

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

March 15, 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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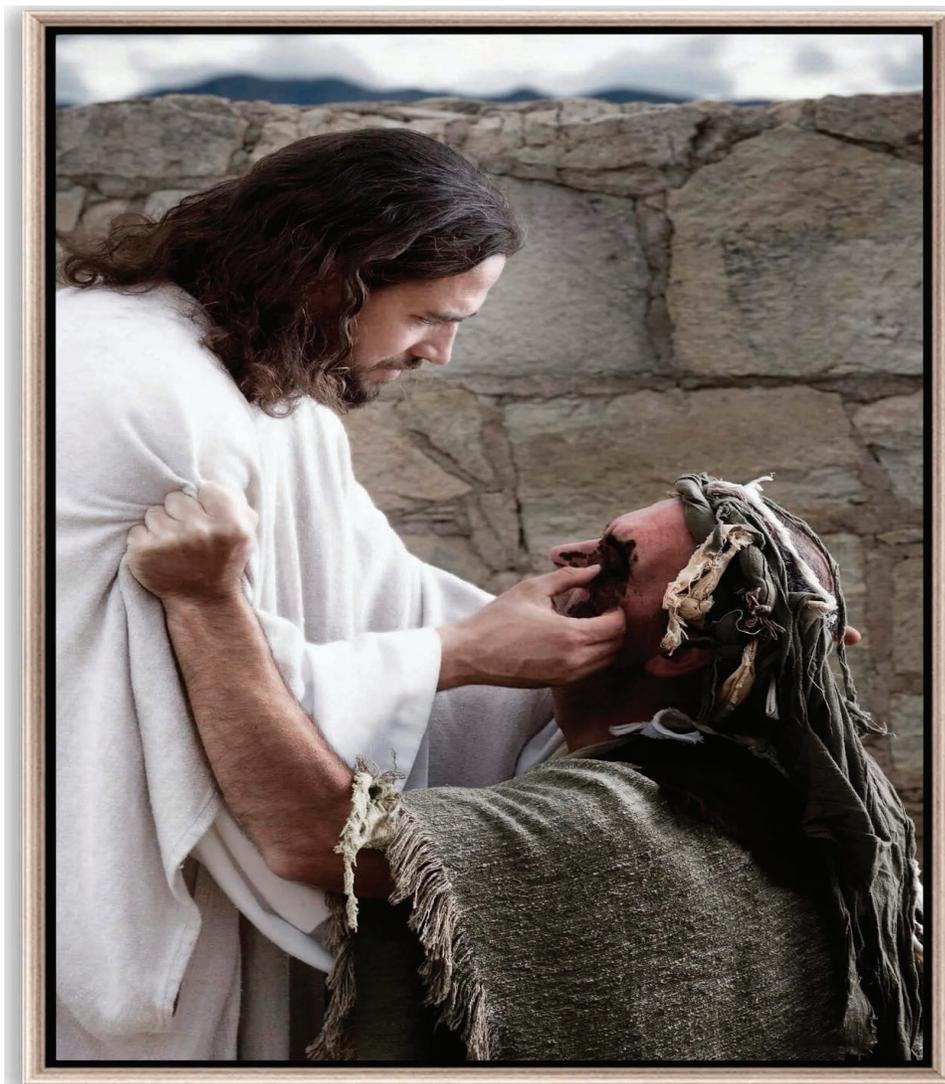
General Mailbox ext. 100

**Iveth Parada**

*Religious Education*

[bestreligioused@gmail.com](mailto:bestreligioused@gmail.com)

908-756-3393 Ext - 103



**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  
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**OFFICES & MAILING ADDRESS**

1232 George Street  
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**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 14... Lenten Weekday

9:00AM...+Andy Soljan, God's Blessing for Birthday  
req. Wife

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

### Sunday – March 15...Fourth Sunday of Lent Laetare Sunday

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

10:30AM.....+Jożef Błażejowicz, od Żona i Dzieci  
.... + Antoni Miasik, od Żona i Dzieci

12:00 Noon...Health of Paul Signorelli,  
req Beverly and Peter Cirino

1:30 PM ... People of the Parish

### Monday – March 16... Lenten Weekday

9:00AM...+Liam Conor Noonan, req. Kruse Family

### Tuesday – March 17... St. Patrick

9:00AM... +Maddelina Negri, req. Angela Negri

### Wednesday – March 18... St. Cyril of Jerusalem

9:00AM...+Giovanna Mone,  
req. Maria and Stefano Riello

### Thursday – March 19... St. Joseph

9:00AM...+Dolores Sally Young,  
req. Johanna Merkle

### Friday – March 20...Lenten Weekday

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

### Saturday – March 21... Lenten Weekday

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

5:00PM...+Mary and Edward Chanda, req. Mary Ellen

### Sunday – March 22...Fifth Sunday of Lent

9:00AM... +Megan Renee Canavesio,  
req. Mother, Brother and Sister

10:30AM..... Lukas Radecki, Błogosławieństwo Boże  
na 2. urodziny od rodziny

....+Tadeusz Dręgowski, od Zona i Dzieci

....+Genowefa i Józef Grzelak, od Corka z Roszina

12:00 Noon...Viola Pratt and Nancy, req. Kruse Family

1:30 PM ... People of the Parish

**THE TABERNACLE CANDLE** will burn this week  
for **Franciszek Kapolka**, at the request of the  
Kapolka Family.

**THE BREAD AND WINE FOR THE MONTH OF March**  
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

### 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

*“Not as man sees does God see, because man sees the appearance, but the Lord looks into the heart.” 1 Samuel 16:7*  
How often do we invest our time, talent and treasure in creating an appearance that does not matter at all to God? We strive to impress with our clothing, home, career, possessions, car and other marks of distinction. But none of these illusions of greatness will impress God. Instead, He will look into our hearts to see how much we loved Him, how much we loved others and how we showed that love by the way we used our time, talent and treasure here on earth.

### 4<sup>o</sup>. Domingo de Cuaresma

*“Pues Dios no ve como el hombre ve, pues el hombre mira la apariencia exterior, pero el Señor mira el corazón”.*  
*1 SAMUEL 16: 7*

¿Qué tan a menudo invertimos nuestro tiempo, talento y tesoros para crear una apariencia que no le importa para nada a Dios? Tendemos a impresionar con nuestra vestimenta, casa, carrera, posesiones, automóvil y otras marcas de distinción. Pero ninguna de esas ilusiones de grandeza impresionará a Dios. En lugar de eso, Él mirará dentro de nuestros corazones para ver cuánto lo amamos, cuánto amamos a los demás y cómo mostramos ese amor en la forma en que usamos nuestro tiempo, talento y tesoro aquí en la tierra.

### FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

#### First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

In seeking a King for the Israelites, Samuel traveled to Jesse of Bethlehem, who had seven sons. Commanded by God to ignore the elder sons, Samuel anointed the youngest, David.

#### Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

Paul exhorts the Ephesians to live as “children of light” in goodness and truth and to avoid evil deeds “done in darkness.”

#### Gospel: John 9:1-41

Jesus performs the miracle of giving sight to the man born blind. Because Jesus performed this miracle on the Sabbath, the Pharisees called him a “sinner,” but the blind man said, “He is a prophet.” Jesus later reveals to the blind man that He is the Son of Man.

## 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.**



Knights of Columbus Meeting is this Sunday after the 9AM Mass in the parish office. All men 18 years or older are invited to attend. We always welcome new members.

# 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 27<sup>th</sup>** after the English Stations of the Cross. For more information or to help with planning, please contact:

Mary Landriau - [mlandriau703@verizon.net](mailto:mlandriau703@verizon.net)

### Best Church Seniors ARE BACK



**March 19<sup>th</sup> at 12:30PM,**  
**"Tapping Away Stress"**  
by Alicia Gray

Pressure points can lower stress and relieve pain. 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!

### Lenten Communal Reconciliation Service



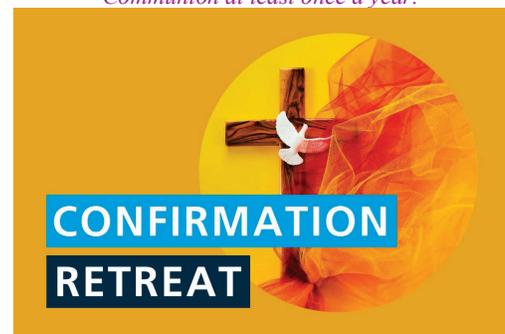
**Thursday – March 26<sup>th</sup>**  
**From 6:30PM to 8:00PM**



### 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.

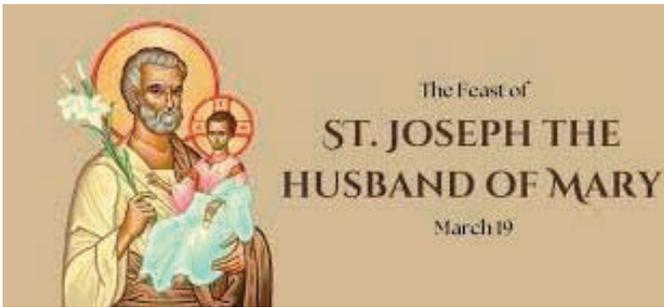
*\*Canon 920, §1. All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*



**Saturday – March 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**From 10AM to 2PM**



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



Joseph was a carpenter, a working man, for the skeptical Nazarenes ask about Jesus, "Is this not the carpenter's son?". He wasn't rich, for when he took Jesus to the Temple to be circumcised and Mary to be purified, he offered the sacrifice of two turtledoves or a pair of pigeons, allowed only for those who could not afford a lamb.

Despite his humble work and means, Joseph came from a royal lineage - descendent of David, the greatest king of Israel.

We know Joseph was a compassionate, caring man. When he discovered Mary was pregnant after they had been betrothed, he knew the child was not his but was as yet unaware that she was carrying the Son of God. He knew women accused of adultery could be stoned to death, so he resolved to send her away quietly to not expose her to shame or cruelty. However, an angel came to Joseph in a dream and told him to not be afraid to take Mary home as his wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

When the angel came again to tell him that his family was in danger, he immediately left everything he owned, all his family and friends, and fled to a strange country with his young wife and the baby. He waited in Egypt without question until the angel told him it was safe to go back.

We know Joseph loved Jesus. His one concern was for the safety of this child entrusted to him. Not only did he leave his home to protect Jesus, but upon his return settled in the obscure town of Nazareth out of fear for Jesus' life. When Jesus stayed in the Temple we are told Joseph (along with Mary) searched with great anxiety for three days for Him. We also know that Joseph treated Jesus as his own son, for over and over the people of Nazareth say of Jesus, "Is this not the son of Joseph?"

We know Joseph respected God. He followed God's commands in handling the situation with Mary and going to Jerusalem to have Jesus circumcised and Mary purified after Jesus' birth. We are told that he took his family to Jerusalem every year for Passover, something that could not have been easy for a working man.

Since Joseph does not appear in Jesus' public life, at his death, or resurrection, many historians believe

Joseph probably had died before Jesus entered public ministry.

Joseph is the patron saint of the dying because, assuming he died before Jesus' public life, he died with Jesus and Mary close to him, the way we all would like to leave this earth. He is also patron saint of the Universal Church, families, fathers, expectant mothers (pregnant women), travelers, immigrants, house sellers and buyers, craftsmen, engineers, and working people in general.

In art, Joseph is typically portrayed as an older man, with grey hair and a beard, often balding, sometimes appearing frail and a marginal figure next to Mary and Jesus, if not entirely in the background. Some statues of Joseph show his staff topped with flowers. St. Joseph is shown with the attributes of a carpenter's square or tools, the infant Jesus, his lily blossomed staff, two turtle doves, or a spikenard.

There is much we still wish we could know about Joseph -- exactly where and when he was born, how he spent his days, exactly when and how he died.

But Scripture has left us with the most important knowledge: that he was "a righteous man."



**There will be a meeting for our Altar Servers –  
March 28th, Saturday at 10AM in the church.**

## ANNUAL <sup>2026</sup> APPEAL

The 2026 Annual Appeal has begun! Each year we are invited to participate in the Annual Appeal, which is an opportunity to support essential ministries and programs of our Archdiocese. Your sacrificial support makes it possible for us to carry out the important work that we are called to do as missionary disciples of Jesus.

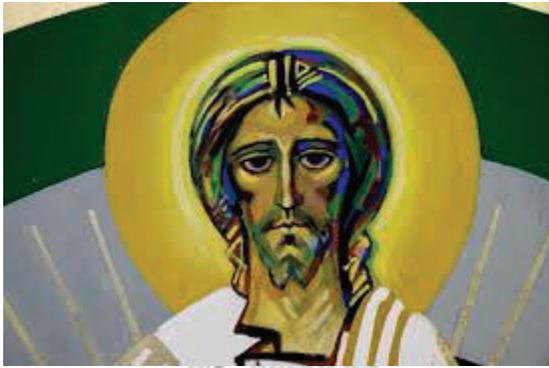
Please consider participating in this year's Appeal to help make a significant difference in many lives within our Archdiocese.

Our parish goal this year is **\$29,654.60**, and we already collected **\$9,900.00!** Please make a gift online today by visiting [rean.org/sharing](https://rean.org/sharing), scanning the QR code:



### CHOIR

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



**COME AND LISTEN**

**MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS  
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**PARISH GIVING**



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“PARISH GIVING.” *SIMPLY GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.*

**Collection for March 8, 2026**

**Online...\$ 1,834  
in Pew... \$ 3,640  
Total ...\$ 5,474**

**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 sets before us the story of the man born blind, to whom Jesus gives sight. The lengthy account opens with a blind man who begins to see. The miracle is narrated by John in just two verses, because the Evangelist does not want to draw attention to the miracle itself, but rather to what follows, to the discussions it arouses. So many times a good work, a work of charity arouses gossip and discussion, because there are some who do not want to see the truth. The Evangelist John wants to draw attention to something that also occurs in our own day when a good work is performed. The blind man who is healed is first interrogated by the astonished crowd — they saw the miracle and they interrogated him — then by the doctors of the law who also interrogate his parents. In the end, the blind man who was healed attains to faith, and this is the greatest grace that Jesus grants him: not only to see, but also to know Him, to see in Him “the light of the world.”

The blind man’s journey is a journey in stages that begins with the knowledge of Jesus’ name. He does not know anything else about him; in fact, he says: “The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes.” Following the pressing questions of the lawyers, he first considers him a prophet and then a man who is close to God. Once he has been banished from the temple, expelled from society, Jesus finds him again and “opens his eyes” for the second time, by revealing His own identity to him: “I am the Messiah”, He tells him. At this point the man who had been blind exclaims: “Lord, I believe!”, and he prostrates himself before Jesus. This is a passage of the Gospel that makes evident the drama of the inner blindness of so many people, including our own for sometimes we have moments of inner blindness.

Our lives are sometimes similar to that of the blind man who opened himself to the light, who opened himself to God, who opened himself to His grace. Sometimes, unfortunately, our lives are similar to that of the doctors of the law: from the height of our pride we judge others, and even the Lord! Today, we are invited to open ourselves to the light of Christ in order to bear fruit in our lives. We must repent and fight our behaviors that lead us to sin. We, too, have been “enlightened” by Christ in baptism, so that, as St. Paul reminds us, we may act as “children of light” with humility, patience and mercy.

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