

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

November 30, 2025

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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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Iveth Parada

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bestreligioused@gmail.com

908-756-3393 Ext - 103

NEW MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY MASS OF ANTICIPATION

5:00PM- English

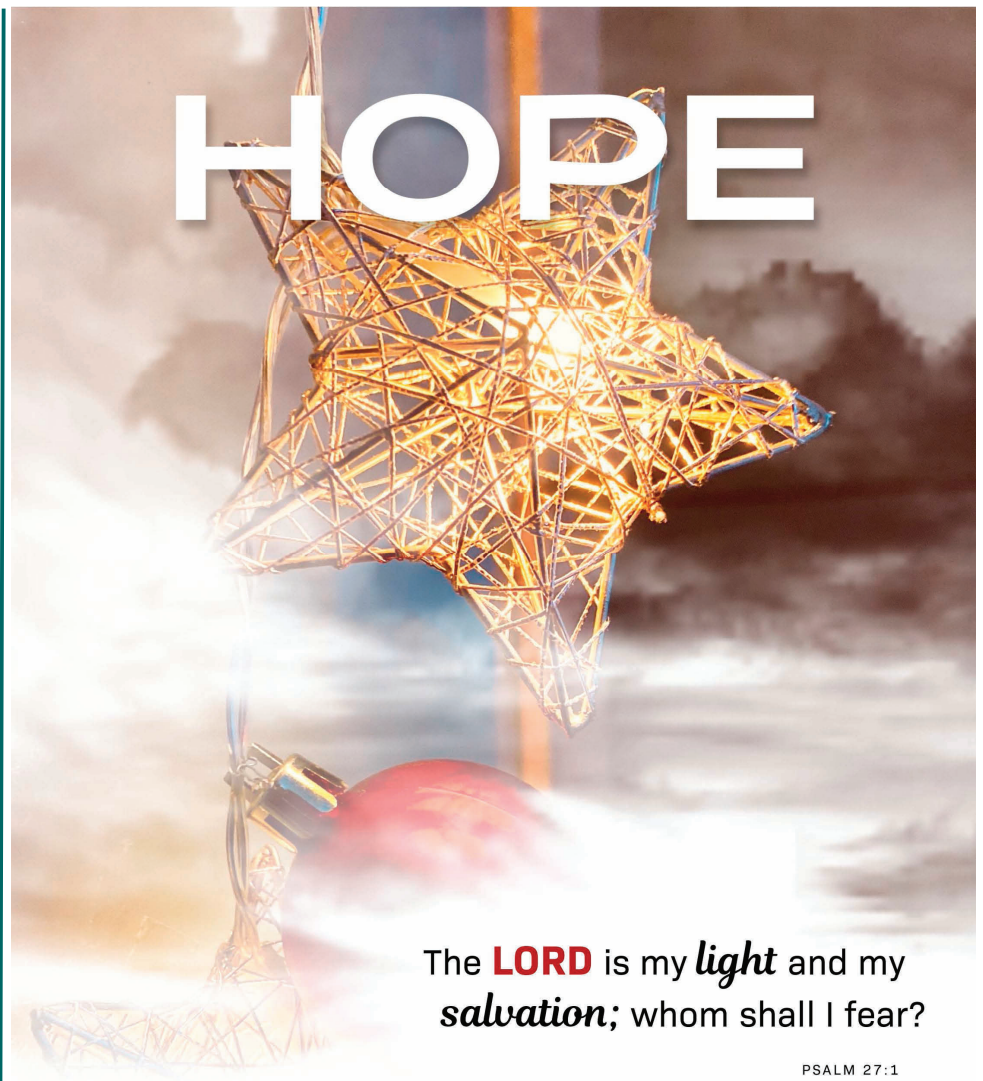
SUNDAY

9:00AM – English

10:30AM – Polish

12:00PM – English

1:30PM – Spanish



The **LORD** is my *light* and my
salvation; whom shall I fear?

PSALM 27:1

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 – 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
 ... Życzenia urodzinowe dla Karoliny Szkody,
 od Matka
 12:00 Noon... + Gail Bardon, req. Kruse Family
 1:30PM... People of the Parish

Monday – December 1...Advent Weekday

9:00AM...+ Anna and Vincenzo Rotondo, req. Antonia Riello

Tuesday – December 2... Advent Weekday

9:00AM... + Jerry Signorelli, req. Beverly and Peter Cirino

Wednesday – December 3...St. Francis Xavier

9:00AM...+ Ellen and Peter Tierney, req. Kruse Family

Thursday – December 4... St. John Damascene

9:00AM...+ Amerigo Negri, req. Wife and Children

Friday – December 5... Advent Weekday

9:00AM...+ Florence Crooke, req. Johanna Merkle
 7:00PM...(Pol.)

Saturday – December 6... St. Nicholas

9:00AM...+ Lawrence O'Brien and Kate, req. Kruse Family
 5:00PM...+ Patricia Jurevich, req. Mary Ellen Chanda, Sister

Sunday – December 7... Second Sunday of Advent

9:00AM... + Steven Williams, req. Dad
 10:30AM...+Horst Steinkamp, 2. Anniversary,
 od Rodzina
 12:00 Noon... Nicholas Seaver, Birthday Blessings,
 req. Bonnie Mahala
 1:30PM... People of the Parish

STEWARDSHIP

1st Sunday of Advent

"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." MATTHEW 24:42

People who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily and you begin to see God's active presence in your life. You grow in gratitude, each day, for all that we have been given.

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 Especially Clemens(Clay) Maria Gunther.**

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

The words of Isaiah urge all people to forsake war and to live in peace forever. The tone reaches a climax in the words, "One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again."

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Paul invites us to put away all the things of darkness and sin and to prepare for the coming of Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

A comparison is made between the destruction caused by the flood in Noah's time and the need to be prepared for the second coming of Christ. "You must be prepared in the same way. The Son of Man is coming at the time you least expect."

Domingo 1º de Adviento

"¡Por lo tanto, estén atentos! Porque no saben que día vendrá nuestro Señor." MATEO 24:42

Las personas que tienen problemas de salud o experiencias cercanas a la muerte generalmente tienen un mayor aprecio por cada día ya que es un don de nuestro Señor. El resto de nosotros usualmente da por sentado que estaremos aquí mañana. Sin embargo, cuando comience a mirar cada día como un don, se dará cuenta de todos los pequeños milagros que suceden diariamente y comenzará a ver la presencia activa de Dios en su vida. Crecerá en gratitud, cada día, por todo lo que ha recibido.

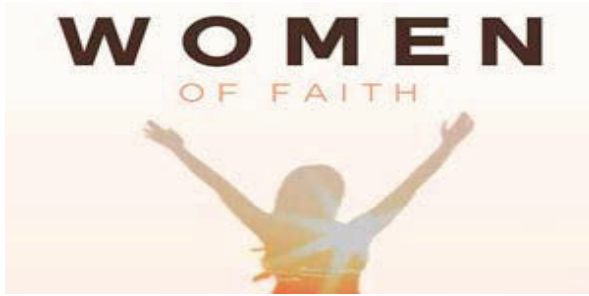
Religious Classes

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 next Meetings will be Thursday, December 11th and January 15th in the Parish Center 5:30-7:00PM.**

Each meeting 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.

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

Safe Environment

St. Bernard and St. Stanislaus Parish and the Archdiocese of Newark take very seriously any and all credible complaints of sexual abuse of minors by members of the clergy, religious, lay staff and volunteers of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual abuse of a minor to inform the Archdiocese immediately so that we can take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse.

201 407 3256

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

Thursday nights in the Office at 8:00PM

We await the Savior
EMMANUEL



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

FINANCIAL MISCONDUCT REPORTING TOOL

Pastors and administrators: Please include the following as a permanent notice in your parish bulletin:

Report Financial Misconduct Confidentially

If you suspect financial misconduct, use **EthicsPoint**, an independent and confidential reporting tool that helps the Archdiocesan community address issues while promoting positive parish, school and workplace environments. Visit www.rcan.org for the hotline and reporting link.



Polskie Duszpasterstwo w Parafii św. Bernarda i św. Stanisława Kostki 1 Niedziela Adwentu

Adwent, kolor fioletowy, roraty, wieniec z czterema świecami, roratka, kalendarz adwentowy, przygotowania do świąt Bożego Narodzenia, rekolekcje, spowiedź, a także zakupy, prezenty, porządki, przygotowanie potraw świątecznych....

To już ten czas. Co jest w tym wszystkim istotne, warte poświęcenia uwagi, o co chodzi tak naprawdę w tym, pobożnie nazwanym, świętym czasie adwentowym? Co oznacza samo słowo: „adwent”, zapożyczone z języka łacińskiego?

Słowo „adwent” (z łac. adventus) oznacza przyjście, przybycie. Jest to więc okres, który mówi nam o przyjściu, kogo? Naszego Zbawiciela.

W liturgii adwentu wspominamy:

1. Ostateczne przyjście Pana Jezusa na końcu czasów – tzw. paruzja
2. Przyjście Pana Jezusa na ziemię

Do 16 grudnia w liturgii Kościoła mamy czytania związane z powtórным przyjściem Jezusa w chwale; od 17 grudnia czytania związane są ściśle z Bożym Narodzeniem.

A co z trzecim przyjściem? Jezus przyszedł w ciele jako człowiek spędził na ziemi 33 lata, obiecał, że przygotuje nam w niebie miejsce, a potem przyjdzie powtórnie, aby zabrać nas ze sobą (zob. J 14,2). „Oczekujemy Twego przyjścia w

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14 grudnia 2025

- Stroiki należy wcześniej zamówić, abyśmy wiedzieli ile sztuk wykonać.
- Prosimy o złożenie zamówień do dnia **10 grudnia 2025**
Tel. Dorota Wilczynski 908 230-7960
Agnieszka Staniszevska 732 318-9311
- Dochód przeznaczony zostanie na potrzeby szkoły.

Cena \$40

**Wspomóż naszą szkołę!
Zamów stroik !!!**

chwale” albo „Chrystus powróci” – modlimy się na każdej mszy świętej. Ale Jezus przychodzi już teraz. Właśnie najbardziej widoczne jest Jego przyjście do nas podczas mszy świętej, kiedy w osobie kapłana ofiarowuje się za nas swojemu Ojcu, kiedy staje się obecny pod postaciami chleba i wina.

5 grudnia – Pierwszy Piątek, msza roratnia o godzinie 7PM

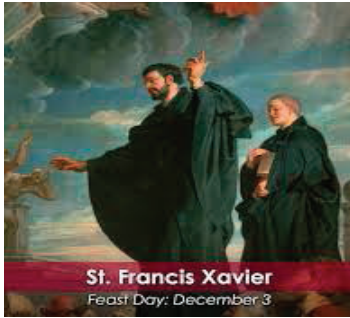
8 grudnia - uroczystość Niepokalanego Poczęcia Najświętszej Maryi Panny Msza po Polsku 7:30PM

12 grudnia – Msza Roratnia o 7PM, a po mszy- sprzątanie kościoła

19 grudnia – Msza Roratnia o 7PM

23 grudnia – Spowiedz Parafialna od 6PM do 8PM

The Saint of the Week



St. Francis Xavier was a Navarrese-Basque Roman Catholic missionary born in the Kingdom of Navarre on April 7, 1506. His father was a privy counselor and finance minister to King John III of Navarre. He was the youngest in his family and resided in a castle.

When Francis came of age, he was sent to study at the University of Paris. While there he roomed with his friend, Peter Favre. The pair met and were heavily influenced by Ignatius of Loyola, who encouraged Francis to become a priest.

In 1530, Francis Xavier earned his master's degree, and went on to teach philosophy at the University of Paris.

On August 15, 1534, Francis Xavier, along with Peter Favre and several other friends, made vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. The men planned to travel to the Holy Land to convert non-believers. Francis Xavier started his study of theology that same year and was ordained on June 24, 1537.

Pope Paul III approved the formation of their order in 1540, which became The Society of Jesus. The order is more popularly known as the Jesuits.

While Francis Xavier was becoming a priest, Portugal was colonizing India. The Portuguese settlers in India and elsewhere were losing their faith and Christian values. To restore these values, the King of Portugal asked the Pope to send missionaries to the region.

Pope Paul III asked the new order to take the mission, particularly since they could not undertake their preferred mission to the Holy Land due to warfare there. Ignatius ultimately decided to send Francis.

Francis Xavier left for India in 1541, on his thirty-fifth birthday. As he was departing he was informed that the Pope appointed him to be the Papal Nuncio in the East. He arrived in the region and colony of Goa, India on May 6, 1542.

A major problem Francis quickly recognized was the nature of the people and their intentions. Many sailors and settlers were former prisoners

who had been recruited from Portuguese jails or were fleeing mistakes they made back home. None of them came to spread or live virtuous lives. Instead they came to escape Portugal, find adventure, or to make fortunes. Still, they settled and made families.

Xavier ministered first to the sick and the children. Then he learned about the native people of the Pearl Fishery Coast, who had been baptized a decade earlier, but were never taught their faith. Xavier began ministering to them. He spent three years among them, but was often embarrassed by the conduct of his Portuguese countrymen who were already Catholic, but frequently misbehaved.

Xavier built 40 churches for the people of the Pearl Fishery Coast. Xavier encountered difficulty in his mission because he usually worked to convert the people first, instead of their leaders.

In 1549, he finally departed for Japan, arriving in July of that year. The local daimyo warmly received Xavier, but forbade his subjects from converting to Christianity. In addition to the legal obstacle, Xavier found language to be a barrier. The Japanese language was different than any other he had previously encountered.

Xavier was surprised to find that his poverty was a barrier to his communication. Poverty was not respected in feudal Japan, so Xavier was compelled to change his strategy. On one occasion, when meeting with a local prince, Xavier arranged to be finely dressed and for his fellow missionaries to wait on him. He had gifts from India delivered to him. The charade had the desired effect and improved his reputation.

Some traditionalists, including priests from the native religions, grew hostile toward Xavier and Christianity. Xavier established a few congregations, but the religion was suppressed from spreading by the nobility who grew to mistrust the outsiders and their faith. Eventually, Christianity became the subject of great persecution, forcing many to go underground with their belief.

Xavier finished his work in Japan for the time and decided to return to India with a stop in Goa, and on the way there, he decided to make the trip to China.

Xavier's ship reached China in August, stopping at an island off the Chinese coast. From there, Xavier was on his own. He managed to find a man to agree to take him to China for a large fee, but while he was waiting for his boat to arrive became ill with a fever. Xavier died on December 3, 1552.

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

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.

Next Rosary Meeting is Thursday, December 4th with the Pot Luch Supper at 5:50PM in the Parish Center.

Thank you to all who supported the Rosary Bake Sale, we sold out and collected 582.00.



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.



FLOWER DONATIONS

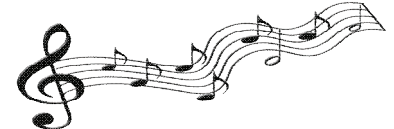
Thank you all for your ongoing generous flower donations. It makes our church look so lively and beautiful, thank you **very much!**

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.



CHOIR

Practice is in the church on **Thursday evenings 7:00PM**. If you are interested, come to our practice or stop by after 9AM Sunday Mass to talk to our Cantor. We would love for you to join in to enhance our Choir.

Best Church Seniors

Next Seniors Meeting...

December 18th at 12:30PM, celebrating



Christmas with a light luncheon and a program. All seniors or almost seniors are invite to attend.

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

El Salvador

EMANUEL

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!!!

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.**

St. Bernard and St. Stanislaus PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME	6/30/2024	6/30/2025
- Sunday & Holy Days Offerings	267,418	254,220
-Christmas Collection	15,045	18,044
- Easter Collection	14,082	16,343
- Rental Income	180,069	215,950
- Societies Account & Religious Ed Income	5,938	49,001
- Candle Revenue	2,237	3,123
- All other Income	5,290	8,656
- Restricted Gifts	77,522	229,437
- Interest Income	24,296	25,946
TOTAL INCOME	591,899	820,724
EXPENSE		
- Salaries & Benefits	186,958	169,656
- Contract/Professional Services	64,941	37,095
- Repairs & Maintenance	30,985	78,668
- Insurance – Property & Auto	41,335	102,504
- Utility Expense	70,725	110,469
- Liturgical & Operating Supplies	34,837	35,645
- Rectory Provisions	22,282	13,215
- RCAN Assessments	23,984	129,583
- Assistance to others	4,507	6,140
- All Other Costs	10,995	112,404
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENCES:	595,259	795,379
SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT)	(3,359)	25,345

PENANCE SERVICE

TUESDAY DECEMBER 23
6:00 – 8:00PM
ENGLISH POLISH SPANISH

From Fr. Marcin's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today in the Church a new liturgical year begins, which is a new journey of faith for the People of God. As always, we begin with Advent. The passage of the Gospel introduces us to one of the most evocative themes of Advent: the visit of the Lord to humanity. The first visit — we all know — occurred with the Incarnation, Jesus' birth in the cave of Bethlehem; the second takes place in the present: The Lord visits us constantly, each day walking alongside us and being a consoling presence. In the end, there will be the third, the last visit, which we proclaim each time that we recite the Creed: "He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead" Today, the Lord speaks to us about this final visit, which will take place at the end of time, and he tells us where we will arrive on our journey.

The Word of God emphasizes the contrast between the normal unfolding of events, the everyday routine, and the unexpected coming of the Lord. Jesus says: "For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they did not know until the flood came and swept them all away." The Gospel does not want to scare us, but to open our horizons to another greater dimension, one which, on the one hand puts into perspective everyday things, while at the same time making them precious, crucial. The relationship with the God-who-comes-to-visit-us gives every gesture, everything a different light, a substance, a symbolic value.

From this perspective there also comes an invitation to sobriety, to not be controlled by the things of this world, by material reality, but rather to govern them. If, by contrast, we allow ourselves to be influenced and overpowered by these things, we cannot perceive that there is something very important: our final encounter with the Lord. This encounter is so important that everyday matters must have this horizon, and must be directed to that horizon: the encounter with the Lord who comes for us. It is an invitation to be vigilant, because in not knowing when he will come, we need to be ever ready to leave.

In this season of Advent, we are called to expand the horizons of our hearts, to be amazed by the life which presents itself each day with newness. He comes to bring us into a more beautiful and grand dimension.

Fr. Marcin

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