

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

September 27, 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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Iveth Parada

Religious Education

bestreligioused@gmail.com

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 26... Sts. Cosmas and Damian

9:00AM... People of the Parish

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

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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...+ Antonio Deleon (19th Anniv.) req. Family

Monday – September 28... Sts. Wenceslaus and Lawrence Ruiz

9:00AM...+Michael Parise,

req. Karole and Eddie Lechowski

Tuesday – September 29... Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael

9:00AM...+Stella Sopko, (Birthday in Heaven),

req. Daughter Karole

Wednesday – September 30...St. Jerome

9:00AM ...Religious Education Teachers,

Children and Parents

Thursday – October 1...St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus

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

Friday – October 2...Holy Guardian Angels

9:00AM ...+Michael Parise,

req. Rosemary and Joseph McDonald

7:00PM...(Pol.)

Saturday – October 3... Weekday

9:00AM...+Alfred Schneider, req. Johanna Merkle

5:00PM...+Frank Morano, req. Family

Sunday – October 4...27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM... +Frank Apisa, req. Maria and David Fame

10:30AM...+Kazimierz i Karol Wojewodka,

od przyjaciele z So. Plainfield

12:30PM...+Nidia Salgado, req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

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

THE BREAD AND WINE FOR THE MONTH OF October is in memory of Michael Parise at the request of Kathy Merklinger.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

For those whose health is challenged in any way especially for **Marian Parcinski, Giovani Todaro, Margaret Honora, Olga Skolka, Helga Gilligan Zena Kazmierski, Sherif R., and Eric Johansen**

OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all the Faithful Departed.

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

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Do nothing out of selfishness; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves..." Philippians 2:3

Pride and ego are hard things to control. We see how others act or dress and think we are superior to them. We idolize our own self-image. But, if we truly believe everything is a gift from God, we recognize all the people that God has put in our lives as gifts! We are grateful for how they enrich our lives. Pray every day for the people in your life: your family, your friends and those who make you angry.

26^o domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

"No hagas nada por egoísmo; más bien, consideren humildemente a los demás como más importantes que ustedes ... "FILIPENSES 2: 3

El orgullo y el ego son cosas difíciles de controlar. Vemos cómo actúan o visten los demás y pensamos que somos superiores a ellos. Idolatramos nuestra propia imagen. Pero, si realmente creemos que todo es un regalo de Dios, ¡reconocemos a todas las personas que Dios ha puesto en nuestras vidas como regalos! Estamos agradecidos por cómo enriquecen nuestras vidas. Ora todos los días por las personas en tu vida: tu familia, tus amigos y aquellos que te hacen enojar.

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28

Ezekiel reminds the people that if a sinner turns away from his iniquity, he will live, not die.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

Paul urges the converts at Philippi to be united in spirit and ideals, avoiding rivalry and dissension. He ends with the beautiful hymn extolling the humility and sacrifice of Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus speaks words of rebuke to the chief priests and the elders because they are not believing the teachings of John the Baptist. He warns them that tax collectors and prostitutes, who do believe John, will enter the Kingdom of God before them.

Religious Education Registration

2026-2027



Religious Education Class begins on

Wednesday, September 30th

6:30PM-7:40PM

Entrance will be the school building 365 Emerson Avenue. Children will meet and be dismissed from the cafeteria.

Liturgy of the Word



On Sundays we offer Liturgy of the Word at the 9AM Mass for children K-3 during the Homily in the church Chapel Room.

If you are willing to assist with the class once a month, please contact Karole in the office.

ROSARY



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

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

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

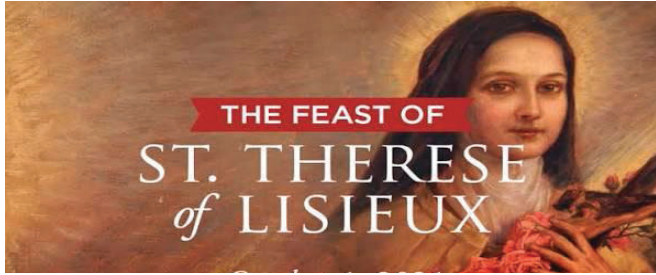
Tuesday, September 29, 2026 ,

5:00 PM - 7:00PM

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:

Born Jan. 2, 1873, Marie-Françoise-Thérèse Martin was the youngest of nine children of Louis and Zélie Martin and grew up in a loving, deeply Catholic family. Four of her sisters became nuns — three Carmelites like herself and one a Visitandine. But after her mother's death, Thérèse, age 4, became a temperamental child, given to tantrums when things weren't exactly as she wanted and likely to burst into tears at the drop of a hat.

Seeing her older sisters enter the Carmelite convent in Lisieux, France, Thérèse longed to do the same. In November 1887, her father took her and Celine on a diocesan pilgrimage to Rome, and she boldly seized the opportunity of an audience with Pope Leo XIII to ask him to tell the authorities to allow her to enter Carmel despite being underage.

"You will enter if God wills it," the startled pope told the 14-year-old girl. Thérèse had hoped for more, but soon the local bishop gave his approval, and on April 9, 1888, she entered the convent. Two years later, she made her vows. She took the name Thérèse of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face.

Thérèse was intensely happy. But having found life in a strict convent to be no bed of roses, she resolved to look for opportunities to show affection and kindness to the least friendly sisters in her order.

While still a novice, she volunteered to accompany this elderly, grumpy nun from choir to dinner every day, holding her cincture to keep her steady. "But if by mistake she took a false step," Thérèse recalled, "immediately it appeared to her that I was holding her incorrectly and she was about to fall. 'Ah! My God! You are going too fast; I'm going to break something.' If I tried to go more slowly: 'Well, come on! Ah! I was right when I said you were too young to help me.'"

One day, she observed that arthritis made it hard for Sister St. Pierre to cut her bread. So, without being asked, she cut the old woman's bread, "gave her my most beautiful smile," and left. "It was by this means that I gained her entire good graces."

Through the daily multiplication of such small incidents, Thérèse perfected her famous "little way" to holiness. Being a small person with a small soul, she reasoned, she lived in an environment that invited only small deeds of kindness. But perform those acts with great love in total obedience to the will of God and the result was something great.

"My vocation is love," she wrote. To explain her meaning, she cited a technological marvel of the day: "I, too, would like to find an elevator to lift me up to Jesus, for I am too little to climb the rough stairway of perfection." Addressing her prioress, she explained: "My dear Mother, you can see that I am a very little soul and that I can offer God only very little things. ... I ask Jesus to draw me into the flames of his love, to unite me so closely to him that he live and act in me."

As assistant to the mistress of novices, Thérèse practiced the little way in that role, humble with some and "severe" with others, depending on what was best for each. At the request of the prioress, she also became spiritual sister to two French missionary priests, one in North Africa and the other in Indochina, praying for them and writing letters of spiritual guidance and encouragement.

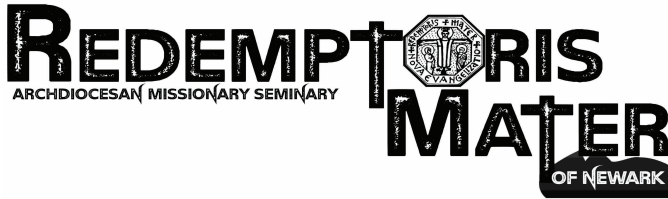
On the night of Holy Thursday in 1896, Thérèse coughed up blood, a sign of the onset of tuberculosis. She welcomed the illness that would speed her journey to heaven. On July 8, 1897, she was transferred to the convent infirmary. Her death was slow and painful and was accompanied by temptations against faith. On July 17, she made a prediction:

"I feel that my mission is about to begin, my mission of making others love God as I love him, my mission of teaching my little way to souls. If God answers my requests, my heaven will be spent on earth up until the end of the world. Yes, I want to spend my heaven in doing good on earth."

St. Thérèse of Lisieux died on Sept. 30, 1897, at the young age of 24. She was beatified by Pope St. Pius X and canonized on May 17, 1925, by Pope Pius XI. Pope St. John Paul II declared her a Doctor of the Church in 1997. She is also recognized, with St. Francis Xavier, as patroness of missions and missionaries and, with St. Joan of Arc, as secondary patroness of France. Her parents, Louis and Zélie Martin, were canonized by Pope Francis in 2015.

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 in the Parish Office **Friday nights at 8:00PM.**



OPEN HOUSE / FAMILY DAY

Sunday, September 27th, 2026

672 Passaic Ave, Kearny, NJ

Starting at the Seminary at 2:30 pm

**Food for sale, Games and
Guided tours of the Seminary
from 3pm-5:30pm**

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE EVENT
CONTACT FR. MANUEL DUEÑAS AT
(201) 997-3220 OR RMNEWARK@GMAIL.COM

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.

Collection for September 20

On Line...\$ 1,068.00

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Total.....\$ 4,295.00



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PREPARED FOR CLEAN-UP.

From Fr. Marcin

With His preaching on the Kingdom of God, Jesus opposes a religiosity that does not involve human life, that does not question the conscience and its responsibility in the face of good and evil. This is also demonstrated by the parable of the two sons, which is offered to us in the Gospel. To the father's invitation to go and work in the vineyard, the first son impulsively responds "No, I'm not going," but then he repents and goes; instead the second son, who immediately replies "Yes, yes dad," does not actually do so; he doesn't go. Obedience does not consist of saying "yes" or "no," but always of acting, of cultivating the vineyard, of bringing about the Kingdom of God, in doing good. With this simple example, Jesus wants to go beyond a religion understood only as external and habitual practice, which does not affect people's lives and attitudes, a superficial religiosity, merely "ritual", in the ugly sense of the word.

The exponents of this "façade" of religiosity, of which Jesus disapproves, in that time were "the chief priests and the elders of the people," who, according to the Lord's admonition, will be preceded in the Kingdom of God by "tax collectors and prostitutes." Jesus tells them: "the sinners go into the kingdom of God before you." This affirmation must not induce us to think that those who do not follow God's commandments and morality do well. Jesus does not indicate publicans and prostitutes as models of life, but as "privileged of Grace." Grace, because conversion is always a grace: a grace that God offers to anyone who opens up and converts to Him.

In today's Gospel, the one who makes the best impression is the first brother, not because he said "no" to his father, but because after his "no" he converted to "yes"; he repented. God is patient with each of us. He leaves us free even to distance ourselves from Him and to make mistakes. The Lord always waits for us; He is always beside us to help us, but He respects our freedom. He anxiously awaits our "yes", so as to welcome us anew in His fatherly arms and to fill us with His boundless mercy. Faith in God asks us to renew every day the choice of good over evil, the choice of the truth rather than lies, the choice of love for our neighbor over selfishness. Those who convert, after having experienced sin, will find the first places in the Kingdom of Heaven, where there is greater joy for a single sinner who converts than for ninety-nine righteous people. But conversion, changing the heart, is a process, a process that purifies us from moral stagnation. At times it is a painful process, because there is no path of holiness without some sacrifice and without a spiritual battle. Today's Gospel passage calls into question the way of living a Christian life, which is not made up of dreams and beautiful aspirations, but of concrete commitments, in order to open ourselves ever more to God's will and to love for our brothers and sisters. Even the smallest concrete commitment cannot be made without grace. Conversion is a grace for which we must always ask.

Fr. Marcin

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