



SAINT BERNADETTE OF LOURDES PARISH
"WHERE MIRACLES HAPPEN"

1035 TURNER AVENUE † DREXEL HILL PA 19026
RECTORY: (610)789-7676 † FAX: (610)789-9539 † SCHOOL: (610)449-5184
WWW.STBL.ORG

MARCH 29, 2020 — FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MASSES

SATURDAY VIGIL: 4:30PM

SUNDAY: 9:00AM AND 11:00AM

WEEKDAY MASS

MONDAY—FRIDAY 8:30AM

HOLY DAY MASSES

TIMES ANNOUNCED IN SUNDAY BULLETIN

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 3:30PM — 4:15PM

Parochial Administrator
Rev. Michael J. Saban (Ext. 104)
Resident
Rev. Hugh J. Dougherty

Permanent Deacons
Deacon Thomas P. Fitzpatrick
Deacon Francis B. Burke, Retired

Director of Religious Education
Marykate Murphy (Ext. 212)
School Principal
Mrs. Joanne Montie
Parish Business Manager
Robert J. Helmig (Ext. 103)
Administrative Secretary
Helen V. Kraus (ext. 101)
Parish Music Coordinator
Dorothy Toomey



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

As we enter this final week before Holy Week the narrative of Jesus' life on earth builds to a climax. In the Gospels of the last two weeks, Jesus gave water to those who thirsted and light to those who could not see. Water and light are essentials of life. Today we hear Jesus giving life itself to someone who has died. The giver of water and light is also the giver of life itself. Let us thank God for the gift of our Savior as we prepare for the final two weeks of Lent.

Parish Information

NEW FAMILIES

Welcome to St. Bernadette Parish! To register in the parish, please email Deacon Tom Fitzpatrick at deacontom@stbl.org. He will get back to you to arrange a convenient time to meet with him to register. We are eager to greet new members of our parish community and look forward to meeting you.

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

The rectory office hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00am to noon and 1:00pm to 5:00pm. **During the summer the rectory will close at 3:00pm on Fridays.** Items for the Sunday newsletter must be at the rectory by Monday at noon for publication the following Sunday.

BAPTISMS

Baptisms are held at 12 noon on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Parents must attend a Pre-Jordan class held in the Wright Center at 12 noon on the first Sunday of every other month (please refer to the bulletin for exact dates). Registration for the class is required. In order to arrange for a baptism, the parents must be active members of the parish for six months. To register, please call the rectory office at 610/789-7676. Godparents should be practicing Catholics, confirmed and at least 16 years of age. If not from this parish, sponsors must have a letter of eligibility from their parish stating that they have been actively participating for six months. St. Bernadette Parishioners must be registered and actively participating for six months to receive a letter of eligibility.

MARRIAGES

We request that couples contemplating marriage call the rectory to make an appointment with the priest. At this initial interview, the date and time of your request will be recorded and you will receive a copy of the Parish Wedding Guidelines.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK/COMMUNION CALLS

A priest will administer Holy Communion to parishioners who are unable to come to Church. If you desire, Eucharistic Ministers can bring Communion each week. Please contact the Rectory to be placed on our Sick List. Parishioners who are to undergo serious surgery at a hospital are encouraged to make an appointment at the Rectory before going to the hospital.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

St. Bernadette School offers sessions for Pre-School and Kindergarten and conducts full-time classes from first through eighth grades. PREP classes are held in the parish school for all students attending public school. PREP classes are held on Monday evenings at 6:45pm. Adults seeking religious instruction should call Marykate Murphy, Director of Religious Education at (610) 789-7676 ext. 212. The RCIA Program begins in October.

SAINT BERNADETTE PARISH ON FACEBOOK

We can be found at "Saint Bernadette of Lourdes Parish". Check out the page and "like" us to keep up with the latest parish news.

VISITS TO THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT can be made in the Chapel

RECITATION OF THE ROSARY takes place every Monday through Thursday at 8:00am in the church and on Wednesday evenings along with the Miraculous Medal Novena at 7:00pm in the Chapel.

UNITED HEARTS OF JESUS AND MARY meet every Monday evening at 7pm in the Chapel.

NOVENA TO ST. LEONIE AVIAT takes place every Tuesday at 7:00pm in the Chapel.

FLAME OF LOVE PRAYER CENACLE takes place every Thursday at 7:00pm in the Chapel.

RESPECT LIFE GROUP information can be obtained by calling Doris Hurd at 610-789-2708.

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP meets in the chapel every Tuesday at 7:30pm.

MUSIC MINISTRY is open to all who wish to share their time and talent in praise and thanksgiving to God – call Dottie Toomey at 610/449-4013 for rehearsal times.

ST. BERNADETTE MARTHAS AND A JOSEPH are a dedicated group who clean the church every Thursday after the 8:30am Mass; new volunteers always welcome—call Johanna Ryan at 484-988-2414.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Ave Maria Council #4063 serve St Bernadette Parish invites interested men 18 years of age and older to join in fraternity and the service to our parish and greater community; contact amdhillkofc@gmail.com

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meetings are held every Thursday at 9:30am in O'Brien Hall.

ST. JOHN'S HOSPICE Casseroles to feed the homeless sponsored by St. John's Hospice in Philadelphia are collected in O'Brien Hall before the weekend Masses that precede the first Thursday of the month. Casserole pans are available in the main entrance of church. Call Mary at 610/789-6206.

FOOD PANTRY

Non-perishable food items for the Food Pantry can be placed in bags and left in the vestibules of church. Any monetary donations or donations of gift cards should be sent to Fr. Saban. If you have a question, call the Food Pantry at 610-789-7676 ext. 213.

Mass  *for the*
Intentions *Week*

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Saturday, March 28

4:30pm Deceased of Dalton & Farrelly Families

Sunday, March 29

9:00am Matthew Sweeney

11:00am Special Intention - Molly

Monday, March 30

8:30am Margaret Smith & Beatrice Walker

Tuesday, March 31

8:30am Howard Walker

Wednesday, April 1

8:30am Margaret "Kelly" Walker (7th Anniv.)

Thursday, April 2

8:30am Special Intention

Friday, April 3

8:30am Margaret Tobin

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Saturday, April 4

4:30pm Arthur & Marie DeLuca

Sunday, April 5

7:00am **Regina Ronayne - moved to Monday, April 20**

9:00am Joseph & Rose Guerrieri

11:00am Robert W. McKenna (5th Anniv.)

Masses will be said privately at the same Mass time as the intention. Masses can be viewed online on the parish website at www.stbl.org



SYMPATHIES AND PRAYERS

We extend our sympathies and prayers to the families and friends of Isabel Mina and Theodore Vassallo who were recently buried from our church.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How can I free myself from the burial bands in my life? How can I help others release their own?



LET US PRAY TOGETHER

With the worldwide outbreak of the coronavirus, we are confronted once more with the fragility of our lives, and again we are reminded of our common humanity — that we are all one family under God. God does not abandon us, he goes with us even now in this time of trial and testing.

In this moment, it is important for us to anchor our hearts in the hope that we have in Jesus Christ. Now is the time to intensify our prayers and sacrifices for the love of God and the love of our neighbor. Let us draw closer to one another in our love for him, and rediscover the things that truly matter in our lives.

United with our Holy Father Pope Francis, let us pray in solidarity for our brothers and sisters here and around the world who are sick. Let us pray for those who have lost loved ones to this virus. May God console them and grant them peace.

We pray also for doctors, nurses, and caregivers, for public health officials and all civic leaders. In this time of need, let us seek together the maternal intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and I share this prayer with you:

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas, we fly to you today as your beloved children. We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones, the protection of your holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness. For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance. Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, wipe away their tears and help them to trust. In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind. Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.

We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, health of the sick and cause of our joy. Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms, help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.



This week's readings are:

First Reading - Ezekiel 37:12-14

Second Reading - Romans 8:8-11

Gospel - John 11:1-45

Next week's readings will be:

First Reading - Isaiah 50:4-7

Second Reading - Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel - Matthew 26:14-27:66

FROM THE PASTOR

GREETINGS AND SALUTATIONS!

Here we all are, hunkered down, surrounded by walls of bootleg toilet paper, recycled paper towels and old movies.

Life is slowly being reduced and diminished to the essentials. Even here at the parish our life has changed. The hours are reduced. The place is quieter. The thing that remains the same is the bills and our reduced payroll still must be met. Thank you to all who dropped off envelopes or contributed on-line. It helps keep us sustainable. But, we still are drastically short from our usual amount of income. Please keep us in mind — Gotta keep the lights on. Funerals still happen. Church is open for prayer at different times. We are still here!

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE . . . Keep supporting your parish!

FINANCIAL FACTS

Sunday, March 22, 2020

Weekly: \$6,239 vs Target of \$15,000 (a)
\$4,016 Collection + \$2,223 Parish Giving

Sunday, March 24, 2019

Weekly: \$11,433 vs Target of \$15,000 (a)
\$9,837 Collection + \$1,596 Parish Giving

(a) Weekly target necessary to fund Parish operating expenses and avoid operating deficit.

As followers of Christ Jesus, we are reminded that all things including life itself are a gift from God. What matters to God is not the gift, but the giver. Giving is God's invitation to a way of life. It helps us to overcome our selfishness and love of things. What we do with what we have been given is a sign to God and to the world of the depth and meaning of our commitment. By recalling that all is gift, we therefore must strive to be generous with the financial gifts, both great and small, that God has bestowed upon us.

St. Bernadette Parish has enlisted *Parish Giving* to provide its parishioners and supporters with the opportunity to use Electronic Funds Transfer as an alternative method for giving. **The Program is free of charge for parishioners.** More information about Parish Giving is available on our Parish web site: www.stbl.org on the "Parish Giving" page.



2020 LENTEN SCHEDULE

Mass Schedule

Monday-Friday 8:30am
Masses can be viewed online on the parish website at www.stbl.org

United Hearts of Jesus and Mary

Mondays 7:00pm in the Chapel

Novena to St. Leonie Aviat

Tuesdays 7:00pm in the Chapel

Men's Prayer Group

Tuesdays 7:30pm in the Chapel

Rosary and Miraculous Medal Novena

Wednesdays 7:00pm in the Chapel

Flame of Love Prayer Cenacle

Thursdays 7:00pm in the Chapel

Stations of the Cross

Thursdays 7:00pm in Church followed by Confessions until 8:00pm

Confessions

Thursdays Following Stations of the Cross at 7pm
Saturdays 3:30pm - 4:15pm (February 29 - April 4)
(no Confessions Holy Saturday, April 11)

Operation Rice Bowl

This form of family prayer and sacrifice enables Catholic Relief Services to assist the poor in many parts of the world. **Your envelopes for Operation Rice Bowl can be put in the regular collection on Palm Sunday, April 5.**

Masses will be said privately at the same Mass time as the intention. Masses can be viewed online on the parish website at www.stbl.org



PALM SUNDAY

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday. Since all Masses are being said privately, there will be a box with the Sunday bulletins and some palm outside the main entrance to church on Turner Avenue.

All Masses will be live-streamed on the parish website and the bulletins can also be found on the website.



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

“CGI.” For movie makers and fans, the letters stand for “Computer Generated Imagery.” That encompasses those special visual effects created using computer software. For example, those vast crowds or great armies need not be made of paid “extras” any more. Besides movies, this process is used to contribute also to images in art, printed media, video games, TV programs, shorts, commercials, videos, and simulators. “The evolution of CGI led to the emergence of virtual cinematography in the 1990s where runs of the simulated camera are not constrained by the laws of physics.”

I want to point out that along with the cost benefits of this technology comes a distrust of what we see via all kinds of screens aligns with the abundance of lies all around us in the real world. We get lied to by some of our government officials and even by some of our own bishops.

All this is the cultural context in which we ponder the ancient gospel story of the raising of Lazarus. It was up 'til then the most stupendous miracle Our Lord Jesus worked. But even the Gospels, the very literal Word of God, can become suspect in the cynical air in which we breathe these days. It is good to recall some facts included in this episode by St. John to convince anyone with an open mind of the truth of what he writes. Long long before there was CGI.

First we note how Jesus orders a time lag between the death of Lazarus and His arrival at the tomb, so that there can be no mistake that Lazarus was indeed dead and buried. “Lazarus was not in a coma. He had been dead for a long enough time (four days) for the rabbinic authorities would have said that the soul had left the vicinity of the body and decay would have definitely set in.” As we have all seen enough cops and criminals movies and TV shows to know how awful the stink of decay must be as the characters react to it. Practical St. Martha had told Jesus “There will be a bad smell Lord. He has been buried four days.”

Secondly, we find Jesus “glad” of the death for His disciples’ sake because this will provide a motive for the disciples’ belief in Him.

Thirdly, the purpose of the miracle was to make “the glory of God the Father” manifest so that the people will believe Jesus was sent by Him.” In other words, Jesus did not do this for the sake of His own glory and fame.

All through Lent we have had much encouragement as believers. Early on we had the Transfiguration; then His interaction with a Samaritan woman at the well; the healing of a man born blind. And now this incomparable raising of a dead man to life. As a result, we know for sure that our faith in Christ is not in vain. We follow the most honest Person who ever walked on this planet. Lenten penance and prayer help to make our amends for having offended Him by our sins.

Yes at times all of us have moments of doubt. Especially when life presents us with unwelcome surprises and crises. But then it is that we can help ourselves by remembering the father of that boy who had been possessed and who brought his son to Jesus. When Jesus extolled his faith, the same father responded, “Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief.” As a weak man myself, it’s one of my favorite prayers.

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson



The St. Bernadette Scrip program is offered through Shop with Scrip. Scrip is the parish based program where you purchase gift cards to your favorite stores and receive a rebate that can be redeemed in various ways: apply towards school tuition, PREP, high school tuition or donate to the parish.

The purpose of the program is to help St. Bernadette families earn cash back on everyday purchases and support the parish. Local grocery/retail gift cards available include: Giant, ACME, Shop Rite, Colonial Village, Swiss Farms, Freddy's, Kohl's, Sam's Boardwalk Style Pizza and JD McGillicuddy's.

Scrip is available for purchase on Monday nights in the school gym from 6:30- 7:30 pm & Friday mornings from 8:00 - 9:00 am in the school lobby, with the exception of first Friday mass dates. To enroll in the program, please contact the scrip coordinator, at scrip4bernies@gmail.com or Susan Coyne at 610-405-6439.



The St Bernadette Easter Food Drive will end next Sunday, April 5. Due to the cancelations of all Masses, **all donations should be left in the white cooler outside the door next to the Wright Center no later than April 5, Palm Sunday.** Any monetary items or gift cards should be sent to the Rectory labeled Easter Food Drive.

Items needed are: Hams of all types, cereal, instant oatmeal, pancake mix, granola bars, pop tarts, peanut butter and jelly, instant side dishes, instant mashed potatoes, pasta and sauce, rice, noodles, canned soups, vegetables, fruit, brownie mix, condiments, cooking oil, juices, cookies, crackers, snacks, nuts of all kinds, boxed low sodium broths, canned tuna, beans of all kinds, Chef Boyardee, coffee, tea, sugar, parmalot milk, microwave food items, diapers any size, baby wipes, baby food, baby formula, dry and wet pet food, toilet paper, shampoo, conditioner, soap, lotion, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, shaving cream, deodorant, cleaning products, and Clorox wipes.



WILL YOU HELP?

We are looking for men and/or women to help us clean the church on Wednesday mornings following the 8:30am Mass (when you are available). No experience is required — just a willingness to keep our parish church clean and welcoming for those who come here to worship. If you have any questions or wish to join us, please call Johanna Ryan at 484-988-2414.



WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Fred Amatucci, Joseph Anthony, Lisa Pfaff Bevilacqua, Pamela Bower, Joseph Bradley, Marie Bree, Theresa Caputo, Michael Carroll, Robert & Joanne Christopher, Ron Christopher, Elaine Cole, Dennis Conway, Dave Costella, Barbara Cunningham, Molly Curtis, Vinnie D'Ambrosio, Ann Davis, Laurel Dee, Michael DeEmilio, Tom and Peggy Dever, Frances Diegman, Christopher DiMarto, Gabriella DiSaverio, Julia Donohue, Darrin Dougherty, Dawn Dougherty, Michael Dougherty, James Drumm, Jeff Dudley, Bernie Dupras, Jason Durkee, Trevor Durkin, Matthew Dwyer, Marie Feola, Patrick Flanigan, Emily Flynn, Jerry Flynn, Joe Flynn, Sr. Rose Foulk, Maggie Franz, Maureen Gibbons, Tom Glancey, Christine Grosso, Joan Grycewicz, Rachel Hagan, Christian Hampton, Kim Hayman, Lizzy Hennessy, Pat Henningsen, Michael Hogan, Judith Holmes, Baby Lila Holmes, Adrian Hughes, Christopher Hunt, Frank Iacone, John Ingle, Anthony Jones, Ashley Juliano, David Kasella, Linda King, Tommy Lake, Catherine Lavan, Wilmer Lehman, Steven Little, Betsy Long, Michele Malolie, Dalton Martin, Kathy Martin, James Maynard, Neil McClelland, Helene McCole, Karen McIlvaine, Sean McKeefery, Baby Rosie McKenna, Marianne McLaughlin, Megan McLean, Theresa Merlini, Jerry Misterman, Sue Mitchell, Bridget Morris, Charlie Morris, Dan Murphy, Kathleen Murtaugh, Matthew Nicholas, Nancy Nicholas, Sydney Nihill, Roman O'Brien, Sr. Eleanor O'Connell, SJ, Carmen Pettin, Pearl Polto, Sharon Pozzuolo, Christopher Rafferty, Michele Re, Dan Rock, Mimi & Rich Rogge, Anna Rokos, Marie Seiler, Michael Shane, Bridget Sharpe, Amy Sheeler, Marion Sloan, Rob Smith, Kristin Sorrentino, Carmella Spano, Emily Tong, Mario Turchiarolo, Dan Visintin, Annie Walker, Lily Walker, Lori Zytkonicz and those suffering from serious illnesses & incurable diseases.

HOSPITAL SICK CALLS

Emergency sick calls may be made to the rectory at any time. If surgery or admission to the hospital is scheduled, please call the rectory ahead of time to make arrangements to receive the Sacrament of the Sick. Due to the privacy act, if you are in the hospital and wish to see a priest while you are there, you must register as a Catholic when admitted or make sure a family member does so for you to assure a visit by a priest or Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist.



PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the Power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THESE SAINTS?

ST. FRANCIS OF PAOLA

Feast Day — April 2



Francis was born at Paola, Italy and was educated at the Franciscan friary of San Marco there, and when fifteen became a hermit near Paola. In 1436, he and two companions began a community that is considered the foundation of the Minim Friars. He built a monastery where he had led his eremitical life some fifteen years later and set a Rule for his followers emphasizing penance, charity, and humility, and added to the three monastic vows, one of fasting and abstinence from meat; he also wrote a rule for tertiaries and nuns. He was credited with many miracles and had the gifts of prophesy and insight into men's hearts. The Order was approved by Pope Sixtus IV in 1474 with the name Hermits of St. Francis of Assisi (changed to Minim Friars in 1492). Francis established foundations in southern Italy and Sicily, and his fame was such that at the request of dying King Louis XI of France, Pope Sixtus II ordered him to France, as the King felt he could be cured by Francis. He was not, but was so comforted that Louis' son Charles VIII, became Francis' friend and endowed several monasteries for the Minims. Francis spent the rest of his life at the monastery of Plessis, France, which Charles built for him. Francis died there on April 2nd and was canonized in 1519.

ST. ISIDORE

Feast Day — April 4



Isidore was literally born into a family of saints in sixth century Spain. Two of his brothers, Leander and Fulgentius, and one of his sisters, Florentina, are revered as saints in Spain. It was also a family of leaders and strong minds with Leander and Fulgentius serving as bishops and Florentina as abbess. This didn't make life easier for Isidore. One day, the young boy couldn't take any more. Frustrated by his inability to learn as fast as his brother wanted and hurt by his brother's treatment, Isidore ran away. But though he could escape his brother's hand and words, he couldn't escape his own feeling of failure and rejection. When he finally let the outside world catch his attention, he noticed water dripping on the rock near where he sat. The drops of water that fell repeatedly carried no force and seemed to have no effect on the solid stone. And yet he saw that over time, the water drops had worn holes in the rock. Isidore realized that if he kept working at his studies, his seemingly small efforts would eventually pay off in great learning. When he returned home, however, his brother in exasperation confined him to a cell (probably in a monastery) to complete his studies, not believing that he wouldn't run away again. Either there must have been a loving side to this relationship or Isidore was remarkably forgiving even for a saint, because later he would work side by side with his brother and after Leander's death, Isidore would complete many of the projects he began including a missal and breviary. His love of learning made him promote the establishment of a seminary in every diocese of Spain. In a unique move, he made sure that all branches of knowledge including the arts and medicine were taught in the seminaries. He lived until almost 80. As he was dying his house was filled with crowds of poor he was giving aid and alms to. One of his last acts was to give all his possessions to the poor.