

September 1, 2024

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

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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.

SERVED BY
Rev. Marcin Fuks, Pastor
pastor@bestchurch.net

PARISH STAFF

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bestreligioused@gmail.com

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CHURCH ADDRESS

1235 George Street

Plainfield, NJ 07062

OFFICES & MAILING ADDRESS

1232 George Street

Plainfield, NJ 07062

OFFICE HOURS

Sunday: Closed or by appointment

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

Saturday: Closed or by appointment

INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE THE EUCHARIST

Sunday-----9:00 am
1:00 pm *in English*
11:00 am *in Polish*

Weekdays

Monday - Saturday -----9:00 am

Saturday -----5:00 pm
for Sunday obligation

Holy Day Vigil----- 7:00 pm, *English*

Holy Day-----9:00 am
12:00 noon *in English*
7:00 pm *bi-lingual, English & Polish*

RECONCILIATION

Saturday -----4:15 pm

Daily & Sunday: After each Mass.
Special Penance Services scheduled
seasonally in English and Polish.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Levels 1 - 8:

Wednesday, 6:30 - 7:40 pm

For information regarding Parish
Sacrament Preparation Classes, please
call the Office.

MARRIAGE: Arrangements should be made with a priest as soon as possible. One year prior to marriage or as soon as engagement is announced is recommended.

MINISTRY TO THE SICK: In the event of serious illness or when someone is hospitalized, the parish office should be notified. The Eucharist and the Sacrament of the Sick will be celebrated with anyone requesting them. Remember, the Hospital cannot notify us on their own.

YOUTH MINISTRY: The Youth Mass is at 9:00 am on Sundays and "Get-A-Grip," grades 7-12, meets for Liturgy of the Word during the Mass on the first Sunday of the month. Youth in grades 9-12 meet at scheduled intervals.

CATECHUMENATE (RCIA): A process of faith building for those who would like to become members of, or for all who have not received full initiation into, the Roman Catholic Church. Please call the Catechetics Center for more information.

BAPTISM: Celebrated throughout the year in accordance with the policy of the Archdiocese and to accommodate the needs of our Parish Family. Attendance at a preparation session may be required. You must be a registered and active family for at least 90 days before a date for Baptism will be scheduled. Please call the Parish Office for an appointment.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Saturday – August 31... Weekday

9:00AM... People of the Parish

5:00PM...+ Catherine Pellerano, req. Mary Benwell

Sunday – September 1... 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM... Osayiuware Ebose, req. Family

11:00AM...+ Rozalia i Walenty Kapolka, req. Wnuk i Rodzina

1:00PM...+ William Kruse, req. Johanna Merkle

Monday – September 2... Weekday- Labor Day

9:00AM... + Romelia Cartagena (2nd Anniv),
req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

Tuesday – September 3... St. Gregory The Great

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

Wednesday – September 4... Weekday

9:00AM...+ Martin Parise, req. Macknowsky Family

Thursday – September 5... Weekday

9:00AM...+ Muriel Siccardi, req. Parish Family

Friday – September 6... Weekday

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

7:00PM... +(Pol.) Filomena i Franciszek Madeja

Saturday – September 7... Weekday

9:00AM... Birthday Blessings for Christopher Benitez
req, Juan and Alba

5:00PM...+ Angela Garvasi, req. Mary Ellen Chanda

Sunday – September 8... 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM...+ George Fitzgerald, req. Macknowsky Family

11:00AM...+ Edmund Grzymala, Urodziny w niebie,
req. Córka i Rodzina

1:00PM...+ Ellen Martin, req. Marilyn Populus

Please Pray for our Parishioners in the Military
SSG Katarzyna Czajka, US Army
Ryan Percy, USN
Declan Cassidy, US Army



Newark Priest

Thinking Priesthood? Are you being called?

Talk to your priest or

Visit the Archdiocese of Newark

Office of Priestly Vocations

Call 973-313-6190. Email info@newarkpriest.com.

Social Media@Newark Priest

The **Tabernacle Candle** will burn this week in **Memory of Cosmo Toto** at the request of **Wife Alice**.

The **Bread and Wine** used at Mass for the month of **September** is for **Deceased Members of the Polizzano Family** at the request of **Pollizzano Family**.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for those whose health is challenged in any way especially **Cathy and Jack Rooney, Marian Parcinski, Frank Kazmierski, and Olivia Schiffer**.

OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all the Faithful Departed.

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

Moses tells the people to always observe the statutes God has given them, without adding or subtracting from these laws. He reminds them that the law is just, and that any nation who heard their statutes would consider them a wise nation.

Second Reading: James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27

James discusses the gifts that God has given to all people and implores them to respond by welcoming the words of truth that can save them. He emphasizes that through good deeds and pure conduct, our faith in God is proven to him.

Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Pharisees observed some of Jesus' disciples eating without first purifying their hands and ask the disciples why they are going against their ancestors' traditions. Jesus responds that nothing from the outside can make a person impure. The only true evil acts such as fornication, murder, and greed among others, come from within and make a person impure.

STEWARDSHIP... 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Be doers of the word and not hearers only..."

JAMES 1:22

It's easy to understand the definition of stewardship – living a grateful and generous life. The hard part is doing it! How do your words and actions reflect God's word? Do you share your time in prayer with God daily? Do you use your talent to help those in need without expecting anything in return? Are you generous with your financial resources? If not, what are you waiting for?

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD COLLECTION

We continue to collect food in the open area of the church for Starfish to be distributed throughout the Union County area. Dates should be current and food **non-perishable**. Thank you for all your support.

Religious Education Registration

When: NOW!!!



Where: - Online:
- In person-Pick up a form at the parish office.

Registration Fees: **Sacrament Fees:**

1 Child \$80 First Communion \$25

2 Children \$140 Confirmation \$35

3 Children \$180

Payment:

Online:

Check or Cash



**The Office will be closed
Monday, September 2nd**



The Saint of the Week

St. Gregory the Great

(September 3))

Pope Saint Gregory the Great, was the Pope of the Catholic Church between 590 and 604 AD. He was born around 540 in Rome. His family was very wealthy and owned estates on the island of Sicily which provided income.

Gregory was well educated and excelled in all his studies. He also became an expert in law. He excelled so much he became the Prefect of Rome, just as his father had been. Gregory was only 33 years old.

After Gregory's father died, Gregory had the family villa in Rome converted into a monastery.

Pope Pelagius II, who reigned from 579 to 590, chose Gregory to serve as an ambassador to the imperial court in Constantinople. In 590, Pope Pelagius II died, and Gregory was proclaimed pope by acclamation. Although Gregory made clear he preferred the monastic life, he also referred to himself as a servant of God and accepted the new call.

Pope Gregory was famous for the emphasis he put on missionary work. He made many changes to the Mass, some of which remain today. He emphasized the aspect of service to the poor for deacons. Pope Gregory established the melodious, monophonic music style of singing known as Gregorian Chant.

Pope Gregory was well known for his alms to the poor, and he gave quite generously of the riches donated to the Church by the wealthy people of Rome. He ordered his clergy to go out into the streets to find and care for the poor in person.

When a famine struck Rome in the 590s, Pope Gregory ordered the Church to use its assets to feed the poor. He himself refused to eat until his monks returned from their work of handing out food. He also made certain to dine with a dozen poor people at each meal.

Because of his great respect for the poor, it Pope Gregory and the Church became the most respected and obeyed force in Rome and across Italy. From the time of Gregory onwards, the people looked to the Church for government rather than the distant and indifferent emperors in Constantinople.

Pope Gregory suffered from arthritis in his last years. He died on March 12, 604 AD. He was immediately proclaimed a saint by means of popular acclaim.

He is the patron saint of musicians, singers, students, and teachers.

Polskie Duszpasterstwo w Parafii św. Bernarda i św. Stanisława Kostki



22 Niedziela Zwykła Rok B

Papież Franciszek

Komuś nieobeznanemu z religią żydowską i przepisami Tory mogłoby się wydawać, że krytyczne słowa faryzeuszy pod adresem uczniów Jezusa są jak najbardziej słuszne. Przecież uczono nas w domu, że trzeba myć ręce przed jedzeniem. Tego wymagają podstawowe zasady higieny. Ale w tym wypadku nie chodzi wcale o brudne ręce, tylko o ręce nieczyste. Różnica jest bardzo istotna: według wyjaśnień Tory, grzech czynił nieczystym nie tylko człowieka, ale i przedmioty, które dotknął człowiek grzeszny, nieczyste z samej definicji były niektóre zwierzęta, ciało zmarłego, kobieta miesiączkująca, etc. Człowiek, który się dotknął czegoś lub kogoś nieczystego, nie mógł wejść do świątyni, nie mógł uczestniczyć w kulcie, a przecież było obowiązkiem każdego Izraelity oddawanie czci Jedynemu Bogu. Posiłek także był czynnością sakralną, a zatem trzeba było sobie (na wszelki wypadek) obmyć ręce, aby usunąć rytualną przeszkodę do godziwego jego spożycia.

Tradycje są dobre, jeśli wyrażają to, czym człowiek żyje, co ma w swoim sercu. Kiedy pozostaje tylko zewnętrzny rytuał, a serce jest daleko od tego, czemu dany zwyczaj ma służyć, to rodzi się pytanie, jaki jest sens jego praktykowania.

Intencją Jezusa było oczyścić słowo Boże z tego wszystkiego, co było jedynie drobiazgową interpretacją poszczególnych przykazań. Żydzi lubili roztrząsać każde zdanie Pisma na wszelkie możliwe sposoby, stąd powstały obszerne komentarze do niego, zwane halachą, która potem stała się częścią Talmudu, a która w Ewangelii nosi miano tradycji starszych. W ten sposób dochodziło nieraz do tego, że interpretacje zniekształcały sens Bożego słowa.

„Nic nie wchodzi z zewnątrz do człowieka, co mogłoby uczynić go nieczystym” – stwierdza Jezus. Dlaczego? Ponieważ nieczystość to nie jest skutek dotyku takiej czy innej rzeczy, zwierzęcia czy człowieka, lecz to jest w gruncie rzeczy skoncentrowanie się na samym sobie. W czasach Jezusa nie znano pojęcia „egoizm”. Natomiast dobrze znano pojęcie „nieczyste”. Bo egoizm to jest właśnie to, co „wychodzi” ze mnie, co manifestuje na zewnątrz moje „ja”. „To bowiem, co wychodzi z człowieka, czyni go nieczystym”. A co wychodzi z wnętrza? Jezus dokładnie wymienia: złe myśli,

nierząd, kradzieże, zabójstwa, cudzołóstwa, chciwość, przewrotność, podstęp, wyuzdanie, zazdrość, obelgi, pycha, głupota. Bardzo łatwo jest zauważyć „nieczyste” u drugiego. Tymczasem chodzi o to, aby „nieczyste” zauważyć u siebie. A to jest o wiele trudniejsze. Jeżeli będziemy często przeglądać się w lustrze Bożego słowa, dostrzeżemy prawdę o nas samych. Bo to słowo Boże jest tą właściwą Tradycją, którą powinniśmy sobie przekazywać.

„Sprawnie uchylacie Boże przykazanie” – mówi Jezus. Użyty tutaj grecki czasownik *atheteo* oznacza również „czynić niewykonalnym”. To jest porażający zarzut. Faryzeusze uniemożliwiają ludziom zachowanie Bożych przykazań. Ale dlaczego? Aby mieć nad nimi poczucie wyższości, aby uważać się za doskonałych, pobożnych, a więc „czystych”. Ludzie przez wieki tworzyli wyjaśnienia i komentarze do Tory, do Bożego Prawa, aby je lepiej wyjaśnić. Ale z czasem te komentarze przerosły ludzkie możliwości i wprowadziły ich w niewolę.

Jezus krytykuje tradycje, jakie sobie przekazywali faryzeusze i uczeni w Piśmie. Jednak są różne tradycje. Jest taka tradycja, której powinniśmy się trzymać, którą przekazali nam apostołowie, którą przekazuje nam Kościół. To są słowa samego Jezusa. Bez komentarza. Jedynym komentarzem do nich jest to, co Jezus uczynił, jak żył i jak umarł.

29 kwietnia 2020

6 września, godzinna 7PM – Msza po Polsku

Szkoła Polska Doksztalająca

*Zajęcia w Polskiej Szkole działającej przy
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*Kontakt: polskaszkolainplainfield@outlook.com
Dyrektorka Szkoły: Beata Benewiat*

Tel. 732-266-4310

Tel. 732-266-4310



Flower Donations

Thank you all for your ongoing generous flower donations. It makes our church look so lively and beautiful and it is very much appreciated.

DEVOTION



The Rosary is prayed before the 9AM Mass during the week Monday – Saturday. On Thursdays after 9AM Mass the **Blessed Sacrament is exposed**, closing with **Benediction at 11:00AM**.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on a regular basis on Saturdays at 4:15PM and after weekday Masses simply by requesting a celebration of the sacrament.

FINANCE



ONLINE GIVING

It is possible to automate your Faith Giving to our parish. To sign up online and/or to automate giving, simply go to our parish website. www.bestchurch.net

Collection August 25

Online....\$ 1,148.00

In Pew..... \$ 2,946.00

Total Collection for August 25...\$ 4,094.00

Thank you for all your donations!!!

ANNUAL ²⁰²⁴ APPEAL

The 2024 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.

We already collected **\$25,817.00** which is **89%** of our goal for the AA 2024.

We are missing only **\$3,059.94.00**

Thank you for all your donations.

From Fr. Marcin's Desk

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

This Sunday we turn to a reading from the Gospel of Mark. Jesus addresses an important topic for all of us believers: the authenticity of our obedience to the Word of God. The narrative opens with the objection that the scribes and Pharisees address to Jesus, accusing His disciples of failing to observe the ritual precepts according to tradition. In this way, those challenging Him seek to strike at the reliability and authority of Jesus as Teacher because He allows His disciples to evade the prescriptions of tradition. But Jesus responds emphatically; He responds by saying: "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men'". This is what Jesus says - clear and emphatic words! "Hypocrite" is, so to speak, one of the strongest adjectives that Jesus uses in the Gospel, and He speaks them as He addresses the teachers of religion.

Indeed, Jesus wants to rouse the scribes and Pharisees from the error they have fallen into, and what is this error? That of distorting God's will, neglecting His commandments in order to observe human traditions. Jesus' reaction is severe because something great is at stake: it concerns the truth of the relationship between man and God, the authenticity of religious life. A hypocrite is a liar; he is not authentic.

Today too, the Lord invites us to avoid the danger of giving more importance to form than to substance. He calls us to recognize, ever anew, what is the true core of the experience of faith, that is, love of God and love of neighbor, by purifying it of the hypocrisy of legalism and ritualism.

Let us make an examination of conscience to see how we embrace the Word of God. On Sunday we listen to it at Mass. If we listen to it in a distracted or superficial way, it will not be of much use. Instead, we must welcome the Word with open minds and hearts, as good soil, in a way that it may be assimilated and may bear fruit in real life. Jesus says that the Word of God is like wheat; it is a seed that must grow in practical deeds. In this way the Word itself purifies our heart and actions, and our relationship with God and with others is freed from hypocrisy.

Fr. Marcin Fuks

pastor@bestchurch.net

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