

ASCENSION OF THE LORD



Church of St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Stanislaus Kostka
1235 George Street, Plainfield, New Jersey 07062
(908) 756-3393 ~ email: office@bestchurch.net
May 21, 2023

CHOIR

We are fortunate enough to have a Parish Choir that has a full multi-lingual repertoire; English, Polish and Spanish. The Choir rehearses on Thursday at 7:30 PM. Instrumentalists are welcomed, either to play solo or with our choir. A parish orchestra made up of children and adults rehearses and performs several times during the year. If you are interested in joining or for more information or just to volunteer, contact the office at (908) 756-3393.

PARISH REGISTRATION

New parishioners are most welcome and are encouraged to call the parish office and make an appointment to register. When you are moving from the parish, please notify the parish office.

SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

Call the Office during regular hours.

STEWARDSHIP AND TITHING

Stewardship calls us to freely give of our time, talent, and treasure for the good of our parish family and community. God gives us everything! I give Him back my tithe. Tithing is God's plan to support His Church. Full tithing means 10% of gross income to God – 5% for your parish church and 5 % for other charities.

VOCATIONS

Those who are recognizing the call to the priesthood, diaconate, or the religious life are invited to speak to a priest or contact the Archdiocesan Vocations Office at 973-497-4365, or at www.rcan.org/vocation/index.htm

ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY

2032 Westfield Ave., Scotch Plains NJ
908-322-4265 OR www.STBACADEMY.



Saturday – May 20...S. Bernardine of Siena

9:00AM...+ William "Reggie" Garner,
Req. Bob and Mary Ellen Chanda
5:00PM...+ Maureen Watkins, req. Olga Skolka

Sunday – May 21...Seventh Sunday of Easter The Ascension of the Lord Celebrated

9:00AM... + April Madison, req. Family
11:00AM...+ Ryszard Panasik (4th Anniversary),
req. Son Marek and Family
1:00PM.... People of the Parish

Monday – May 22...St. Rita

9:00AM...Special Intention, req. Cosmas Family

Tuesday – May 23... Easter Weekday

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

Wednesday – May 24... Easter Weekday

9:00AM...+ Jack Barrett, req. Mike and Frankie Parise

Thursday – May 25... St. Bede, St. Gregory VII, and St. Mary Magdalene

9:00AM... Health of Catherine Parise,
Req. Mike and Frankie Parise

Friday – May 26... St. Philip Neri

9:00AM...+ William Garner, req. Linda Scheidemann

Saturday – May 27...St. Augustine

9:00AM...+ Robert Richardson, req. Macknowsky Family
5:00PM...+ Peter Price, req. Bob and Mary Ellen Chanda

Sunday – May 28...Pentecost Sunday (Birthday of the Church)

9:00AM... + Ruth and Jack Dwyer, req. Family
11:00AM...+ Anna Gracka (30th Anniversary) , req. Mother
1:00PM....+ Veronca King,
req. Cheryl Russell and Camille Sands

The Tabernacle Candle will burn during the month of May for Rosita Imperial at the request of the Wong Family.

The Bread and Wine used at Mass for the month of May is in memory of Mary and Alex Melnik at the request of Daughter Olga Skolka.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for those whose health is challenged in any way especially **Ray Van Haute, Lisa Motos, Nancy Toth, Yvonne Thomas and Gloria DeMatteo.**

OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all the Faithful Departed.

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading: Acts 1:12-14

After Jesus ascended into heaven, the eleven apostles returned to Jerusalem and prayed in the upstairs room. With them were some women and Mary, the mother of Jesus.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:13-16

Christians are exhorted to rejoice in suffering because through suffering, they share in the life of Christ.

Gospel: John 17:1-11a

This is a continuation of Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper. He tells the Father that he has made his name known, that he has finished the work his Father has given him, and that he wishes now to share in the glory at his side.

Please Pray for our Parishioners in the Military

SSG Katarzyna Czajka, US Army
Ryan Percy, USN
Declan Cassidy, US Army

OUR PARISH STAFF:

REV. MARCIN FUKS
ADMINISTRATOR
PASTOR@BESTCHURCH.NET
908-756-3393 EXT. 33

KAROLE LECHOWSKI
SECRETARY
OFFICE@BESTCHURCH.NET

JEFFERY PERSHAY
MAINTENANCE

IVETH PARADA
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
BESTRELIGIOUSED@GMAIL.COM

THE TRUSTEES OF THE PARISH:

MARY ELLEN CHANDA
JOHNNY SKALSKI

SACRAMENTS

Baptism

Contact Rectory for appointment.

Reconciliation

After all daily Masses and Saturday,
4:30m to 5:00pm, or by appointment.

Marriage

Arrangements should be made one year in
advance. Contact Office for
appointment.

Anointing of the Sick

Contact Office for appointment for
home bound or infirmed.

How to Report Abuse

Archdiocese takes very seriously any and all allegations of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform us so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse. Call the Archdiocesan Office of Youth Protection at 201-407-3256.

The 2023 Annual Appeal is underway!

We have **\$23,815** already pledged. This is approximately **78%** of our goal of **\$30,242**.

The outpouring of support from many parishioners like you helps sustain the important ministries across the Archdiocese of Newark. These programs help to make our own parish a more vibrant place of worship.

If you have yet to give, please pick up a pledge envelope at the back of the church or visit www.rcan.org/sharing.

Thank you for your prayers and support.
Please make a gift online today by visiting



rcan.org/sharing.

Mass Schedule:
Monday - Saturday
9:00 AM

Saturday: 5:00 PM Mass
In English

Sunday: 9:00 AM Mass
In English

11:00 AM Mass in Polish
1:00 PM in English

Office Hours:
Monday – Friday
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

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



Benedykt XVI na Błoniach Krakowskich w 2006 r.

Bracia i Siostry, dziś na Błoniach krakowskich na nowo pada to pytanie z Dziejów Apostolskich. Tym razem jest ono skierowane do nas wszystkich: „Dlaczego stoicie i wpatrujecie się w niebo?” W odpowiedzi na to pytanie zawiera się podstawowa prawda o życiu i przeznaczeniu każdego człowieka.

To pytanie odnosi się do dwóch postaw, związanych z dwiema rzeczywistościami, w jakie wpisane jest życie człowieka: ziemską i niebiańską. Najpierw rzeczywistość ziemską: „Dlaczego stoicie?” - Dlaczego stoicie na ziemi? Odpowiadamy: Stoimy na ziemi, bo tu postawił nas Stwórca jako uwieńczenie swojego dzieła stworzenia. Bóg wszechmogący, zgodnie ze swym niepojętym zamysłem miłości, stworzył wszechświat, wywiódł go z nicości. A gdy dokonał tego dzieła, powołał do istnienia człowieka – stworzył go na swój obraz i podobieństwo (por. Rdz 1, 26-27). Obdarzył go godnością dziecka Bożego i nieśmiertelnością. Wiemy jednak, że człowiek zagubił się, nadużył daru wolności i powiedział Bogu „nie”, skazując się tym samym na egzystencję, w której pojawiło się zło, grzech, cierpienie i śmierć. Ale wiemy też, że sam Bóg nie pogodził się z tą sytuacją i wszedł bezpośrednio w dzieje człowieka, i stały się one dziejami zbawienia. „Stoimy na ziemi”, tkwimy w niej korzeniami, wyrastamy z niej. Tu tworzymy dobro na rozległych polach codziennego bytowania, w sferze materialnej, ale także duchowej: we wzajemnych relacjach, w budowaniu wspólnoty ludzkiej, w kulturze. Tu doznajemy trudu wędrowców, zmierzających do celu krętymi drogami, pośród wahań, napięć, niepewności, ale z głęboką świadomością, że wcześniej czy później ta wędrówka osiągnie kres. I wtedy rodzi się refleksja: Czy to już wszystko? Czy ziemia, na której „stoimy”, jest naszym ostatecznym przeznaczeniem?

W tym kontekście trzeba rozważyć drugą część pytania zacytowanego w Dziejach Apostolskich: „Dlaczego wpatrujecie się w niebo?” Czytamy, że gdy Apostołowie usiłowali zwrócić uwagę Zmartwychwstałego na kwestię przywrócenia królestwa Izraela, On „uniósł się w ich obecności w górę i obłok zabrał Go im sprzed oczu”. A oni „uporczywie wpatrywali się w Niego,

jak wstępował do nieba” (Dz 1, 9-10). A więc wpatrywali się w niebo, bo odprowadzali wzrokiem unoszącego się w górę Jezusa Chrystusa, ukrzyżowanego i zmartwychwstałego. Nie wiadomo, czy wówczas zdawali sobie sprawę z tego, że właśnie otwierał się przed nimi najwspanialszy, nieskończony horyzont, ostateczny cel ziemskiego pielgrzymowania człowieka. Być może zrozumieli to dopiero wtedy, gdy zostali oświeceni przez Ducha Świętego w dniu Pięćdziesiątnicy. Dla nas jednak to wydarzenie sprzed dwóch tysięcy lat jest czytelne. Jesteśmy wezwani, by stojąc na ziemi, wpatrywać się w niebo – kierować uwagę, myśl i serce w stronę niepojętej tajemnicy Boga. By patrzeć w kierunku rzeczywistości Bożej, do której od stworzenia powołany jest człowiek. W niej kryje się ostateczny sens naszego życia.

Słyszeliśmy dzisiaj słowa Jezusa: „Duch Święty zstąpi na was, otrzymacie Jego moc i będziecie moimi świadkami w Jerozolimie i w całej Judei, i w Samarii, i aż po krańce ziemi” (Dz 1, 8). Te słowa dotarły również przed wiekami na polską ziemię i wciąż stanowią wyzwanie dla wszystkich, którzy się przyznają do Jezusa Chrystusa i dla których Jego sprawa jest najważniejsza. Mamy być świadkami Jezusa żyjącego w Kościele i w ludzkich sercach. To On nas posyła. W dniu swego wniebowstąpienia powiedział apostołom: „Idźcie na cały świat i głoscie Ewangelię wszelkiemu stworzeniu. (...) Oni zaś poszli i głosili Ewangelię wszędzie, a Pan współdziałał z nimi i potwierdzał naukę znakami, które jej towarzyszyły” (Mk, 16, 15. 20). Drodzy Bracia i Siostry! Wraz z wyborem Karola Wojtyły na Stolicę św. Piotra, by służył całemu Kościołowi wasza ziemia stała się miejscem szczególnego świadectwa wiary w Jezusa Chrystusa. Wy sami zostaliście powołani, by to świadectwo składać wobec całego świata. To wasze powołanie jest nadal aktualne, a może nawet jeszcze bardziej od chwili błogosławionej śmierci Sługi Bożego. Niech nie zabraknie światu waszego świadectwa!

Benedykt XVI, 13 maja 2006

Szkoła Polska Doksztalająca

Zajęcia w Polskiej Szkole działającej przy naszej Parafii odbywają się w każdy poniedziałek w okresie roku szkolnego od godz. 5:30 do 8:00PM.

Kontakt:

polskaszkolaplainfield@outlook.com
Dyrektorka Szkoły: Beata Benewiat
Tel. 732-266-4310

WORD

STEWARDSHIP “I am praying for them....”

(JOHN 17:9)

Cardinal Joseph Tobin, CSs. R.

Prayer is the foundation of our faith and the foundation of stewardship. Prayer is always the first best option in any situation – not just our last resort. Pray for friends and family, especially for those that don't treat you very well. Pray to give praise, to thank, and to ask God for help. Pray to see what God wants you to do with the gifts He has given to you. Teach others how to pray. It has been said that teaching someone how to pray is the best gift you can give someone.



WORSHIP

ROSARY DEVOTION

The Rosary is prayed on a regular basis every day before the 9:00AM Mass, and will also be prayed during the Month of May on Tuesdays at 1PM in Church.

The Living Rosary will be prayed Tuesday, May 30, at 7:00PM in any language you prefer. Please call the office to let us know what language you are requesting.

The *Blessed Sacrament* is exposed after the Mass on Thursdays followed by **Benediction at 11:00AM.**



EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

We are still in need of a few more Eucharistic Ministers (EM's) for the 5:00PM Saturday and 1:00PM Sunday Masses. If you are an EM and would be able to help out occasionally at these Masses, or if you are interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister, please contact Bill Shlala at wqshlala@gmail.com or call (908) 755-8560.

Easter Blessing of Homes and Families

A house blessing is an ancient Catholic tradition that recalls the need to recognize the importance of the family itself, united and consolidated within the Lord. It is a moment of communion and dialog between the faithful and the priests. As your priest, I would like to know all of you, and this will be a great opportunity!!!

To schedule the visit, contact the parish office or me directly!

What, Me Holy? RENEW INTERNATIONAL



In his exhortation *Rejoice and Be Glad* Pope Francis calls all Catholics to live a life of holiness.

But, what does holiness really mean?

How do we answer that call in today's world in our work and the day-to-day of our busy lives? Renowned author Chris Lowney helps unpack Pope Francis' words, inviting us to re-examine our ideas about holiness and how we answer the call to live a holy life. Through a series of faith-sharing sessions, with down to earth, concrete examples, he opens our eyes to the everyday things we already do and those we can begin to do to lead us on a journey to holiness.

Fellow parishioners have been gathering in small faith-sharing groups each week to explore, pray and reflect on who we are called to be in our families, our parish, our neighborhood, our nation, and our world today. In session 10 our focus is that holiness means involving God, through prayer, in the important decisions in our lives. We will reflect on St. Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians 5:13b-23. What word, phrase or image from the scripture reading touches your heart or speaks to your life at this time?

Do you sometimes hesitate to seek God's help when you need to make a difficult decision? Why? How has the Holy Spirit helped you with decision-making? Have you ever asked for the Holy Spirit to assist you in making a decision?

"All of us, but especially the young are immersed in a culture of zapping. We can navigate simultaneously on two or more screens and interact at the same time with two or three virtual scenarios. Without the wisdom of discernment, we can easily become prey to every passing trend." -Pope Francis *Rejoice and Be Glad*, 167

Our next session is Thursday, May 25th at 6:00PM in the Parish Commons.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to help in the Parish. Whatever time or day you can offer will be appreciated. **We need help with:**
Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Servers, Office Assistance, Religious Education Teachers, Class Assistants and Hall Monitors. Please contact Fr. Marcin if you are interested or for further information on becoming a volunteer in the Parish.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



3'x5' American Flags for 15.00 will be available to purchase after every Mass this weekend and next weekend.



The Knights of Columbus is open to all men of the parish. If you are interested in joining the Knights, please contact John Beckman at jabeckman111@gmail.com



BESTCHURCH SENIORS

The BestChurch Seniors are taking a summer break...our last meeting of the season will be June 15th at 12:30, with a summer luncheon. The monthly meetings will resume in October. If you are a senior or almost a senior why not consider joining the BestChurch Seniors? Meetings are the third Thursday of the month except for January and February which is our winter break. Seniors get together for socialization, interesting programs, laughs and sharing, along with some tasty desserts. For more information contact Karole in the Parish Office.



Mt. St. Mary House of Prayer offers many programs. More information can be found at www.msmhope.org or by calling (908) 753-2091.

YOUTH

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION Re-registration materials will be forthcoming shortly by e-mail. You may register online or by calling the office. Please make every effort to complete the forms as soon as possible so we can begin the process preparing for September.

St. Bartholomew Academy

The Academy is a perfect place for a Catholic Education K-8, founded on learning a true Catholic way of life and achieving excellence in academics, while being nurtured and cared for. For information contact Maureen Doherty at: 908-322-4265 or www.stbacademy.org

GLORY
REVEALED



FINANCE



ONLINE GIVING

It is possible to automate your Faith Giving to our Parish Giving, by going to our parish website.

Faith Giving for St. Bernard and St. Stanislaus

Collection for May 14
Online.... \$838.00
In Pew....\$3,296.00

Total for May 14....\$4,134.00
Total for Easter \$23,302.00

Calendar of Events

SUNDAYS:

May 21...Seventh Sunday of Easter
The Ascension of the Lord

9:00AM.... Mass in English

11:00AM..Mass in Polish

1:00PM.....Mass in English

May 28...Pentecost Sunday
The Birthday of the Church

9:00AM.... Mass in English

11:00AM..Mass in Polish

1:00PM.....Mass in English

June 4...The Most Holy Trinity

9:00AM.... Mass in English

11:00AM..Mass in Polish

1:00PM.....Mass in English

MONDAYS:

May 22 (Last Class)

5:30PM...Polish School

TUESDAYS:

May 23

1:00PM...Rosary prayed in Church

May 30

7:00PM...Living Rosary

WEDNESDAYS:

THURSDAYS:

May 25, June 1 (Last Session)

6:00PM...Renew International

What, Me Holy? Continues

May 25

7:30PM...Choir Practice

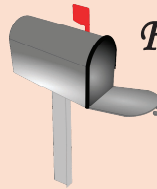
FRIDAYS:

SATURDAYS:

May 20, 27

4:30PM...Confession

5:00PM...Mass



From the Desk of Fr. Marcin

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

The Solemnity of the Ascension marks a move from the risen Lord at Easter to the coming of the Holy Spirit. Christ is the Lord of heaven and earth. While no longer physically here on earth, Christ is with us through the presence of the Holy Spirit.

As he prepared to ascend to his Father, he instructed his disciples to wait for the promised Holy Spirit. Through the Spirit's presence the disciples would understand the great commandment: to "go and make disciples of all nations."

Today, in the same way as the disciples, we are called to share this news of God's love to all people. There is nothing greater than to share this news.

As many of you heard last week, I have been appointed as a new pastor of St. Bernard and St. Stanislaus Parish! My appointment will begin on July 1, 2023 for six years. After that time, there will be an option to renew for an additional period of six years.

There will be a proper "Installation as a Pastor" by Bishop Elias Lorenzo on September 10th at the 1PM Mass. I want to thank all of you for your support, prayers, and warm welcome during this past year as Parochial Vicar and Administrator.

In Christ,

Fr. Marcin Fuks

Phone: 908 756 3393 ext. 33
pastor@bestchurch.net

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on a regular basis on Saturdays at 4:30PM and on Sunday mornings after Masses as well as after weekday Masses simply by requesting a celebration of the sacrament.

**The Book for Reserved Masses
for 2024 is now open.**

You are welcome to reserve 2024 Masses.



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

In Loving  Memory
 Place Your Tribute
Here To A Loved One!
Call 800-883-4343
Ext. 106


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



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

**Check
Your
Smoke
Alarms....**

What do
you have
to lose?


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


Thomas E. Sheenan, CFSP
OWNER/MANAGER
NJ Lic. 2592

233 DUNELLEN AVENUE
DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY 08812
p: (732) 968-4227
WWW.SHEENANFH.COM

In Loving  Memory

**HEAVENLY ANNIVERSARY
BLESSINGS TO
OUR PARENTS**
SEPTEMBER 12, 1964
*We Love & Miss You Very Much,
Your Five Kids!!*


**NATIONAL PROBLEM
GAMBLING HELPLINE**
1-800-522-4700
CALL • TEXT • CHAT
NCPGAMBLING.ORG/CHAT


National Council on Problem Gambling

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES
BUY LOCAL • BE FLEXIBLE • BE GENEROUS


**NEED A LAWYER?
INJURED ON THE JOB?**
MARC J. BRENNER ESQ.

Personal Injury
Workers' Compensation
Social Security Disability
CERTIFIED BY THE
SUPREME COURT OF NEW
JERSEY AS A WORKERS'
COMPENSATION
LAW ATTORNEY
CALL FOR A FREE LEGAL CONSULTATION
(973) 326-8902
222 RIDGEDALE AVE • CEDAR KNOLLS
315 BROAD STREET • BLOOMFIELD


ASPCA
— ASPCA.ORG —
WE ARE THEIR VOICE.
www.asPCA.org

**BON
Venture**
Call me today for more information on how your
business can benefit by joining the others who
support this church bulletin program.
— John Sloatmaker
800-364-0684 / ext. 63


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