

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

March 8, 2026

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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.

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NEW MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY MASS OF ANTICIPATION

5:00PM- English

SUNDAY

9:00AM - English
10:30AM - Polish
12:00PM - English
1:30PM - Spanish



CHURCH ADDRESS

1235 George Street
Plainfield, NJ 07062

OFFICES & MAILING ADDRESS

1232 George Street
Plainfield, NJ 07062

Saturday and Sunday: Closed
or by appointment

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATIONS

Saturday: 4:15 pm

By request: After Mass

Sunday - Saturday: Mornings

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK

Saturday – March 7...St. Perpetua and St. Felicity

9:00AM...+People of the Parish

5:00PM...+Bob Chanda, req. Wife Mary Ellen

Sunday – March 8...Third Sunday of Lent

9:00AM...+Janette "Cricket" Cardoza,

req. Plick and Epps Family

10:30AM...+Jan Radecki od Radecki Rodzina
(48. rocznica śmierci)

...Teresa Błażejowcz,

Błogosławieństwa z okazji urodzin

12:00 Noon... Health of Janet Berry,

req. Beverly and Peter Cirino

1:30 PM ...+People of the Parish

Monday – March 9...St. Frances of Rome

9:00AM...+People of the Parish

Tuesday – March 10... Lenten Weekday

9:00AM... +Andrea and Rosa Negri, req. Angela Negri

Wednesday – March 11... Lenten Weekday

9:00AM...+Louie Merkle, req. Johanna Merkle

Thursday – March 12... Lenten Weekday

9:00AM...+Dolores and Robert Renz,

req. Johanna Merkle

Friday – March 13...Lenten Weekday

9:00AM...+Antonio and Lucia Simeone, req. Family

Saturday – March 14... Lenten Weekday

9:00AM...Andy Slojan, God's Blessing for Birthday

req. Wife

5:00PM...+Health of Jason Fedorka, req. Mary Ellen

Sunday – March 15...Fourth Sunday of Lent

Laetare Sunday

9:00AM... +Gregory Myers, req. Barbara Byleckie

10:30A....+Józef Błażejowicz, od Żona i Dzleci

+ Antoni Miasik, od Żona i Dzleci

12:00 Noon...Health of Paul Signorelli,

req. Beverly and Peter Cirino

1:30 PM ... People of the Parish

THE TABERNACLE CANDLE will burn this week for **Frank Kazmierski, 1st Anniversary**, at the request of Wife Zena and Family.

THE BREAD AND WINE FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY is in Memory of **Frank Kazmierski**.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for those whose health is challenged in any way especially for **Marian Parcinski, Olivia Schiffer, Al Caraldo, Margaret Macknowsky, Jim Rushforth, Mike Parise, Brian Biddulph, Giovanni Todaro, Pat Cook, and Marie Polius.**

OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all our Faithful Departed.

STEWARDSHIP

3rd Sunday of Lent

"Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again."

JOHN 4:13

Jesus reminds us that material things, even something as basic as water, can never satisfy us over the long run. When we build our lives around material possessions we will always want more, and no amount will ever satisfy our desire. True joy and peace only come when we follow Jesus - when we become more "God-centered" and less "self-centered."

3^{er} Domingo de Cuaresma

"Todo el que beba de esta agua volverá a tener sed"

JUAN 4:13

Jesús nos recuerda que las cosas materiales, aun algo tan básico como el agua, nunca pueden satisfacernos a largo plazo. Cuando construimos nuestras vidas alrededor de las posesiones materiales siempre querremos más y ninguna cantidad logrará satisfacer nuestros deseos. El verdadero gozo y la verdadera paz vienen cuando seguimos a Jesús, entonces nos volvemos más "centrados en Dios" y menos "egocéntricos".

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

This story from Exodus reveals that the Israelites, after their escape from Egypt, cast all blame for their sufferings on Moses. In this instance, they were dying of thirst. When Moses appealed to the Lord, the Lord directed Moses to strike a rock and water would gush forth.

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Paul reminds the Romans that because Christ died for all people, they are acceptable in God's sight.

Gospel: John 4:5-42

Jesus converses with the Samaritan woman at Jacob's Well. When Jesus indicates that whoever drinks from the water He gives will never be thirsty again, the woman immediately answers, "Give me this water, sir..." Jesus then reveals that she has had five husbands and tells her that He is the Messiah. The woman believes Jesus and proclaims this news to all the townspeople, who believe her and come to see Jesus.

ROSARY SOCIETY

The Rosary is prayed every day before the 9AM Mass followed by the Divine Mercy Prayers. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed on Thursdays after Mass concluding with Benediction at 10:45AM.

Next Rosary Meeting is Sunday, April 12th after the 9AM Mass in the Parish Office.



WOMEN OF FAITH

The Women of Faith Ministry at St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Stanislaus Kostka warmly invites all women of the parish to gather with us this Lent for reflection, prayer, and spiritual renewal. Whether you're new to the parish, returning to your faith, or simply seeking fellowship, you are welcome. Mothers, grandmothers, students, professionals—there is a place here for you.

Why Join a Women's Lenten Reflection Group?

Lenten invites us to slow down, turn our hearts toward God, and prepare for the joy of Easter. A women's Lenten group helps us enter this sacred season with intention. Together, we reflect on Scripture, walk with Christ toward the Cross, and support one another in our Lenten practices.

In the company of other women, we find clarity, encouragement, and a sense of shared purpose. This is a space to pause, pray, and listen for God's voice, so our hearts may be renewed and strengthened for the journey ahead. Bring a friend! Join us on Friday **March 27th** after the English Stations of the Cross. For more information or to help with planning, please contact:

Mary Landriau - mlandriau703@verizon.net

Best Church Seniors ARE ON A WINTER BREAK

We are looking forward to the next meeting on **March 19th at 12:30PM,** for a program called... **"Tapping Away Stress"** by Alicia Gray

You will find that by tapping on certain pressure points we can lower stress and relieve pain. So, come and experience tapping away together. Please let us know you will be there so we can prepare. And, as always...you are welcome to bring a friend!



**Thursday – March 26th
From 6:30PM to 8:00PM**



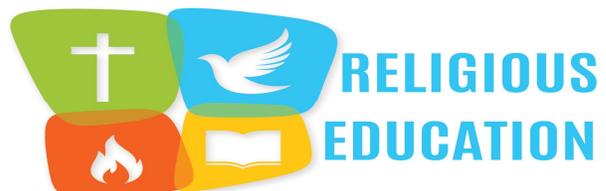
2026 LENTEN REGULATIONS

1. The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the “paschal fast” to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence. On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted, and two (2) smaller meals, which, if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast. On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.
2. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence “substantially”, or as a whole, is a serious obligation.
3. The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.
4. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the First Sunday of Lent, February 22 to The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, May 31, 2026.

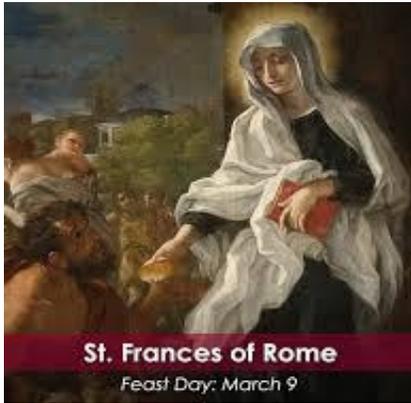
**Canon 920, §1. All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*



**Saturday – March 28th
From 10AM to 2PM**



**Religious Education Classes are on
Wednesdays at 6:30PM – 7:45PM.**



Frances' life combines aspects of secular and religious life. A devoted and loving wife, she longed for a lifestyle of prayer and service, so she organized a group of women to minister to the needs of Rome's poor.

Born of wealthy parents, Saint Frances of Rome found herself attracted to the religious life during her youth, but her parents objected and a young nobleman was selected to be her husband.

As she became acquainted with her new relatives, Frances soon discovered that the wife of her husband's brother also wished to live a life of service and prayer. So the two, Frances and Vannoza, set out together—with their husbands' blessings—to help the poor.

Frances fell ill for a time, but this apparently only deepened her commitment to the suffering people she met. The years passed, and Frances gave birth to two sons and a daughter. With the new responsibilities of family life, the young mother turned her attention more to the needs of her own household.

The family flourished under Frances' care, but within a few years a great plague began to sweep across Italy. It struck Rome with devastating cruelty and left Frances' second son dead. In an effort to help alleviate some of the suffering, Frances used all her money and sold her possessions to buy whatever the sick might possibly need. When all the resources had been exhausted, Frances and Vannoza went door to door begging. Later, Frances' daughter died, and the saint opened a section of her house as a hospital.

Saint Frances of Rome became more and more convinced that this way of life was so necessary for the world, and it was not long before she requested and was given permission to found a society of women bound by no vows. They simply offered themselves to God and to the service of the poor. Once the society was established, Frances chose not to live at the community residence, but rather at home with her husband. She did this for seven years, until her husband passed away, and then came to live the remainder of her life with the society—serving the poorest of the poor.

ANNUAL²⁰²⁶ APPEAL

This weekend, Cardinal Tobin invites all Catholics of our Archdiocese to make their yearly commitment to the Annual Appeal, which supports vital ministries throughout the Archdiocese of Newark. These ministries serve people in need, strengthen our parishes, form future priests, and provide outreach and care to families across our four counties.

For those who are new to our parish or have not yet made a gift, I hope you are inspired by the difference your generosity can make in the lives of those served by the Annual Appeal.

We are each called to love one another through prayer and action, and the Annual Appeal offers a beautiful way to live out that love in support of our Catholic family within our community.

Today, we invite you to take a few moments to reflect on how you can help continue this mission. To better understand the impact of the Annual Appeal, you can watch a brief video on our website www.bestchurch.net.

Today, you will find pledge envelopes in your pews. I invite each family to prayerfully consider making a gift. No amount is too small, and every contribution helps us reach those who depend on the Church's ministries.

Please consider participating in this year's Appeal to help make a significant difference in many lives within our Archdiocese.

Our parish goal this year is **\$29,654.60**, and we already collected **\$9,600.00!**

Please make a gift online today by visiting rcan.org/sharing, scanning the QR code:



CHOIR

Practice is in the church on **Thursday evenings 7:00PM.**

If you are interested, come to our practice or stop by after 9AM Sunday Mass to talk to our Cantor. We would love for you to join in to enhance our Choir. **Many thanks to our new and returning members.**





COME AND LISTEN

**MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS
AT 8:00PM
STARTING JANUARY 26TH 2026**

**ST. BERNARD & ST. STANISLAUS
THE GYM**

365 EMERSON AVE PLAINFIELD

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30

PARISH GIVING



ON LINE GIVING

IT IS POSSIBLE TO AUTOMATE YOUR FAITH GIVING TO "PARISH GIVING." SIMPLY GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

Collection for March 1, 2026

**Online... \$ 2,613
in Pew... \$ 3,562
Total ...\$ 6,175**

ROOF DONATION

Dear Brothers and Sisters, as I mentioned during the Parish Financial Report, we need to fix the roof of the school building. The work would have to happen sometime during the summer, but we need to begin to collect money for that project. If you want to help, you can write on your check's memo line: Restricted – Roof. Thank you for your generosity!!!

From Fr. Marcin's Desk

Today's Gospel presents Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman, near an old well where the woman went to draw water daily. That day, she found Jesus seated, and He immediately says to her: "Give me a drink." In this way He overcomes the barriers of hostility that existed between Jews and Samaritans. This simple request from Jesus is the start of a dialogue, through which He enters with great delicacy into the interior world of a person to whom, according to social norms, He should not have spoken. When Jesus sees a person He goes ahead, because He loves. He loves us all. Jesus sets the Samaritan woman's own situation before her, not by judging her but by making her feel worthy, acknowledged, and by beginning in her the desire to go beyond the daily routine.

Jesus' thirst was not so much for water, but for the encounter with a thirsty soul. Jesus needed to encounter the Samaritan woman in order to open her heart: He asks for a drink so as to bring to light her own thirst. The woman is moved by this encounter: she asks Jesus several profound questions that we all carry within but often ignore. We, too, have many questions to ask, but we don't have the courage to ask Jesus! Lent is the opportune time to look within ourselves, to understand our spiritual needs, and to ask the Lord's help in prayer. The example of the Samaritan woman invites us to exclaim: "Jesus, give me a drink that will quench my thirst forever."

The Gospel says that the disciples marveled that their Master was speaking to this woman. But the Lord is greater than preconceptions, which is why He was not afraid to address the Samaritan woman. The outcome of that encounter by the well was the woman's transformation: "the woman left her water jar," with which she had come to draw water, and ran to the city to tell people about her extraordinary experience. "I found a man who told me all that I ever did. Can this be the Christ?" She was excited. She had gone to draw water from the well, but she found another kind of water, the living water of mercy from which gushes forth eternal life. She found the water she had always sought! She runs to the village, that village which had judged her, condemned her and rejected her, and she announces that she has met the Messiah: the one who has changed her life.

In this Gospel passage we likewise find the motivation to "leave behind our water jar," the symbol of everything that is seemingly important, but which loses all its value before the "love of God." What is your interior water jar, the one that weighs you down, that distances you from God? Let us set it aside a little, and with our hearts let us hear the voice of Jesus offering us another kind of water, another water that brings us close to the Lord. We are called to rediscover the importance and the sense of our Christian life initiated in Baptism and, like the Samaritan woman, to witness to our neighbors.

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