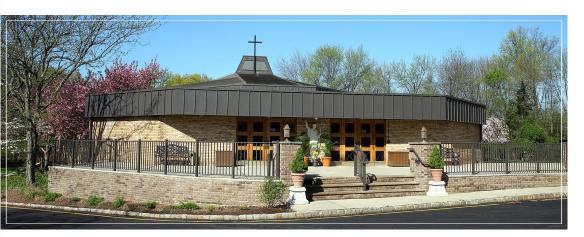
THE ROMAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX

500 ROUTE 22 EAST - BRIDGEWATER, NEW JERSEY 08807

Fourth Sunday of Easter ~ April 21, 2024



Served By

Rev. Msgr. Randall J. Vashon	Pastor
Rev. Oliver Lacorte	Parochial Vicar
Rev. Mr. Ai Van (Peter) Phan	Transitional Deacon
Mr. Patrick Cline	Deacon
Mr. Gerard Sims	Deacon
Mrs. Christina Blalock	Director of Sacred Music
Mrs. Denise Metzgar	Director, Office of Catechetical Formation
Mr. Camilo Ramirez	Director, St. Bernard Cemetery
Mr. Erik Schenck Mr. Mark Guido Mr. Mark Dransfield	BOLD Youth Ministry Team

"WE ARE THE LIVING STONES", A FAMILY OF FAITH WHICH STRIVES TO LOVE GOD AND OUR NEIGHBORS THROUGH THE CHURCH.

VOCATION AWARENESS SUNDAY

In which direction is God leading you?

The Liturgical Week

	ving Masses are live-streamed & saved to our website:	
Daily M-F	8:00am Saturday 9:00am 5:15pm Saturday Vigil Mass	
8:00 am 12:10 pm	MONDAY, APRIL 22ND Barbara Tarnoski, req. by the Wiszowaty Family James Giblin, req. by Ralph and Marge Parise	
	TUESDAY, APRIL 23RD	
8:00 am 12:10 pm	Saint George; Saint Adalbert Teresa Nicolono, req. by Vincent & Flavia Riello Rose Cucaro, req. by Lidia Crincoli	
	WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24TH	
8:00 am	Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen Artur Krzascik, req. by John and Margaret Batkowski	
12:10 pm	Helen Lippencott, req. by the Fagan Family	
	THURSDAY, APRIL 25TH Saint Mark	
8:00 am 12:10 pm	Charlie Stier, req. by Joan Morreale Mr. and Mrs. Dhanaraj, req. by family	
8:00 am 12:10 pm	FRIDAY, APRIL 26TH Maureen Caron , req. by friends at Regency at Readington Dominic Savio , req. by family	
9:00 am 5:15 pm	SATURDAY, APRIL 27TH Adelfio Dilorio, req. by Connie Melia Anthony Gabryszewski, req. by the Ziobro Family	
7:30 am 9:00 am	SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH <i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i> Joseph Barnish , req. by Grace and Al Lutzko William Dennis , req. by Anna and Paul Prumachuk	
10:30 pm 12:00 pm	For the People and Clergy of St. Bernard Church Mary Thomas, req. by the Buckmire Family	
	In your kindness we ask you to remember all the sick members of our parish. We ask	
	you also to pray for all of our beloved dead.	

Stewardship Thoughts...

"There's power in love to help and heal when nothing else can.

There's power in love to lift up and liberate when nothing else will.

There's power in love to show us the way to live."

Bishop Michael B. Curry

April 21st, 2024 **Fourth Sunday of Easter**

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ

"I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep... I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father and I will lay down my life for the sheep... This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again."

The beautiful image of the role of the shepherd: giving life, protecting life, feeding and leading the flock. Jesus described Himself, but His work continues in the church today. As He speaks of knowing the Father. He also knows us and our needs as part of the flock. May we come to know the shepherd, appreciate His role, and follow Him as we walk our journey. He left ninety-nine in search of the one, and I may be that one.

Daily Readings: Visit https://bible.usccb.org/ for the daily readings.

Today's Readings

First Reading: Acts 4:8-12

Peter explains to the elders that his healing of a cripple was done in the name of Jesus Christ. He reminds the elders that they crucified Jesus, but God rose him up so that all people could be saved in his name.

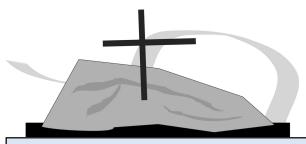
Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-2

John expresses amazement at the fact that God allowed us to be called his children. Although we are unsure exactly what we will be after this life, we do know that we will see God as he is and be like him.

Gospel: John 10:11-18

Jesus speaks of a shepherd working only for pay, with no real concern for the sheep being well cared for. But Jesus is our shepherd and would lay down his own life for all those in his flock. God loves him for his willingness to sacrifice himself for the sake of all God's children.

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Fourth Sunday of Easter April 21, 2024

This Week at St. Bernard

Sunday, April 21

Fourth Sunday of Easter; HOME Guests Leave
7:30 am - Mass; Church, (live-streamed)
9:00 am - Mass; Church, (live-streamed)
10:30 am - Mass and Children's Liturgy; Church and Chapel (live-streamed)
11:30 am - Donut Sunday; Cafeteria
11:30 am - Golf Planning Meeting; Room C
12:00 pm - Mass; Church (live-streamed)
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm - Family Ministry; Room A/B & Chapel
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm - Men's Basketball; Gym

Monday, April 22

8:00 am - Mass; Church (live-streamed & recorded) 12:10 pm - Mass; Chapel
4:45 pm - 6:00 pm - Faith Formation Classes; School
6:30 pm - 7:45 pm - Faith Formation Classes; School 7:30 pm - BOLD TNL Hangout; Lighthouse

Tuesday, April 23

Saint George; Saint Adalbert 8:00 am - Mass; Church (live-streamed & recorded) 12:10 pm - Mass; Chapel 2:00 pm - Communion Service at Sunrise of Bridgewater 4:45 pm - 6:00 pm - Faith Formation Classes; School 6:30 pm - 7:45 pm - Faith Formation Classes; School

Wednesday, April 24

Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen 8:00 am - Mass; Church (live-streamed & recorded) 10:00 am - 11:30 am - AFF: When You Pray, a Clearer Path to Deeper Relationship with God; School Rm 103 12:10 pm - Mass; Chapel 6:00 pm - Diaconate Meeting; Church 6:30 pm - Youth Choir; Church 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm - Bereavement Group; Library 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm - New Visions (AA); Cafeteria Thursday, April 25Saint Mark8:00 am - Mass; Church (live-streamed &> recorded)12:10 pm - Mass; Chapel7:00 pm - 8:30 pm - AFF: Romans: The Gospel of
Salvation; School rm 1037:00 pm - Confirmation Rehearsal; Church7:30 pm - 9:30 pm - Women's Prayer Grp; Rm C & Chapel
8:00 pm - Adult Choir; Church

Friday, April 26

8:00 am - Mass; Church (live-streamed & recorded)
12:10 pm - Mass; Chapel
2:00 pm - Mass at Rehab at Waterfront

Saturday, April 27

9:00 am - Mass; Church
9:30 am - Praying the Rosary; Church
10:00 am - Funeral Mass; Church
4:00 pm - Confessions; Church
5:15 pm - Mass; Church (*live-streamed & recorded*)

Sunday, April 28

Fifth Sunday of Easter; Catholic Relief Collection 7:30 am - Mass; Church, (live-streamed) 9:00 am - Mass; Church, (live-streamed) 10:30 am - Mass and Children's Liturgy; Church and Chapel (live-streamed) 12:00 pm - Mass; Church (live-streamed) 1:30 pm - Baptisms; Church 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm - Men's Basketball; Gym

2024 Bishop's Annual Appeal - STAY WITH US, LORD: Renew our Hearts and Send Us on Mission

Thank you to all who have given so generously to the 2024 Bishop's Annual Appeal. If you have not made a pledge, there is still time to participate. Mail your gift to: Diocese of Metuchen Bishop's Annual Appeal, PO Box 4000, Metuchen, NJ 08840-4000 or give online at <u>https://diometuchen.org/BAA</u>.

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Commission for Liturgy and Worship

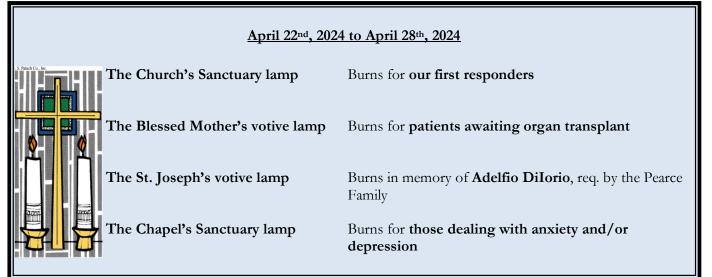
Ministers of the Liturgy

We acknowledge with appreciation the following Liturgical Ministers who will serve at next weekend's Masses:

Weekend of April 27th and April 28th

- 5:15 Mass Altar Servers: Jeffrey Pravin, Jessica Pravin Readers: Claire Drzewiecki, Angela Lanfranchi Eucharistic Ministers: Mila Gaspar, Jacqueline Roccasecca, Bob Nagle, Maureen Shackelton, Laura Curcio
- 7:30 Mass Altar Servers: Ryan Scibelli Readers: John Deley, Maria DaSilva Eucharistic Ministers: Patrick Mattia, Greg Bielat, Kim Krail, Jane McElroy
- 9:00 Mass Altar Servers: Nick Seidler, Jordyn Spina Readers: Cynthia O'Connor, Stacey Alvey Eucharistic Ministers: Sharon Rizarri, Paul Triozzi, Lynn Ruezinsky, Karen Barth, Tim O'Connor
- 10:30 Mass Altar Servers: Paul Loschiavo, James Roccanova Readers: JoAnne Coppola, Luis Alves Children's Liturgy: Jim Alaimo Eucharistic Ministers: Lori Synder, Michele Olson, Laura Kelly, Tom Kelly, Maggie Renna
- 12:00 Mass Altar Servers: Joanne Lobo, Nathan Lobo Readers: Jeevan Lobo, Kyle Clonan Eucharistic Ministers: Doreen Sekora, Trina Tesoriero, Janetta Buckmire, Mary Padavano, Laura Felegi

If you are mandated and trained for these ministries, please consider volunteering through the *Ministry Scheduler Pro* application.





<u>The Parish Prayer Chain</u> is a group of Parishioners that regularly pray for your needs. It consists of two groups, those who pray during the daytime and those who pray in the evening.

Should a need for prayer arise, please call Joan Dobrosky at 908-231-9545 to initiate your prayer request. Your intention will be prayed for by both Chains and kept strictly confidential. If you have an interest in becoming a member of the Prayer Chain, please call Joan.



Commission for Liturgy and Worship

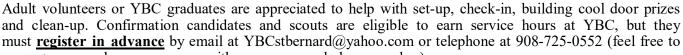


St. Bernard Young Builders' Club (YBC) is BACK!!! Join us on Saturday, April 20th from 3 - 5PM!!!

Hey kids! Interested in building? Have a great imagination? We invite you to build whatever you can dream up (or use our building manuals)!! Our motto is The Best Has Yet to Be Done, and we believe it can be done by YOU! We

look to inspire you to use our K'nex building pieces to create pinwheels, trucks, planes, dinosaurs, the Eiffel Tower, roller coasters and much, much more.

All children, ages 3-10+, along with their parents and/or grandparents, are invited to build (and keep) a special K'nex item, display their creation in our Project Parade, and win a Door Prize! Join the fun on Saturday afternoon, April 20th at 3:00 PM in the Parish Center Cafeteria!





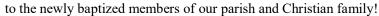
leave a message with your name and phone number).

New Families are always welcome! Come whenever you can!!!! Please email us at YBCstbernard@yahoo.com to be added to our email list, or for more information about YBC.

Family Ministry

Families are invited to join other families of St. Bernard's for a time of fellowship and prayer on **Sunday**, April 21st at 5:00 PM in Room A/B and the Chapel. We begin with a pot luck dinner and end with a discussion and rosary. If you are interested in attending or have any questions please contact Cristina Imparato 201-274-4478 or via email at <u>cristinaaimparato@gmail.com</u>

Congratulations and welcome...





Rory Patrick Kelley Son of Patrick and Jamie Kelley Baptized on April 14, 2024 Reese Ann Rítchíe Daughter of Ryan Rítchie and Morgan Volpe Baptízed on Apríl 14, 2024

Myah Rae Sancho Daughter of Jeff and Sandy Szymanski Baptized on April 14, 2024

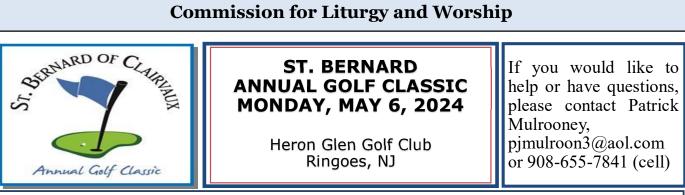
St. Bernard of Clairvaux—Did You Know?

In 1850, the first church was a wooden structure built on Church Street. In 1854, the church was destroyed by a fire.

Two years later, in 1856, a new brick structure was built on Somerset Street by members who were predominately of Irish descent. And in 1864, the church was incorporated as a territorial parish. A territorial parish comprises of all the Christian faithful living within a defined geographic area.

In 1883, there was an influx of Italian and Slavak who eventually desired their own national churches. Which turned into St. Ann Church (Italian) to be built on Anderson Street in 1906 and St. Joseph Church (Slovak) built on Somerset Street in 1915.

On September 24, 1988, the new church, built on Route 22 in Bridgewater, was dedicated and a year later, in 1989, on the site of the 133 year-old St. Bernard Church in Raritan, the Diocese of Metuchen established the Shrine Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament on August 11.



St. Bernard Annual Golf Classic—Monday, May 6, 2024

Join us for our next planning meetings after the 10:30 AM mass in Room C on Sunday, April 21st and Sunday, May 5th

We are accepting registrations for Sponsors and Golfers for our St. Bernard Golf Event! Please consider registering and supporting our parish while enjoying a day on the golf course! If you would like to help or have questions, please contact Patrick Mulrooney, pjmulroon3@aol.com or 908-655-7841 (cell)

Registrations can be found on the St. Bernard website (https://stbernardbridgewater.org) under the Golf Outing Banner or by scanning the images below:

Sponsor QR Code:



Individual Golfer OR Code.



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SHIP UPDATE

THANK YOU to all who donated to last week's food collection benefitting SHIP. Here are last week's collection results:

> Casseroles - 18 Drinks - 64

Utensil Packets - 500 (with the help of Girl Scout Troop 63212—thanks!)

Please note: our next Social Concerns food collection will be Sunday, May 12th

Saint Bernard Green Team WIN A PRIZE!!!! ENTER OUR <u>FREE</u> RAFFLE TO CELEBRATE EARTH DAY!!!!

Weather permitting and after all Masses on the weekend of **April 20th-21st**, the Green Team invites all parishioners to stop by our table outside the main church doors to see our display of alternatives-to-plastic, everyday household items. Enter your name in our free raffle for a chance to win some eco-friendly items and other surprise goodies!!!

EARTH DAY is an event that began in 1970 and is held annually on **April 22**, when people all over the world show their support for the care of the environment. The event has grown over the years; currently about 1 billion people in more than 193 countries participate in **EARTH DAY** events coordinated globally by Earthday.org. Visit Earth Day.Org or scan the OR code below.

<u>The 2024 official Earth Day theme is "Planet vs. Plastics.</u>" According to a 2017 study led by UC Santa Barbara industrial ecologist, Roland Geyer, 8.3 billion metric tons (9.1 billion tons) of plastic have been produced since large-scale production of synthetic materials began in the 1950's. Additionally, by 2015, humans had produced 6.3 billion tons of plastic waste and only 9% of this waste was recycled. 12% was incinerated and

79% accumulated in landfills or the natural environment (<u>Univ of California - 8.3 metric tons of plastic... and counting</u>). Clearly, we have a plastic problem! Scan the QR code below to visit Earth Day.Org and learn more about the problem of plastic and what you can do about it!



There is no such thing as 'away'. When we throw anything away, it must go somewhere." (Annie Leonard, creator of film documentary, The Story of Stuff)

Commission for Liturgy and Worship

Join our new Vocation Ministry at St. Bernard

For additional information, please click here or go to our website under the Ministries tab.

The St. Bernard of Clairvaux Vocation Ministry aims to promote and encourage vocations to the priesthood and religious life among our parish community. Our work promoting vocations will closely collaborate with the Diocese of Metuchen Vocations Office by striving to recognize and identify potential in those within our parish. We will work to encourage families through our parish environment to embrace and promote vocations within their homes. Finally, we will support and honor those priests and religious leaders already working in their vocation, especially our parish priests.

Samaritan Homeless Interim Program **87 East High Street** Somerville, NJ 08876

The Samaritan Homeless Interim Program (SHIP) is adding a feeding site to our Mobile Soup Kitchen (MSK) rotation on the 1st through 5th Tuesdays of each month in North Plainfield. SHIP is looking for volunteers to drive MSK and distribute food to clients. Typically, a "crew" consists of a driver and one additional person. A commercial drivers license (CDL) is NOT required to operate MSK. Responsibilities include picking up MSK at SHIP's Safe Harbor, 87 East High Street, Somerville at 4:30 P.M., driving to SHIP's North Plainfield feeding site, distributing food from 5:30 P.M.-6:30 P.M. and driving back to SHIP's Safe Harbor. If interested in this stewardship opportunity with SHIP, or for more information, please contact John at SHIP at 908-393-9545 or safeharbor@ship908.com.

An Invitation to the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis in July 2024 from Bishop Checchio

"We're going on pilgrimage again." The Most Rev. James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA, Bishop of Metuchen, invites the faithful of the Diocese of Metuchen to join him on a pilgrimage to the 10th National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis from July 17-21, 2024.

You can go to the Diocesan website at diometuchen.org/nec2024 to find more information and the registration link to attend the National Eucharistic Congress with the delegations this July. An explanation of the registration process is still available to watch in the information session recording on the website.

Respect for Life

Respect for Life Building a culture of life in our community through education, pastoral care, advocacy, and prayer.

Keep filling our crib!



Please know that the Mothers in need are truly grateful for the support they receive from the St. Bernard community. So please keep the donations coming. The crib is located in the Cry Room. Currently, there is a need for formula, baby cereal, diapers (size 5 & 6) and wipes, baby lotion, baby shampoo and layette items are always appreciated. Gently used clothing (especially toddler size!), toys and children's books are always welcome! "Called to Serve Moms in Need" --- Respect Life Theme 2022-2023

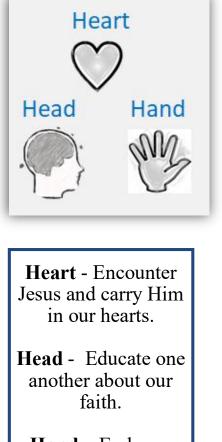
New Jersey Safe Haven Law

Under the New Jersey Safe Haven Infant Protection Act a person may give up an unwanted infant anonymously. The purpose of Safe Haven is to protect unwanted babies from being hurt or killed from unsafe abandonment. A distressed parent who is unable to care for an infant can give up custody of a baby less than 30 days old safely, legally and anonymously. All that is required is that the baby be brought to any hospital emergency room, police station, fire station, ambulance, first aid, and rescue squads in New Jersey that are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. As long as the child shows no signs of intentional abuse, no name or other information is required. The parent can call the Safe Haven Hotline - 1-877-839-2339 - and get the address and directions for any hospital emergency room, police station, fire station, ambulance, first aid, and rescue squad in the state.

Youth Community

Office of Catechetical Formation

The encounter with Christ involves the whole person: heart, mind, senses. Above all the heart. (Directory for Catechesis, no.76)



Hand – Embrace Jesus' call to action

JOIN US FOR ANOTHER YEAR OF FAITH FORMATION!

Registration is open for 2024-2025 Visit our website for class registration details

<u>Monday Sessions Grades 1-8</u> 5:00 PM—6:15 PM * new start time 6:30 PM—7:45PM

<u>Tuesday Sessions Grades 1-8</u> 5:00 PM—6:15 PM *new start time

PACT Sessions (Open to current families) Monthly 10:15 AM—11:30 PM plus four additional Sunday sessions for 7th and 8th Graders

Upcoming Dates

April 25 th	Confirmation Rehearsal, Church, 7 PM
May 1 st	Confirmation, Church, 4:30 PM
May 7 th	First Holy Communion Rehearsal, Church, 7 PM
May 11 th	First Holy Communion, Church, 11:00 AM
May 12 th	May Crowning, during 10:30 AM Mass



Youth Community



The NJ Catholic Youth Rally is a day-long event that gathers teens from across the state of NJ for a day of fun, fellowship, Mass, and more held at Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson, NJ. The day starts with dynamic opening ceremony and concludes with Mass in the Batman Stunt Arena.

All in 8th Grade and High School Sunday, May 19th | 8:00am - 9:00pm Cost: \$85.00

The cost of the day includes entry into the park, transportation, entry to opening ceremony and a "Mega-Meal Voucher" which can be redeemed at most food places throughout the park and includes a meal, snack, and a drink.

Register at <u>boldym.com/BAB/events</u>

Questions about the trip?Contact Erik and Mark at BAB@boldym.com or text/call 908-758-3329



Around Our Diocese



Thoughts From God's Garden Sr. Gabriela of the Incarnation, O.C.D. Easter North and South

Our community has a special relationship with several other Carmels, and one of these is at the opposite end of the earth. We are good friends with the Carmel in Launceston, Tasmania, in Australia. Our Sisters there often share with us and other Carmels various aspects of their life and these will often surprise us! They sing the same, familiar Christmas carols, but of course, Down Under in Australia, Christmas takes place in summer, and though they sing "Good King Wenceslaus", they also sing "Our wattle trees shall shower their gold In tribute to our King!

In a similar shift of seasons, while our Easter here in the northern hemisphere takes place in the spring, theirs takes place in the autumn. We sing about the flowers springing to life under Jesus's feet as he comes forth from the tomb, while there, they are harvesting the fields and orchards. The freshness of spring, that illustrates our experience of Easter here, is a past event down there. But they can give us an insight into the meaning of Easter that we may not have thought of before. Jesus' resurrection is the beginning of new life, yet it is also the harvest of his long and painful battle against evil. He has risen to newness of life, and he can now give us the first fruits of that life as he harvests the result of his death on the cross! Easter is the fulfillment of his struggle, and we are the richer for that victory.

Curious about Classical Education?

St. Ann Classical Academy, the only classical school in the Diocese of Metuchen (Raritan, NJ) is now accepting applications for Pre K - 8th Grade for the 2024-2025 school year. To learn more, book a tour, or register call the school office at 908-725-7787 or visit us online at stannelassical.org. We look forward to welcoming you!

Immaculata High School Spring Open House

Whether you are a 7th grader taking your first look at high schools or an 8th grader just beginning the high school search, this event is for you! Come join us **Wednesday**, April 24th from 6 PM to 8 PM and check us out!

Diocesan World Communications Day Showcase

The Diocese of Metuchen's Office of Communications and Public Relations calls for submissions for the Diocesan Media Showcase celebrating the 58th World Communications Day. The Diocese of Metuchen's Office of Communications and Public Relations extends an invitation to all photographers, writers, and graphic artists residing within the Diocese of Metuchen to participate in our upcoming showcase celebrating World Communications Day 2024. With the goal and aim of living out a synodal Church through Faith communications, the local Catholic Church seeks to set out new and effective ways of sharing the gospel message through its local storytellers. This year's theme, inspired by the Holy Father, Pope Francis, revolves around "Artificial Intelligence and Wisdom of the Heart: For a Fully Human Communication." **APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 30, 2024**

12 Essential Keys to Living God's Plan for a Joy-Filled Family

Damon Owens will share his insights on the "12 Essential Keys to Living God's Plan for a Joy-Filled Family" at Koinonia Academy - Koinonia Academy (KA) is thrilled to announce a special event featuring Damon Owens, renowned Catholic speaker and expert on Catholic marriage and family life.

Date: Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Time: 7pm - Location: Koinonia Academy [1040 Plainfield Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07060] Cost: \$25 (All proceeds will be donated to Owens' Joyful Ever After ministry) Register at: https://givebutter.com/DOBqI6

This event is a unique opportunity for parents to gain valuable knowledge and inspiration to strengthen their families and deepen their faith. Damon Owens' engaging presentation promises to be upbuilding, encouraging, and transformative for all attendees. KA strives to partner with parents in raising their children to be intellectually and spiritually prepared to serve the Lord. KA hopes to support all parents in this monumental task by availing them with resources such as Damon Owens' presentation. For more information, contact Mary Axiak maxiak@koinoniaacademy.org

How to Report Sexual Abuse: If you were sexually abused by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or you know of someone who was, you are encouraged to report that abuse to local law enforcement, the New Jersey Division of Child Protection and Permanency at 1-877-NJ-ABUSE (652-2873) or 1-800-835-5510 (TTY/TDD for the deaf), and also the Diocesan Response Officer at (908) 930-4558 (24 hours/7 days a week). For more information on how to report abuse, visit our diocesan website: diometuchen.org/healing.

St. Bernard's Finance Council Update

<u>Weekly Collections</u> From Week Ending: 04/1	4/74		
Tioni week Ending. 04/1	7/27		% to Total
Envelope Contributions:	\$	6,920.00	41.5%
WeShare Contributions:	\$	5,976.00	35.9%
Social Concerns:	\$	2,395.00	14.4%
Other Contributions:	\$	1,367.00	8.2%
Total Contributions:	\$	16,658.00	

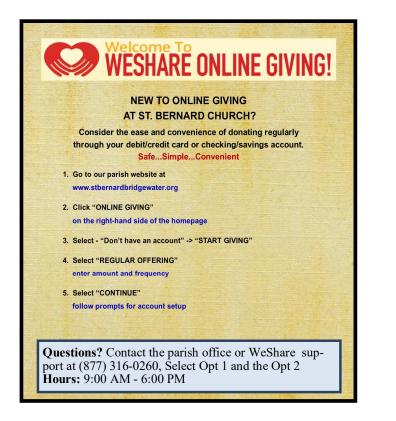
<u>Cumulative Year-to-Date Totals</u>

From 06/26/23 - 04/14/24			
			% to Total
Envelope Contributions:	\$	380,699.00	39.2%
WeShare Contributions:	\$	470,288.00	48.4%
Social Concerns:	\$	51,084.00	5.3%
Other Contributions:	<u>\$</u>	68,623.00	7.1%
Total Contributions:	\$	970,694.00	

2024 Bishop's Annual Appeal STAY WITH US, LORD: Renew our Hearts and Send Us on Mission

As of April 12, 2024, the Development Office has received pledges totaling \$ 130,214.59 and payments of \$ 116,759.84 of our \$ 149,000 goal.

Thank you for your efforts!





Scrip Update --- Week 565 (March 3, 2024)

Scrip Income

Current Week:	\$90.60
Current Year(*):	\$2,884.24
Cumulative:	\$127,248.67

* July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

Scrip Parish Vendor Contributions

C&R Construction	\$ 9,751
Distinctive Landscaping	\$ 8,614
Accounting Alternatives	\$ 3,141
Wylde Realtors with Coldwell Bankers	\$ 900
Kerith Brook Financial	\$ 833
Other	\$ 1,548
TOTAL:	\$ 24,787

Scrip Cards Available for Sale

A selection of your favorite Scrip cards is available for sale in the Parish Office during normal working hours. Stop by and pick up a ShopRite, Panera, Starbucks, Macys, Chilis, Maggiano's, Barnes & Noble or other available cards.

Please remember to consider using our Parish Vendors for Scrip all your landscaping, accounting, investing, home remodeling/repairs, and real estate needs. Additional information on these vendors is provided below.

Thanks for all your continued support!

<u>Scrip Parish Vendors</u>: Numerous local companies owned/ operated by our parishioners have elected to become Parish Scrip Vendors. While providing our families high quality services, they return a portion of their profits back to the Parish as a part of the Scrip Program. This has resulted in a **Don't forget to consider using one of our** win-win proposition for our Parish Families, the Vendors and the Parish. Please consider these vendors should you have need for the types of services they provide. Many Parish Families have already used their services and have been very pleased with the services provided. If you are interested in joining the growing number of Parish Scrip Vendors, please contact Bernie McElroy at 908-923-4160 or contact Bernie McElroy at 908-923-4160 or bernardmcelroy3501@comcast.net. By joining the Scrip Program, your company can increase its exposure for business within the St. Bernard community of over 2,400 families.

Accounting Alternatives:

Need accounting or tax assistance or services? Accounting Alternatives provides comprehensive and solution oriented accounting and tax services to small businesses and individuals. We're an ally to our clients. We're located in downtown Raritan. Contact Michael Di Bianco, CPA at 908-707-8733 or visit their website at info@accountingalternatives.biz.

Wylde Realtors with Coldwell Banker:

has joined our group of Parish Scrip Vendors. David and Florence Wylde, of Wylde Realtors, David and Florence Wylde, of Wylde Realtors, are well versed in the dynamics of our area and stand ready to manage all your realty needs. They have been recognized for their excellence in performance by both Coldwell Banker and New Jersey Realtors. To contact them please call 908-752-2305 or email them at grant call we have been recognized for the plans that you haven't looked at in months/years? call 908-752-2305 or email them at dwylde@wyldehomes.com.

Additional information can be found on their web-site www.wyldehomes.com.

C&R Construction:

Contact C&R for all your construction and home repair needs. From the simplest repair to the most complicated job, C&R can do the job. Numerous Parishioners have used their services and have been very satisfied with the work performed. To get a quick quote on your job contact C&R at 908-927-0744 or via email at crconstruction@comcast.net. You can also pick up their flier at the Scrip table.

Kerith Brook Financial Services:

Has there been or will there be a major change in your life? Retirement? New Job? New child or greg_elia@KerithBrockFS.com. For more info please take the updated booklet "Navigating a Course" from the Scrip table in the Narthex. As a BONUS, if you do not implement one or more recommendations, we will donate \$20 to the Charity of your choice. A WIN -WIN offer!

Parish Scrip Vendors for your home improvement/maintenance, landscaping, accounting, financial planning, or real

Distinctive Landscaping:

Contact Distinctive Landscaping for all your landscaping needs; from shrub maintenance, to the design and installation of new landscaping effects, to low voltage outdoor lighting. Their knowledge of local shrubbery, deer resistant plants, and special lighting effects are a plus. Call Gary Puzio to discuss your needs at (908) 672-3204

General Scrip Information

Don't forget that cards ordered by noon on Sunday are generally available for pick-up starting the following Thursday. Order forms are available in the Parish Office, at the Scrip Table in the Narthex after masses and on the Parish website. Orders are accepted in the Parish Office during normal working hours or they can be placed in the Scrip Order Box after Weekend Masses.

Parish Directory St. Bernard of Clairvaux Church

500 Route 22 East, Bridgewater, NJ 08807

Telephone: (908)725-0552 Fax: (908)725-4524

Website: http://stbernardbridgewater.org / Also on Facebook

All emails are @stbernardbridgewater.org

Office hours M-F 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

July and August hours M-F 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Please visit website for any updates

The Parish Clergy

Rev. Msgr. Randall J. Vashon, Pastor - ext. 803, *Email:* rvashon@... Rev. Oliver Lacorte, Parochial Vicar - ext. 806, *Email:*

olacorte@..

Mr. Patrick Cline, Deacon, *Email:* pjcjr123@yahoo.com Mr. Gerard Sims, Deacon, *Email:* gcsims@msn.com

The Parish Office (Email: office@stbernardbridgewater.org)

Mrs. Donna Blanton, Office Mgr. & Adm. Asst. to the Pastor and Protecting God's Children – ext. 802, *Email*: dblanton@...
Ms. Christine Mutek, Parish Registrar, Baptism and Wedding Prep. – ext. 800, *Email*: cmutek@...
Mrs. Lauren Loftus, Bulletin Editor, Parish Calendar and Website Management – ext. 818, *Email*: editor@...
Mr. Ed Fagan, Finance and Business Mgr. – ext. 821, *Email*: efagan@...
Mr. Camilo Ramirez, Facilities Manager – ext. 819, *Email*: maintenance@...

The Office of Catechetical Formation

Office: 908-725-8915, Fax: 908-725-9949, Email: ocf@stbernardbridgewater.org Mrs. Denise Metzgar, Director, Office of Catechetical Formation – ext. 825, Email: dmetzgar@... Mrs. Bernadette Salvatore, Faith Formation Coordinator – ext. 811, Email: bsalvatore@... Mrs. Marie Cinque, Faith Formation Coordinator – ext. 810, Email: mcinque@...

BOLD Youth Ministry

Mr. Erik Schenck, *Email:* stbernard@boldym.com Mr. Mark Guido, *Email:* stbernard@boldym.com Mr. Mark Dransfield, *Email:* mdransfield@...

The Office of Liturgy and Sacred Music

Mrs. Christina Blalock, Director of Sacred Music – ext. 807, *Email:* cblalock@...

St. Bernard Cemetery and Mausoleums

Office: 908-725-8305, Fax: 908-725-5566, Office hours M-F 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Visiting hours for fall and winter 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM Visiting hours for spring and summer 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM *Email:* cemetery@stbernardbridgewater.org Mr. Camilo Ramirez, Cemetery Director, ext. 840 Mrs. Mary Beth Hansen, Office Manager, ext. 841 Mrs. Carla Alves, Administrative Assistant, ext. 839

After Hours Emergency, Clergy: 908-725-0552 ext. 2

The Councils and Ministries of St. Bernard

The Finance Council – an advisory or consultative body to the Pastor in matters pertaining to the ordinary and extraordinary matters of financial administration. The Council shares, with the Pastor, the responsibility for prudent administration of financial affairs and the formation of its policies and procedures in service to effective management of parish assets.

The Stewardship Council – provides a systematic way of infusing the theology and practice of Stewardship into the life of the parish, identifying opportunities for members to exercise their gifts for the betterment of the parish and community.

The Pastoral Council – devoted to prayer and the study of church documents and other sound resources, as well as parish centered reflection on that study; collaborates with the pastors, clergy and staff in the work of ministry. From the Pastoral Council evolved five commissions and their ministries:

Commission for Christian Service

Appalachian Mission	Pro-Life Awareness
Bereavement Ministry	SHIP Mobile Soup Kitchen
Blood Drive	Social Concerns Collections
H.O.M.E (formerly IHN)	

Commission for Christian Community

Doughnut Sunday Youth Basketball Art & Gardening Ministry Men's Ministry Young Builder's Club Prayer Shawl Ministry

Commission for Evangelization

Cursillo Retreat Contemplative prayer Group Women's Prayer Group

Commission for Liturgy and Worship

Altar ServersCare Facility Visitation MinistryChildren's Liturgy of the WordChoir & InstrumentalReadersEucharistic MinistersRight of Christian InitiationLiturgical EnvironmentSacristanMinisters of HospitalityVisitors to the Homebound

Commission for Catechetical Formation

Adult Spirituality/Scripture Study Baptism Preparation Catechetical Formation BOLD Youth Ministry

If you are interested in finding out more about a particular council, commission or ministry, please call the Parish Office.

Bulletin articles are <u>due no later than Noon Sunday</u> for publication in the upcoming Sunday's bulletin. Please submit article requests to Lauren Loftus via email at <u>editor(a)...</u> or drop off in the Parish Office.

Welcome to the Parish Community of St. Bernard of Clairvaux

Parish Life at St. Bernard

Parish Membership

Welcome Newcomers! So that we might provide for all of your sacramental and pastoral needs, we would like to officially welcome and register you in the parish. If you haven't already done so, please call the Parish Office to begin your registration process or visit our parish website.

Parishioners are reminded that we can best serve you if we have accurate information in our Parish Census program. Please call the Parish Office with any changes in your address, phone number, family status, etc. or if you notice any misinformation in any correspondence you might receive from us.

Catechetical Formation

For Children, Grades 1-8: We are *living stones*, a community of disciples committed to sharing the beauty, goodness and truth of our Catholic faith and accompanying our children and families into deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and the vibrant, sacramental life of His Church. Our dedicated staff and volunteer catechists guide students to grow in knowledge and understanding of Sacred Scripture, the Liturgy, the Sacraments, prayer, works of mercy and the lives of the saints, so that they may grow in holiness and happiness. Please reach out to us to enroll your children in faith formation classes or if you'd like to consider joining our ministry! ocf@stbernardbridgewater.org

For Adults: Our dynamic team of volunteer facilitators host a broad range of opportunities to explore the richness of our Catholic faith and the joy of a lived relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. Check in with the Events page of our parish website for more information about small groups forming for Bible studies, book and video series and other enriching programs for adults of all ages. ocf@stbernardbridgewater.org

BOLD Youth Ministry

Our youth are an active part of our ministry here at St. Bernard. All high school teens are welcome to attend **Sunday** youth group meetings in The Lighthouse, on the third floor of the Parish Center, from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm, September -June. Please contact the parish office or Mark Dransfield with inquires. We hope to see you there!

Young Builder's Club at St. Bernard

As part of our Youth Ministry program, we offer our Young Builder's Club one Sunday each month for children aged 3 to 10, with a parent. Using the K'nex building toys, the group encourages teamwork and social interaction. Each meeting opens with prayer and song.

Sacramental Life at St. Bernard

Baptism

Expectant and adoptive parents are required to attend our Baptism preparation class. It is best to call the Parish Office at least four months before your child's birth or in the case of adoption, upon completion of the adoption process.

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Individuals who have never been baptized, baptized Christians from other denominations, and baptized Catholics who have never received the Sacraments of first Eucharist and Confirmation, and who are interested in becoming full participants in the Catholic faith are invited to call the Parish Office to begin the Inquiry process.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM, or by appointment

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Monday - Friday (Church): 8:00 AM Monday - Friday (Chapel): 12:10 PM (12:10 PM suspended in July and August)

Saturday: 9:00 AM (Church); Vigil 5:15 PM

Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM and 12:00 PM

Holy Days of Obligation: 8:00 AM, 12:10 PM and 7:30 PM; Vigil 4:30 PM

The Celebration of Christian Marriage

Arrangements with the Church for a wedding should be made approximately one year prior to the desired date. Participation in a Diocesan Pre-Cana program will assist couples in their preparation for the sacrament of Matrimony. Catholics who have been away from the Church and the Sacraments need to re-establish their Church and Sacramental life as a pre-requisite for marriage.

Sacrament of the Sick - Homebound

We encourage you to call the Parish Office to make arrangements for either the Celebration of the Anointing of the Sick or for the Eucharist to be brought to the sick, the elderly, and the homebound.





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