



ST. BERNARD'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

3100 HEMPSTEAD TURNPIKE • LEVITTOWN, NEW YORK 11756

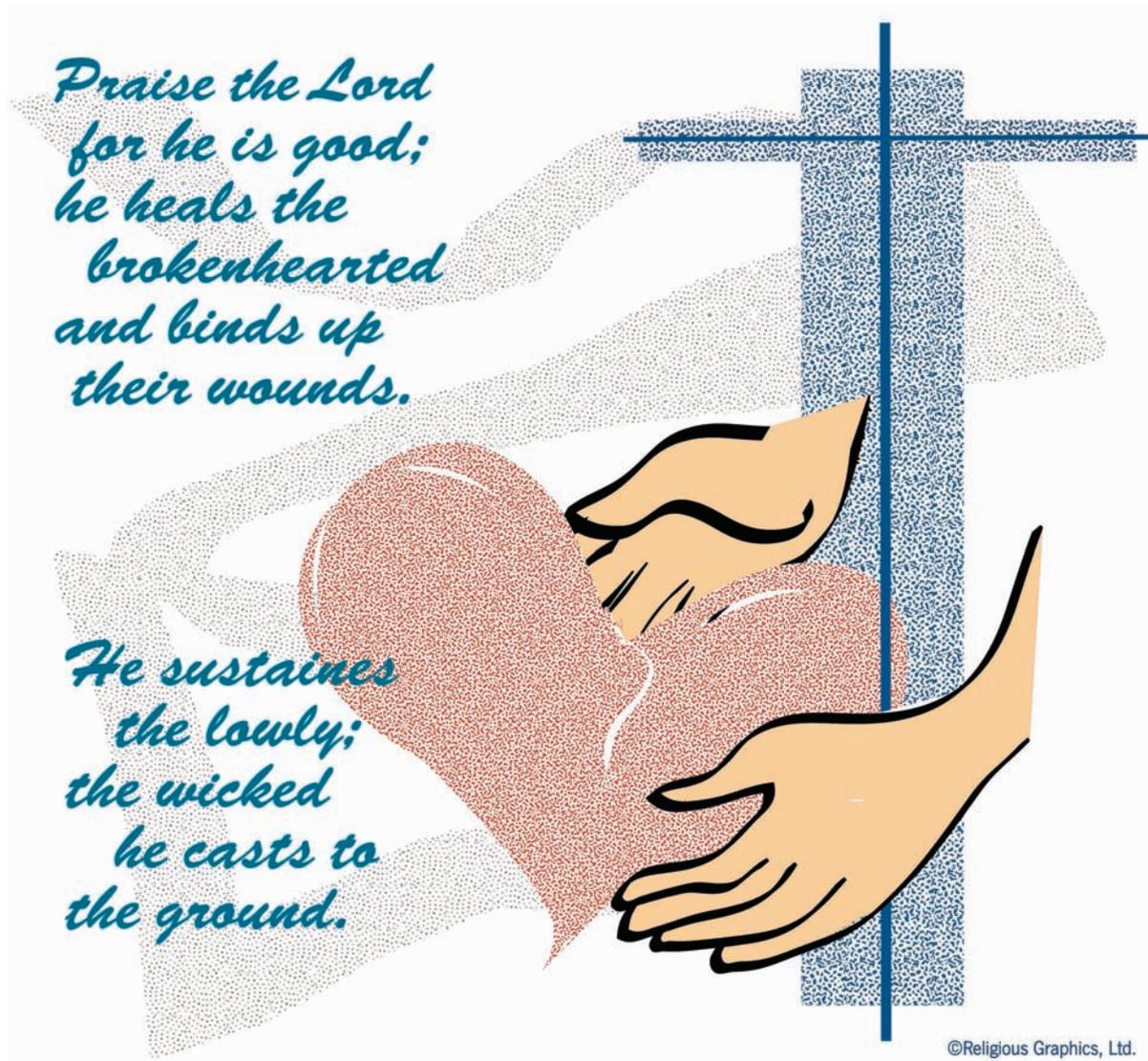
A COMMUNITY OF FAITH



HOPE



AND LOVE



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 4, 2018

O come, let us worship God!



ST. BERNARD'S

CATHOLIC CHURCH

516-731-4220 Phone/516-731-4355 Fax
Email: Parish@StBernardChurch.org
Website: www.StBernardChurch.org

PASTORAL TEAM

Father Ralph Sommer, Pastor
Shepherd@StBernardChurch.org
ext. 130

Father Joe Nohs, Associate Pastor
FrNohsBest@StBernardChurch.org
ext. 128

Father Innocent Duru, Chaplain In Residence
onyeduru@yahoo.com

Deacon John Blakeney
DeaconJohn@StBernardChurch.org
516-731-4220

Deacon James Flannery
Aquinas69@gmail.com
516-731-4220

Mrs. Susan Martin, Director of Religious Education
RelEd@StBernardChurch.org
516-731-8511 Phone/516-731-7860 Fax
The Religious Education Center is closed on Fridays.

**Sr. Christine Sammons, O.P.,
Coordinator of Parish Social Ministry**
PSM@StBernardChurch.org
516-731-6074

Pat McDonough, Director of Youth & Young Adults
pat@stbernardchurch.org
Ext. 144

Mrs. Mary Jane Witte, Director of Liturgical Music
MJWitte@StBernardChurch.org
ext. 142

Ms. Diane Vella, Pastoral Associate
DVella@StBernardChurch.org
ext. 143

Mrs. Rose Marie Rotondo, Sacristan
Sacristan@StBernardChurch.org
516-731-4220

Mr. Len Lanzi, Facilities Manager
facilitiesmanager@stbernardchurch.org
ext. 120

Mr. Dimas Carbajal, Head of Maintenance
Maintenance@StBernardChurch.org
ext. 126

CYO Basketball: email: info@stbernardcyo.org
website: www.stbernardcyo.org

Would you like to join our vibrant community of Faith, Hope, and Love at St. Bernard's? Sign-up and get to know us at one of our monthly New Parishioner Registration and Welcome evenings! For information, call the parish office at 516-731-4220, or download a form from our website www.stbernardchurch.org. Click on "Join St. Bernard's" on the bottom of the home page form. If you move away, please notify us as well.

MISSION STATEMENT

With faith, hope, and love the people of St. Bernard's parish family are on a mission to bring the gospel of Jesus to the Levittown Community and beyond.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Schedule of Masses:

Saturday: 8:00 am and 5:00 pm

Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:00 am (*Family Mass*), 10:30 am, 12 Noon, 5:30 pm (*Youth Mass*)

Weekdays: 8:00 am

Holy Days: see website: www.StBernardChurch.org

Confessions:

Saturday: 4:00 - 5:00 pm. Weekdays: After the 8:00 am Mass

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Novena and

Benediction:

Monday: Check schedule on page 4.

Morning Prayer:

Monday through Saturday, 8:30 am, Prayer Room. Books are available.

Baptism of Children: *We welcome infants and children to our Christian community!* Baptisms are held on select Sundays at 1:30 pm. **Please contact the parish at least 3 months before an anticipated baptism – even before a new child is born – to ensure enough time to complete the baptism preparation process.** Our three-step preparation process includes: 1) at-home reading and preparation by the parents; 2) an intake conversation with a member of our parish staff; and 3) participation with other parents in a Sunday morning gathering, which begins with attendance at our 9:00 am "Family-friendly" Mass. Please call 731-4220 or e-mail parish@StBernardChurch.org to request a Baptism information and preparation packet.

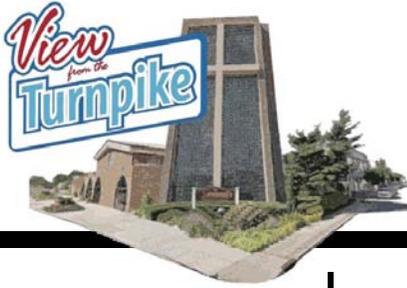
Marriages: Church arrangements should be made at least **6 months before the marriage and before making any contracts with restaurants or caterers.** Please call the Rectory to set up an appointment with a priest, 731-4220.

Ministry to the Sick and Aging: If you are, or know of someone who is homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion, please call the rectory at 731-4220.

St. Vincent De Paul Society: 735-3218

Usher Coordinator: John Lyons (516) 390-5150 or Jlyons8234@gmail.com

Bulletin Deadline: Friday, 5:00 pm, nine days prior to publication. You may email us at Bulletin@StBernardChurch.org or leave a printed copy in the inbox on the bulletin desk in the Parish Office. Thank you for your cooperation!



Cancelled Dinner

E-mail Father Ralph: shepherd@StBernardChurch.org

Smile!

Thanks to a very generous gift from the parish's CYO basketball program, we are able to upgrade our security system throughout the parish campus. You may notice some new cameras in our different buildings. My hope for the future is that we can use the church camera to stream liturgies on line so that homebound folks can see and hear our Masses when they are unable to attend Mass in person.

Misa en Español

Once again we are celebrating our monthly Mass in Spanish, next **Saturday, February 10th at 7:30pm** in the church. Please invite people you know who like to pray in Spanish to attend. Since not everyone who attends Spanish Mass will see this notice, it is by word of mouth that this good news can be spread best.

Palm Burning

Join us on **Monday, February 12th at 7:15** for the burning of the palms outside of the school entrance. Bring the kids!

It didn't surprise me when I read in today's gospel (Mark 1:29-39) that Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law when he and the apostles went to her house for dinner. She had a fever and wasn't about to do the cooking. Dinner was cancelled. But Jesus just had a busy day and was probably rather hungry and was looking forward to a nice quiet dinner with Peter and his friends. "They immediately told him about her," the gospel says. I can only imagine how they said it. "Sorry, Jesus. We were planning on a nice dinner, but momma's down with the flu. Looks like we're going to have to reschedule."

One divine grasp of the hand later, dinner was on its way. But a quiet, intimate dinner it was not. Once word got out as to where Jesus was, everyone in the town came to the door. And they brought all who were sick. (And there was no Purell!). It must have been so overwhelming that Jesus had to get away from there.

Sure enough, "very early before dawn" he left for a deserted place so he could pray. And the apostles found him and said what is probably said to many a mom or dad (or pastor), "Everyone is looking for you!" Interestingly, Jesus does not return to the town where "everyone" was looking for him, but he decided to move on.

There are so many lessons in this passage for us. Among them are these:

1. Even in situations where we are disappointed, we can bring healing.
2. Even though we have one set of plans, sometimes we're called upon to do something different -- and that too often involves healing.
3. We need a break -- time to get away, to pray and recharge ourselves.
4. We need to move on with our lives.

If any of these lessons resonate with you this week, take some time to incorporate that into your week. Be a healing presence...be flexible...take a break...move on. These are holy acts inspired by Jesus' life.



The Rosary Society will meet on **Monday, February 5 at 12:30pm** (weather permitting) in the prayer room of the church to pray the Rosary together. We will offer our prayers in Thanksgiving for our many blessings, and also for our needs and the needs of others, including PEACE everywhere; in our families, our Church, our country, and the world. We pray also for those who lead us and those who protect us. We always remember the sick and those who have died. Please come and pray with us and offer your personal intentions. All women of the parish are welcome.



Thank you to the 8am Mass-goers
who helped out with our Lenten bulk mailing.
Your help was greatly appreciated!

Many thanks to:

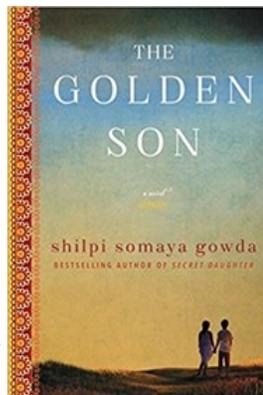
- * *Jim & Sheila McHale*
- * *John & Ronnie Tear*
- * *Sandy Leonard*
- * *Mary Ziesig*
- * *Bill Lynch*
- * *Sr. Maureen*



Mid-Week Mid-Morning Book Discussion

Join your fellow parishioners on **Wednesday February 7 at 10 AM** in the Parish Center for an informal discussion of best-selling author Shilpi Somaya Gowda's *The Golden Son*, an international story that wrestles with dilemmas faced by many immigrants who come here to fulfill their dreams.

For more information please contact Wally Rodier at 516-731-6690 or wrodi@verizon.net.



SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

January 28, 2018	January 29, 2017
\$ 13,475.85	\$ 13,293.75
509 envelopes	600 envelopes
	<u>Faith Direct</u>
\$ 2,482.65	\$ 2,776.25
	<u>Total Collection</u>
\$ 15,958.50	\$ 16,070.00
	<u>Second Collection—Fuel</u>
\$ 4,275.90	
298 envelopes	



Faith Direct
Have you enrolled yet?
www.faithdirect.net Code = NY272

PARISH CALENDAR (Subject to change)

Monday, February 5	
After 8am Mass	Miraculous Medal Novena, Church
12:30 pm	Rosary Society, Prayer Room
2:00 pm	Zumba Gold, Parish Center
Tuesday, February 6	
10:00 am	Our Lady of Consolation, Parish Center
6:15 pm	Children's Choir, Parish Center
6:45 pm	Boy Scout Troop 316, Cafeteria
7:00 pm	Spanish Rosary, Prayer Room
7:00 pm	Cub Scout Pack 318 Leader Meeting, Parish Center
7:00 pm	Vivitrol Support Group, School Room 206
7:30 pm	AA Meeting, School Room 207
7:30 pm	Adult Choir Rehearsal, Church
Wednesday, February 7	
10:00 am	Book Discussion, Parish Center
2:00 pm	Zumba Gold, Parish Center
8:00 pm	Bread of Life Prayer Group, Parish Center
Thursday, February 8	
9:30 am	Shawl Ministry, Parish Center
1:45 pm	St. Vincent De Paul, Clairvaux House
Friday, February 9	
7:15 pm	Most Holy Trinity Prayer Group, offsite
Saturday, February 10, Blood Drive Sign-up after 5pm Mass	
11:00 am	Women's AA Meeting, Cafeteria
7:30 pm	Spanish Mass, Church
8:00 pm	Spanish Mass Reception, Parish Center



MASS INTENTIONS

This listing may not reflect recent changes or additions.

Saturday, February 3	5:00 pm	Joshua Dawson
Sunday, February 4	7:30 am	John O'Hara
	9:00 am	Living and Deceased Members Holy Innocents Council K of C
	10:30 am	John J. Quinn, Gary Lewis, Carmela Bonomo, Susan Vitale
	12 Noon	For all parishioners
	5:30 pm	Sr. Mary Kilian Sullivan
Monday, February 5	8:00 am	Albert Nieman
Tuesday, February 6	8:00 am	Joseph Gannon
Wednesday, February 7	8:00 am	Tom, Eve & Karen O'Brien
Thursday, February 8	8:00 am	Joseph Gannon
Friday, February 9	8:00 am	Leonardo Rodriguez
Saturday, February 10	8:00 am	Leah Mannion, Eve Garganera, Doris Peluso
	5:00 pm	Thomas J. Kearney
	7:30 pm	Sara Bernardo, <i>1st Anniversary</i> , (Spanish Mass)
Sunday, February 11	7:30 am	L&D Members Lynch and Albano Families
	9:00 am	Joseph Masi - <i>Birthdays Remembrance</i>
	10:30 am	Patrick Duggan, Philip Hannon, Mauro DiBenedetto, Barbara Marino
	12 Noon	Salvatore and Carmela Bonomo
	5:30 pm	For all parishioners

PARISH CALENDAR *(Subject to change)*

Sunday, February 11,	Blood Drive Sign-up
After all Masses	Bake Sale, <i>School Lobby</i>
After Morning Masses	
9:00 am	Baptism Preparation Mass, <i>Church</i>
10:00 am	Baptism Gathering, <i>Church</i>
10:00 am	Youth RCIA, <i>Parish Center</i>
4:30 pm	Youth Choir Practice, <i>Church</i>
5:30 pm	K of C Renewal of vows for all married couples, <i>Church</i>
6:30 pm	Youth Ministry Meeting, <i>YM Room (School)</i>
8:00 pm	AA Meeting, <i>Cafeteria</i>

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Raymond Anderson	Tony Barclay	M. Cotton
Eddie Flecker	Donny Hunker Sr.	Thomas Jerabeck
Jim Kelly	Jennifer Lombardi	Debbie Petti-Camera
Weronic Stepniak	Stephan Williamson	

All names will remain on the list for 4 weeks after you call in. After that time we ask, if necessary, to call again. Thank you for cooperating and God bless all.

Please pray for all those on our Long-term Sick List

Baby Mason Francis Combs		
Susan Arena	Brian Austin	Arlene Barsch
Irene Boyce	Lois Byrne	Jean Caprera
Rosemary Clark	Ed Costello	Monica DeLaRosa
Sr. Juliana Deptuch	Debra Dowdell	Margaret Dowdell
Gerry Finlan	Jim Finlan	Linda Fitz
Kathleen Flaherty	Rich Fuleki	Muriel Gallagher
Teresita Gallego	Michael Giampetruzzi	Regina Gorman
Colleen Grasing	John Guiffre	Mike Hach
Patricia Hafner	Carolyn Hakim	Cynthia Hansen
Donna Hare	John Hartofil	Vicki Jacona
Steve Jugan	Jerome W. Kalkhof	Anne Kalman
Katherine Anne Kwestel	Violet Kwestel	Tia Mabanta
Jaime Macias	Andrew Mahoney	Lucy Marconi
Gene McDonagh	William McDonagh	Teresa McDonald
Mary McLean	Mary Messina	Irmgard Montanino
Kerri Orlando	Johnny Perdue	Rosina Perri
Catherine Pipinou	Dolores Pizzo	Joan Rampolla
Fred Rappa	Laureen Quinn-Sturge	Deanne Reilly
John Rotondo, Jr.	John Rotondo, Sr.	Flore Rowe
Federico Rueda	Eve Saint	Thomas Saint
Terry Sherwood	Danielle Stallone	Frances Stallone
Norma Steiger	Louis Steinberg	David Testa
Rosalie Travers	Joan Virostko	Theresa Votta
Brendan Wagner		

Help Us Keep the Sick List Up-to-date

When your loved one's health improves, please call the rectory at 516-731-4220 to let us know so their name can be removed from the sick list. It is important that the list remain current. Thank you for your cooperation.



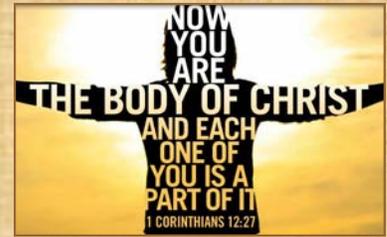
PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DECEASED AND THOSE WHO MOURN FOR THEM

Fred Bevers Walter Hellmann

Dr. John McLaughlin



LET'S BUILD THE BODY OF CHRIST TOGETHER! LENT 2018 PARISH MISSION



SCRIPTURE PREACHING SINGING ADORATION CONFESSION EUCHARIST

Mission Preaching at all Masses March 3-4
Mission Evenings March 4-7, 7:30 p.m.
Mission Mornings March 5-7, 8:00 a.m.



Father Gerald Fitzsimmons, SMM

is a member of the Montfort Missionaries, and currently serves as pastor of Mary Gate of Heaven parish in Ozone Park, Queens. Father Fitz is a nationally renowned speaker who has given Missions and Retreats throughout the country for many years. This will be his third time visiting St. Bernard's; he was last here with us ten years ago. WELCOME BACK FATHER FITZ!

Lenten Evening Prayer

Candles

Incense

Music

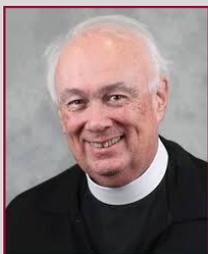
Psalms

Peace

Wednesdays in Lent, 7:30 p.m.

Guest Preachers

February 21



Msgr.
Donald Beckmann

February 28



Deacon
Rick Brunner

March 14



Ms.
Pat McDonough

March 21



Dr.
Phyllis Zagano



CATHOLICISM 101

BASICS OF THE FAITH

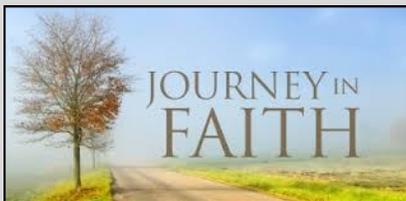
by Diane Vella, Pastoral Associated

The latest in an occasional column on basic questions of Catholic faith. Do you have a topic you'd like addressed? Call or email Diane Vella at 516-731-4220, ext. 143 or dvella@stbernardchurch.org.

Two weeks ago this column left you with the thought: *The Bible is always true, but it is not always factual.* Someone recently questioned how that could be the case, since “true” and “factual” mean the same thing. While that may often be the case, it’s not the case when we are speaking about religious “truth” and “fact.”

Many of you are familiar with the novel or movie *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*. It is a fictional (not FACTUAL) story about life in a U.S. mental institution in the mid– 20th century. Though fictional, it doesn’t paint a pretty picture of the actual conditions of large mental institutions at the time, and is in fact credited with exposing long-term abuses and unacceptable conditions in such institutions. Since that time, the U.S. medical establishment has changed the way that it deals with people who have serious mental illness. Although the novel and movie were not “factual,” they described and exposed a “truth” about the treatment of mental illness in this country at the time. The opening line of the novel, written by Ken Kesey, is: “This is a true story. Even if it never really happened.” The author wrote a fictional story to describe a TRUE situation in the treatment of mental illness.

And that’s exactly what happened in certain parts of the Bible. To take the example I mentioned two weeks ago: The first creation story in the Bible (there are two different ones), which appears in Gen. 1:1-2:4, says that God created the world in 6 days. *This is obviously not factual*, and yes, the Catholic Church recognizes that. Some people are confused because they think that the Bible is a book about scientific fact, when it’s actually a book about religious truth. So what’s “true” in that creation story? A lot of really important stuff: 1) God is the source of everything that exists, 2) God created everything good, as the story repeatedly emphasizes. 3) Human beings are the pinnacle of God’s creation, created in the divine “image and likeness.” That means that we have a spark of God inside us (sometimes called our “soul”) and we “reflect” God in a way that the rest of creation doesn’t—nothing else that is created is created “in God’s image.” *None of the story is FACT, but ALL of its religious meanings are TRUE.*



Maybe it's Time To Belong

Join the journey to adult faith!

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Best time to call: _____

Place form in collection basket, or contact Diane Vella:
516-731-4220 or dvella@stbernardchurch.org

- ◆◆ Going to church but not baptized?
- ◆◆ Baptized, going to a Catholic church, but not Catholic?
- ◆◆ Baptized Catholic, going to church, but not confirmed in the faith?



LITURGY CORNER

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 4, 2018

The Collect asks that the Lord will keep us safe as we rely “solely on the help of heavenly grace. We pray for the transformation of the created realities we offer, that is, bread and wine, so that just as they are material sustenance for us, so too may they become “the Sacrament of eternal life.” The Prayer after Communion highlights the unity of the faithful that is to be the result of their participation in the Eucharist. Our being united in the one Body of Christ through “the one Bread and the one Chalice.”

First Reading: Job laments his sleepless nights and life of misery. He is hopeless, desperate to see happiness, but doubting whether he ever will. Many in our assemblies will resonate with Job’s restlessness. Often people bemoan the misery that besets their lives. The world’s misery frequently presents itself to us. As people of faith we might feel hopeless like Job, yet we still hope. We trust God’s rest will overcome our insomnia and we hope in the beautiful dawn that follows and brings healing to misery.

Responsorial Psalm 147 is a song of praise. The Lord heals broken hearts and binds wounds. The Lord knows each of us by name.

Second Reading: The Gospel is everything to Paul. He preaches it not on his own accord but out of obligation that comes from God. In other words, God called Paul

to serve as a minister of the Gospel. For his free proclamation of the Gospel, Paul’s free reward is a life of grace in Christ. Paul’s strategy for preaching the Gospel is to become all things to all people in the hopes of leading some to Christ. We might think his strategy is a recipe for burnout because no one can please everyone all the time, but pleasing people is not Paul’s focus. The Apostle is single-minded about the Gospel and people’s conversion to it.

Gospel: Today’s Gospel begins on the same Sabbath day as last Sunday’s Gospel in which Jesus taught in the synagogue and healed the man possessed by an evil spirit. Inside the house of Simon and Andrew, Jesus heals Simon’s mother-in-law not by uttering any words, but with the simple gesture of taking her hand and helping her up. The individual healing leads to a multitude of healings and exorcisms the same day after sunset as the entire town came to the doorstep of the house where Jesus was. Since it was the whole town that brought these ill or possessed, no wonder Jesus needed to renew himself by going off to a deserted place to pray. This is exactly what he did the following day before dawn. Jesus’ mission is clear: to preach, heal, and drive out demons with the divine authority given to him.

Saints of the Week

Monday, February 5. St. Agatha was born in Sicily around the year 231, and is one of the women mentioned in the Eucharist Prayer I. According to legend, she was the daughter of a prominent family and was beautiful. The Roman senator Quintianus wished to marry her, but when Agatha spurned him, he had her put in a brothel. In spite of this, Agatha held to her Christian faith. Quintianus had her tortured by having her breasts cut off. She eventually died in prison. She is the patron of the city of her martyrdom, Catania, and is invoked against fire, earthquakes and eruptions of Mount Etna. Because of her torture she is the patron saint of patients with breast cancer.

Tuesday, February 6. St. Paul Miki (†1597), a Jesuit priest, was one of the twenty-six martyrs of Japan. Feeling threatened by the growing influence of the Jesuits, the local governor had members of the Christian community arrested and thrown in jail. They were forced to walk 600 miles from Kyoto to Nagasaki as a deterrent to other Christians, but they sang the *Te Deum* as they went. At Nagasaki they were crucified. When Christian missionaries returned to Japan in the nineteenth century, they found that a secret Christian community had survived by transmitting their beliefs and prayers from generation to generation.



Sourcebook 2018

Readings for
February 4, 2018—February 11, 2018

IT'S NOT TOO SOON TO START!



Sunday, February 4. Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time.
Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Psalm 147:1-6; Mark 1:29-39.

Monday, February 5. Memorial of Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr. 1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13; Psalm 132:6-10; Mark 6:53-56.

Tuesday, February 6. Memorial of Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs. 1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30; Psalm 84:3-5, 10-11; Mark 7:1-13.

Wednesday, February 7. 1 Kings 10:1-10; Psalm 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40; Mark 7:14-23.

Thursday, February 8. 1 Kings 11:4-13; Psalm 106:3-4, 35-37, 40; Mark 7:24-30.

Friday, February 9. 1 Kings 11:29-32; 12:19; Psalm 81:10-15; Mark 7:31-37.

Saturday, February 10. Memorial of Saint Scholastica, Virgin. 1 Kings 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Psalm 106:6-7, 19-22; Mark 8:1-10.

Sunday, February 11. Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time.
Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; 1 Corinthians 10:31—11:1; Psalm 32:1-2, 5, 11; Mark 1:40-45.

Daily readings can be found online at:
www.usccb.org/bible/readings

THE RIDE HOME

This feature is for families to share their thoughts as they travel to and from Church.

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 4, 2018



Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Adults: What can I do to be better prepared to proclaim the Good News with conviction?

Children: How can I share my faith and trust in Jesus with my friends?

Focus on Religious Freedom



From
**Catholics For Freedom of Religion-
CFFR
Punished for Religious Beliefs in the Military -
Part 2**

In 2017, USAF Colonel Michael Madrid's law firm demanded that the Air Force rescind Col. Madrid's punishment and attempt to destroy his career or face further legal action. Col. Madrid is a decorated Air Force veteran, former Naval aviator, and a flight surgeon who has served the military for 26 years and is a Christian with traditional beliefs about marriage.

In 2014, an Airman who was court-martialed and found guilty of serious misconduct, accused Col. Madrid of making derogatory comments about homosexuality. Col. Madrid denied this charge and submitted to a thorough Air Force investigation which found the allegations unsubstantiated, was cleared of all charges, and the investigation was closed.

However, two years later, without any new evidence or new investigation, a new commander, Maj. Gen. McCoy, decided that Madrid had lied in 2014 when he denied making derogatory comments. As a result, he placed a Letter of Admonishment in Col. Madrid's stellar permanent record that now guarantees he will never be promoted to Brigadier General.

"Colonel Madrid is the latest victim of extreme political correctness ...," said First Liberty Institute. "We are concerned that Maj. Gen. McCoy judged and punished Madrid because he became aware of his traditional religious views. If so, that not only harms the military, it is illegal."
(prnnewswire.com, 3/29/17; MadridCaseFacts.com)

"As the world faces terrorist threats to freedom and America prepares a response, the U.S. military is facing challenges to its own freedom here at home."

Barbara Samuells, President,
Catholics For Freedom of Religion



Coat Drive Success!

Our recent coat drive was a success due to the generosity of our parishioners and our Level 7 students. We were able to donate over eight large bags stuffed with coats for children and adults which was given to our Parish Social Ministry. Please continue to think of the needy and consider donating gently used clothing to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul bins located on the back parking lot. Remembering one of the corporal works of mercy which says "clothe the naked" and when doing for others we are doing for Christ. God bless you!



Virtus

The Virtus class which is about child protection from sexual predators will be offered here on Feb. 27th from 7-9pm. **Facilitator:** Mrs. S. Martin. Anyone who is near children in a volunteer capacity **MUST** take this 3 hour class. **Where:** Parish Center. You must register on-line by going to the website www.virtus.org. Click on the diocese of **Rockville Centre** and then scroll down to St. Bernard's. We look forward to meeting you then!

Our "Superstar" Catechists

Here is another salute of some of our "superstar" catechists who faithfully come each week to share faith with our young people. Mrs. Denise Salazar has been married to her husband Carlos of nearly 16 years. They have been members of our parish for nine years. They are blessed with two daughters, Emilia who is 13 and Bianca who is 10 years old also in our religious education program. We are grateful to Denise who teaches two levels, both 5th and 6th AND on the same day. Such dedication to teach level 5, run home for dinner and then return for level 6 classes. She is a product of Catholic school education for her entire life thus wants to share her knowledge and passion with her young disciples! Denise emphasizes our Catholic identity through prayer, explanation of the Mass and the correct liturgical responses with her students, she asks what does it mean to be a Catholic and refers to the bible in her classes. A review of the sacraments, the commandments, the basic tenets of our faith are all introduced in her class. Jesus' miracles and their meaning is discussed and of course, the greatest

miracle is the Sunday Mass of our Lord coming to us in the simple form of bread and wine. When she is not volunteering, she works as a financial compliance agent for investment banking.

Some other Monday catechists include Mrs. Mussachia (taught for 8 years), Mrs. Marie Flanigan (taught for 8 years) Mrs. Cummings (has taught and received diocesan recognition for over 23 years) and Mrs. Tina Damiani (taught for 10 years- soon to receive her Pope Pius X award from the diocese). These ladies share their love for children and the catechetical ministry. They strive to make their classroom experiences fun and varied realizing their students have been in school all day). How blessed we are to have such dedication with our volunteers who see the importance of being "missionary disciples" in today's world.

Growing In Faith Together (GIFT)

The last level 1 G.I.F.T. parent meeting is scheduled on **February 7th** and/**or February 10th**. Presenter: Fr. Joe. Babysitting is provided in the school basement (cafeteria). Remember to continue to deposit the Mass coupons in the collection baskets at Mass. Parent & Child retreat will be held on **February 13th** at 6:30pm and or **February 17th** at 9:30am. We look forward to seeing you then.

Pope Francis Says:

- * Call upon the Lord when things get to be too much - He will help you through it.
- * Married couples, pray with your spouse to set a good example for your children!
- * Parents, teach your children simple daily prayers when they are young, begin with the Sign of the Cross.
- * Eat together, it's that simple.
- * Parents, make sure that you have one-on-one time with each child as even a half hour can mean so much to them.
- * Grandparents, tell your grandchildren that you are praying for them as they need your blessing!
- * Fathers, be gentle with yourself, forgive your own mistakes as your children need and love you.
- * Families make sure everyone in your household has a Bible!
- * Spouses, marriage is so much more than the big day: it's a lifelong celebration. Continue to honor your relationship!

Wisdom of Love by Pope Francis
published by the USCCB



ST. BERNARD'S YOUNG ADULT GROUP

When you look at the world, what do you see? As Christians, we are called to ask that question every day. To search and find the places where we can validate those who are alienated; stand beside the marginalized; see the person who feels invisible. This is the mission of our church.

On January 21st, members of St. Bernard's Young Adult Group (open to all between the ages of 21 and 30) volunteered to serve dinner at "The Welcome Table," a soup kitchen hosted by St. Francis Xavier Parish in Manhattan. First we attended Mass with hundreds of people who came together to celebrate the diversity and dignity of the humanity that we share with Jesus. Following liturgy, we went into the church auditorium to help prepare food and beverages for the hungry, the homeless, and those who are lonely and just seeking the company of others.

One man bragged to us about his eight grandchildren (all girls!); a young man spoke to me about his memories of fishing at Montauk Point as a child; a young woman, about my age, pulled me aside, not to ask for anything, but just to say hello. T-Dot-Flames, a double-amputee who gets around in a wheelchair, told me that he finds daily joy from his music. He was more than happy to rap for us. "I don't got legs, but I can still stand, 'cause I'm just as real as God is." In that moment, I understood that Jesus had come to me through this man. We're all are just as real as God.

Jesus has His arms outstretched to everyone. So must we.

Della Rao

St. Bernard's Young Adult Group



Tracy Borst, Della Rao, Angela Bottari, Pam Goldstein



HOLY INNOCENTS COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**Come Join Us for The Columbiettes
Valentine Breakfast**

**on Sunday, February 11, 2018,
from 10 am - 12 Noon
\$10.00 Per Person at
Holy Innocents Council at
3581 Jeffries Road - Levittown**



**Sign-up at Council or call for reservations:
Marie Chavez – 735-0037 or Fran Beers - 735-7746**

**Holy Innocents Council
Knights of Columbus
Free Throw Championship**



Holy Innocents Council Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is open to all boys and girls of the parish, ages 9 to 14. All entrants will receive a certificate of participation. Winners in each age category will also take home a trophy and be eligible to move on to the district championship free throw competition.

Please join us in St. Bernard's Gym on

Saturday morning February 10th from 9:30 am - 12 pm.

Note that age eligibility is determined by the age of the contestant as of January 1. Proof of age is required.



St. Vincent de Paul:

We are most grateful to everyone who remembers our low-income Levittown neighbors with food and donations to the poor boxes. We are blessed to share with those who visit us on a regular basis.

This week our pantry needs include:

- **Oatmeal: canisters or envelopes**
- **Canned pasta**
- **Beans: cans or 1-lb bags**
- **Cup o-noodles**
- **Low sugar cereals (i.e. Toasted Oats)**

As always, thank you!

*Please remember the poor boxes and to
"buy one, get one free!"*

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

FEBRUARY 3-4, 2018

This weekend is **Super Bowl** weekend, and at all of our masses, our **Charitable KIDZ** will be collecting for the **Appalachia Project**, a program for very poor children in rural West Virginia. Parishioners will have an opportunity to donate at mass, promise a donation in the future, donate on line, and/or promise to pray for the project.



Thank you in advance for supporting the good works of our **Charitable KIDZ**. As soon as we have a total, we will let you know. Sister Diane Capuano from Molloy College will return to St. Bernard's to accept the "big check" to share with our low-income friends from **Big Laurel Learning Center in Kermit, West Virginia!**

Levittown New York → Levittown Puerto Rico

We are happy to report that our parish is sending **two checks for \$3500.00 each** to the two Catholic parishes in Levittown, Puerto Rico to be used for the rebuilding of their churches after the devastation caused by Hurricane Maria.

As always, thanks to:

"the people of St. Bernard's who are on a mission to bring the gospel of Jesus to the Levittown community and beyond."

Immigration Hotline:

New York State will provide guidance to Salvadorans and other immigrants worried about losing Temporary Protected Status that allows them to live and work legally in the United States. The office will open its Office for New Americans hotline and offer free consultations to affected groups. Callers to the New York immigration hotline, **1-800-566-7636**, will receive up-to-date information, consultations, guidance and screening for adjustment of status, if they qualify. The State seeks "to alleviate the panic" that follows from the President's recent announcement about TPS.

In addition, the **Catholic Charities Immigration Services** in Amityville has a very knowledgeable staff of lawyers and other professionals to assist with immigration issues. They are located at **143 Schlegel Blvd. The number is 631-789-5210.**

Catholic Daughters News

Sunday, February 4 CDA hosts Hospitality, Parish Center at St. Bernard's. Please bring Valentines for members of the Military and toiletries for vets.

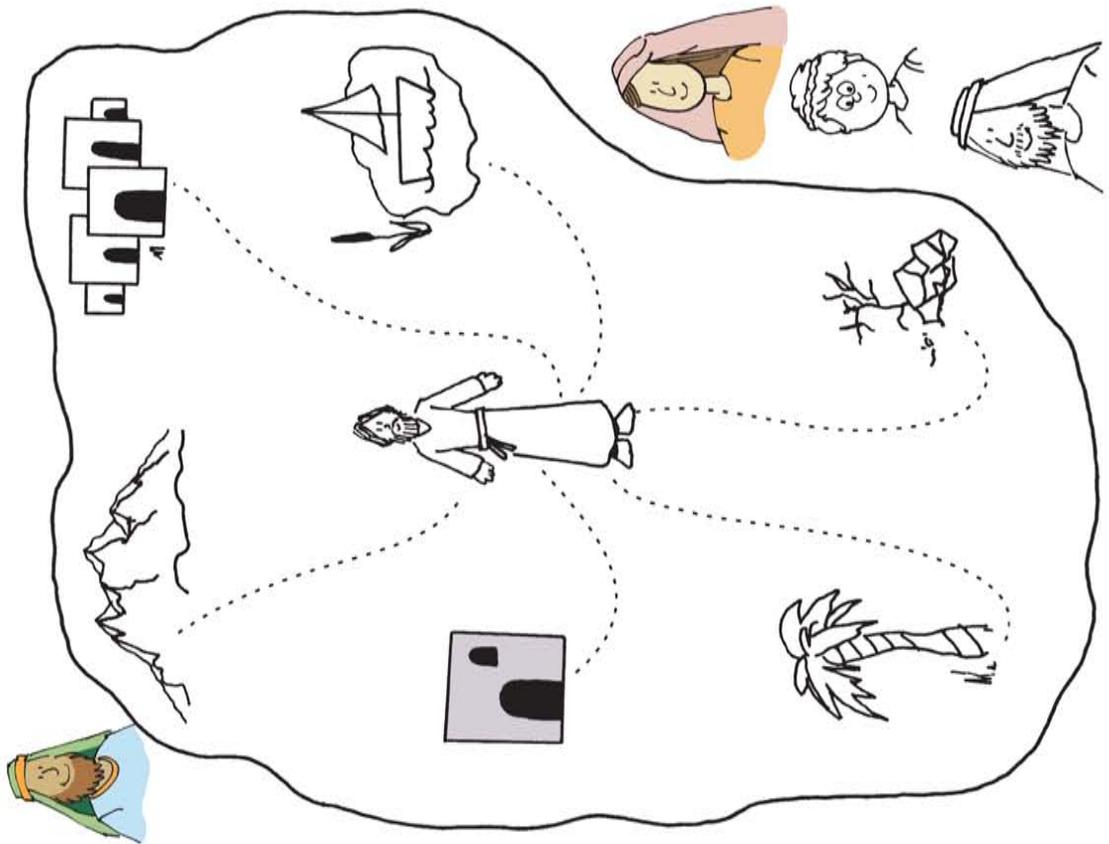
Saturday, February 17, 1 PM - Catholic Daughters meeting in the Parish Center.

Save the Date: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 6 PM – Annual Soup and Bread Dinner in the School Gym. Good will offerings are accepted. All proceeds will be divided among the charities. St Vincent De Paul, The Inn, Island Harvest and Hope House. This Lenten practice should be continued so that we may come together to help our brothers and sisters in need.

Catholic Daughters always welcomes new members. For information, please contact Rosemary Brunoforte at 516-796-0021.

Jesus traveled all over Galilee, preaching and healing the people.

Follow the lines and help Jesus travel.



Children's Worship Bulletin

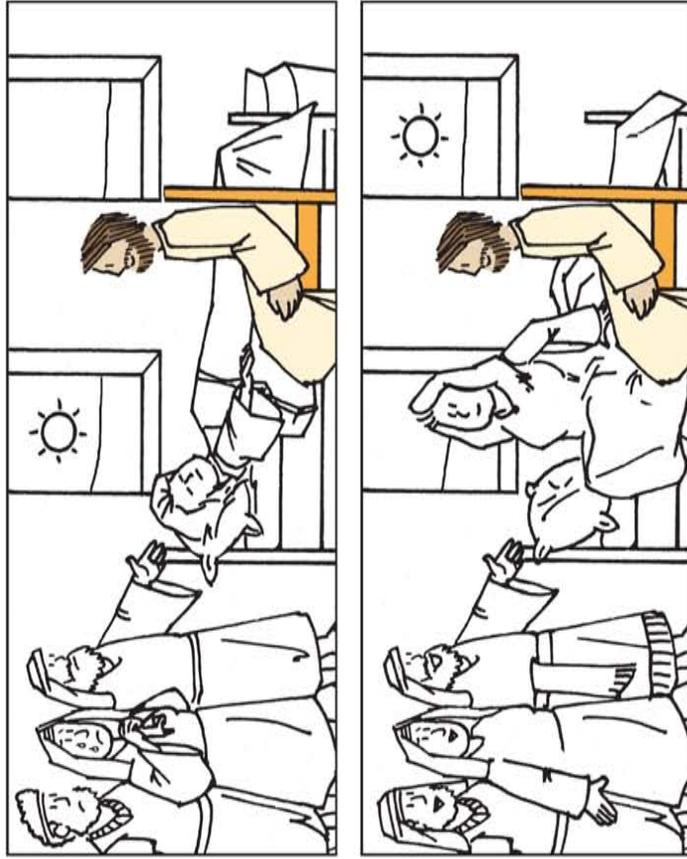
Ages 3-6

February 4, 2018 • Mark 1:29-39

Jesus Heals Many People

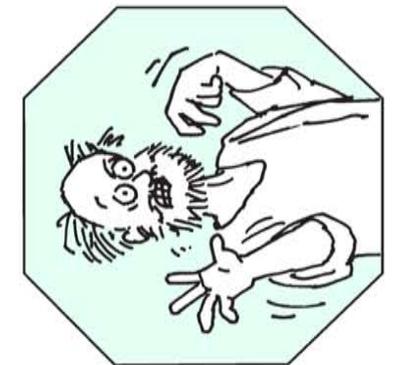
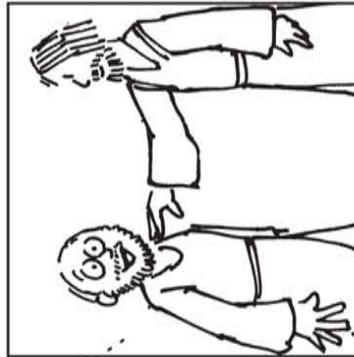
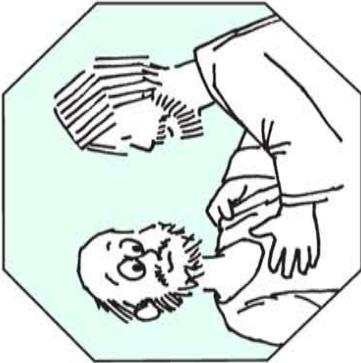
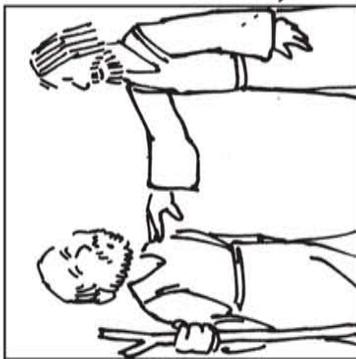
Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever. Jesus took her hand, and she was healed.

Circle 9 differences in the 2nd picture.



That evening, people brought the sick to Jesus. He healed many of them.

Match the shapes.



Early in the morning, Jesus went off alone to pray.

Trace the lines.

Find the quiet place where Jesus prayed.



UPCOMING EVENTS

In Celebration of
St. Bernard's 70th Anniversary
The Renaissance Committee
Presents

Candy Bar Bingo!!



Saturday, February 17, 2018
at 6:00pm

St. Bernard's Cafeteria

Admittance Fee: One large size
candy bar
8 games of bingo

Chances to win fun prizes and
Chinese Auction, too!

Hot dogs and snacks
will be available for purchase
Fun for the whole family!!

For more information:
susan.maher3@verizon.net
(516) 633-8960



Catholic Daughters
of the Americas®

2018 Lenten Soup and Bread Supper



Wednesday, March 7th,
6PM

St. Bernard's School
Gymnasium
3100 Hempstead Turnpike
Levittown, NY 11756

"Good Will Offering Appreciated"

All proceeds will be divided among the charities: St
Vincent De Paul, The Inn, Island Harvest and
Hope House. This Lenten practice should be
continued so that we may come together to help
our brothers and sisters in need.

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