

Almighty ever-living God, increase our faith, hope and charity, and make us love what you command, so that we may merit what you promise. 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.

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 26, 2025



The Pharisee and the Publican, James Tissot, watercolor, c. 1890
Brooklyn Museum



SAINT BERNADETTE
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 26, 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

26 Sunday, THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

- Live-streaming Masses continue at 9am and 1pm in Spanish
- **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

2 Sunday, ALL SOULS' DAY

- Live-streaming Masses continue at 9am and 1pm in Spanish

3 Monday, Weekday [Saint Martin de Porres, Religious]

4 Tuesday, Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop

5 Wednesday, Weekday

6 Thursday, Weekday

7 Friday, Weekday

- Adoration, 7-8pm in the church

8 Saturday, Weekday

- Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
- **Box of Joy Collection after all Masses this weekend, Church Vestibule**
- **Holy Land Carving Group olive wood carvings for sale after Masses**

9 Sunday, THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

- Live-streaming Masses continue at 9am, 11am and 1pm in Spanish
- **Box of Joy Collection after all Masses this weekend, Church Vestibule**
- **Holy Land Carving Group olive wood carvings for sale after Masses**

10 Monday, Saint Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor (32nd Week)

11 Tuesday, Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop

12 Wednesday, Saint Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr

13 Thursday, Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

- **Opening Night for our corporal Work of Mercy, Rise Against Hunger, 6pm & 8:30pm, Signup on the parish website**

14 Friday, Weekday

- Adoration, 7-8pm in the church
- **RAH Meal Packing continues, 6pm & 8:30pm, Signup on the parish website**

15 Saturday, Weekday [Saint Albert the Great, Bishop and Doctor]

- Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
- **RAH Meal Packing continues, 8:30am & 10:30am, Signup on parish website**

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.

All Saints' Day: Saturday November 1st is not a Holy Day of obligation this year. Because it is still an important feast, we will add a 10am Mass on Saturday morning.

All-Souls' Day Masses on Sunday, November 2 follow our regular Sunday Mass schedule. Our All Souls' Novena of Masses envelopes are in the vestibule of the church and the parish office. Please return them by October 31.

The **ECHO Yard Sale** is Saturday, November 1, 8am until noon.

On the weekend of Nov. 8/9 there will be a display of beautiful olivewood handmade carvings from the Holy Land in our church. These carvings are made by the Christians of Bethlehem who use them as their main source of income. Christians in the Holy Land used to be more than 37% of the population. They are less than 1% now. We must support our brothers and sisters in Bethlehem. YOU can support them by purchasing some of these beautiful carvings after Mass. For more information, please contact us at 202-302-5889 or visit www.BethlehemCarvings.org. Thank you in advance for all your help and support!

Support our Work of Mercy ~ Rise Against Hunger



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

Mention Saint Bernadette when ordering!



Parish Dining Night Out, Monday
November 3, McAlister's Deli, 4-8pm

Mention Saint Bernadette when ordering!

from the pastor

"Works of mercy are recommended as a sign of the authenticity of worship, which, while giving praise to God, has the task of opening us to the transformation that the Spirit can bring about in us, so that we may all become an image of Christ and his mercy towards the weakest."

Pope Leo XIV, Apostolic Exhortation DILEXI TE, October 4, 2025

Dear Good People of Saint Bernadette,

After our picnic last Saturday I sent a thank you email to our primary leaders/volunteers who made the picnic such a success. It was truly beautiful to see so many people really invested in our community life with their time and hard work.

This is what I wrote to our parish leaders:

"Several people mentioned to me as the carnival features were leaving the parking lot last night how amazing it was to watch so many from so many different ministries come together and make such a beautiful afternoon possible. Thanks, Rick Caporali, for your organization and tireless commitment to building our community, and to all of you who gathered the flock, broke the loaves and fed the 3,000. It was a remarkable, holy gathering. Last evening I was thinking of one of my favorite songs' third verse says:

*All our meals and all our living
make as sacraments of you,
that by caring, helping, giving,
we may be disciples true.
Alleluia, alleluia!
we will serve with faith anew.*

I think we can say that this was one of the happiest, most vibrant days that Saint Bernadette has ever seen in building community and witnessing kindness and goodness. Thanks to you."

But it was also all of you who came with side dishes, and set up games and crafts for the kids, and spent the afternoon building friendships. So much of the logistics and grilling covered by our Knights of Columbus. Our school teachers and staff who came on a non-school day to see all the kids. I do believe it was one of the best things that has ever happened at Saint Bernadette and it is thanks to all of you who came and enjoyed the beautiful afternoon together. There are a few photos on pages 10 and 11 of today's bulletin.

I have been working my way slowly through Pope Leo's new Apostolic Exhortation *Dilexi te* ("I have loved you")

and am happy to say he tells things like it is and says it well.

I was asked the difference between an apostolic exhortation and an encyclical so I checked with my new friend A. I. Overview. Here is what he says: *An encyclical is a formal, pastoral letter from the pope to the entire Church on matters of faith and morals, while an apostolic exhortation is a papal reflection that urges the faithful to take a specific course of action or address a particular spiritual matter. Encyclicals have greater doctrinal weight, while exhortations are less formal and are often a response to a significant event...*

Clearly, however, the Pope has a lot on his mind about the way the poor are being treated in today's world, and he finds it remarkably troubling. The news seems just to be getting worse, and my resolve for us as a parish to do something about it is much stronger. We need, right now, to be attentive to the situation people are finding themselves in this government shutdown. If SNAP benefits (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) stop being issued, there will be a great need for food. If people are unable to afford health care... I don't even know what that would look like.

It was very sobering to read in a recent study that, because our nation has stopped providing financial assistance to the poor of the world, by the year 2030 14 million people will die that would not have died otherwise with our assistance.

It is almost too hard to watch. I'm grateful we have Pope Leo and I hope that the leaders of the world are listening, and will experience the personal and spiritual conversion God desires to bring an end to these senseless wars and destruction.

We're still planning our Burke/Springfield Interfaith Thanksgiving Service and have chosen the title "Kindness is our path forward." We can't let such division and negativity pull us apart at the seams in our community. May we stay attentive to what we know to be true and commit to making our world grow in goodness and beauty through acts of kindness and forgiveness, extending the good will of our picnic into the days ahead.

The Lord be with you,

Fr. Dom

Celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation

After three years of faith formation, study, and spiritual growth, our Saint Bernadette 8th graders joyfully received the Sacrament of Confirmation on October 25, 2025, followed by a reception in the school gym. This milestone marked an important step in their journey as fully initiated members of the Catholic Church.

During the past three years, the candidates have grown in their understanding of the Catholic faith through classes, retreats, service projects, and prayer. With the loving guidance of religion teachers, sponsors, and their families, they learned to live out the gifts of the Holy Spirit in everyday life. Each year, many of our students ask Saint Bernadette teachers—past and present—to serve as their sponsors, and this year was no different. It was heartwarming to see those special teacher-student connections celebrated once again.

As part of their final preparations, each candidate researched and chose a Confirmation saint — a patron whose life and virtues serve as an inspiration.

The student takes this saint's name and receives a blessing with it during the Confirmation ceremony. Selecting a saint is a meaningful and prayerful decision, as this saint becomes a heavenly role model and spiritual companion, offering guidance and intercession throughout their lifelong journey of faith.

On October 16 our 8th-grade candidates participated in a penance service to confess their sins, receive forgiveness, and prepare their hearts to receive the Holy Spirit. The Confirmation Mass was a beautiful celebration filled with reverence, joy, and the loving support of family, friends, teachers, and staff. Dressed in red gowns, the students renewed the baptismal promises once made on their behalf by their parents and were anointed with sacred chrism—this time by Bishop Burbidge. Following the ceremony, families gathered in the school gym for a light reception and the opportunity to take photos with the bishop, marking a joyful conclusion to a very special day.

Confirmation is not the end of a person's faith formation; it marks a new beginning — a call to grow deeper in one's relationship with God.

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 gmee@stbernpa.org, or our assistant director JP McLaughlin at jpmclaughlin@stbernpa.org with any questions you may have.

CYO winter sports

CYO Basketball registration is open until October 20. Please click [here](#) to register.

CYO Cheer registration is open until October 31. Please register [here](#).

If you have questions about our CYO Program please contact Gina Soriano, gvsoriano@gmail.com or Catherine Luby, catherineeluby@gmail.com

RE Program upcoming schedule

Regular classes: Oct. 28-29, Nov. 12, 18-19
SPRED classes: Nov. 6, 20
Sunday Donut Social: Oct. 26 after 9am Mass

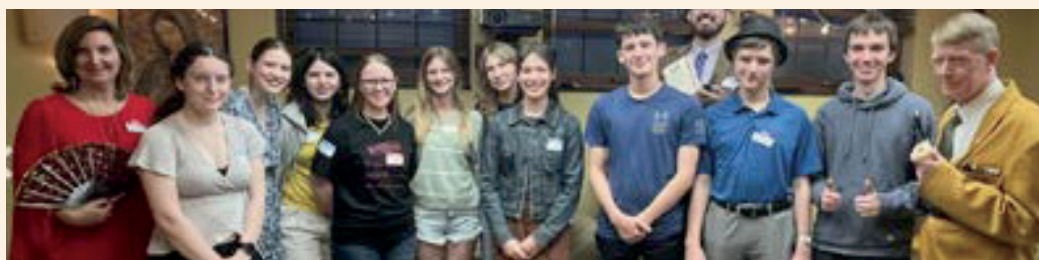
Volunteers for 2025-2026

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://stbernpa.org/religious-education-volunteers/>.

Living the liturgical year

Did you know that Halloween has its roots

in Catholicism? Halloween is also called "All Hallow's Eve." The word "hallow" means "holy." The word Halloween is a contraction word of "hallows" and "e'en" which refers to the evening (vigil) before All Saints' Day. It is part of three days dedicated to our dead known as Allhallowstide which is All Hallow's Eve (Halloween, Oct 31), All Saints' Day (Nov. 1), and All Souls' Day (Nov.2). Celebrate All Saints' Eve/Day by having a All Saints' party, dressing up as saints or visiting the blessed sacrament and praying to a saint. You can find a more Saint Day activities here: <https://www.elizabethclareblog.com/16-ways-to-celebrate-all-saints-day/>.



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.

Middle School Youth Ministry

Next gathering - November 5
All 6th-8th graders are invited to games, snacks, and fun every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month! Meet in the school gym from 6:45-8pm.

CYO Basketball and Cheer 3rd to 8th graders

Register for Basketball by Monday, October 20: <https://reg.sportspilot.com/106541>

Register for Cheer by Friday, October 31: <https://reg.sportspilot.com/106541>

Basketball registration fees: 1 child, \$125.
2 or more children, discounted fees.

- Basketball teams must have a minimum of eight players. Once a number of players reaches 16, we split the teams into two and will hold evaluations.
- Games are played either Saturday or Sunday around the Diocese. Most teams will have one game per week.

- At least one practice per week. Days and times to be determined after registration closes.

- Once the Diocese determines the number of teams and leagues, they will then decide with teams can play and which cannot -- all depending on gym space. Not to worry -- if you register your child and their team cannot play, we will issue a full refund.

Questions: email Gina Soriano (gvsoriano@gmail.com) or Catherine Luby (catherineeluby@gmail.com).



Faith Direct is upgrading to ParishSOFT Giving

Starting on October 7, Faith Direct upgraded to ParishSOFT Giving. All account and payment information will transfer securely.

Flexible giving schedules: if you give weekly, your donation will now be withdrawn weekly, not bundled into one monthly charge. If you prefer monthly, you can update your schedule at any time.

More control over gift timing: You're no longer locked into the 4th or 15th of the month. You can choose the day and frequency that works for you.

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.

Tuesday, **November 4 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.

Holy Land Christians Display November 8-9

On the weekend of Nov. 8 - 9 there will be a display of beautiful olivewood handmade carvings from the Holy Land in our church. These carvings are made by the Christians of Bethlehem who use them as their main source of income. These brothers and sisters of ours are enduring hardships **especially now** because of the volatile situation in their home country.

Christians in the Holy Land who once were more than 37% of the population are less than 1% now. As Christians of faith, it is our duty to support our brothers and sisters in Bethlehem. YOU can support them by purchasing some of these beautiful carvings after Mass. For more information, please contact us at 202-302-5889 or visit www.BethlehemCarvings.org. Thank you in advance for all your help and support!

We are invited to daily rosary

A message from Bishop Burbidge:

As you are aware, October is traditionally observed by the Church as the month of the Holy Rosary. Our Holy Father Pope Leo XIV made a special appeal to all the faithful, inviting us to pray the Rosary daily throughout the month of October for the cause of peace in our world.

I ask you to join me in supporting the Holy Father's request by taking up the Rosary each day, whether individually, as families, or in parish communities. The Rosary is one of the most powerful devotions entrusted to us by Mary, our Mother, and in these turbulent times, it remains a sure path to peace, conversion, and deeper love of Christ.

Mass and Healing Prayer Service Tuesday, October 28

At Diocesan Healing Ministry, we are delighted to announce that the next liturgy, on October 28 at 7pm celebrates the 35th anniversary of this service to the community. St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, 3305 Glen Carlyn Road, Falls Church. Fr. John Melmer of St. John the Beloved Church of McLean will celebrate. Confessions will be available. For more information, please contact Richard Schaad, 703-455-6131.

A Prayer Service for Unity and Healing in the U.S.

You are invited to join Bishop Burbidge for "A Prayer Service for Unity and Healing in the United States of America" on Monday, November 24, at 7pm at the Cathedral of Saint Thomas More.

This evening of prayer and reflection seeks to unite us all as brothers and sisters. Drawing upon Scripture, intercessory prayer, and the example of the saints, the service will be an opportunity for our diocesan family to join in faith and hope for healing in our nation.

**please,
join us**

Parish Offertory

October 19:
Offertory \$ 39,292
Rise Against Hunger 9,013

Thank you for your faithful support!



Consider using ParishSOFT Giving 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. ParishSOFT Giving 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



**Volunteer signup
is now OPEN!**

We NEED You!

**Bring your family, friends,
ministry partners, work-
mates and friends.**

**There is a place and time
for everyone.**

**1 hour and 15 min shifts
are available Thursday and
Friday evenings beginning
at 6 and 8pm, and Saturday
8:30 and 10:30am.**

**Let's serve together to feed
those less fortunate.**

For the least of these, we



MALEK'S PIZZA PALACE *parish family dining event*



**Help fund our RISE AGAINST HUNGER
Week of Service and feed your family while
supporting our event!**

20% of incremental sales will go to our parish meal packing
event when you Dine-In or Carry-Out
and mention Saint Bernadette when placing your order.

Monday, OCTOBER 27 4–9pm **Malek's Pizza Palace**
7118 Old Keene Mill Rd
703-451-6969

Carryout, curbside, delivery, or catering included.

<https://www.malekspizza.com/#home>

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.

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

We recently welcomed a new guest to Mary's Comfort - please pray for her and her unborn baby. We are also grateful for our new volunteers! There are still opportunities available: a Volunteer Coordinator, Database Manager, Social Media Specialist and Fundraising Coordinator. The commitment of time can be flexible and much of this work can be done remotely and asynchronously. Visit <https://www.maryscomfortva.org/> for more information and email us at maryscomfortva@gmail.com with your interests. Thank you for your continued support.

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.

Bishop's statement on President Trump's Fertility Care Benefit and IVF Pricing Announcement

The White House yesterday announced new fertility initiatives intended to promote the growth of American families. President Trump announced the creation of a new optional fertility insurance benefit that will allow employers to offer a range of fertility care services alongside longstanding medical, dental, and vision benefits. Certainly, this is a welcome opportunity for all employers, and especially for the Church and its apostolates, to enhance their healthcare coverage by offering new or expanded coverage for ethical fertility care, including treatments like NaProTechnology that address and resolve underlying causes of infertility. Unfortunately, the White House is also promoting unethical and unjust IVF procedures as a part of its fertility initiative.

You can find Bishop's full statement at <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/2025/10/17/bishop-michael-f-burbridge-statement-on-president-trumps-fertility-care-benefit-and-ivf-pricing-announcement/>

ministry updates

parish picnic!





We enjoyed a larger-than-ever attendance last weekend, and everyone enjoyed the perfect day together.



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!



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



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



Saint Bernadette Church and School Rise Against Hunger Week 3: 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.

The ways we’re accomplishing this goal - How we make an Impact!



RESPONDING TO EMERGENCIES *Crisis Relief*

From droughts to floods, in conflict zones and transitioning political situations, food is often the most immediate need. When everyday access to food, wages and market systems are destroyed in the wake of emergencies, we work through a network of in-country partners to address these needs and ensure food and other assistance is efficiently and effectively deployed to and received by communities when it is needed most.

Five million people are projected to receive support through our rapid response in protracted crises and sudden-onset disasters within the next several years.

Current Countries Engaged: Australia | Cambodia | Czech Republic | [Dominican Republic](#) | [Haiti](#) | India | Indonesia | Italy | Liberia | Malaysia | Moldova | Niger | Nigeria | [Philippines](#) | Poland | Romania | Singapore | [South Africa](#) | Sri Lanka | Thailand | Turkey | Ukraine

how rise
against
hunger
works

election info from bishop

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"](#)



VOTE THIS NOVEMBER FOR PRO-LIFE DELEGATES

Extreme Abortion Amendment to the Virginia Constitution

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

This November, every seat in the House of Delegates is on the ballot. The legislators we elect will decide whether the "*Fundamental Right to Reproductive Freedom*" amendment is advanced or stopped.

The Fundamental Right to Reproductive Freedom Amendment goes far beyond what Roe v. Wade allowed:

- Parental consent laws in jeopardy
- Abortions up to birth guaranteed
- Religious liberty threatened
- Health of women and girls at risk
- Taxpayers could be forced to fund abortion

Learn more and take action



Please prayerfully consider voting for pro-life legislators now.



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
ARLINGTON
Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life

To learn more or to host an info session at your parish, please contact us:
respectlife@arlingtondiocese.org | 703.841.2550

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 on 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

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: Ocean City Beach Days (Oct. 26-27); 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

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.ccca.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@ccda.net; phone: 703-751-2766

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.

**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-E3-58671096-tiny>



**you are
invited**

*"Works of mercy
are recommended
as a sign of the
authenticity of
worship, which,
while giving praise
to God, has the task
of opening us to
the transformation
that the Spirit can
bring about in us,
so that we may all
become an image
of Christ and his
mercy towards the
weakest."*

—
Pope Leo XIV, Apostolic
Exhortation DILEXI TE,
October 4, 2025

Diócesis Católica de Arlington | Oficina de Matrimonio, Familia y Respeto a la Vida

ORACION & AYUNO POR LAS ELECCIONES DE NOVIEMBRE



RECE.

Considere:



Rezar un **Rosario**



Ir a una **Misa diaria**



Ofrecer **un Memorare al día**



AYUNE.

Considere:



Comer una sola comida
todo el día



Abstenerse de la carne



Renunciar **a su comida
o bebida favorita**



VOTE.

Acuerdase:



La fecha límite de votar por
correo es el **24 de octubre**



Votar anticipadamente
desde el **19 de septiembre
al 1 de noviembre**



El día de elecciones es el
4 de noviembre

Unase al Monseñor Burbidge cada viernes de octubre en oración y ayuno por la gracia de mover los corazones, transformar vidas y elegir líderes que defienden la dignidad de toda vida humana. Los legisladores que elijamos este noviembre decidirán si la enmienda extrema del aborto se aprobará o se detendrá.

**Escanee el código para mas
recursos electorales e información:**

bit.ly/CDAadvocacyandlegislation



Catholic Diocese of Arlington | Office of Marriage, Family and Respect Life

PRAYER & FASTING FOR THE NOVEMBER ELECTIONS



PRAY.

Consider:



Praying a **Rosary**



Attending **Daily Mass**



Offering a **Memorare a day**



FAST.

Consider:



Eating only **one meal** all day



Abstaining from meat



Giving up your **favorite food or beverage**



VOTE.

Remember:



Deadline for a mail-in ballot is **October 24**



Vote early in-person from **September 19 to November 1**



Election day is **November 4**

Join **Bishop Burbidge** every Friday in October in prayer and fasting for grace to move hearts, transform lives, and elect leaders who uphold the dignity of every human life. The legislators we elect this November will decide whether the proposed extreme abortion amendment will be advanced or stopped.

Scan the QR code to find election resources and more information:

bit.ly/CDAadvocacyandlegislation



Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

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

October

27 MONDAY

7am The Mussomele Family
9am* † Nancy Vaughan
Rom 8:12-17/Lk 13:10-17

28 TUESDAY

7am † Laura Ho Santos
9am* † Alicia Valderrama
Eph 2:19-22/Lk 6:12-16

29 WEDNESDAY

7am Antonella Lizarraga Ortuno
9am* † Ariel Reyes
Rom 8:26-30/Lk 13:22-30

30 THURSDAY

7am † Mary Ann Schroeder
9am* † Nancy Evans Vaughan
Rom 8:31b-39/Lk 13:31-35

31 FRIDAY

7am † Ted & Flo Musialkiewicz
9am* † Rodolfo Santos
10am** † Denny Cumber
Rom 9:1-5/Lk 14:1-6

1 SATURDAY

8am † Antonio Lombardi
10am † Vivian Spendley
Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a
5pm* † Legion of Mary Members

2 SUNDAY

7am † All Souls' Novena
9am* † All Souls' Novena
11am* For the parish
1pm † All Souls' Novena
5pm † All Souls' Novena
Any readings from no. 668

* live-streamed Masses

** Mass at Greenspring Chapel

Masses next weekend

Nov 1	5pm	Fr. Don
Nov 2	7am	Fr. James
	9am	Fr. James
	11am	Fr. Don
	1pm	Fr. Jeb
	5pm	Fr. Cedric

Parish Prayer List

Jessica Curtis, Paul Flapper, Mark Fortin, Shamsun Nahur, 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, 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, Edward Fitzgerald, Augie Taormina, Cassi Smith, Davy Grimaldi, Suzanne Peters, Nimmi Berten, Anne Jones

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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