

*O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption, look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters, that those who believe in Christ may receive true freedom and an everlasting inheritance. 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.*

## 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 7, 2025



The fresco Jesus the Pantokrator and Teacher among the angels, Luigi Cavenaghi, late 19th c.  
Basilica di Santa Eufemia, Milan



**SAINT BERNADETTE**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

# 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 7, 2025

# 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 <sup>rd</sup> 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 <a href="mailto:frdonrooney@stbermpar.org">frdonrooney@stbermpar.org</a> Fr. Jeb Donelan <a href="mailto:frjebdonelan@stbermpar.org">frjebdonelan@stbermpar.org</a> Fr. James Waalkes <a href="mailto:frjameswaalkes@stbermpar.org">frjameswaalkes@stbermpar.org</a> Deacon Orlando Caicedo  Pastoral Associate, Rick Caporali <a href="mailto:rcaporali@stbermpar.org">rcaporali@stbermpar.org</a> Business Manager, Linda Patterson <a href="mailto:lpatterson@stbermpar.org">lpatterson@stbermpar.org</a> Music Director, David Mathers <a href="mailto:dmathers@stbermpar.org">dmathers@stbermpar.org</a> Executive Assistant, Jean Corday <a href="mailto:jcorday@stbermpar.org">jcorday@stbermpar.org</a> Executive Assistant, Evelyn Vargas, <a href="mailto:evargas@stbermpar.org">evargas@stbermpar.org</a> Secretary, Janet Chávez-España
SAINT BERNADETTE SCHOOL	703-451-8696, fax 269-1121 Principal, Dr. Kathleen Burgess <a href="mailto:school@stbermpar.org">school@stbermpar.org</a> Assistant Principal, Jennifer Spencer Registrar, Heidi Thomes
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	703-451-8576 Director, Lynn Jones <a href="mailto:Ljones@stbermpar.org">Ljones@stbermpar.org</a> Coordinator of Religious Education, Arlyn Agasen, <a href="mailto:aagasen@stbermpar.org">aagasen@stbermpar.org</a> Administrative Assistant, Victor Mendez <a href="mailto:vmendez@stbermpar.org">vmendez@stbermpar.org</a>
YOUTH MINISTRY	703-451-8576 Director, Grace Mee <a href="mailto:gme@stbermpar.org">gme@stbermpar.org</a> Assistant Director, J.P. McLaughlin, <a href="mailto:jpmclaughlin@stbermpar.org">jpmclaughlin@stbermpar.org</a>
BAPTISMS	Saturday, 10am, 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturdays in English; 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 required somewhere; 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 <a href="http://www.stbermpar.org">www.stbermpar.org</a> .  Articles for the bulletin must be submitted to the parish office no later than first thing Friday morning, ten days before publication date. <a href="mailto:bulletin@stbermpar.org">bulletin@stbermpar.org</a> .

# calendar

## september

- 8 **Monday, The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
- 9 **Tuesday, Saint Peter Claver, Priest**
- 10 **Wednesday, Weekday**
- 11 **Thursday, Weekday**
- 12 **Friday, Weekday [The Most Holy Name of Mary]**
  - Adoration, 7-8pm in the church
- 13 **Saturday, Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor**
  - Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
  - Parish Life Weekend, Meet with Ministry leaders after all Masses
- 14 **Sunday, THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS**
  - Live-streaming Masses continue at 9am, 11am and 1pm in Spanish
  - **Parish Life Weekend, Meet with Ministry leaders after all Masses**
  - **Fall Confirmation 2027 Kickoff, Parents and Students, 6pm, Cafeteria**
- 15 **Monday, Our Lady of Sorrows (24th Week in Ordinary Time)**
  - **Taizé Ecumenical Prayer Service**, 8pm in the church, please join us!
- 16 **Tuesday, Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs**
- 17 **Wednesday, Weekday [Saint Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin and Doctor]**
- 18 **Thursday, Weekday**
- 19 **Friday, Weekday [Saint Januarius, Bishop and Martyr]**
  - Adoration, 7-8pm in the church
- 20 **Saturday, Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang and Companions, Martyrs**
  - Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
  - **Commitment Weekend, please return completed Commitment Cards this weekend**
  - **Fall Confirmation 2026 Kickoff, Parents and Students, 6pm, Cafeteria**
  - Filipino Mass at 7pm, all are welcome
- 21 **Sunday, TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
  - Live-streaming Masses continue at 9am, 11am and 1pm in Spanish
  - **Commitment Weekend, please return completed Commitment Cards this weekend**
- 22 **Monday, Weekday**
- 23 **Tuesday, Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest**
- 24 **Wednesday, Weekday**
- 25 **Thursday, Weekday**
- 26 **Friday, Weekday [Saints Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs]**
  - Adoration, 7-8pm in the church
- 27 **Saturday, Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest**
  - Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
- 28 **Sunday, TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**World Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees**
  - Live-streaming Masses continue at 9am, 11am and 1pm in Spanish

## announcements

Watch your mailbox! All registered parishioners will be receiving our **Parish Renewal Handbook, Ministry Catalog and Annual Report**, probably beginning September 5. We will celebrate Parish Life Weekend September 13-14, and Commitment Sunday the following weekend. Please review the book and consider how you might get involved in parish life!

Join us for our monthly **Taizé Ecumenical Prayer service** on **Monday, 15 September at 8pm** in the church. Bring your friends, all are welcome!

All couples celebrating a Golden or Silver Anniversary are invited to a **Wedding Anniversaries Mass on Sunday, October 19, 2:30pm at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More**. Please call the parish office to register no later than Monday, October 3.

**Thank you** to all who have responded to our request to reduce our parish envelope costs. If you are receiving offertory envelopes but don't use them or no longer wish to receive them, please contact our parish office so that we can remove that service from your registration file. Remember Second and Special Collections can be done electronically through **Faith Direct**.

**+ Mark your calendars for these upcoming dates!**

**Knights of Columbus 5K,**  
 Saturday, October 5 (see page 12)  
**El Señor de los Milagros/Lord of the Miracles Mass, procession and dinner:**  
 Saturday, October 11  
**Parish Family Picnic,** Saturday, October 18  
**ECHO Yard Sale,** Saturday, November 1



## from the pastor



BEHOLD!  
I make  
all things

NEW

Dear Good People of Saint Bernadette,

This past week we completed the **Parish Renewal Handbook, Ministry Catalog, and Annual Report** for 2025 and sent it to the printer. You should be receiving it in the few days around this weekend.

When you get the catalog, I ask that you read it prayerfully to consider your place at Saint Bernadette. It is good to belong; it is better and healthier, both spiritually and emotionally, to belong and be involved! Once again this year, I ask everyone to consider how they plan to grow (1) in prayer, (2) in service, and (3) in giving to the parish offertory during the coming year. If we don't make concrete commitments, we maybe just do whatever we did last year, or grow indifferent. The growth we want is living more deeply connected to God and his family. Our life of grace depends upon it. The finances of our parish with ever-rising costs also depends on you.

The first part of the catalog has some texts (Sacred Scripture and other Church teachings) for your reflection and meditation. Read a little bit at a time, allow the thoughts to resonate in your memory. Those of us who are older can remember back to a time (I hope) when we lived our lives with the Church more at our center. Much of our younger people today simply don't know what that could be like. Our world works very hard to draw us away from God and from each other, and convince us that the practice of faith (religion) isn't as necessary or as important. Unfortunately, too many people have bought the lie. Prayer and Sacred Scripture is something that we need every day. Making our "living sacrifice of praise" to God at Mass is not only required. It is the one thing that shapes us into Christ himself and makes us come alive. That life quickly begins to stagnate as soon as people stop coming to Mass to offer themselves to the Father in Jesus.

The second part of the catalog is a listing of all the ministries in the parish. You are asked to look through this section and prayerfully consider where God might be calling you to serve. Choose one. There is not a person that God is not calling to serve among his people. It might not be in the Church itself, it might be outside, at work, in the home. But the way he calls us is through the gifts we were given at Baptism.

In this case, the **Called and Gifted Workshop** or something like it is so important, taking time to consider our life experiences and see where God was working through us: those moments when we realize that we couldn't have done that alone, it must have been God with us. Whatever gift you were working through at that time is the path God has for you, and you are invited to take that path not only to serve as Jesus serves, but to find fulfillment. Talk to a representative of Called and Gifted to see if you would like to include it on your Commitment Card. If there is interest, we will plan another Workshop.

(1) Decide how you will add to your commitment of prayer working on your relationship with God in the coming year. Then (2) Choose your ministry for the coming year. You will have the added opportunity to speak with people already serving in various parish ministries under the tents in front of church before and after all Masses on next weekend, September 13-14. This year we will not have sign-up sheets at the tents, you will include your commitments of time and talent on the Commitment Card the next weekend, September 20-21. Give a new ministry a try—if it doesn't bring you to life, if it becomes a chore, then that is not the ministry for you. The Church is not a place anymore where people must just fill the gaps of need as volunteers. You must respond because you are truly called.

Finally, everyone is asked (3) to prayerfully consider if the contribution you make to the Church is enough. As Rick Caporali said at all the Masses in early Summer, our Sunday collections have stayed pretty much flat for eight years. Maybe it is time to consider giving more? Like the cost of living, the costs of running a parish have continued to increase, as always, and as we develop ministries, add the staff needed to bring our parish community and ministry to life, and expand our campus, your support is needed more than ever. Please, give it consideration.

Now is the time for our parish to dream about what is possible with the new building. Possibilities increase exponentially with the space to achieve them. The Holy Spirit is leading us in the direction of becoming a great community and light for all.

The Lord be with you, *Fr. Dom*



## Back-to-School Nights

Back-to-School Night is an annual tradition that fosters connections with our students' first teachers: their parents. Our 2025 school year began with three special evenings: PreK-Kindergarten on August 20, middle school on August 25, and first through fifth grades on August 28. Father Don began the nights with prayer and inspiration. Dr. Burgess welcomed parents and provided information about academics and school procedures. Mrs. Hoffman, our PTO president, summarized the many family events and volunteer opportunities available this year.

For middle school families, the evening offered a unique twist, as parents followed their child's schedule, moving from class to class to experience the rhythm of the school day. This immersive journey provides a glimpse into the academic and social world that their students navigate, fostering empathy and understanding.

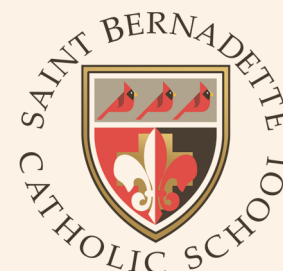
Meanwhile, families of PreK-5 students attended dedicated sessions to meet their teachers, who shared essential information about grades, contact details, classroom rules, subjects, lunch arrangements, and more. Teachers, with their carefully prepared presentations, brought their passion to life, setting the stage for a collaborative year.

These nights create a foundation for the academic journey ahead. Parents left with a clearer picture of the year's goals, from mastering math facts to fostering friendships over lunch. The evenings spark bonds—between families, educators, and the school's mission—while offering practical insights into daily routines and expectations. As Father Don's and Dr. Burgess' words linger and the PTO's enthusiasm inspires, families walked away feeling empowered and connected, ready to partner with teachers to make the year a success.

cardinal  
corner



FORMING  
HEARTS  
& MINDS  
IN CHRIST





# religious education

## Weekly update

Please contact Lynn Jones, Director of Religious Education, at 703-451-8576, ext 136; Arlyn Agasen, ext 132, or Victor Mendez, Administrative Assistant, at ext 138.



# youth ministry

Email our director of youth ministry, Grace Mee at [gme@stbernpar.org](mailto:gme@stbernpar.org), or our assistant director JP McLaughlin at [jpmclaughlin@stbernpar.org](mailto:jpmclaughlin@stbernpar.org) with any questions you may have.

Another week of Religious Education in the books. Please remember there are **no cell phones** allowed in classes, and smart watches will need to be put in “do not disturb” mode. Children should bring their book(s) in their clear plastic folder each week to class, and parents should check the folder weekly for assignments and information from the catechist. Class times on Tuesday and Wednesday are 6-7:15pm--please arrive and pick-up on time! Students arriving more than 15 minutes late will have to be signed in by a parent at door 1.

This weekend, we will have **Family Mass Learning**. It will occur after the Saturday 5pm Mass, and after the 9am, 11am, 1pm, and 5pm Sunday Masses. It is mandatory and attendance will be taken. If you can't attend, make-up work will be provided.

Sunday, 7 September, we will also have the **Confirmation 2025 Mandatory Parent and Student Meeting** from 6:15-7:15pm in the school cafeteria.

## Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) is held during the Sunday 9am Mass to proclaim God's Word to our three-to-six year olds at a level they can understand. If you would like to sign your child up, please use this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/jtBEQmQ0ys> or scan the QR code at left. As the CLOW team preps for the new school year, we are in need of volunteers to

help teach the children and to be classroom aides. If you are interested in supporting this ministry, please reach out to Kathryn Melton at [yanezka@gmail.com](mailto:yanezka@gmail.com) or Lynn Jones at [ljones@stbernpar.org](mailto:ljones@stbernpar.org).

## Volunteers for 2025-2026

We are still in need for volunteers (assistant catechists, teen catechists, and hall monitors). If interested, please contact the Religious Education Office or fill out the Volunteer Form on the website <https://stbernpar.org/religious-education-volunteers/>.

## Living the liturgical year

Happy September! There is a lot going on in the Catholic Church this week. Today, September 7, Pope Leo XIV will canonize Blessed Carlo Acutis and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati. Their devotion to the Eucharist was central to their spiritual life. Carlo Acutis, the first millennial saint who died in 2006 and was known for his computer-savvy which brought attention to Eucharistic miracles, and Pier Giorgio Frassati, who died in 1925 and was a Third Order Dominican known for his charity. EWTN has produced documentaries about them. You can learn about Carlo Acutis in the “I Am With You” documentary here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dUpqOne-SOFM>. You can watch American pilgrims visit places close to Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CVFAZm1j\\_fo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CVFAZm1j_fo) or watch the EWTN documentary “To The Top,” Verso l'alto (“To the heights”).

## High School Tuesday Socials

All high schoolers are invited to join us for Tuesday Socials every Tuesday from 7-8:30pm! Meet in the youth room (in the parish office) for games, ice cream, and a discussion on the faith. Contact Grace Mee for more information!

## Middle School Youth Ministry

Next gathering - September 17  
All 6th-8th graders are invited for games, snacks, and fun every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month! Meet in the school gym from 6:45-8pm.

## High School Saturday Dinner - September 13

All High schoolers are invited for dinner, games, a fellowship on Saturday, September 13. Meet in the Bradican Room from 6-8:30pm!

## Meet our new assistant youth director JP McLaughlin

Biography is found on next page.



**JP McLaughlin** – I am honored to step into the role of Assistant Director of Youth Ministry here at Saint Bernadette. I'm very excited for this opportunity to serve and grow alongside the youth of this parish.

I'm number six of seven children and was homeschooled for most of my life. My own faith journey was deeply shaped by my involvement in Youth Ministry at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, where I participated in events throughout middle and high school. Since then, I've had the chance to give back by assisting with Youth Ministry flag football teams at Holy Trinity and, more recently, volunteering as an event coordinator for the Young Adult Ministry at Saint Mary of Sorrows.

Outside of ministry, I'm a big fan of sports—especially football. I played competitively in high school and continued on to play one year of NAIA Division II college football at Ave Maria University.

I look forward to serving the youth of Saint Bernadette and helping to inspire a deeper desire to live out the Faith. My hope is that, through our journey together, we will grow in holiness and one day behold Jesus Christ in his glory.

## 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](mailto:women@stbernapar.org).

**Monday, September 15 is our next Dinner with Friends** at 5pm, at Saratoga Pizzeria, 8050 Rolling Road. This casual meal is one of our normal dinners on the 1st the 3rd Monday of every month.

**NEW DATE! Our next monthly meeting will be Tuesday, September 16** at 7pm in the Bradican Room. We have a very special program tonight. Father James will favor us with a vocal and guitar performance including some self-composed songs and some more familiar and popular favorites. This will surely be an evening not to be missed!

## Walking with Purpose - Women's Bible Study

Come as you are - you are welcome here! Walking with Purpose Women's Bible Study ministry returns October 14 and 16 for a 22 week study. Join us for "Touching the Divine" to explore the qualities of Jesus revealed through the Gospel of John. This study draws us into a deeper relationship with Jesus as we reflect on his life and personality. WWP Bible studies combine personal study with small group discussion, linking our everyday challenges to the solutions given to us through the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church. Make authentic connections with other women!

Separate morning and evening sessions will take place in the Bradican Room. Tuesdays from 9:45–11:30am and Thursdays from 7–8:30pm beginning October 14 and 16, respectively. The book fee is \$25 and the suggested hospitality fee is \$10. Register at <https://stbernadettewwp.wixsite.com/stbwwp>

## Interested in serving as a Eucharistic Minister?

Last call! Diocesan training is scheduled for **Sept. 27** (Spanish), and **Oct. 4** (English). This is timely as we are considering how to return to receiving Communion under both forms at some Masses. If you are interested in serving the parish in this way, please contact Fr. Don soon at the office or at [frdonrooney@stbernapar.org](mailto:frdonrooney@stbernapar.org).

## Coffee and donuts are back!

Starting September 14, coffee and donuts will be offered following the 9 and 11am Masses and, once a month, after the 1pm Spanish Mass. Families are welcome to join.

If interested, there is a schedule posted in the Lector's Room. This schedule contains the "off" days when coffee and donuts will not be offered.

Generally, "off" days will be three day holiday weekends and specific holidays such as Thanksgiving, Christmas break, Palm Sunday, Easter and Mothers' and Fathers' Days.

**coming up**

## Parish Offertory

August 31  
Offertory 31,354

**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 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](http://www.faithdirect.net) or call (866)507-8757. Our parish code is VA70.

## find your place

### Saint Teresa of Calcutta's Humility List

*Many people requested this list from Fr. Don's homily last weekend:*

1. Speak as little as possible about yourself.
2. Keep busy with your own affairs and not those of others.
3. Avoid curiosity.
4. Do not interfere in the affairs of others.
5. Accept small irritations with good humor.
6. Do not dwell on the faults of others.
7. Accept censures even if unmerited.
8. Give in to the will of others.
9. Accept insults and injuries.
10. Accept contempt, being forgotten and disregarded.
11. Be courteous and delicate even when provoked by someone.
12. Do not seek to be admired and loved.
13. Do not protect yourself behind your own dignity.
14. Give in, in discussions, even when you are right.
15. Choose always the more difficult task.

Learn to be humble by doing all the humble work and doing it for Jesus. You cannot learn humility from books; you learn it by accepting little humiliations. Humiliations are not meant to torture us; they are gifts from God. These little humiliations—if we accept them with joy—will help us to be holy, to have a meek and humble heart like Jesus.

### Join one of our choirs!

The choirs on summer break will resume in a few 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 four adult choirs: Sunday Mass at 9am (English), 11am (English), 1pm (Spanish), and third Saturday Filipino Vigil Mass, 7pm.

Please contact David Mathers, Director of Music Ministries, at [dmathers@stbernpar.org](mailto: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.

### Fall CYO sports registration is open!

Cardinal athletes grades 3-8: registration for Saint Bernadette parish CYO fall sports is OPEN! Fall sports include tennis, cross country and track and field. Athletes must be enrolled in Saint Bernadette Catholic School or Religious Education to participate.

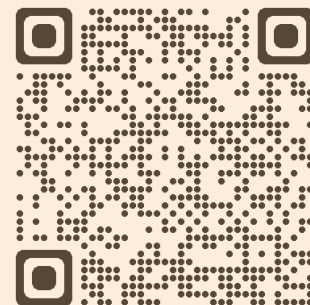
Register at: <https://reg.sportspilot.com/106541>. Registration closes 9/13 for cross country and 9/17 for track.

Questions: Email [gvsoriano@gmail.com](mailto:gvsoriano@gmail.com) or [catherineeluby@gmail.com](mailto:catherineeluby@gmail.com).



### 23rd Annual 5K Fun Run and Walk Oct. 4

Registration is open! The Springfield Council Knights of Columbus is sponsoring the 23rd Annual 5K Fun Run and Walk on Saturday, October 4, 2025 at Burke Lake Park. Proceeds from this family-friendly event will be split between the Parish School and KOVAR (a Knights of Columbus charity supporting the intellectually disabled). Sign up at <https://runsignup.com/Race/VA/FairfaxStation/SpringfieldKnightsOfColumbus5K>.



Donations also welcome! Please contact Tom Smith with questions [tomsmith6153@outlook.com](mailto:tomsmith6153@outlook.com), 571-308-4672.



## Celebrating 25 or 50 years of marriage this year?

The Office of Marriage, Family, and Respect Life will host the 2025 Mass for Marriage Jubilarians at the Cathedral of St. Thomas More in Arlington on Sunday, October 19 at 2:30pm. The principal celebrant and homilist will be Bishop Burbidge. Commemorative certificates will be given out at the reception in the parish hall following the Mass, where Bishop will be available for pictures with jubilarians.

The deadline for registration is October 3! Contact the parish office for a registration form and staff will help you register. For more information, call the office.

## Nativity Church Grief Support Group

Dealing with grief can be a difficult and emotional experience. The Nativity Grief Support Group offers support to all who suffered the death of a loved one and are in need of the comfort that sharing can bring. Led by trained facilitators, the meetings are open to all adults at no charge. The group meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month from 7:30 – 9pm at Nativity School. For further information, contact Rosemary Viani, 703-657-9605, or Ken Eisenhardt, 703-597-9020.

## “The Car Ministry”

If you have a used car to donate, please consider us. We process and repair donated vehicles which are given at no cost to the working poor who have been referred to us by pastors and social workers. It is a tax break for you and people's lives are transformed by new possibilities. Contact Larry Gordon at 703-237-8479.

## Unity Walk 2025!

Join the Interfaith Council of Metropolitan Washington for its annual Unity Walk on Sunday, Sept. 7 from 12:30-5:30pm. The Unity Walk is a wonderful afternoon of celebrating and lifting up the religious and cultural diversity that exists in the DC metro region. Over 700 participants walk along Massachusetts Avenue in upper NW DC visiting 11 houses of worship and spiritual centers as well as participating in

additional programming such as: mini-religious and cultural literacy conversation, a service project to benefit Martha's Table, dance workshops and more. Visit <https://ifcmw.org/2025-unity-walk/> for the full program!

## Coats for Kids

On September 13-21, the Knights of Columbus will be collecting donations for the Coats for Kids program. Donate your coats to support the goal that every child in need gets a coat to keep them warm. See one of the Knights for any questions <https://uknight.org/CouncilSite/?CNO=6153>

## KofC soccer challenge

On September 27 the Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Soccer Challenge at the soccer field behind the school. It is open to boys and girls from 9-14 years old. Use the QR for information and sign up.

## ECHO clothing program

ECHO needs adult and child-sized sneakers in good condition. We hope that families who are currently buying new winter coats and back-to-school clothing and sneakers will consider giving their old attire a “second life” with a local family whose children are now growing into new sizes. Find details at [www.echo-inc.org](http://www.echo-inc.org).

ECHO uses its Clothing Program to ease the financial burden on families who are facing economic challenges. Once sorted and quality checked, the clothing moves to the client room which is set up like a small store. Clients come in by appointment to choose what they need for members of their families.

Clients may make as many as three clothing appointments a year and may choose up to five outfits per family member at each visit. Volunteers help clients find what they need by reviewing, bagging their choices, and ensuring the number of outfits is compatible with the size of their families. No client pays for any kind of assistance from ECHO.

ECHO is averaging slightly more than 82 appointments per month for clothing assistance.

find your place



## Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

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

### September

#### 8 MONDAY

7am † Martha Roskam  
9am\* † Armando Cruz  
Rom 8:28-30/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23

#### 9 TUESDAY

7am † Sally Gnam  
9am\* † Matthew Sedgley  
Col 2:6-15/Lk 6:12-19

#### 10 WEDNESDAY

7am The Van Gorder Family  
9am\* Than Dao  
Col 3:1-11/Lk 6:20-26

#### 11 THURSDAY

7am † James Montayre Ramirez  
9am\* † Peter Ho Minh Tuan  
Col 3:12-17/Lk 6:27-38

#### 12 FRIDAY

7am Richard Mugno  
9am\* † Rosemary Barber Eldridge  
10am\*\* Joe Currin  
1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Lk 6:39-42

#### 13 SATURDAY

8am † Marilyn Mugno  
1 Tm 1:15-17/Lk 6:43-49  
5pm\* Hugh & Anita Lynn

#### 14 SUNDAY

7am † John Christopher Flentz  
9am\* For the parish  
11am\* † Wyatt Crossin  
1pm Private intention  
5pm † Patrick Williams  
Nm 21:4b-9/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

\* live-streamed Masses

\*\* Mass at Greenspring Chapel

### Masses next weekend

Sept 13	5pm	Fr. Jeb
Sept 14	7am	Fr. James
	9am	Fr. Don
	11am	Fr. Jeb
	1pm	Fr. James
	5pm	Fr. Cedric

## Parish Prayer List

Jessica Curtis, Sean Duffy, Paul Flapper, Mark Fortin, Shamsun Nahur, Kamden Harriet, Alisa Squatrito, Jerome Furlow, Joanne DeAngelis, Jim Gribschaw, Pierre DesLauriers, Frank Caponegro, Helena Larsen, Cristy Perez Ayala, Amy Greenlee, Larry Lawrence, Thomas Fitzgerald, Adrian Vincente, Evan Robish, Kathryn Yeager, Scott Kendrick, Heather Lynch, Ron and Karen Dietz, Ted Musialkiewicz, Kathleen Maxwell, Alan Curtis, Glendora Spinelli, Alora Lopez

## Pro-Life Witness

The Saint Bernadette Pro-Life Committee invites you to pray the rosary 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](mailto:tompalumbo@outlook.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 parish hall Capital Campaign. For more information, please contact Rick Caporali at [rcaporali@stbernpar.org](mailto: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](mailto:rcaporali@stbernpar.org) or call the office.

## Mary's Comfort update

A big thank you to all who helped and attended the Back to School Tea! What a wonderful afternoon for the children and parents to dress up and spend the afternoon together all while supporting Mary's Comfort. If you'd like to be more involved

in our ministry, we have volunteer opportunities available -- Facilities Manager, Shelter Director and Fundraising Coordinator. The commitment of time can be flexible and we'll work with what experience you bring! For more information, visit: <https://www.maryscomfortva.org/> and email us at [maryscomfortva@gmail.com](mailto:maryscomfortva@gmail.com). Thank you for your prayerful support as we strive to shelter and support expecting mothers in crisis.

## Pray daily for a future Priest or Sister

See the parish pamphlet rack for a brochure explaining the Diocese of Arlington's St. Therese Vocation Society. Members commit to praying daily for vocations and pray individually by name for those currently in formation as priests and religious. There are no dues and no meetings! For a prayer calendar or to sign up visit: <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/vocations/promote-support-pray-for-vocations/pray-st-therese-society/>.

## Catholic speed dating

St. Timothy Catholic Church is hosting an in-person speed dating event open to all Catholic singles ages 20-39 in the DMV area on Saturday, October 25 at 7pm in the School Cafeteria and Gym. This is an RSVP-only event and registration closes on October 11. To register, go to <https://shenandoahspeeddating.blogspot.com/p/upcoming-events.html>. Questions or more info? Contact Joshua at [jtureaud@protonmail.com](mailto:jtureaud@protonmail.com)

## Hearing devices at Mass

Our sound system transmits sound to hearing devices. 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. [Retekeess PR13 Portable FM Radio, Pocket FM Radio Receiver, AAA Battery Powered Personal Mini Stereo Radio with Earphone and Lock Key](#)