

*Grant, O Lord, that we may always revere and love your holy name,  
for you never deprive of your guidance those you set firm on the foundation of your love.  
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.*

# Twelfth Sunday in ordinary time

June 21, 2026



The Prophet Jeremiah (detail, pre-restoration), Michelangelo Buonarroti, 1512  
Sistine Chapel, Vatican Palace, Vatican City

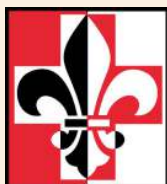


**SAINT BERNADETTE**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

# Twelfth Sunday in ordinary time

June 21, 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 <sup>rd</sup> Mondays, 8-8:45pm (church)
CONFESSION	Sat., 3:30-4:30pm, or by appointment. English and Spanish Confessions
PARISH OFFICE	<b>703-451-8576</b> , fax 703-269-1121 <b>office@stbermpar.org</b> Monday-Friday, 8:30am – 4:30pm  Pastor, Fr. Don Rooney <a href="mailto:frdonrooney@stbermpar.org">frdonrooney@stbermpar.org</a> Fr. Jeb Donelan <a href="mailto:frjebdonelan@stbermpar.org">frjebdonelan@stbermpar.org</a> Fr. James Waalkes <a href="mailto:frjameswaalkes@stbermpar.org">frjameswaalkes@stbermpar.org</a> Deacon Orlando Caicedo  Pastoral Associate, Rick Caporali <a href="mailto:rcaporali@stbermpar.org">rcaporali@stbermpar.org</a> Business Manager, Linda Patterson <a href="mailto:lpatterson@stbermpar.org">lpatterson@stbermpar.org</a> Music Director, David Mathers <a href="mailto:dmathers@stbermpar.org">dmathers@stbermpar.org</a> Bookkeeper/Compliance (OPCYP), Zory Conde, <a href="mailto:zconde@stbermpar.org">zconde@stbermpar.org</a> Executive Assistant, Jean Corday <a href="mailto:jcorday@stbermpar.org">jcorday@stbermpar.org</a> Executive Assistant, Evelyn Vargas, <a href="mailto:evargas@stbermpar.org">evargas@stbermpar.org</a> Secretary, Janet Chávez-España
SAINT BERNADETTE SCHOOL	703-451-8696, fax 269-1121 Principal, Dr. Kathleen Burgess <a href="mailto:school@stbermpar.org">school@stbermpar.org</a> Assistant Principal, Jennifer Spencer Registrar, Heidi Thomes
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	703-451-8576 Director, Lynn Jones <a href="mailto:Ljones@stbermpar.org">Ljones@stbermpar.org</a> Coordinator of Religious Education, Arlyn Agasen, <a href="mailto:aagasen@stbermpar.org">aagasen@stbermpar.org</a> Administrative Assistant, Victor Mendez <a href="mailto:vmendez@stbermpar.org">vmendez@stbermpar.org</a>
YOUTH MINISTRY	703-451-8576 Director, Grace Mee <a href="mailto:gme@stbermpar.org">gme@stbermpar.org</a>
BAPTISMS	Saturday, 10am, 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturdays in English; 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 <a href="http://www.stbermpar.org">www.stbermpar.org</a> .  Articles for the bulletin must be submitted to the parish office no later than first thing Friday morning, ten days before publication date. <a href="mailto:bulletin@stbermpar.org">bulletin@stbermpar.org</a> .

# calendar

## june

- 21 **Sunday, TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
• Fr. Jeb's farewell Mass, 11am, followed by reception in the gym  
• Live-streaming Masses continue at 9am and 1pm
- 22 **Monday, SAINT THOMAS MORE, Martyr**
- 23 **Tuesday, Weekday**
- 24 **Wednesday, The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist**  
• **Parish Dining Night Out** - Saratoga Pizzeria & Grill, Rolling Rd, 4-8pm
- 25 **Thursday, Weekday**
- 26 **Friday, Weekday**  
• Adoration, 7-8pm, church
- 27 **Saturday, Weekday [Saint Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor]**  
• Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
- 28 **Sunday, THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
• Fr. Daniel's welcome Mass, 11am, followed by reception in the gym  
• Live-streaming Masses continue at 9am and 1pm
- 29 **Monday, SAINTS PETER AND PAUL, Apostles**  
• **Parish Dining Night Out** - McAlisters Deli, Rolling Rd, 4-8pm
- 30 **Tuesday, Weekday [The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church]**

## july

- 1 **Wednesday, Weekday [Saint Junipero Serra, Priest]**
- 2 **Thursday, Weekday**
- 3 **Friday, Saint Thomas, Apostle**  
• Adoration, 7-8pm, church  
• **Parish Offices closed in observance of the Federal Holiday**
- 4 **Saturday, Independence Day**  
• **Only one Mass at 10am (NO 8am Mass)**  
• Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
- 5 **Sunday, FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
• Live-streaming Masses continue at 9am and 1pm
- 6 **Monday, Weekday [Saint Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr]**
- 7 **Tuesday, Weekday**  
• **Parish Dining Night Out** - Delia's Pizzeria & Grill, Braddock Rd, 4-8pm
- 8 **Wednesday, Weekday**
- 9 **Thursday, Weekday [St Augustine Zhao Rong, Priest, & Companions, Martyrs]**
- 10 **Friday, Weekday**  
• Adoration, 7-8pm, church
- 11 **Saturday, Saint Benedict, Abbot**  
• Additional monthly Filipino Mass, 7pm
- 12 **Sunday, FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
• Live-streaming Masses continue at 9am and 1pm

## announcements

### Happy Father's Day!

Please join us as we bid a fond farewell for Fr. Jeb as he embarks on his new assignment as Pastor of Saint Philip Catholic Church in Falls Church on Sunday, June 21 after the 11am Mass. A reception will take place in the school gymnasium.

Please join us as we welcome Fr. Daniel Rice on his new assignment here as our Parochial Vicar on Sunday, June 28 after the 11am Mass. A reception will take place in the school gymnasium.



### Parish Dining Out Nights

Support our Work of Mercy ~ Rise Against Hunger



### Saratoga Pizzeria and Grill

(mention Saint Bernadette when you place your order  
flyer required/electronic accepted -  
Online Ordering and DoorDash are not included)

### Upcoming Dining Out Nights

**June 29 - McAlister's Deli, Rolling Rd**  
**July 7 - Delia's Pizzeria & Grill, Braddock Rd**

## from the pastor

...we have just completed the Mass, which is Jesus' total victory over evil, sin, and death. We are literally now embodied in his victory.

Dear Good People of Saint Bernadette,

First, we wish Fr. Jeb all good things as he assumes his new responsibilities as pastor of Saint Phillip Parish. Also, we thank him for his contribution to the spiritual and communal life of Saint Bernadette. It is a daunting experience to be a pastor for the first time (and even the second). I remember having a lot of doubts about myself when I went to Fredericksburg. There were many good people who welcomed me and brought me up to speed, and we pray that Fr. Jeb's experience is the same.

Now we come to the sesqui-centennial (half five hundredth) anniversary of our nation and the Declaration of Independence. Imagine being one of the leaders of those thirteen colonies and stepping out onto unexplored territory. It was the time of change from emperors and kings to "government of the people, by the people, for the people," to quote President Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, dedicating the nation to the preservation of a democratic republic after the Civil War nearly tore it apart.

It was the dignity of the human person -- despite how it was challenged historically in our country with the treatment of immigrants, enslaved persons, manifest destiny and native Americans, and human rights -- that shaped our conversations around small group tables for the past six months in our **faith250** program. The program served as an alternative focus on how we can be together in unity with our multifaith country and seek to heal our divisiveness. This unity is not something that is easily achieved; you have to really want it in order for it to come about.

Much is being written this week about the optic of bloody cagefighting for cheering crowds as a part of our national 250th celebration and how it resembles the solution of the Caesars at the decline of the Roman republic to appease the masses by "bread and circus" (gladiatorial fights).

We need to find a better solution as a community to express the foundational love that binds us and calls us to compassion and care for one another. To seek peace and not war, to seek the good of the other rather than promotion and enrichment of the self, which is the witness of the world at our present time. Our children are taking notes.

We need to be a counter-cultural voice that recalls the values that were present at the time of our founding.

I keep remembering Cardinal McElroy's talk on priest/theologian John Courtney Murray, SJ's understanding of democracy and Catholic Social Teaching. Democracy wasn't intended to serve ideology, he said. Democracy is intended to serve people.

Pope Leo, in his new encyclical *Magnifica humanitas*, says, "Founded on Christ, the living stone, we experience the powerful and mysterious action of the Holy Spirit, and we believe that every authentic human effort to cooperate with him for the good will be blessed by our heavenly Father, in whom we place our hope. For this reason, we can diligently contribute to every initiative that builds a more just world, and we can call others to collaborate in promoting the integral development of every human being. We wish to engage in dialogue with all men and women of our time, with whom we share in the events, questions and aspirations of humanity."

The bishops of the United States (USCCB), have just produced a *National Prayer Service Honoring the Many Journeys that Shaped America*. I will plan with our Parish Advisory Board and our newly-forming Committee on Multicultural Affairs to plan this prayer service here in the fall, hopefully around Labor Day. It will be an opportunity for people in the parish of all ethnicities, countries of origin, and languages to tell their stories and grow deeper in community together. I would like ALL people in our diverse community to be represented. If you are interested in this project, please talk to me. We are ALL Americans, with many expressions.

The introduction to the prayer service says this: In observance of our 250th anniversary, and "rooted in the Church's pastoral mission of welcome, accompaniment, and solidarity, the purpose of the prayer service is to acknowledge and honor the many and diverse communities that have journeyed to the United States in search of hope, safety, and opportunity, while also recognizing the voices, sufferings, and enduring contributions of those who were forcibly brought to this land." This sounds like a more worthy starting point for unity and healing.

The Lord be with you. *Fr. Dom*

## Summer begins: celebrating our students, our families, and our nation

School is out for the summer, America's 250th birthday is on the horizon, and Father's Day is here. It is the perfect time to celebrate our school, our families, and our country—highlighting family, patriotism, and the memories that make this season so special.

We at Saint Bernadette Catholic School are especially thankful for the fathers and father figures who enrich our lives in countless ways. During this milestone year leading up to America's 250th anniversary, we also remember and honor our Founding Fathers, whose vision and courage helped shape our nation. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the fathers in our school community who volunteer their time, drive school carpool, attend events, lend a helping hand, and provide daily support and encouragement to their children. Your dedication and love strengthen both our students and our school family.

The final weeks of school were filled with celebration, gratitude, and patriotic spirit. As summer approached, students eagerly looked ahead to their adventures while teachers worked to make each remaining day meaningful. We celebrated with class parties, our final school Mass, and an

awards ceremony recognizing student growth and achievement. Teachers taught fun-filled, final lessons, even as minds began drifting toward sandy beaches, cool dips in the pool, and sweet ice cream treats.

Our Cardinals honored their fathers and father figures with heartfelt cards and crafts. Because our school community would be apart during July's national celebrations, we kicked off America's 250th birthday festivities early with a week of patriotic-themed dress-up days. Students and staff showed their creativity by wearing sports jerseys and outfits representing regions of the country—from east coast beachwear and Hawaiian shirts to western cowboy attire. A few roaming Statues of Liberty added to the fun, creating lasting memories as we wrapped up another wonderful school year.

Before heading off on their summer adventures, students signed yearbooks, exchanged hugs and well wishes, and said, "See you in August!" While farewells are never easy, we look forward to the stories, experiences, and memories they will bring back when they return.

As summer begins, we wish all of our families a season filled with sunshine, adventure, time with loved ones, and blessings. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in August.

## 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.

**We have put up a couple of feedback forms on the parish website. Your feedback is incredibly valuable to us and will help us improve our program.**

## Registration for 2026-2027

**Registration is open!** Continue your child's growth in the faith by signing them up for classes in 2026-27! Our class sessions will be on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, and we will again offer our Special Religious Development class on Saturday mornings for students with special learning needs, and our Family Faith Formation classes once a month on Sunday afternoons (for grades K-5) where parents take a larger role in their child's faith formation. You can go directly to St. Bernadette website <https://stbernapar.org/> to the Religious Education.

Who should register? All currently registered students, including all Confirmation 2026, Confirmation 2027, and students preparing to receive First Eucharist next school year. Classes will begin on September 1 & 2. Questions about your child's registration? Call the Religious Education Office or contact the staff via email.

## Volunteers for 2026-2027

If you feel called to help with the Religious Education program, we are in need for volunteers (lead catechists, aides, teen helps, hall monitors, hallway monitors, parking lot and outside security volunteers, and interior security volunteers)! Please contact the Religious Education Office or fill out the Volunteer Form on the website <https://stbernapar.org/religious-education-volunteers/>

## Living the liturgical year

On June 24, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist to honor his birth. Did you know that St. John the Baptist was the only saint besides Mary and Jesus whose birth the Catholic Church celebrates? He was chosen by God to prepare the way for Jesus. You can learn more about the Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist here: <https://watch.formed.org/videos/sacred-art-the-nativity-of-john-the-baptist>. You can find suggestions to celebrate St. John the Baptist with your children here: <https://www.reallifeathome.com/celebrate-saint-john-the-baptist/>

Thanks to parishioner Nancy Hoskins for making our beautiful new altar antependium for Ordinary Time.



# youth ministry

Email our director of youth ministry, Grace Mee at [gme@stbernapar.org](mailto:gme@stbernapar.org) with any questions you may have.

## High school Summer events

All Rising 9th - graduated 12th graders are invited!

**Daily Mass and Donuts** - Every Tuesday from June 30 - August 11. 9-10:30am

**Escape Room: Saint Bernadette Edition** -

Thursday, July 16, 7-8:30pm, Youth Room

**King's Dominion Day** - Wednesday, July 29.

\$40. Beginning with the 9am daily Mass

**End of Summer Social** - Wednesday, August 12, 7-8:30pm at the Rectory Patio

## ASJB College Night

Tuesday, June 30 - 7pm at Holy Spirit

Calling all rising college freshmen! Join us

for a College Night with the Associates of St. John Bosco. Meet other rising freshmen and upperclassmen who will be attending your school and learn how to strengthen your faith while in college! All St. B's students will go get ice cream after the event is over! Registration is required. Contact Grace for more information!

## Middle school Summer Drop-ins

All rising 6th - 8th graders are invited to our Summer Drop-Ins! Join us June 24, July 8, July 22, and August 5 for fun, games, friends, and of course, ice cream! We will meet from 6:45-8pm in the gym.



## summer of service

*33 parish youth and 27 adult volunteers were sent on mission last weekend to serve the people of Shenandoah County with diocesan WorkCamp.*



### Myra, thanks for the donuts!

Thank you, Myra, for organizing and leading the Donut and Coffee Ministry for the past ten years. Your efforts have helped bring our St. B's Church community closer together.

*You're Invited*



## Survey for the Diocesan Capital Campaign

Bishop Burbidge invites all parishioners to share their input as the Diocese of Arlington prepares for a proposed capital campaign, *One in Christ, Joyful in Mission*. This initiative will support vital projects such as Catholic education, works of mercy, and parish vitality. **Before final decisions are made, your perspective is needed to guide priorities.**

Please take approximately ten minutes to complete a confidential online survey. Scan the QR code below to participate.

Your feedback is important to the success of our shared mission. *Thank you for your prayers and support for your diocese.*

Scan here to complete  
the survey by July 3



[tinyurl.com/CDAcampaign](https://tinyurl.com/CDAcampaign)

*One in Christ, Joyful in Mission*

[campaign@arlingtondiocese.org](mailto:campaign@arlingtondiocese.org)

## Catholic Women's Group upcoming events

Come and enjoy warm fellowship and great food. For more information, please email us at [women@stbernapar.org](mailto:women@stbernapar.org).

Tuesday, July 7, 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.

## ASJB College Nights

**Attention Class of 2026!** Heading to college this fall? Join the Associates of St. John Bosco for FREE College Nights this summer in Northern Virginia! Meet other Catholic students, hear real stories from upperclassmen, and get practical tips for keeping your faith strong in college. You'll connect with students from your future campus (or a campus similar to yours), enjoy a free pizza dinner, and take home a "Bosco Bundle" of Catholic books to bring with you to college. Spots are limited (50 per night), so don't wait! The dates and locations are:

June 30 - Holy Spirit/Annandale

July 9 - St. Theresa/Ashburn

July 14 - Holy Trinity/Gainesville

July 21 - Basilica of St. Mary/Alexandria

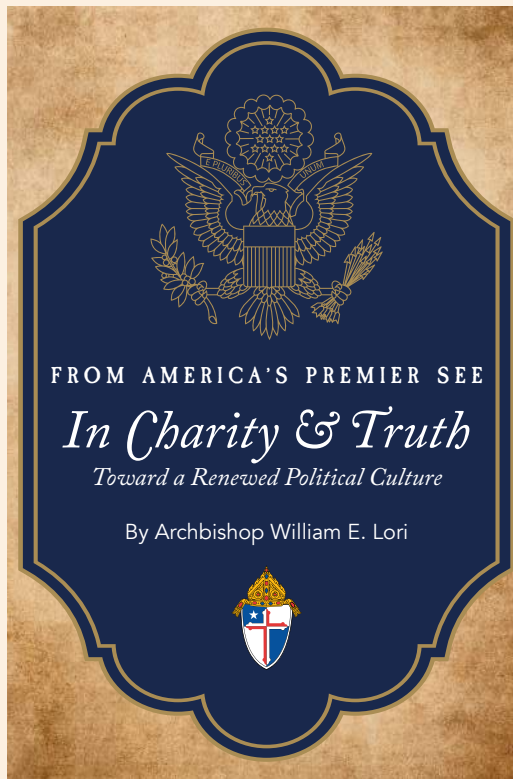
July 28 - St. Mary/Fredericksburg

## 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! [CardinalsAlumni@stbernapar.org](mailto:CardinalsAlumni@stbernapar.org).



## Burke/Springfield interfaith faith250 potluck picnic July 1

Anyone who would like to participate in our interfaith picnic on Wednesday, July 1. 6pm at Burke Lake Park, shelter A, is welcome -- especially all who have participated in the multi-congregation gatherings over the past four months. Join us for an outward sign of unity and shared values as we witness to all that is good, noble, and beautiful about our American community. All are asked to bring as much food as can be shared with as many as are in your party. Register at sign-up genius <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0444AAA822ABF58-64059389-july#/>

As we commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America, here is the link to the most recent pastoral letter from Archbishop William Lori, Archbishop of Baltimore, titled, "In Charity & Truth: Toward a Renewed Political Culture."

<https://www.archbalt.org/in-charity-truth-toward-a-renewed-political-culture/>

# “vatican council II through its documents”

**Traveling in Spain, the Pope did not have a general audience on June 10.**

*On Thursday morning, June 12, at the jetty in Arguineguín on the southern coast of Gran Canaria, Pope Leo XIV made a gesture no speech could have replaced. He cast a wreath of flowers into the sea in memory of the thousands swallowed by the Atlantic along the Canary slave route, and he blessed a blue cross, its color long since faded, carved from the wood of a cayuco.*

*Then he lifted his eyes from the water to the faces before him — a rescue captain, a Caritas volunteer, and a woman who had survived trafficking — and spoke the words that captured the morning: “Human dignity carries no passport, and it loses none of its worth in crossing a border.”*

## Homily on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Pope Leo XIV  
The Port of Santa Cruz de Tenerife  
Friday, 12 June 2026

Dear brothers and sisters,

It is a blessing to come together on this day when the Heart of Jesus reveals itself to us as the heart of history. I am happy to celebrate the Eucharist with you, giving thanks for the abundant witnesses of faith and charity I have experienced on this Apostolic Journey. This is what makes the archipelago, so well known for its beauty and hospitality, a place where the Risen Lord precedes us and reveals himself to us. The sea before us evokes the infinite, and so does the sky; but even more boundless is the infinite longing that joins the heart of God to so many human hearts, whose joys and hopes, sorrows and anxieties find an echo in the heart of the Church (cf. Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World *Gaudium et spes*, 1). No human being is an island. The geographical location of this diocese and the pastoral challenges it faces bear witness to the fact that we are born for encounter and that no obstacle, distance, danger or threat can prevent anyone from making the journey. Whether we spend our whole lives in one place or choose — or are forced — to leave, no one remains unchanged. This is the secret of the heart: the inner call to exodus and to encounter.

But the Heart of Jesus shows us how not to get lost in a futile struggle: “God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him” (1 Jn 4:9). It is in giving of ourselves that we truly live. Otherwise, we spin in a void. Indeed, “as the Council recalled, human persons are called to communion with God and ‘can fully discover their true selves only in sincere self-giving.’ Indeed, their deepest vocation is to enter into the Trinitarian dynamic of love received” (Encyclical Letter *Magnifica humanitas*, 48). Pope Francis likewise observed: “Many people today sense a profound imbalance which drives them to frenetic activity and makes them feel busy, in a constant hurry, which in turn leads them to ride rough-shod over everything

around them. This too affects how they treat the environment” (Encyclical Letter *Laudato Si’*, 225). These words also challenge Tenerife in its vocation to hospitality, speaking both to the hearts of those who choose to spend their vacations here and to those of the people who live and work on the island, welcoming visitors from so many countries around the world. What does the human heart seek? How can we respond to its thirst in a way that is not disingenuous? It is important, especially for those who are guided by the Gospel, not to reduce everything to commerce and profit. “Those who enjoy more and live better each moment are those who have given up dipping here and there, always on the look-out for what they do not have. They experience what it means to appreciate each person and each thing, learning familiarity with the simplest things and how to enjoy them. So they are able to shed unsatisfied needs, reducing their obsessiveness and weariness” (*Ibid.*, 223). Understand your vocation to hospitality in this way, dear brothers and sisters.

Today’s Gospel seems to take this challenge to the extreme and reminds us of the wealth of the poor, a paradox that points directly to the life of Jesus, to his truth, to the path upon which he continues to ask us to follow him. In the passage we have heard, he blesses the Father for this: that God has revealed himself to the little ones — to the least among us, to those whose thoughts and words are ignored. He has enriched them with what is hidden from those who are surrounded by admiration and success. With the Apostolic Exhortation *Dilexi te*, I wished to draw attention to the privileged place of the poor in divine Revelation and in the mission of the Church.

This mystery resonates in a unique way on these islands, at the center of migratory routes that make them a place of initial welcome for brothers and sisters whose journey is generally exposed to unspeakable dangers and violence. In the face of those who capitalize on despair, we Christians we can do more than exemplify the Lord who says: “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest” (Mt 11:28). The greatest grace is to allow ourselves to be evangelized by those we assist and to recognize the mysterious wisdom of God written in their



very flesh. "Growing up in precarious circumstances, learning to survive in the most adverse conditions, trusting in God with the assurance that no one else takes them seriously, and helping one another in the darkest moments, the poor have learned many things that they keep hidden in their hearts. Those of us who have not had similar experiences of living this way certainly have much to gain from the source of wisdom that is the experience of the poor. Only by relating our complaints to their sufferings and privations can we experience a reproof that can challenge us to simplify our lives" (*Dilexi te*, 102). The Lord, who admonishes and corrects those he loves (cf. *Rev 3:19*), desires to make our lives simple and joyful.

Dear brothers and sisters, thank you for who you are and for what you do, for making this island a place of encounter with the heart of Christ in the friendly and hospitable faces of people and fraternal communities. "So we have known and believe the love that God has for us" (*1 Jn 4:16*): may this confession of faith, handed down in the First Letter of John, always shine forth in you and inspire you to prayer and action. Be attentive to teenagers and young people, to the rich and the poor, to residents and guests: all of them need to be looked upon with a gaze that sees beyond appearances and recognizes the depth of their restless hearts, which not infrequently are already oriented, perhaps unconsciously, toward the Kingdom of God and his justice. May it be evident among you that "God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him" (*Ibid.*). This is the heart of the Gospel, the heart of Christ. Whoever immerses themselves in it no longer lives for themselves. Open this sea of love to everyone! This is my wish and my prayer for you and for all those who will come to know you.

## Building access for all: an elevator for our 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 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@stbernapar.org](mailto:frdonrooney@stbernapar.org) for more information.

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

## building more than a new building!

### Parish Offertory

June 14  
Offertory \$ 32,775  
ECHO 2,128

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.

# Rise

AGAINST HUNGER

## dining out nights



### JUNE

- 24 - Saratoga Pizzeria & Grill\*\*
- 29 - McAlister's Deli, Rolling Rd\*

### JULY

- 7 - Delia's Pizzeria & Grill, Backlick Rd \*
- 21 - Delia's Pizzeria & Grill, Backlick Rd\*
- 27 - McAlister's Deli, Rolling Road

### AUGUST

- 6 - Malek's Pizza Palace\*
- 18 - Delia's Pizzeria & Grill, Backlick Rd\*
- 31 - McAlister's Deli, Rolling Rd\*

### SEPTEMBER

- 3 - Malek's Pizza Palace, Springfield Plaza\*
- 14 - El Paso Mexican, Commerce St\*\*
- 21 - Silver Diner, Springfield Mall\*\*
- 28 - McAlister's Deli, Rolling Road\*

### OCTOBER

- 5 - El Paso Mexican, Commerce St\*\*
- 20 - Milano's, Rolling Rd.\*\*
- 26 - McAlister's Deli, Rolling Rd\*

### NOVEMBER

- 5 - Malek's Pizza Palace, Springfield Plaza\*

\*Flyer Required (See Bulletin / Church Vestibule)  
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## Magnifica Humanitas

The Encyclical of Pope Leo XIV on safeguarding the human person in the time of artificial intelligence

*The dignity of the human being as the criterion to orient technical progress*

Pope Leo XIV, in presenting to the world and to all the people of God, his first Encyclical Letter, focused on the care for the human person in the time of Artificial Intelligence, said "I invite all members of the Church and of the human family: let us learn to listen to one another, face the present challenges with courage, and cooperate in building a more human and fraternal society. [...] Please take with you a commitment to stay awake and, as 'artisans of hope,' to keep on building the worksite of our time. May the Spirit of the Risen Lord Jesus sustain our work together."

### Part 3 of 5

And so we arrive at the fulcrum of the theme, that is, the relationship between technology, power, and the human person (chapter 3). While Pope Leo recognizes the value of technological development as an expression of human creativity, he warns of the risk of it becoming the absolute criterion of judgment. Artificial intelligence, lacking experiences, values, and feelings, cannot and should not assume a role of responsibility and supremacy over human intelligence..





**THE GREATNESS OF THE HUMAN PERSON IN THE FACE  
OF THE PROMISES OF AI**

**The risk of the technocratic paradigm**

- Efficiency → ⚠ becomes the sole criterion
- Profit → ⚠ guides decisions
- AI → ⚠ accelerates the problem
- Person → ⚠ reduced to performance

**Artificial Intelligence**

**What it does**

- Processes data
- Recognises patterns
- Is fast and powerful

**What it does NOT do**

- ⚠ Has no consciousness
- ⚠ Does not love, does not suffer
- ⚠ Is not responsible

**Simulates intelligence, but is not human**

**Risks of AI**

- Speed** — less critical thinking
- False objectivity** — hides bias
- Simulated relationships** — illusion
- Concentrated power** — everything in the hands of a few

**Criteria for a more humane AI**

- Human dignity
- The common good
- Social justice
- Reliability
- Transparency

**IA is not neutral, it reflects values and choices**

“To disarm AI does not mean rejecting technology, but preventing it from dominating humanity.” MH 110

“The quality of a civilization is measured not by the power of its means, but by the care it is able to offer.” MH 114

**The myths of transhumanism**

- Humans as something to be optimised, ‘enhanced’
- Removing limitations
- Transcending humanity
- Human-machine fusion

**The true human being:**

- Relationship
- Vulnerability
- Care
- Love

**A limitation is not a flaw: it is what makes us human**

“For an algorithm, an error is a flaw to be corrected; for a person, however, it can be a catalyst for profound change.” MH 128

**AI should make life more human,  
not more efficient.**



## Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

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

### June

#### 22 MONDAY

7am Fathers/Fathers' Day Novena  
9am\* Fathers/Fathers' Day Novena  
2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18/Mt 7:1-5

#### 23 TUESDAY

7am Fathers/Fathers' Day Novena  
9am\* Fathers/Fathers' Day Novena  
2 Kgs 19:9b-21, 31-35a, 36/Mt 7:6, 12-14

#### 24 WEDNESDAY

7am Fathers/Fathers' Day Novena  
9am\* Fathers/Fathers' Day Novena  
Is 49:1-6/Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80

#### 25 THURSDAY

7am Fathers/Fathers' Day Novena  
9am\* Fathers/Fathers' Day Novena  
2 Kgs 24:8-17/Mt 7:21-29

#### 26 FRIDAY

7am Fathers/Fathers' Day Novena  
9am\* Fathers/Fathers' Day Novena  
10am\*\* † Rom Kilikauskas  
2 Kgs 25:1-12/Mt 8:1-4

#### 27 SATURDAY

8am Fathers/Fathers' Day Novena  
Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19/Mt 8:5-17  
5pm\* Fathers/Fathers' Day Novena

#### 28 SUNDAY

7am Fathers/Fathers' Day Novena  
9am\* Fathers/Fathers' Day Novena  
11am For the parish  
1pm\* Fathers/Fathers' Day Novena  
5pm Fathers/Fathers' Day Novena  
2 Kgs 4:8-16a/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42

\* live-streamed Masses

\*\* Mass at Greenspring Chapel

### Masses next weekend

June 27	5pm	Fr. Daniel
June 28	7am	Fr. Cedric
	9am	Fr. James
	11am	Fr. Daniel
	1pm	Fr. James
	5pm	Fr. Don

## Parish prayer list

John Yost, Wioffo 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, Cristina Perez, Rev. William Hower, Pierre DesLauriers, Jane Springer

## 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](mailto: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.

## ParishSoft Giving update:

Saint Bernadette realizes that the transition from Faith Direct to Parish Soft was less than ideal. Online giving enables you to change your giving, set up second collection donations and have access in real time your support of Saint Bernadette ministries.

Here's how you could set up online giving or access Parish Soft to move toward on-line gifts. <https://giving.myparishsoft.io/app/giving/FD-70> you can click on sign in, using the same username and password as in Faith Direct, log-in, you can give now or set up a one-time gift. If you have difficulty, reach out to [Donorsupport@parishsoft.com](mailto:Donorsupport@parishsoft.com) or call 1-866-930-4774, opt. 6

Feel free to reach out to Linda Patterson, our Business Manager, if you need further

assistance, [lpatterson@stbernapar.org](mailto:lpatterson@stbernapar.org) or call her at the Parish Office, 703-451-8576, ext. 122.

## 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](mailto:pvioptions@paulvi.net) or 703-352-0925 x1314.

## Mary's Comfort update

Mary's Comfort recently welcomed a new guest who is very grateful for her housing and accommodations as she progresses with her pregnancy. Thank you very much for your continued prayers and support. If you'd like to learn more about our ministry, please visit: <https://www.maryscomfortva.org/>

## JP Summer Camps - register today!

Description: Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School's summer camp registration is open! Check out this year's camp offerings and sign up today! For rising 2nd to 9th graders, JP summer camps are a great way to spend your summer! John Paul offers both Athletic and Enrichment Camps and its premier day camp, Camp Quintessential. Go to [jpthegreat.org/summercamp](http://jpthegreat.org/summercamp) to learn more about what JP is offering!

## PVI Pops Camp

Looking for a fun and enriching summer opportunity for your young musician? Join us this August for music, creativity, and community at PVI's annual Pops Camp! St. Paul VI Catholic High School in Chantilly is hosting their 19th annual Pops Camp for student instrumentalists entering grades 5th-9th. Camp will be held August 3-6 from 8:30am-3pm. This fun musical camp experience will end with a concert and potluck on Thursday, August 6 to celebrate our musicians' accomplishments. Please review the flyer to sign up. Camp takes place on the campus of Paul VI located at 42341 Braddock Road, Chantilly, VA



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