

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

September 20, 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.

PARISH STAFF

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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 19... St. Januarius

9:00AM... People of the Parish

5:00PM...+Patricia Frank, req. Barbara and Al St. Louis

Sunday – September 20...25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM...+Frank Apisa, req. Mike and Beth Venezia

10:30AM...+Maria Keder, (5th Anniversary),
od Radecki Rodzina

12:30PM...+Luis Enrico Cuartas Gonzalez
req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

Monday – September 21... St. Matthew

9:00AM...+Michael Parise,
req. Pat and John Zimmerman

Tuesday – September 22... Weekday

9:00AM... God's Special Blessing for Peter Amadin,
req. Mother

Wednesday – September 23...St. Pius of Pietrelcina

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

Thursday – September 24...Weekday

9:00AM...+Paula Maricela DeLeon Solicitado,
por la Hija

Friday – September 25... Weekday

9:00AM... Esther Amadin, God's Blessings for Birthday

Saturday – September 26... Sts. Cosmas and Damian

9:00AM... People of the Parish

5:00PM...+Melissa Plick, req. Plick Family

Sunday – September 27...26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM...+Frank Apisa, req. Morano Family

10:30AM...+Janina Książek, od Syn z Rodziną
...George Sipos (6th Anniv.),
od Kapolka Rodzina

12:30PM...



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, Giovani Todaro,
Pat Cook, Margaret Honora, Olga Skolka,
Zena Kazmierski, Sherif R. and Eric Johansen.**

OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all the
Faithful Departed especially **Michael Parise.**

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:



STEWARDSHIP

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last". - MATTHEW 20:16

You've heard the saying "it's not where you start, but how you finish." This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use. Our sincere gratitude and cheerful generosity will help us live "God-centered" lives and not "self-centered" lives.

Domingo 25º del Tiempo Ordinario

"Entonces, los últimos serán los primeros, y los primeros serán los últimos."
- Mateo 20:16

Seguramente ha escuchado el dicho "no se trata de dónde empiezas, sino de cómo terminas". Esto ciertamente se aplica a este pasaje de la Biblia. No solo somos responsables de nuestras vidas, sino también de las vidas de otras personas. Somos llamados a compartir nuestros dones con generosidad, no a acumularlos para nuestro propio uso. Nuestra gratitud sincera y nuestra alegre generosidad nos llevará a vivir una Vida "centrada en Dios" y no una vida "egocéntrica".

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

Isaiah expresses an urgent plea that all should seek the Lord and turn to him for mercy.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

In a strongly personal message from Paul while in prison, he says that he wishes "to be freed from this life and to be with Christ," but he realizes that he still has much important work to do.

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16a

Jesus tells the parable of the owner of an estate who hires workmen for his vineyard. When, at the end of the day, he pays a full day's wage to those who worked only one hour, those who worked all day complained bitterly. But the owner says, "I am free to do as I please, am I not?" Jesus reminds us through this parable that "the last shall be first and the first shall be last."

Religious Education Registration 2026-2027



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 - Saturday:

9:00 AM English

Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

After hours by appointment

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.

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.

Calling All Women of Faith!

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

Tuesday, September 29, 2026 ,

5:00 PM - 7:00PM

In the Parish Center

Bring a friend and join us for an evening of prayer, conversation, encouragement, and fellowship.

please contact:

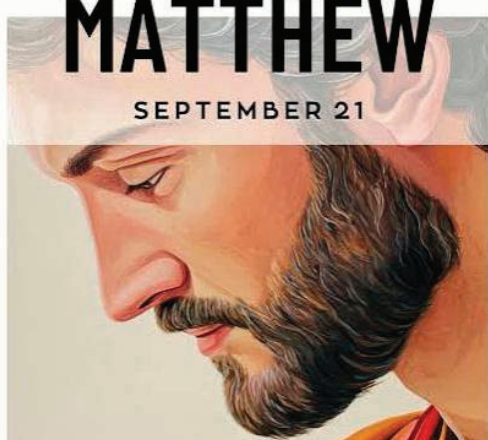
Mary Landriau at mlandriau703@verizon.net.

The Saint of the Week:

SAINT

MATTHEW

SEPTEMBER 21



Saint Matthew was most likely born as Levi, the son of Alphaeus. Levi became a tax collector for the Roman authorities. The name “Levi” implies that he was from the Tribe of Levi, the tribe responsible for Jewish liturgical worship. Levi might have been his original name, and Matthew may have been the name given to him by Jesus upon his conversion. The name Matthew means “Gift of Yahweh.”

Levi’s call to follow Jesus was short but profound. He was a man clearly weighed down by his decision to betray his Levitical heritage by working for the Roman authorities to collect taxes for them. He might have been corrupt, greedy, and ostracized by his Jewish community. Most likely, his tax collecting took place in Capernaum, where Jesus had been living in Peter’s home. His duties likely involved gathering taxes on goods that came to Capernaum by way of the Sea of Galilee, as well as collecting a toll from those who arrived in that city by boat. When Jesus began His public ministry, many people took notice. Though there is no biblical account of Matthew listening to Jesus preach prior to his being called, it is reasonable to assume that he did hear about our Lord, and possibly even listened to Him preach in Capernaum. Matthew’s Gospel relates the conversion of the tax collector this way, “As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the customs post. He said to him, ‘Follow me.’ And he got up and followed him.” There was no hesitancy. In an instant, the tax collector’s life changed.

Throughout the rest of the Gospels, Matthew’s name is listed with the Twelve. He was present at the Ascension and at Pentecost where he received his commission and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit with the other Apostles. Early Church Fathers state that he remained for some time in Judea, preaching the Gospel and helping the newly formed Church. It is during this period that he might have penned his Gospel. It is also commonly held by the Church Fathers that Matthew eventually went to “Ethiopia,” but not Ethiopia in northeast Africa. Instead, he might

have traveled to the territory south of the Caspian Sea, modern-day Iran or Armenia.

The most enduring gift Saint Matthew left behind is his Gospel. Though some modern scholars question whether he was the original author, early Church Fathers attribute the first Gospel to him unequivocally. Matthew’s Gospel was written by a Jew for his fellow Jews. It was most likely written in Hebrew and Aramaic and later translated into Greek. The original Hebrew and Aramaic texts no longer exist. His Gospel clearly shows that Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old Testament, the long-awaited Messiah. He begins with a lengthy genealogy in which he traces Jesus’ roots back to Abraham, the father of the Jewish nation. Matthew’s Gospel is well structured and organized, offering five major discourses in which he presents the Kingdom of Heaven, the Church’s foundation on Peter, the call to righteousness and obedience to God’s will, unique parables, and the Sermon on the Mount. The Sermon on the Mount especially portrays Jesus as the new Moses, offering the New Law on the new mountain. Though Moses received the Law from God on Mount Sinai, Jesus gives the New Law as God Himself on the Mount of the Beatitudes.

As we honor Saint Matthew, we also celebrate the Gospel itself. Matthew was but a human instrument; the content of his Gospel is the Living Word of God. Ponder the inestimable value of this Gospel that God has used to transform countless lives. By his simple obedience to the will of God, Saint Matthew’s efforts have been exponentially fruitful and will continue to be so until the end of the age.

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.**

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 the Mass concluding with Benediction at 10:45AM.



Polska Szkoła Dekanatująca
im. Juliana Ursyna Niemcewicza
 361 Emerson Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07062 - adres szkoły
 1222 George Street, Plainfield, NJ 07062 - adres korespondencyjny
 Email: polskaszkoalaplainfield@outlook.com, Telefon Dzwonki: 732 241 4276



zapisy do polskiej szkoły

Odkryj bogactwo polskiej kultury i języka!

Zapisz się już dziś i bądź częścią naszej szkolnej rodziny!

Kontakt:
 polskaszkoalaplainfield@outlook.com
 Tel. (732) 241-4276

Oferujemy:

- Zajęcia w poniedziałki 5:30 - 8:00 pm
- Klasy: Przedszkole - Liceum (klasy maturalne)
- Aktywna społeczność: uczniowie, rodzice i nauczyciele
- Przekształcenia, konkursy, warsztaty, wycieczki szkolne, wspólnie wydzierżawienie z okazji Święt Bożego Narodzenia i Wielkanocy, bal karawansowy, piknik szkolny, oraz dużo więcej!
- Prawie 25 lat doświadczenia z wykwintowaną kadrą pedagogiczną



Collection for September 13

On Line...\$ 1,018.00

In Pew....\$ 5,481.00

Total..... \$ 6,499.00



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From Fr. Marcin

Today's page from the Gospel recounts the parable of the workers called to work in the vineyard. Through this narrative, Jesus shows us the surprising way God acts, represented by two of the owner's attitudes: the call and the reward.

Five times the owner of the vineyard goes out and calls people to work for him: at six, at nine, at twelve, at three and at five in the afternoon. The image of this owner, who goes out numerous times to look for day workers for his vineyard, is God who calls at any hour. Also today, He continues to invite us to work in His Kingdom. This is God's style, which in our turn we are called to receive and to imitate. He does not stay shut in within His world, but "goes out": God always goes out, in search of us. He continually seeks out people, because He does not want anyone to be lost.

Our community is also called to go out to the various types of "boundaries" that there might be, to offer everyone the word of salvation that Jesus came to bring. It means being open to horizons in life that offer hope to those stationed on the existential peripheries, who have not yet experienced, or have lost, the strength and the light that comes with meeting Christ. The Church needs to be like God: always going out; and when the Church does not go out, it becomes stagnant and closed to others. It is true that when someone goes out there is the danger of getting into some problems. It is better that a Church gets into problems because it goes out to proclaim the Gospel, rather than a Church that is stagnant without reaching others. God always goes out because He is a Father, full of love. The Church must do the same: going out.

We see also how God is compensating the workers. The owner agrees to "one denarius" with the first workers he hired in the morning. Instead, to those he hired later, he says: "Whatever is right I will give you." At the end of the day, the owner of the vineyard orders that everyone be given the same pay, that is, one denarius. Those who had worked since morning are outraged and complain against the owner, but he insists: he wants to give the maximum pay to everyone, even to those who arrived last. God always pays the maximum amount: He does not pay halfway. He pays everything. In this way, it is understood that Jesus is not speaking about work and just wages – that is another problem – but about the Kingdom of God and the goodness of the heavenly Father who goes out continually to invite, and He pays everyone the maximum amount.

God's way of acting is more than just; it goes beyond justice and is manifested in Grace. Everything is Grace: our salvation, holiness... He bestows on us more than what we deserve. Those who reason using human logic, that is, the logic of the merits acquired through one's own greatness, from being first, find themselves last. Let's remember who was the first canonized saint in the Church: the Good Thief. He "stole" Paradise at the last minute of his life: this is Grace. This is what God is like, even with us.

Fr. Marcin

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