

O God, glory of the faithful and life of the just, by the Death and Resurrection of whose Son we have been redeemed, look mercifully on your departed servants, that, just as they professed the mystery of our resurrection, so they may merit to receive the joys of eternal happiness. 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.

All Souls' Day

November 2, 2025



Last Judgement, Giotto di Bondone, fresco, 1306.
Scrovegni Chapel, Padua



SAINT BERNADETTE
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

All Souls' Day

November 2, 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

november

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

- Parish Offices Closed for the Federal Holiday

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
- **Rise Against Hunger** Meal Packing continues, 6pm & 8:30pm, Signup on parish website

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

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

16 Sunday, THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

17 Monday, Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

18 Wednesday, Weekday [Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne, Virgin]

19 Wednesday, Weekday

20 Thursday, Weekday

21 Friday, The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- Adoration, 7-8pm in the church

22 Saturday, Saint Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

- Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
- Keep Christ in Christmas Card sales, after all Masses, Church Vestibule
- Cub Scout Popcorn Sales after all Masses, Church 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.

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!

All new families who have registered in the parish since September are invited to our first Discover Saint Bernadette Information session on Sunday, November 16 following the 9am Mass. Learn from our Ministry Leaders what makes Saint Bernadette special. A Q and A will follow the brief presentation. Please plan to join us.

Volunteer registration is still open for our corporal Work of Mercy - Rise Against Hunger event. More information can be found on page 8 of this weekend's bulletin. We could use your help!

Please plan to join us for the 42nd Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Service on Tuesday, November 25 at 7pm. Saint Bernadette will host the event. Interested volunteers are invited to contact the parish office. Details are on page 9 of today's bulletin.



Support our Work of Mercy ~ Rise Against Hunger
Parish Dining Night Out, Monday
November 3, McAlister's Deli, 4-8pm

Mention Saint Bernadette when ordering!

from the pastor

"Love for the poor is an essential element of the history of God's dealings with us; it rises up from the heart of the Church as a constant appeal to the hearts of the faithful, both individually and in our communities.."

—
Pope Leo XIV, Apostolic
Exhortation *Dilexi te*,
October 4, 2025

Dear Good People of Saint Bernadette,

The last month has been absolutely nonstop, one big event after another and weekends packed with a crazy number of duties. For any emails I have failed to return or anyone I didn't get to thank sufficiently (because we can't do any of this alone), my apologies.

One of the things I haven't gotten to express sufficiently is how beautifully you sing at Mass recently. Maybe it's because we are using more piano lately – that organ pumps out a lot of sound to reach the back pews of the church and it is literally six feet behind me – but you sound really good. Some churches, even some Catholic parishes, think of the choir as entertainment, something that is there to enhance the experience of the assembly. We have worked really hard to show that the choir is not there to replace your singing, but to encourage your singing. It seems to be working! Especially that triple, *Great Amen* at the end of the Eucharistic Prayer which is entirely yours (it isn't sung by the priest) is beautiful. I'm holding up the hosts and the chalice and sometimes I just have to smile: Your singing is very satisfying and I feel like we've done something very right.

Of course, we choose music carefully according to the text and context of the Mass so that they really become a substantial part of the prayers that you pray during the Mass. A couple of weeks ago we sang Dan Schutte's "These Alone are Enough," which is based on one of my favorite prayers of St. Ignatius Loyola:

*Take my heart, O Lord, take my hopes and dreams.
Take my mind with all its plans and schemes.
Give me nothing more than your love and grace.
These alone, O God, are enough for me.*

*Take my thoughts, O Lord, and my memory.
Take my tears, my joys, my liberty.
Give me nothing more than your love and grace.
These alone, O God, are enough for me.*

*I surrender, Lord, all I have and hold.
I return to you your gifts untold.
Give me nothing more than your love and grace.
These alone, O God, are enough for me.*

*When the darkness falls on my final days,
take the very breath that sang your praise.
Give me nothing more than your love and grace.
These alone, O God, are enough for me.*

I find 7am Masses frustrating because with few people spread out to all corners our massive church, it is mostly hard to hear responses to the prayers. It is hard to see who is even in that back row.

Active participation, as you know, was the principal goal of the liturgical reforms of Vatican II. The Mass belonged to the priest and most of "his" prayers were prayed at a level of voice which was not meant to be heard by the assembly, not even the Lord's Prayer. Imagine the time before microphones! I am so glad that this is no longer the case.

But silence is also important. The Opening Prayer of the Mass is called the "Collect" because when the priest presider says "*Let us pray*," there is a pause. This is when you offer your intentions and petitions privately, and after the pause the presider says the prayer that literally *collects* all of your prayers and presents them to God. In that silence you are still active, perhaps doing a most important part of the Mass, pouring your hearts out to God so he can pour his into you.

Gestures, too, are important. I have been meaning to speak about genuflecting for a long time. It is often forgotten today but it is still an important part of the Tradition. When you genuflect, you touch your *right* knee on the floor, back straight, as a gesture of reverence to the Presence of Jesus in the tabernacle. This is done before entering the pew at the beginning of Mass, and again as you leave the pew at the end. Many forget to do this, perhaps because they aren't thinking much about how Jesus is truly present here. You could think of it as a hello coming to Mass, and a goodbye at the end. When you see a friend, you always have a greeting, nobody just ignores a friend. It's like that.

If you are like me and have knees and feet ready to go bad at any minute, the Church teaches a *profound bow* may be substituted for genuflecting. This is more than just a bow of the head, it is a bending at the waist. It is an equally good reverence.

Sometimes you see people genuflecting after receiving Communion. This is a misunderstanding. For one thing, Jesus isn't present in the tabernacle at that moment. He is in you.

The Lord be with you, *Fr. Dom*

Kindness, acceptance, and inclusion

October is National Bullying Prevention Month, a time to raise awareness about bullying and promote kindness, acceptance, and inclusion. On October 23rd, our school hosted two engaging anti-bullying assemblies to inspire our students to make a positive difference.

Pre-Kindergarten through second-grade students enjoyed a lively performance of *Superpig* by Bluesky Puppet Theater. The show captivated young audiences with its fun and meaningful message. As students left the assembly, they could be heard singing the catchy tune taught by the director: *"Big or small, short or tall, I'm here to help you today. Big or small, short or tall, I'm on my way."* First graders shared their excitement: Caleb loved laughing at

the show; Isabella learned the importance of forgiveness; and Finley was inspired by the idea that bullies can become kind, too.

Third through eighth-grade students attended an uplifting presentation by NED, which focused on resilience through the themes of *Never giving up, Encourage others, and Do your best*. The presenter captivated the audience with impressive yo-yo tricks while delivering a goal-setting message. Fourth-grader Sophia reflected on the presentation, sharing that she wants to achieve her goals by focusing on what's necessary, even when it's not always fun.

We thank our school counselor, Mr. Andy Raab, for coordinating these events. Let's continue to foster a community of compassion and support, reflecting the values of love and respect in all we do.



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

Saint Bernadette youth attended diocesan RALLY last weekend

RE Program upcoming schedule

No classes: Nov. 4-5, 11
Regular classes: Nov. 12, 18-19
SPRED classes: Nov. 8, 22
Family Faith Formation, Nov. 9
Family Mass Learning Weekend Nov. 8-9 after all Masses
Sunday Donut Social: Nov. 23 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://stbernpar.org/religious-education-volunteers/>.

Living the liturgical year

Happy November! The month of November is dedicated to the Souls in Purgatory, the Church Suffering. Today, November 2, we commemorate All Souls' Day and remember those who have died, especially those who have not reached heaven. You can teach your children to honor our beloved dead by praying at Mass for their intention and prayers. A prayer you can recite daily with your family during November is the Traditional prayer used by the Church in the Rite of Christian Burial:

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. *All: Amen.*

All: May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

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 for games, snacks, and fun every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month! Meet in the school gym from 6:45-8pm.

Weekday Mass and donuts—November 3

All high schoolers are invited to take advantage of the FCPS student holiday and join us for 9am daily Mass, followed by donuts and fellowship in the youth room until 10:30am.

High School Saturday Dinner—November 8

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



Last weekend Bishop Burbidge anointed 124 parish youth as they professed publicly the faith of their Baptism and became full members of the Church. Bishop spoke with the confirmandi before the Mass (below), and a reception followed the Mass with photos with Bishop. We thank our Confirmation Team leaders who guided our students through Works of Mercy as well as our amazing catechists, volunteers, Religious Education and Youth Ministry teams, and staff who made the day meaningful for all our students and families.

**confirmed
in the spirit**



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.**

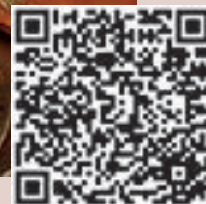
**1 hour and 15 min
shifts remain avail-
able Thursday and
Friday evenings be-
ginning at 8pm, and
Saturday at 10:30am.**

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

For the least of these, we



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, NOVEMBER 3
4–8pm**

**McAlister's Deli
8402B Old Keene Mill Rd
571-678-7490**

Carryout, curbside, delivery, or catering included.
Order to Go at mcalistersdeli.com

**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.

BURKE/SPRINGFIELD INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE KINDNESS IS OUR PATH FORWARD

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25 at 7:00pm
at Saint Bernadette Catholic Church
7600 Old Keene Mill Rd., Springfield



The 42nd Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service will take place here at Saint Bernadette Catholic Church on Tuesday, November 25 at 7:00pm, followed by a reception and fellowship.

This year's speaker will be Dr. Souzan Abadian, Executive Director of the InterFaith Council of Metropolitan Washington.

Burke Presbyterian Church | Burke United Methodist Church
| Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints | Congregation
Adat Reyim | Congregation Olam Tikvah | Durga Temple
(Hindu) | Drikung Dharma Surya Center (Buddhist) | Rumi
Forum (Muslim) | Silverbrook United Methodist Church
| Springfield United Methodist Church | St. Andrew's
Episcopal Church | St. Bernadette Catholic Church | St.
Christopher's Episcopal Church | St. Peter's in the Woods
Episcopal Church | Sydenstricker United Methodist Church

Join us!

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!

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, Facilities Manager 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.

in the parish

Parish Offertory

October 26:	
Offertory*	\$ 23,774
Tuition Assistance	3,341

**The Offertory seems low this week because we are in the middle of transitioning from Faith Direct and not all gifts have been reported.*

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 giving.parishsoft.com/giving/FD-70 or call (866) 507-8757. Our parish code is VA70.



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 4: 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 it all comes Together!



EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES *Agriculture and Income-Generating Initiatives*

Through locally led agriculture and income-generating programs, we bolster crop production and incomes by promoting improved agricultural methods, business skills and market access. With training and access to quality seeds and fertilizers, farmers can increase production and harvest a variety of nutrition-sensitive crops. By supporting fish and livestock production, we provide pathways to diversifying diets and improving nutritional outcomes.

Through income-generating activities, we help individuals increase their earning potential and consistent access to food. Within three years, we are aiming for hundreds of thousands of households affected by food insecurity to have the knowledge, skills, and assets necessary to ensure their food and nutrition security.

Current Countries Engaged:

[India](#) | [Malawi](#) | [Mali](#) | [Philippines](#) | [South Africa](#) | [South Sudan](#)

how rise against hunger works

*“Love for the poor is
an essential element
of the history of
God’s dealings
with us; it rises
up from the heart
of the Church as
a constant appeal
to the hearts of
the faithful, both
individually and in
our communities..”*

Pope Leo XIV, Apostolic
Exhortation *Dilexi te*,
October 4, 2025

diocesan business



Please take the Diocesan VOTECH Survey

Dear Parishioners,

In November 2022, Bishop Burbidge presented 23 strategic initiatives to the People of God in the Diocese of Arlington. Among those 23 initiatives was one exploring the interest of a Catholic-based Vocational Program in the diocese. Recently, the diocese completed a first survey, and in that survey over 92% of respondents enthusiastically supported such a program.

This overwhelming response prompts the effort to advance to the next step: to survey for preferences on the model (or kind) of school and the location of that school. This is a momentous idea, and I respectfully ask each of you take the survey out of personal interest or for the good of the diocese. The survey is available in English and Spanish.

The survey will be available from Oct 23 – November 23. You may find the survey here at this link or this QR code:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CTEVOTECH>

Encuesta para Programa Vocacional diocesana

En noviembre de 2022, el Obispo Burbidge presentó 23 iniciativas estratégicas. Entre estas 23 iniciativas se encontraba una para explorar el interés en un Programa Vocacional de inspiración católica en la diócesis. Recientemente, la diócesis completó una primera encuesta, y en esa encuesta más del 92% de los participantes apoyaron con entusiasmo dicho programa.

Esta respuesta tan positiva nos anima a avanzar al siguiente paso: conocer sus preferencias sobre el modelo (o tipo) de escuela y la ubicación de la misma. Esta es una idea importante, y les pido respetuosamente a cada uno de ustedes que participen en la encuesta, ya sea por interés personal o por el bien de la diócesis. La encuesta está disponible en inglés y en español.

La encuesta estará abierta del 23 de octubre al 23 de noviembre. Puede acceder a ella en este enlace o usando este código QR. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CTEVOTECH>



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.ccda.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

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.



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.

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"](#)

Retirement Fund for Religious November 1-2

"Give to those who have given a lifetime."

As you recall the people who have most shaped your life, you may remember the Sister who prepared you for First Holy Communion or the Brother who coached your high school basketball team. Never counting the cost, these religious shared with you love, faith, and a belief in all that you could be – choosing to invest in your future rather than their own. Today, these Sisters, Brothers and religious order Priests may be elderly or infirm. Today, they need you. Roughly 35,000 senior women and men religious living in the United States benefit from this collection. Ninety-

three percent of every donation to the National Religious Retirement Office aids senior religious. Please give generously to next weekend's second collection, which benefits the many deserving religious who served our diocese and who now need our help meeting the overwhelming costs of elder care. Checks should be made payable to Saint Bernadette Catholic Church. To learn how your gift helps, visit www.retiredreligious.org

Faith Direct is upgrading to ParishSOFT Giving

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. Reducing the number of installments saves on credit card transaction fees.

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.

Donors can contact ParishSOFT Donor Support at donorsupport@parishsoft.com or call #866-930-4774, option 6.

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.

Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

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

November

3 MONDAY

7am † All Souls' Novena
9am* † All Souls' Novena
Rom 11:29-36/Lk 14:12-14

4 TUESDAY

7am † All Souls' Novena
9am* † All Souls' Novena
Rom 12:5-16b/Lk 14:15-24

5 WEDNESDAY

7am † All Souls' Novena
9am* † All Souls' Novena
Rom 13:8-10/Lk 14:25-33

6 THURSDAY

7am † All Souls' Novena
9am* † All Souls' Novena
Rom 14:7-12/Lk 15:1-10

7 FRIDAY

7am † All Souls' Novena
9am* † All Souls' Novena
10am** † All Souls' Novena
Rom 15:14-21/Lk 16:1-8

8 SATURDAY

8am † All Souls' Novena
10am † All Souls' Novena
Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27/Lk 16:9-15
5pm* † All Souls' Novena

9 SUNDAY

7am † All Souls' Novena
9am* † All Souls' Novena
11am* † All Souls' Novena
1pm For the parish
5pm † All Souls' Novena
Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/1 Cor 3:9c-117/Jn 2:13-22

* live-streamed Masses

** Mass at Greenspring Chapel

Masses next weekend

Nov 8	5pm	Fr. Don
Nov 9	7am	Fr. Cedric
	9am	Fr. Jeb
	11am	Fr. James
	1pm	Fr. Jeb
	5pm	Fr. Don

Parish prayer list

Jessica Curtis, Paul Flapper, Mark Fortin, Shamsun Nahur, Alisa Squatrito, Jerome Furlow, 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 Bergen, Anne Jones, Gina DeAngelis, Judy Kirk

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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