

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

February 1, 2026

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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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NEW MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY MASS OF ANTICIPATION

5:00PM- English

SUNDAY

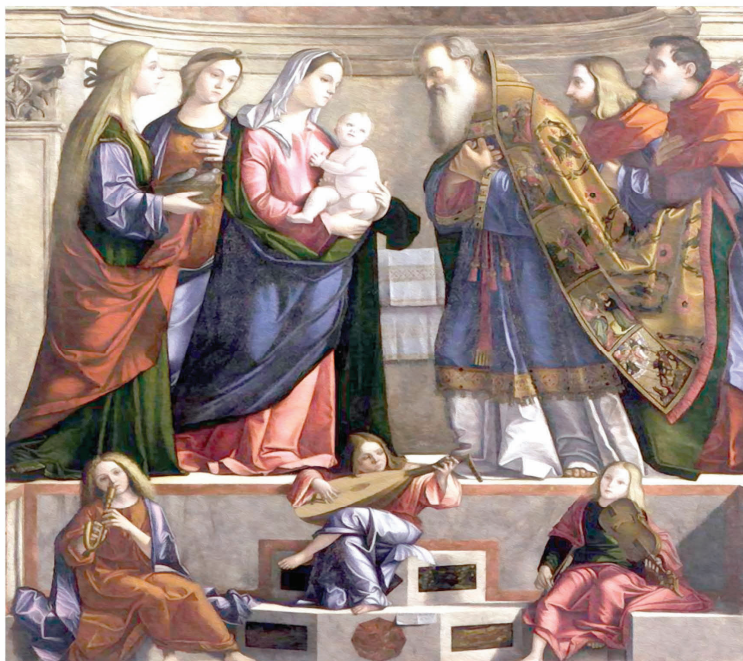
9:00AM – English

10:30AM – Polish

12:00PM – English

1:30PM – Spanish

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



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 – January 31... St. John Bosco

9:00AM...+ Maureen Watkins, req. Family

5:00PM... + Sr. Margaret Murphy,
req. Mary Ellen Chanda

Sunday – February 1...Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM...+ Carlo Riello, req. Antonia Riello

10:30AM (Polish) + Wiesław Paszczyk (1. Rocznica),
od Syna i rodziny

12:00 Noon...+ Joanne Jennings, req. Parish Family

1:30 PM(Spanish) + Ismael Cuartas,
req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

Monday – February 2...The Presentation of the Lord

9:00AM...+ Luis Enrique Cuartas Gonzalez,
req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

7:00PM (Polish) ...

Tuesday – February 3...St. Blaise and St. Ansgar

9:00AM...+ Elicenia Garcia, req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

Wednesday – February 4... Weekday

9:00AM...+ Stephen Sopko (Birthday in Heaven)
req. Karole, Eddie and Family

Thursday – February 5...St. Agatha

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

Friday – February 6... St. Paul Miki

9:00AM...People of the Parish

7:00PM... (Polish)

Saturday – February 7... Weekday

9:00AM...+ Frank and Mary Wood, req. Daughter

5:00PM... + Bob Chanda (2nd Anniv.)
req. Wife Mary Ellen

Sunday – February 8...Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM...+ Giovanna Mone,
req. Pina and John Mastroianni

10:30AM... (Polish)

12:00 Noon...+Health of Jim Rushforth, req. Family

1:30 PM...(Spanish) + Blanca Rosales, req Daughter

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

The Bread and Wine for the Month of February
is in Memory of **Frank Kazmierski**.

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,
Mike Parise, Greg Myers and Brian Biddulph.

OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all the Departed.

STEWARDSHIP

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." MATTHEW 5:3

The phrase "poor in spirit" can be confusing. Think of it in this sense – poor in spirit means depending on God's providence and not depending on our own self-reliance. Being detached from earthly things (power, money, and comfort) and being attached to heavenly things (charity, sacrifice, and mercy). Denying ourselves from satisfying our desires and helping others obtain their basic needs.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Zephaniah 2:3, 3:12-13

Zephaniah prophesies that the Lord will punish wicked nations along with Jerusalem, but he will shelter from his anger those who practice justice and humility and do no wrong.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Paul tells the Corinthians that God prefers the humble, the weak, the lowly of station — people like themselves. In Christ Jesus they will find wisdom, honor and justice.

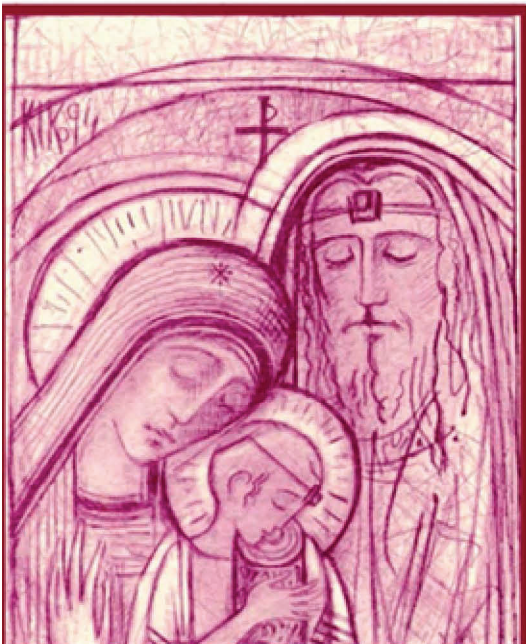
Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a

Jesus teaches the Beatitudes in his Sermon on the Mount. He extols those who are merciful, peaceful, lowly, poor in spirit and promises them that "the reign of God is theirs."

4º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

"Bendecidos los pobres de espíritu, porque de ellos es el reino del cielo" MATEO 5:3

La frase "pobres de espíritu" puede confundirnos. Piense de ella en este sentido - pobres de espíritu significa depender de la providencia de Dios y no de nuestra propia autosuficiencia. Desprendernos de las cosas terrenales (poder, dinero, y comodidad) y apegarnos a las cosas celestiales (caridad, sacrificio y misericordia). Negarnos a nosotros mismos la satisfacción de nuestros deseos y ayudar a otros a cubrir sus necesidades básicas.



WOMEN OF FAITH

The Women of Faith Ministry at St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Stanislaus Kostka warmly invites all women of the parish to gather with us this Lent for reflection, prayer, and spiritual renewal. Whether you're new to the parish, returning to your faith, or simply seeking fellowship, you are welcome. Mothers, grandmothers, students, professionals—there is a place here for you.

Why Join a Women's Lenten Reflection Group?

Lent invites us to slow down, turn our hearts toward God, and prepare for the joy of Easter. A women's Lenten group helps us enter this sacred season with intention. Together, we reflect on Scripture, walk with Christ toward the Cross, and support one another in our Lenten practices.

In the company of other women, we find clarity, encouragement, and a sense of shared purpose. This is a space to pause, pray, and listen for God's voice, so our hearts may be renewed and strengthened for the journey ahead. Bring a friend! Join us on the Fridays during Lent after the Stations of the Cross: **February 20th, March 6th, and March 27th.**

For more information or to help with planning, please contact: **Mary Landriau •**
mlandriau703@verizon.net

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS HERE COME AND LISTEN

MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS
AT 8:00PM
STARTING JANUARY 26TH 2026

ST. BERNARD & ST. STANISLAUS
THE GYM

365 EMERSON AVE PLAINFIELD

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30

Religious Classes

Classes are on Wednesdays **6:30pm – 7:45pm**. Parents are required to pick up their children from the cafeteria at 7:45PM.

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 Mass concluding with Benediction at 10:45AM.

Next Rosary Meeting is Sunday, March 1st after the 9AM Mass in the Parish Office.

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. **Many thanks to our new and returning members, you make a difference.**



Best Church Seniors

Seniors are on a winter break. Our next meeting is **March 19th at**

12:30PM, celebrating St. Patrick and

St. Joseph. We will have a guest Speaker -
Tapping Away Stress.



wyprzedaż ciast
8 Lutego po wszystkich
 Mszach
February 8
[after all Masses](#)

Akademia z okazji Dnia Babci i Dziadka, po mszy wi zebrani z Rodzicami (półroczne)

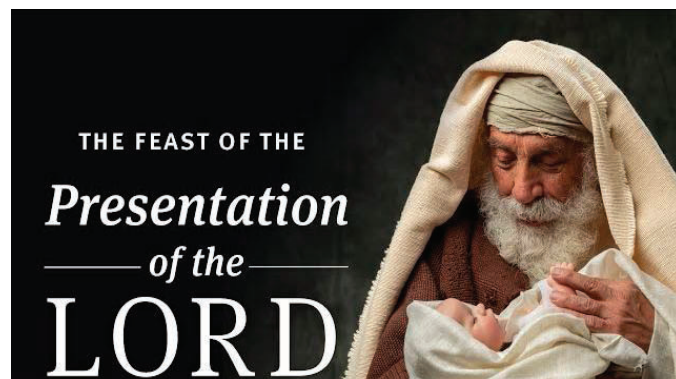


Dnia 19 stycznia w naszej Polskiej Szkole odbyło się wyjątkowe i głęboko poruszające wydarzenie poświęcone postaci ks. Jerzego Popiełuszki.

Spotkanie rozpoczęło się od wizyty grupy „Młodzi księdza Jerzego”, Pawła Kęski – teologa, dziennikarza i managera Muzeum ks. Jerzego Popiełuszki w Polsce – oraz Marka Popiełuszki, bratanka Księdza Jerzego. Była to okazja do pogłębienia wiedzy o życiu, kapłańskiej posłudze oraz niezwykłej odwadze ks. Jerzego w dawaniu świadectwa prawdzie i wolności.

Miło nam było przedstawić naszego ucznia – Szymona Błazejowicza, laureata konkursu „Być Polakiem”, oraz opowiedzieć o jego pracy poświęconej postaci ks. Jerzego Popiełuszki.

Serdecznie dziękujemy Grzegorzowi Tymieńskiemu oraz grupie „Młodzi księdza Jerzego” za możliwość udziału w tym wartościowym spotkaniu.



Mary and Joseph were faithful Jews who obeyed the Law of Moses. Jewish Law prescribed that two ritual acts needed to take place for a firstborn son. First, the mother of a newborn son was ritually unclean for seven days, and then she was to “spend thirty-three more days in a state of blood purity.” During these forty days she was not to “touch anything sacred nor enter the sanctuary till the days of her purification are fulfilled.” For this reason, today’s feast has at times been called the “Purification of Mary.” Second, the father of the firstborn son was to “redeem” the child by making an offering to the priest of five shekels so that the priest would then present the child to the Lord. Recall that the firstborn male of all the Egyptians, animals and children, was killed during the tenth plague, but the firstborn males of the Israelites were spared. Thus, this offering made for the firstborn son in the Temple was a way of ritually redeeming him in commemoration of protection during that plague. Since Jesus was presented in the Temple for this redemption, today’s feast is now referred to as the “Presentation in the Temple.”

“Candlemass” is also a traditional name given to today’s feast because as early as the fifth century, the custom of celebrating this feast with lighted candles had developed. The lit candles symbolized Simeon’s prophecy that Jesus would be “a light for revelation to the Gentiles.” Lastly, this Feast has been referred to as the “Feast of the Holy Encounter” because God, in the Person of Jesus, encountered Simeon and Anna in the Temple.

Today’s feast is celebrated in our Church forty days after Christmas, marking the day that Mary and Joseph would have brought Jesus into the Temple. Though Mary was pure and free from sin from the moment of her conception, and though the Son of God did not need to be redeemed, Mary and Joseph fulfilled these ritual obligations.

At the heart of this celebration is the encounter of Simeon and Anna with the Christ Child in the Temple. It is in that holy encounter that Jesus’ divinity is manifested by a human prophet for the first time. At His birth, the angels proclaimed His divinity to the shepherds, but in the Temple, Simeon was the first to understand and proclaim Jesus as the Savior of the World. He also prophesied that this salvation would be accomplished by a sword of sorrow that would pierce the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Anna, a prophetess, also came forward and “gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem.” Thus, these ritual acts were also a moment in which Jesus’ divine mission was made manifest to the world.

As we celebrate Mary’s ritual purification and Jesus’ ritual redemption, we should see that each of us is unworthy of entering the true Temple of the Lord in Heaven. Yet we are invited to enter that Temple in union with Mary, our Blessed Mother. It was her consent to the will of God that opened the door of God’s grace to us all.

ANNUAL²⁰²⁶ APPEAL

The 2026 Annual Appeal has begun! Each year we are invited to participate in the Annual Appeal, which is an opportunity to support essential ministries and programs of our Archdiocese. Your sacrificial support makes it possible for us to carry out the important work that we are called to do as missionary disciples of Jesus.

Please consider participating in this year's Appeal to help make a significant difference in many lives within our Archdiocese. Our parish goal this year is **\$29,654.60**. Please make a gift online today by visiting rcan.org/sharing, scanning the QR code, or join us for In-Pew Weekend on March 7 and 8.



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 January 25, 2026

Online...\$ 1,018

in Pew... \$ 1,628

Total.... \$ 2,646

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

In today's liturgy, the Beatitudes according to the Gospel of Matthew are proclaimed, the heart of the teaching of Christ! It's beginning with: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Who are the "poor in spirit"? They are the ones who know they cannot rely on themselves, that they are not self-sufficient, and they live as "beggars before God." They feel their need for God and recognize every good that comes from Him as a gift, as a grace. Those who are poor in spirit treasure what they receive. Therefore, they desire that no gift should go to waste.

The Kingdom of God is for the poor in spirit. There are those who have the kingdoms of this world: they have goods and they have comfort. But they are kingdoms that end. The power of men, even the greatest empires, pass and disappear. So many times when we look at the news or in the newspapers we see powerful people governing, and then that government which was there yesterday is no longer there today; it has fallen. The riches of this world will disappear, and also the money. The old men taught us that the shroud had no pockets. It's true. I've never seen a moving truck behind a funeral procession: no one brings anything. These riches remain here.

The Kingdom of God is for the poor in spirit. There are those who have the kingdoms of this world, have goods and have comfort. But we know how they end up. He who knows how to love the true good more than himself truly reigns. This is the power of God.

Christ has been able to do what the kings of the earth did not do: give their lives for men. That's the real power! The power of eternal life that Christ offers to you and to me.

In this lies true freedom: those who have this power of humility, service and brotherhood are free. At the service of this freedom lies the poverty praised by the Beatitudes.

There is a poverty that we must accept, that of our being, and a poverty that we must seek, the concrete one, from the things of this world, in order to be free and to be able to love. We must always seek the freedom of the heart, which has its roots in the poverty of ourselves.

I am again extending my invitation to the talks that we are doing on Mondays and Thursdays in the Gym at 8PM, that are announcing the gift of the Beatitudes and the Kingdom of God! Please come and experience the freedom that only Christ is able to give us.

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