



**THE FIRST
SUNDAY OF
ADVENT**

**PREPARE THE
WAY OF THE
LORD**

**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

NOVEMBER 29, 2020 — FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The first Sunday of Advent gives us the opportunity to center our thoughts on **HOPE**. It's a beautiful chance to remember the hope God offers to our lost and dying world, and that He's given us through Jesus. Galatians 4:4-8 says: But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law.

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

First Sunday of Advent

Saturday, November 28

4:30pm Dolores M. & John Georeno, Jr.

Sunday, November 29

9:00am James Dougherty

11:00am Eleanor Mullen

Monday, November 30 - St. Andrew

8:30am Andy Tuli

Tuesday, December 1

8:30am

Wednesday, December 2

8:30am John Seningen

Thursday, December 3 - St. Francis Xavier

8:30am Julie Rook

Friday, December 4 - St. John Damascene

8:30am Edward J. McDonough (43rd Anniv.)

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 5

4:30pm Deceased of Holley and McConnell Families

Sunday, December 6

9:00am Peter Condo

11:00am Helen and Bud Brady

**LEAVE YOUR LASTING LEGACY TO
ST. BERNADETTE OF LOURDES PARISH
THROUGH PLANNED GIVING**

What is a "Planned Gift"? It is a gift given to charity through a will, contract or trust. Planned Giving is charitable giving that is planned, often deferred, and usually spread out over an extended period of time. Through various types of bequests to St. Bernadette of Lourdes Parish you may secure an estate-tax charitable deduction for the value of your gift while providing much needed support for years to come. You may prefer to include in your will or trust a sum of money, a percentage of your estate, a specific item, or a piece of real estate that you wish to give to St. Bernadette Parish.

Designate your Planned Gift by including St. Bernadette Parish in your Will. A bequest may take the form of cash, securities, real estate or other property. You should specify that St. Bernadette Parish is to receive a certain amount or percentage of your estate, specific assets or the remainder of your estate after providing for your heirs.

- Bequests can include a specific dollar amount, assets, securities, real estate, insurance policies, IRAs and personal property.

- Real estate bequests may include the entirety or remainder of your estate after payment of expenses and any specific amounts designated to other beneficiaries.

We are available to answer questions. Please call if you would like to discuss your planned gift to St. Bernadette of Lourdes Parish. Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

Pastor, Rev. Michael J. Saban: 610-789-7676 (Ext. 104)

Business Manager, Robert J. Helmig: 610-789-7676 (Ext. 103)



FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

This week's readings are:

First Reading - Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Gospel - Mark 13:33-37

Next week's readings will be:

First Reading - Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Second Reading - 2 Peter 3:8-14

Gospel - Mark 1:1-8

**SOLEMNITY OF THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

Holy Day of Obligation

Tuesday, December 8

Masses for the Holy Day are as follows:

Monday, December 7 4:30pm

Tuesday, December 8 8:30am

Tuesday, December 8 7:00pm

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

Monday, November 30, December 7, 14, 21

7:00pm – 8:00pm

Saturday, December 5, 12 and 19

3:30pm - 4:15pm

No Confessions Christmas Eve

BULLETIN DEADLINES

December 6 due noon - Monday, November 30

December 13 due noon - Monday, December 7

December 20 due noon - Monday, December 7

December 27 due noon - Monday, December 14

January 3 due noon - Monday, December 14



**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.

PLEASE — PLEASE Keep supporting your parish!

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.

2020 STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

Just a reminder — This appeal is most important to the strength, vibrancy and health of St. Bernadette Parish, and we ask that you please be as generous as your means permit. Please return your census form and your donation to the rectory or put it in the Sunday collection basket. If your family information has not changed, just check "no changes" on the form. Thank you for your continued support of St. Bernadette Parish.

"EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT THE SACRAMENTS BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK!"

**Tuesdays, December 1, 15, and 22 from 7pm - 8:30pm
Saint Augustine Parish (Philadelphia) - via ZOOM**

Please join us as we host three virtual discussions during Advent on the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. Did you ever wonder if babies who die without Baptism go to Limbo/Hell? What does it mean to receive the Holy Spirit in Confirmation? What is meant by Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist? We will discuss and answer these and other questions you might have regarding the three "Sacraments of Initiation." Join us and our special guest participants via Zoom on the dates and times listed! For more info Please email Jacob Marquart, O.F.S. at staugustineparish09@gmail.com or call (215) 627-1838 to submit your questions.

12/1 – Baptism – Fr. Chris Walsh, Pastor, St. Raymond Parish in Philadelphia

12/15 – Confirmation – Meghan Cokeley, Director of the Office for the New Evangelization

12/22 – Eucharist – Fr. G. Dennis Gill, Director, Office for Divine Worship and Pastor of the Cathedral Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul

To register for the December 1 meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZ0tf- uqrzMjEtf5GokVv90IVkRNoUa56E2m>

To register for the December 15 meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZEkd- 6hqz4pG90CrVBB11V5xCcvxHAuPQga>

To register for the December 22 meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZUtu6srzkrGdVUekSeWWBTTBr-SkMCIxV8>



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, Donna 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 Kisella, Linda King, Tommy Lake, Wilmer Lehman, Steven Little, Betsy Long, Jeannette Maleno, 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, Christopher Milecki, 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, Steve Piperno, Pearl Polto, Sharon Pozzuolo, Christopher Rafferty, Michele Re, Mary Rhodunda, Dan Rock, Mimi & Rich Rogge, Anna Rokos, Marie Seiler, Michael Shane, Bridget Sharpe, Amy Sheeler, Theresa Sherwin, Marion Sloan, Rob Smith, Kristin Sorrentino, Carmella Spano, Emily Tong, Mario Turchiarolo, Carol Tyson, 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.

FLAME OF LOVE PRAYER CENACLE

The Flame of Love Prayer Cenacle that usually takes place every Thursday evening in the Chapel has been suspended until after the New Year. Due to the uptick in Covid, we feel it is best to not gather in a closed room. God bless you - and hope to see you in 2021.

2021 MASS BOOK

We will be taking Mass intentions for

JANUARY, FEBRUARY and MARCH

on **Tuesday, December 1** beginning at 9am in the rectory. After December 1, the rectory will be open Monday - Friday from 9am - noon and 1pm - 5pm to make arrangements for Masses. We will be observing CDC recommendations of wearing masks and social distancing.



MEANING AND SYMBOLISM OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Advent candles shine brightly in the midst of darkness, symbolizing and reminding us that Jesus came as Light into our dark world. The most common Advent candle tradition involves four candles around the wreath. A new candle is lit on each of the four Sundays before Christmas. Each candle represents something different, although traditions vary.

Often, the first, second, and fourth candles are purple; the third candle is rose-colored. Sometimes all the candles are red; in other traditions, all four candles are blue or white. Occasionally, a fifth white candle is placed in the middle of the wreath and is lit on Christmas Day to celebrate Jesus' birth.

The **first candle** symbolizes **hope** and is called the "Prophet's Candle." The prophets of the Old Testament, especially Isaiah, waited in hope for the Messiah's arrival.

The **second candle** represents **faith** and is called "Bethlehem's Candle." Micah had foretold that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem, which is also the birthplace of King David.

The **third candle** symbolizes **joy** and is called the "Shepherd's Candle." To the shepherd's great joy, the angels announced that Jesus came for humble, unimportant people like them, too. In liturgy, the color rose signifies joy.

The **fourth candle** represents **peace** and is called the "Angel's Candle." The angels announced that Jesus came to bring peace--He came to bring people close to God and to each other again.

The (optional) **fifth candle** represents **light and purity** and is called "Christ's candle." It is placed in the middle and is lit on Christmas Day.



Christmas Giving Project

PARISH GIVING TREE

November 29 — December 13

Christmas is a time for giving. Give a gift to the less fortunate families. Remove a tag from the tree and return the gift with the tag attached.

SPECIAL NOTE: Gifts should **NOT** be wrapped and **NOT** placed in gift bags. We have been asked to bring the gifts with just the tags attached to ease the distribution of the gifts by the various organizations. You may bring the gifts in the boxes or bags from the store. **The church will be open Monday - Friday until noon and at Mass times on the weekend to drop off your gifts. All gifts must be returned no later than Sunday, December 13. The gifts will be distributed on Monday, December 14 .**

St. John's Hospice (Men)

Knitted hats, scarves, gloves, belts, long underwear (tops and bottoms), regular underwear, flannel shirts, hooded sweatshirts (L & XL)

Women of Change

Single bed sheets, towels, nightgowns, robes, slippers, sweatshirts, sweatpants, flannel shirts, regular underwear, woolen hats and gloves (no scarves) - sizes L, XL and XXL for clothing items

Gift of Mary

(Mother Teresa's Sisters in Chester)

SPECIAL NOTE: This year, instead of toys, the Sisters have asked for diapers, wipes, hats, gloves, napkins, disinfectant wipes, children's sweatpants and adult sweatpants.

PARISH CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

November 29 — December 13

The Christmas food drive is on Sunday, December 13 from 1pm until 3pm. If you would like to donate a fresh or frozen turkey, please drop it off at the Wright Center after the 11am Mass until December 13.

Items needed for the Christmas food drives: turkey gravy, cranberry sauce, canned yams, canned vegetables, canned soup, applesauce, canned fruit, pasta and pasta sauce, boxed side dishes, boxed mashed potatoes, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter and jelly, condiments, salad dressings, cooking oil, cereal, oatmeal, breakfast bars, pop tarts, snacks, crackers, cookies, protein bars, mixed nuts, pancake mix, pancake syrup, boxed cake mix, boxed brownie mix, coffee, tea, juice, pudding cups, canned Chef Boyardee, canned beef stew, canned chili, canned tuna, Clorox wipes, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, shaving cream, shampoo and conditioner, toilet paper, paper towels, napkins, laundry pods, bars of soap, body wash, and lotion. Gift cards and any monetary donations should be dropped off at the rectory labeled food pantry.

OPERATION SANTA CLAUS

November 29 — December 13

Those who wish to adopt a family or a person in need in the parish who would otherwise not be able to provide Christmas presents, please call or text Amy Sandman at 610-931-5692.

ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA
Office of the Archbishop

Dear Friends in Christ,

Soon our parishes will be conducting the collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. This annual appeal benefits 30,000 elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests — women and men who have consecrated their lives to serving God and the Church. We are blessed to have 70 religious congregations present and serving within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. These 70 religious congregations represent approximately 2500 men and women religious. Of this number, over 900 are retired.

Many religious communities struggle to provide for their aging members. Vocations to religious life have diminished but lifespans have increased. The result is that far fewer younger members are available to support the retirement and elder-care needs of senior members. In 2018, 70 percent of the religious communities providing data to the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) had a median age of 70 or higher.

Recognizing that this is but one of many worthy causes in need of assistance, I ask simply that you give what you can. Your monetary support and prayers are a means of thanking the many women and men religious for their faithful service to Catholic education, healthcare, and many other services offered by religious women and men.

The annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection will be held December 5 and 6 in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. This appeal is coordinated by the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO). In addition to sponsoring the annual appeal, the NRRO offers assessment tools, educational programming, services, and resources that enable religious communities to evaluate and prepare for long-term retirement needs.

Please pray for our consecrated religious and please also support this national collection scheduled for December 5 and 6.

In the peace of Christ
Most Reverend Nelson J. Perez, D.D.



Christmas Novena

Say 15 times a day from St. Andrew's Day
(30 November) until Christmas

Hail, and blessed be the hour and moment
at which the Son of God was born of a
most pure Virgin at a stable at midnight
in Bethlehem in the piercing cold.
At that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee,
to hear my prayers and
grant my desires.
(Mention your intentions here)
Through Jesus Christ and His most
Blessed Mother.



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. **New Incentive - purchase gift cards on Sundays and receive an entry into the monthly drawing for a \$25 grocery gift card. School families will also earn a N.U.T. pass.**

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.