

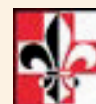
May your grace, O Lord, at all times go before us and follow after and make us always determined to carry out good works. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 12, 2025



Jesus cleanses the ten lepers, traditional Orthodox icon.



SAINT BERNADETTE
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 12, 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@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 Bookkeeper/Compliance (OPCYP), Zory Conde, zconde@stbermpar.org Executive Assistant, Jean Corday jcorday@stbermpar.org Executive Assistant, Evelyn Vargas, evargas@stbermpar.org Secretary, Janet Chávez-España
SAINT BERNADETTE SCHOOL	703-451-8696, fax 269-1121 Principal, Dr. Kathleen Burgess school@stbermpar.org Assistant Principal, Jennifer Spencer Registrar, Heidi Thomes
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	703-451-8576 Director, Lynn Jones Ljones@stbermpar.org Coordinator of Religious Education, Arlyn Agasen, aagasen@stbermpar.org Administrative Assistant, Victor Mendez vmendez@stbermpar.org
YOUTH MINISTRY	703-451-8576 Director, Grace Mee gme@stbermpar.org Assistant Director, J.P. McLaughlin, jpmclaughlin@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 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.stbermpar.org . Articles for the bulletin must be submitted to the parish office no later than first thing Friday morning, ten days before publication date. bulletin@stbermpar.org .

calendar

october

- 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**
 - Christ House Food Drop-off, Bradican Rm, 2-6pm
- 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. 6-7 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 Ecumencial 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, Church 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, Church Vestibule
- 27 Monday, Weekday**
- 28 Tuesday, Saints Simon and Jude, Apostles**
- 29 Wednesday, Weekday**
- 30 Thursday, Weekday**
- 31 Friday, Weekday**
 - Adoration, 7-8pm in the church

November

- 1 Saturday, ALL SAINTS** (*Not a Holyday of Obligation this year,*)
an additional **Mass at 10am** has been added for the Feastday
 - **ECHO YARD SALE** starting at 8am in the gym
 - Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass

announcements

Parish Offices will be Closed on Monday 13 October in observance of the Federal Holiday

Please join us for our **Anniversary Mass for the Dedication of our Church on Tuesday, October 14 at 7:30pm in the Church.**

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.

All are invited to our **Saint Bernadette Parish Picnic on Saturday, October 18th**, from 1-5 p.m. There will be great music, food, and games for the whole family. Please check the bulletin to see what food you should bring. Volunteers are also needed!

All Saints Day (*not a Holyday of obligation*): **No Vigil Mass October 31.** On Saturday, November 1, an additional Mass will be celebrated at 10am.

The **All Souls' Day Mass schedule** follows our regular Sunday Mass schedule for all our deceased. 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. Please return them by October 31.

Mark your calendars:

ECHO Yard Sale, November 1, 8am - noon.

Support our Work of Mercy ~ Rise Against Hunger



Parish Dining Night Out, Monday
October 20, Silver Diner, 5-8pm



Parish Dining Night Out, Monday
October 27, Malek's Pizza, 4-9pm

Mention Saint Bernadette when ordering!

from the pastor

"Communication is not only the transmission of information, but it is also the creation of a culture."

Pope Leo XIV's address
to representatives of the
media,
May 12, 2025

Dear Good People of Saint Bernadette,

As I write this letter it is again Monday late and we are in our last city, Istanbul. Travel was challenging today, disembarking the boat before 7am, driving 1.5 hours to the airport in Athens, barely making our flight, then a one-hour delay taking off. We got out of passport control and baggage claim/customs finally by 2:30pm, then meeting the tour guide and starting a late driving tour of the city. It is a remarkable place.

We stopped at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. Someone in the group remarked how interesting it is that the most beautiful Catholic Church we have seen so far is in Turkey. It was at this church where Cardinal Roncalli (St. Pope John XXIII) served as Papal Nuncio during World War II and saved tens of thousands of Jewish people from being taken north into eastern Europe during the holocaust. He spoke later to the newly formed Secretariat for Interreligious Affairs at the beginning of Vatican II about how his relationships with Jews and Muslims during these formative years in Istanbul compelled him to lead the commission to write *Nostra aetate*, the Church's Constitution on relations with people of other faiths.

It was at this cathedral where St. Pope Paul VI met with Patriarch Athenagoras in 1965 and rescinded the mutual excommunications of 1056 "to oblivion." It was at this cathedral where St. John Paul II, Pope Benedict XVI, and Pope Francis met with Bartholomew, the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople (the original name of Istanbul), founded by the Roman Emperor Constantine when he wanted to move the center of the Church further east to rule both Europe and Asia. A visit of Pope Leo to this very place may be planned for this November.

We talked about the central role of this one place in the context of 1,700 years after the Council of Nicaea, the last time that all Christians were united in one creed, the Nicene Creed we say at Mass, as well as the 60th Anniversary of *Nostra aetate*.

Of course, the context of Muslim Turkey is a difficult one for the Greek Orthodox Church. In an increasingly hostile

environment, the Orthodox Church is struggling with few faithful, as in so many places in the world. Churches are shuttered and seminaries are closed. I had always thought this so harsh, how Patriarch Bartholomew must maintain a skeleton staff to remain in the ancient see of his ancestors. It is a vestige of a time when intolerance and cruelty were characteristics of life.

I also never knew that ever since the 1830 revolution of the Greeks from the Ottomans no Islamic mosque has been allowed to be open. Muslims, if they practice faith, must do so at home without gatherings. The mosques are in decay.

Looking back on our time on pilgrimage, we have had the time to reflect on many of the virtues and attitudes that are necessary for the journey of life. We saw and celebrated them in Saint Paul and his companions and followers, in the saints we celebrated according to the liturgical calendar of the Orthodox and Eastern Rite Catholic Churches. Those early followers and martyrs of Saint Paul who built the first foundations of the Church in this part of the world despite the great personal cost of suffering, danger and death.

We asked God to fill us with the same resolve, fortitude, fire, and trust that seemed to lead Saint Paul throughout his years of preaching and mentoring the next generation of servant leaders who carried the Cross forward to new disciples and places. We considered the humility and blamelessness necessary to make Jesus known and not ourselves. We prayed for you all along the way in the most beautiful and significant places we found.

Of course, you don't have to travel abroad to find these things, they are just more obvious when we allow ourselves to be vulnerable to circumstances and submit to the will of God, however that is made known to us.

You will find several pages of photos in this bulletin which give you an idea of the stunning beauty of these places, which must also have been a source of inspiration and hope in Paul's faith in God.

The Lord be with you, *Fr. Dom*

Knights of Columbus 5K Fun Run

What a fantastic way to kick off a crisp fall morning on October 4th. Saint Bernadette Catholic School and Parish joined forces for a fun-filled day at Burke Lake Park, with staff, students, and Cardinal families turning out in droves to run (or walk!) for a great cause, the Knights of Columbus 5K Fun Run. Many of our staff celebrated running for the fourth year in a row.

This event perfectly embodies our mission: The community of Saint Bernadette Catholic School and Parish works together to form hearts and minds in Christ. Our partnership with the parish was on full display, as families and faculty laced up their sneakers to support our shared values and strengthen our community spirit.

Dr. Zagrobelny, with her signature humor, quipped that she joins the race to remind her students they can never hide from

her—not even on weekends! Meanwhile, Mrs. Murphy, our dedicated PE teacher, beamed with pride watching so many students hit the pavement. “Running is a big part of our PE classes,” she said, “and seeing our kids out here living that passion for fitness is incredible.”

A shout-out to Mrs. Miller’s husband, who sprinted his way to first place in his age category—way to go! All participants, young and old, crossed the finish line, proving that perseverance and community go hand in hand.

Mrs. Peckl summed up the day perfectly: “Seeing co-workers, parishioners, students, and parents out for a good cause is a part of what makes Saint Bernadette a wonderful community.” The energy, laughter, and togetherness made this event one to remember.

Mark your calendars—we’ll be back next year, ready to run, walk, and celebrate as a Cardinal family!

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.

youth ministry

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

RE Program upcoming schedule

Regular classes: Oct. 14-15, 21-22, 28-29
Saturday SPRED class: Oct. 18
Confirmation 2025 Confessions: Oct. 16 at 6:30pm

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

On October 13, we celebrate the anniversary of The Miracle of the Spinning Sun. In 1917, thousands of people witnessed the miracle of the dancing sun. This was the sign that Our Lady of Fatima had promised the shepherd children (Saints Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta) to confirm the authenticity of her apparitions. Witnesses had seen the sun spinning in the sky, changing its size and color, and evoking feelings of warmth and joy. One fun activity you can do with your kids is making a Miracle of the Sun Spinner. You can find instructions here: <https://www.catholicicing.com/fatima-craft-miracle-of-sun-spinner/>

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 gmee@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 1
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.

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.

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.

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.

Monday, October 20 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.

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>

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!

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.

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

Fundraising event at Malek's Pizza Palace

Monday, October 27, 4 - 9pm.

Please join us for our Restaurant Night at Malek's Pizza Palace to support our Saint Bernadette **Rise Against Hunger ~ Week of Service Event!**

25% will come back to Saint Bernadette! Please mention Saint Bernadette when placing an order!

Dine-in, Carry-out Delivery and Catering orders qualify!

Remember to mention the Saint Bernadette, so that we get credit for your order! We can't wait to see you there! 703-451-6969



coming up

Parish Offertory

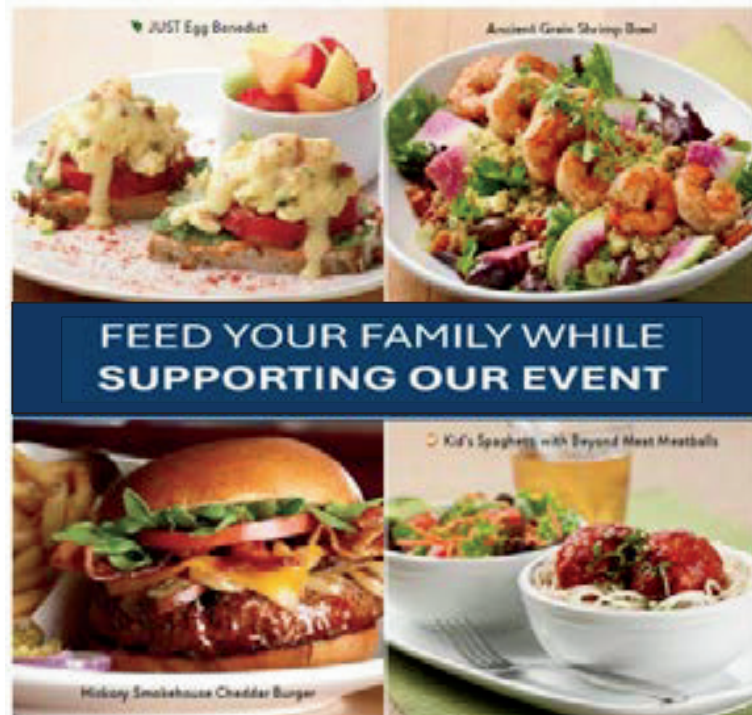
October 5:	
Offertory	\$ 36,898
National Shrine	2,515

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.

rise against hunger fundraising



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



See if your employer will match a gift

Corporations who would not usually match giving to churches or religious institutions might be interested in supporting this

international feeding outreach. Donations may be made directly to Rise Against Hunger and restricted for use supporting our program. If you have any questions, please contact Rick Caporali in the parish office for assistance.

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!



SAINT BERNADETTE
CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

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



or visit the parish website
for more information - stbernpar.org



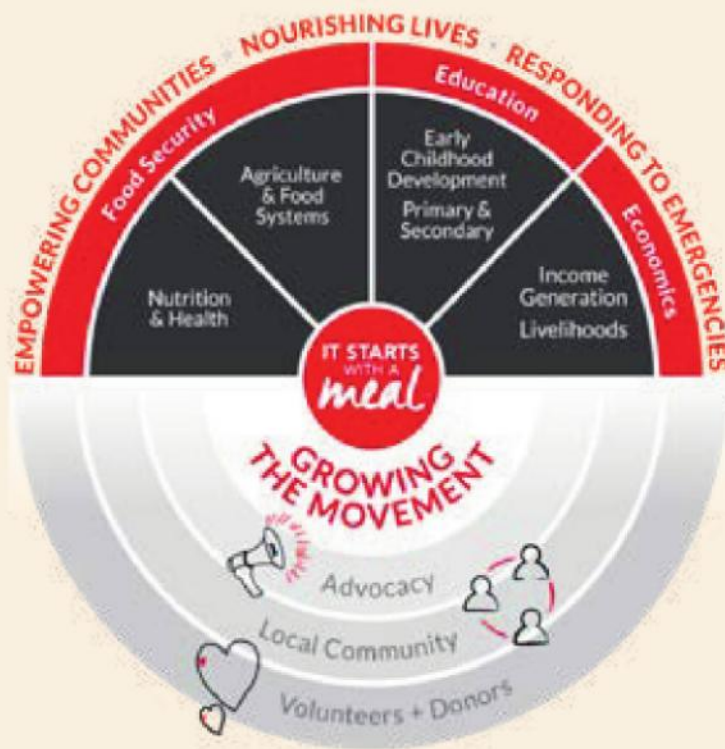
Saint Bernadette Church and School Rise Against Hunger Kickoff: our diocesan Corporal Work of Mercy ~ "feed the hungry" (Mt 25:35)

Saint Bernadette Church is partnering with Rise Against Hunger in response to Bishop Burbidge's invitation for all parishes to perform a corporal Work of Mercy. With your support, we will host a meal packing event at Saint Bernadette November 13-15, 2025.

Our parish goal is to raise \$75,000 to purchase the raw ingredients to pack 150,000 life-changing meals. Please support our parish's effort to fight global hunger, with prayer, financial support or volunteer service. It starts with a meal.

In collaboration with Saint Bernadette School this act of solidarity reflects the Gospel call to "feed the hungry" and serves as a visible witness of the Church's mission in action.

More about Rise Against Hunger and their Model



Rise Against Hunger's Pathways to End Hunger model aligns with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), primarily #2 Zero Hunger and #4 Quality Education.

The ways we're accomplishing this goal.

Pathways to End Hunger

We target remote, last-mile communities within hunger pockets designated "serious" or higher on the Global Hunger Index, which are the hardest places to reach and are often difficult to access, lack communication and have poor infrastructure. With the support of our global impact partners, we practice locally-led development by providing expertise vital to empower local communities and providing meals through local schools to incentivize attendance and enable kids to obtain an education. Our work starts with a meal.

how rise
against
hunger
works

parish pilgrims: ephesus

After a day at the beautiful island of Santorini (right), we visited Ephesus, where Saint Paul preached to the Ephesians in the great theater (below) which accommodated 20,000 people.



The great Library of Celsus at Ephesus, second only to Alexandria, lost thousands of scrolls of history and philosophy when it burned in a Gothic invasion in 262





parish pilgrims: mykonos, thessaloniki

We had amazing weather all along our journey, but Mykonos could not have been better. At left is the old port Roman Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception.

Thessaloniki is a big city like Athens but retains much of its original early Greek character. We visited the Greek Orthodox Basilica of St. Demetrious.



parish pilgrims: kavala, philippi

Near Kavala is a site on the Zygaktis River where Saint Paul baptized Lydia, a silk merchant and disciple. We celebrated Mass at an outdoor chapel on the river. The site is also near Philippi (below), where Paul first became an Apostle to Europe. A fourth century baptistery mosaic floor attests to the dedication of the structure to Paulo by the bishop of the time.



St. Martin de Porres Senior Center call for Volunteers

Catholic Charities St. Martin de Porres Senior Center is looking for volunteers with various opportunities. SMdP provides services to prevent isolation of seniors and promote their wellness, independence, and happiness. Volunteers are needed for breakfast and lunch; activities, arts and crafts, exercise instructor, computer/tech instructors, nutritionist, and more opportunities listed online at <https://www.cdda.net/seniorservices>. Center hours are Monday-Friday from 9am - 1:30pm. Flexible schedules based on availability. SMdP is located at 4650 Taney Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304. Contact maria.mellor@cdda.net; phone: 703-751-2766

Support our tinysaints ONLINE FUNDRAISER!



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.

Purchase items for your child's classroom and teachers! Follow this link for teachers' wishlists: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084FAFA92BA1F-E3-5E>

tinysaints



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: Thursday lunch (Oct. 23); 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

Christ House Food Drop-off

Your generous donation of food items can be dropped off at the Bradican Rm on Wednesday, October 15th from 2–6pm. Your act of kindness is a prefect opportunity to witness Christ's love to those less fortunate. The mission of this ministry is to provide nutritious bagged lunches for residents of Christ House located in Alexandria. The volunteers package and deliver meals every other month. For more information, please contact Anne Thompson at annetomson@aol.com or contact the parish office. The residents are grateful for your support.

upcoming events

"Communication is not only the transmission of information, but it is also the creation of a culture."

Pope Leo XIV's address to representatives of the media,
May 12, 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

13 MONDAY

7am Private intention
9am* † Innocencio Claud
Rom 1:1-7/Lk 11:29-32

14 TUESDAY

7am For the parish
9am* † Lionel Gaudin
7:30p † Rev. Mark Mealey, OSFS
Rom 1:16-25/Lk 11:37-41

15 WEDNESDAY

7am The Smith Family
9am* † Victor Cruz
Rom 2:1-11/Lk 11:42-46

16 THURSDAY

7am † John Sheehy
9am* † Israel Ivan Pabon Torres
Rom 3:21-30/Lk 11:47-54

17 FRIDAY

7am † Christopher Solomon
9am* The Mussomele Family
10am** † Raymond Staffieri, Jr.
Rom 4:1-8/Lk 12:1-7

18 SATURDAY

8am Jose Belmonte
2 Tm 4:10-17b/Lk 10:1-9
5pm* Elenita Dizon

19 SUNDAY

7am For the parish
9am* † Henry Shinol
11am* † Kathleen Zeiler
1pm † Adalberto Jose Barrientos
5pm † Menh Tran
Ex 17:8-13/2 Tm 3:14-4:2/Lk 18:1-8

* live-streamed Masses

** Mass at Greenspring Chapel

Masses next weekend

Oct 18	5pm	Fr. Cedric
Oct 19	7am	Fr. Don
	9am	Fr. Don
	11am	Fr. Don
	1pm	Fr. James
	5pm	Fr. James

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. [Reteless PR13 Portable FM Radio](#), [Pocket FM Radio Receiver](#), [AAA Battery Powered Personal Mini Stereo Radio with Earphone and Lock Key](#)



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