

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

August 30, 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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SUMMER MASS SCHEDULE

June—July—August

SATURDAY MASS OF ANTICIPATION

5:00PM- English

SUNDAY

9:00AM – English

10:30AM – Polish

12:30PM – Spanish

For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's
glory with his angels, and then he will reward
each person according to what they have done.

Matthew 16:27

DailyVerses.net

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 – August 29... The Passion
of St. John the Baptist**

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

5:00PM...+ Patricia Frank, req. Barbara and Al St. Louis

Sunday – August 30...22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM...+ Catherine Pellarano,
birthday wishes in Heaven, req. Family

10:30AM...+

12:30PM...+ Manuel Manotoa and Marieta Pillajo
req. Son

Monday – August 31... Weekday

9:00AM...+ Frank Apisa, req. Armond Apisa

Tuesday – September 1... Weekday

9:00AM...+ William Kruse, req. Johanna Merkle

Wednesday – September 2... Weekday

9:00AM...+ Antonio and Lucia Simeone, req. Family

Thursday – September 3... St. Gregory the Great

9:00AM...+ Maddalena Negri,
req. Armond and Anna Maria Apisa

Friday – September 4... Weekday

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

7:00PM...+ (pol.) Pavo Pintscher (37. rocznica),
od Rodziny Radeckich

Saturday – September 5... St. Teresa of Calcutta

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

5:00PM... Health of Margaret Honora

Sunday – September 6...23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

10:30AM...+ Danuta Cholewa, od Rodziny Wisniewskich

12:30PM...+ People of the Parish

THE TABERNACLE CANDLE will burn this week
for the health of **our Parsh Family**.

THE BREAD AND WINE FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST

is in memory **James Rushforth**, at the request of
the Family.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

For those whose health is challenged in any way
especially for **Marian Parcinski, Mike Parise,
Giovani Todaro, Pat Cook, Margaret Honora,**
Olga Skolka and Zena Kazmierski.

OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all the
Faithful Departed.

STEWARDSHIP

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

"What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" - MATTHEW 16:26

St. Francis of Assisi said, *"Remember, you are what you are in the eyes of God, and nothing else."*

We often forget this stewardship wisdom when we spend all of our time, talent and treasure to gain more of the world's riches. We need to set our priorities based on God's values and not the values of the material world.

Domingo 22º del Tiempo Ordinario

"Pues ¿qué provecho obtendrá un hombre si gana el mundo entero, pero pierde su alma?" - Mateo 16:26

San Francisco de Asís dijo, "Recuerda, tú eres lo que eres a los ojos de Dios, y nada más". A menudo olvidamos esta corresponsabilidad de sabiduría cuando gastamos todo nuestro tiempo, talento y tesoros para ganar riquezas de este mundo. Necesitamos establecer nuestras prioridades de acuerdo con los valores de Dios y no con los valores del mundo material.

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9

In this particularly poetic passage, Jeremiah complains that while teaching the Lord's word, he is subjected to insults and derision. He determines to remain silent, but he cannot because the desire to speak the Lord's name is "like a fire burning in my heart."

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-2

Paul tells the Christians to make sacrifices to avoid the trappings of the times, and to do God's will.

Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27

Jesus tries to make his disciples realize that by following him, they will endure suffering, degradation, and death. He tells them that they must deny themselves and take up the cross in order to be his disciples.

Saturdays:

5:00PM English Mass of Anticipation

Sundays:

9:00 AM English

10:30 AM Polish

12:30 PM Spanish

Monday - Saturday:

9:00 AM English

Office Hours:

Monday – Friday 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM

After hours by appointment

Religious Education Registration 2026-2027



Online Registration:

Now through September 1st

www.bestchurch.net

In-person Registration:

August 31st & September 8th
from 9am-3pm.

Parish office- 1232 George St.

**Registrations received after September 8th
will incur a late fee of \$50.**

Classes begin Wednesday, September 30th

Registration Fees:

One Child: \$90.00

Two Children: \$150.00

Three Children: \$190.00

Sacramental Fees:

First Communion: \$35.00

Confirmation: \$45.00

Online payment



Calling All Women of Faith!

We are excited to announce the re-launch of the
Parish Women's Faith and Fellowship Group.

This revitalized ministry invites women of all ages and backgrounds to deepen their relationship with Christ, build meaningful connections with one another, and live out their faith through prayer, reflection, service, and fellowship.

Whether you are a mother, grandmother, student, professional, retiree, or simply seeking a place to belong, this group is for you. We welcome women wherever they are on their faith journey and believe that every woman has a unique gift to share in the life of the Church.

Why Are Women's Faith Groups So Important?

Women's faith groups provide sacred spaces where women can grow spiritually, share their joys and challenges, and find strength in community. In today's busy and often isolating world, women need places where they are seen, heard, and valued, not only for what they do, but for who they are as beloved daughters of God.

Faith groups offer encouragement, deepen understanding of our Catholic faith, and foster lasting friendships rooted in Christ's love. They help women discover new ways to pray, serve, and lead within their families, parish, and community. Together, we learn that we are not alone and that God works powerfully through the support, wisdom, and witness of others.

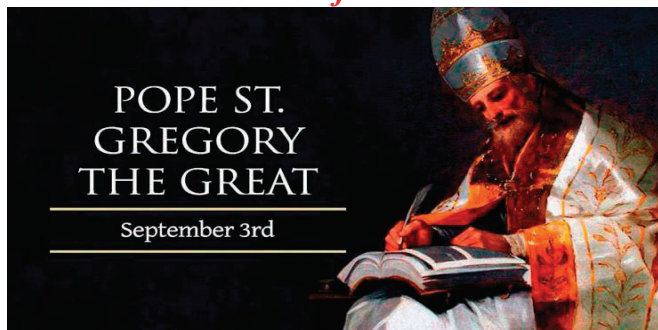
Women's groups are places of healing, purpose, and mission, where we listen to God and to one another as we discern how the Holy Spirit is calling us to grow and serve.

Join Us!

Fall 2026 Meeting Dates
Tuesdays, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Parish Center
September 29, 2026

Bring a friend and join us for an evening of prayer, conversation, encouragement, and fellowship. For more information or to become involved in planning, please contact:

Mary Landriau at mlandriau703@verizon.net.

The Saint of the Week:

Saint Gregory the Great was born in the city of Rome into an aristocratic family whose members filled political and religious offices. Gregory's father was a senator and later became the Prefect of Rome, similar to the role of mayor. His mother, Silvia, was a virtuous woman who was later recognized as a saint, as were two of his aunts. Thus, Gregory's influential, wealthy, and saintly family provided him with a stellar education and nurtured him in the Catholic faith from a young age.

During the first fourteen years of his life, Gregory witnessed war and disease ravage the city of Rome. The Ostrogoths had ruled Rome since 479, but from 535–554, the Eastern Roman emperor waged war in an attempt to reclaim control. The war caused significant destruction in Rome and resulted in many deaths. Once peace was restored in 554 and Italy came under the control of the Eastern Roman emperor, people began to return to Rome, rebuild the city, and reestablish order.

From 554–574, Gregory followed in his father's footsteps, assuming various civil leadership roles. Around the year 573, he was elected to the same position his father had held earlier: Prefect of Rome. However, not long after Gregory assumed this role, his father passed away, prompting Gregory to make a major shift in his life. He resigned as Prefect, turned his family home into a monastery, and took monastic vows. That time of deep prayer was invaluable to him and would prepare him for the important tasks God would later entrust to him.

As a monk, Gregory spent the next four years immersed in quiet prayer and study. These years were some of the happiest of his life. In 578, Pope Pelagius II ordained Gregory as one of the seven deacons of Rome and sent him to Constantinople a year later as his papal ambassador. Despite the challenges of his six years there, Deacon Gregory maintained his monastic life of prayer and study while fulfilling his duties at the imperial court. During this time, Deacon Gregory began writing his famous commentary on the Book of Job, which provided teachings on the nature of God, the problem of evil, the Christian understanding of human suffering, and the virtue of patience.

After completing his service in Constantinople, Deacon Gregory returned to Rome, was chosen as the abbot of his monastery, and enjoyed several more years of peaceful monastic life. In 590, Pope Pelagius II died, and the people of Rome chose Gregory as his successor.

Over the next fourteen years, despite constant ill health, Pope Gregory I established himself as one of the most consequential popes in history. Among his accomplishments, he implemented significant reforms in the Church's administration and liturgy. Administratively, he reformed how the Church's property and finances were managed. He implemented strict guidelines to ensure the responsible use of these resources, put measures in place to prevent abuses such as nepotism, increased transparency, and greatly expanded charitable works, to the point of emptying the papal

treasury. He also forged important strategic military and political alliances that strengthened the papacy and ensured the safety and betterment of those under his care. Many civil leaders even turned to him for guidance.

Liturgically, Pope Gregory contributed to the standardization of the Liturgy by offering clear guidelines and rubrics. He established prayers, the flow of the Mass, and the liturgical year, and helped develop liturgical chant, which came to be known as "Gregorian Chant."

Pope Gregory also demonstrated his missionary spirit. Most notably, he initiated a mission that began the conversion of the Anglo-Saxon peoples in England. It's said that Pope Gregory once encountered some slave boys in the Roman market. He asked where they were from and was told they were Angles from England. Gregory replied that the boys were angels. Seeing the boys being sold as slaves planted a desire in Gregory's heart to convert that pagan nation and a resolve to send missionaries to England. These missions were ultimately very successful through the efforts of Saint Augustine of Canterbury and forty of his brother monks, who were sent from Pope Gregory's own monastery.

Pope Gregory I is now known as Saint Gregory the Great. He is "great" because he not only had a major influence upon the people of his time, both religiously and politically, but also because his influence and writings solidified the direction that the Church would take after him. His first loves were of Christ and the monastic way of life. God used Gregory's humble way of life as a foundation upon which He would continue to build His Church.

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 21st (Monday) at 7:00pm in the parish office.**

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

Fr. Bernardo, at vicar@bestchurch.net.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION



For all the engaged couples who are planning to get married or those who are married civilly and would like to receive the sacrament of matrimony, we will offer a course of Pre-Cana on Friday nights.

Starting: September 4th, Fridays at 8:00PM

Place: Office building *If you are interested, please talk to Fr. Marcin or Fr. Bernardo.*

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ZAPISZ SIĘ TERAZ! **DIREKTOR** MARIA MARCHWIŃSKI

The 2026 Annual ANNUAL²⁰²⁶ APPEAL

The Appeal is continuing. 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 **\$26,030.00!** Please make a gift online today by visiting rcan.org/sharing, scanning theQR code.



From Fr. Marcin

Today's reading brings us to the critical point at which Jesus, after having ascertained that Peter and the other eleven believed in Him as the Messiah and Son of God, "began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things..., and be killed, and on the third day be raised." It is a critical moment at which the contrast between Jesus' way of thinking and that of the disciples emerges. Peter actually feels duty bound to admonish the Master because the Messiah could not come to such an ignominious end. Then Jesus, in turn, severely rebukes Peter and puts him in his place, because he is "not on the side of God, but of men," unintentionally playing the part of Satan, the tempter. In the liturgy for this Sunday the Apostle Paul also stresses this point when he writes to the Christians in Rome, telling them: "Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may prove what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

Christians live in the world, fully integrated into the social and cultural reality of our time, and rightly so; but this brings with it the risk that we might become "worldly," that "the salt might lose its taste." In other words, the Christian could become "watered down," losing the charge of newness which comes to him from the Lord and from the Holy Spirit. It is sad to find Christians who are no longer the salt of the earth, and we know that when salt loses its taste, it is no longer good for anything. Their salt has lost its taste because they have delivered themselves up to the spirit of the world, that is, they have become worldly.

It is necessary to renew oneself by continually drawing from the Gospel. By attending Sunday Mass, where we encounter the Lord in the community, we hear His Word and receive the Eucharist which unites us with Him and to one another. Thanks to these gifts of the Lord we are able to conform not to the world but to Christ, and follow Him on His path, the path of "losing one's life" in order to find it. Through Christ we receive the eternal life!!!

Fr. Marcin

Collection for August 23

On Line...\$ 1,177.00
In Pew.... \$ 3,618.00
Total... \$ 4,795.00



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