

Saint Bernard Church



February 9, 2025
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

For your column this week I am reprinting the article that appeared recently in the RI Catholic--- written by parishioner, Jay Conway----a ‘recap’ of our 150th Anniversary. I was pleasantly surprised that they printed the entire article with a couple of photos. I know you’ll enjoy reading the article if you haven’t already seen it in the RI Catholic.

ST. BERNARD CHURCH CELEBRATES 150TH ANNIVERSARY TRUE TO MISSION CHURCH BEGINNINGS

North Kingstown – Now that 2024 has been committed to memory, St. Bernard Church in the Wickford section of North Kingstown has a lot to reflect on as the Parish spent the year celebrating its 150th anniversary.

“Mission 150” was the celebratory theme that set the tone for close to 20 diverse events and programs that included religious and social gatherings, memorials, reunions, raffles, a golf tournament, and commemorative gifts.

“When we started the planning process in 2023, we focused on creating monthly events that would appeal to parishioners of all ages and interests,” said Reverend David F. Gaffney, pastor, St. Bernard Church. “The result was that we reached deep into our parish family.”

Mission Church Beginnings

St. Bernard began as a Mission Church following the Civil War. Reverend William Halligan would make the approximately seven-mile, horse and buggy trip from the Church of the Holy Name of Jesus in East Greenwich (today, Our Lady of Mercy Church) to Wickford to celebrate Mass in the homes of residents as there was no Catholic church in the area. Stated Father Gaffney: “By my rough calculation, that trip would have taken about two hours, one way, back in the 1800s; hard to believe today.”

Father Gaffney said that as French-Canadian and Irish immigrants settled in the Wickford area to work in the mills, the Catholic population grew to a level that warranted their own church. In 1874, Father Halligan purchased a half-acre of land for what would become St. Bernard Church.

“During the late 1800s, Father Halligan saw the spiritual and material needs of the community and responded accordingly,” said Father Gaffney. “Over the past 150 years, that baton has been passed on and remains our focus today.”

12-Month Celebration

Remaining true to its humble beginnings, St. Bernard kicked-off its 150th anniversary with a “soup supper” in January that was aligned with its annual “Soup-er Bowl” collection of cans of soup for the poor. This was followed by a Lenten Mission in February led by Reverend James Quigley, OP, from Providence College.

What followed was a whirlwind of activities that included historical presentations by Reverend Robert Hayman, professor emeritus, Providence College, and North Kingstown historian Tim Cranston. To satisfy taste buds, parishioners enjoyed a family pasta luncheon, a beer tasting evening, the annual parish cookout, and a “Mother’s Tea.”

One of the highlights of the anniversary year was the Parish Dinner Dance held at the Quonset “O” Club in North Kingstown, which was held in June. This popular event included the awarding of the annual “St. Bernard Award” to long-time parishioners Arlene Gardiner and Dotty Madusky, and the raffling-off of an original painting of a local scene donated by Artist/Designer Thomas H. Lynch.

Memorial opportunities included the planting of ten trees throughout the St. Bernard Church grounds, liturgical items, refurbishing historical Stations of the Cross, and the installation of a beautiful Marian statue in front of the church.

North Kingstown resident Ashley LaBarbera designed the commemorative logo.

(Continued on page 3)





Mass Intentions

MONDAY, February 10

8:00 AM — *Donald Barker*
by his wife

TUESDAY, February 11

8:00 AM – *Gail Leone*

WEDNESDAY, February 12

8:00 AM – *Anu Tomy*
by her family

THURSDAY, February 13

8:00 AM – *Eileen McGuire*
by her family

FRIDAY, February 14

8:00 AM – *Deceased of the Amaral Family*
by Jane Viera

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, February 15

5:00 PM – *Mary DiDonato*

SUNDAY, February 16

7:00 AM – *Arlene Garvey*
by her family

8:30 AM – *William Nicolo & Cynthia Aurelio*
by their family

10:30 AM – *Jonathan Salisbury*

by his parents

Support for Seminarians



Each time a man answer's God's call to the priesthood, YOU are part of that journey. Through your support of the 2025 Catholic Charity Appeal, together as a Catholic Community, we help nurture vocations and provide crucial support for the 13 seminarians currently studying to become priests in the Diocese of Providence. Please prayerfully consider a gift to the appeal as we strive for 100% parish participation. To make your difference today, visit:

DioceseofProvidence.org/CCA

to invest in the future of our Church and ensure that these men can dedicate their lives to serving God and His people

Coffee & Donuts

Our next Coffee and Donuts is scheduled for next weekend, **February 16th**, after the 10:30 AM Mass in the Parish Hall. Come spend some time socializing with your fellow parishioners



Ponderings—(Continued from page 2)

Known as “Madonna of Bruges,” the original sculpture was created by Michelangelo and resides in the Church of Our Lady in Bruges, Belgium. St. Bernard had a great devotion to the Blessed Mother. The statue was blessed following the parish's 150th Anniversary Mass in October by Diocese of Providence Archbishop Richard G. Henning, S.T.D., who was the principal celebrant at the Mass. Said Archbishop Henning about St. Bernard Church during his homily: “This is the place where for 150 years, neighbors have come together to give glory to God... This is the place where neighbors and friends come together to help one another along the journey of life... This is the place where people have come for generations to find strength and wisdom, consolation, love.” Bishop Henning challenged all to honor the legacy of those who came before by continuing to serve one another.

The year's festivities concluded on December 15 with the closing Mass. Bishop Emeritus Thomas J. Tobin, who consecrated the current church some 15 years ago, was the celebrant and homilist.

In summing up the 150th celebration, Father Gaffney concluded: “At the beginning of our anniversary year, I stated that in our origin as a mission church and throughout the past 150 years we've focused on proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ and its importance in all of our lives. As we enter our 151st year, I feel energized and even more committed to this mission as we pass-on the faith to our younger generation.”

Parish Support

	January 26, 2025	2024
Basket	\$11,473.00	\$22,190.00
ACH	\$2,887.00	\$2,959.00
	February 2, 2025	2024
Basket	\$9,237.00	\$7,635.00
ACH	\$3,957.00	\$3,004.00
YTD	\$363,114.00	\$350,644.00

Los Angeles Wild Fires

HERE'S HOW
YOU CAN HELP



Multiple fast-moving wild-fires are continuing to ravage the Los Angeles area. These fires have killed at least twenty-seven people, destroyed thousands of homes and structures and more than 180,000 people have evacuated.

The Diocese of Providence is working with Catholic Charities USA (the official domestic relief agency of the U.S. Catholic Church) to direct donations to those in need. Your donation will help towards their recovery immediately. Ways to give include:

Send a check to:

Catholic Charities USA
2050 Ballenger Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22314

Please mark 'Los Angeles Wildfires' in the memo line or visit

<https://ccusa.online/fires>

Annual Collection:

A Great Success! Thank you for your generous response to our Annual Collection. This year we received a total of \$75,458.00 by 218 families. As you know, our church building is facing some "roof" issues. We have been getting bids from a series of companies and will have a plan for the spring. Your generosity in so many ways, weekly collection, building and maintenance collection, Annual Collection---all help us keep our facility and grounds in good repair!

Grief Group

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

February 18, 2025
March 18, 2025
April 22, 2025
May 27, 2025

Young at Heart

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

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.

February 11 & 25, 2025
March 11 & 25 2025
April 8, 2025

Young Adults/Young Couples

Mardi Gras Party on Saturday, March 1st after the 5:00 p.m. Mass. Please respond to Fr. Gaffney in person or send an e-mail to the Parish Office (sbc.pastor@aol.com or sbc.pa@verizon.net). Thanks.

Debt Reduction Collection

January Total: \$3,230.00
Year-To-Date: \$22,605.00

Thank you for your generous response to this monthly collection!

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 2/23/2025

** Return completed assignments to next in-person class

Sacramental Preparation Program

Grades 2, 7, 8, 9

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

Class Today: 2/9/2025

Next Class: 3/2/2025

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.

Morning Glory Gathering

Please join us for coffee and socializing on **Thursday, February 13th** after the 8:00 AM morning Mass in the Parish Hall.

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Eucharistic Adoration



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



Memorare

This prayer has traditionally been attributed to St. Bernard. It seems likely, however, that it dates to the 17th century and was popularized by a French priest by the name of Fr. Claude Bernard. Whoever was the author----it has brought comfort to countless generations of believers.

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.



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

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