



*"Go, therefore,
and make
disciples of
all nations,
baptizing them
in the name
of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the
Holy Spirit,
teaching them
to observe all
that I have
commanded
you."*

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

MAY 17, 2020 — SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

At this time of the year, when flowers are blooming and daylight is lengthening and nature is full of life, it feels as though God's creation has been reborn. During the Easter season we recall that we ourselves have been reborn in baptism. Today's Gospel reminds us that Jesus dwells within us. Not only that, the Holy Spirit is with us, too. Therefore, when we look around, we can see the full flowering of the divine in ourselves, in each other, and in the whole world. Truly, let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

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 Intentions for the Week

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Saturday, May 16

4:30pm Regina M. Dengel

Sunday, May 17

7:00am **Deacon Frank Burke (moved to May 26)**

9:00am Brian DiMario

11:00am Tommy DiEmidio

Monday, May 18 - St. John I

8:30am Deceased of Holley & McConnell Families

Tuesday, May 19

8:30am Regina M. Dengel

Wednesday, May 20 - St. Bernardine of Siena

8:30am Deacon Frank Burke

Thursday, May 21 - Feast of the Ascension

8:30am Deacon Frank Burke

7:00pm Special Intention

Friday, May 22 - St. Rita of Cascia

8:30am Rev. William A. Wright

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Saturday, May 23

4:30pm Michael Marinelli

Sunday, May 24

9:00am Alice McFadden (6th Anniv.)

11:00am Robert & Brian Markley

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 8:5-8, 14-17

Second Reading - 1 Peter 3:15-18

Gospel - John 14:15-21

Next week's readings will be:

First Reading - Acts 1:12-14

Second Reading - 1 Peter 4:13-16

Gospel - Joh 17:1-11a



PARISH COMMUNICATION

We have been working with the Archdiocese to set up a group email program to communicate with our parishioners.

If you wish to find out what's happening in the parish and receive important updates, please go to the link listed below. We ask that you enter **ONE email address per family** since the program we are using has a limit on the number of email addresses we can use.

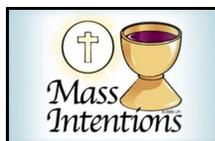
<https://mailchi.mp/stbl/email-list>

This link can also be found on the parish website and on the parish facebook page.



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Thursday, May 21 is the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. Mass will be said privately, but you may view it online at 8:30am and 7:00pm.



2020 MASS BOOK

We will be opening the **2020 Mass Book for June, July and August on Wednesday, May 20.** The rectory will be open from 9am—noon and 1pm—5pm to take your requests.

Under the circumstances, we do ask that you please wear your mask in the rectory and observe social distancing to protect all of us.

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 — 4pm (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!

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

In the second reading, Peter tells his readers that they should “always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope” (1 Peter 3:15). Can I explain to others, “gently and reverently,” why I hope?



GREETINGS!

Life has been 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!

A reminder — As the stress levels increase, do not lash out and say regretful things or do harm. Come over here! The church is open Monday - Friday from 9am - 5pm; Saturday from 9am - 4pm; Sunday from 12noon - 3pm — sit, stand back, cool down. Never make a serious decision in times of stress or anger. It will probably be the worst decision of the year!

Finally, keep watching online — even the funerals, Baptisms — we are still ON! Please help us stay ON!



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. To enroll in the program, please contact the scrip coordinator, at scrip4bernies@gmail.com or Susan Coyne at 610-405-6439.

CONGRATULATIONS . . .



A sincere congratulations to Fr. Michael Saban as he celebrates the 31st anniversary of his ordination on May 20 and to Fr. Hugh Dougherty who celebrates his 51st anniversary on May 17.

We also congratulate Deacon Tom Fitzpatrick on his 13th anniversary in June.



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, Mike Connors, Quinn Connors, 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, Lexi Dunn, 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, Bill McGrath, 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



WELCOME TO THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Maisie James Reilly



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.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

I never thought of myself this way, but soon after my beloved Dad followed my Mom to heaven about a year later, someone of my acquaintance remarked: “Now you are an orphan.” Technically speaking the person was correct, but to hear the word said brought on a sense of lonesomeness I had not foreseen. I had just chalked Dad’s passing at the time as one of those inevitable passages in life. After all, Mom and Dad had been blest to reach their nineties. Their departure for heaven was in one sense timely. All this is not to deny that I miss them both. Nearly twenty years later their absence created holes in my heart that at certain times brings out a tear or two.

These thoughts surfaced as I read the tender statement of Our Lord to His disciples as He tried to prepare them for His death. “I will not leave you orphans,” said He to them. “I will come to you. In a little while the world will no longer see Me, but you will see Me, because I live and you will live.” You have to pause here to remember that Jesus was addressing grown men, some of whose parents may have already passed on. Regardless, you cannot listen to Jesus here and not be touched by His tender outreach, and by extension, to us. It is the same touch we try to offer indirectly to the families and friends who have lost loved ones due to this terrifying virus pandemic.

We can sometimes overlook this appealing quality of tenderness in Our Lord. The world around us endorses a kind of “stiff upper lip” at these times. Not so with the wonderful Person we join the Apostles in calling our “Master.” That virus death toll on our TV screens glosses over the pain each number causes.

All of this brings us right back to the empty tomb we so heartily celebrated some five weeks ago. I know it feels like another time indeed this year. The fact is that Jesus has been raised by His Father. He who once was dead dies no more. And more than that, the wonder of the resurrection puts a stamp of the Father’s approval on all that He said and did while He walked among us on earth. We could say that the Father did not leave His Son an orphan. Nor does He abandon us, even in this terrible time.

I think all of us will remember this past Lent like no other because of Covid-19. Many spiritual lessons have emerged, and will continue to do so as a result of this situation. One of them has to be that God truly has not left us orphans, and He never will. But we have to remember that now more than ever. “I am with you always” said He. What is your response?



did you know?

Scholars note that Catholicism spread largely because of the work of Roman road-builders.

While the exact date of the beginning of the Roman Catholic Church is indeterminable, the Church can trace its origin to Jesus of Nazareth during the period of Roman occupation in early A.D. 30.

The earliest reference to infant baptism was by Irenaeus (130–202) in his work *Against Heresies*.

The word “Christian” was initially a derogatory name. The new religion appealed largely to the urban poor, women, non-citizens, social outcasts, and slaves because the essence of the Gospel was that they did not need money or education to belong to the kingdom.

The Catholic Church has seven sacraments (baptism, penance, confirmation, holy orders, the Eucharist (Holy Communion), matrimony, and anointing of the sick). The word “sacrament” is from the Latin *sacramentum*, or “solemn oath.” Sacraments are symbols that connect the visible and invisible dimensions.

Catholics believe that anyone can baptize in an emergency situation (such as a car wreck). Any person, Catholic or not, can pour the water and say the words. The only requirement is to follow the wishes of the person you are baptizing.

The rosary is a primary signature of catholic devotion. The word “rosary” means “garland of roses.” The rose is one of the flowers used to symbolize the Virgin Mary, and the prayer of the rosary is very closely associated with her.



The cross is an ancient symbol . While the cross is a predominant Catholic symbol, it actually greatly predates Christianity and, is, in fact, one of the most ancient human symbols. It may be seen as the union of divinity (the vertical line) and the world (horizontal line).

Catholic health care institutions serve almost 80 million patients a year in the United States. Catholic hospitals constitute more than 10% of all hospitals in the country and receive about 15% of all hospital admissions.

Catholic hospitals employ almost 750,000 people, about 15% of all hospital employees in the United States. Their total payroll is over \$20 billion.

Catholics rely more on ritual and ceremony than do most other Christian religions. The intent of the rituals is to create an experience in which faith is felt and religion literally comes to life, with God’s presence in the here-and-now world.

Though he never officially took the title during his lifetime, St. Peter, whose original name was Simon, was the first head of the Catholic Church, or the first pope. One of Christ’s 12 apostles, Peter preached throughout Asia Minor (present-day Turkey) before going to Rome, where Emperor Nero crucified him—upside down.

The first Catholic pope to step down was Pontian, who headed the Catholic Church from A.D. 230–235. He was sentenced to hard labor in the Sardinian mineral mines by Emperor Maximus the Thracian, who loved to persecute Christians. The pope voluntarily stepped down to prevent a power vacuum in the Church.

The Catholic Church is the largest charitable organization in the U.S.