

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

March 1, 2026

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

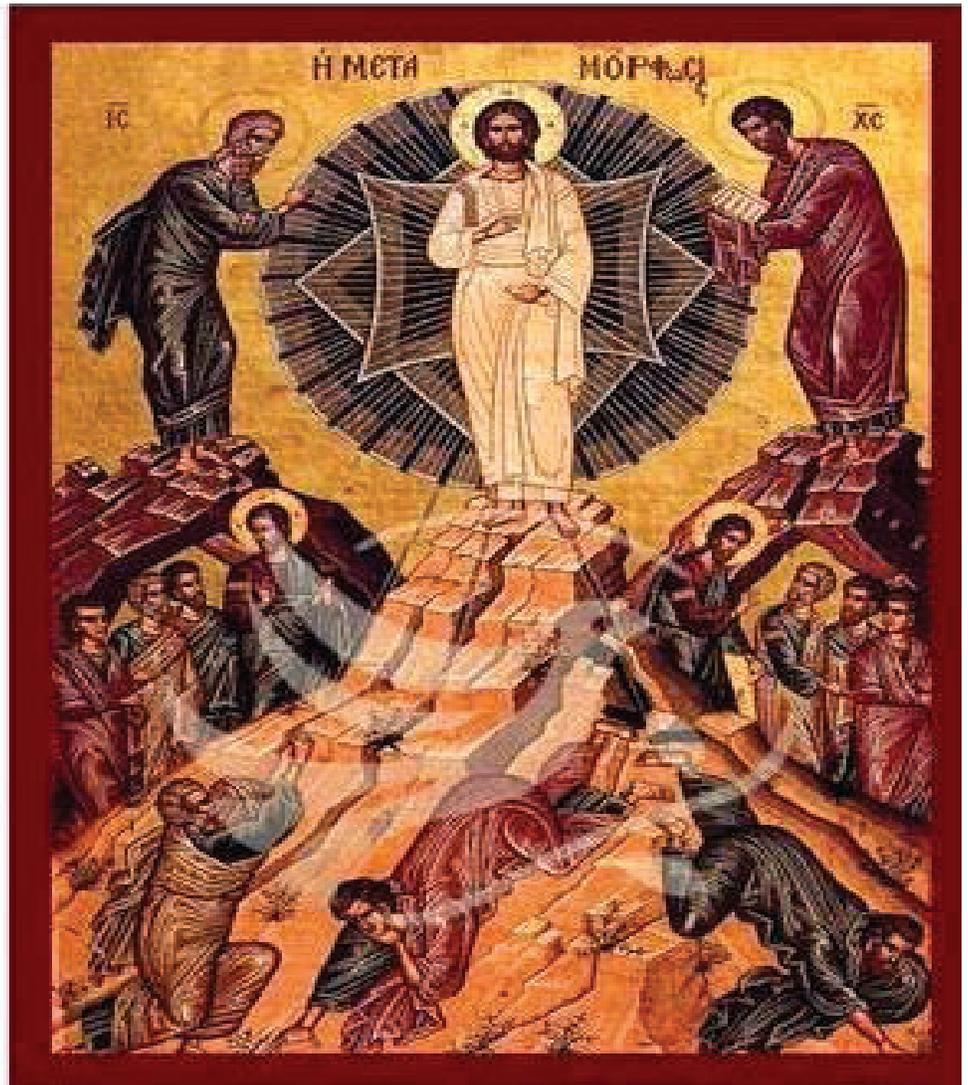
SUNDAY

9:00AM - English

10:30AM - Polish

12:00PM - English

1:30PM - Spanish



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 – February 28...Lenten Weekday

9:00AM...+Emilinne Alexandre, req Parish Family
5:00PM...+Janette “Cricket” Cardoza,
req. Mary Ellen Chanda

Sunday – March 1...Second Sunday of Lent

9:00AM...+Carlo Riello, req. Antonia Riello
10:30AM...People of the Parish
12:00 Noon...+Nicholas Merkle, req. Johanna Merkle
1:30 PM ...+Carmen Rosa Gonzalez,
req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

Monday – March 2...Lenten Weekday

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

Tuesday – March 3... St. Katherine Drexel

9:00AM... +Patricia Mary Monaghan Murphy
req. Renew Staff

Wednesday – March 4... St. Casimir

9:00AM...+Gregory Myers, req. Parish Family

Thursday – March 5... Lenten Weekday

9:00AM...+Victor Benitez, req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

Friday – March 6...Lenten Weekday

9:00AM...+Gregory Myers, req. Barbara Byleckie

Saturday – March 7...St. Perpetua and St. Felicity

9:00AM...+People of the Parish
5:00PM...+Bob Chanda, req. Wife Mary Ellen

Sunday – March 8...Third Sunday of Lent

9:00AM...+Janette “Cricket” Cardoza,
req. Plick and Epps Family
10:30AM...+Jan Radecki od Radecki Rodzina
(48. rocznica śmierci)
12:00 Noon...Health of Janet Berry,
req. Beverly and Peter Cirino
1:30 PM ...+People of the Parish



The Tabernacle Candle will burn this week for **Frank Kazmierski, 1st Anniversary**, at the request of Wife Zena and Family.

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, Brian Biddulph, Giovani Todaro, and Pat Cook**.

OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all our Faithful Departed.

STEWARDSHIP

2nd Sunday of Lent

“Go forth from the land of your kinsfolk and from your father’s house to a land that I will show you.” GENESIS 12:1
God calls all of us to leave behind our old ways and to follow Him, placing our complete trust in Him. Some of the old ways that we struggle to leave behind might be materialism, selfishness and greed. Yet, God promises to show us a new land and a better way to live. Remember what St. Teresa of Calcutta said, “God does not call us to be successful, God calls us to be faithful.”

2^o Domingo de Cuaresma

“Deja tu tierra, tus parientes y la casa de tu padre, y vete a la tierra que te mostraré” GÉNESIS 12: 1
Dios nos llama a todos a dejar atrás nuestras viejas costumbres y a seguirlo, colocando en Él toda nuestra confianza. Alguna de las viejas maneras que nos esforzamos por dejar atrás pueden ser el materialismo, el egoísmo y la codicia. Sin embargo, Dios nos promete mostrarnos una nueva tierra y una mejor forma de vivir. Recuerde lo que dijo Santa Teresa de Calcuta, “Dios no nos llama a ser exitosos, Dios nos llama a ser fieles”.

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a

God calls Abraham to leave his family and people and go to a new land. God promises to make the people of this new nation great and to bless Abraham.

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8b-10

Paul, from his place of imprisonment in Rome, writes words of encouragement to Timothy, telling him that Christ is for them everlasting life.

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9

Wishing to reveal His glory to Peter, James and John, Jesus takes them to a mountain where he is transfigured before them.

When Peter exclaims that he will build three tabernacles here in honor of Jesus, Moses and Elijah, a voice from above proclaims: “This is My beloved Son on whom My favor rests. Listen to him.”

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.



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?

Lenten 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: **March 6** and **March 27th**. For more information or to help with planning, please contact: **Mary Landriau - mlandriau703@verizon.net**



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.**



Best Church Seniors ARE ON A WINTER BREAK

We are looking forward to the next meeting on **March 19th at 12:30PM,** for a program called... **"Tapping Away Stress"** by Alicia Gray

You will find that by tapping on certain pressure points we can lower stress and relieve pain. So, come and experience tapping away together. Please let us know you will be there so we can prepare. And, as always...you are welcome to bring a friend!



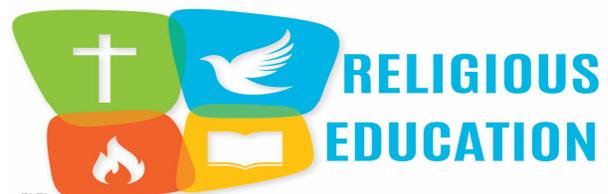
Station of the Cross Fridays of Lent

6:00PM - English
7:00PM - Polish

2026 LENTEN REGULATIONS

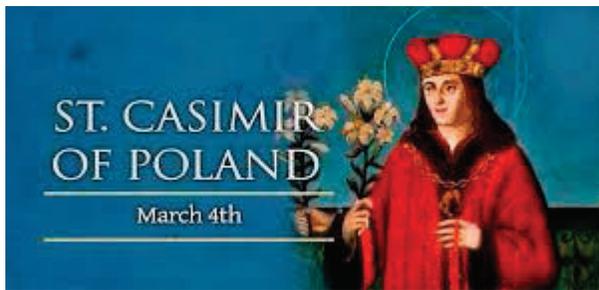
1. The days of both Fast and Abstinence during Lent are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily His Resurrection. The other Fridays of Lent are days of Abstinence. On a day of Fast, only one (1) full meal is permitted, and two (2) smaller meals, which, if added together, would not exceed the main meal in quantity. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast. On a day of Abstinence, no meat may be eaten. Those who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence.
2. The obligation to observe the laws of Fast and Abstinence "substantially", or as a whole, is a serious obligation.
3. The Fridays of the year, outside of Lent, are designated as days of penance, but each individual may substitute for the traditional abstinence from meat some other practice of voluntary self-denial as penance.
4. The time for fulfilling the Paschal Precept (Easter Duty*) extends from the First Sunday of Lent, February 22 to The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, May 31, 2026.

**Canon 920, §1. All the faithful, after they have been initiated into the Most Holy Eucharist, are bound by the obligation of receiving Communion at least once a year.*



**Religious Education Classes are on
Wednesdays at 6:30PM.**

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



Casimir grew up in a world where his life was not his own. As a prince of Poland, the second son of King Casimir IV and Elizabeth of Austria, his life was scheduled to cement his father's authority and increase Poland's power.

Casimir realized from an early age that his life belonged to someone else, but to a much higher King than his father. Despite pressure, humiliation, and rejection, he stood by that loyalty through his whole life.

Born the third of thirteen children in 1461, Casimir was committed to God from childhood. Some of that commitment was the result of a tutor, John Dlugosz, whose holiness encouraged Casimir on his own journey.

It may be hard for us to imagine royal luxury as a pressure. But for Casimir, the riches around him were temptations to forget his true loyalties. Rebelling against the rich, fashionable clothes he was expected to enjoy, he wore the plainest of clothes.

Rejecting even ordinary comforts, he slept little, spending his nights in prayer. And when he did sleep, he lay on the floor not on a royal bed. Even though he was a prince, many of those around him must have laughed and joked at his choices. Yet, in the face of any pressure, Casimir was always friendly and calm.

Though his father must have wondered about him, he must have seen and admired Casimir's strength. He showed that he misunderstood this strength when he sent Casimir as head of an army to take over the throne of Hungary at the request of some nobles there. Casimir felt the whole expedition was wrong but was convinced to go out of obedience to his father. He could not help but feel at every step that it was disobedient to his other Father. So when soldiers started deserting, he was only too glad to listen to the advice of his officers and turn back home. His feelings were confirmed when he discovered that Pope Sixtus IV had opposed the move.

His father, however, was furious at being deterred from his plans and banished Casimir to a castle in Dobzki, hoping that imprisonment would change Casimir's mind. Casimir's commitment to what he believed was right only grew stronger in his exile, and he refused to cooperate with his father's plans any more despite the pressure to give in. He even rejected a marriage alliance his father tried to form. He participated in his true King's plans wholeheartedly by praying, studying, and helping the poor.

He died at the age of 23 in 1484 from lung disease. He was buried with his favorite song, a Latin hymn to Mary called "Omni die dic Mariae" which we know as "Daily, Daily Sing to Mary." Because of his love for the song, it is known as the Hymn of St. Casimir though he didn't write it.

Casimir is patron saint of Poland and Lithuania.

Polska Szkoła im. Juliana Ursyna Niemcewicza
w Plainfield NJ
Serdecznie zaprasza na

IV MALOWANIE PRZY LAMPCE WINA

6 Marca 2026
Godzina 7:00 pm
365 Emerson AVE.
Plainfield NJ

Cena 45\$

Zapisy u Joanny Gadomskiej
908-451-0792 do 27 Lutego
** liczba miejsc ograniczona

Ps. Zaprosz koleżanki, nie zapomnij swojego ulubionego wina a mała przekąska lub deser będzie mile widziana :)

Made with PosterMyWall.com

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!!!

ANNUAL ²⁰²⁶ 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**, and we already collected **\$8,550.00!** 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.





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

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 February 22, 2026

Online...\$ 1,173.00
in Pew... \$ 3,792.00
Total.....\$ 4,965.00

From Fr. Marcin's Desk

The Gospel of this second Sunday of Lent presents the narrative of the Transfiguration of Jesus. Taking aside three of the Apostles, Peter, James and John, He led them up a high mountain. That is where this unique phenomenon took place: Jesus' face "shone like the sun, and His garments became white as light." In this way, the Lord allowed the divine glory which could be understood through faith in His preaching and His miraculous gestures, to shine within Him. The Transfiguration was accompanied by the apparition of Moses and Elijah who were "talking with him."

The 'brightness' which characterizes this extraordinary event symbolizes its purpose: to enlighten the minds and hearts of the disciples so that they may clearly understand who their Teacher is. It is a flash of light which suddenly opens onto the mystery of Jesus and illuminates His whole person and His whole story.

By now decisively headed toward Jerusalem, where He will be sentenced to death by crucifixion, Jesus wanted to prepare His own for this scandal — the scandal of the Cross — this scandal, which is too intense for their faith and, at the same time, to foretell His Resurrection by manifesting Himself as the Messiah, the Son of God. Jesus was preparing them for that sad and very painful moment. In fact, Jesus was already revealing Himself as a Messiah different from their expectations, from how they imagined the Messiah, how the Messiah would be: not a powerful and glorious king, but a humble and unarmed servant; not a lord of great wealth, a sign of blessing, but a poor man with nowhere to rest his head; not a patriarch with many descendants, but a celibate man without home or nest. It is truly an overturned revelation of God, and the most bewildering sign of this scandalous overturning, is the Cross. But it is through the Cross that Jesus will reach the glorious Resurrection, which will be definitive, not like this Transfiguration which lasted a moment, an instant.

Transfigured on Mount Tabor, Jesus wanted to show His disciples His glory, not for them to circumvent the Cross, but to show where the Cross leads. Those who die with Jesus, shall rise again with Jesus. The Cross is the door to Resurrection. Whoever struggles alongside Him will triumph with Him. This is the message of hope contained in Jesus' Cross, urging us to be strong in our existence. The Christian Cross is not the furnishings of a house or adornments to wear but rather, the Christian Cross is a call to the love with which Jesus sacrificed Himself to save humanity from evil and sin. In this Lenten season, we contemplate with devotion the image of the Crucifix, Jesus on the Cross: this is the symbol of Christian Faith, the emblem of Jesus, who died and rose for us. Let us ensure that the Cross marks the stages of our Lenten journey in order to understand ever better the seriousness of sin and the value of the sacrifice by which the Savior has saved us all.

Fr. Marcin

MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME
Thoughtful care—Compassionate service
Owned and managed by the Keiser family since 1928
Thomas M. Keiser, Jr., Owner
NJ License No. 3844
Laura E. Mann, Executive Director
NJ License No. 4947
155 South Avenue • Fanwood, NJ 07023
908 322-4350
www.fanwoodmemorial.com

McCriskin-Gustafson
FAMILY OF FUNERAL HOMES
INDEPENDENT & LOCAL
2425 Plainfield Ave, South Plainfield, NJ 07080
908-561-8000
James A. Gustafson
President/Manager
NJ License #4205
Richard W. McCriskin II
Vice President
NJ License #4564
Scan to visit our website
www.mccriskinfuneralhome.com
Pre-Arrangements • Cremation Services
S/S Medicaid Protection

BE A FRIEND.
Give blood.
PEANUTS x American Red Cross

Watchung Dental Care PC
COSMETIC • IMPLANT • FAMILY DENTISTRY
Sang H. Moon D.D.S., F.I.C.O.I. 1801 East 2nd Street
Caroline Hanna, D.M.D. Scotch Plains, NJ 07076
908-322-6090 • www.watchungdentalcare.com

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS
THEY SUPPORT OUR PARISH

**ROOFING • CHIMNEYS
MASONRY • GUTTERS**
We Find & Fix Leaks!
ROYAL PRO CONSTRUCTION
Family Owned/Operated • Lic. #13VH0934200, Bonded & Insured • 20+ Yrs.
732-589-9967 Serving All of New Jersey

\$1100 OFF
Any New Roof Replacement
20% OFF
Any Roof, Chimney, Gutter,
Masonry Repair & SENIORS

If the lights are flashing,
no passing.
It's Not a Suggestion, It's the Law.

READY.GOV
Don't be afraid...Be Ready

Act now to help end hunger.
In the United States, one in nine people face hunger.
feedingamerica.org

ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES

Always be alert for pedestrians.
Safe Drivers Save Lives
NHTSA

Help your community, the environment, & yourself
Patronize your local businesses

Every Veteran has earned help and support.
Don't wait. Reach out. VA.GOV/REACH
ad COUNCIL VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

CALL US TODAY!
YOUR AD HERE!
Reserve Your Space Today!
Connect with a Dedicated and Engaged Audience
Build Trust and Credibility • Showcase Your Business to Those Who Actively Support Local Businesses
Benefit From Our Online Presence and Extend Your Reach Beyond the Church Walls
Contact our advertising team at 800-883-4343.
Don't miss this opportunity to become a valued partner in our community.

Protect yourself and your community.
FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
CONSUMER ADVICE
Consumer Alerts
Learn more about the latest consumer advice and scams — and what you can do to protect yourself.
consumer.ftc.gov/consumer-alerts

WWF
Help build a future where people live in harmony with nature.
www.worldwildlife.org

Higgins HOME FOR FUNERALS, INC.
established 1868
Stephen D. Szczubelek
Manager Watchung Lic. #4446
908-756-0017
www.higginsfuneralhome.com
752 Mountain Boulevard • Watchung, NJ 07069

NEED A LAWYER? INJURED?
★ Call For A Free Legal Consultation ★
MARC J. BRENNER ESQ.
973-326-8902
• Personal Injury
• Workers' Compensation
• Social Security Disability
lawmardbrenner.com • marc@lawmardbrenner.com
222 RIDGEDALE AVENUE • CEDAR KNOLLS, NJ 07927