



**“So the last will be first,
and the first last.”**

**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**

SEPTEMBER 20, 2020 — TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

Pastor

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



TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Seek the Lord while he may be found, call him while he is near,” Isaiah counsels us in the first words from today’s reading. We come together to seek the Lord in word and sacrament, knowing that he can be found in scripture, in the Eucharist, and in each other. We call to him now, lifting our voices in song and prayer, aware of his closeness as we are gathered two or more in his name.

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

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, September 19

4:30pm Regina Marie Dengel

Sunday, September 20

9:00am Brian DiMario

11:00am Dan Murphy

Monday, September 21 - St. Matthew

8:30am Deceased of Lewandowski & Blake Families

Tuesday, September 22

8:30am Albert Fiocca

Wednesday, September 23 - Memorial of St. Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)

8:30am

Thursday, September 24

8:30am Alberto Jacobini

Friday, September 25

8:30am Mass of Thanksgiving for Favor Received

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, September 26

4:30pm Barbara McElhennehy

Sunday, September 27

9:00am Deceased of Grace & Johannesson Families

11:00am Robert Smith



FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

This week's readings are:

First Reading - Isaiah 55:6-9

Second Reading - Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

Gospel - Matthew 20:1-16a

Next week's readings will be:

First Reading - Ezekiel 18:25-28

Second Reading - Philippians 2:1-11

Gospel - Matthew 21:28-32



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.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How can I magnify Christ in myself?

How can I imitate God's generosity?

Your parish misses you!



WE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Fred Amatucci, Elaine Ambrosano, Joseph Anthony, Lisa Pfaff Bevilacqua, Sharon Blum, 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, 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, Ashley Juliano, David Kasella, Linda King, Tommy Lake, Wilmer Lehman, Steven Little, Betsy Long, Michele Malolie, Dalton Martin, Kathy Martin, James Maynard, Neil McClelland, Helene McCole, Jean McCormack, Karen McIlvaine, Sean McKeefery, Baby Rosie McKenna, Marianne McLaughlin, Theresa Merlini, Jerry Misterman, Sue Mitchell, Bridget Morris, Charlie Morris, 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, Mary Wieners 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.



2020 MASS BOOK

We are now taking Mass intentions for **September through December**. The rectory will be open Monday - Thursday from 9am - noon and 1pm - 5pm (**1pm - 3pm on Fridays**) to take your requests.



PLEASE — PLEASE — PLEASE

Keep supporting your parish!

August, 2020 — 5 Sunday

Collection: \$55,875

August, 2019 — 4 Sundays

Collection: \$43,172

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.

ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA

**Collection for Holy Places in Holy Land
September 26 and 27**

Because of the suspension of Masses this past Spring, the Holy See asked that a collection for the Holy Land be pushed back until September of this year. In a spirit of cooperation, the Archdiocese of Philadelphia has scheduled a collection to take place the weekend of September 26 and 27. The funds generated by this collection go to support programs and services in the Holy Land. This support is needed to maintain the sacred places, to provide educational and pastoral programs and also to enable outreach programs for the poor through established charitable institutions.



RENTAL ASSISTANCE

Are you in need of rent, mortgage or utility assistance?

Catholic Social Services is here to help you! You may be eligible for financial assistance. Please call **215-624-5920** for further information.

St. Bernadette Home and School Association
Christmas Bazaar
VENDORS WANTED

- Date: Sunday, October 11th (rain date of October 18th)
- Location: St. Bernadette School parking lot
 - \$60 for vendor space + table provided
 - \$40 for vendor space + vendor brings own table
- Fill out attached Google form to register
- Payment can be made to @BerniesHSA via Venmo
- Email bazaar4bernies@gmail.com with questions

Our December Christmas Bazaar is being held outdoors in October due to COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines.

Join us for the St. Bernadette Home & School Annual Christmas Bazaar, on Sunday, October 11th from 1-4 pm in the school parking lot. We have moved the event up to October, therefore it can be held outside and we can establish social distance in the parking lot. Come get a head start on your Christmas shopping while supporting local vendors, admission to the event is FREE, mask required to shop. Food will be available for purchase. (Rain date - Oct. 18th)

VENDORS wanted! If you or someone you know sells unique craft items and would like to reserve a vendor spot, there is an online registration form, please visit the school website for details: www.st-bernadette.org



**ST. BERNADETTE SCHOOL
ALUMNI**

Hello St. Bernadette’s Parish! We are in need of your assistance. We are currently trying to obtain emails of all St. Bernadette School alumni. Our database needs some updating, and we want to have as many contacts as possible so we can keep our great alumni up to date on what’s going on at our school. If you are an alumni, or know anyone who is, please send an email to alumni@stbl.org containing your name and graduation year. Thank you!

Autumn is Here!

September 22, 2020 - 9:30am EDT



The Season of Autumn

The season of Autumn
 Produces a display,
 Of awesome-filled color
 That only God could portray.
 For in His presentation
 Of hues in multi-color,
 We see the glorious beauty
 He creates like no other.

©Teresa C. Hawes

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION 2021 Fall Admission

Villa Maria Academy

Villa Maria will host a Hybrid Open House for all interested students and their families on Sunday, October 4. The Entrance-Scholarship Exam will be offered on Sunday, October 18, and Saturday, October 24, 2020 on campus. Eighth graders may take the exam on either date. A Fall Virtual Preview Breakfast will be held on October 28th. For additional information, please contact the Admissions Office at (610) 644-2551 or register online at www.vmahs.org. Learn about what Villa Maria sisterhood has to offer!

Merion Mercy Academy

Sixth, seventh and eighth grade students and their families are welcome to join us at Merion Mercy Academy's Virtual Open House to be held Saturday, October 3 and Sunday, October 11 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Scholarship and Entrance Exam will be given on Saturday, September 26 and October 10. The Application/Test Registration can be completed online at www.merion-mercy.com. Students are encouraged to sign up for a virtual school day visit to Merion on Fridays beginning September 25.



PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY Saturday, October 10

On Saturday, October 10 at 12:00 Noon, a "Public Square Rosary" will take place in front of St. Andrew Church in Drexel Hill to commemorate Our Lady of Fatima's "Miracle Of the Sun" on October 13, 1917.

We invite you to join us in praying that day, along with hundreds of thousands of other concerned citizens across our country and in recent years, around the world. (In 2018, we prayed in union with over 23,000 rosary rallies held across the globe!) In praying the Holy Rosary, we will make reparation to the hearts of Jesus and Mary for all of the outrages, sins and blasphemies that are committed against them. We will pray for an end to abortion, and the many other grave sins that are now threatening to destroy our nation and our world. Please put aside one hour to join in prayer with us on that special day! Everyone is welcome to help us console the hearts of Jesus and Mary and to pray for our beloved nation and our world. For more information, please go to www.anf.org or call Raphael at 610-613-7481. Feel free to bring a chair or a blanket.

We have been praying the rosary every year since 2007 on the Saturday closest to October 13 when Our Lady of Fatima's "Miracle Of the Sun" occurred in 1917! This year, prayer has become the most important thing we can do to beg God's healing and mercy on our nation and our families.



Scrip Gift Cards can now be purchased on Sundays from 9:30am - 11:00am in the Wright Center. Enter through the Turner Ave door and per current guidelines, please wear a mask.

Local grocery/retail gift cards available include: Giant, ACME, ShopRite, Colonial Village, Swiss Farms, Freddy's, Kohl's, Sam's Boardwalk Pizza and JD McGillicuddy's. National cards can be ordered, turnaround time is usually within a week. See full list of retailers on <https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/>

****NEW** mobile app** - if you have been using the MyScrip-Wallet shortcut on your mobile device, they now offer an app called RaiseRight (by Shop with Scrip). Download it, and use the same Shop with Scrip login. For more information on the app, please visit: <https://www.raiseright.com/>

The St. Bernadette Scrip program 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. If you have any questions, please contact the scrip coordinators, Susan Coyne and Karen Murphy, at scrip4bernies@gmail.com.

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

When I was "one and twenty," a very long time ago, I was a seminarian naive to many ways of the world. On vacation at home one morning, my beloved Dad asked me questions about the very parable we hear this weekend. For background purposes, let me tell you that my Dad was a strong union man, and thought that was the workers' only protection against unfair management practices. So how do I reconcile the Lord Jesus telling a story about what looks like a contradiction of justice?

I cannot remember my answer to Dad at the time. I'm sure I struggled to defend Jesus' decision. Admittedly, no seminary Scripture class in my time ever covered every verse in Scripture, much less this selection. It was only years later that I learned what Jesus was all about in telling this parable. It was to teach us about the remarkable generosity of God. It was the very same lesson that Isaiah had taught centuries before. God's ways are not ours. So it is futile to "frame" the picture painted by the parable with our modern labor laws, rights and practices. We then would miss the Lord's point.

In our time, overshadowed as it is by an enemy named Covid 19, we have been made aware of many people's generosity. They keep our cynicism in check. Health care workers, emergency responders; the transit workers; grocery store employees; and all the good police personnel bravely keep us safe.

But none of that goodness can match the generosity that our good and loving God offers us. His grace is the ultimate motivation of all those good people, and many others.

There is a much older "virus" plaguing our lives called "sin." Yet He tells us still that one act of genuine sorrow and repentance turns back His just cause for eternal punishment, and realigns our spirit with His. Such is His boundless generosity! We are far from it. Sadly many of us have a twisted attitude toward giving, especially forgiving.

Once upon a time, a little girl was given two dollars by her father. He told her that she could do anything she wanted with one and that the other was to be given to God on Sunday at church. The girl nodded in agreement and asked if she could go to the candy store. With visions of all that she could buy with her dollar, she happily skipped toward the store, holding tightly to the two dollars in her hand. As she was skipping along, she tripped and fell and the wind blew one of the dollars into a storm drain at the curb. Picking herself up, the little girl looked at the dollar still in her hand and then at the storm drain and said, "Well, Lord, there goes your dollar."

