

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

APRIL 19, 2020 — SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)

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

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



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)

We celebrate God's mercy today — that gift of compassionate forgiveness that is offered to all. For generations people had turned away from God, failing to respect the law or the prophets. Yet God sent us the Son, who took upon himself the sins of the world in order to redeem us all. Let our presence here today be a sign of our gratitude as we lift up our heart and voices to the author of divine mercy.

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 for the
Week*

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Saturday, April 18

4:30pm Lawrence Farnese

Sunday, April 19

7:00am **Deacon Frank Burke (moved to May 21)**

9:00am Sarah Saulino

11:00am Stephanie Gifford (15th Anniv.)

Monday, April 20

8:30am Regina Ronayne

Tuesday, April 21

8:30am Elaine Trout (9th Anniv.)

Wednesday, April 22

8:30am Mary C. Coyle & Family

Thursday, April 23

8:30am Deacon Frank Burke

Friday, April 24

8:30am James & Eleanor Mullen

Third Sunday of Easter

Saturday, April 25

4:30pm Regina M. Dengel

Sunday, April 26

7:00am **Regina Ronayne (moved to May 4)**

9:00am Frank & Gertrude Erdlen

11:00am Kenneth Bohs

**All Masses will be private
but will be streamed online at
www.stbl.org**



FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

This week's readings are:

First Reading - Acts of the Apostles 2:42-47

Second Reading - 1 Peter 1:3-9

Gospel - John 20:19-31

Next week's readings will be:

First Reading - Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 22-23

Second Reading - 1 Peter 1:17-21

Gospel - Luke 24:13-35



**ST. FAUSTINA KOWALSKA
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
APRIL 19**

On September 13, 1935, while Faustina was in Vilnius, she wrote of a vision of Jesus about the chaplet in her diary. Faustina stated that Jesus asked her to pray the chaplet and instruct others to do so. Although the chaplet is said on beads like the Rosary, it is about a third of the length of the Rosary, and unlike the Rosary that has evolved over the years, the form and structure of the chaplet has remained unchanged since Faustina attributed it to a message from Jesus.

According to Faustina's visions, written in her diary, the chaplet's prayers for mercy are threefold: to obtain mercy, to trust in Christ's mercy, and to show mercy to others. Faustina wrote that Jesus promised that all who recite this chaplet at the hour of death or in the presence of the dying will receive great mercy. She wrote that Jesus said: "...When they say this Chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying not as the just judge but as the Merciful Savior."

Faustina stated that Jesus also promised that anything can be obtained with this prayer if it is compatible with His will. In her diary Faustina recounted a vision on September 13, 1935 in which she saw an angel sent to a city to destroy it. Faustina began to pray for God's mercy on the city and felt the strong presence of the Holy Trinity. After she prayed the internally instructed prayers, the angel was powerless to harm the city. In subsequent visions, Faustina learned that the prayers she spoke were to be taught to all the people of the world.

According to Roman Catholic tradition, the chaplet may be said at any time, but it is said especially on Divine Mercy Sunday and Fridays at 3:00 PM. The Chaplet is prayed daily at the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. In the Philippines, the opening portion of the chaplet known as the "3 O'Clock Habit" (Filipino: Pangalangin Para Sa Ika-tatlo Ng Hapon) is broadcast on radio stations and television networks daily since June 16, 1985 at 3:00 in the Afternoon. In 2000, Pope John Paul II ordained the Sunday after Easter Divine Mercy Sunday, where Roman Catholics remember the institution of the Sacrament of Penance. The hour Jesus died by crucifixion, 3:00 PM (15:00), is called the Hour of Mercy. In a novena, the chaplet is usually said each of the nine days from Good Friday to Divine Mercy Sunday.

Pope John Paul II was instrumental in the formal establishment of the Divine Mercy devotion and acknowledged the efforts of the Marian Fathers in its promotion in a Papal Blessing in 2001, the 70th anniversary of the revelation of the Divine Mercy Message and Devotion. Although the prayers said on the beads of the rosary chain share specific similarities between the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and the Chaplet of Holy Wounds, these are distinct chaplets and were introduced over 20 years apart, one in Poland, the other in France.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

**Can I identify with Doubting Thomas, at times unsure of my faith?
In what ways has Jesus given me peace to overcome the anxieties in my life?**

FINANCIAL FACTS

Sunday, April 5, 2020

Weekly: \$13,353 vs Target of \$15,000 (a)
\$9,396 Collection + \$3,957 Parish Giving

Easter 2020 (To Date)

Easter: \$9,052
Operation Rice Bowl: \$680
Holy Places in Palestine: \$505

Easter 2019

Easter: \$29,462
Operation Rice Bowl: \$1,424
Holy Places in Palestine: \$1,120

(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. Thank you for your support and your generosity to God and to St. Bernadette Parish.

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.

FROM THE PASTOR

JUST A NOTE!!

Please! Please! Please! Remember your Easter envelopes! Fill them! St. Bernadette is still here! Drop it off at the rectory mail box (which is locked) or mail it in! Do not forget us! Please!

CHURCH HOURS

Until we are able to attend Mass together, the church will be open for private prayer and devotions according to the following schedule:

Saturday

9am — 4:15pm (church closed for Mass)

Sunday

12noon — 3pm (church closed for Masses)

Monday through Friday

9am — 5pm (church closed for Mass)

**Let us be united in prayer so that we can
come back together soon!**



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.



WE PRAY FOR THE SICK - Fred Amattucci, 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

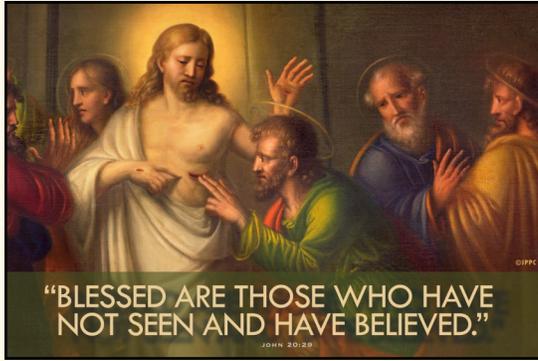
Cunningham, Molly Curtis, Vinnie D'Ambrosio, Ann Davis, Laurel Dee, Michael DeEmilio, Tom and Peggy Dever, Frances Diegnan, Christopher DiMarto, Gabriella DiSaverio, Julia Donohue, Darrin Dougherty, Dawn Dougherty, Michael Dougherty, James Drumm, Jeff Dudley, Bernie Dupras, Jason Durkee, Trevor Durkin, 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, Sharon Yost, 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.



SYMPATHIES AN PRAYERS

We extend our sympathies and prayers to the families and friends of Dominic Masciantonio and Regina Weinrich who were recently buried from our church.



THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

How many times have you thought to yourself, or said to others those three little words: “I doubt it”? The subject could be the candidate for the upcoming presidential election; or a claim by an auto dealer that none of the cars on his/her lot have any hidden markups; or the suddenly positive rating a man gives his spouse of her meatloaf. On and on such a list could go, revolving around those three little words.

Doubt can be a good thing if it fosters questions especially of complicated corollaries of our faith. The doubter here is only probing deeper into his/her faith wanting a mature answer. Lingering doubt in matters of revealed faith can be a serious problem if it is not relieved either by the direct answer of a qualified expert or good private research. Our faith has nothing to fear from sound reason.

All of this brings us to the problem of doubt that Saint Thomas had. Unfortunately, his healthy doubts got him a sad nickname that developed into a cliché, that of “Doubting Thomas.” In time, it became a popular description of anyone who questions what we tell them. Thomas represents many people in this cynical era, so in love with science and technology, as to be always wanting tangible proof before believing anything. Add the disregard many have for the supernatural, and you have the general mood of the times. So when the best of the Good News of the Gospel – the Resurrection – is presented to Thomas, his nature kicks in and he reacts: “I’ll never believe it.”

A week after this (I wonder if Thomas’ attitude changed over 7 days) Jesus reappears in His glorified Body. I imagine Him looking a wee bit stern as He calls Thomas over so that the doubter could literally probe the five scars left on that body. But I also picture a gentle smile crosses Jesus’ holy face as Thomas kneels before Him and he makes that profound act of beautiful faith: “My Lord and My God.” I can see Jesus helping Thomas up and then offering him a heartfelt hug. For all my years since ordination I have used Thomas’ words as my own as I elevate the Sacred Host at Mass.

Jesus then offers a mild rebuke to Thomas and to us, followed by one of the most consoling sentences in all of Scripture: “Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.” Talk about Divine Mercy! Here is that very grace poured out an intelligent apostle, whose faith would propel him to preach about Jesus even to the people of far away India! Such great encouragement to us who have not seen but have believed! That blessing of Jesus is itself part of the very same mercy we celebrate on this Divine Mercy Sunday Pope Saint John Paul II fostered this devotion because his own strong faith told him the world needs it.

Allow me to close with a description of a “Peanuts” cartoon. Picture Lucy looking out the window at a steady downpour of rain. “Boy,” she said, “look at that rain. What if it floods the whole world?”

“It will never do that,” Linus replied confidently. In the ninth chapter of Genesis, God promised Noah that that would never happen again, and the sign of the promise is the rainbow.”

“You’ve taken a great load off my mind,” said Lucy with a relieved smile. “Sound theology,” pontificated Linus, “has a way of doing that!”

Well, I for one don’t doubt it.

DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THESE SAINTS?



ST. BERNADETTE OF LOURDES

Feast Day — April 16

Bernadette Soubirous (7 January 1844 – 16 April 1879), also known as **Saint Bernadette of Lourdes**, was the firstborn daughter of a miller from Lourdes, in the department of Hautes-Pyrénées in France, and is best known for experiencing Marian apparitions of a "young lady" who asked for a chapel to be built at the nearby cave-grotto at Massabielle. These apparitions are said to have occurred between 11 February and 16 July 1858, and the woman who appeared to her identified herself as the "Immaculate Conception." Despite initial skepticism from some Catholic Church authorities, Soubirous's claims were eventually declared "worthy of belief" after a canonical investigation, and the Marian apparition became known as Our Lady of Lourdes. Since her death, Soubirous's body has apparently remained internally incorrupt. The Marian shrine at Lourdes went on to become a major pilgrimage site, attracting over five million pilgrims of all denominations each year. On 8 December 1933, Pope Pius XI, declared Soubirous a saint of the Catholic Church. Her feast day, initially specified as 18 February – the day Mary promised to make her happy, not in this life, but in the next – is now observed in most places on the date of her death, 16 April.



ST. ANSELM

Feast Day — April 21

Saint Anselm of Canterbury, also called **Anselm of Aosta** after his birthplace and **Anselm of Bec** after his monastery, was an Italian Benedictine monk, abbot, philosopher and theologian of the Catholic Church, who held the office of Archbishop of Canterbury from 1093 to 1109. After his death, he was canonized as a saint; his feast day is 21 April. As archbishop, he defended the church's interests in England amid the Investiture Controversy. For his resistance to the English kings William II and Henry I, he was exiled twice: once from 1097 to 1100 and then from 1105 to 1107. While in exile, he helped guide the Greek bishops of southern Italy to adopt Roman rites at the Council of Bari. He worked for the primacy of Canterbury over the bishops of York and Wales but, though at his death he appeared to have been successful, Pope Paschal II later reversed himself and restored York's independence.



ST. GEORGE

Feast Day — April 23

Saint George, also **George of Lydda**, was a soldier of Cappadocian Greek origins, member of the Praetorian Guard for Roman emperor Diocletian, who was sentenced to death for refusing to recant his Christian faith. He became one of the most venerated saints and megalomartyrs in Christianity, and he has been especially venerated as a military saint since the Crusades. In hagiography, as one of the Fourteen Holy Helpers and one of the most prominent military saints, he is immortalised in the legend of Saint George and the Dragon. His memorial, Saint George's Day, is traditionally celebrated on 23 April. England, Ethiopia, Georgia, Catalonia, and several other nation states, cities, universities, professions and organisations all claim Saint George as their patron.



ST. FIDELIS

Feast Day — April 24

It is said that a Catholic woman lay concealed near the place of Fidelis' martyrdom as the saint was slain. After the soldiers had left, she came out to assess the incident and found the martyr's eyes open, fixed on the heavens. He was buried by Catholics the next day. The rebels were soon after defeated by the imperial troops, an event which the martyr had foretold them. The Protestant minister who had participated in Fidelis' martyrdom, was converted by this circumstance, made a public abjuration of Calvinism and was received into the Catholic Church. After six months, the martyr's body was found to be incorrupt, but his head and left arm were separated from his body. The body parts were then placed into two reliquaries, one sent to the Cathedral of Coire, at the behest of the bishop, and laid under the High Altar; the other was placed in the Capuchin church at Weltkirchen, Feldkirch, Austria. Saint Fidelis' feast day in the Catholic Church is celebrated on April 24.



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.