

Saint Bernard Church



February 2, 2025 The Presentation of The Lord

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

Much of the world was shocked on April 15, 2019 when a fire destroyed Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris. The chief architect of the newly rebuilt cathedral said of the destruction, “We had lost the framework, the roof, the spire and three sections of the vault.” The French president, Emmanuel Macron, vowed to rebuild it within five years. Mr. Villeneuve, the chief architect, as walked through the rubble of the 861-year-old structure saw a beacon of hope, “All the stained-glass windows were spared, the great organ, the furniture, the paintings---the paintings.”

It took 200 years to build Notre Dame and now the restoration was set to take place in a five-year period. There was tremendous worldwide support with donations from around the world approaching One Billion dollars. The intense heat and falling debris left behind a film of toxic lead dust, requiring meticulous cleaning of every surface. Sculptures, walls and organ pipes were painstakingly stripped of grime and soot, exposing a brightness unseen for centuries.

It is expected that fifteen million visitors will view the beautiful restoration----three million more than before the fire.

In reading about the restoration and the reopening of the cathedral not long ago, I came upon some “Notre Dame Cathedral Trivia” that I found interesting.

1. The Ile-de-la-Cite on which Notre Dame now sits was once a Gallio-Roman city known as Lutetia. The cathedral may have been built over the ruins of a temple. Around 1710, pieces of a sculpted altar dedicated to Jupiter and other deities was discovered evidence of an ancient temple. (or the pieces were recycled there from another location.)
2. Before the fire, the cathedral contained one of the oldest surviving wooden structures in Paris, involving around 52 acres of trees that were cut down in the 12th century. For this reason, the lattice of historic woodwork was nicknamed “the forest”.
3. The exterior flying buttresses were constructed around its nave in the 12th century to lend support to its thin walls, after the need for more light in the incredibly tall church’s large windows. There is debate over whether Notre Dame was the first church to have them, they have certainly set the trend for sacred architecture.
4. In 1793, in the midst of the French Revolution, 28 statues of biblical kings in the cathedral were pulled down with ropes and decapitated by a mob. It wasn’t until 1977 that the heads of these kings were discovered during work on the basement of the French Bank of Foreign Trade.
5. The bells were once melted down for artillery. All twenty of its bells were melted down to make cannons. The largest 1681 ‘bourdon’ was not touched. While the bells were restored in the 19th century, the new instruments were not as finely made as the older versions and made a more dissonant noise when clanging. Finally, in 2013, a new ensemble of bells restored the cathedral to its 17th century sound, with deeply resonant sound.
6. When Napoleon decided to have his 1804 coronation as emperor in Notre Dame the building was in bad shape. Centuries of decay as the city developed and changed around it, as well as the vandalism of the French Revolution, had left it on the verge of demolition. For years it had been used as little more than a warehouse. So, when Napoleon declared its return to church use, and hosted his grand ceremony within his walls, an event in which he famously crowned himself, it brought Notre Dame new prominence.

I did have the chance to visit Notre Dame on a trip to France many years ago (long before the fire!). It did make a great impact on me. Maybe one day I will get to see the restoration! Something else for my bucket list.....the long bucket list!

--Fr. Gaffney

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



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, February 3

8:00 AM — *Pamela Hubbell*
by Arlene

TUESDAY, February 4

8:00 AM – *Edward Keenan*

WEDNESDAY, February 5

8:00 AM – *Christina Groccia*

THURSDAY, February 6

8:00 AM – *Carl Gregory Battaglia*
by his aunt

FRIDAY, February 7

8:00 AM – *Ryan Cole*

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, February 8

5:00 PM – *Thomas & Gregory Dilick*
by their family

SUNDAY, February 9

7:00 AM – *Robert Sherman*
by Mary Ann Sherman

8:30 AM – *Br. John J. Kusmierz, OP*

10:30 AM – *Rosemary Altieri*

by her family

Congratulations to Emily & Jamey Barry and baby Atticus James who was baptized on January 26, 2025.



Soup-er Bowl! (Super Bowl!)

Outreach to help the Poor.

From January 1st through February 9th (the day of this year's Super Bowl) we will be collecting cans of SOUP for the North Kingstown Food Pantry. We are setting a 'challenge' to collect 500 cans of soup! Then on the weekend of February 8/9 the young people of the parish will hold 'Soup Bowls' at the exit for a 'free will' donation---- which will support our parish's outreach to the poor and needy. (We purchase 'food cards' for those in need who approach us year-round).

Thanks for your support!

The Appeal Begins



The 2025 Catholic Charity Appeal has officially begun. This year's theme, "Trust in Providence," is a powerful reminder of God's grace and the trust he has placed in us to serve others. Our parish goal remains the same as last year, \$80,750, with an overall diocesan goal of \$7.5 million. As we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the appeal, let us reflect on a century of hope, compassion and support provided to all those in need throughout our state. Please prayerfully consider a gift to the appeal as we strive for 100% parish participation. To make your difference today, visit:

DioceseofProvidence.org/CCA

Congratulations to Elizabeth & Cole Morgan and baby Margaret Eileen who was baptized on January 26, 2025.



Parish Support

	January 19, 2025	2024
Basket	\$5,239.00	\$5,235.00
ACH	\$3,687.00	\$3,314.00
	January 26, 2025	2024
Basket	\$11,473.00	\$22,190.00
ACH	\$2,887.00	\$2,959.00
YTD	\$350,095.00	\$340,005.00

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>

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.

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

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, February 9th, from 7:30 to 10:30**. Scrambled Eggs, Home Fries, Bacon, Waffles with Strawberries Baked Beans, Breakfast Pastries, 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.

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: 2/2/2025

Next Class 3/9/2025

** 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: 2/9/2025

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.

K of C "25 Week Raffle"

The Knights of Columbus will be holding a "25 Week Club" raffle from February through July.



Weekly drawing of \$25 for 25 Weeks!

Grand Prizes to be drawn in July!

First Place Grand Prize - \$500

Second Place Grand Prize - \$300

Third Place Grand Prize - \$200

Proceeds to go to charitable causes supported by the Knights.
Tickets are \$25

For tickets contact a member of the Knights or email: Rdimaria.rikoc@gmail.com

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.

Steubenville East

There will be an informational meeting for teens interested in attending this summer's Steubenville East Catholic Youth Conference in Springfield, MA from 7/25-7/27. The conference is open to those currently in grade 8-12. A parent should be in attendance along with their student. We are meeting at **St. Francis de Sales on Sunday, 2/2 at 5:30PM**. Feel free to stay following this meeting and check out our Teen Life Ministry if you have not before. All are welcome. If there are any questions prior to the meeting, please email Christina at

sbc.teenff@gmail.com



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, **February 5th at 7:00 PM** in the Parish Hall. New members are welcome.



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

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