

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.

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 5, 2025



The Mustard Seed, Nelly Bube (Kazakhstan), 20th c.
Gallerie Accademia, Venice



SAINT BERNADETTE
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 5, 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 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@stbernpar.org Monday-Friday, 8:30am – 4:30pm Pastor, Fr. Don Rooney frdonrooney@stbernpar.org Fr. Jeb Donelan frjebdonelan@stbernpar.org Fr. James Waalkes frjameswaalkes@stbernpar.org Deacon Orlando Caicedo Pastoral Associate, Rick Caporali rcaporali@stbernpar.org Business Manager, Linda Patterson lpatterson@stbernpar.org Music Director, David Mathers dmathers@stbernpar.org Executive Assistant, Jean Corday jcorday@stbernpar.org Executive Assistant, Evelyn Vargas, evargas@stbernpar.org Bookkeeper/Compliance (OPCYP), Zory Conde, zconde@stbernpar.org Secretary, Janet Chávez-España
SAINT BERNADETTE SCHOOL	703-451-8696, fax 269-1121 Principal, Dr. Kathleen Burgess school@stbernpar.org Assistant Principal, Jennifer Spencer Registrar, Heidi Thomes
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	703-451-8576 Director, Lynn Jones Ljones@stbernpar.org Coordinator of Religious Education, Arlyn Agasen, aagasen@stbernpar.org Administrative Assistant, Victor Mendez vmendez@stbernpar.org
YOUTH MINISTRY	703-451-8576 Director, Grace Mee gme@stbernpar.org Assistant Director, J.P. McLaughlin, jpmclaughlin@stbernpar.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 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 www.stbernpar.org . Articles for the bulletin must be submitted to the parish office no later than first

calendar

october

- 5 **Sunday, TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
 - Live-streaming Masses continue at 9am, 11am and 1pm in Spanish
 - Life Chain, parish meets at Key Middle School on Franconia Rd., 2pm
- 6 **Monday, Weekday [Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin]**
- 7 **Tuesday, Our Lady of the Rosary**
- 8 **Wednesday, Weekday**
- 9 **Thursday, Weekday [Saint Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs]**
- 10 **Friday, Weekday**
 - Adoration, 7-8pm in the church
- 11 **Saturday, Weekday [Saint John XXIII, Pope]**
 - Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
 - Filipino Mass at 7pm, all are welcome
 - **El Señor de los Milagros/The Lord of the Miracles**, 10am Mass, 11:30am Procession, 2-4:30pm cultural dancing and dinner (for sale)
- 12 **Sunday, TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
 - Live-streaming Masses continue at 9am, 11am and 1pm in Spanish
- 13 **Monday, Weekday**
 - Parish Offices Closed ~ Federal Holiday
- 14 **Tuesday, Weekday [Saint Callistus I, Pope and Martyr]**
 - **PARISH FEAST OF SAINT BERNADETTE:** bilingual Mass at 7:30pm
- 15 **Wednesday, Saint Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor**
- 16 **Thursday, Weekday [Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin]**
- 17 **Friday, Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr**
 - Adoration, 7-8pm in the church
- 18 **Saturday, Saint Luke, Evangelist**
 - Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
 - **PARISH PICNIC!** 1-5pm, see pp. 10-11 in this bulletin
- 19 **Sunday, TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
 - Live-streaming Masses continue at 9am, 11am and 1pm in Spanish
- 20 **Monday, Weekday [Saint Paul of the Cross, Priest]**
 - **Taizé Ecumenical Prayer Service**, 8pm in the church, please join us!
- 21 **Tuesday, Weekday**
- 22 **Wednesday, Weekday [Saint John Paul II, Pope]**
- 23 **Thursday, Weekday [Saint John of Capistrano, Priest]**
- 24 **Friday, Weekday [Saint Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop]**
 - Adoration, 7-8pm in the church
- 25 **Saturday, Weekday**
 - Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
 - **Confirmation Mass**, 10am, Church ~ Please pray for our Confirmandi
 - Cub Scout Popcorn Sales after all Masses, Church Vestibule
 - Box of Joy Distribution after all Masses this weekend, vestibule
- 26 **Sunday, THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
 - Live-streaming Masses continue at 9am, 11am and 1pm in Spanish
 - Cub Scout Popcorn Sales after all Masses, Church Vestibule
 - Box of Joy Distribution after all Masses this weekend, vestibule

announcements

Don't forget, if you haven't, to return your commitment card for parish ministry – Pray, serve and give, for the coming year. Please drop it in the mail or bring it by the office.

Bishop Burbidge has invited all parishes in our Diocese to participate in a special Week of Service this November. Saint Bernadette Church and School will join this effort by partnering with **Rise Against Hunger to pack 150,000 meals** that will support educational programs around the world—a true **Corporal Work of Mercy in action**. To make this life-changing event possible, both financial gifts and volunteers are needed. Just the cost of one venti cup of coffee can provide six nutritious meals for a hungry child! Please see this week's bulletin or visit our parish website for more details. Sign-up opportunities will be shared in the coming weeks. It starts with a meal—together, we can make a world of difference.

Fr. Iacona is visiting our parish this weekend to speak at all the Masses on behalf of **Cross Catholic Outreach**, which was founded to forge a stronger and more supportive link between parishes in America and the priests and nuns serving the poor in the Caribbean, Africa, Southeast Asia, and Central and South America.

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. Please see today's bulletin page 7 for more information about the program and this year's theme "Touching the Divine."

+ Mark your calendars for these upcoming dates!

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

"Religious experience is an essential dimension of the human person. Without it, it is difficult, if not impossible, to bring about the purification of the heart necessary for building peaceful relationships."

—
Pope Leo XIV's address
to members of the
diplomatic corps,
May 16, 2025

Dear Good People of Saint Bernadette,

Greetings from Ephesus this evening as I write this letter. Today we visited the house of the Blessed Virgin Mary where she lived with Saint John on a high mountain ridge overlooking the ancient city until her Assumption into heaven. We then walked through the ancient city with its temples, residences, library, and the theater where Saint Paul preached to 25,000 people. You can find photos of Corinth, Athens, and Crete from our first week sprinkled throughout this bulletin.

One of the things we talk about as we travel is the whole broader concept of pilgrimage. Is not every person in our parish -- in our world -- in the process of journeying to God, even if they don't realize it? Life is the ultimate pilgrimage as we continue to collect messages and tools to make our way from here to there. There, of course, is not here, and so we must focus on what is *there* which makes it more desirable than here. The destination needs to be defined, and our resolve in reaching it necessarily requires prior planning, with real anticipation and holy hope.

But the process of getting there is the primary captivating experience we encounter in new places with new people. What we experience along the way is what shapes us into the people we are to become. The saints and holy people and contexts we find along the way can form us in ways we could never determine for ourselves. The sometimes uneasy or awesome things we discover shock us out of our complacency of everyday routines. We are inspired. We are humbled. We can still be surprised. God isn't necessarily surprising, but we discover things about him that we would not otherwise have known or even imagined.

Those who travel and put themselves into this requirement for change are pilgrims who acknowledge that something has to change. Our now is not enough. But you don't have to cross oceans to do this. You have the power of imagination and prayer to create this context wherever you are.

Celebrate the people you encounter, whether they be in a foreign land or your next door neighbor. God will use whatever context you have in order to

accomplish in you what he has planned for you.

We met one such person today. His name is Ashley, and he got his degree in textile design 31 years ago in university and then went to work in Turkiye. Originally from Australia, and a Christian, he settled with his family near the ancient city of Ephesus and took over management of a failing carpet weaving factory. His goal was to save a centuries-old tradition of Turkish carpet weaving that was in decline, welcoming women in desperate situations to learn the art and craft of carpet weaving, giving them a new chance for education and employment.

His carpet designs, often based on centuries-old traditions of various cultural traditions, have won international design awards around the world.

We watched several women working at the loom making beautiful designs. We were given a presentation of the many carpets that have been produced. Carpets can take one person several months to complete up to two women 5 years.

I was so moved by this guy, a Christian in an overwhelmingly Muslim culture, who has taken his gifts and applied them so totally to the resurgence of culture and renaissance of an ancient art for the benefit of people in need, that I had to buy a carpet. They aren't cheap -- but I promised him that I would tell you about him in case you might like to purchase a beautiful investment carpet and help advance a great art culture. I can't think of a more beautiful application of God's plan in the life of a lay person. He gave our parish a carpet which I will hang in one of our public spaces.

At any rate, we are having a beautiful pilgrimage. Early on I had encouraged our pilgrims to consider it as a "chill" grimace. Spiritual awareness shouldn't be stressful! We have celebrated Mass in the archeological site of Corinth, at a Catholic church in Athens, at Saint John the Baptist church in Santorini. We have some interesting places for Mass coming throughout, and I want you to know you remain in our prayers everywhere.

The Lord be with you, *Fr. Dom*

Saint Bernadette Catholic School Retreats...a time for mindful rest and renewal

Retreats are sacred times set apart for reflection, prayer, and rediscovering God's purpose in our lives. At our school, class retreats are a beloved tradition held throughout the school year, giving students, parents, and teachers the opportunity to gather and reflect on virtues such as joy, kindness, and compassion. Giving our students a chance to step away from their daily routine offers them a rare gift to recharge spiritually. Our retreats also inspire students to reflect on their values and choices. Through prayer and practice, they are encouraged to embrace compassion, forgiveness, and mindfulness—taking time to see and accept others and themselves as perfectly made by God.

This September, we added two new retreats to our school calendar: one for our middle school students and another for our faculty and staff. On September 29, while students enjoyed a holiday, our faculty came together off-site for a day of prayer, renewal, and purposeful quietness.

Our middle school retreat, held on September 26, was centered on the theme

"Making Jesus Visible Through Our Actions"—inspired by Fr. Scholtes hymn: "They'll Know We Are Christians" (1966). For the first time, the entire middle school came together for a half-day of prayer, fellowship, and spiritual growth. Students rotated through a series of reflective activities, including a walking rosary, guided meditation in the chapel, praise through song, Eucharistic art study and exploring God's presence in nature.

The day concluded with discussion led by Father Jeb in the main church. As a final act of service and end to their retreat, students created prayer cards for the residents of Green Spring's memory care facility, lifting them in prayer and sharing Christ's love beyond the walls of the retreat.

These retreats help us step away from the noise of daily life and take time to sit, listen, pray, and serve. Whether through song, art, or a purposeful prayer, our community is strengthened by these shared experiences. Our love for God and each other is what makes our school so special. At Saint Bernadette Catholic School, we remain committed to creating opportunities for our students, faculty, and families to deepen their faith, nurture their spirits, and joyfully live out the call to "make Jesus visible" in all that we do.

cardinal corner



**FORMING
HEARTS
& MINDS
IN CHRIST**



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

picnic de familia parroquial

**sábado
18 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 18
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

Please consider using biodegradable containers when possible; together we can do better to Care for Creation.

**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.

SAINT BERNADETTE
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

www.stbernapar.org | page 7

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.

RE Program upcoming schedule

Regular classes: Oct. 7-8, 14-15, 21-22, 28-29
Saturday SPRED class: Oct. 18
Family Mass Learning: Oct. 4-5 at all Masses except the 7am Mass
Sunday Family Faith Formation Class: Oct. 5
Confirmation 2025 Session 2: Oct. 5, 6:15-7:30pm at the school

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 October! October is the month dedicated to the Rosary. The Rosary is a powerful prayer given by the Virgin Mary to St. Dominic. It draws people closer to God and strengthens their spiritual lives. We celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7. It commemorates the naval victory of the Christian fleet over the Muslim Turks at the Battle of Lepanto with the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary. An activity you can do with your children is by making rosaries and saying the rosary as a family. You can find instructions to different rosary crafts at this link: <https://www.catholicicing.com/celebrating-month-of-rosary-html/>.



The port of Chania (Han-YAH), Crete, where Saint Paul sailed in his first voyage.

youth ministry

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

High School Diocesan RALLY - Sunday, October 26

This annual event is an opportunity for the young Church in the Diocese of Arlington to gather each year to for fun, entertainment, prayer, and to 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 Mee at gme@stbernpar.org for information on how to register.

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 - October 15
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.

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@stbernpar.org.

Monday, October 6 is our next Dinner with Friends at 5pm, at Saratoga Pizzeria, 8050 Rolling Road. We meet for this casual meal on the 1st and the 3rd Monday of every month.

Our next monthly meeting will be Tuesday, October 14 at 7pm in the Bradican Room. Our theme is month is "Making a Difference." We will hear from Deb Beard of Catholic Charities Diocese of Arlington and a member of St Bernadette parish. She will provide information about how we can each help make a difference in the many good works of Catholic Charities.

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>

8th grade High School Placement Test

8th grade students attending public schools or non-Catholic private schools who are interested in attending Catholic High Schools in the Diocese of Arlington need to take the High School Placement Test (HSPT). The date, time and locations are:

TEST DATE: Sat., November 15, 2025

TEST SITES:

Bishop Ireton High School, Alexandria
Bishop O'Connell High School, Arlington
St. Paul VI High School, Chantilly
Saint John Paul the Great High School, Dumfries

TEST TIME: 8:30am - 12 Noon

FEE: contact high school

ELIGIBLE STUDENTS: Any 8th grader attending public school, non-Catholic private schools, or Catholic schools outside the Arlington Diocese (students who attend parish schools in the Diocese take the same test at their school site).

REQUIREMENTS: Students must register on-line on the high school's website. The registration must be completed on-line by the high school's registration deadline. The testing fee should accompany the registration.

For students who are prevented from taking the test on November 15, there will be an additional testing date on Sat., December 6 at all four high schools (Snow Date - Dec. 13, 2025), from 8:30am to noon.

CYO winter sports registration - coming soon!

Registration for Basketball and Cheer will be open shortly.

Athletes must be enrolled in Saint Bernadette Catholic School or Religious Education to participate.

Parents of girls in 3rd to 8th grade who are interested in learning about our cheer program, please join us for a virtual meeting on October 7 at 7pm. Please email one of the CYO reps for information.

coming up

Parish Offertory

September 28:
Offertory \$ 40,024
Misson Cooperative 2,807

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 or call (866)507-8757. Our parish code is VA70.

many
ways to
help



Cross Catholic Outreach here this weekend

This weekend we are blessed to be hosting a Fr. Frank Iacona representing Cross Catholic Outreach. This official Catholic ministry was founded to link parishes in the U.S. with priests, religious brothers and sisters, and laypeople working in Church missions overseas. Its programs span the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, and Central and South America. Donation envelopes will be provided. Please be generous and be sure to say hi after Mass. Brochures with a donation envelope will be provided if you wish to support this worthy Catholic ministry. For more information on Cross Catholic Outreach, please go to CrossCatholic.org/outreach, or scan the QR code at left.

Este fin de semana tenemos la bendición de recibir a un sacerdote que viene en representación de Cross Catholic Outreach, un ministerio con reconocimiento pontificio que se fundó con el propósito de vincular parroquias de los Estados Unidos con sacerdotes, religiosos y laicos que trabajan con misiones de la Iglesia Católica en otros países. Sus programas abarcan el Caribe, África, Asia, Centroamérica y Sudamérica. Se proporcionarán sobres para donaciones. Por favor, sea generoso y asegúrese de saludar al Padre después de la misa. Si usted desea apoyar la importante causa de este ministerio católico, habrá boletines disponibles que incluyen un sobre para las donaciones. Si desea conocer más sobre Cross Catholic Outreach, visite CrossCatholic.org/sacerdote, o escanee el código QR con su celular:

Celebración del Señor de los Milagros /Lord of the Miracles celebration

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 11. 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 Mi-

lagros, el sábado 11 de octubre. A nuestro santo patrón se le atribuye la protección de nuestro pueblo en tiempos difíciles. Una cena seguirá con bailes típicos de diferentes países en el gimnasio.

Life Chain is today

The 2025 Alexandria Life Chain will be conducted along Franconia Road on Sunday, October 5, from 2:30–3:30pm, from Saint Lawrence Church to Frontier Avenue near the Springfield Mall. Our parish's location on Franconia Road will be in front of Key Middle School, the same as in previous years.

Bishop's annual Mass for persons with disabilities

Join Most Rev. Michael F. Burbidge and families across the Diocese of Arlington for this annual Mass for Respect Life Month and Persons with Disabilities. Come give thanks to God for the blessings that our brothers, sisters, and children with disabilities bring to our lives!

This yearly Mass celebrates disability awareness for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and the need for us to provide opportunities for them to reach their full potential through inclusive education and meaningful employment throughout the Catholic Diocese of Arlington. Porto Charities will host a light breakfast after the Mass where you can enjoy fellowship. The Mass is October 12 at 10am until noon at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, 8800 Braddock Rd, Annadale VA 22003 Vienna. Porto Charities will host a light breakfast after the Mass where you can enjoy fellowship. No RSVP required.

El santo rosario durante el mes de octubre

Invitamos a la comunidad al tradicional rezo del santo rosario durante el mes de octubre. Recordemos que esta devoción es una oración bíblica y contemplativa muy apreciada en la Iglesia Católica, de carácter cristológico.

Es un llamado de la Virgen por la paz del mundo y el crecimiento espiritual. Vengan a la gruta de la Virgen, todos los días del mes, lunes a sábado 6pm y domingos al concluir la Misa de 1pm.

From the Office of Vocations

National Vocation Awareness Week is the first full week of November. Seminarians will speak in parishes on the weekend of November 8-9. There are many events this fall for discerners. If there are any men ages 16-35 who might be considering a vocation to Priesthood, contact Fr. Don by email and register for a dinner with Bishop Burbidge scheduled for October 24.

November 15: High School boys

Quo Vadis Father-Son visit to St. John Paul II Seminary (fathers are welcome but not required)

November 21-23: Adult Men

Weekend trip to Mount St. Mary's Seminary

December 21: Adult Men

Advent Day of Recollection for Discerners

December 21: Adult Women

Advent Day of Recollection for Discerners

Contact our Vocations Director, Fr. Noah Morey, at (703) 841-2537

ECHO clothing program

Knowing that cold winter blasts are on the way, ECHO's Clothing Department is hoping for donations of winter coats in all sizes, winter gloves for boys, sneakers for children in sizes 1 through 6, sneakers for men in sizes 7 and 8, and new athletic socks in all sizes. The Housewares Department needs bath and hand towels, king- or queen-sized comforters, and large or medium pots and pans. The Food Pantry is grateful for all donations of non-perishable foods and personal hygiene items. We especially need toothbrushes, shaving cream, masa flour, dried beans, instant coffee, and canned protein items such as salmon, Spam, sardines, or chili. ECHO, 7205 Old Keene Mill Road, is open to receive donations on weekdays between 9:30am and 12:30pm and on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings between 7 and 9.

Virginia Catholic Conference voter resources online

Elections for Governor, Lieutenant Gov., Attorney General and all 100 Virginia House of Delegates seats are coming this fall. Election Day is November 4. Early voting begins September 19. To prepare,

please visit our Election Resource hub at <https://vacatholic.org/action-center/Election2025/>. There you can view, download and print the following materials:

- [Pre-election letter](#) issued by VA bishops
- Candidate Comparisons for [Governor](#), [Lieutenant Governor](#) and [Attorney General](#)
- "Proposed Constitutional Amendments: Be Vigilant!" flyer
- Info about how to register and other key information
- ["Four Principles of Catholic Social Teaching"](#)

John Paul the Great High School open house

Save-the-date! John Paul the Great's Fall Open House will be held on Sunday, November 2 from 1-4pm. This year's Open House will be fun for the whole family! Learn more about our rigorous college-preparatory curriculum, competitive athletics, inspiring visual and performing arts, and abundant extracurricular opportunities! We look forward to introducing you to our unique Bioethics program as well as our beloved House System and robust Special Services! Meet students, faculty, and coaches to learn more. RSVP Today! Use the following link to RSVP: https://jpthegreat.fsenrollment.com/portal/new_inquiry

The need for food continues to grow and never diminish every month since the beginning of the pandemic. Food aid has presented an enormous challenge. Every can, every box, every bar of soap helps us meet the challenge. Join us in our commitment to end local hunger!

Mary's Comfort update

Thank you for your continued prayers for the guests who reside at Mary's Comfort. We hope you might consider volunteering with us? The opportunities available include a Volunteer Coordinator, Database Manager, Facilities Manager, Shelter Director and Fundraising Coordinator. The commitment of time can be very flexible (usually 1-5 hours per week). Some work can also be completely remote. For more information, visit: <https://www.maryscomfortva.org/> and email us at maryscomfortva@gmail.com. Thank you for your prayerful support as we strive to shelter and support expecting mothers in crisis.

upcoming events



Rise Against Hunger is coming to Saint Bernadette in November!



We are now seeking donations to purchase the raw ingredients and pack **150,000 life-changing meals** to fight world hunger.

Join the movement!

Your gift will have life-changing impact on a child!



For more information contact: rcaporali@stbernpa.org or jcorday@stbernpa.org

or visit our parish website for more information and details



**FEED YOUR FAMILY WHILE
SUPPORTING OUR EVENT**

Help Fund our Week of Service

**20% of incremental sales will go to our parish meal
packing event when you Dine-In or order To Go**

SAINT BERNADETTE CATHOLIC CHURCH

October 20, 5-8pm

Silver Diner Springfield

6592 Springfield Mall, Springfield, VA 22150

Order ToGo at SilverDiner.com or call 703-924-1701

Carryout, Car Hop Curbside, or Delivery



Please don't forget to mention Saint Bernadette at the time you place your order! Proceeds will help fund our Diocesan Week of Service Project. Saint Bernadette Church is partnering with Rise Against Hunger to purchase the raw ingredients needed to pack 150,000 meals for educational programs and communities throughout the world. Your meal purchase contributes directly to a meal for a child, family or community. It starts with a meal!

parish pil- grimages 2025: footsteps of saint paul

*Pilgrims celebrate
Mass at the bema in
Corinth where Saint
Paul was called before
the Roman authorities*



*Pilgrims gather at the
Acropolis in Athens
near the Parthenon
where Saint Paul spoke
to the Athenians at the
Areopagus.*



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 11. 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 11 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
11 de octubre
saturday
october 11

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

We're having an **ONLINE FUNDRAISER!**

OCTOBER 1-31, 2025



Confirmation gifts! Stocking stuffers! Teacher Wishlists!

With more than 200 saint charms and keychains at just \$6.99 each, Tiny Saints offers simple, affordable gifts and collectibles that are guaranteed to bring a smile.

Supporters can enjoy shopping for their favorite saints, patron saints, and even learn about others for the first time while browsing!

Purchase items for your child's classroom and teachers! Follow this link for teachers' wishlists: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084FAFA92BA1FE3-58671096-tiny>

From October 1 – 31, 2025, all shoppers at www.tinysaints.com will have the option to select Saint Bernadette Catholic School (eighth grade) from a dropdown menu during checkout to support our eighth-grade fundraiser. Saint Bernadette Catholic School will receive 20% of sales.

Thank you for your generosity!



Support our **tinysaints**
ONLINE FUNDRAISER!



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 or (703) 451-8576 x112. Much more can be found at <https://www.stbernpar.org/praying/music-ministry> or by contacting David Mathers.

Faith & Blue Weekend - October 10-12

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 parish school will observe Faith & Blue Weekend by sponsoring an essay contest.

Parish Feast Day October 14

We will celebrate our parish feast with a special bilingual 45th Anniversary Mass on Tuesday, October 14 at 7:30pm. Patronal feasts carry the same solemnity as Christmas and Easter! Plan to come!

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

27th annual Christ the King men's retreat

Titled "Die Catholic and in the State of Grace and You Win: How to make the last battle of your life a victory," this retreat directed by Fr. Francis de Rosa will be held on Sat. Oct. 25 from 8:30am—12:15pm at St. Raymond of Peñafort Catholic Church, 8750 Pohick Rd., Springfield VA 22153. There is no charge for this event, but you must register before Oct. 22 to attend. Donations gratefully accepted. To register go to www.waywomen.com/mensretreat For more information, contact Robin Maas at rmvlmaas@gmail.com.

Prime Time Single Catholics

We are a social group, mostly aged 60 and over. (35 to 59? Ask about our free associate group.) Meet us for: Mass at St. Louis Church/visit to Poor Clares Monastery (Oct. 5); Thursday lunches (Oct. 9 & 23); dinner in Ashburn (Oct. 11); tour of historic Rippon Lodge and Neabsco Creek Boardwalk (Oct. 18); Ocean City Beach Days (Oct. 24-27); serving meal at Christ House (Oct. 25); ancient cemeteries tour/dinner in Alexandria (Oct. 26); Annual Dinner Dance (Nov. 15). For details, visit our website: bit.ly/ptsc. With questions or to RSVP, email Tom at ptscnva@gmail.com

Ancient Order of Hibernians raffles tickets to Ireland

The Ancient Order of Hibernians (AOH) will be selling raffle tickets after all Masses this weekend, of October 4-5 for a Trip for Two to Ireland! Tickets are \$10 or 3 for \$25. Cash and checks accepted. Proceeds are used to fund our charitable giving to include 8th grade graduation scholarships, Mary's Comfort, Project St. Patrick (Seminarians) and our annual St. Patrick Coloring Contest. Try your luck of the Irish!

upcoming events

"Religious experience is an essential dimension of the human person. Without it, it is difficult, if not impossible, to bring about the purification of the heart necessary for building peaceful relationships."

Pope Leo XIV's address to members of the diplomatic corps, May 16, 2025

Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

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

October

6 MONDAY

7am † Bella Joaquin

9am* † Jay Jenc

Jon 1:1—2:2, 11/Lk 10:25-37

7 TUESDAY

7am Ted Boyd

9am* † Jay Jenc

Jon 3:1-10/Lk 10:38-42

8 WEDNESDAY

7am † William Mann, Jr.

9am* † Benigno Fernandez

Jon 4:1-11/Lk 11:1-4

9 THURSDAY

7am The Kong Family

9am* † Jay Jenc

Mal 3:13-20/Lk 11:5-13

10 FRIDAY

7am † Souls in Purgatory

9am* † Francisca Clauan

10am** † William Mann

Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Lk 11:15-26

11 SATURDAY

8am † Josephine Soriente

Jl 4:12-21/Lk 11:27-28

5pm* For the parish

12 SUNDAY

7am Joanna Robson

9am* † Rita Morath

11am* † Edward Mountel

1pm León Family

5pm † Wyatt Crossin

2 Kgs 5:14-17/2 Tm 2:8-13/Lk 17:11-19

* live-streamed Masses

** Mass at Greenspring Chapel

Masses next weekend

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

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, Ana Maria Carrillo, Ron and Jo-Anne Plavchan, Erika Vargas, Edward Fitzgerald, Augie Taormina, Cassi Smith

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.

Stewardship Resources and Reminders: Reduce your Taxable Income!

If you are 70 1/2 and over, consider using your IRA for a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). If you are 73 and over, consider using some or all of a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) as gifts to Saint Bede. This is an easy way to reduce your taxable income and benefit the parish. Contact Rick Caporali at or Linda Patterson at the parish office.

Charitable Giving update: Legislative changes for 2026 and Beyond

Charitable giving under the "One Big Beautiful Bill" (BBB) introduces changes including a new universal deduction for non-itemizers and a floor for itemized deductions, alongside corporate and high-income taxpayer impacts. The BBB aims to encourage giving by allowing non-itemizers to deduct cash donations up to \$1,000 (single) or \$2,000 (jointly), but it also introduces a 0.5% AGI floor for itemized deductions, caps benefits at 35% for high-income taxpayers, and imposes a 1% income floor for corporate giving.

For Individual Donors: Universal Deduction for Cash Contributions Starting in 2026, non-itemizers can deduct cash donations up to \$1,000 (single) or \$2,000 (married filing jointly).

Itemized Deductions: Individuals who itemize will now only receive a deduction for charitable contributions that exceed 0.5% of their adjusted gross income (AGI).

High Income Taxpayer Cap: The tax benefit for itemized deductions for wealthy donors will be capped at a 35% marginal rate, regardless of their actual tax bracket.

Ineligible Donations: This new universal deduction for non-itemizers does not apply to gifts made to donor-advised funds or private non-operating foundations. The universal deduction is expected to significantly increase participation in charitable giving, as it extends tax benefits to the approximately 90% of taxpayers who do not currently itemize deductions.

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.

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@stbernpa.org or call the office.

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](#)



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