

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

September 6, 2026

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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

pastor@bestchurch.net

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Religious Education

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908-756-3393 Ext - 103

SUMMER MASS SCHEDULE

June—July—August

SATURDAY MASS OF ANTICIPATION

5:00PM- English

SUNDAY

9:00AM – English

10:30AM – Polish

12:30PM – 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 – September 5... St. Teresa of Calcutta

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

5:00PM... Health of Margaret Honora

Sunday – September 6...23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM...+ Carlo Riello, req. Antonia Riello

10:30AM...+ Danuta Cholewa, od Rodziny Wisniewskich

12:30PM...+ Jonathan Santana

...+ Isidoro Leonardo, req. Maria Santana

Monday – September 7... Weekday (Labor Day)

9:00AM...+ Gaetano Mastroianni, req. Pina and John

Tuesday – September 8... Nativity

of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9:00AM...+ Antonietta Oliva, req. Antonia Riello

Wednesday – September 9...St. Peter Claver

9:00AM...+ Cateau De Leleuw, req. Johanna Merkle

Thursday – September 10...Weekday

9:00AM... People of the Parish

Friday – September 11... Weekday

9:00AM...+ Frank Apisa, req. Evelyn Hill

Saturday – September 12... Most Holy Name of Mary

5:00PM...

Sunday – September 13...24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

10:30AM...+ Maria Keder 5th Anniversary,
req. Radecki Family

... Parents, Teachers and Children
of Polish School

12:30PM...+ Louis Enrico Cuartas Duque,
req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

THE TABERNACLE CANDLE will burn this week
for our Parish Family.

THE BREAD AND WINE FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

is in memory of our Deceased Family Members.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

For those whose health is challenged in any way
especially for **Marian Parcinski, Mike Parise,
Giovani Todaro, Pat Cook, Margaret Honora,
Olga Skolka, and Zena Kazmierski and Sherif R.**

OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all the
Faithful Departed.

STEWARDSHIP

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel..." - EZEKIEL 33:7

Many of us are generous with our gifts. However, many of us are not generous in proportion to the gifts we have been given. How often do we give at the minimum level required? Remember, the Lord calls us to nurture and develop our gifts and to give back with increase. He calls us to be generous with all the gifts, especially the one that means the most to us.

Domingo 23º del Tiempo Ordinario

"Pues a ti, hijo del hombre, yo te he puesto como centinela del pueblo de Israel. Tú deberás recibir mis mensajes y comunicarles mis advertencias..." - Ezequiel 33:7

Muchos de nosotros somos generosos con nuestros dones. Sin embargo, muchos de nosotros no somos generosos en proporción a los dones que hemos recibido. ¿Qué tan a menudo damos el mínimo nivel requerido? Recuerda, el Señor nos llama a cuidar y desarrollar nuestros dones y a devolverlos con ganancia. Él nos llama a ser generosos con todos los dones que hemos recibido, especialmente con el que es más importante para nosotros.

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9

God has appointed the prophet as a watchman over his people. If he fails to give them warning against sin, he will be held responsible.

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-10

In this beautiful letter, Paul says that all commandments are contained in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus explains to his disciples how to respond to those who wrong them – with gentleness and practical wisdom. He promises that whenever "two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in their midst."

The Office will be closed

**Monday,
September 7th**

In observance of



Religious Education Registration **2026-2027**



In-person Registration:

September 8th
from 9am-3pm.

Parish office- 1232 George St.

**Registrations received after September 8th
will incur a late fee of \$50.**

Classes begin Wednesday, September 30th

Registration Fees:

One Child: \$90.00

Two Children: \$150.00

Three Children: \$190.00

Sacramental Fees:

First Communion: \$35.00

Confirmation: \$45.00

Online Payment



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturdays:

5:00PM English Mass of Anticipation

Sundays:

9:00 AM English

10:30 AM Polish

12:30 PM Spanish

Monday - Friday:

9:00 AM English

Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

After hours by appointment

Calling All Women of Faith!

We are excited to announce the re-launch of the
Parish Women's Faith and Fellowship Group.

This revitalized ministry invites women of all ages and backgrounds to deepen their relationship with Christ, build meaningful connections with one another, and live out their faith through prayer, reflection, service, and fellowship.

Whether you are a mother, grandmother, student, professional, retiree, or simply seeking a place to belong, this group is for you. We welcome women wherever they are on their faith journey and believe that every woman has a unique gift to share in the life of the Church.

Why Are Women's Faith Groups So Important?

Women's faith groups provide sacred spaces where women can grow spiritually, share their joys and challenges, and find strength in community. In today's busy and often isolating world, women need places where they are seen, heard, and valued, not only for what they do, but for who they are as beloved daughters of God.

Faith groups offer encouragement, deepen understanding of our Catholic faith, and foster lasting friendships rooted in Christ's love. They help women discover new ways to pray, serve, and lead within their families, parish, and community. Together, we learn that we are not alone and that God works powerfully through the support, wisdom, and witness of others.

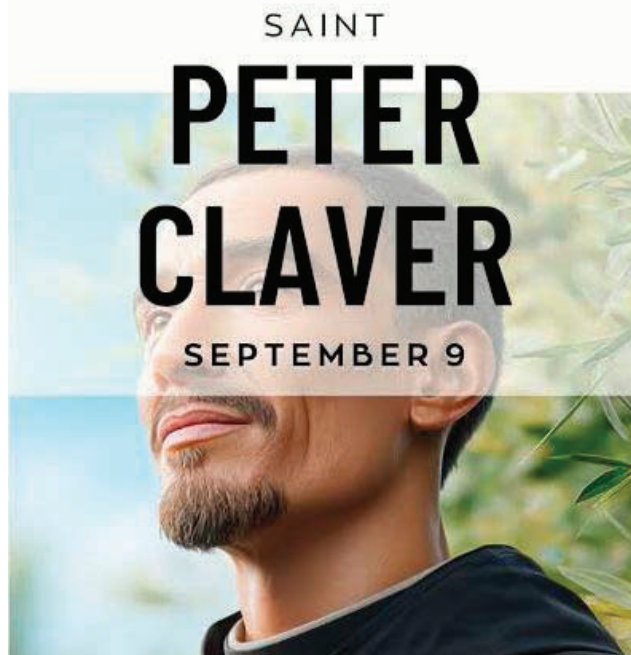
Women's groups are places of healing, purpose, and mission, where we listen to God and to one another as we discern how the Holy Spirit is calling us to grow and serve.

Join Us!

Fall 2026 Meeting Dates
Tuesdays, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Parish Center
September 29, 2026

Bring a friend and join us for an evening of prayer, conversation, encouragement, and fellowship. For more information or to become involved in planning, please contact:

Mary Landriau at mlandriau703@verizon.net.

The Saint of the Week:

A native of Spain, young Jesuit Saint Peter Claver left his homeland forever in 1610 to be a missionary in the colonies of the New World. He sailed into Cartagena, a rich port city washed by the Caribbean. He was ordained there in 1615.

By this time the slave trade had been established in the Americas for nearly 100 years, and Cartagena was a chief center for it. Ten thousand slaves poured into the port each year after crossing the Atlantic from West Africa under conditions so foul and inhuman that an estimated one-third of the passengers died in transit. Although the practice of slave-trading was condemned by Pope Paul III and later labeled "supreme villainy" by Pope Pius IX, it continued to flourish.

Saint Peter Claver's predecessor, Jesuit Father Alfonso de Sandoval, had devoted himself to the service of the slaves for 40 years before Claver arrived to continue his work, declaring himself "the slave of the Negroes forever."

As soon as a slave ship entered the port, Peter Claver moved into its infested hold to minister to the ill-treated and exhausted passengers. After the slaves were herded out of the ship like chained animals and shut up in nearby yards to be gazed at by the crowds, Claver plunged in among them with medicines, food, bread, brandy, lemons, and tobacco. With the help of interpreters he gave basic instructions and assured his brothers and sisters of their human dignity and God's love. During the 40 years of his ministry, Claver instructed and baptized an estimated 300,000 slaves.

Saint Peter Claver's apostolate extended beyond his care for slaves. He became a moral force, indeed, the apostle of Cartagena. He preached in the city square, gave missions to sailors and traders as well as country missions, during which he avoided, when possible, the hospitality of the planters and owners and lodged in the slave quarters instead.

After four years of sickness, which forced the saint to remain inactive and largely neglected, Saint Peter Claver died on September 8, 1654. The city magistrates, who had previously frowned at his solicitude for the black outcasts, ordered that he should be buried at public expense and with great pomp.

Peter Claver was canonized in 1888, and Pope Leo XIII declared him the worldwide patron of missionary work among black slaves.

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ZAPISZ SIĘ TERAZ!

DIREKTOR
MARIA MARCHWIŃSKA

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

For all the engaged couples who are planning to get married or those who are married civilly and would like to receive the sacrament of matrimony, we offer a course of Pre-Cana on **Friday nights at 8:00PM.**

Place: Office building *If you are interested, please talk to Fr. Marcin or Fr. Bernardo.*

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)

For those Catholics who did not complete their full initiation (Catholics who may have been baptized but who were never confirmed or received First Communion), or are non-Catholics who are considering becoming Catholic, we offer the time of preparation on Mondays at 7:00pm in the parish office.

If you are interested in learning more about the Christian faith, the Catholic Church, or about becoming Catholic, please contact:

Fr. Bernardo, at vicar@bestchurch.net.

Collection for August 30

On Line...\$ 1,318.00

In Pew... \$ 3,310.00

Total... \$ 4,628.00



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ANNUAL ²⁰²⁶ APPEAL

The Appeal is continuing. 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 **\$26,230.00!** Please make a gift online today by visiting rcan.org/sharing, scanning the QR code....



From Fr. Marcín

The Gospel this Sunday, presents the theme of brotherly correction within the community of believers: that is, how I must correct another Christian when he does what is not good. Jesus teaches us that, should my Christian brother commit a sin against me, offend me, I must be charitable toward him and, first of all, speak with him personally, explain to him what he said or did that was wrong. What if the brother doesn't listen to me? Jesus proposes a progressive intervention: first, return and speak to him with two or three other people, so he may be more aware of his error; if, despite this, he does not accept the admonition, the community must be told; and should he also refuse to listen to the community, he must be made aware of the rift and estrangement that he himself has caused, weakening the communion with his brothers in the faith.

The stages of this plan show the effort that the Lord asks of His community in order to accompany the one who transgresses, so that he or she is not lost. It is important above all to prevent any clamor in the news and gossip in the community — this is the first thing; which must be avoided. "Go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone." The approach is one of sensitivity, prudence, humility, attention towards the one who committed a fault, to avoid wounding or killing the brother with words. At the same time, the discretion of speaking to him alone is to avoid needlessly humiliating the sinner. It is discussed between the two, no one is aware of it, and then it's over. This requirement also takes into account the consequent series of interventions calling for the involvement of a few witnesses and then actually of the community. The purpose is to help the person realize what he has done, and that through his fault he has offended not only one, but everyone.

Before God we are all sinners and in need of forgiveness. Jesus told us not to judge. Fraternal correction is a mark of the love and communion which must reign in the Christian community; it is, rather, a mutual service that we can and must render to one another. To reprove a brother is a service, and it is possible and effective only if each one recognizes oneself to be a sinner and in need of the Lord's forgiveness.

This is why, at the beginning of Mass, every time, we are called before the Lord to recognize that we are sinners, expressing through words and gestures sincere repentance of the heart. And we say: "Have mercy on me Lord. I am a sinner! I confess to Almighty God my sins." We are all sinners and in need of the Lord's forgiveness. It is the Holy Spirit who speaks to our spirit and makes us recognize our faults in light of the Word of Jesus. Jesus himself invites us all, saints and sinners, to His table, gathering us from the crossroads, from diverse situations of life.

Fr. Marcín

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