

*Almighty ever-living God, lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,
so that the humble flock may reach where the brave Shepherd has gone before.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026



Mosaic of the Good Shepherd, 5th century
Mausoleum of Galla Placidia, Ravenna



SAINT BERNADETTE
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

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
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

april

26 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- Live-streaming Masses continue at 9 and 1pm

27 Monday, Easter Weekday

28 Tuesday, Easter Weekday [Saint Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr]

29 Wednesday, Saint Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor

30 Thursday, Easter Weekday

may

1 Friday, Easter Weekday [Saint Joseph the Worker]

- Adoration, 7-8pm, church

2 Saturday, Saint Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor

- Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
- Reception of **First Communion** for school students, 5pm Mass in the church
- Troop 995 Car Wash, 8am in front of the Bradican Rm

3 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- Live-streaming Masses continue at 9 and 1pm
- Discover Saint Bernadette after the 9am Mass, Learn more about your parish!

4 Monday, Easter Weekday

5 Tuesday, Easter Weekday

- **Saint Bernadette Race for Education**, [Visit stbernschool.org for details](http://Visitstbernschool.org)

6 Wednesday, Easter Weekday

7 Thursday, Easter Weekday

8 Friday, Easter Weekday

- Adoration, 7-8pm, church

9 Saturday, Easter Weekday

- Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
- **First Communion** for religious education students, 5pm Mass
- Pick up your St. Lucy Food Drive blue bags and return them full next weekend!
- Mother's Day Novena of Masses begins, for nine days

10 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- Live-streaming Masses continue at 9 and 1pm
- **First Communion** for religious education students, 9 and 11am Masses
- Pick up your St. Lucy Food Drive blue bags and return them full next weekend!

11 Monday, Easter Weekday

12 Tuesday, Easter Weekday [Saints Nereus and Achilleus, Martyrs]

13 Wednesday, Easter Weekday [Our Lady of Fatima]

14 Thursday, Saint Matthias, Apostle

15 Friday, Easter Weekday [Saint Isidore]

- Adoration, 7-8pm, church
- Holy Spirit Novena begins today

16 Saturday, Easter Weekday

- Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
- Bring food donations to the **St. Lucy Food Drive** at all Masses this weekend
- Flores de Mayo celebration and Mass, Rosary procession begins at 6pm, Church

announcements

Mothers' Day Novena Mass cards

are available for remembering moms, grandmothers, and anyone who has been a mother to you – living or deceased. All intentions will be included at all Masses for nine days beginning on Mothers' Day. Envelopes are available in the vestibule and the office, and are also included in the offertory envelopes.

New to the parish or interested in learning more about our ministries, parish school, and ways to get involved? **Join us on Sunday, May 3, following the 9:00am Mass** for a special gathering hosted by members of our Parish Advisory Board and ministry leaders. This is a wonderful opportunity to connect, ask questions, and **discover all that Saint Bernadette has to offer**. We look forward to welcoming you into our vibrant community!

The St. Lucy Spring Food Drive is coming up!

The St. Lucy Food Project collect and distribute food where it is most needed in the Diocese. Our St. Lucy Food Drive will be held on May 16 & 17 at all Masses. The blue bags and lists of needed items will be handed out the weekend of May 9 & 10.

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting donations on the 9th and 10th of May in support of Project Manger. The program provides new cribs to women who have made a choice to give birth to their child rather than the alternative.

Join the Filipino Catholic Community, with the diocesan Multi-cultural Ministries Office, invites you to join in celebrating the **Flores de Mayo** here, on May 16. The evening begins with a rosary procession at 6pm and Mass at 7pm, followed by a reception in the gym. For more information please email amaremusicministry.flores@gmail.com.

Join us on Pentecost Sunday, May 24 for **Solemn Vespers**, following the 5pm Mass at 6:15pm. A most beautiful way to close the Easter Season celebrating the birthday of the Church.

from the pastor



Dear Good People of Saint Bernadette,

Sometimes when you are googling something, the query you begin to type autofills and you can see the most popular questions people are asking. For example, if you type, "Does Iran..." you immediately get "Does Iran have nuclear weapons?" Or if you type, "Is Pope Leo..." you find the number one question, "Is Pope Leo Black?" People are interested in his genealogy which includes African American/Creole roots.

When I typed "Could the earth..." immediately I got the question I was seeking from *artificialis intelligentia*. "Could the earth exist without the moon?"

I remember when I was a boy we had this huge map of the moon (the visible side) and we would lay it out on the living room floor while watching space missions on our little black and white TV (really, if honest, green and white), searching for where the lunar landing was taking place. We came to know exactly where the Sea of Tranquility was and other "landmarks." It felt like we were exploring the moon right alongside the astronauts. Those were difficult days and, like today, the moon landings were a moment of relief from all the social upheaval, assassinations, and war of the late 60s. Even as a boy I remember the relief of focusing on something that we could all share, as a country seeking to do great things despite the news cycle.



So I followed the Artemis II NASA website, especially their photo gallery. As soon as I found the shot of the moon with the earth rising behind it, it became my computer screens' background!

On Earth Day this year (April 22) I find myself thinking of the moon. I'm hoping that if we plan to establish a presence on the moon we do a better job than we have done here. I'm hoping it doesn't become some extra-global military target.

Could the earth exist without the moon? Yes, but it would not be habitable by humans. The delicate balance of such a massive enterprise of creation can only be the work of a Creator, not to mention galaxies beyond. The coincidences can't be this razor thin.

The moon stabilizes the tilt of the earth at exactly 23.5 degrees. Without it, Earth's tilt could wobble between 0 and 90 degrees leading to extreme seasons where poles might face the sun directly for years, while the equator would freeze. The moon's gravity acts as a brake on Earth's rotation. Without it, Earth would spin much faster, leading to much shorter days, potentially 4-12 hours long, resulting in violent, sustained winds up to 300 mph. Tides would be weakened, half as strong as they are now, ruining wetlands and causing a collapse in marine life. The planet would be unfit for human survival.

What a delicate balance we see, not only in the moon and the earth, but in all of God's creation. How delicate the equilibrium even of our own Earth, and how dangerous and permanent are the effects of our lack of care for it.

Taking the thought one step farther, how delicate the balance of hearts and minds in families, in communities, and among nations. How great must our care for each other be, to ensure the justice and peace that allows all people to survive, even thrive. We must learn a greater attentiveness to our own words and actions which can build up and preserve certainly as effectively as they can do damage, especially today when it is a noble act of activism to be kind.

The Lord be with you. *Fr. Don*

Support Saint Bernadette's Race for Education

We are excited to host our 2nd Annual Race for Education on Monday, 4 May 2026. After the amazing success of last year's event, we are aiming even higher. The funds raised help us continue providing a high-quality, faith-filled education while keeping tuition affordable for our families.

Students in PreK through 8th grade will participate by walking or jogging a quarter-mile course as many times as they can within one hour. They are already getting ready by running laps in P.E. class, so watch out. Each student will gather

sponsorships by inviting family, friends, neighbors, and community members to support their efforts with a tax-deductible donation to our School.

You do not have to be a parent or grandparent to support our students and their education—everyone is welcome to join in. Consider making a donation at www.race4ed.com/sbc, and feel free to share the link on social media or by text to help spread the word.

Last year, students reached their goal and celebrated by soaking the principal and assistant principal with buckets of Gatorade—what a fun surprise. We cannot wait to see what exciting reward is in store this year!

cardinal corner



**FORMING
HEARTS
& MINDS
IN CHRIST**



religious education

Weekly update

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

youth ministry

Email our director of youth ministry, Grace Mee at gme@stbernapar.org with any questions you may have.

RE Program upcoming schedule

Sunday Donut Social: Apr. 26
Family Faith Formation: Apr. 26
Regular classes: Apr. 28-29, May 5-6, 12-13
Note we WILL hold classes on April 21
SPRED Classes: May 9, 30
First Holy Communion: May 2 at 5pm (school), May 16 at 5pm (RE), May 17 at 9am & 11am (RE)

Sunday Donut Social

Plan to join us this Sunday, April 26 following the 9am Mass for our last Sunday Donut Social until fall. Parents, enjoy coffee and fellowship while your children make liturgical themed crafts with our volunteers!

Registration for 2026-2027

Registration will open in June for next year. Continue your child's growth in the faith by signing them up for classes in 2026-27! Our class schedule will be the same as this year. Registration information will be found online and on all media platforms. All currently registered students, including Confirmation 2026 & 2027 and students preparing to receive First Eucharist next year. Classes will begin on September 1 & 2.

HS Small Groups

All high schoolers are invited to twice-a-month meetings on Thursdays, 7-8:30pm in the Youth Room for a night of fun games, fellowship, and small group discussions about the Faith. Guys' Small Groups meet on first and third Thursdays; Girls' Small Groups meet on second and fourth Thursdays.

High School Tuesday Socials

All high schoolers are invited to join us 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.

HS Girl's Small Group

All high school girls are invited every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 7-8:30pm in the Youth Room for a night of fun games, fellowship, and small group discussions about the Faith. Our last two meetings of the school year are May 14 and May 28.

Workcamp - Adult Volunteers Needed!

All adults of the parish are invited to consider volunteering for Workcamp. We

First Communion 2026

Mark your calendars! The First Communion Mass will be held on Saturday, May 15 at 5pm or Sunday, May 16 at 9 am or 11 am. If you would like a particular Mass, please contact the Religious Education team by April 30.

Living the liturgical year

Happy 4th week of Easter! Today, April 26, we celebrate another feast of the Blessed Virgin, the Feast Day of Our Lady of Good Counsel. According to tradition, the painting of Our Lady known holding the child Jesus as appeared at the church of Santa Maria in Genazzano, Italy. Pilgrims who had gathered at the church for the feast of St. Mark, had heard music and saw a cloud descending from the sky and coming to rest on an unfinished wall of the church suspended in air. There are miracles associated with the icon. The title reflects Mary's role as a wise mother who offers guidance and counsel to humanity. Celebrate the feast day with a Marian feast, you can find recipe suggestions here: <https://www.catholicicing.com/food-for-blessed-virgin-mary/>

can find a role for anyone willing to help. We are especially in need of contractors with skills in home repairs (no license necessary) and female crew leaders to serve alongside our teens during the week of Workcamp. Please contact our parish Stakeholder, Matthew Frey, for more information - matthew_c_frey@yahoo.com.



Summer Theatre Program

We are flipping our fins with excitement to announce that our summer show is **The Little Mermaid!** We're looking for current 8th-12th grade humans, merfolk, and perhaps a few talented crustaceans to join us Under the Sea this summer!

Auditions will be May 14 & 15 at Saint Bernadette School. Swim on over to our website at www.summertheatreprogram.org to get more details and fill out our audition form!

Building access for all: a new elevator for our parish school

Our parish school, proudly serving generations of families since its construction in 1961, has long been a place of learning, faith, and community. As we continue to grow and reflect on our mission, we are called to ensure that our facilities fully welcome and serve every member of our parish community. One important step in that effort is improving accessibility throughout our school building.

Currently, access to the upper floors of our school is limited for individuals with mobility challenges. This creates barriers for students, parents, staff, and visitors who may rely on accessible features to fully participate in school life. In keeping with the principles of inclusion and dignity for all, we are exploring the addition of an elevator to provide access in accordance with ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) standards.

Installing an elevator in a building originally constructed over six decades ago presents both challenges and opportunities. While the structure was not designed with modern accessibility needs in mind, advancements in engineering and thoughtful planning now make it possible to retrofit older buildings in ways that preserve their character while improving functionality. This project would allow all

members of our Catholic parish and school community—regardless of physical ability—to move freely and safely throughout the school.

Beyond compliance with accessibility standards, this initiative reflects our deeper values as a faith-based community. We believe that every individual is created with inherent dignity and deserves equal access to education, worship, and community life. An elevator is more than a mechanical addition; it is a visible commitment to hospitality, inclusion, and care for one another.

We recognize that such a project requires careful planning, financial investment,

and community support. In the coming months, we will be evaluating design options, costs, experts and potential funding strategies to ensure that the project meets both practical needs and our shared vision.

We invite you to join us in this important effort. Whether through your ideas, prayers, or support, your involvement will help make our parish school more accessible and welcoming for all—now and for generations to come. Please contact Fr. Don at frdonrooney@stbermpar.org for more information.

Together, we can continue to build a faithful community where everyone can participate and belong.

Building our school legacy

Our school is beginning a project to reconnect generations of students, families, and friends by building our very first Alumni Community Directory, “Building Our Saint Bernadette School Legacy”... going all the way back to 1961. Along the way, we’ve been opening old yearbooks, rediscovering class photos, and uncovering incredible memories. Now we need your help to bring those stories to life. Please take a few minutes to update your information on our school website <https://stbernschool.org/building-our-saint-bernadette-school-legacy/>

By sharing your information, you’ll help us, reconnect classmates and old friends, celebrate multi-generational families, share alumni stories and milestones and build events and traditions for years to come.

Have an old photo or memory to share? We’d love that too.

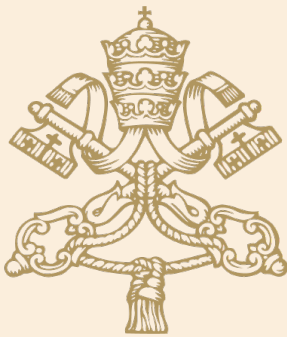
Over the coming weeks, keep an eye out for throwback yearbook photos (you might spot yourself), alumni spotlights and invitations to upcoming gatherings. Whether you attended for one year or all nine (now ten), you’re part of this story—and we’d love to reconnect. If know someone we should reach? Forward this email or tag them when you see our posts!

building more than a new building!

pope leo's apostolic journey to africa

April 16, 2026

Pope Leo, in his General Audiences on Wednesdays, is giving a catechesis on Vatican II, sixty years later. This week, however, he was in Africa.



"... consolation for broken hearts and hope for change in society are possible if we entrust ourselves to God and God's word..."

Homily at Mass *Bamenda International Airport*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As a pilgrim of peace and unity, it is a joy for me to visit your region and, above all, to share in your journey, your struggles and your hopes.

The festive celebrations that accompany your liturgies and the joy that flows from the prayers you raise are signs of your trusting surrender to God, of your unshakeable hope and of your clinging, with all your strength, to the love of the Father who draws near and looks with compassion upon the sufferings of his children. In the Psalm, we sung together of our trust in the Lord, which we are called to renew today: "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit" (Ps 34:18).

Brothers and sisters, there are many situations in life that break our hearts and plunge us into sorrow. Our hope for a future of peace and reconciliation, in which the dignity of every human person is respected and their fundamental rights guaranteed, is continually disappointed by the many problems afflicting this beautiful land. These include the numerous forms of poverty, which even recently have affected so many people amidst an ongoing food crisis. There is moral, social and political corruption, seen above all in the management of wealth, which hinders the development of institutions and infrastructure. We see also the serious problems affecting the education and healthcare systems, as well as large-scale migration to foreign countries, particularly of young people. Added to these internal problems, which are often fueled by hatred and violence, is the damage caused from outside, by those who, in the name of profit, continue to lay their hands on the African continent to exploit and plunder it.

All of this can make us feel powerless and diminish our confidence. Yet this is the moment to change, to transform the story of this country. The time has come, today and not tomorrow, now and not in the future, to restore the mosaic of unity by bringing together the diversity and riches of the country and the continent. In this

way, it will be possible to create a society in which peace and reconciliation reign.

It is true that when a situation remains the same for some time, there is a risk of giving in to resignation and helplessness, because we expect nothing new. Yet the word of the Lord opens up new possibilities and brings about transformation and healing. It is capable of stirring our hearts, of challenging the normal course of events to which we so easily risk becoming accustomed, and of making us active agents of change. Let us remember this: God is newness, God creates new things, God makes us courageous people who, by confronting evil, build up the good.

We see this in the witness of the Apostles, as we heard in the first reading. While the authorities of the Sanhedrin interrogate the Apostles, rebuking and threatening them because they are publicly proclaiming Christ, they reply: "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree" (Acts 5:29-30).

The courage of the Apostles becomes a voice of conscience, a prophecy, a denunciation of evil, and this is the first step toward changing things. In fact, obeying God is not an act of submission that oppresses us or nullifies our freedom; on the contrary, obedience to God sets us free, because it means entrusting our lives to him and allowing his word to inspire our way of thinking and acting. Thus, as we heard in the Gospel, which recounts the final part of the dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus, "the one who is of the earth belongs to the earth and speaks about earthly things. The one who comes from heaven is above all" (Jn 3:31). Those who obey God rather than human beings and earthly ways of thinking rediscover their inner freedom, succeed in discovering the value of goodness and do not resign themselves to evil. They find anew their way in life and become builders of peace and fraternity.

Brothers and sisters, consolation for broken hearts and hope for change in society are possible if we entrust ourselves to God and God's word. We must, however, always keep the Apostle Peter's

exhortation in our hearts and bring it to mind: obey God, not human beings. To obey him, because he alone is God. This calls us to foster inculturation of the Gospel. It also calls us to be vigilant, even regarding our own religious practices, so as not to fall into the trap of mixing the Catholic faith with other beliefs and traditions of an esoteric or Gnostic nature, which in reality often serve political and economic ends. Only God sets us free; only his word opens paths to freedom; only his Spirit makes us new people capable of changing this country.

I accompany you with my constant prayer and I bless in particular the Church gathered here: the many priests, missionaries, religious and lay people who all work to be a source of consolation and hope. I encourage you to continue along this path and I entrust you to the intercession of Mary Most Holy, Queen of the Apostles and Mother of the Church.

Catholic Women's Group upcoming events

Come and enjoy warm fellowship and great food. For more information, please email us at women@stbernapar.org.

Tuesday, May 5 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 Tuesday of every month. No need to RSVP.

KofC Golf outing

All golfers are invited to join a golf outing with the Springfield Council Knights of Columbus on Friday, May 29, 2026. We will play a four-person scramble event at Twin Lakes golf course, with the first group going off at 10 am. You do not need to be a Knight to participate and family members are welcome as well. We will collect a small contribution from all golfers for prizes after the round. If you are interested, please contact PGK Mark Price at mnpprice@verizon.net.org.

For grieving Mothers

In advance of Mother's Day, all mothers grieving the loss of a child (from miscarriage through adulthood) are invited to a special Morning of Reflection

designed to offer comfort, healing, and hope to your broken heart. Hosted by Red Bird Ministries on Saturday, May 2 from 9:15am to Noon at Morningstar Retreat Center in Great Falls. For free registration visit www.redbird.love/arlington-va Questions? Reach out to elizabeth@redbird.love

St. Lucy Food Drive for hungry kids:

As we approach the end of the school year, many children face the summer without the support of school breakfast and lunch programs. Help fill the St. Lucy Food Project warehouse with much needed food for these children. Please mark your calendar for our next St. Lucy Project Food Drive the weekend of May16-17.

Blue Saint Lucy bags will be distributed after all Masses the weekend of May 9-10. Currently the most needed items are: canned meat, canned tuna, peanut butter, jelly, canned pasta, pasta sauce, mac and cheese, canned fruit. **Please, no glass jars.**

ECHO needs for Spring

ECHO's most needed food and personal hygiene items at this time are dried beans, lentils, rice, canned fruit, masa flour, boxed pasta, granulated sugar, toothbrushes, laundry detergent, shampoo and toilet paper.

ECHO is open to receive donations of household goods, clothing and non-perishable food from 9:30am to 12:30pm, Monday through Friday, and from 7pm to 9pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, as well as one Saturday morning a month which varies, but is noted on our website www.echo-inc.org.

Save the date: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity with Bishop Burbidge

Watch the bulletin for details as church leaders and members from all over the MetroDC area come together to show unity in divided times! HERE at Saint Bernadette, Tuesday, May 26, 7pm followed by a reception. Invite your friends!

upcoming events

Parish Offertory

April 19	
Offertory	\$29,216
Tuition Angels	3, 441

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

Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

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

April

27 MONDAY

7am Samantha Steeman
9am* † Mario Cantu
Acts 11:1-18/Jn 10:11-18

28 TUESDAY

7am † Cecukua Deslauriers
9am* Andrew Pham
Acts 11:19-26/Jn 10:22-30

29 WEDNESDAY

7am Betty Bonde
9am* † Bradley Spickler
Acts 12:24—13:5a/Jn 12:44-50

30 THURSDAY

7am Marion Cykoski
9am* † Leslie Conners
Acts 13:13-25/Jn 13:16-20

1 FRIDAY

7am † Hans & Anneliese Greger
9am* † William Lawler
10am** † Bob Molseed
Acts 13:26-33/Jn 14:1-6

2 SATURDAY

8am † Barbara Lipa
Acts 13:44-52/Jn 14:7-14
5pm* For the parish

3 SUNDAY

7am † Maria Calayag
9am* † Judith Hencoski
11am † William Winder
1pm* † Alicia Victoria Castillo
5pm † Nancy Wynne
Acts 6:1-7/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12

* live-streamed Masses

** Mass at Greenspring Chapel

Masses next weekend

May 2	5pm	Fr. Jeb
May 3	7am	Fr. Jeb
	9am	Fr. James
	11am	Fr. Don
	1pm	Fr. James
	5pm	Fr. Cedric

Parish prayer list

John Yost, Wiotto Helenius, Robert Holzhauser, Adolfo Blandon, Esperanza Ayala, Gloria Tortoriello, Bob Atwell, Charles Roby, Mike Harrison, Kathleen Murray, Alan Curtis, Brian Keller, Cassi Smith, Edward Fitzgerald, John Winkler, Antonio & Maria Benedi, Donna Lash, Llewellyn Salsado

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 Bernadette. 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 new legislation includes a new universal deduction for non-itemizers and a floor for itemized deductions, alongside corporate and high-income taxpayer impacts. Giving is encouraged 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.

Greetings from PVI Options

The Options program at St. Paul VI Catholic High School is now in its 27th year of providing an inclusive, student-centered Catholic education for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities. If you are interested, please reach out to the Deans of Exceptional Learning at pvioptions@paulvi.net or 703-352-0925 x1314.

Mary's Comfort update

Mary's Comfort is thriving thanks to many people's volunteer time and financial assistance! We ask for your continued prayers for our guests - those with us now and those who we are working to bring onboard. If you'd like to learn more about our ministry, please visit: <https://www.maryscomfortva.org/>

Summer Camps at St. Paul VI Catholic High School

St. Paul VI Catholic High School is excited to offer a variety of engaging summer camps for students entering grades 2 through 9! This summer, we are hosting camps in band, baseball, basketball, football, field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, theatre, and more — all conveniently located on our beautiful Chantilly campus at 42341 Braddock Road, Chantilly, VA. Led by our dedicated faculty, staff, and head coaches, these camps offer a fantastic opportunity for students to grow, learn, and have fun in a supportive, faith-filled environment.

For more information and to register, visit: www.paulvi.net/summercamps