

Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 6, 2024



The Garden of Eden, British Embroidery, late 1500s
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York



SAINT BERNADETTE
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 6, 2024

welcome



SUNDAY MASS	Saturday Vigil in church 5pm (live-streaming) Sunday 7am, 9am, 11am, 1pm (Spanish), 5pm
DAILY MASS	Mon.–Fri., 7 & 9am (live-streaming); Sat., 8am (live-streaming) Holy Days of Obligation, as announced
LIVE-STREAMING	Monday–Friday, 9am; Saturday, 8am; Vigil Sat., 5pm and Sundays 9 & 11am
DEVOTIONS	Adoration & Benediction, Fridays, 7-8pm (church) Rosary after 9am weekdays/8am Saturday Masses in church Taizé Prayer Service, 3 rd Mondays, 8-8:45pm (church)
CONFESSION	Sat., 3:30-4:30pm, or by appointment. English and Spanish Confessions
PARISH OFFICE	703-451-8576, fax 703-269-1121 office@stbermpar.org Monday–Friday, 8:30am – 4:30pm
	Pastor, Fr. Don Rooney frdonrooney@stbermpar.org Fr. Jeb Donelan frjebdonelan@stbermpar.org Fr. James Waalkes frjameswaalkes@stbermpar.org
	Pastoral Associate, Rick Caporali rcaporali@stbermpar.org Business Manager, Linda Patterson lpatterson@stbermpar.org Music Director, David Mathers dmathers@stbermpar.org Executive Assistant, Evelyn Vargas, evargas@stbermpar.org Admin. Asst., Maria Paniagua, mpaniagua@stbermpar.org Secretary, Janet Chávez-España
SAINT BERNADETTE SCHOOL	703-451-8696, fax 269-1121 Principal, Dr. Kathleen Burgess school@stbermpar.org Assistant Principal, Emily Reid Registrar, Heidi Thomes
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	703-451-8576 Director, Lynn Jones Ljones@stbermpar.org Admin. Asst., Víctor Mendez vmendez@stbermpar.org
YOUTH MINISTRY	703-451-8576 Director, Grace Rihl grihl@stbermpar.org
BAPTISMS	Saturday, 10am. 1 st and 2 nd Saturdays in English; 3 rd Saturday in Spanish. Parish registration is encouraged for parents. Class attendance is required. Please contact the parish office to schedule at least four weeks in advance. All required paperwork must be submitted before a baptism may be scheduled.
WEDDINGS	Sat., 12 & 2pm. Parish registration encouraged; contact a priest at least six months in advance of desired date.
JOIN US	You are welcome! Registration forms are available in the church vestibule, office, or online www.stbermpar.org .
	Articles for the bulletin must be submitted to the parish office no later than first thing Friday morning, ten days before publication date. bulletin@stbermpar.org .

calendar

october

- 6 Sunday, TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
• Live-streaming Masses continue at 9 and 11am
• Life Chain, parish meets at Key Middle School on Franconia Rd., 2pm
- 7 Monday, Our Lady of the Rosary**
- 8 Tuesday, Weekday**
- 9 Wednesday, Weekday [Saint Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs]**
- 10 Thursday, Weekday**
- 11 Friday, Weekday [Saint John XXIII, Pope]**
• Adoration, 7pm in the church
- 12 Saturday, Weekday**
• **El Señor de los Milagros/The Lord of the Miracles**, 10am Mass, 11:30am Procession, 2-4:30pm cultural dancing and dinner (for sale)
• Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
- 13 Sunday, TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
• Live-streaming Masses continue at 9 and 11am
- 14 Monday, Weekday [Saint Callistus I, Pope and Martyr]**
• **PARISH FEAST OF SAINT BERNADETTE:** special Mass at 7:30pm
- 15 Tuesday, Saint Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor**
- 16 Wednesday, Weekday [Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin]**
- 17 Thursday, Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr**
- 18 Friday, Saint Luke, Evangelist**
• Adoration, 7pm in the church
- 19 Saturday, Sts John de Brébeuf & Isaac Jogues & Companions, Martyrs**
• **PARISH PICNIC!** 1-5pm, see pp. 8-9 in this bulletin
• Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
- 20 Sunday, TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
• Live-streaming Masses continue at 9 and 11am
- 21 Monday, Weekday**
- 22 Tuesday, Weekday [Saint John Paul II, Pope]**
- 23 Wednesday, Weekday [Saint John of Capistrano, Priest]**
- 24 Thursday, Weekday [Saint Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop]**
- 25 Friday, Weekday**
• Adoration, 7pm in the church
- 26 Saturday, Weekday**
• **ECHO YARD SALE** starting at 8pm in the gym
• Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
- 27 Sunday, THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
• Live-streaming Masses continue at 9 and 11am

announcements

All are invited to the **Lord of the Miracles (El Señor De Los Milagros) celebration. on Saturday, October 12 at 10am.** The Lord of the Miracles is a mural painted of Jesus Christ that is venerated in the country of Peru and throughout the world by Peruvians. The mural became famous after it withstood the many violent earthquakes that shook the City of Lima and for this reason it became known also as “The Lord of Earthquakes,” a divine sign that recognizes the Lord God as all powerful. There were many who swore the image was responsible for miracles that happened in their lives. The image became known as the “Lord of Miracles” and now is the Patron Saint of Peru.

All Women are invited to join this year’s **Walking with Purpose Bible Study** on Tuesday mornings beginning October 8th and Thursday evenings starting October 10th.

All are invited to our **Saint Bernadette Parish Picnic on Saturday, October 19th**, from 1-5 p.m. There will be great music, food, and games for the whole family. Please check the bulletin to see what food you should bring. Volunteers are also needed!

All our Saint Bernadette choirs are welcoming new members. We have choirs for singers of all ages, including three adult choirs in English and Spanish, Children’s Choir for 1st–6th grade and, starting this fall, the re-launch of our Youth Choir for 7th–12th grade. For more information see stbernapar.org/praying/music-ministry or contact David Mathers at 703-451-8575 x112 or dmathers@stbernapar.org

+ Plan for these upcoming events!

El Señor de los Milagros/Lord of the Miracles Mass, procession and dinner: Saturday, October 12

Parish Family Picnic, Saturday, October 19, 1 - 5pm.

ECHO Yard Sale, Saturday, October 26

from the pastor

Dear Good People of Saint Bernadette,

Do you remember this project? Well today I have the happy job of telling you there is news about our new Parish Life Center!

Your generosity has weathered through two phases of a capital campaign and I thank you for all you have given and continue to give with amounts pledged! As you know, we recently hired a new



business manager, Linda Patterson, and her good work has helped us to put together a ten-year financial plan for the parish which was our last hurdle toward moving forward. The financial plan exhibits our ability to build and maintain the new building, keep on top of existing facilities and maintenance, and service any debt that might arise during the construction process.

We demonstrated that our parish is financially very strong and will well withstand unforeseen fluctuations either in the offertory or with inflation.

We had already received from the county the special addendum approval for the site plan that gives us permission to move forward on formal development plans,

having considered environmental impact and stormwater management. Now with the green light from the Diocese we can commence working with our architect, Michael Foster (MTFA), and begin schematic design drawings so we can make tighter estimates of construction costs and stay within budget. Originally approved by the bishop for \$7.6M, this step will help us determine how we proceed with design.

Another interesting fact is that the moratorium which Bishop placed on capital fundraising in parishes last January 1 has been lifted. If you are new to the parish or did not have an opportunity to participate in the Capital Campaign over the past five years, I ask that you consider making a gift or pledge to the Campaign. There will always be inflation and the need for furnishings and finishes that could always be a little nicer if we have the funds at hand. Our second phase of the Campaign was about 10%, or \$300K under goal when we had to stop: we welcome your generosity.

So when do we get out the golden shovel for groundbreaking? As you know, I tend to be optimistic and would like to say we could start at the beginning of the summer. It would save a lot of confusion if we could get the site set up and major groundwork done when there isn't a carpool twice a day. We will work that out, even if it seems more likely that we will break ground in the fall.

Some of you were starting to ask us if this plan was even still in the works. Sometimes hopeful silence is better than postponed promises. But I think we are now at a point where we can really start getting excited about this new space where our family will be able to grow and develop in ministry and outreach to the wider community, beyond the limits of our own registration. Now we can surely imagine new possibilities with knowledge that they are possible!

We'll keep you informed as things progress. In the meantime, let's think of parish activities which might add even more to our financial security as a parish and build up our community.

If you are interested in being involved in our ongoing fundraising, please contact Jean Corday in the parish office.

The Lord be with you. *Fr. Dom*

Discover our School Admissions Open House

Are you considering a catholic education for your children? Would you like to join us for the 2025-2026 school year? At Saint Bernadette Catholic School, we are committed to providing a challenging academic curriculum in partnership with families, fostering a lifelong love of learning. Our mission extends beyond academics. As a Catholic school, we strive to make Jesus visible through our words and actions. Whether through exploring our faith in religion class, promoting kindness in our hallways, or practicing forgiveness, we emphasize the importance of following Christ's example in our daily lives.

We focus on nurturing the whole child—spiritually, academically, physically, morally, and socially—preparing them for a bright future in spirit, mind, and body. Recognizing the profound impact we can have on our students' lives, we strive to make each day meaningful.

We are a PreK-8th grade school in the Diocese of Arlington and we invite you to explore our school during our Admissions Open House on Thursday, October 24, 2024, from 9am to 11am. Discover why Saint Bernadette Catholic School is a fantastic place for growth and learning!

Tour slots are available on October 24, 2024 at 9am and 10am, please register ahead of time.

Register at: <https://bit.ly/SaintBOpenHouse>

**cardinal
corner**



**FORMING
HEARTS
& MINDS
≡ CHRIST**



religious education

Weekly update

Please contact Lynn Jones, Director of Religious Education, at 703-451-8576, ext 136, or Victor Mendez, Administrative Assistant, at 703-451-8576, ext 138.

RE regular schedule:

Tuesday Session
5:30–6:45pm

Wednesday Session
6–7:15pm

Special Tuesday Session
for Confirmation Fall 2024
7-8:15pm

RE Program upcoming schedule

Regular classes: Tues./Wed., Oct. 8/9.

Continue TOBET The Body Matters unit.

Regular classes: Tues./Wed., Oct. 15/16.

SPRED Class: Sat., Oct. 12

Email Victor Mendez, Vmendez@stbernpa.org or Lynn Jones, Ljones@stbernpa.org for more information.

Religious Education 2024-2025

Our Tuesday session runs from 5:30-6:45pm, our Wednesday session runs from 6-7:15pm, and our special Tuesday session for Confirmation Fall 2024 runs from 7-8:15pm.

For complete dates for the year, please see the calendar that was sent home in the colored folder in your child's materials they received on their first day of class.

RE Class Instructions

All parents are responsible for understanding the policies in the Religious Education Program Handbook which is available on the parish website under the Religious Education tab <https://www.stbernpa.org/learning>. For all Tuesday and Wednesday sessions, arrival and dismissal of all students is through door #1 of the school. Parents should plan to park in the lower parking lot and bring your child to door #1 of the school, or you may drop off along the curb next to the school gymnasium. For pickup, a parent or responsible adult must be present-- if you are running late we stay with your child

until you arrive as we are not allowed to just let them go.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Our Sunday 9am Mass Children's Liturgy of the Word program has begun! This program proclaims the Liturgy of the Word to the children at a level they can better understand. All children must be pre-registered to participate. For more information, or to volunteer to be an adult catechist or aide with CLOW, please contact CLOW Coordinator Kathryn Melton at yanezka@gmail.com.

TOBET The Body Matters unit began last week

Our students in kindergarten through high school, except Family Faith Formation, SPRED, and Confirmation 2024, will begin The Body Matters curriculum this week. For more information, see the Parent Guide enclosed in your child's colored folder sent home the first day of classes, or go to <https://tobet.org/the-body-matters/> to learn more

Living the liturgical year

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. Read about the Rosary in this article: <https://www.setonmagazine.com/catholic/spirituality/october-the-month-of-the-holy-rosary> and then go over to Real Life at Home for a great easy Rosary craft for your children: <https://www.reallifeathome.com/rosary-craft-for-kids/>.

youth ministry

Stay in touch:

Text/Email Updates: Sign-up at flocknote.com/stbernyouth or text "stbernyouth" to 84576.

Follow us on Instagram
[@stbernyouth](https://www.instagram.com/stbernyouth)

Email our director of youth ministry, Grace Rihl, at grihl@stbernpa.org with any questions you may have.

High School Diocesan RALLY - Sunday, October 27

This annual event is an opportunity for the young Church in the Diocese of Arlington to gather each year to pray, learn, and celebrate the Catholic faith. RALLY includes Mass with Bishop Burbidge, Eucharistic Adoration, inspirational speakers and entertainers, breakout sessions, inflatable games, music, and more! The cost is \$25, and adult volunteers are needed. Contact Grace Rihl at grihl@stbernpa.org for information on how to register.

High School Tuesday Socials

All High Schoolers are invited to join us for games, snacks, fun, and discussions on

the faith every Tuesday from 7-8:30pm in the youth room! All are welcome, bring a friend!

High School Boys Catholic Life Community

Join other Catholic high school boys in this community of faith, prayer, and fellowship. New attendees are always welcome, every Thursday from 7:30 to 9:15pm in the youth room.

Middle School Youth Ministry - Wed., Oct. 16

All 6th-8th graders are invited to Middle School Youth Ministry every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month! Join us for games, snacks, and fun from 6:45-8pm in the Gym. All middle schoolers are welcome, bring a friend!

CYO Sports (for 3rd-8th Graders)

Joining sports teams can be a rewarding experience for young athletes. Saint Bernadette's CYO sports offers a variety of options, including cross country, tennis, track & field, basketball, cheer, and volleyball, fostering both physical fitness and teamwork. Participating in CYO sports not only helps in developing athletic skills but also emphasizes the importance of faith, sportsmanship, discipline, and community involvement. These programs often create a supportive environment where players can build lasting friendships and learn valuable life lessons. Whether your child is looking to improve their skills, stay active, or simply have fun, joining a CYO sports team can be a great way to achieve their goals. **CYO sports are open to children who attend St. Bernadette's school or are enrolled in the parish's religious education program this school year.**

Registrations are now open for **Fall and Winter** seasons. Please register at <https://reg.sportspilot.com/106541/leagues>.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your CYO Reps - Gina Soriano (gvsoriano@gmail.com) or Catherine Luby (catherineeluby@gmail.com).

Catholic Women's Group Upcoming events

No need to RSVP; just come and enjoy warm fellowship and great food. For more information, please email us at women@stbernpar.org.

Monday, October 7 is our next Dinner with Friends at 5pm at Saratoga Pizzeria, 8050 Rolling Road. We meet for this casual lunch on the 1st and the 3rd Monday of every month.

Our next monthly meeting will be Tuesday, October 8 at 7pm in the Bradican Room. As we continue into fall, Mary Pierce will do a presentation on how to put your garden to bed for the winter so that it thrives in the spring.

Women's Walking with Purpose Bible Study

Walking With Purpose Women's Bible Study ministry returns October 8 and 10 with *Discovering Our Dignity*, a 22-week study of women in the Bible. Connect with Scripture and learn from the stories of women in both the Old and the New Testament. Separate morning and evening sessions of *Discovering Our Dignity* will take place in the Bradican Room on **Tuesdays from 9:45-11:30am and Thursday from 7:00-8:30pm beginning October 8 and 10**, respectively. The book fee is \$25 and the suggested hospitality fee is \$10. [Register at https://stbernadettewp.wixsite.com/stbwwp](https://stbernadettewp.wixsite.com/stbwwp)

Bishop's annual Mass for persons with disabilities

Join Bishop Burbidge and families across the Diocese of Arlington for the Annual Mass for Persons with Disabilities, as we celebrate and give thanks to God for the blessings that our brothers, sisters and children with disabilities bring to our lives. The Mass is **October 13 at 9am at Saint Mark Catholic Church**, 9970 Vale Rd, Vienna. Porto Charities will host a light breakfast after the Mass where you can enjoy fellowship. No RSVP required.

Parish Feast Day October 14

We will celebrate our parish feast with a special Mass on Wednesday, October 14 at 7:30pm. Patronal feasts carry the same solemnity as Christmas and Easter! Please plan to come.

Holy hour for healing and conversion in families

Come to a holy hour for healing and conversion in families on Tuesday, October 8 at Saint Leo the Great Church in Fairfax. Bishop Burbidge, will be presiding. Confession will be available. Please come and spend time with Our Lord in adoration while praying for healing and conversion in families, including those affected by abortion. Holy hour is from 7:30 to 8:30pm, with a musical prelude at 7:15.

in the comm- unity



Parish Offertory

Offertory 9/29 \$ 39,318
Thank you for your faithful support!



Consider using Faith Direct to make your parish contributions through either direct debit to your checking account or through credit cards, the same way you may make car or tuition payments. Faith Direct also offers personalized offertory cards to replace your envelopes for the collection basket. You may enroll securely online. Visit www.faithdirect.net or call (866)507-8757. Our parish code is VA70.

Gratis para toda la parroquia - ¡siempre se necesitan voluntarios!

picnic de familia parroquial

sábado
19 de octubre
1 - 5pm

burgers y hot dogs
bebidas

**(TRAES guarnición,
postre, o bocadillo)**

SI TU APELLIDO:

comienza con A-M:
guarniciones como
verduras, ensaladas, etc.

comienza con N-T:
postres, galletas, etc.

comienza con U-Z:
snacks no perecederos

música en vivo,
juegos inflables y más

bus desde Daventry
estacionamiento
(considere compartir
el vehículo)

Las donaciones de pasteles son bienvenidas para la caminata de pasteles en el gimnasio. ¡Hornea un pastel y gana un pastel! Tu creación será aceptada la mañana del evento en nuestro lugar de entrega designado.



Free for all the parish - volunteers are always needed!



family fall parish picnic

**saturday
october 19
1 - 5pm**

**burgers and dogs
beverages**

**(YOU bring a side,
dessert or snack)**

IF YOUR LAST NAME:

starts in A–M:
side dishes like potato
salad, salads, chips, etc.

starts in N–T:
desserts, cookies, etc.

starts in U–Z:
non-perishable snacks

**live music, games,
inflatables**

**shuttle from Daventry
commuter parking
(please consider
carpooling)**

Cake Donations are warmly welcomed for the PTO Cake Walk in the gym. Bake a cake, win a cake! Your creation will be accepted during morning / afternoon school carpool on Friday, October 18 or the morning of the event at our designated drop off location.



Mary's Comfort baby bottle drive

On October 5 - 6 we will be handing out baby bottles as a fundraiser. Please help us by filling them with bills of any denomination or a check made payable to Mary's Comfort. Your donation is tax-deductible. Please remember to return the bottles the following weekend, (October 12 - 13). Please scan the QR code or visit MarysComfortVA.org to learn more!

Thank you for all your support to help us open our first home for pregnant women in crisis right here in Springfield! Mary's Comfort is an independent nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization committed to providing shelter, support and new beginnings. By the end of the year we expect to have three moms in our home.

ECHO News for October/November 2024

ECHO Fall Yard Sale ECHO's annual Fall Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, October 26, here at the gym, from 8am to noon. Bargain shoppers and treasure hunters will find a gymnasium full of housewares, toys, fashion accessories, jewelry, electronic equipment, picture frames, wall art, and more! The two yard sale events each year are primary sources of funds for ECHO to carry out its mission of helping people in need in our community.

Jingle bells so soon? The ECHO elves must go to work now to prepare the Holiday Gift Shop. ECHO needs donations of new toys (not gift-wrapped, please) for children ages 0-15 for this festive program. Donations should be made no later than December 6 and may be chosen from our Amazon wish list and delivered directly to ECHO or delivered to our donations door. The wish list is most easily accessed through our website, www.echo-inc.org/wishlist-on-amazon which will be made available by Oct 15. Popular items are baby dolls, scooters with helmets, soccer balls (sizes 3,4,5), riding toys, and family board games. See a complete list of suggestions at ECHO's website under the "Donate Goods" tab.

Cleaning out your kitchen shelves?

ECHO's Housewares Department needs glass drinking glasses, white coffee mugs, white hand towels, bath towels, medium sized pots and frying pans.

The Clothing Department needs new or clean, gently used, warm clothing for boys or girls in sizes 4 - 20, children's sneakers, and adult coats and jackets in all sizes.

The Food Pantry needs personal hygiene items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, deodorant, and toilet paper as well as all kinds of non-perishable foods.

ECHO, located at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, is open on weekday mornings from 9:30am to 12:30pm and Tues., Wed. and Thurs. evenings from 7 to 9pm.

Miscarriage or infant loss?

All mothers and fathers of pregnancy or infant loss are invited to *Behold and Be Held*, an evening of reflection on **Thursday, October 10 from 6:45 - 9:15pm** at Saint Thomas a Becket Catholic Church in Reston, Virginia. We come together as mothers and fathers of loss to pray and honor the lives of our precious babies, gone too soon. Registration is free but is required. To register visit www.redbird.love/behold Sponsored by the Diocesan chapter of Red Bird Ministries. Contact elizabeth@redbird.love with questions.

Faith & Blue Weekend - October 11-14

National Faith & Blue Weekend is based on the premise that strong communities are built on mutual respect and understanding. At the heart of this initiative is the reinforcement of connections between law enforcement professionals and the communities they serve through the reach of houses of worship. There is no resource that can match the depth of the faith community in facilitating productive engagement with law enforcement, which is needed now more than ever. The national organizers represent every major national law enforcement membership and professional organization in the United States and every faith tradition. This year our school will observe Faith & Blue Weekend by sponsoring an essay contest.

ALL the parish is WELCOME, whatever your language may be!

Join us for the celebration of a patron of Latin America, The Lord of the Miracles, on Saturday, October 12. He is credited with protecting people in difficult times. A dinner will follow in the gym with traditional dances of different countries.

Únanse a nosotros para la celebración de nuestro santo patrón, El Señor de los Milagros, el sábado 12 de octubre. A nuestro santo patrón se le atribuye la protección de nuestro pueblo en tiempos difíciles. Una cena seguirá con bailes típicos de diferente países en el gimnasio.



celebración del señor de los milagros Lord of the miracles celebration

**sábado
12 de octubre
saturday
october 12**

**10am - church
Misa/Mass**

**11:30am - outside
procesión/procession**

**2pm - 4:30pm - gym
cena/dinner**

**venta de comida
food for sale - restaurant "Huascaran"**

**homenaje al Señor
con bailes típicos
tribute to the Lord with
traditional dances**

ministry possibility, high schools



Support Hurricane Relief

Hurricane Helene made landfall as a devastating Category 4 storm, leaving widespread destruction across the Southeast. Local Catholic Charities Agencies are on the ground providing life-sustaining assistance. Catholic Charities USA is accepting donations to support and assist in humanitarian relief efforts in response to the devastation wrought by Hurricane Helene. Donations to Catholic Charities USA can be made by visiting link: <https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/?form=helene>.

Join one of our choirs!

Singers and instrumentalists who wish to share their gifts to help foster the sung prayer of our parish community are welcome to join one of our five choirs. For singers, no prior experience is required. The choirs on summer break will resume in two weeks, and all choirs are welcoming new members at this time.

Our Children's Choir, for 1st-6th grade singers, serves at 5pm Saturday Mass once a month. They rehearse every Thursday 5-5:45pm. Our Youth Choir, for 7th-12th grade vocalists and instrumentalists, sings most Saturdays at the 5pm Mass. We have three adult choirs: Sunday Mass at 9am (English), 11am (English) and 1pm (Spanish).

Please contact David Mathers, Director of Music Ministries, at dmathers@stbernpar.org or (703) 451-8576 x112. Rehearsal days/times, list of instruments that can participate, and guidance on instrumental experience levels can be found at <https://www.stbernpar.org/praying/music-ministry> or by contacting David Mathers.

Seven Sisters Apostolate

The Seven Sisters Apostolate is a call for women to strengthen the Church by ensuring a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of our parish priests. This apostolate is relatively new, having started in 2010 in Minnesota by Janette Howe. During a walk one day, it occurred to her that the very least she might do in gratitude for her priests' ever-

generous pastoral care would be to offer a Holy Hour once a week for him. Learn more at sevensistersapostolate.org.

Last year, this Apostolate came to Saint Bernadette, and we have a Seven Sisters Apostolate team pray for Fr Don every day of the week! We also have a list of substitutes who are willing to offer a Holy Hour when called upon.

We are seeking seven sisters each for Fr James and Fr Jeb. It is one hour a week, anytime during your day, an hour to spend with our Lord in front of the Tabernacle or in Adoration at any Catholic Church. Please contact Trish Pirowski at 1986sailboat@gmail.com for more info. She will also be available after all Masses on October 12 and 13.

Bishop Ireton HS open house

Arrive any time **Sunday, October 20 1-3pm** to explore Bishop Ireton and learn more about the school from faculty, administrators, students and coaches. Visit www.bishopireton.org and click on admissions, visit and inquire to RSVP. Bishop Ireton High School is a Catholic, coed, college preparatory high school serving grades 9-12 in the Diocese of Arlington. Located just outside of Old Town, Alexandria, Bishop Ireton offers a challenging academic curriculum and robust opportunities in sports, arts, clubs and STEM. Students are provided with the foundation and relationships for a lifetime of success, helping to ready the next generation to be exemplary and ethical leaders in an ever-changing world. Please email admissions@bishopireton.org with any questions.

Saint Paul VI HS open house

St. Paul VI Catholic High School, Chantilly, VA invites families to learn more about our caring, Catholic community where we inspire the extraordinary in one another. Register for our fall Open House on Sunday, October 27, 2024, from 1-3pm at www.paulvi.net/openhouse. Visit our website www.paulvi.net/admissions to learn more.

cub scouts becoming boy scouts

On September 15 the Arrow of Light Scouts from Pack 995 visited the Boy Scouts of Troop 995. The visit is part of the Arrow of Light rank advancement to ready them for transitioning to Boy Scouts. The visit showed them the differences in how Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts operate, emphasizing how Boy Scouts are involved in planning events and leading their peers. The Arrow of Light Scouts learned about building fires, pitching their own tents, and how to safely use axes and saws. It was a great event for both the Arrow of Light Scouts and the Troop.





THE WITNESS OF THE GOOD SAMARITAN: PALLIATIVE CARE & HOSPICE

In 2020, the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith released the letter *Samaritanus bonus*, "on the care of persons in the critical and terminal phases of life." The letter reaffirms the Church's teaching on care for those who are critically ill or dying and offers additional pastoral guidance for increasingly complex situations at the end of life. The following offers a brief overview of key points from this important document with a specific focus on what it says about palliative care and hospice.

The ultimate foundation of human dignity lies in the reality that God became man to save us and call us into communion with him. The Good Samaritan, who goes out of his way to aid an injured man, symbolizes Jesus, who encounters humanity in need of salvation and cares for our wounds and sufferings. Despite our best efforts, it can sometimes be difficult to recognize the profound value of human life when we see its full weakness and fragility. Yet, the faithful care of human life until its natural end is entrusted to every person.

In the face of challenges that affect the very way we think about medicine, the significance of the care of the sick, and our social responsibility toward the most vulnerable, the Church reminds us of our obligation to readily accompany those in the critical and terminal stages of life, *for all are called to give witness at the side of the sick person*. Sadly, the request for death through euthanasia or assisted suicide is often a symptom of disease, aggravated by isolation and discomfort. Care for life is therefore the first responsibility in our encounter with those who are sick. This

responsibility exists not only when health may be restored, but even when a cure is impossible. Only human warmth and evangelical fraternity can reveal a positive horizon of support to the sick person in hope and confident trust.

The need for medical care comes from our vulnerability as human persons. As a unity of body and soul, each person is materially and temporally

Even when a cure is not possible, adequate care must still be provided until the very end: "to cure if possible, always to care."

finite, with a longing for the infinite and a destiny that is eternal. As such, we depend on the mutual support of others, as well as our connection with God. In view of our earthly finitude, medicine must therefore accept that death is part of the human condition. However, even when a cure is not possible, adequate care must still be provided until the very end: "to cure if possible, always to care." Adequate care—which upholds the dignity



and integrity of the person—includes necessary physical, psychological, social, familial, and spiritual support to those who are sick. Palliative care and hospice embody this comprehensive and integrated approach.

Death is a decisive moment in the human person's encounter with God the Savior. Helping the Christian to experience this moment with spiritual assistance is a supreme act of charity. It encompasses the patient with the solid support of human relationships to accompany them and open them to hope.

Palliative care and hospice are precious and crucial instruments in the care of patients with serious and complex chronic or terminal illnesses, and they help provide comfort to both the patients and their families.

While palliative care cannot entirely eradicate suffering from people's lives, it provides an authentic expression of human and Christian care—allowing us to “remain” at the side of a suffering person, as the Blessed Mother and the beloved disciple *remained* at the foot of the Cross. When we follow their example, we participate in the mystery of Redemption. The path of accompaniment until the moment of death must remain open, with appropriate care for body and soul customized to the personal needs of the patient.

The role of the family is central to the care of chronically and terminally ill patients. In the

Palliative care is specialized medical care for people with serious illness, focusing on relief from symptoms and stress while they are still seeking curative treatment. Patients are candidates for palliative care whenever they are facing a serious illness. Care may pursue both curative and comfort goals that can be carried out over months, years, and decades. These goals may change with the progression of the disease or condition. Palliative care is holistic because it is provided by a team of physicians, nurses, social workers, chaplains, and other professionals who focus on physical pain and symptom management, as well as psychosocial and spiritual needs. The palliative care team works in service of the patient to coordinate all aspects of care, communication and decision making, as well as clarification and adjustment of the goals of care over time, all while also offering support to the family.

Hospice care is a type of palliative care but with a particular acknowledgement of, and focus on, the patient's approaching end of life—when the goal of care is no longer cure of disease but rather comfort and relief from it. The hospice team of physicians, nurses, social workers and chaplains addresses the patient's and family's concerns related to the illness and approaching death. Hospice is for patients in the end stages of a condition (typically the last six months of life) for which curative treatment is no longer effective. Hospice helps patients live well with their remaining time on earth by ceasing curative measures and continuing to focus on goals of comfort and symptom management, as well as the provision of psychological, spiritual, and social support that patients and families need.

family, a person is valued in *himself or herself*, rather than because of efficiency or utility. It is essential that those who are sick and being cared for do not perceive themselves as burdensome. In times of suffering, a person should be able to experience from others a solidarity and a love

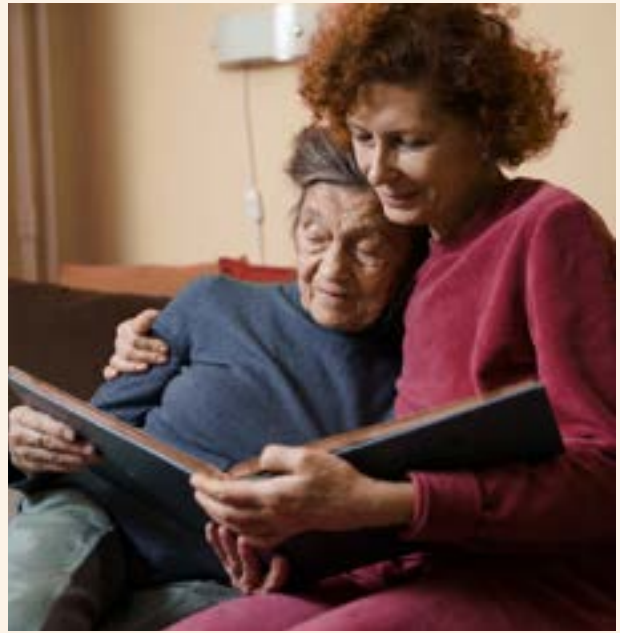
that takes on the suffering, offering a sense of life that extends beyond death. All of this has a great social importance: “A society unable to accept the suffering of its members and incapable of helping to share their suffering, and to bear it inwardly through ‘com-*passion*’ is a cruel and inhuman society”.¹ Hospice can provide a valuable service by serving those who are terminally sick and ensuring their care until the last moment of life. By doing so, hospice can provide a sanctuary where suffering takes on profound meaning.

It is morally permissible to decide against disproportionate treatments that would provide only a precarious or painful extension of life. The refusal of extraordinary means of care expresses acceptance of the human condition, but *it does not seek to hasten death*. The suspension of disproportionate therapies must not entail the withdrawal of basic care—including pain relief, hydration, nutrition, thermoregulation, and so

Every medical action must always have as its object the promotion of life and never the pursuit of death.

forth. In addition, when necessary to relieve pain at the end of life, the Church affirms the moral permissibility of using pain medications that cause the loss of consciousness, and may even hasten the moment of death, as long as this hastening of death is a secondary effect of the medications and not their direct or intended purpose. In such cases, the informed consent of the patient, designated surrogate, or family member(s) must be obtained. *Every medical action must always have as its object the promotion of life and never the pursuit of death*. In addition, patients should be provided proper spiritual care so they may consciously approach their death as an encounter with God. The pastoral care provided by family, doctors, nurses, and chaplains can help the patient to persevere in sanctifying grace and to die in charity and in the love of God.

The legalization of euthanasia and assisted suicide in many places, however, has created great confusion regarding basic obligations to provide



care. It should be recognized that the definition of palliative care has, in recent years, sometimes taken on a misleading and deeply harmful connotation.

For example, in some countries, national laws regulating palliative care also provide, along with palliative treatments, something called Medical Assistance to the Dying (MAiD), which makes it legal for patients to request euthanasia and assisted suicide. Such legal provisions are a cause of grave cultural and moral confusion. By including provisions for euthanasia and assisted suicide alongside palliative care, these laws imply that it is morally permissible to request such practices.

Equally harmful to the practice of palliative

The pastoral care provided by family, doctors, nurses, and chaplains can help patients persevere in sanctifying grace.

care, and to patients, is when interventions to reduce the suffering of gravely or terminally ill patients are given in order to hasten death. Also problematic is the withholding or withdrawing of hydration, nutrition or other interventions which the patient finds sufficiently beneficial and not

excessively [or disproportionately] burdensome. Such refusal of ethically required care is equivalent to a *direct action or omission to bring about death and is therefore never morally permissible*.

The continued spread of such legislation and practices, and their endorsement by national and international professional societies, constitutes a socially irresponsible and grave threat to many people. A growing number of vulnerable persons who need only to be better cared for and comforted are instead being led to choose death.

Conversely, “the eloquence of the parable of the Good Samaritan and of the whole Gospel is especially this: every individual must feel as if *called personally* to bear witness to love in suffering.”² The Church learns from the Good Samaritan how to care for those who are terminally ill, and likewise obeys

“Every individual must feel as if called personally to bear witness to love in suffering.”

the commandment linked to the gift of life: “*respect, defend, love and serve life, every human life!*”³. Each of us is invited to imitate the Samaritan’s example, to “*Go and do likewise*” (Lk 10:37).

The parable of the Good Samaritan demonstrates that our relationship with our suffering neighbor must not be characterized by indifference, apathy, bias, fear of soiling one’s hands, or occupation with one’s own affairs. Rather, our relationships



should embrace the qualities of attention, listening, understanding, compassion, and accompaniment. At work here is a *contemplative gaze* that beholds in one’s own existence and that of others a unique and unrepeatable wonder, received and welcomed as a gift.

The mystery of the redemption of the human person is rooted in the loving involvement of God with human suffering. Hope is always possible. To those who care for the sick, the scene of the Cross provides a way of understanding that even when it seems that there is nothing more to do there remains much to do, because “remaining” by the side of the sick is a sign of love and of the hope that it contains. Healed by Jesus, we become men and women called to proclaim his healing power and provide care for our neighbors, until the very end.

¹ Benedict XVI, Encyclical Letter *Spe salvi* (30 November 2007), 38: AAS 99 (2007), 1016. Here Pope Benedict highlights that the true meaning of compassion is to “suffer with” another person in their time of need (com: *with*; passio: *to suffer*).

² John Paul II, Apostolic Letter *Salvifici doloris* (11 February 1984), 29: AAS 76 (1984), 246.

³ John Paul II, Encyclical Letter *Evangelium vitae* (25 March 1995), 5: AAS 87 (1995), 407.

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Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

Please call the office also if you would like to request a Mass sooner, that is not announced.

October

7 MONDAY

7am † Adda Castedo
9am* Anne Mundell
Gal 1:6-12/Lk 10:25-37

8 TUESDAY

7am † Benigno Fernandez
9am* † Jan Usinger Sanchez
Gal 1:13-24/Lk 10:38-42

9 WEDNESDAY

7am † Patrick Higgins
9am* Paolo Santayana
Gal 2:1-2, 7-14/Lk 11:1-4

10 THURSDAY

7am Maximilian Morris
9am* † Gale Susan Zinicola
Gal 3:1-5/Lk 11:5-13

11 FRIDAY

7am † Marie Lamm
9am* † Josephine Soriente
10am** † Raymond Staffieri, Jr.
Gal 3:7-14/Lk 11:15-26

12 SATURDAY

8am* † Edward Mountel
Gal 3:22-29/Lk 11:27-28
5pm* Nida Mendoza Williams

13 SUNDAY

7am † Vicenta Lemus Hernandez
9am* † Eduardo Agustin
11am* For the parish
1pm † Trinidad Canales
5pm † Valerio Cuya
Wis 7:7-11/Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-30

* live-streamed Masses

** Mass at Greenspring Chapel
Mass intentions are available, please call the parish office or request intentions online.

Masses next weekend

Oct 12	5pm	Fr. Don
Oct 13	7am	Fr. Don
	9am	Fr. Jeb
	11am	Fr. Don
	1pm	Fr. Jeb
	5pm	Fr. Cedric

Parish Prayer List

It has been a long while since we have updated this list. If anyone is listed here who no longer needs to be included, please call the office.

Christopher Ayala, Ron Baker, Barbara Baxter, Lorenzo Beitia, Benedi Family, Javier Blandon, Marvin Boord, Krista Buskey, Eleanor Butler, Josue Cabrera, Victoria Castro Guerra, Hyung Ji Choi, Kathleen Cobb, Emilio A. Conde Hernandez, Joaquin Cortez, Mary Crossin, Fernando Cruz Conde, Jessica Curtis, Russell Cykoski, Celine D'Cruze, Deeney Family, Joanne DeAngelis, Pierre Deslauriers, Ron & Karen Dietz, Nick Domahoski, Sean Duffy, Evans Family, Debbie Field, Thomas Fitzgerald, Paul Flapper, Richard & Veronica Flynn, Mario and Mark Fortin, Jerome Furlow, Elvira Gaudamus, Jim Gribshaw, Bill & Leona Harron, Andres Hernandez, Lauren Hicks, Shawn Hoisington, Elizabeth Howarth, Matthew Ianuzzi, Masaharu Ishii, Jack Judd, Sage Kalper, Astania Kamau, John Kelly, Theresa Khim, Mike Kidwell, Tim Kirk, John Kochersperger, Large Family, Melissa Lavelle, Lawler Family, Teodora Lim, Sharon Lord, Robert Madison, Minka Malnikof, Alice Martin, Tim McCarthy, Katherine Mehigan, Ken Miller, Jeremy Monsanto, Jonathan Mundell, Mike Mundell, Kathleen Maxwell, Ted Musialkiewicz, Kathleen Murray, Shamsun Nahar, Steve Nelson, Mike Nolen, the Noonan family, Sarah Norton, JoAnne Plavchan, Corina Portillo, Daren Perry, Evan Robish, Joanna Robson, Apollonia Rye, Sagum Family, John Sandidge, B. Schulz, Henry Shinol, Smith Family, Glendora Spinelli, Ailsa Squatrito, Laura Sutherland, Ellie Urmston, Holger Vargas, Mary Vago, Silvio Villena, Adrienne Vincent, Margaret Wyse, Earnest Yambot, Yessenia Zelaya Diaz.

Pro-Life Witness

The Saint Bernadette Pro-Life Committee invites you to pray the rosary and be a witness to the sanctity of life on Tuesday or Saturday mornings in front of the abortion facility at 2616 Sherwood Hall Lane in Alexandria (ample free parking across the street). We legally, peacefully, and respectfully gather for an hour starting at 10am; no sign-up or commitment required. Questions? Email Tom Palumbo at tompalumbo@outlook.com.

Prime Time Single Catholics

We are a social group, mostly aged 60 and over. (35 to 59? Ask about our free associate-membership group.) Meet us for: Square Dancing (most Tuesdays); Mass at St. Michael's/lunch (Oct. 6); Thursday lunches (Oct. 10, 24); tour of Sully Mansion (Oct. 12); Clifton Day Festival by train (Oct. 13); Hot Dog Social (Oct. 17); Manassas Battlefield walk (Oct. 19); Christ House meal (Oct. 26); St. Mary's Cemetery tour (Oct. 27); dinner in Alexandria (Oct. 27); Annual Dinner Dance (Nov. 16). For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc. With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com

Planned giving: make a gift of appreciated assets

Consider a gift of stock or any other appreciated asset as a donation to Saint Bernadette Catholic Church and School. In exchange for a gift of a long-term appreciated asset, you can receive an income tax deduction for the current market value and avoid capital gains taxes on that appreciation. Your gift will support the Church, School, or the Make All Things New Campaign. For more information, please contact Rick Caporali at rcaporali@stbernpar.org or call the office.

Remember us in your will or trust

The next time you review your will or trust with your attorney consider adding a provision to donate a portion of your assets to Saint Bernadette Church and School. Your gift will be greatly appreciated. For more information, please contact Rick Caporali at rcaporali@stbernpar.org or call the office.

Assisted hearing devices at Mass

Our new sound system will function as before. We apologize the transmitter was not working last weekend. You can purchase your own device at Amazon for about \$15. Program the FM frequency to 72.3mhz. The link and model are provided here for your convenience. [ReteKess PR13 Portable FM Radio, Pocket FM Radio Receiver, AAA Battery Powered Personal Mini Stereo Radio with Earphone and Lock Key](#)