Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to you, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author of all that is good. 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.

33rd Sunday in ordinary time

November 15, 2026



The Parable of The Talents or Minas, Willem de Poorter, c. 1650
National Gallery of Prague, Czech Republic

7600 OLD KEENE MILL ROAD | SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA 22152 | www.stbernpar.org

SAINT BERNADETTE
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

33rd Sunday
in ordinary time

November 15, 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, 3rd 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@stbernpar.org** Monday–Friday, 8:30am – 4:30pm Pastor, Fr. Don Rooney frdonrooney@stbernpar.org Fr. James Waalkes frjameswaalkes@stbernpar.org Fr. Daniel Rice frdanielrice@stbernpar.org Deacon Orlando Caicedo Pastoral Associate, Rick Caporali rcaporali@stbernpar.org Business Manager, Linda Patterson Lpatterson@stbernpar.org Music Director, David Mathers dmathers@stbernpar.org Executive Assistant, Jean Corday jcorday@stbernpar.org Executive Assistant, Evelyn Vargas, evargas@stbernpar.org Secretary, Janet Chávez-España
SAINT BERNADETTE SCHOOL	703-451-8696, fax 269-1121 Principal, Dr. Kathleen Burgess school@stbernpar.org Assistant Principal, Jennifer Spencer Registrar, Heidi Thomes
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	703-451-8576 Director, Lynn Jones Ljones@stbernpar.org Coordinator of Religious Education, Arlyn Agasen, aagasen@stbernpar.org Administrative Assistant, Victor Mendez vmendez@stbernpar.org
YOUTH MINISTRY	703-451-8576 Director, Grace Mee gmee@stbernpar.org Assistant Director, Mary O'Malley momalley@stbernpar.org
BAPTISMS	Saturday, 10am, 1st and 2nd Saturdays in English; 3rd 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.stbernpar.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@stbernpar.org.

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

calendar

november

15 Sunday, THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
- Live-streaming Masses continue at 9am and 1pm

16 Monday, Weekday [Saint Margaret of Scotland]
- **Taize Prayer Service** in the church, 8 - 8:45pm, All are welcome!

17 Tuesday, Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious

18 Wednesday, Weekday [The Dedication of the Basilicas of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles; USA: Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne, Virgin]

19 Thursday, Weekday

20 Friday, Weekday
- Adoration, 7-8pm, chapel

21 Saturday, The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 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**

22 Sunday, OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE
- Live-streaming Masses continue at 9am and 1pm
- **Keep Christ in Christmas Card sales, after all Masses, Church Vestibule**
- **Cub Scout Popcorn Sales after all Masses , Church Vestibule**

23 Monday, Weekday (34th Week)

24 Tuesday, Saint Andrew Dũng-Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
- **43rd Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Service,** 7pm, All are welcome!

25 Wednesday, Weekday [Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr]

26 Thursday, Thanksgiving
- Only one Mass at 10am, bring food for the poor (St. Lucy Food Drive)

27 Friday, Weekday
- Adoration, 7-8pm, chapel

28 Saturday, Weekday
- Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
- **Christmas Tree sales begin, lower parking lot, 9am - 9pm**

29 Sunday, FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
- Live-streaming Masses continue at 9am and 1pm

30 Monday, Saint Andrew the Apostle

december

1 Tuesday, Advent Weekday

2 Wednesday, Advent Weekday

3 Thursday, Saint Frances Xavier, Priest

4 Friday, Advent Weekday [Saint John Damascene, Priest and Doctor]
- Adoration, 7-8pm, church
- **Saint Bernadette Concert Series: Advent Lessons and Carols,** church, 7:30pm

5 Saturday, Advent Weekday
- Live-streaming Mass for Sunday begins with the 5pm Vigil Mass
- **Breakfast with Santa, School Cafeteria,** 8-11:30am
- **Saint Bernadette Christmas Shop, School Gym, 7:30am-Noon,**

announcements

Join us for Taize Prayer Monday, November 17 at 8pm for peaceful, beautiful prayer for unity and peace in our troubled world.

Please plan to join us for the **43rd Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Service**, on Tuesday, November 24 at 7pm at Congregation Adat Reyim. Meet and pray with your friends who belong to the many area participating congregations! Invite your ecumenical and interfaith friends to join us.

There will be only one Mass on Thanksgiving Day at 10am. As a way of giving thanks to God for the many blessings in our lives, please help those who are experiencing food insecurity by bringing non-perishable food items to Mass on Thanksgiving Day. You will be invited to place your contri-bution at the foot of the altar during the offertory. A basket will be available for donations of cash, checks, or gift cards. All donations will benefit the Catholic Charities' St. Lucy Food Project which helps address the problem of the invisible hunger within the 21 counties and 7 cities in the Diocese of Arlington.

The Knights of Columbus are selling "Keep Christ in Christmas" Christmas Cards after each Mass next weekend. Proceeds will support WorkCamp and the Saint Bernadette School.

Everyone is encouraged to participate in our Parish Bake Sale December 12-13 by contributing baked goods, helping with setup and cleanup, or shopping during the sale. All proceeds support our Capital Campaign.

Mark your calendars NOW - our Parish Advent Penance Service is December 15 at 6:30pm, your best opportunity for Reconciliation before Christmas.

Mark your calendars for events in December in the parish:

December 12-13 - **Catholic Charities Christmas Collection**
December 8 - **Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation**
December 11 - **Our Lady of Guadalupe** procession/Mass/reception starting at 6:30pm

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

from the pastor

Dear Good People of Saint Bernadette,

This week I'm writing this letter late after a long day. This morning after Mass we had our diocesan annual pastor/principal luncheon and received our enrollment/viability report for the school. I skipped lunch because I had to be at the chancery doing a second interview with the search committee for the new CEO of Catholic Charities. That went long, so I went straight into DC to a reception/gala hosted by the Rumi Forum, a Turkish Muslim association founded by M.Fethullah Gülen an Imam and leader who sought interfaith peace and a moderate, more westernized form of Islam. The event tonight was to honor Rabbi Michael Holtzman (Northern Virginia Hebrew Congregation) and Rev. Becca Messman (Burke Presbyterian) for their work in creating and promoting the **faith250** program. I wanted to let you know that our participation in this program not only made the Washington Post but, as one of the first cohorts, also helped establish faith250 in 46 communities in the nation.

We have good news to report about our school. Where our overall test scores have been a bit lagging in the past, our teachers and staff have really turned it around. It takes a complete team from Dr. Burgess all the way to the staff who work in the kitchen and on the playground to provide an environment where learning is inspired and takes root. The scores from last year show in most cases we are well above the diocesan average in reading and language arts, and about the same at the diocesan level in mathematics. For that reason we have fortified our math program already this year.

Our enrollment is stable. Although our enrollment has dropped a few percentage points, we show a retention of students at 87%. This is a very good figure in the diocese, especially with so many military families who often must move every few years.

There was a report of the demographics given in the top ten zip codes of the 33 zip codes represented at our school. The population of those living in these areas has increased only by nearly one per cent. In 55% of our households languages other than English are spoken. The Hispanic or Latino population in the area is 23%, a bit more than the 17% in our school. 9% of the families in our area live in poverty, the median total household income being about $126,000.

All in all, we got a very good report.

I hope you enjoy the beautiful photos of moments during the visit of Saint Bernadette's relics last week in this special edition bulletin. I had really worried that we would be visited by more people than we could handle. We were well prepared – **thanks** to the hours of preparation of our parish staff team! and all of our good volunteers who served as parking attendants, safety patrol, and ushers warmly greeting visitors and facilitating the efficient veneration of our Patroness. In the end, I look back on a beautiful event (maybe the most significant in the parish for many years), in which the Masses were just comfortably full, and the lines for veneration were always back to the vestibule but never overwhelming. Just a peaceful, steady flow of people who came to greet her and ask for her intercession.

I realize, too, that between the time I am writing and you are reading our Rise Against Hunger meal packing event will have come and gone! What a great service project, one that brings us all together with one purpose to serve and make a difference in the world. By then we will have shipped 175,000 meals to children in a school, enough to feed them for a year. And, because they come to school knowing that they will be fed, we will also be facilitating their education for a brighter future.

It all comes into perspective when you realize how fortunate we truly are and how we must share what we have. Roughly it costs about $22K to educate a child each year in Fairfax County Public Schools. In our part of the Diocese of Arlington it costs about $12K, and our school tuition is under $10K. Thanks for your generosity in our tuition assistance collections each month.

The Lord be with you.

Fr. Dan

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School gathers around Saint Bernadette's relics

Beginning this past September, the Relics of Saint Bernadette Soubirous of Lourdes, began their pilgrimage to the United States from Lourdes, France as the *Journey of Grace* tour. Thursday and Friday, November 5-6, were announced as dates that the Relics would visit our church here in Springfield.

As many opportunities were planned for the community at large to welcome, celebrate, and honor the Relics of our patron Saint Bernadette, this also provided a special opportunity for the students of our school. On Friday morning, students, parents, faculty, and staff assembled in the church to celebrate Mass in the presence of the Relics. Following Mass, all participants were invited to come forward for veneration. There was time for all to dip their fingers in the water from Lourdes, place a hand on stones which originated from the Grotto, view the beautiful reliquary, and offer their intentions.

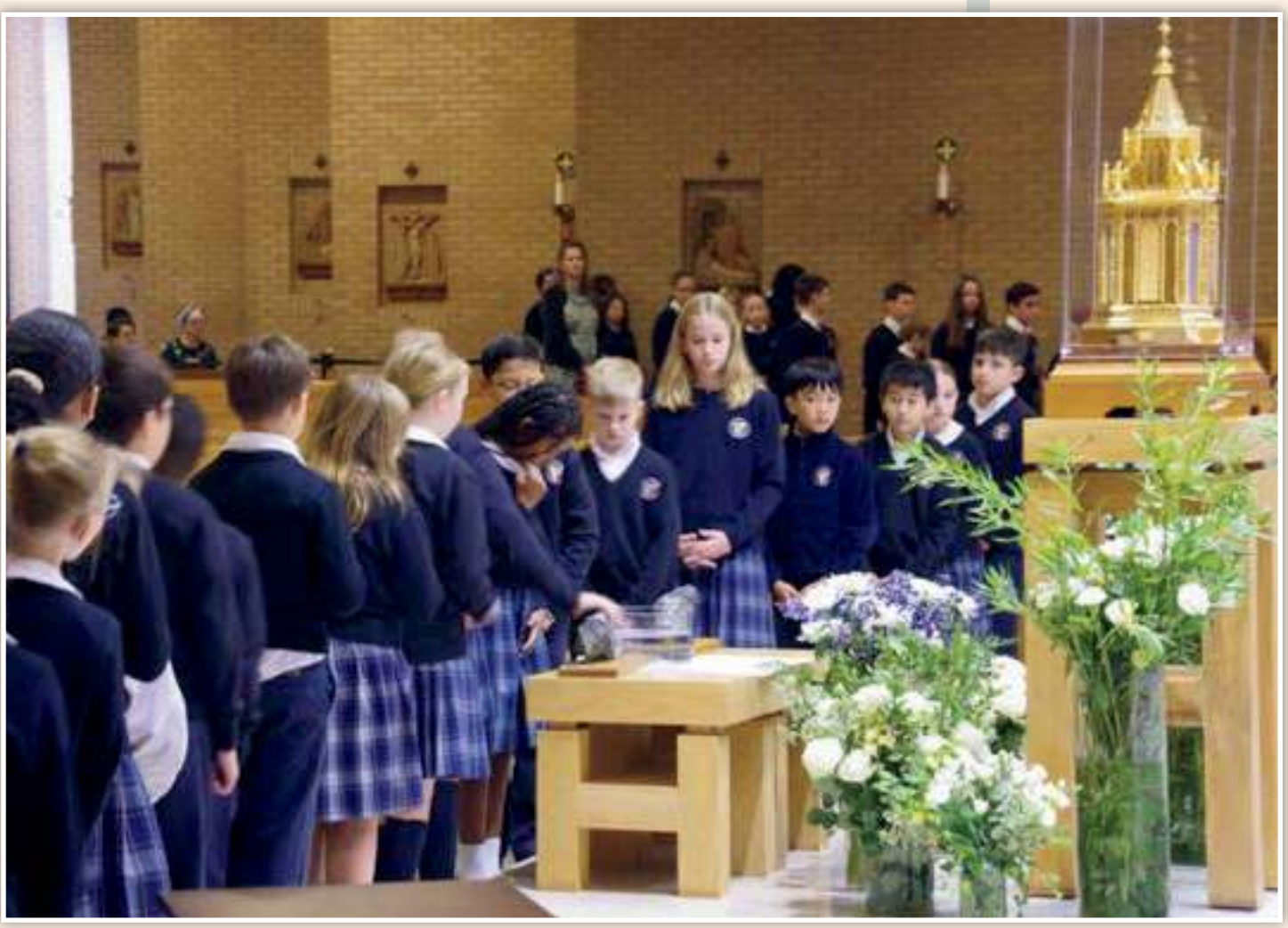
In the days before this beautiful and spiritual experience, teachers took time in class to talk about the act of veneration and why we, as Catholics, treat the relics of saints with reverence and honor. Students were reminded of Saint Bernadette's life, her special devotion to Mary, and the importance of her witness of faith, humility, and perseverance.

Through the veneration of her Relics, students were able to participate in this beautiful tradition that reminds us of the communion of saints and the special connection we share with those who have gone before us in faith.

cardinal corner



FORMING HEARTS & MINDS IN CHRIST



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religious education program

Weekly update

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

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLOW) is a program for 3–6 year olds. The children leave the 9am Mass with their catechists during the Liturgy of the Word so they can hear the Word of God at their level. Children return to Mass during the offertory and worship with their families for the remainder of the Mass. The program is held most Sundays from September through July except holiday weekends.

All students MUST be pre-registered so we can have parent contact information. https://forms.gle/Kfxe3miZDQJ5j5TZ8

Living the Liturgical Year

Happy 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time! On November 17, we celebrate the feast of St. Elizabeth of Hungary. She was a 13th century princess known for her extraordinary charity. One legend has it that she had snuck meat, eggs, and bread under her mantle to distribute to the poor of the village against her family's wishes. On the way to the village, she unexpectedly runs into her husband and he asks her what she was carrying. Not knowing what to do, she opens her mantle and to both their surprise, it is a bouquet of roses. You can watch her story with your children here: https://watch.formed.org/videos/st-elizabeth-of-hungary-littlest-saints

Sunday Doughnut Social

Plan to join us on November 22 after the 9am Mass, in the school cafeteria for fellowship, hospitality, and kids' activities! Come visit with other parish families while you enjoy coffee, juice, and doughnuts while your children do some fun activities with volunteers!

youth ministry

Email our director of youth ministry, Grace Mee at gmee@stbernpar.org, or assistant director Mary O'Malley, momalley@stbernpar.org with any questions you may have.

High School Tuesday Socials

All high schoolers are invited to join us for Tuesday Socials 7-8:30pm every Tuesday! Meet in the youth room (parish office) for games, ice cream, and a discussion on the faith.

Middle School Youth Ministry

All 6th-8th graders are invited every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month for games, snacks, and fellowship! Meet in the school gym from 6:45-8pm.



Our SPRED (Special Religious Education) kids got in on the action of preparing for Rise Against Hunger by taping boxes and putting labels on the bags which will be filled with nourishing food for poor children.

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school salutes veterans

On Monday of last week our school community gathered around the flag and honored our many parents who have served or are actively serving in the Armed Forces. The children formed a Veterans' Choir and one of our military parents gave a talk on service.

Our school is recognized as a Purple Star School now for the second year, a preferred school for military families.



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upcoming activities

Thanksgiving Day St. Lucy food drive

As a way of giving thanks to God for the many blessings in our lives, please help those who are experiencing food insecurity by bringing non-perishable food items to Mass on Thanksgiving Day. You will be invited to place your contribution at the foot of the altar during the offertory. A basket will be available for donations of cash, checks, or gift cards. All donations will benefit Catholic Charities' St. Lucy Food Project which helps to address the problem of the invisible hunger within the 21 counties and 7 cities in the Diocese of Arlington.

Catholic Women's Group

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

Tuesday, November 17 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.

Get ready for the parish Christmas bake sale!

December 12-13 after all Masses in the church vestibule. Everyone is invited to participate – share your favorite Christmas baked goods, especially loaf breads, cookies, brownies, ethnic breads, and cake pops! Great gifts. Proceeds benefit our Capital Campaign. If you would like to volunteer to help with sales, contact Pat Creswick at patcreswick@yahoo.com or 703-400-9903. Questions? Contact Kathy Marchetti kathmarc@yahoo.com or 703-644-1689.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development working on the margins

Our second collection next weekend, November 21-22, is to support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. There are over 46 million people in the United States living in poverty, and this collection supports programs to empower local communities to identify and address the unique obstacles they face as they work to lift themselves out of poverty. In addition, 25 percent of funds collected will remain in our diocese to fund local anti-poverty projects. By supporting this collection, you are giving those on the margins a hand up, not a handout. Please be generous.

Porto Charities' Special Kids/ Special Needs Campaign November 29–30

We will have a second collection for Special Kids/Special Needs that will benefit Porto Charities, a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing access to diocesan Catholic schools for children with intellectual and developmental disabilities. All proceeds will go directly to establish and advance inclusive education programs in Catholic Schools throughout the Diocese of Arlington. Please consider donating to this important collection at Mass or online at: www.portocharities.org/2ndcollection

taizé

monday, nov 16 - 8pm

Usually, the third Monday of each month. Please invite all your friends to join us in this prayer for Christian unity.



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journey of faith relic tour

The relics of Saint Bernadette came to our parish November 5 - 6 and were received by the hearts of many faithful. She is so close... so that we might know that God is so close, as well.

The reliquary containing various parts of Saint Bernadette's body are on a national tour that will last one year. We were the only church in Virginia to welcome her.

Both public Masses and our school family Mass were comfortably filled with pilgrims, with constant lines of people venerating without ever overwhelming the space. Our candlelight rosary procession was beautiful as we passed by the newly renovated grotto of Lourdes, up to the school, and back into the church.

There was a beautiful peacefulness throughout her visit that certainly told us more about our patron saint that we could know with words.

Saint Bernadette, pray for us!

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24 hours with our patron saint







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ave, ave, ave Maria





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"vatican council II through its documents"

November 4, 2026

Pope Leo, in his General Audiences on Wednesdays, is giving a catechesis on Vatican II, sixty years later. Today he speaks about the Church's mission in the modern world.

"The heart of the economy is work. Through it, one develops as a person, provides for family needs, expresses one's own talent, participates in social life and builds a better world by collaborating in God's creative work."



IV. Pastoral Constitution *Gaudium et spes (GS 53–62).*

8. Faith and social, political and economic life (GS, 63–76)

Dear brothers and sisters, good morning and welcome!

The social dimension is an integral part not only of human nature, but also of our faith in Christ Jesus, as the precious legacy we receive from the Incarnation of the Son of God. The Constitution *Gaudium et spes* (*GS*) recalls this in Chapters III and IV of Part II, dedicated to economic and social life and to the life of the political community. In these areas too, the Christian faith offers criteria for discernment.

The Council Fathers highlight, first of all, the threat to world peace deriving from the imbalances linked to an economic development that is neither equitable nor respectful of creation (*cf. GS, 63*). This is a far-sighted vision, which was unfortunately borne out towards the end of the last century and which we see even more clearly today. To correct this course, the Document warns, technical progress alone is not enough: "many reforms in the socioeconomic realm and a change of mentality and attitude are required of all" (*ibid.*).

Therefore, *Gaudium et spes* summarizes the Christian vision of economic development, which must always be at the service of humankind and under human control (*cf. GS, 64–65*). The concept of integral development is already clearly evident here, a concept which Saint Paul VI would later place at the heart of his Encyclical *Populorum progressio* (1967). More relevant than ever are the appeals to commit to eliminating discrimination against the most vulnerable social groups and migrants (*cf. GS, 66*).

The heart of the economy is work. Through it, one develops as a person, provides for family needs, expresses one's own talent, participates in social life and builds a better world by collaborating in God's creative work. Work must never be distorted to the detriment of people, the common good or creation. The real challenge is to offer everyone opportunities to make the most of their abilities: unemployment, exploitation and working conditions that endanger health and life itself are unacceptable (*cf. GS, 67*). Workers have the right and the duty to participate in decisions affecting their work, including through trade unions, resolving conflicts through dialogue and non-violent action (*cf. GS, 68*).

In this context, the Council recalls one of the fundamental principles of social teaching, namely the universal destination of earthly goods (*cf. GS, 69*) and applies it to the financial sphere, stating that "whoever makes decisions concerning these investments and the planning of the economy – whether they be individuals or groups of public authorities – are bound … to recognize their serious obligation of watching, on the one hand, that provision be made for the necessities required for a decent life both of individuals and of the whole community and, on the other, of looking out for the future and of establishing a right balance between the needs of present-day consumption, both individual and collective, and the demands of investing for the generation to come" (*GS, 70*).

Gaudium et spes then goes on to discuss the political community, noting several positive developments in the contemporary era, above all the fact that "the present keener sense of human dignity has given rise in many parts of the world to attempts to bring about a politico-juridical order which will give better protection to the rights of the person in public life" (*GS, 73*).

The political community exists for the sake of the common good, which consists of "the sum of those conditions of the social life whereby men, families and associations more adequately and readily may attain their own perfection" (*GS, 74*). The exercise of political authority must always be directed towards the common good, which must be structured and operate according to local and historical circumstances, but always with the good of the entire human family at heart (*cf. ibid.*).

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ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS

Friday, December 4, 2026 at 7:30pm

A Service of Sacred Music and Scripture Celebrating the Advent Season.

Sing hymns, listen to our choirs and experience the organ and other instruments as our Saint Bernadette Music Ministry leads a peace-filled evening of joyful expectation and longing for Christ's coming!

This beautiful service will last about one hour and is appropriate for the whole family.

Gaudium et spes reiterates that "the Church and the political community in their own fields are autonomous and independent from each other. Yet both, under different titles, are devoted to the personal and social vocation of the same men. The more that both foster sounder cooperation between themselves with due consideration for the circumstances of time and place, the more effective will their service be exercised for the good of all" (*GS, 76*).

Dear friends, engaging in economic and political life in accordance with these criteria is a way of building peace. As Pope Francis recalled, "war is a failure of politics and of humanity, a shameful capitulation, a stinging defeat before the forces of evil" (Encyclical Letter *Fratelli tutti, 261*). On the contrary, politics that tends to the wounds of peoples of peoples and of those who suffer injustice offers grounds for hope for the future of humanity.

For this reason, I encourage young people to follow the example of those men and women who have borne faithful witness in these fields. And I renew my call to Christian communities to revive formation in the social doctrine of the Church.

Women's Advent Evening of Reflection

Join us on Saturday, December 5 in the Saint Bernadette School gym, from 6:30-8:30pm for a night of fellowship, Christmas goodies and a talk by Lela Heick. Lela is a Ministry Coach with Walking With Purpose, a national ministry devoted to bringing women closer to Christ and deeper into their faith through Scripture-centered community. Inspired by Mary's faithful response, "I am the handmaid of the Lord," this talk will explore how we can prepare our hearts this Advent to draw closer to the Lord, deepen our trust in his love, and surrender more freely to his will. Registration is suggested but not required. Please register at St. Bernadette Women's Advent Evening of Reflection

Our newest Eagle Scout

Congratulations to Sabashtion Meyers, our newest Troop 995 Eagle Scout. His Eagle Scout project was improving the playground facilities at Queen of Apostles Catholic School.

happening here

Parish Offertory

November 8

Offertory	*$ 33,011*
Facilities/Maintenance	*5,891*

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.

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ADVENT YEAR *of* GRACE 2027

Daily Mass

Monday—Friday • 7 & 9am, Saturday • 8am
Adoration, Fridays • 7pm

December 5, 12, 19: Regular Confession Schedule

Saturdays • 3:30pm, *or by appointment.*
All are kindly asked to arrive as near as possible to the beginning of scheduled times, and to be patient.
Confessions end once Mass begins.

Immaculate Conception, Holy Day of Obligation, December 8

Vigil Mass, December 7, Monday • 7:30pm
Tuesday, December 8 • 7 & 9am, Noon, 7:30pm
The 7:30pm Mass is bilingual, English and Spanish.

Advent Lessons and Carols

Friday, December 4 • 7:30pm
Join us for scripture and seasonal music.

Parish Advent Penance Service

Tuesday, December 15 • 6:30pm
a special evening service of reconciliation will be offered with 16 priests. Please be sure to come.

•

Please note: opportunities probably will be limited for confessions, although we will have three priests on Sundays of Advent this year. Please plan to attend the parish penance service on December 16.



CELEBRATING *the* CHRISTMAS SEASON

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASSES
4:30pm, 8:30pm (*preceded by a Choir Carol Prelude at 4 and 8pm respectively*)
Midnight Mass • 12am (*preceded by Saint Bernadette Choir Prelude of Carols at 11:15pm*)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES
(Midnight Mass)
7, 9, 11am & 1pm *(en español)*
Note: There is NO 5pm Mass on Christmas Day

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27

FEAST *of the* HOLY FAMILY
We will follow the regular Saturday Vigil and Sunday Mass schedule for the parish

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

SOLEMNITY *of* MARY, MOTHER *of* GOD
A Holy Day of Obligation
Regular Holy Day schedule: **Vigil Thursday, 7:30pm**
Thursday: 7 & 9am, Noon, 7:30pm (bilingual)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

SOLEMNITY *of the* EPIPHANY *of the* LORD
We will follow the regular Saturday Vigil and Sunday Mass schedule for the parish

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

***The* BAPTISM *of the* LORD**
The Christmas season ends today with our regular daily Mass schedule.

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Announcing Saint Bernadette's 2026 Giving Tree

Welcome to our Giving Tree Program.
We welcome you to select an organization from the tree and use the URL or QR code on the tag. We encourage everyone to take this opportunity to help those less fortunate and bring some Christmas joy into others' lives. Some items will be accepted here at the Church. **Plan to make your donation/gift available to the organization by noon on December 4**, to ensure delivery by Christmas. Remember, the most fulfilling way to enjoy Christmas is to give!

Gift Cards can be dropped off @ Parish Office - Sleeping Bags Church
CATHOLIC CHARITIES of the Diocese of Arlington receives hundreds of calls from seniors, the disabled or working poor, families and the unemployed seeking food, toiletries,clothing, and financial assistance for prescriptions, utilities, and rent. Gift cards in $25 increments to any of the following: Aldi, Wegman's, Sheetz or Shell Gas Cards. 50 Sleeping bags with a 32 ° rating.

Visit the QR Code on the Gift Tag
CHRIST HOUSE This is a men's transitional shelter, and emergency aid office in Old Town Alexandria run by Catholic Charities. It provides food and clothing and helps people in crisis situations to avoid eviction or termination of essential utilities. We are in need of weather-rated sleeping bags.

Visit ECHO's Website for their Amazon Wishlist
ECHO Ecumenical Community Helping Others is a local service which provides for those in the Springfield area who have difficulty providing for themselves. Please do not buy gift cards for ECHO recipients. ECHO will be collecting their gifts earlier than the other charities.

Visit the QR Code on the Gift Tag
PROJECT GABRIEL / PROJECT RACHEL This organization provides aid for people suffering from the pain of abortion and provides aid for pregnant women in desperate situations.

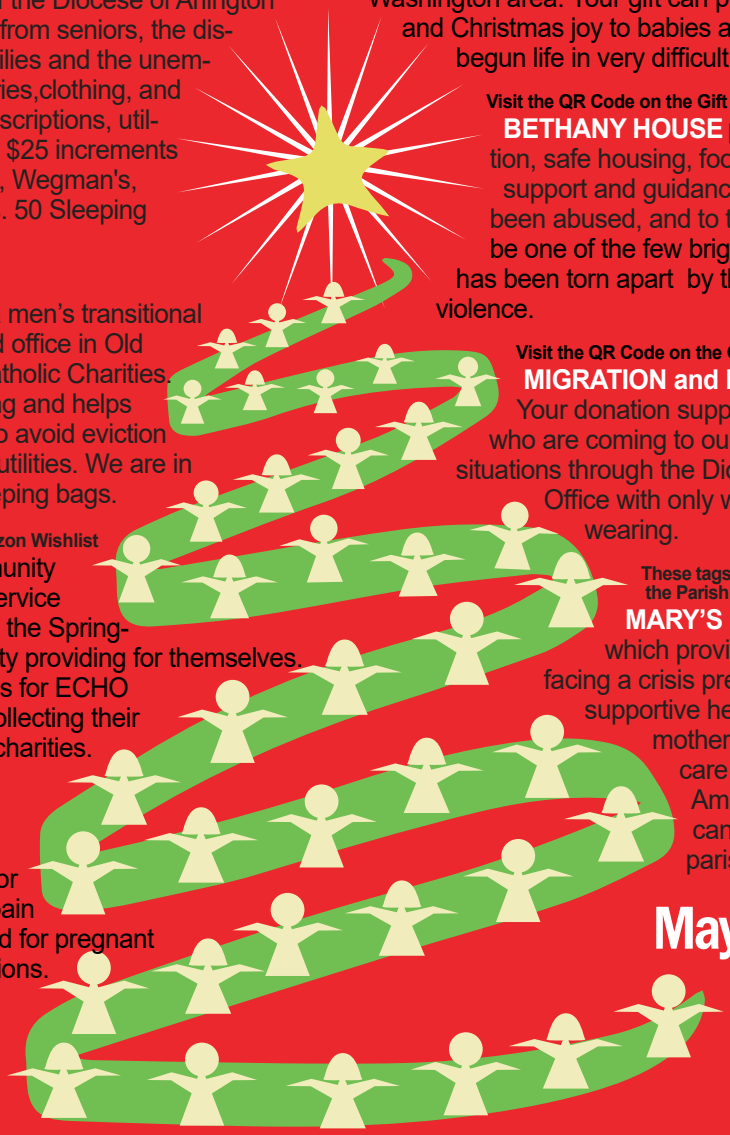
SAINT BERNADETTE LOCAL WORK OF MERCY
Help us share the warmth this season by supporting children at North Springfield Elementary School with the gift of a new winter coat. They are requesting 50 coats for children in all grades. For your convenience you may use the Tap to Give plate on the back of the pew to check out our published list or check out the list here. Thank you for supporting our local Work of Mercy.

Visit the QR Code on the Gift Tag
ST. ANN'S CENTER FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES is a Catholic Care Center that provides for teen mothers and their children in great need within the Washington area. Your gift can provide support to mothers and Christmas joy to babies and children who have begun life in very difficult circumstances.

Visit the QR Code on the Gift Tag
BETHANY HOUSE provides crisis intervention, safe housing, food, clothing and emotional support and guidance to spouses who have been abused, and to their children. Your gift will be one of the few bright spots in a family which has been torn apart by the tragedy of domestic violence.

Visit the QR Code on the Gift Tag
MIGRATION and REFUGEE SERVICES Your donation supports individuals or families who are coming to our country from very difficult situations through the Diocesan Resettlement Office with only with the clothes they are wearing.

These tags / Gift Cards can be dropped off in the Parish Office
MARY'S COMFORT is a program which provides housing for women facing a crisis pregnancy, along with supportive help and guidance for mother and baby in all stages of care. $25-$50 Walmart or Amazon gift cards. Gift cards can be dropped off in the parish office.



May God bless you for your generosity!

Thank you for your continued generosity and support!!

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Daily Mass Intentions and Readings

The Mass Book for 2027 is open. Because of the high demand and the limited number of Masses, there is a limit to two Mass intentions per month per person.

November

16 MONDAY
7am † John Michael Harrison
9am* † Jan Usinger Sanchez
Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5/Lk 18:35-43

17 TUESDAY
7am † Janel Benedicto
9am* † Ron Dietz
Rv 3:1-6, 14-22/Lk 19:1-10

18 WEDNESDAY
7am † Eileen Lombardi
9am* † Ted Musialkiewicz
Rv 4:1-11/Lk 19:11-28

19 THURSDAY
7am † Mauricio Herrmann
9am* Angelique Khong
Rv 5:1-10/Lk 19:41-44

20 FRIDAY
7am † The Bryant Family
8:30a † Tanuja Gnanasekaran
10am** † Bill Walker
Rv 10:8-11/Lk 19:45-48

21 SATURDAY
8am † Ramiro Rivera
Rv 11:4-12/Lk 20:27-40
5pm* † Oswald D'Cruze

22 SUNDAY
7am † Marilyn Brice
9am* † Diana Lenahan
11am † Inez Amond
1pm* For the parish
5pm † Enoch & Anna Godwin
Ez 34:11-17/1 Cor 15:20-28/Mt 25:31-46

** live-streamed Masses*
*** Mass at Greenspring Chapel*

Masses next weekend

Nov 21	5pm	Fr. Cedric
Nov 22	7am	Fr. Don
	9am	Fr. Don
	11am	Fr. James
	1pm	Fr. Daniel
	5pm	Fr. James

Parish prayer list

John Yost, Wiotto Helenius, Robert Holzhauser, Gloria Tortoriello, Bob Atwell, Charles Roby, Kathleen Murray, Alan Curtis, Brian Keller, Cassi Smith, Edward Fitzgerald, John Winkler, Antonio & Maria Benedi, Donna Lash, Llewellyn Salsado, Cristina Perez, Rev. William Hower, Jane Springer, Ed Wyse, Linda Robish, Robin Cookson, Jesse Perry, Carol Flournoy, Sharon Hudson, Rosa Cortez, Carmen Peri, Angel Cruz, William Killoran, Cherie Gribschaw, Dan Tobin, Gene O'Neill. Robert Williams, Jr.

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.

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 online 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 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@stbernpar.org or call her at the Parish Office, 703-451-8576, ext. 122.

Mary's Comfort update

Mary's Comfort is excited that we will have our first full-program graduate this month! Our longest residing guest will be moving out with her toddler into an apartment. Thanks to your support she is managing a full-time job, car and savings account (in addition to her adorable little girl!). We continue to support another guest and her infant and we are trying to expand our services, too. If you are interested in learning more or supporting our efforts, view our website https://www.maryscomfortva.org/ and contact us at maryscomfortva@gmail.com.

Thursday men's group

Join the men's group every Thursday night from 7 to 8pm on the patio behind the rectory. A great way to find support in the faith through reading the Gospel, praying and sharing together.

Prime Time Single Catholics

We are a non-profit social group serving single practicing Catholics 35 and over. On September 3, 2019, Bishop Burbidge granted our group a Letter of Good Standing from the Arlington Diocese. We are listed in the Arlington Diocesan Directory (see Non-diocesan Catholic Entities - Catholic Diocese of Arlington). Our chaplain is Deacon Richard Kelly of Nativity Church in Burke. Our events are listed in "The Scene" section of the Arlington Catholic Herald. Our public website, https://ptscnva.wixsite.com/website (or bit.ly/ptsc), provides detailed information about the group.

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