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

Phone: 908-756-3393
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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

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Karole Lechowski Secretary

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Iveth Parada Religious Education

bestreligioused@gmail.com 908-756-3393 Ext - 103

NEW MASS SCHEDULE

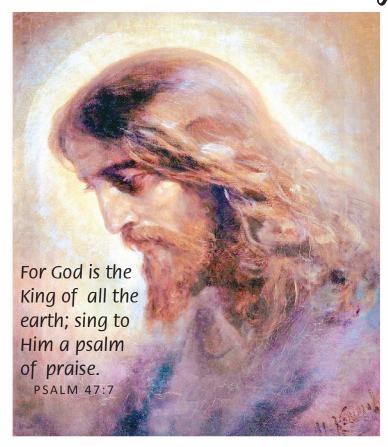
SATURDAY MASS OF ANTICIPATION

5:00PM- English

SUNDAY

9:00AM – English 10:30AM – Polish 12:00PM – English 1:30PM – Spanish

Feast of Christ the King



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



Saturday - November 22... St. Cecilia

9:00AM... + Dora Clancy and Terence Byrne, req. Kruse Family

5:00PM...+ Mr. and Mrs. Louis A. Tierno, reg. Mr. and Mrs. Michael Barrow

Sunday – November 23...Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe

9:00AM ...Sanai Mathias, req. Gammy and Pa 10:30AM... Genia Polakowska,Boże błogosławieństwa na urodziny, od Siostra Agnieszka z Rodziną

+ 2. Rocznica, Edmund Grzymała, od Rodziny

+ Leszek Rutkowski 1. Rocznica

12:00 Noon... + Stephen Mc Coy, Kruse Family

1:30PM...+ People of the Parish

Monday – November 24...St. Andrew Düng-Ląc, 9:00AM...+ Laurence O'Brien, req. Kruse Family

Tuesday – November 25...St. Catherine of Alexandria 9:00AM... Esther Amadin Birthday Blessings, req. Children

Wednesday - November 26...Weekday

9:00AM...+ Dorothy and Dean Plante, req. Kruse Family

Thursday – November 27... Thanksgiving Day 9:00AM...+ Maddalena Luongo, Birthday in Heaven, req. Aunt Anna Maria

Friday - November 28... Weekday

9:00AM...+ Amparo Salgado, req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

Saturday – November 29... Weekday

9:00AM... + All Souls in Purgatory, req. Alba Ledy Cuartas 5:00PM...+ Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Barrow, req. Mr. and Mrs. Michael Barrow

Sunday - November 30...First Sunday of Advent

9:00AM ...+ Mona Conte, req. Armond and Anna Apisa 10:30AM... Włodzimierz Wyszowski 5.,

od Córka i Rodziną zenia urodzinowe dla Karolin

... Życzenia urodzinowe dla Karoliny Szkody, od Matka

12:00 Noon... + Gail Bardon, req. Kruse Family 1:30PM... People of the Parish

STEWARDSHIP

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the

<u>Universe</u> "...Rather, we wanted to present ourselves as a model for you, so that you might imitate us." 2 THESSALONIANS 3:9

Most people who live a grateful and generous lifestyle don't go around bragging about it. But through their words and actions, others do take notice. They notice because of the joy and peace that results and others desire this in their own life. Know that the way you live your life may be the only interaction others may have with our Catholic faith.

The Tabernacle Candle will burn this week for **all our Parish Faithful Departed.**

The Bread and Wine for the Month of November is in Memory of **Antonio Simeone at the request** of Daughter Maria and Family.

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

OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all the Faithful Departed.

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING

First Reading: 2 Samuel 5:1-3

Samuel describes how all the tribes of Israel went to David in Hebron and said they were his bone and his flesh and it was he who led them back to Israel. The Lord told David he would be a shepherd to His people. David made an agreement with the elders and was anointed king.

Second Reading: Colossians 1:12-20

Paul explains to the Colossians that God has made them fit to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light and that through the Son we have redemption and forgiveness of sin. He describes Jesus as the image of the invisible God, the head of the church and in Him all things hold together.

Gospel: Luke 23:35-43

Jesus is mocked by the crowd as he hung on the cross. Above him was an inscription that read "This is the king of the Jews." One of the men being crucified with Jesus tells Him to save them and Himself, while the other asks that he be remembered when Jesus is in his kingdom. Jesus said in reply, "Amen I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Solemnidad de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo, Rey del Universo

"...dar gracias al Padre que nos ha capacitado para compartir la herencia de los santos en la luz."

COLOSENSES 1:12

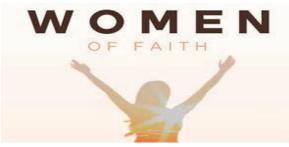
¡Dios quiere que seamos felices! En lugar de mirar a los Diez Mandamientos como restricciones que nos dicen lo que no podemos hacer, mírelos más bien como una guia para vivir una vida llena de paz y alegría. La mayoría de nuestros problemas salen a la luz cuando ponemos nuestras necesidades en primer lugar o cuando pasamos la mayor parte de nuestro tiempo tratando de adquirir más cosas. En su lugar, trate de poner a Dios primero en todas las cosas. Fuimos hechos por Dios. ¡Abra su corazón y permítale a Él entrar!



Religious Classes Wednesday 6:30pm – 7:45pm

Classes are in the school building. Parents are required to pick up their children from the cafeteria at 7:45PM.

All Religious Education children are required to attend Sunday Mass every weekend and have their booklet signed.



Calling all Women of Faith!

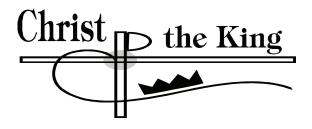
We are excited to share the Fall meeting schedule for the re-launch of the Parish Women's Faith and Fellowship Group at St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Stanislaus Kostka. Our Last Meeting of 2025 is Thursday, December 11th in the Parish Center 5:30-7:00PM, with additional meetings for 2026 to be announced.

We included prayer, Scripture reflection, faithsharing, and fellowship, with a light dinner served. All women were warmly invited to join us as we grow together in faith, friendship, and service.

We hope to continue this group soon.

Our Women's Group would like to thank all who contributed food items to help replenish local pantries over the past 2 weeks.

Please continue to bring food items to support Starfish. You may leave them in the open area of the church.



ROSARY BAKE SALE



After all the Masses this weekend



Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)

Mondays at 7:00PM in the parish office.

Please contact: Fr. Bernardo, at vicar@bestchurch.net.

Baptismal Preparation

For all new parents who want to baptize their children, please contact the office. This year we have begun a new pastoral for the baptism of children. The baptismal talks will be given at the homes of the parents. One of the priests accompanied by a family will give a preparation at the homes. The aim of the catechesis is to illuminate the Christian faith in the lives of the parents and to invite them to live the sacrament seriously, so that they will be able to fulfil their mission in transmitting the faith and to live the sacrament that they are asking for their children.

PRE-CANA Preparation

Due to Thanksgiving we will meet this Monday at 8:00PM for the Pre-Cana preparation.

Thanksgiving Day Mass

We will celebrate Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 27 with a Mass at 9:00AM. The office will be closed Thursday and Friday.

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

JEZUSA CHRYSTUSA, KRÓLA WSZECHŚWIATA

Z dzieła Orygenesa, kapłana, O modlitwie
Jeśli według słów Pana i Zbawiciela naszego
"królestwo Boże nie przychodzi dostrzegalnie i nie
powiedzą: oto tu jest albo tam; ale królestwo Boże jest
w nas, bo bliskie jest słowo, na naszych ustach i w
naszym sercu", to niewątpliwie ten, kto się modli o jego
przyjście, prosi tym samym, aby królestwo, które jest w
nim, rozwijało się, owocowało i dopełniało. Bóg bowiem
króluje w każdym spośród świętych i każdy z nich
posłuszny jest duchowym przykazaniom Boga. W takim
człowieku Bóg mieszka jakby w mieście dobrze
uporządkowanym. Ojciec jest w nim obecny, a wraz z
Ojcem króluje w duszy doskonałej Chrystus, zgodnie ze
słowami: "Do niego przyjdziemy i mieszkanie u niego
uczynimy".

To zaś królestwo Boże, które jest w nas, w miarę naszego ustawicznego postępu osiągnie doskonałość, gdy się wypełnią słowa Apostoła, że Chrystus, pokonawszy wszystkich swoich nieprzyjaciół, przekaże "królowanie Bogu i Ojcu, aby Bóg był wszystkim we wszystkich". Dlatego modląc się nieustannie z przebóstwionym dzięki Słowu sercem, mówmy do Ojca naszego, który jest w niebie: "Święć się imię Twoje, przyjdź królestwo Twoje".

Co zaś dotyczy samego królestwa Bożego, należy pamiętać, że jak "sprawiedliwość nie ma nic wspólnego z niesprawiedliwością" ani też jak "nic wspólnego nie ma światło z ciemnością", ani wreszcie jak nie ma "wspólnoty Chrystusa z Belialem", tak też królestwo Boże jest nie do pogodzenia z królestwem grzechu.

Jeśli zatem chcemy, aby Bóg w nas królował, "niechaj grzech nie króluje w naszym śmiertelnym ciele", ale raczej zadajmy śmierć "temu, co jest przyziemne w naszych członkach", by wydać owoce Ducha. Wtedy Pan przechadzać się będzie w nas, jakby w duchowym raju, królując nad nami wraz ze swym Chrystusem. On to zasiądzie w nas po prawicy mocy duchowej, której pragniemy dostąpić; On pozostanie, dopóki wszyscy Jego nieprzyjaciele w nas nie staną się "podnóżkiem Jego stóp", dopóki nie usunie spośród nas wszelkich Władz, Panowań i Zwierzchności.

Wszystko to dokonać się może w każdym z nas, a w końcu "jako ostatni wróg" ma być pokonana śmierć, aby i w nas rzekł Chrystus: "Gdzie jest, o śmierci, twój oścień, gdzie twe zwycięstwo, otchłani?" Odtąd to, co zniszczalne w nas, przyodzieje się w świętość i "niezniszczalność", i to, co "śmiertelne", po usunięciu śmierci przyodzieje się w "nieśmiertelność" Ojca. W ten



sposób Bóg będzie królował nad nami, my zaś będziemy się radować dobrodziejstwami odrodzenia i zmartwychwstania.

"Polonijne Śpiewanie" - 16 listopada



Statuetka im. Janiny Igielskiej to zaszczytne wyróżnienie przyznawane przez Centralę Polskich Szkół Dokształcających w Ameryce nauczycielom i działaczom polonijnym za wyjątkowe zaangażowanie na rzecz szkolnictwa polonijnego i Polonii w USA. W tym roku nagrodę otrzymały nasze byłej Pani Dyrektor: **Beata Benewiat** oraz była Wicedyrektor **Anna Benewiat** – jako wyraz uznania za ich pracę, poświęcenie i kunszt nauczycielski.

Następnie podziękowano Rodzicom, którzy niejednokrotnie poświęcają swój prywatny czas, by szkoły polonijne mogły działać sprawnie i prężnie. Wśród wyróżnionych znaleźli się: **Teresa Guzek, Aneta Szczygieł, Leszek Perlak**

Wyróżnienia otrzymali również nauczyciele. W gronie wyróżnionych znaleźli się także nasi pedagodzy: Joanna Błażejowicz, Joanna Gadomska oraz Magdalena Paździor- Gasior

The Saint of the Week



Saint Catherine of Alexandria is a canonized saint in the Catholic Church who, per Christian tradition, was martyred around 305 in Alexandria, Egypt. She is also recognized as the Great Martyr and Saint by the Orthodox Church. There are no surviving primary sources attesting to her existence, but the fact that her memory, and the stories about her have been kept alive and handed down in the tradition certainly confirm her existence, and her life of heroic virtue and holiness.

The young saint was born around 287 in Alexandria, Egypt. At that time, Alexandria was one of the finest cities in the world and a center of learning and culture as well as faith.

Christian tradition states she was of noble birth, possibly a princess. As a member of the nobility, she was also educated and was an avid scholar. Around the age of fourteen, she experienced a moving vision of Mary and the infant Jesus, and she decided to become a Christian.

Although she was a teenager, she was very intelligent and gifted. When the emperor Maxentius began persecuting Christians, Catherine visited him to denounce his cruelty.

Rather than order her execution, Maxentius summoned fifty orators and philosophers to debate her. However, Catherine was moved by the power of the Holy Spirit and spoke eloquently in defense of her faith. Her words were so moving that several of the pagans converted to Christianity and were immediately executed.

Unable to defeat her rhetorically or to intimidate her into giving up her belief, the emperor ordered her to be tortured and imprisoned.

Catherine was arrested and scourged. Despite the torture, she did not abandon her

faith. Word of her arrest and the power of her faith quickly spread, and over 200 people visited her. According to some legends, the emperor's own wife, Valeria Maximilla was converted by Catherine. The emperor eventually executed his own wife over her conversion.

Following her imprisonment, Maxentius made a final attempt to persuade the beautiful Catherine to abandon her faith by proposing marriage to her. This would have made her a powerful empress. Catherine refused, saying she was married to Jesus Christ and that her virginity was dedicated to him.

The emperor angrily ordered her to be executed on a breaking wheel. The breaking wheel is an ancient form of torture where a person's limbs are threaded among the spokes and their bones are shattered by an executioner with a heavy rod. It is a brutal punishment that results in a slow and painful death, normally reserved for the worst criminals.

When Catherine was presented before the wheel, she touched it and a miracle occurred that caused the wheel to shatter.

Unable to torture her to death, the emperor simply ordered her beheaded.

One account claimed that angels took her body to Mt. Sinai. In the sixth century, the Emperor Justinian ordered a monastery established in her name. The monastery, Saint Catherine's, remains to this day and is one of the oldest in the world.

Around the year 800, a legend spread that her body had been found with her hair still growing and a constant stream of oil coming from her body.

She is still venerated in the Eastern Orthodox Church as a Martyr. Many Roman Catholics also venerate her to this day as one of the great virgin saints of the early Church.

During the medieval period, St. Catherine was one of the most famous saints of the Church. She has been a popular subject in Renaissance art and many paintings from the period are dedicated to her.

Her feast day is Nov. 25, and she is the patron of a great many professions and causes. Her patronage includes students, unmarried girls, apologists and many more as well as many places around the world.

Knights Of Columbus

Any man 18 years or older who wishes to be a Knight can go to kofc.org and click on sign up, or contact



jabeckman111@gmail.com.

The K of C has many services to offer, and being a member is very rewarding.

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.

Best Church Seniors.

Next BestChurch Seniors Meeting will be on Thursday, December 18th at 12:30PM, celebrating Christmas with a light luncheon. All seniors or almost seniors are invited to attend.

So come join us, and as always...feel free to bring a friend.

ALTAR SERVERS

Be joyful to serve at the altar, to be closer to Jesus!

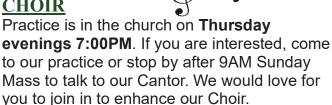


Serving God as an Altar Server is a wonderful way to grow in faith as well as in responsibility, friendship, and other virtues. Altar Servers make a difference! If you are interested in participating at Mass as an Altar Server, please contact Fr. Bernardo.



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- Enter your email and you are in

CHOIR



St. Bernard and St. Stanislaus Parish – **Financial Report**

INCOME - Sunday & Holy Days Offerings	6/30/2024 267,418	6/30/2025 254,220
-Christmas Collection - Easter Collection - Rental Income - Societies Account & Religious Ed Income - Candle Revenue - All other Income - Restricted Gifts - Interest Income	15,045 14,082 180,069 5,938 2,237 5,290 77,522 24,296	18,044 16,343 215,950 49,001 3,123 8,656 229,437 25,946
TOTAL INCOME	591,899	820,724
EXPENSE - Salaries & Benefits - Contract/Professional Service - Repairs & Maintenance - Insurance – Property & Auto - Utility Expense - Liturgical & Operating Supplie - Rectory Provisions - RCAN Assessments - Assistance to others - All Other Costs	30,985 41,335 70,725	169,656 37,095 78,668 102,504 110,469 35,645 13,215 129,583 6,140 112,404
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENCES:		
SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT)	595,259 (3,359)	795,379 25,345

FLOWER DONATIONS

Thank you all for your ongoing generous flower donations. It makes our church look so lively and beautiful, and it is

very much appreciated.

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

ASSISTANTS NEEDED

We offer Chapel on Sundays at the 9AM Mass during the readings and Gospel. The children leave the congregation with a teacher and discuss the Gospel according to their level of understanding for

about 10 minutes. We are in need of assistants for Chapel on Sundays at the 9AM Mass. This would only be **one Sunday a month during Mass**, and a lesson is planned for you to assist in this class. Please contact Karole or call the office for more information.

This is also a great opportunity for our Confirmation Students to earn service hours.

PARISH GIVING





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 NOVEMBER 16

ONLINE...\$ 1,003 IN PEW...\$ 4,624

TOTAL.....\$ 5,627
THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION

Roof Donation

Dear Brothers and Sisters, as I mentioned during the Parish Financial Report, we need to fix the roof of the school building. The work would have to happen sometime during the summer, but we need to begin to collect money for that project. If you want to help, you can write on your check's memo line: Restricted – Roof.

Thank you for your generosity!!!

From Fr. Marcin's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On this last Sunday of the liturgical year, we join our voices to that of the criminal crucified beside Jesus, who acknowledged and acclaimed Him a king. Amid cries of ridicule and humiliation, at the least triumphal and glorious moment possible, that thief was able to speak up and make his profession of faith. His were the last words Jesus heard, and Jesus' own words in reply were the last He spoke before abandoning Himself to the Father: "Truly I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

The thief was meant to be there to accompany the Lord's suffering. And that moment does nothing more than confirm the entire meaning of Jesus' life: always and everywhere to offer salvation. The attitude of the good thief makes the horror and injustice of Calvary – where helplessness and incomprehension are met with jeers and mockery from those indifferent to the death of an innocent man – become a message of hope for all humanity. "Save yourself!" The shouts of scornful derision addressed to the innocent victim of suffering will not be the last word; rather, they will awaken a response from those who let their hearts be touched, who choose compassion as the authentic way to shape history.

Today, in this place, we want to renew our faith and our commitment. We know too well the history of our failures, sins and limitations, even as the good thief did, but we do not want them to be what determines or defines our present and future. We know how readily all of us can take the easy route of shouting out: "Save yourself!" and choose not to think about our responsibility to alleviate the suffering of innocent people all around us. Like the good thief, we want to speak up and profess our faith, to defend and assist the Lord, the innocent man of sorrows. We want to accompany Him in His ordeal, to stand by Him in His isolation and abandonment, and to hear once more that salvation is the word the Father desires to speak to all: "Today you will be with me in Paradise."

On that day at Calvary, many voices remained silent; others jeered. Only the thief's voice rose to the defense of the innocent victim of suffering. His was a brave profession of faith. Each of us has the same possibility: we can choose to remain silent, to jeer or to prophesy.



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