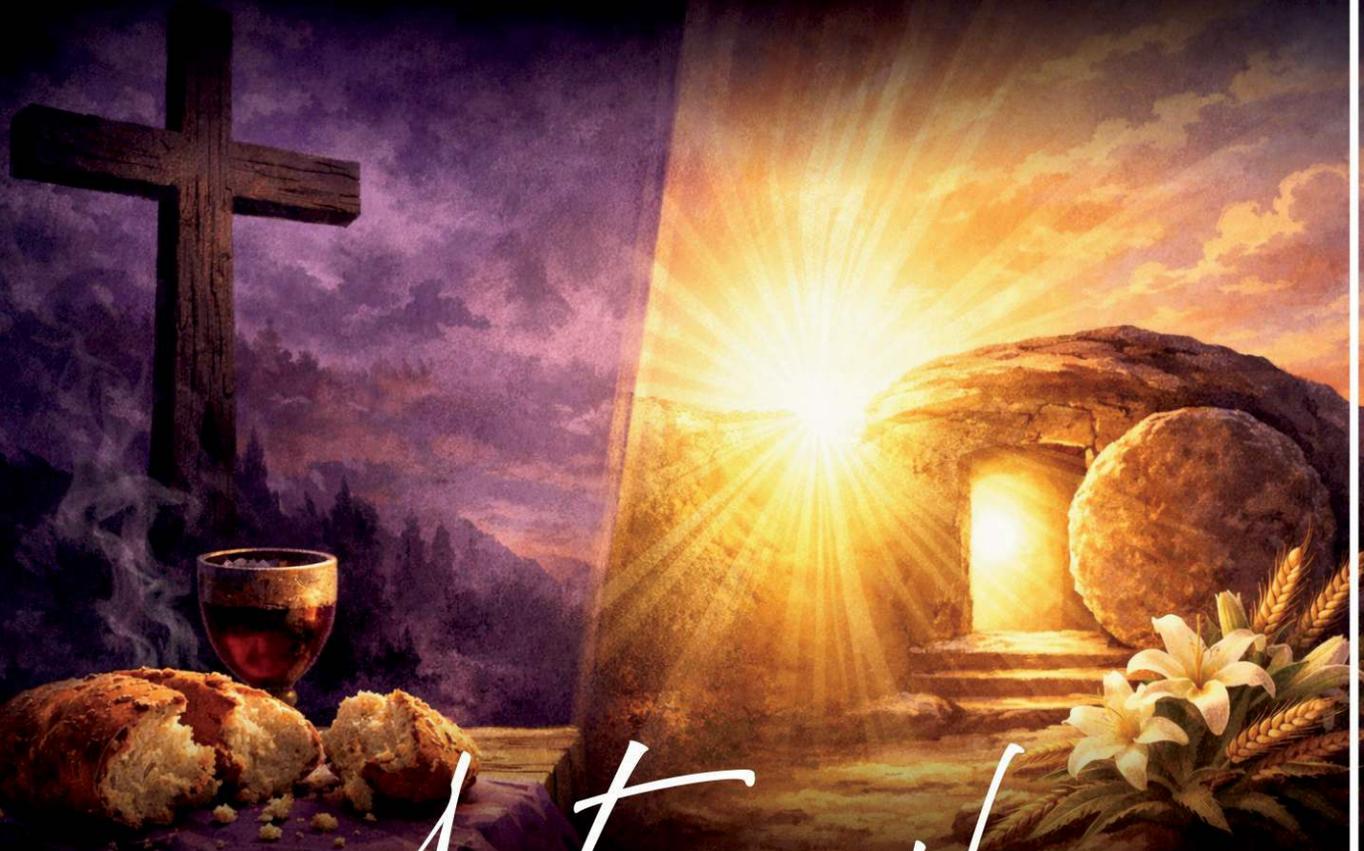




SAINT BERNADETTE
PARISH



*A Family
Broken
and Blessed*

Lent 2026

Dear Parish Family,

Here we are, a few days into the Lenten Season, urged by the Church to spend 40 Days remembering Jesus' desert stay in his struggle of temptation with Satan.



Matthew's Gospel reveals the interplay of Jesus' divinity and humanity – the tension between being strong and being vulnerable. Would Jesus be obedient to the Father or would He succumb to the will of the devil? We know the answer. Jesus confronted his fears and temptations; He wasn't defined by them. Neither should we be.

Our temptations take place in a desert as well. When we are vulnerable, discouraged, fearful or indecisive, etc. our defense mechanisms weaken. We experience the desert of our own minds and hearts and we become prey for the enemy, the Orchestrator of Evil. These are moments when we should recall that spiritual nourishment can overcome physical and emotional need. We turn to the Holy Spirit of God and we cry for help. In whatever disguise they appear, the angels who ministered to Jesus will minister to us.

Today's temptations are rarely subtle. We are easily swayed by other people's opinions; by social media reports proclaimed as if they were the Word of God; we are coaxed into turning a deaf ear to the homeless and hungry; we excuse laziness by the fraud of, "If I don't take care of myself, I won't be able to help anyone else." And the list goes on...

Pope Leo suggested a wonderfully doable Lenten practice. He suggested **40 Days of Resistance** ... from insensitive and unkind remarks to others; abstaining from rash judgment; expunging all language that inflicts hurt and kills the spirit of the neighbor. The Holy Father advocates "putting a guard on the tongue." **If we do, then the devil will leave us, and, behold, we just might be the angels who came and ministered to others.**

Penance, Prayer and Fasting – all good spiritual cleansers. Traditionally, many Catholics interpreted these Lenten practices as spending extra time in daily prayer or for those from 18 to 59 years, fasting was prescribed into the week's routine. Recall "No Meat on Friday?" The third practice of "penance" required a very personal decision, translated as, "I need to "give up something."

Sister Donna Marie

Every Friday in Lent, we will have Stations of the Cross at 7:00PM. **On February 27th, Bishop Malesic will be the celebrant.** Please plan to join us in welcoming him to St. Bernadette!



Prayers of the congregation are requested for the repose of the soul of: **Keith Partee.**

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. And may perpetual light shine upon them.

+ Intentions for the Week +

Monday, February 23, Lenten Weekday

9:00 Alfred Blazek, Sr.

Tuesday, February 24, Lenten Weekday

8:00 Lee Aggozino

Wednesday, February 25, Lenten Weekday

9:00 Tom Howard

Thursday, February 26, Lenten Weekday

8:00 Margaret Sargis

Friday, February 27, Lenten Weekday

9:00 Frank and Mary Stepic and Eric Green

Saturday, February 28, Lenten Weekday

8:00 Special Intention- Betty and Mary Lou Kocour

4:00 Donald Edward Budzickie

Sunday, March 1, Second Sunday of Lent

8:30 For the Parish

10:30 Steve and Helen Skowron

Please pray for: Loretta Verhiley; Cailyn Wagner; Linda Mencke; Dan Curran; Fr. Lanning; Gerri Popovich; Frank Stepic; Nancy Thorn; Bobbie Corrigan; John Dawson; Natalie (Partee) Hallis; Mackenzie Miles; James Tunney; Eileen Jamieson; Mandi Petonic; Mercedes Aemilia Scullion & her Da; Bernadette Andrews; Roberta Werner; James Faddoul; Herbert Hastings; Lynda Arth; The Bartko Family; Vicki Gannon; Lydia Caroline Milligan; Ellen Burch; Barbara Waitkus; Rob Geszler; Betty Logue; Evan; Janice Thomas; Mary Burich; Michael Coyne; McKayla Coyne; Tom Seltel; John Keys; Mary Mertus; Leslie Ann Kosenta; Greg Harrison; Carol Brown.

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FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

First Friday Adoration, March 6, 2026

**Mass 9:00 AM; Adoration 10AM-5PM;
Benediction 5:00 PM**

Two guardians are needed each hour between 10:00AM-5:00PM. Please call the Parish Office to sign-up.

First Saturday, March 7, 2026

8:00AM Mass; Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confession.

LENT SCHEDULE 2026

PARISH MISSION

March 3, 11 & 18 at 7:00PM in the Church

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday in Lent at 7:00PM in the Church

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday, March 6 at 7:00PM

DIOCESAN EVENING OF CONFESSION

Wednesday, March 4th from 5:00-8:00PM

LENTEN FISH FRYS IN DEMPSEY HALL

February 27 and March 6, 13 & 20 from 4:00-7:00PM

*For members of the Latin Catholic Church, the norms on fasting are obligatory from age 18 until age 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Latin Catholic Church from age 14 onwards.

The Great St. Bernadette Parish Lenten Fish Fry is back and continues each Friday through March 20. The Fish Fry is held in Dempsey Hall with hours of operation from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Our Fish Fry offerings include a fried perch dinner (\$21), fried or baked cod dinner (\$18), kid meal options (\$6-\$8) and a variety of a la carte items including fried butterfly shrimp, pierogies, clam chowder and much more. We offer both eat in and carry out options which can be ordered in advance via the parish website, www.saintbernadetteparish.org, at the Parish Office with cash or check or in person at the fish fry. Our full menu can also be viewed via QR code below. What a great opportunity to spend time with your family, fellow parishioners and neighbors with great food and fellowship.



The Great St. Bernadette Fish Fry Needs Your Help!

We can't do it without you! Volunteer sign-ups are now open on the parish website under 'Quick Links' or by snapping the QR code below with your phone.



OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Please keep in your prayers Jill Prestigomo and Nathaniel Strader who will enter the Order of the Elect. They will be presented to our Bishop this Sunday along with all adults who are preparing for baptism at the Easter Vigil.

Also keep in your prayers Mr. Stone Cash and Mr. Ian Leister who are candidates for full communion in the church. They are preparing to receive Confirmation and Holy Eucharist this Easter Vigil.

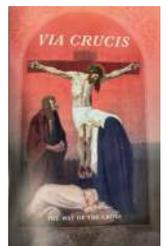
Although many of us look upon Lent as a time for our personal renewal, it is first and foremost a time to join with those who are to be baptized. In your prayers, fasting and giving of alms, please keep Jill, Nate, Stone and Ian in your prayers. May their example of desiring to be more closely united to Christ be an inspiration and a cause for our own renewal during these forty days of Lent and 50 days of Easter.

Easter OCTAVE
FAMILY CELEBRATION
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Parish Family Ministries is looking to form a team to help plan and host an Easter family celebration. If you're interested in helping with this joyful parish event, please contact Maria at the parish office or at mnicaise@stbern.net.

Sign-up for the free myParish App

Once you have signed up, select the tile "Stations" and then click the Via Crucis Stations of the Cross will appear. This will help you grow deeper in your faith life as you journey with Christ through His passion and death.



St. Bernadette Parish 2026 Mission

To Welcome...To See...To Rise

March 3	Tuesday	7:00 pm
March 11	Wednesday	7:00 pm
March 18	Wednesday	7:00 pm

To Welcome Both Friends and Strangers

The Woman at the Well

Tuesday, March 3rd

Presenter: Rev. Stephen Moran,
Pastor, Immaculate Conception Parish, Wooster



To See Beyond What Eyes Reveal

The Man Born Blind

Wednesday, March 11th

Presenter: Sister Mary McCormick, O.S.U.
Professor/Academic Dean, St. Mary

To Rise from Death to New Life

Lazarus and the Tomb

Wednesday, March 18th

Presenter: Rev. Peter Coletti,
Pastor, St. Eugene, Cuyahoga Falls



**St. Bernadette School to Host 7th Shave Event to Raise Money
for Childhood Cancer Research on March 16, 2026**

St. Bernadette Bulldogs Brave the Buzz 7

The St. Baldrick's Foundation, a volunteer-driven organization dedicated to raising money for children's cancer research, will host one of its signature head-shaving events at: **ST. BERNADETTE SCHOOL** on Monday, March 16, 2026, where more than 100 girls, boys, men, and women will brave the shave in solidarity with kids with cancer and raise money to Conquer Childhood Cancers! The event will be held from 9:00 –11:00. Our 7th St. Baldrick's event "St. Bernadette Bulldogs Brave the Buzz 7" is being held in memory of our hero and friend, Michael Orban, who was a beloved student here at St. Bernadette. Twelve years ago, Michael won his victory in heaven on May 1, 2014 at the age of 9. Please help us to honor Michael and all the brave children who show their strength and heroism daily.

You can join us! We need your help to reach our \$75,000 goal! **Simply donate to Fr. Joe and Deacon Jeff's CLERGY TEAM fundraising page. They have both agreed to shave their heads if they can reach their fundraising goal of \$15,000. Please help us get Fr. Joe and Deacon Jeff up on the big stage on March 16th, while at the same time helping us raise funds for much needed childhood cancer research.**

Visit the Clergy Team's St. Baldrick's page at <https://www.stbaldricks.org/teams/mypage/142047/2026> or use the QR code below, call our school office at 440-734-7717, or contact msanders@stbern.net. Posters with more information and **paper donation forms are also available in the church foyers**. Fundraising paper charms will also be sold in the church foyers after some Masses.



You can join us to be heroes for kids with cancer and help the biggest non-government funder of childhood cancer research grants do more to speed up the search for cures. Whether you decide to join us by signing up yourself, sharing our information, or making a donation, please help us to give kids with cancer the long, healthy lives they deserve. Thank you for your help and consideration!



Angel Scholarship Fund The Angel Scholarship Fund (ASF) is a State of Ohio approved Scholarship Granting Organization. Donors to ASF may be eligible for a 100% tax credit on their State of Ohio income tax return for the year the contribution is made. The maximum credit amount is \$750 per individual; married couples that file a joint return can each claim this credit if both spouses make eligible donations (\$1,500 total). **Don't miss out! Ohio taxpayers have until April 15, DEADLINE YEAR* to make a donation that is eligible for a TAX YEAR** state tax credit.** There are multiple ways to donate at: <https://www.catholiccommunity.org/give/catholic-education/angel-scholarship-fund>.



Please email asfinfo@catholiccommunity.org or call 216-902-1312 with any questions.

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting monetary donations after Masses on February 21 & 22 for the St. Stephen Parish Food Pantry. The St. Stephen Food Pantry serves more than 1,500 families each year in our inner city community, providing essential groceries and hope to neighbors facing food insecurity. Your generous donation—of any amount—helps ensure that children, seniors, and struggling families have reliable access to nutritious meals. Together, we can make a meaningful difference and keep our community strong and cared for. Donations can be made online using the QR Code. **Checks made payable to: Knights of Columbus #16376** may be dropped off at the Parish Office.



Growing Through Grief The St. Ladislav Bereavement Group is designed to help individuals navigate the grieving process after the loss of a loved one. Beginning February 18th we will offer Growing Through Grief, a weekly program that provides a compassionate and supportive environment allowing participants to share their experiences, receive emotional support, and grow through their grief. **Note: Sessions will be held in the Community Room of St. Bernadette Church at 1:00PM.** Register at either St. Ladislav or St. Bernadette Parish Office. Questions? St. Ladislav Parish Office at 440-835-2300 or email pdubois@stlads.org or Denise at dfeyes@stbern.net/440-734-1300.

Feb 25	The Grief Shield	March 25	Coping & Skills
March 4	The Story	April 1	The Story Retold
March 11	The Stages	April 8	Strength & Solace
March 18	Shared Emotions		

Our coat closet is still open!

Sweatpants or regular pants, hoodies, socks, gloves and warm “watch” hats and of course warm winter coats.



Please, **NO** other clothing other than these items! The coats and the above clothing will protect against the Cleveland weather and the vicious winds off Lake Erie. Please place items in the ‘Our Daily Bread’ closet in the back of the church. Thank you for your support!



The next Baptism Class will be held on Sunday, March 15, 2026 at 12:00PM in the Community Room in the church. Call the Parish Office to register.

Christ Present in Action Committee Sandwich Making
We start our activity at 1:30PM in Dempsey Hall. Feel free to bring sandwiches from home noting their contents.
Our next sandwich making days are February 25th and March 11th.

PASTORAL STAFF:

Rev. Philip G. Racco, *Pastor*
Rev. Joseph D. Menkhaus, *Parochial Vicar*
Deacon Joseph Ho, *Transitional Deacon*
Deacon Jeff Stutzman
Mary Egan, *Financial Manager/Institutional Manager*
Mary Beth Sullivan, *School Principal*
Lane Forthofer, *Assistant Principal*
Sister Donna Marie Bradesca, O.S.U., *Pastoral Associate*
Denise Feyes, *CARE Ministry/Bereavement*
Elizabeth Hajduk, *PSR Principal*
Brook Benedict, *Director of Music Ministries*
Maria Nicaise, *Associate for Parish Family Ministries*

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday – Friday
9:00AM to 4:30PM
Saturday: 9:00AM to 2:00PM
Closed Monday – Friday: 12:30-1:00PM

MASS SCHEDULE:

Sunday Vigil: Saturday, 4:00PM
Sunday: 8:30AM & 10:30AM
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:00AM
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 8:00AM
Livestream: Daily Mass & Sunday’s at 10:30AM

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Winter Schedule: Saturday, October through March:
3:00 – 3:45PM
Summer Schedule: Saturday, April through September:
4:00-4:45PM

*Confessions may also be arranged by an appointment with a priest.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM: Please contact the Parish Office to schedule a Baptism. Parents are required to attend a Pre-Baptismal class. Arrangements to be made at the Parish Office.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Contact the Parish Office to make arrangements at least **six months** before intended date.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Monday at 12:00PM. Please send articles to emorris@stbern.net.

Parish Office: 440-734-1300 **School:** 440-734-7717
Parish Web Site: www.saintbernadetteparish.org

Find us on Facebook & Instagram!



Mission Statement

As parishioners of St. Bernadette, we commit ourselves to refresh our participation of Liturgy through attentive listening to God’s Word, in raising our voices in prayer and song, and in reverent reception of the Body and Blood of Christ. We pledge to work for justice for those inside and outside of our boundaries and to be instruments of healing in our families and in our community.



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