing Residential & Commercial Services
in Rhode Island & Southeastern MA
For Gas, Oil and Steam Systems
401-256-9249
270 Hopkins Hill Rd
Coventry, RI 02816
www.neboilerworksri.com



INCREASE YOUR VISIBILITY IN THE COMMUNITY
Place Your Ad Here to Support Our Parish!

Have you found **FABER?**
FREE DOWNLOAD!



Available on Google Play and App Store

nyrehab
PHYSICAL THERAPY
Helping you live life to the fullest.
John 10:10
401-519-5222
52 Frenchtown Rd
North Kingstown, RI 02852

CONTACT ME
Jim Bochiechio
jbochiechio@jppc.net
(781) 389-2198



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

A Trusted Name in Hearing Care Since 1940!

NARRAGANSETT (401) 515-4159 **WESTERLY** (401) 622-4588
www.beltonene.com

Beltone™
Locations all throughout New England!

FREE Hearing Testing
FREE Video Ear Scans
FREE Clean & Checks
FREE In-Office Trials