

Saint Bernard Church



December 8, 2024 Second 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

Recently a movie was released entitled, “Bonhoeffer”. It is about the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. I’m not sure how many people have heard of him---but I thought I would write about him in this week’s column. I first learned about him many years ago when I read one of his best known books entitled, The Cost of Discipleship. Bonhoeffer was a German Lutheran pastor and theologian. He staunchly resisted the Nazi dictatorship, including some very vocal opposition to Adolf Hitler.

Bonhoeffer was born on February 4, 1906 in Breslau, Germany (now Poland) into a large family. He had a twin sister, Sabine. She and Dietrich were the sixth and seventh children out of eight. His father, Karl, was a psychiatrist and neurologist and his mother, Paula, was a teacher. His brother Walter, the second born of the family was killed in action during World War I when Dietrich was just 12 years old.

At the age of 14 he decided to pursue his education in theology, in spite of the criticism of his older brother Klaus (a lawyer) and Karl (a scientist). He began his studies at the university in Tubingen and eventually moved to the university in Berlin. At the age of 21 he went on to complete his Doctor of Theology degree from Humboldt University of Berlin.

In 1930, Dietrich moved to America with the intent of attaining a Sloan Fellowship at New York City’s Union Theological Seminary. During his time in America he met Frank Fischer, a black seminarian who introduced him to the Abyssinian Baptist Church in Harlem, where Bonhoeffer taught Sunday school and formed a lifelong love for the African-American church. He learned of the atrocities of war and began to value the views of pacifism because of the high value he placed on every individual life.

After returning to Germany in 1931 he became a lecturer in systematic theology at the University of Berlin. On November 15, 1931 at the age of 25 he was ordained a Lutheran minister.

The rise of the Nazi party changed his life. He was a determined opponent of the regime. Two days after Hitler was installed as chancellor, Bonhoeffer delivered a radio address in which he attacked Hitler and warned Germany against slipping into an idolatrous cult of the ‘fuhrer’. Many of the German churches favored Hitler, and so Bonhoeffer was at odds with them as well. In August 1933, Bonhoeffer and Hermann Sasse were deputized by opposition church leaders to draft the “Bethel Confession” as a statement of faith in opposition to the German churches aligned with Hitler.

In 1933 when he was offered a parish post in eastern Berlin he refused it and instead accepted a two-year appointment as a pastor of two German speaking Protestant churches in London. In 1935 he became head of an underground seminary in Finkenwalde for training new pastors (resisting the Nazis). In August 1936 Bonhoeffer’s authorization to teach at the University of Berlin was revoked after he was denounced as a ‘pacifist and enemy of the state’. In September 1937 the Gestapo closed the seminary in Finkenwalde and by November 27 pastors and former students were arrested. It was around this time that he published his best-known book, The Cost of Discipleship. He spent the next two years secretly traveling from one eastern German village to another to conduct a ‘seminary on the run’ supervising the continuing education and work of his students, most of whom were working illegally in small parishes.

In March 1940 the Gestapo shut down the underground seminary. In February 1938 he came in contact with members of the German resistance. War was approaching and he worried about being conscripted. He could never swear an oath to Hitler. In 1941 he was forbidden to print or publish anything. He served as a courier for the German resistance movement. He was arrested on April 5. For a year and a half he was imprisoned at Tegel Prison awaiting trial. He was sentenced to death on April 8, 1945 at a court-martial without witnesses, without any evidence against him and with no records of the proceeding or a defense. He was executed in Flossenburg concentration camp by hanging on April 9.

I think it is a movie worth seeing.

--Fr. Gaffney

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



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, December 9

8:00 AM — *Teddy McKendall (L)*
by The Verdi family

7:00 PM — *Parishioners of St Bernard's*

TUESDAY, December 10

8:00 AM – *Innocents of Abortion*

WEDNESDAY, December 11

8:00 AM – *Anu Tomy*
by her family

THURSDAY, December 12

8:00 AM – *David Calderone*
by Natalia Montoya

FRIDAY, December 13

8:00 AM – *Thomas Delaney*
by his family

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, December 14

5:00 PM – *John McGrath*
Birthday Remembrance by his daughter

SUNDAY, December 15

7:00 AM – *George Duane Martenson*
by George & Beverly Hathaway

8:30 AM – *Thomas "Tom" Walsh, Jr.*
by his family

10:30 AM – *Rosemary Altieri*
3rd Anniversary by her family



Coffee & Donuts

Our next Coffee and Donuts is scheduled for next weekend, **December 15th**, after the 10:30 AM Mass in the Parish Hall. Come spend some time socializing with your fellow parishioners and Bishop Tobin as he celebrates Mass for the closing of our 150th Anniversary.

The Immaculate Conception of Mary



Monday, December 9th

Masses 8:00 AM and
7:00 PM

Confession Times Added for the Week Before Christmas

Many people are accustomed to 'going to confession' before Christmas. We have added some additional times for this opportunity.

Saturday, December 21th we have added 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm (in addition to the usual 4:00 pm–4:40 pm).

Monday, December 23rd we have added 8:45 am – 10:00 am and 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered in the Reconciliation Room where there is a choice of 'going anonymously' (kneeling behind a screen) or sitting 'face to face'.



Tuesday December 24:
4:00 pm & 6:00 pm

Wednesday, December 25:
7:00 am, 8:30 am, 10:30 am

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 Sacrament.

Parish Support

November 24, 2024 2023

Basket	\$6,247.00	\$6,011.00
ACH	\$3,162.00	\$2,604.00

December 1, 2024 2023

Basket	\$7,165.00	\$5,453.00
ACH	\$4,072.00	\$3,754.00

YTD	\$255,493.00	\$234,394.00
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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:

December 10
January 7, 2025
February 8, 2025
March 18, 2025
April 22, 2025
May 27, 2025

Annual Collection

Participation is its own goal. We are grateful for all who have sent in a contribution to our annual collection. Do you think we could get 100% participation? How about 75% or 50%? Are you able to participate? Any and all contributions are gratefully accepted. As of now 125 households have donated. Imagine what might be contributed if everyone of our 1,400 families participated. Your contribution is an important factor in maintaining our financial viability as a parish.

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

Morning Glory Gathering

Please join us for coffee and socializing on **Thursday, December 12th** after the 8:00 AM morning Mass in the Parish Hall.



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.

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

Emmanuel House Homeless Shelter

We are always in need of new socks, bath towels, and backpacks, twin-sized bedding, etc. Drop off items in the Church gathering space or at the Parish Center.

Stormy Weather and Daily Mass

If the public schools in North Kingstown are **closed or delayed** because of bad weather, our daily 8 AM Mass is also cancelled. We hope this will prevent people from venturing out in dangerous conditions just so see if we are open.

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

Class Today : 12/8/2024

Next Class: 1/12/2025

** 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: 12/15/2024

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.

Annual Coat Drive



ONE WARM COAT®

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

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:

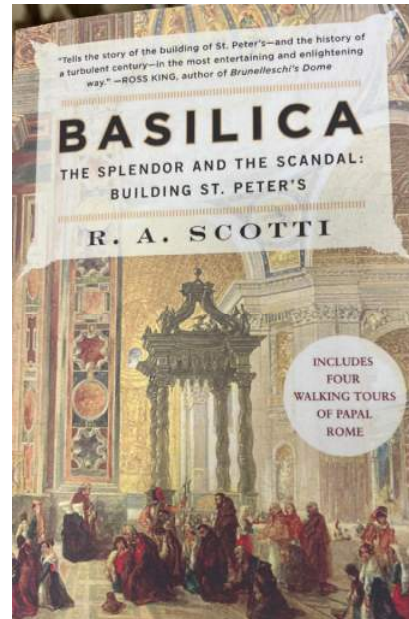
No Later than December 15th.

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.



Christmas Gift? **(for the Holy Year 2025)**

During the Holy Year the “Holy Doors” of the major basilicas in Rome will be opened. The book entitled, **Basilica: The Splendor and the Scandal: Building St. Peter’s** by R.A. Scotti, is a fascinating and informative description of the building of the Basilica of St. Peter’s. Beginning in January we will offer a series of presentations on the major basilicas of Rome (St. Peter’s, St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran and St. Paul’s Outside the Walls). We will also report on the important events of the Holy Year. The author, Scotti, was born in Providence in 1946. She is a journalist and writer. One of her other books is entitled, **Sudden Sea: The Great Hurricane of 1938.**



St. Bernard Church

Celebrates 150 Years

1874—2024 : MISSION 150

Closing Mass for 150th with Bishop Tobin
Sunday December 15th 10:30 AM
Refreshments in Parish Hall after Mass



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Sunday-Thursday 11:30am-11:30pm | Friday & Saturday 11:30am-12:00am



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

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