

The Church of
St. Bernard of Clairvaux
&
St. Stanislaus Kostka

October 20, 2024

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Website: www.bestchurch.net

The people of St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Stanislaus Kostka are a "Living Mosaic of God's People," who seek salvation through worship, education, stewardship and service, proclaiming our faith in God and in our heritages.

PARISH STAFF

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pastor@bestchurch.net

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CHURCH ADDRESS

1235 George Street
Plainfield, NJ 07062

OFFICES & MAILING ADDRESS

1232 George Street
Plainfield, NJ 07062

OFFICE HOURS

Sunday: Closed or by appointment

Monday - Friday: 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Saturday: Closed or by appointment



BAPTISM: Celebrated throughout the year in accordance with the policy of the Archdiocese and to accommodate the needs of our Parish Family. Attendance at a preparation session may be required. You must be a registered and active family for at least 90 days before a date for Baptism will be scheduled. Please call the Parish Office for an appointment.

MARRIAGE: Arrangements should be made with a priest as soon as possible. One year prior to marriage or as soon as engagement is announced is recommended.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Levels 1 - 8: Wednesday,
6:30 - 7:45 pm

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: In the event of serious illness or when someone is hospitalized, the parish office should be notified. The Eucharist and the Sacrament of the Sick will be celebrated with anyone requesting them. Remember, the Hospital cannot notify us on their own.

CHOIR

We are fortunate enough to have a Parish Choir that has a full multi-lingual repertoire; English, Polish and Spanish. The Choir rehearses on Thursday at 7:00 PM. Instrumentalists are welcomed, either to play solo or with our choir. A parish orchestra made up of adults who rehearse and performs several times during the year. If you are interested in joining or for more information or just to volunteer, contact the office at (908) 756-3393.

PARISH REGISTRATION

New parishioners are most welcome and are encouraged to call the parish office and make an appointment to register. When you are moving from the parish, please notify the parish office.

SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

Call the Office during regular hours.

STEWARDSHIP AND TITHING

Stewardship calls us to freely give of our time, talent, and treasure for the good of our parish family and community. God gives us everything! I give Him back my tithes. Tithing is God's plan to support His Church. Full tithing means 10% of gross income to God – 5% for your parish church and 5 % for other charities.

VOCATIONS

Those who are recognizing the call to the priesthood, diaconate, or the religious life are invited to speak to a priest or contact the Archdiocesan Vocations Office at 973-497-4365, or on the website www.rcan.org/vocation/index.htm

ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY

2032 Westfield Ave., Scotch Plains NJ
908-322-4265 OR www.STBACADEMY



Saturday – October 19... St. John de Brébeuf and St. Isaac Jogues

9:00AM... Health of Magaret Macknowsky, req. Parish Family
5:00PM... + Janet Lorraine Garbarini (2nd Anniv.)
req. Parish Family

Sunday – October 20...29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM...+ Mario and Angela Negri, req. Sister and Family
11:00AM...+ Sylwester Jemioło (5th Anniv),
req. córka Sabina Nowak
1:00PM...+ John Skolka, Jr., req. Doreen Kruse

Monday – October 21...Weekday

9:00AM...+ Luis Enrique Cuartas Duque, (Anniversary)
req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

Tuesday – October 22...St. John Paul II

9:00AM... + Martin Parise, req. Brother and Family

Wednesday – October 23...St. John of Capistrano

9:00AM... John and Bridget Cosmas 2nd Wedding Anniversary,
req. Mom, Dad and Laura

Thursday- October 24...St. Anthony Mary Claret

9:00AM...+ Cenia Duque, req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

Friday – October 25 ...Weekday

9:00AM...+ Stephen McCoy, req. Kruse Family

Saturday – October 26... Weekday

9:00AM... Peace and Health for the Ebose Family
req. Family

5:00PM... + Robert Merkle (7th Anniv.) req. Wife Johanna

Sunday – October 27...30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM...+ John Skolka, Jr., req. Zena and Frank Kazmierski
11:00AM...+ Tadeusz Deregowski, req. Żona i Dzieci
...+ Edmund Grzymała, req. rodzina
1:00PM...+ John Skolka, Jr., req. Mike and Frankie Parise

The Tabernacle Candle will burn this week for
All Our Parish Faithful Departed.

**The Bread and Wine used at Mass for the month of
October is in Memory of John Skolka, Jr.**

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for those whose
health is challenged in any way especially **Cathy and
Jack Rooney, Marian Parcinski, Frank Kazmierski,
Olivia Schiffer, Al Caraldo, and Margaret Macknowsky.**

OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all the **Faithful
Departed.**

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 53:10-11

Isaiah speaks of how the Servant of God will have to give his life up for the sins of other people. Because of this suffering the Servant will receive eternal life for himself and all the people whose sins are forgiven because of him.

Second Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16

Jesus is considered to be the new high priest and mediator between God and his people. Fortunately, Jesus has experienced the same temptations as other people, and so he has more tolerance of our weaknesses.

Gospel: Mark 10:35-45

Two of the disciples ask Jesus that they be allowed to sit at his right and left side when he comes into his glory. Jesus explains that they should not be concerned with their position. Instead they should concern themselves with serving others just as Jesus was planning to serve many in giving his own life for their sins.

The Saint of the Week
JOHN PAUL II
(October 22)

Karol Józef Wojtyła, elected Pope on 16 October 1978, was born in Wadowice, Poland, on 18 May 1920. He was the third of three children born to Karol Wojtyła and Emilia Kaczorowska. His mom died in 1929, and his father, died in 1941.

After completing high school in Wadowice, he enrolled in the Jagellonian University of Krakow in 1938. When the occupying Nazi forces closed the University in 1939, Karol worked (1940-1944) in a quarry and then in the Solvay chemical factory to earn a living.

Feeling called to the priesthood, he began his studies in 1942 in the clandestine major seminary of Krakow. During that time, he was one of the organizers of the "Rhapsodic Theatre." which was also clandestine.

After the war, he was ordained in Krakow on 1 November 1946. Father Wojtyła was then sent to Rome, where he attained a doctorate in theology. After, Father Wojtyła returned to Poland and was appointed a curate in the parish church of Niegowic, near Krakow, and later at Saint Florian in the city. He was a university chaplain until 1951, when he again undertook studies in philosophy and theology. Later he became professor of moral theology and ethics in the major seminary of Krakow and in the theology faculty of Lublin.

On 4 July 1958, Pope Pius XII appointed Father Wojtyła auxiliary bishop of Krakow. And on 13 January 1964, Pope Paul VI appointed Bishop Wojtyła as Archbishop of Krakow and subsequently, on 26 June 1967, created him a Cardinal.

Bishop Wojtyła took part in the Second Vatican Council (1962- 1965) and made a significant contribution to the drafting of the Constitution Gaudium et Spes.

On 16 October 1978, Cardinal Wojtyła was elected Pope and on 22 October he began his ministry as universal Pastor of the Church.

On 3 May 1981, an attempt was made on Pope John Paul II's life in Saint Peter's Square. Saved by the maternal hand of the Mother of God, following a lengthy stay in the hospital, he forgave the attempted assassin and, aware of having received a great gift, intensified his pastoral commitments with heroic generosity.

Pope John Paul II made 146 pastoral visits in Italy and, as the Bishop of Rome, he visited 317 of the current 322 Roman parishes. His international apostolic journeys numbered 104. He wrote many encyclicals, exhortations and other church documents. He also attracted young people by beginning the celebration of World Youth Day.

Pope John Paul II died in the Apostolic Palace at 9:37 p.m. on Saturday, 2 April 2005, the vigil of Sunday in albis or Divine Mercy Sunday, which he had instituted. On 8 April, his solemn funeral was celebrated in Saint Peter's Square and he was buried in the crypt of Saint Peter's Basilica.

 **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION** 

Children gather in the cafeteria, using the Emerson Entrance of the school building. Parents are required to pick up their children from the cafeteria at 7:45.

All Religious Education children **are required** to attend Sunday Mass every weekend and have their booklet signed.

This Wednesday (**October 23**) at 6:30PM there will be a brief meeting for the parents of children preparing for the 1st Communion.



Liturgy of the Word

We will continue Liturgy of the Word at the 9AM Mass on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the Month for grades K-2, in the Church Chapel.

The Next Liturgy of the Word will be on **October 27th**.



ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

October is the Month of the Rosary

The Rosary is prayed in church every Tuesday in October at 1PM. Everyone is invited to attend and pray together in **Honor of Our Blessed Mother.**

The Living Rosary, prayed in any language you prefer, will be prayed together in the church on **Tuesday, October 29th at 7:00PM**. Please let us know your Language Preference.

Polskie Duszpasterstwo w Parafii św. Bernarda i św. Stanisława Kostki



29 NIEDZIELA ZWYKŁA B

Z Listu św. Augustyna, biskupa, do Proby

Dlaczego gubimy się w myślach i zastanawiamy, o co mamy się modlić, w obawie, że się nie modlimy tak, jak należy? Dlaczego nie wołamy raczej słowami psalmu: "O jedno proszę Pana, tego poszukuję, bym w domu Pańskim przebywał po wszystkie dni życia mego, abym zażywał łaskowości Pana, stale się radował Jego świątynią". Tam wszystkie dni stają się równocześnie, nie przychodzą ani odchodzą, ani też nie zaczyna się jeden, gdy drugi kończy; wszystkie trwają bez końca równocześnie, a życie, do którego należą, nie ma końca.

Abyśmy zatem mogli osiągnąć ów żywot szczęśliwy, Życie, które stało się ciałem, nauczyło nas modlić się. Nie w wielu słowach, jak gdyby wysłuchanie zależało od naszej wymowności. Wszak modlimy się do Tego, który - jak mówi Pan - wie, co nam potrzeba, zanim Go poprosimy.

Mogłoby nas dziwić, dlaczego zachęca nas do modlitwy Ten, który zna nasze prośby, zanim Go poprosimy, gdybyśmy nie pamiętali, że Pan i Bóg nasz nie chce w ten sposób dowiedzieć się o naszych potrzebach, jako że zna je doskonale, ale poprzez modlitwę ożywić nasze pragnienie, abyśmy umieli przyjąć to, co nam dać zamierzył. Dlatego mówi nam Pismo: "Rozszerzcie wasze serca; nie wpręgajcie się w jedno jarzmo z niewierzącymi".

Ten wielki dar, którego "oko nie widziało", bo nie ma barwy, "ani ucho nie słyszało", bo nie jest dźwiękiem, "ani w serce człowieka nie wstąpiło", bo właśnie serce człowieka ma tam wstąpić,

przyjmujemy tym skuteczniej, im mocniejsza będzie nasza wiara, silniejsza nasza nadzieja, gorętsze pragnienie.

W tej przeto wierze, nadziei i miłości modlimy się nieprzerwanie ustawicznym pragnieniem. W określonych jednakże godzinach i okolicznościach również słowami zwracamy się do Boga, aby za pośrednictwem tych znaków napomnieć samych siebie i przypomnieć, o ile postąpiliśmy w świętym pragnieniu, i jeszcze goręcej zachęcić się do jego pomnażania. Im żywsze będzie pragnienie, tym większy skutek. Dlatego słowa Apostoła: "Nieustannie się módlcie", co innego oznaczają, jeśli nie to: Pragnijcie nieustannie otrzymać życie szczęśliwe od Tego, który może je dać. Życiem szczęśliwym zaś nie może być żadne inne poza wiecznym.

LG tom IV: XXIX Niedziela Zwykła B, str. 318-319

Szkoła Polska Doksztalająca

Zajęcia w Polskiej Szkole działającej przy naszej Parafii odbywają się w każdy poniedziałek w okresie roku szkolnego od godz. 5:30 do 8:00PM.

Kontakt: polskaszkolainplainfield@outlook.com

Dyrektorka Szkoły: Beata Benewiat
Tel. 732-266-4310

Parada Pułaskiego 2024



8th grade students planning to attend Catholic High School in the Fall of 2025!

The High School Placement Test (HSPT) will be given on Friday, November 8th. Registration information for the exam is online www.njcoopexam.org. For more information <https://www.catholicschoolsny.org/hs-admissions>

Mother Seton Regional High School
1 Valley Road, Clark

Meet teachers and current students to learn about what a Catholic School education for girls can do for your daughter, Monday, November 4th 7PM.

Fifth through eighth grade girls are welcome to register at motherseton.org.

Seventh and Eighth grade girls are welcome to be a **Student for a Day** during October and November. Register at motherseton.org

Mercy House
Archdiocese of Newark

The Mercy House is a ministry of our Archdiocese of Newark's Respect of Life Office. They currently serve Essex, Hudson and Union Counties.

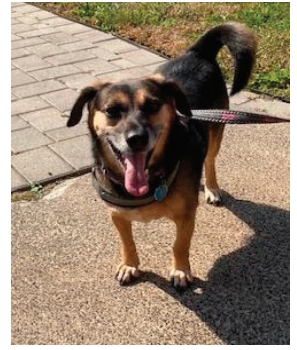
The Mercy House volunteers would like to thank everyone who donated last week. Your kind generosity was appreciated so very much by all.

The words in the Gospel last week...
God asks us to share... and you all did..
Thank you again

ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY

St. Bartholomew Academy in Scotch Plains is a perfect place for a Catholic Education founded on learning a true Catholic way of life and achieving excellence in academics. For information, please contact 908-322-4265.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



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- Visit: www.formed.org/signup
- Find St. Bernard and Stanislaus by parish name, address, or zip code

- Enter your email – and you are in

ALTAR SERVERS

Be joyful to serve at the altar, to be closer to Jesus!

Serving God as an altar server is a wonderful way to grow in faith as well as in responsibility, friendship, and other virtues. Altar Servers make a difference! If you are interested in participating at Mass as an Altar Server, girls as well as boys, please contact Fr. Marcin or Fr. Bernardo.



CHOIR

Why not become a member?

It's never too late to join...Rehearsals are on Thursdays in the church 7PM.

We are looking to enhance our Choir. If you are interested in joining our Choir, please contact the office, or simply just come on a Thursday evening to one of our rehearsals in the church at 7PM.

We would love to see you there!

BestChurch Seniors



We had a wonderful time kicking up our heels and welcoming new members to join us for a fun Halloween time.

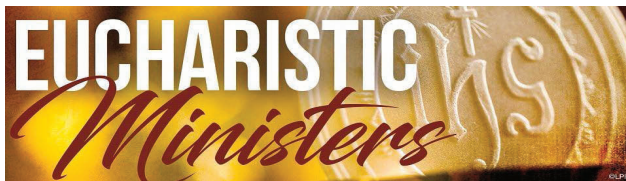
The BestChurch Seniors meet on the Third Thursday of the month at 12:30PM. Our meeting is open to all **seniors** and **almost seniors.**

Next Senior meeting is November 21st when we will celebrate Thanksgiving. We meet in the Parish Community Room in the office on George Street, **using the side door entrance**. We are looking forward to being together again.

And...please feel free to invite someone to come with you.

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD COLLECTION

We are continuing to collect food in the open area of the church for Starfish to be distributed throughout the Union County area. Dates should be current and food non-perishable. The staff at Starfish would like to thank you all for your continued support.



Are you interested in serving God as a Lector or Eucharistic Minister

LECTORS

Please contact Bill Shlala



wgshlala@gmail.com
or call (908) 755-8560.

Church Decor

Anyone who would like to give a helping hand with the church decorating for the upcoming holidays, you are more than welcome to help. Just let us know.

Please Pray for our Parishioners in the Military
SSG Katarzyna Czajka, US Army
Ryan Percy, USN
Declan Cassidy, US Army

STEWARDSHIP

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

(MARK 10:45)

Cardinal Joseph Tobin, C, Ss. R. - *“For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.”*

(MARK 10:45)

If you held a mirror up to your life, would it reflect God’s love and mercy? If you are struggling with this, try changing your attitude from “I want more” to “thank you God for everything you have given me, I have enough to share”. This change in perspective will bring you joy through service to others. Pray daily to become less self-centered and to become more God-centered.



ONLINE GIVING

IT IS POSSIBLE TO AUTOMATE YOUR FAITH GIVING TO OUR PARISH GIVING. SIMPLY GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE.

Collection for October 13

Online..... \$ 1033

In Pew..... \$ 4642

Total Collection Oct. 13.... \$ 5675

ANNUAL ²⁰²⁴ APPEAL

We made our goal

Thank you so very much!!

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on a regular basis on Saturdays at 4:15PM and on Sunday mornings after Masses as well as after weekday Masses simply by requesting a celebration of the sacrament.

From Fr. Marcin's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today, Jesus, once again with great patience, tries to correct his disciples, converting them from the world’s mentality to that of God. The opportunity is given to him by the brothers James and John, two of the very first whom Jesus met and called to follow him. Jesus will at last establish the Kingdom of God, so the two brothers take courage, approach the Teacher and make their request: “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.”

Jesus knows that James and John are inspired by great enthusiasm for him and for the cause of the Kingdom, but he also knows that their expectations and their zeal are tarnished by the spirit of the world. Thus, he responds: “You do not know what you are asking.” And as they are speaking of ‘thrones of “glory” on which to sit beside Christ the King, he speaks of a “cup” to be drunk, of a “baptism” to be received, that is, his passion and death. James and John do not truly understand what they are asking for. Jesus forewarns that they will drink his cup and receive his baptism, that is, that they too, like the other Apostles, will take part in his cross.

Jesus then realizes that the other 10 Apostles are angry with James and John, and thus show they have the same worldly mentality. And this offers him inspiration for a lesson that applies to Christians of all times, for us too: while the great people of the Earth build themselves ‘thrones’ for their own power, God chooses an uncomfortable throne, the cross, from which to reign by giving his life. “The Son of man”, Jesus says, “also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

The way of service is the most effective antidote against the disease of seeking first place; it is the medicine for status seekers, this seeking first place, which infects many human contexts, and does not even spare Christians, the People of God, nor even the ecclesiastical hierarchy. Therefore, as disciples of Christ, let us receive this Gospel passage as a call to conversion, in order to witness with courage and generosity a Church that bows at the feet of the least, in order to serve them with love and simplicity.

In the Love of God,

Fr. Marcin Fuks

E-mail: pastor@bestchurch.net

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