

The Church of St. Bernard of Clairvaux & St. Stanislaus Kostka

September 14, 2025

Phone: 908-756-3393

Fax: 908-756-3059

E-mail: office@bestchurch.net

Website: www.bestchurch.net

The people of St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Stanislaus Kostka are a "Living Mosaic of God's People," who seek salvation through worship, education, stewardship and service, proclaiming our faith in God and in our heritages.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. Marcin Fuks

Pastor

pastor@bestchurch.net

908-756-3393 Ext - 101

Rev. Bernardo Garcia

Parochial Vicar

vicar@bestchurch.net

908-756-3393 Ext - 102

Karole Lechowski

Secretary

office@bestchurch.net

908-756-3393

General Mailbox ext. 100

Iveth Parada

Religious Education

bestreligioused@gmail.com

908-756-3393 Ext - 103

NEW MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY MASS OF ANTICIPATION

5:00PM- English

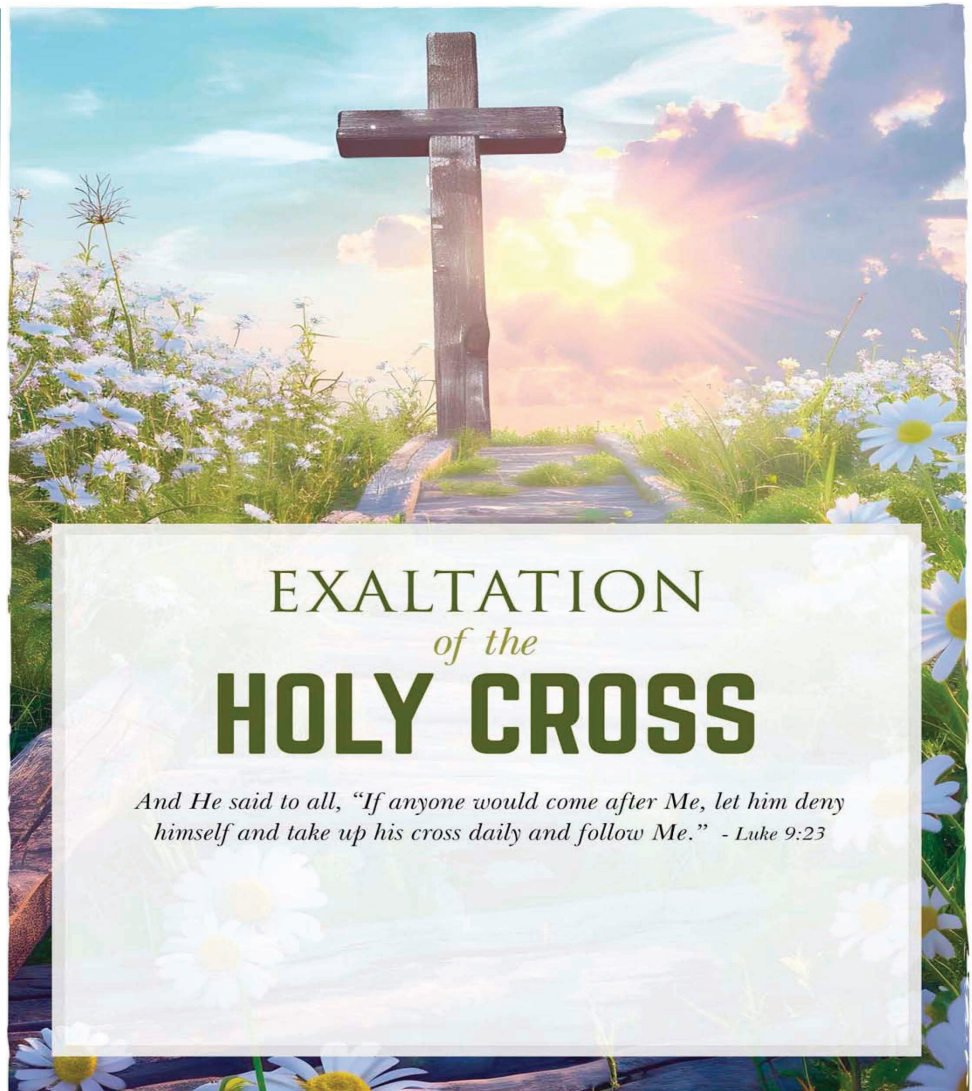
SUNDAY

9:00AM – English

10:30AM – Polish

12:00PM – English

1:30PM – Spanish



EXALTATION *of the* HOLY CROSS

And He said to all, "If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me." - Luke 9:23

CHURCH ADDRESS

1235 George Street
Plainfield, NJ 07062

OFFICES & MAILING ADDRESS

1232 George Street
Plainfield, NJ 07062

Saturday and Sunday: Closed
or by appointment

Monday - Friday: 10:00 am-2:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATIONS

Saturday: 4:15 pm

By request: After Mass

Sunday - Saturday: Mornings

Mass Intentions



FOR THE WEEK

Saturday – September 13... St. John Chrysostom

9:00AM... + Margaret Merkle, req. Johanna Merkle

5:00PM... + Bob Chanda, req. Mary Ellen Chanda

Sunday – September 14...24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

9:00AM... Aydin Mathias 6th Birthday, Gammy and Pa

10:30AM... + Maria Keder 4. rocznica śmierci

od rodziny Radicki

+ Horst Steinkamp, od Rodzina

Polskie dzieci szkolne, nauczyciele i rodzice

12:00 Noon... Doreen Kruse 95th Birthday,

from her Loving Family

1:30PM ... People of the Parish

Monday – September 15...Our Lady of Sorrows

9:00AM... + Dominick Lombardi, req. Negri Family

Tuesday – September 16...St. Cornelius, Pope and St. Cyprian

9:00AM... + Jerry Signorelli - Birthday in Heaven,

req. Beverly and Peter Cirino

Wednesday – September 17... St. Robert Bellamine and St. Hildegard of Bingen

9:00AM... + People of the Parish

Thursday – September 18...Weekday

9:00AM... + Frank Wood, req. Family

Friday – September 19... St. Januarius

9:00AM... Birthday Blessings for Eric, req. Mother

Saturday – September 20...St. Andrew Kim Tae-gon and St. Paul Chong Ha-sang

9:00AM... Mike Amadin, req. Mother Esther,

5:00PM... + Muriel Siccardi, req. Parish Family

Sunday – September 21...25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM ... + Mary Barnett, REQ. Parish Family

10:30AM...

12:00 Noon... + Cara and Bill Jennings, req. Family

1:30PM... People of the Parish

STEWARDSHIP

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son." JOHN 3:16

God created us to be in relationship with Him. Sin broke that relationship. Jesus came to earth so that we may reconcile our relationship with God. Following Jesus' example, we can be blessed with a joy-filled life on earth and eternal life in Heaven. These four points are known as the "kerygma" – the first proclamation of the Gospel. This core message is the basis of our Catholic faith. How do you live this out in your daily life?

The Tabernacle Candle will burn this week in **Memory of Stella Gabrukiewicz- Sopko at the request of Daughter Karole and Son Richard.**

The Bread and Wine for the **Month of September is in Memory of Stella and Stephen Sopko at the request the family.**

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for those whose health is challenged in any way especially for **Marian Parcinski, Olivia Schiffer, Al Caraldo, Margaret Macknowsky and Jim Rushforth.**

OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all the **Faithful Departed especially for Theophilus A. Joseph**

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

First Reading: Numbers 21:4b-9

The Jews were complaining against God and Moses of the tiring journey through the desert. The Lord punished them for such complaints with the bite of deadly serpents. After hearing the prayers of Moses for his people, the Lord instructed Moses to cure those who became ill with a bronze serpent mounted to a pole for them to see.

Second Reading: Philippians 2:6-11

In this letter to the Philippians, Paul tells us how Jesus set aside his form of equality to God and took on a humble, human form - obedient even unto death. God the Father greatly exalted Jesus because of this.

Gospel Reading: John 3:13-17

As today's first reading tells us of Moses raising the bronze serpent in the desert for those to be cured, Jesus says, too, that the Son of Man should be lifted up for all to see so the world might be saved and he who believes in him might enjoy eternal life.

La Exaltación de la Santa Cruz

"Porque de tal manera amó Dios al mundo, que dio a su Hijo unigénito." Juan 3:16

Dios nos creó para tener una relación con Él. El pecado rompió esa relación. Jesús vino a la tierra para que pudiéramos reconciliar nuestra relación con Dios. Siguiendo el ejemplo de Jesús, podemos ser bendecidos con una vida llena de alegría en la tierra y con la vida eterna en el Cielo. Estos cuatro puntos son conocidos como el "kerigma" - la primera proclamación del Evangelio. Este mensaje central es la base de nuestra fe católica. ¿Cómo vivimos esto en nuestra vida diaria?



Religious

Education

2025 - 2026

Registration received after September 8, will incur a late fee of \$50.

Mark Your Calendars!



Newark Archdiocesan Jubilee Year Pilgrimage

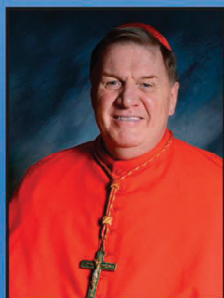
**Basilica of the National Shrine
of the Immaculate Conception**

If you are interested in going
to Washington, DC
to Washington for the Jubilee

Saturday, October 18, 2025

Year Pilgrimage, please call
the office. We need to know

how many people are
interested in order to arrange
for a bus. Those interested,
please contact the office!!!



Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.





Polskie Duszpasterstwo w Parafii św. Bernarda i św. Stanisława Kostki

PODWYŻSZENIE KRZYŻA ŚWIĘTEGO

Kazanie św. Andrzeja z Krety, biskupa

Obchodzimy dzisiaj uroczystość krzyża świętego, który usunął ciemności i przywrócił światło. Obchodzimy uroczystość krzyża i w ten sposób wraz z

Ukrzyżowanym wznosimy się ku górze, abyśmy porzuciwszy ziemię i grzechy, osiągnęli dobra niebieskie. Oto jak wspaniałą i niezrównaną rzeczą jest posiadanie krzyża. Kto krzyż posiada, posiada skarb. Słusznie nazwałem skarbem to, co z imienia i w rzeczywistości jest najwspanialsze z wszystkich dóbr. Przez niego bowiem, dzięki niemu i w nim objawia się istota naszego zbawienia i powrót do pierwotnego stanu.

Gdyby nie było krzyża, Chrystus nie zostałby ukrzyżowany. Gdyby nie było krzyża, Życie nie zostałoby przybite gwoździami do drzewa. Gdyby nie było przybite gwoździami, z boku nie wypłynęłyby krew i woda dla oczyszczenia świata, dokument grzechu nie zostałby zniszczony, nie otrzymalibyśmy wolności, nie radowalibyśmy się drzewem życia, raj nie zostałby otwarty. Jeśliby nie było krzyża, śmierć nie byłaby zwyciężona, piekło nie zostałoby pozbawione swej mocy.

Wielką zaiste i cenną rzeczą jest krzyż. Wielką, ponieważ przezeń otrzymaliśmy wiele dóbr, o tyle więcej, o ile większość z nich jest owocem cudów i cierpień Chrystusa. Cenną zaś, ponieważ krzyż jest znakiem męki i tryumfu Boga: znakiem męki z powodu dobrowolnej w męce śmierci; znakiem tryumfu, ponieważ dzięki niemu szatan został zraniony, a wraz



Polska Szkoła Doksztalająca

im. Juliana Ursyna Niemcewicza

365 Emerson Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07062 - adres szkoły

1232 George Street, Plainfield, NJ 07062 - adres korespondencyjny

E-mail: polskaszkoalaplainfield@outlook.com, Telefon Dyrektora: 732 261 4276



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Tel. (732) 261-4276

- Zajęcia w poniedziałki: 5:30 - 8:00 pm
- Klasy: Przedszkole - Liceum (klasa maturalna)
- Aktywna społeczność: uczniowie, rodzice i nauczyciele
- Przedstawienia, konkursy, warsztaty, wycieczki szkolne, wspaniałe wydarzenia z okazji Świąt Bożego Narodzenia i Wielkanocy, bal karnawałowy, piknik szkolny, oraz dużo więcej!
- Prawie 25 lat doświadczenia z wykwalifikowaną kadrą pedagogiczną

z nim została pokonana śmierć; ponieważ bramy piekła zostały skruszone, krzyż zaś stał się dla całego świata powszechnym znakiem zbawienia.

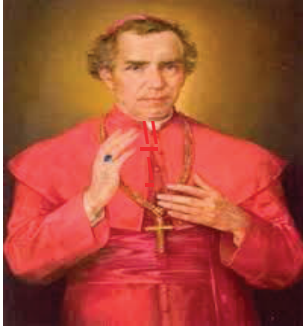
Krzyż jest chwałą i wywyższeniem Chrystusa. Jest kosztownym kielichem obejmującym wszystkie cierpienia, jakie Chrystus za nas poniósł. O tym, że krzyż jest chwałą Chrystusa, dowiedz się z Jego własnych słów: "Teraz Syn Człowieczy został otoczony chwałą, a w Nim Bóg został chwałą otoczony i zaraz Go chwałą otoczy". I znowu: "Ojcze, otocz Mnie u siebie tą chwałą, którą miałem u Ciebie pierwaj, zanim świat powstał". I jeszcze: "Ojcze, wsław imię Twoje. Wtem rozległ się głos z nieba: Już wsławiłem i jeszcze wsławię". Słowa te wskazywały na chwałę, którą miał otrzymać na krzyżu.

O tym zaś, że krzyż jest także wywyższeniem Chrystusa, posłuchaj, jak sam powiada: "A Ja, gdy zostanę wywyższony nad ziemię, pociągnę wszystkich do siebie". Widzisz więc: Krzyż jest chwałą i wywyższeniem Chrystusa.

14 Wrzesnia – 10:30AM

Msza Niedzielną na rozpoczęcie Nowego
Roku Szkolnego

Po Mszy – Zebranie rodziców w Kafeterii
Szkolnej

The Saint of the Week**St. Zygmunt Szczesny Felinski**

During last Summer I was able to get three relics of saints from Poland. Today, I present to you St. Zygmunt Szczesny Felinski.

He was born on 1 November 1822 in Wojutyn, Volinia (present-day Ukraine), then Russian territory. He was the third of six children, of whom four survived.

Felinski was raised with faith and trust in Divine Providence, love for the Church and for Polish culture. His father died when he was 11, and in 1838 the Russians exiled his mother to Siberia for "involvement in patriotic activity" that is, working for farmers' rights.

Felinski studied mathematics at the University of Moscow (1840-44) and in 1847 went to the Sorbonne University and the Collège de France in Paris to study French literature. He was in touch with all the important Polish emigrants and took part in the unsuccessful Revolt of Poznań.

In 1851 he returned to Poland. He entered the diocesan seminary at Zytomierz and studied at the Catholic Academy of St Petersburg. He was ordained a priest on 8 September 1855 and assigned to the Dominican Fathers' Parish of St Catherine of Siena in St Petersburg until 1857, when the Bishop appointed him spiritual director of the Ecclesiastical Academy and professor of philosophy. In 1856 he founded a charitable organization for the poor, and in 1857, the Congregation of the Franciscan Sisters of the Family of Mary. On 6 January 1862, Pope Pius IX appointed Fr. Felinski Archbishop of Warsaw.

The Russians had brutally suppressed the Polish uprising in Warsaw in 1861. On 13 February 1862, the new Archbishop reconsecrated the Cathedral of Warsaw, which had been desecrated by the Russian troops. Three days later he opened all the churches with the solemn celebration of the "Forty Hours" Devotion.

Zygmunt Felinski was Archbishop of Warsaw in the turbulent period from 9 February 1862 to 14 June 1863. Unfortunately, he met with distrust on the part of some, even clergy, since the Russian

Government had led people to believe that he was collaborating secretly with the Government. The Archbishop always showed clearly he was at the service of the Church alone and strove to eliminate government interference in the internal affairs of the Church. In reforming the diocese, he regularly visited all the parishes and charitable organizations on order to address their needs better. He reformed the syllabus of the Ecclesiastical Academy of Warsaw and of the diocesan seminaries, giving a new impetus to the spiritual and intellectual development of the clergy. He took steps to obtain the release of priests in prison, and he encouraged them to proclaim the Gospel publicly, to catechize their parishioners, to open parish schools and to educate a new generation that would be devout and honest. He also cared for the poor and opened an orphanage in Warsaw that he entrusted to the Sisters of the Family of Mary.

Archbishop Felinski strove to prevent the nation from making rash moves and, as a protest against the Russians' bloody repression of the "January Uprising" in 1863, protested against the hanging of a Capuchin priest and chaplain of the "rebels".

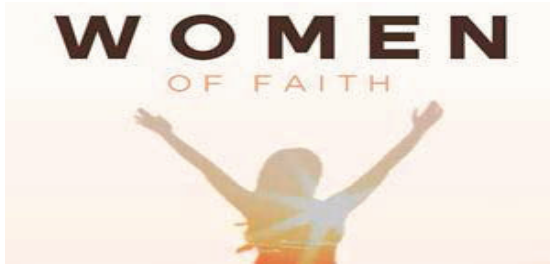
For his actions, he was deported to Siberia, where he spent the next 20 years. Yet he managed to organize works of mercy for his fellow prisoners, especially the priests, and even the building of a Catholic church. The people were impressed by his spirituality and nicknamed him the "holy Polish Bishop." Archbishop Felinski was released on 15 March 1883, and Leo XIII transferred him from the See of Warsaw to the titular See of Tarsus. For the last 12 years of his life he lived in semi-exile, serving as parish priest in south-eastern Galizia at Dzwiniaczka, among farmers of Polish and Ukrainian origin. As chaplain of the public chapel of the local manor, he undertook an intense pastoral work. He set up the first school and a kindergarten in the village at his own expense. He also built a church and convent for his Franciscan Sisters of the Family of Mary, and found the time to prepare for publication the works he had written in exile.

He died in Kraków on 17 September 1895. John Paul II beatified on 18 August 2002.

Do not forget the

WORKS
of the Lord





Calling all Women of Faith!

We are excited to share the Fall meeting schedule for the re-launch of the Parish Women's Faith and Fellowship Group at St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Stanislaus Kostka.

Our first gathering will be **Thursday, September 25, 2025, from 5:30–7:00 PM in the Parish Center, with additional fall meetings on October 23, November 20, and December 11 at the same time.**

Each evening will include prayer, Scripture reflection, faith-sharing, and fellowship, with a light dinner served. All women are warmly invited to join us as we grow together in faith, friendship, and service. Bring a friend and be part of this vibrant community!

Please call the Parish to RSVP, so we can plan for food. For more information, please contact:

Mary Landriau
mlandriau703@verizon.net.

ROSARY SOCIETY



The Rosary is prayed every day before the 9AM Mass followed by the Divine Mercy Prayers.

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed on Thursdays after the Mass concluding with Benediction at 10:45AM.

CHOIR

Our choir is back!
Why not join us.

Practice will be in the church on Thursday evenings at 7:00PM. If you are interested in more information, please call the office, or stop by after 9AM Sunday Mass to talk to our Cantor. We would love for you to join in to enhance our Choir.



CHAIR EXERCISE

Patty Casterline has offered to lead us once again in the Chair Exercises. We are planning for Tuesday afternoons for 6 weeks starting **October 7th at 1:30PM**. If you are interested, please call the office.

The Disciple Maker Index Survey

Our Parish along with other parishes of the Archdiocese of Newark participated in a study, under the guidance of Catholic Leadership Institute. 113 people participated in the study that's make 31% of the average Sunday mass goers.

In the section pointing towards Strengths of the parish, we can see the strong belief that:

- Eucharist is the body and blood of Christ - **69% - strongly agree**
- Scripture is the word of God – **68% - strongly agree**
- **62%** would strongly recommend our parish to other people
- **83%** weekly mass attendance;
- **64%** of parishioners spend daily on individual prayer time
- **43%** pray daily or weekly pray with someone else

In the section of the Opportunities, where we can improve as a parish:

- **Only 26% strongly agree** to the confidence in the teachings of the church
- **38% strongly agree** that through the parish are formed as a disciple
- **Only 12% participate** in the sacrament of confession once a month and **23%** never goes to confession
- Almost half of the (**48%**) never participated in a retreat

Those are some of the areas that we as a Parish have a chance to improve. In order to help us to deepen our faith in Christ and the teaching of the church, as well as to be more successful disciple, we will begin this year a series of talks/Catechesis for the adults and youth that will help us to support the growth of our parish in the future!!!

Thank you to all of you who participated in this survey!!!

ASSISTANTS NEEDED

We are in need of assistance for

- Religious Education - Wednesday evenings
- Chapel on Sunday 9AM Mass
- Eucharistic Ministers to homebound and for the Sunday Masses.

For more information, please call the office.

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)

For those Catholics who did not complete their full initiation (Catholics who may have been baptized but who were never confirmed or received First Communion), or are non-Catholics who are considering becoming Catholic, we offer the time of preparation that will begin on **September 22nd** (Monday) at **6:30PM in the parish office.**

If you are interested in learning more about the Christian faith, the Catholic Church, or about becoming Catholic, please fill out the form below or contact:

Fr. Bernardo, at vicar@bestchurch.net.



ON LINE GIVING

IT IS POSSIBLE TO AUTOMATE YOUR FAITH GIVING TO "PARISH GIVING." SIMPLY GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

COLLECTION FOR SEPTEMBER 7

ONLINE...\$ 2,789

IN PEW...\$ 3,737

TOTAL... \$ 6,526

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS



- Visit: www.formed.org/signup
- Find St. Bernard and Stanislaus by parish name, address, or zip code
- Enter your email – and you are in.

SACRAMENT of RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on a regular basis on Saturdays at 4:15PM and on Sunday mornings after Masses as well as after weekday Masses simply by requesting a celebration of the Sacrament.

From Fr. Marcin's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today's first reading speaks to us of the people's journey through the desert. This people reminds us of the Church as she makes her way across the desert of the contemporary world, reminds us of the People of God composed, for the most part, of families.

This makes us think of families, our families, walking along the paths of life with all their day to day experiences. Families are the first place in which we are formed as persons and, at the same time, the "bricks" for the building up of society.

At a certain point, "the people became impatient on the way." They are tired, water supplies are low and all they have for food is manna, which, although plentiful and sent by God, seems far too meager in a time of crisis. And so they complain and protest against God and against Moses: "Why did you make us leave?" They are tempted to turn back and abandon the journey.

The poisonous serpents come and bite the people, and many die. This causes the people to repent and to turn to Moses for forgiveness, asking him to beseech the Lord so that he will cast out the snakes. Moses prays to the Lord, and the Lord offers a remedy: a bronze serpent set on a pole; whoever looks at it will be saved from the deadly poison of the vipers.

What is the meaning of this symbol? God does not destroy the serpents, but rather offers an "antidote": by means of the bronze serpent fashioned by Moses, God transmits his healing strength, namely his mercy, which is more potent than the Tempters poison.

As we have heard in the Gospel, Jesus identifies himself with this symbol: out of love the Father "has given" his only begotten Son so that men and women might have eternal life. Such immense love of the Father spurs the Son to become man, to become a servant and to die for us upon a cross. Out of such love, the Father raises up his son, giving him dominion over the entire universe. Whoever entrusts himself to Jesus crucified receives the mercy of God and finds healing from the deadly poison of sin.

Fr. Marcin

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