

Almighty and merciful God, by whose gift your faithful offer you right and praiseworthy service, grant that we may hasten without stumbling to receive the things you have promised. 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.

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 3, 2024



Moses with the Ten Commandments (detail), Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn, 1659
Gemäldegalerie der Staatlichen Museen, Berlin



SAINT BERNADETTE
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 3, 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 Deacon Orlando Caicedo
	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., Victor 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

november

- 3 Sunday, THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
 - Live-streaming Masses continue at 9 and 11am
- 4 Monday, Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop**
- 5 Tuesday, Weekday**
- 6 Wednesday, Weekday**
- 7 Thursday, Weekday**
- 8 Friday, Weekday**
 - **CONCERT at SAINT BERNADETTE:** Vania Pimentel, free, 7:30pm in church
 - Adoration, 7pm in the chapel
- 9 Saturday, The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica**
 - Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
 - Box of Joy Collection after all Masses this weekend, vestibule
 - Holy Land Carving Group olive wood carvings for sale after Masses
- 10 Sunday, THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
 - Live-streaming Masses continue at 9 and 11am
 - Box of Joy Collection after all Masses this weekend, vestibule
 - Holy Land Carving Group olive wood carvings for sale after Masses
 - **Parish Offices Closed in observance of Veteran's Day**
- 11 Monday, Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop**
- 12 Tuesday, Saint Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr**
- 13 Wednesday, Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin**
- 14 Thursday, Weekday**
- 15 Friday, Weekday [Saint Albert the Great, Bishop and Doctor]**
 - Adoration, 7pm in the church
- 16 Saturday, Weekday [Saint Margaret of Scotland; Saint Gertrude, Virgin]**
 - Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
 - Keep Christ in Christmas Cards Sales after all Masses, Church Vestibule
 - Cub Scout Popcorn Sales after all Masses , Church Vestibule
- 17 Sunday, THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
 - Live-streaming Masses continue at 9 and 11am
 - Keep Christ in Christmas Cards Sales after all Masses, Church Vestibule
 - Cub Scout Popcorn Sales after all Masses , Church Vestibule
- 18 Monday, Weekday [Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne, Virgin]**
- 19 Tuesday, Weekday**
- 20 Wednesday, Weekday**
- 21 Thursday, The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
- 22 Friday, Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr**
 - Adoration, 7pm in the church
- 23 Saturday, Weekday [Blessed Miguel Agustín Pro, Priest and Martyr]**
 - Masses for All Souls' at 8 and 10am
 - Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
- 24 Sunday, OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE**
 - Live-streaming Masses continue at 9 and 11am

announcements

ALL SAINTS' DAY, Friday, November 1, is a Holy Day of Obligation. We will follow our usual Holy Day schedule: Vigil Mass Thursday evening, Oct. 31 at 7:30pm, and Masses on November 1 at 7 and 9am, Noon, and 7:30pm (bilingual)

The **All Souls' Day (Saturday, November 2) Masses** will be offered at 8am and 10am for all our deceased. Remember loved ones in the **All Souls' Day Novena of Masses**. All Masses November 2-10 will be offered for those included in the novena. Remembrance envelopes in which you may include the names of your deceased family or friends are in the vestibule of the church and parish office. To participate please fill out one of the envelopes with your donation and return them to the parish office before Nov. 2.

Concerts at Saint Bernadette. Free concert: pianist Vania Pimentel, "Sounds of Brazil." Pieces by renowned Brazilian composers, highlighting iconic Brazilian styles from folk tunes to tangos and dances. Friday, November 8 at 7:30pm. dmathers@stbernapar.org or 703-451-8576 x 112.

On the weekend of Nov. 9/10 there will be a display of beautiful olivewood handmade carvings from the Holy Land in our church. These carvings are made by the Christians of Bethlehem who use them as their main source of income. These brothers and sisters of ours are enduring hardships at this moment because of the volatile situation in their home country. Christians in the Holy Land used to be more than 37% of the population. They are less than 1% now. We must support our brothers and sisters in Bethlehem. YOU can support them by purchasing some of these beautiful carvings after Mass. For more information, please contact us at 202-302-5889 or visit www.BethlehemCarvings.org. Thank you in advance for all your help and support!

from the pastor

Pilgrimage 2024

October 22 – Lourdes –
Our Lady of Lourdes

October 23 – Lourdes –
Saint Bernadette

October 24 – Lisieux –
Saint Therese

October 25 – Normandy –
We will be at Omaha
Beach, cemetery, Mass
for those fallen in
Normandy/WW2

October 26 – Paris –
Saint Catherine Laboure
(Miraculous Medal)

October 27 – Paris –
Saint Vincent de Paul

October 28 – Paris –
Saint Louis of France

October 29 – Ars –
Saint John Vianney

October 30 – Paray la
Monial – Saint Margaret
Mary Alacoque (Sacred
Heart)

October 31 – Annecy –
Saint Francis de Sales

November 1 – Annecy
– Saint Jane Frances de
Chantal

Dear Good People of Saint Bernadette,

Seems like a couple of weeks since I wrote to all of you in the bulletin. We have traveled from one city to another, each time getting acquainted with the saints who lived there, who are recognized by the Church for their heroic virtue, completing the mission and outcome God had planned for them. In most cases they were not strong people, but rather limited, uneducated, unwise of the ways of the world and, actually, often uneducated in their faith.

It gives all of us hope that God chooses us, the weak, and accomplishes so much of his plan visibly through us. We don't have to rely on ourselves; we just have keep showing up!

There was an unusually intense period in history in the late 1700s and the first half of the 1800s when Jesus or the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to people here in France to give hope, especially in times of great persecution following the French Revolution. The Church was nearly destroyed. It is in this context that God chose the most unlikely people to speak.

He established some of the most active religious orders we know today to meet the needs of the poor and people at risk. He was able to proclaim the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception Church through St. Bernadette, provide a simple spirituality that sustained common people through St. Therese, establish devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus through Saint Margaret Mary, and the beautiful spirituality which began the modern tradition of personal devotion and faith in the teachings of St. Francis de Sales in response to the Reformation.

It has been a remarkable opportunity to consider the lives, the places and the spirituality of all of them on this pilgrimage. And every day we bring you and your intentions with us to these places.

This evening I am writing to you on the bus as we make our way to the hotel after a bonus pilgrimage site; the Cathedral in Vezelay on the way to Ars, and the shrine of St. John Vianney. Tradition says that after Jesus' resurrection and ascension, Lazarus and his daughters Martha and Mary, Mary Magdalene and the two other Marys, and little Zacchaeus' lives were in danger — Lazarus was living proof of Jesus' miracles, after all — and they fled to France. Mary Magdalene's, it is said, are the relics we visited in the crypt church, verified by Pope Philip IX in the early 1100s. The cathedral had already become one of the first great pilgrimage sites in France in the 300s.

These cathedrals in the Middle Ages were the homes of relics of saints which would attract people on pilgrimage to come and pray for the saints' intercession, and would be the economic security for towns, relying on the markets for the tourist trade. On this trip so far we have also visited the incorrupt bodies of saints Therese of Lisieux, Catherine Laboure, Vincent de Paul, John Vianney, and the veil worn by Mary at Jesus' birth which is the principal relic of Chartres cathedral.

Of course, we will be back already as you read this, but it is good to give a report from the pilgrimage bus on the highway. We continue to pray for you and our parish family as we continue on our way.

The Lord be with you. *Fr. Dom*



Empowering today's children in the digital world

Understanding today's technology and social media can be quite a challenge for children and parents. We're committed to helping our community stay informed about internet safety by offering a range of resources and programs throughout the year.

In September and October, Mr. Jamie Padre from the United States Secret Service visited our school to host a seminar on keeping children safe online and on their phones. He shared some valuable tips that we want to pass along:

- Encourage your child to use complex passwords for every online account.
- Set up parental controls on devices to filter content, manage screen time, and monitor online activity.
- Teach children about phishing scams and advise them not to click on suspicious links or attachments.
- Help your children adjust social media privacy settings to control who can see their information, or consider not allowing social media accounts for them at all.
- Establish reasonable limits on how much time your children spend online.

- Regularly check your child's browsing history and online activity.
- Remind them not to share personal information or photos online, and that not everyone they meet online is a friend.
- Emphasize that once something is shared online, it is permanent.

Keeping the lines of communication open with your children is crucial. Make sure they feel comfortable coming to you with any online concerns they may have. Together, we can help our children navigate the digital world safely! If you want more age appropriate information, check out the FBI's Safe Online Surfing page at: <https://sos.fbi.gov/en/>.

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: NO CLASS Tues., Nov 5 due to Election Day and FCPS holiday. Wed., Nov. 6 classes will be held as usual from 6-7:15pm.

SPRED class: Saturday, November 9

Regular classes: Nov. 12/13

Confirmation 2024 rehearsal: Nov. 12. 7-8:30pm

Regular classes: NO CLASS Tues., Nov. 19 due to Confirmation Mass; Wed., Nov. 20 classes will be held as usual.

Email vmendez@stbermpar.org or Lynn Jones, Ljones@stbermpar.org for more information.

RE Class Safety Notice

With the fall season and early evening darkness, as well as other parish activities such as CYO sports in the gymnasium, we need to be extra cautious for the safety of all our students. Please follow the guidelines below:

1. For drop off, please either park your car and walk your child to school door #1, or pull up along the curb and drop them off. NOTE: After dropping off at the curb, continue to the back of the gym and drive around the circle to turn around towards Old Keene Mill. DO NOT turn around in the narrow driveway next to the gym!
2. For pick-up, you MUST park your car in a legal parking spot and walk to door #1 to pick up your child. DO NOT park along the curb, in the handicapped spots in back of the church (unless you have a DMV placard), or along the narrow driveway and

have your child come to you. We need to see all parents/guardians/pick-up adults at or near door #1 to release your child to you.

3. Arrive on time, pick up on time! Late arrivals are disruptive to the classroom, and late pickups are worrying to your child and to us! Please make every effort to be here on time for arrival and for dismissal. We cannot release your child until we see you, and we wait with them inside door #1 if you are late. Their safety is our primary consideration.

Trinity House Gatherings

What are Trinity House Gatherings? A way to turn your family life into a taste of heaven! Plan to join us on Saturday, November 23, from 6-8pm (right after the 5pm Mass) for the Trinity House Community Gathering. We'll have fellowship, including a casual dinner, a short conversation starter and small groups for parents, while kids do activities with Virtus-trained volunteers in the classrooms. Please bring a drink or dessert to share. See the bulletin for more details

Living the liturgical year

All Saints' Day just passed, and Election Day is this week. Think about Catholic Social Teaching (the link is in the article below) and how the various saints embodied these values. Try this fun activity with your children from Catechist's Journey-- pick a saint and make a campaign poster as if they were running for office! Read more here: <https://catechistsjourney.loyolapress.com/2018/11/the-saints-and-election-day/>

youth ministry

Stay in touch:

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

Follow us on Instagram @stbernyouth

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

Middle School Youth Ministry - THIS Wednesday, November 6 and Wednesday, November 20

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

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!

CYO Sports for 3rd-8th Graders

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).

Trinity House Community Gathering

You're invited -- kids, too! Meet up with other families for food, fellowship and support in building a faith-filled home!

Topic: Person & Relationships



Saturday, November 23, in the school cafeteria.

6pm: Dinner & Fellowship

6:30-7:15pm: Parent Presentation & Small Groups Discussion while Virtus-trained volunteers supervise kids

6:30-7:15pm: Parent Presentation & Small Groups Discussion while Virtus-trained volunteers supervise kids

7:15-8:00pm: Fellowship & Dessert — Please bring a dessert to share!

Learn more:

trinityhousecommunity.org.

Please scan here to visit the Sign-Up Genius for this event!



Concerts at Saint Bernadette presents pianist Vania Pimentel Friday, November 8

Pianist Vania Pimentel: Sounds of Brazil

Come hear pieces by renowned Brazilian composers, highlighting iconic Brazilian styles from folk tunes to tangos and dances. Friday, November 8 at 7:30pm. The concert is free, donations accepted for the concert series. dmathers@stbernapar.org or 703-451-8576 x 112.

Catholic Women's Group Upcoming events

Come and enjoy warm fellowship and great food. No need to RSVP. For more information, please email us at women@stbernapar.org.

Monday, Nov. 4 is our next Dinner with Friends at 5pm at Saratoga Pizzeria, 8050 Rolling Road. We meet for this casual lunch every 1st and 3rd Monday.

Our next monthly meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 12 at 7pm in the Bradican Room. It's soup supper night! We will have a viewing of the Fr Mike Schmitz video on the Mass from the Eucharistic Congress. We will also assemble labels for the annual Giving Tree.

in the comm- unity



Parish Offertory

Offertory 10/27 \$38,617
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.

uscgb: forming consciences for faithful citizenship



“The truth is something we receive, not something we make. We can only judge using the conscience we have, but our judgments do not make things true.”

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1 Pope Francis, Meeting for Religious Liberty with Hispanic Community and Other Immigrants, September 26, 2015.

2 *Gaudium et Spes* (The Church in the Modern World), no. 16. See also, *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1785.

3 *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 2239-40.

The Role of the Church in American Political Life

The Church is the body of Christ, who reigns as king over all Creation. Everything, including political life, belongs to Jesus Christ, and so participation in political life belongs to the mission of the Church. Our mandate is to ‘go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation’ (Mk 16:15). . . . Here, ‘the creation’ refers to every aspect of human life. . . . ‘Nothing human can be alien to it.’

Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium*, no. 181, quoting *Aparecida Document*, no. 380

Our national tradition of religious freedom permits and encourages all people of faith to bring the insights of their religious traditions to bear on political matters. As Pope Francis affirmed during his visit to the U.S., “Religious liberty, by its nature, transcends places of worship and the private sphere of individuals and families. . . . Religion itself, the religious dimension, is not a subculture; it is part of the culture of every people and every nation.”¹

“If society is to have a future, it must respect the truth of our human dignity and submit to that truth. . . . A society is noble and decent not least for its support of the pursuit of truth and its adherence to the most basic of truths” (*Fratelli Tutti*, no. 207). The truths that guide public life can be known by natural reason. The sanctity of human life, the equal dignity of all individuals, the obligation to protect the vulnerable, the nature and purposes of sex, marriage, and family—these are not exclusively “religious” truths, but truths that all people of goodwill can come to know without the aid of revelation. Our Catholic faith sheds light on these truths, and so we have a duty to bring that light to our nation.

Many Parts, All One Body

The bishops and their pastoral collaborators each have distinct roles in the

Church’s mission. The bishops have the responsibility to govern the society of the Church, hand on doctrine and tradition, and administer the sacraments. The laity are called to bring the gospel to bear on the world. While many laity are involved in roles of leadership and service within the Church, it remains primarily the role of the laity to advocate for justice, to serve in public office, and to inform daily life with the gospel. “The direct duty to work for a just ordering of society is proper to the lay faithful” (*Deus Caritas Est*, no. 29).

Participation in political life requires judgments about concrete circumstances. While bishops together with their coworkers help form the laity in accordance with basic principles, they do not tell the laity to vote for particular candidates. On these often complex matters, it is the laity’s responsibility to form their consciences and grow in the virtue of prudence to approach the many and varied issues of the day with the mind of Christ.

Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship

Conscience is “a judgment of reason” by which one determines whether an action is right or wrong (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 1778). It does not allow us to justify doing whatever we want, nor is it a mere “feeling.” Conscience—properly formed according to God’s revelation and the teaching of the Church—is a means by which one listens to God and discerns how to act in accordance with the truth.² The truth is something we receive, not something we make. We can only judge using the conscience we have, but our judgments do not make things true.

It is our responsibility to learn more of Catholic teaching and tradition, to participate in Church life, to learn from trustworthy sources about the issues facing our communities, and to do our best to make wise judgments about candidates and government actions. These decisions should take into account a candidate’s commitments, character, integrity, and ability to influence a given issue. Thus equipped, and further impelled by our sense of patriotism, we exercise our right

and duty to vote and otherwise to participate actively in public life.³ By forming our consciences for faithful citizenship, we can better pursue the common good and thus obey the command of our Lord to love our neighbors.

The Common Good

In their statement on Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, the Catholic bishops of the United States identify the four main principles of the Church's social teaching and apply them to some concrete issues. This is not to tell the faithful for whom or against whom to vote, but instead to help them form their consciences in accordance with God's truth as they approach this often-challenging decision.

The four main principles are the Dignity of the Human Person, the Common Good, Solidarity, and Subsidiarity. They are all interrelated. This bulletin focuses on the Common Good, and the other three principles are covered in three other bulletins in this series.

The Common Good is “the sum total of social conditions which allow people, either as groups or as individuals, to reach their fulfillment more fully and more easily.”¹ Human dignity is respected and the common good is fostered only if human rights are protected and basic responsibilities are met. Every human being has a right to life, a right to religious freedom, and a right to have access to those things required for human decency.

Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities—to ourselves, to our families, to the larger society, and to the earth.² In short, we should seek “to build that kind of society where it is easier for people to be good.”³

In the midst of a “throwaway world” in which some members of the human family “can be readily sacrificed for the sake of others considered worthy of a carefree existence,” Pope Francis urges us to build a “culture of encounter” in which those most in need receive our greatest concern and attention. We must “place at the center of all political, social and economic activity the human person, who enjoys the highest dignity, and respect for the common good.”⁴

As we seek to imitate the Good Samaritan, who was neighbor to all, we pursue the Common Good in order that every individual and all people can flourish.⁵

- Marriage and the family are the central institutions of social life – the primary school of virtue, where we first experience common rather than merely individual goods – and so these institutions should be supported and strengthened.

- Likewise, as one human family dwelling in our common home, we must hear “both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor” and respond to climate change with actions to better protect creation for our brothers and sisters now and in generations to come.⁶

- Accepting the entire world as a gift from the Father, and as our common home includes accepting our bodies as God's gift, whereas thinking that we enjoy absolute power over our own bodies turns, often subtly, into thinking that we enjoy absolute power over creation.⁷

- We recognize and protect the right to religious liberty, our first and most cherished freedom. The protection of conscience and religious liberty is an indispensable element of the common good – a fundamental human right that knows no geographical boundaries.⁸

- While the common good embraces all, those who are weak, vulnerable, and most in need deserve special concern, which the Church describes as the preferential option for the poor.⁹ Laws and policies must prioritize those who struggle to make ends meet and must preserve the social safety net and promote decent jobs, affordable housing, and childcare.

Pope Benedict XVI writes in *Caritas in Veritate* (Charity in Truth): “To desire the common good and strive towards it is a requirement of justice and charity.” We must be attentive to the common good “juridically, civilly, politically and culturally” in the life of society. “The more we strive to secure a common good corresponding to the real needs of our neighbors,” he writes, “the more effectively we love them.”¹⁰

Prayer Before the Election

Lord God, as the election approaches, we seek to better understand the issues and concerns that confront our state and country, and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful citizens in our community.

We ask for eyes that are free from blindness so that we might see each other as brothers and sisters, one and equal in dignity, especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit and poverty. We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children unborn and those abandoned, men and women oppressed because of race or creed, religion or gender.

We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will bring us closer to your Kingdom.

We pray for discernment so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word, live your love, and keep in the ways of your truth as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles and guide us to your Kingdom of justice and peace.

We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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1 *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1906, citing *Gaudium et Spes* (The Church in the Modern World), 26.

2 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, 49, 51.

3 Peter Maurin, as quoted by Dorothy Day. See *All the Way to Heaven: The Selected Letters of Dorothy Day* (New York: Random House, 2010), 457.

4 Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti* (On Fraternity and Social Friendship), 18 and 232.

5 Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*, 66.

6 Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'* (On Care for Our Common Home), 49. See also: Pope Benedict XVI, *Caritas in Veritate* (Charity in Truth), 48-52, and Pope Francis, *Laudate Deum*, 58 and 60.

7 Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*, 155.

8 St. Pope Paul VI, *Dignitatis Humanae* (Declaration on Religious Freedom), 6; *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1907.

9 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, 53.

10 Pope Benedict XVI, *Caritas in Veritate*, 7.

uscgb: forming consciences for faithful citizenship



Dignity of the Human Person

This bulletin focuses on the Dignity of the Human Person, and the other three principles are covered in three other bulletins in this series.

Because each human person is created in the image and likeness of God, each one of us possesses innate and inviolable human dignity. This dignity is present in each person from the moment of their conception and throughout their lives. As Pope Francis has emphasized, human dignity is central to building a society in which we are “brothers and sisters all.”¹

*Every human being has the right to live with dignity and to develop integrally; this fundamental right cannot be denied by any country. People have this right even if they are unproductive, or were born with or developed limitations. This does not detract from their great dignity as human persons, a dignity based not on circumstances but on the intrinsic worth of their being. Unless this basic principle is upheld, there will be no future either for fraternity or for the survival of humanity.*²

Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*, no. 107

The dignity of the human person is the foundation for a moral vision of society. As we seek to imitate the Good Samaritan and become neighbor to all, we must work to protect the dignity of all, especially those who are most vulnerable.

As we engage in the public square with a well-formed conscience:

- We work to protect the most vulnerable—children in the womb who are in danger of abortion—while also standing in radical solidarity with mothers.³ Building on their bond of flesh and kinship, and on the network of family, neighbor, and community relationships in which they are situated, the Church actively assists mothers and their children to have a brighter future.

- We continue to protect the dignity of our sister or brother who is elderly, disabled, or ill by strongly rejecting euthanasia and assisted suicide. These practices are symptoms of a “throwaway culture,” in which children of God of inestimable worth are cast aside as worthless.⁴

- Likewise, we must recognize the inherent dignity of the migrant and refugee. In our country now, that means comprehensive immigration reform that offers a path to citizenship, treats immigrant workers fairly, prevents the separation of families, maintains the integrity of our borders, respects the rule of law, and addresses the factors that compel people to leave their own countries.

- We support the dignity of the person, created male or female; therefore, we oppose a gender ideology that fails to recognize the difference and reciprocity between man and woman.⁵

- Racism attacks the dignity of the human person by denying that we are all equally made in the image of God, so we must overcome racism in our hearts as well as in our systems and institutions.⁶

- We continue to seek reform of the criminal justice system and to end the use of the death penalty. We support common sense measures to reduce gun violence.⁷

- Finally, we seek to prevent and remedy any aspects of an “economy of exclusion,”⁸ which “does not hesitate to exploit, discard, and even kill human beings,”⁹ and to work instead toward an “economy of communion” rooted in ethical concern.¹⁰

“Social friendship and universal fraternity” Pope Francis writes, “necessarily call for an acknowledgement of *the worth of every human person*, always and everywhere.”¹¹ Through our political participation, our accompaniment of those in need, and the witness of our daily lives, may we support the worth of every person, created in God’s image.

This bulletin insert along with five others was approved by the body of U.S. bishops in November 2023.

Find this and more complementary resources at www.faithfulcitizenship.org.

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1 Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti* (On Fraternity and Social Friendship), 8.

2 Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*, 107. See also: Pope Benedict XVI, *Caritas in Veritate* (Charity in Truth), no. 45.

3 USCCB, “Letter and Policy Recommendations Supporting Women and Children,” October 26, 2022.

4 St. John Paul II, *Evangelium Vitae* (The Gospel of Life), 8, 15, 18, 23, 94. See also: Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*, 18-21.

5 Pope Francis, *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love), 56.

6 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love*, 3-8.

7 Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*, 263-270. See also: *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, 84.

8 Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium* (Joy of the Gospel), 53.

9 Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*, 22.

10 Pope Benedict XVI, *Caritas in Veritate*, 45-47.

11 Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*, 106.





Four Principles of Catholic Social Teaching*

The central and enduring themes of Catholic social teaching are organized under four principles that provide a moral framework for decisions in public life.

www.vacatholic.org

The Dignity of the Human Person

Human life is sacred. The dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. Direct attacks



on innocent persons are never morally acceptable. In our society, the gravest example is abortion. Euthanasia, assisted suicide, human cloning, in vitro fertilization

and the destruction of embryos for research are others. Protecting the dignity of life also includes overcoming poverty, ending use of the death penalty, and opposing racism, torture, unjust war, human trafficking and all activities that contribute to the “throwaway culture” identified by Pope Francis.

The Common Good

The common good is achieved when social conditions allow people to reach their fulfillment more fully and easily. It



upholds the fundamental right to life, which makes all other rights possible. It asserts the right to food, shelter, education, employment, health care, housing, freedom

of religion and conscience, and family life. It requires an economy that serves people, not the other way around. It calls on employers to uphold the dignity and rights of workers by offering productive work, decent and just wages, adequate security in their old age, the choice of whether to organize and join unions and the opportunity for legal status for immigrant workers. Workers should contribute a fair day's work for a fair day's pay, treat employers and co-workers with respect and contribute to the common good. This principle requires we protect and care for all of God's creation, especially the most vulnerable among us, and the earth, our common home.

Subsidiarity

The human person is social. The family is the fundamental building block of society, based on marriage between a man



and a woman, a sanctuary for creation and nurturing of children. Policies and programs should defend, strengthen and respect this foundational unit and uphold parents'

rights and responsibilities to care for and educate their children. Further, every person and association has a right and duty to actively shape society and promote the well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable. Subsidiarity means that society's larger institutions should not overwhelm or interfere with smaller or local ones. These larger institutions are obliged, however, to protect human dignity and meet human needs when smaller institutions cannot adequately do so.

Solidarity

We are one human family, despite our national, racial, ethnic, economic and ideological differences, called to love our neighbor as ourselves. We must work to



eradicate poverty, disease and racism; and welcome immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers who are seeking employment, safety, education and

a better life for their families. Solidarity requires preferential concern for the poor. A basic moral test of any society is how it treats those who are most vulnerable. This preferential option for the poor and vulnerable includes all who are marginalized – unborn children, persons with disabilities, the elderly and terminally ill, victims of injustice and oppression and immigrants.

**Adapted from Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, Nos. 44-56, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2015.*

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. 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 information.

Send Boxes of Joy to poor children this Christmas!

Our Council 6153 of the Knights of Columbus is partnering with Cross Catholic Outreach again this fall to bring its Box of Joy ministry project to our parish!

Last year parishioners responded, providing hundreds of children with boxes. This year we are reminding people to include small items such as soap, toothbrushes, and Bible stories, as well as toys, crayons, and school supplies.

Members of the Knights distributed shoe-box-size cartons to parishioners following all Masses last weekend. Parishioners are invited to take home a box and fill it with items for boys and girls ranging from ages 2 to 15. They also are encouraged to mail separately a \$9 check for each box to cover international shipping costs. The boxes will be collected by the Knights before all Masses next weekend, November 9/10.

Packing a Box of Joy is always a wonderful work of mercy for families. Blessing a child with this gift is a special experience for everyone involved!

For more information, please contact PGK Franklin Mendoza at 703-282-2163 or at franklinmendoza@yahoo.com. Thank you for your generosity!



Ignatian Volunteer Corps – Serving the Least Among Us

The Ignatian Volunteer Corps (IVC) is a Jesuit-sponsored organization that provides retired men and women, age 50 and older with substantive opportunities to serve others and transform lives. IVC matches the skills, talents, and life experiences of these volunteers with nonprofit organizations that assist the materially poor or address issues related to poverty. A unique feature of IVC is a spiritual reflection component that helps volunteers discover the deeper meaning in their service, and their lives. To learn more about IVC contact Mike Goggin, Senior Director, IVC of the National Capital Area: 202-277-4447; mgoggin@ivcusa.org; <http://www.ivcusa.org/NCA>.

On **Sunday, November 3, 12–4pm**, IVC along with over 20 other community organizations will gather at the Springfield Town Center for the Expo to Venture into Volunteering. We'll be there showcasing our work and IVC service corps member opportunities. Come meet us there. It's the perfect time to get involved!

CUA student referral program



Discover all that The Catholic University of America has to offer! We are seeking students who are intellectually curious, committed to their faith, and dedicated to serving others. If you know any high school students, engaged parishioners, or young adults who would thrive in such an environment, we encourage you to recommend them to us. Learn more about how you can refer a student and help them take the next step in their educational journey with us. Visit [this link](#) for more details.

A Man for All Seasons

St. John Paul the Great Catholic High School Drama Program presents their 2024 fall play, A Man for All Seasons, December 6 at 2pm, December 7 at 2pm & 7pm, and December 8 at 2pm. JP Theater - 17700 Dominican Drive, Potomac Shores, VA. Tickets and more information: <https://www.jpthegreat.org/apps/pages/drama>



ECHO News for November/ December 2024

Making Thanksgiving truly festive.

Once again ECHO is working to connect clients who would welcome the gift of a Thanksgiving feast with people in our community who would like to donate groceries for a festive meal to a family having a hard time this season. A donor may ask for a specific size of family to assist, and ECHO will match the donor with a local household in need. ECHO will offer a list of foods for the donor to deliver or suggest an amount of grocery store gift cards that can be delivered or mailed. Cards should be mailed to arrive at the recipient's home by November 24. If you would like to help one or more families have a happy Thanksgiving, contact Fran Eck at franalanek@msn.com.

ECHO holiday gifts for children.

The ECHO elves are working to stock the Holiday Gift Shop! ECHO needs donations of new toys (not gift-wrapped, please) for children ages 0-15 for this much-anticipated program. Donations should be made no later than December 6. Donations can be chosen from our Amazon wish list and delivered directly to ECHO. Find the list at www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/31K8OEMXDB55X/ref=nav_wishlist_lists_1, but it may be most easily accessed through our website, www.echo-inc.org/wishlist-on-amazon. Or donors may deliver gift items directly to our donation door. See a complete list of suggestions at ECHO's website under the "Donate Goods" tab. ECHO, located at 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, is open on weekday mornings from 9:30am to 12:30pm and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 7 to 9pm

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>.

On May 9, 2024, the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, Pope Francis officially announced the Ordinary Jubilee Year of 2025 with the Bull of Indiction *Spes non confundit* ("Hope does not disappoint"). Learn more about the Jubilee Year and for various resources including a calendar of events, plenary indulgence information, the official Jubilee Hymn and Prayer, and more!

Vatican Site

<https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html>

Calendar of Events

<https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en/pel-legrinaggio/calendario-giubileo.html>

USCCB

<https://www.usccb.org/committees/jubilee-2025>

Official Hymn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7uXO8IUcEZI&t=105s>

Official Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of
the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from within
both humanity and the whole cosmos
in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our Redeemer
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever. Amen.



Jubilee 2025 Pilgrims of Hope

"We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire..."

- Pope Francis,
February 2022

Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

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

November

4 MONDAY

7am † All Souls' Novena
9am* † All Souls' Novena
Phil 2:1-4/Lk 14:12-14

5 TUESDAY

7am † All Souls' Novena
9am* † All Souls' Novena
Phil 2:5-11/Lk 14:15-24

6 WEDNESDAY

7am † All Souls' Novena
9am* † All Souls' Novena
Phil 2:12-18/Lk 14:25-33

7 THURSDAY

7am † All Souls' Novena
9am* † All Souls' Novena
7:30p † All Souls' Novena
Phil 3:3-8a/Lk 15:1-10

8 FRIDAY

7am † All Souls' Novena
9am* † All Souls' Novena
10am** † All Souls' Novena
Noon † All Souls' Novena
7:30p † All Souls' Novena
Phil 3:17-4:1/Lk 16:1-8

9 SATURDAY

8am* † All Souls' Novena
10am † All Souls' Novena
Ez 47:1-9, 12/1 Cor 3:9-11-17/Jn 2:13-22
5pm* For the parish

10 SUNDAY

7am † All Souls' Novena
9am* † All Souls' Novena
11am* † All Souls' Novena
1pm † All Souls' Novena
5pm † All Souls' Novena
1 Kgs 17:10-16/Heb 9:24-28/Mk 12:38-44

* live-streamed Masses

** Mass at Greenspring Chapel

Masses next weekend

Nov 2	5pm	Fr. Jeb
Nov 3	7am	Fr. Jeb
	9am	Fr. James
	11am	Fr. Don
	1pm	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, Helene Larsen, 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, Apolonia 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); 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@stbernapar.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@stbernapar.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 72.3mh. 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](#)



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