

Church of St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Stanislaus Kostka
1235 George Street, Plainfield, New Jersey 07062
(908) 756-3393 ~ email: office@bestchurch.net ~ fax: (908) 756-3059
September 24, 2023



Thus, the last will be first,
and
the first will be last. (Matthew 20:16)



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 7:00 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

Mass Intentions

Saturday – September 23...St. Pius

9:00AM...+ Linda Burdick, req. Johanna Merkle
5:00PM...+ Allison Jennings, req. Mosley Family

Sunday – September 24...25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM.....+ Julie C. Farnoly, req. Anna Bonacorso
11:00AM...+ Janina Ksiazek, req. Son and Family
1:00PM.....+ All the Souls in Purgatory

Monday – September 25... Weekday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM...Birthday Blessings for Catherine Parise,
Req. Mike and Frankie

Tuesday – September 26... Sts. Cosmas and Damian

9:00AM...Our Parish Community

Wednesday – September 27... St. Vincent de Paul

9:00AM...+ Donn MacMillian,
req. Armond and Anna Maria Apisa

Thursday – September 28... Sts. Wenceslaus and Lawrence Ruisz

9:00AM...+ Robert DeMair, req. Friends of the Parish

Friday – September 29 ... Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael

9:00AM...+ Stella Sopko, req. Daughter Karole

Saturday – September 30...St. Jerome

9:00AM...+ People of the Parish
5:00PM...+ Sr. Lois DaRold, req. Mary Ellen and Bob Chanda

Sunday – October 1...26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM.....+ Robert DeMair, req. Mike and Frankie Parise
11:00AM...+ Kazimierz Wojewodka,
req. Friends from So. Plainfield
1:00PM.... + Anthony and Stephanie Saloman, req. Family

Please Pray for our Parishioners in the Military
SSG Katarzyna Czajka, US Army
Ryan Percy, USN
Declan Cassidy, US Army

The Tabernacle Candle will burn this week for
The Gabrukiewicz Family , at the request of the Family.

The Bread and Wine used at Mass for the month of
September is in memory of Stella Sopko at the request of Daughter and Family.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for those whose health is challenged in any way especially **Lisa Motos, Ray Van Haute, Nancy Toth, Gloria DeMatteo, John Skolka, Jr., and Kate Rooney.**

OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all the **Faithful Departed.**

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TME

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

Isaiah expresses an urgent plea that all should seek the Lord and turn to him for mercy.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

In a strongly personal message from Paul while in prison, he says that he wishes "to be freed from this life and to be with Christ," but he realizes that he still has much important work to do.

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16a

Jesus tells the parable of the owner of an estate who hires workmen for his vineyard. When, at the end of the day, he pays a full day's wage to those who worked only one hour, those who worked all day complained bitterly. But the owner says, "I am free to do as I please, am I not?" Jesus reminds us through this parable that "the last shall be first and the first shall be last."

REV. MARCIN FUKS
PASTOR
PASTOR@BESTCHURCH.NET
908-756-3393 EXT - 103

REV. BERNARDO GARCIA
PAROCHIAL VICAR
908-756-3393 EXT - 110

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

The Saint of the Week

St. Vincent de Paul
(September 27)

He was born to a poor peasant family in the French village of Pouy on April 24, 1581. His first formal education was provided by the Franciscans. He was ordained in 1600 and remained in Toulouse for a time. In 1605, while on a ship traveling from Marseilles to Narbonne, he was captured, brought to Tunis and sold as a slave. Two years later he and his master managed to escape and both returned to France.

St. Vincent went to Avignon and later to Rome to continue his studies. While there he became a chaplain to the Count of Goigny and was placed in charge of distributing money to the deserving poor. He became pastor of a small parish in Clichy for a short period of time, while also serving as a tutor and spiritual director.

From that point forward he spent his life preaching missions to and providing relief to the poor. He even established hospitals for them. He later extended his concern and ministry to convicts. The need to evangelize and assist these souls was so great and the demands beyond his own ability to meet that he founded the Ladies of Charity, a lay institute of women, to help, as well as a religious institute of priests - the Congregation of Priests of the Mission, commonly referred to now as the Vincentians.

Vincent helped reform the clergy and the manner in which they were instructed and prepared for the priesthood.

In addition to his order of Vincentian priests, St. Vincent cofounded the Daughters of Charity along with St. Louise de Marillac. He was eighty years old when he died in Paris on September 27, 1660. He had "become the symbol of the successful reform of the French Church". St. Vincent is sometimes referred to as "The Apostle of Charity" and "The Father of the Poor".

SACRAMENTS

Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated throughout the month on Saturdays and Sundays, except during Lent. First-time parents are required to complete Baptismal Preparation. Call the office at (908) 756-3393.

Marriage

Arrangements should be made one year in advance to begin your preparation process. Please reach out to us as soon as engagement is announced, and we will help make the arrangements. Visit our website or call the office at (908) 756-3393 for an appointment.

Eucharist for Homebound

If you or someone you know is homebound or unable to attend Mass in person and would like to have a Eucharistic Minister bring Communion at home, please reach out to Fr. Marcin Fuks at: Pastor@bestchurch.net. We will make arrangements for Communion visits on a weekly basis.

Anointing of the Sick

Contact office for appointment for homebound or infirmed.

RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) introduces adults to the Catholic faith and tradition. The RCIA Process is for adults who seek full initiation in the Catholic Church, including those who have never been baptized, Christians desiring to convert from other denominations, and baptized Catholics desiring to receive Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. Please contact the office for an appointment.

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



25 Niedziela Zwykła

Dzisiejsza Ewangelia opowiada przypowieść o robotnikach zatrudnionych na dniówkę przez właściciela winnicy. W tym opowiadaniu Jezus ukazuje nam zaskakujący sposób postępowania Boga, przedstawiony w dwóch podejściach gospodarza – powoływaniu i wynagradzaniu.

Najpierw wezwanie. Pięć razy właściciel winnicy wychodzi na plac i wzywa do pracy dla niego – o godzinie szóstej, dziewiątej, dwunastej, o trzeciej i piątej po południu. Wzruszający jest obraz tego gospodarza, który wychodzi raz po raz na plac, żeby szukać robotników do swojej winnicy. Ten gospodarz reprezentuje Boga, który powołuje wszystkich i powołuje zawsze, o dowolnej godzinie. Bóg postępuje tak również dzisiaj – nadal wzywa każdego o dowolnej godzinie, zachęcając do pracy w Jego królestwie. Taki jest styl Boga, który my z kolei powinniśmy przyjąć i naśladować. Nie jest On zamknięty w swoim świecie, lecz "wychodzi" – Bóg zawsze wychodzi i nas szuka; nie jest zamknięty – Bóg wychodzi. Wychodzi nieustannie na poszukiwanie ludzi, ponieważ nie chce, żeby ktokolwiek był wykluczony z Jego zamysłu miłości.

Również nasze wspólnoty są wezwane do wychodzenia poza różnego rodzaju "granice", jakie mogą istnieć, żeby wszystkim przedstawiać słowo o zbawieniu, które przyniósł Jezus. Chodzi o to, by otworzyć się na horyzonty życia, które dawałyby nadzieję ludziom znajdującym się na peryferiach egzystencjalnych, którzy nie doświadczyli jeszcze - albo je zatracili - mocy i światła spotkania z Chrystusem. Kościół musi być taki jak Bóg – zawsze wychodzący; a kiedy Kościół nie wychodzi, zapada na liczne choroby, które mamy w Kościele. A skąd te choroby w Kościele? Dlatego że nie wychodzi. To prawda, że kiedy ktoś wychodzi, istnieje niebezpieczeństwo wypadku. Lecz lepszy jest Kościół z urazami z powodu wychodzenia, żeby głosić Ewangelię, niż Kościół chory z powodu zamknięcia. Bóg zawsze wychodzi, ponieważ jest Ojcem, ponieważ kocha. Kościół musi postępować tak samo – zawsze wychodzić.

Drugie podejście gospodarza, reprezentujące podejście Boga, to jego sposób wynagradzania pracowników. Jak płaci Bóg? Gospodarz umawia się o jednego "denara" z

pierwszymi robotnikami, zatrudnionymi rano. Natomiast tym, którzy dołączają później, mówi: "Co będzie słuszne, dam wam". Pod koniec dnia właściciel winnicy poleca dać wszystkim taką samą zapłatę, czyli jednego denara. Ci, którzy pracowali od rana, oburzają się i szemrają przeciw gospodarzowi, ale on jest stanowczy – chce dać wszystkim maksymalne wynagrodzenie, także tym, którzy dołączyli jako ostatni. Bóg zawsze płaci maksymalną stawkę – nie poprzestaje na połowicznej zapłacie. Płaci wszystko. I tutaj staje się zrozumiałe, że Jezus nie mówi o pracy i o sprawiedliwej zapłacie, co jest innym problemem, ale o królestwie Bożym i o dobroci Ojca niebieskiego, który wciąż wychodzi, żeby zapraszać, i wszystkich wynagradza maksymalnie.

W istocie Bóg postępuje w ten sposób – nie zważa na czas ani na rezultaty, ale na dyspozycyjność, patrzy na wielkoduszność, z jaką podejmujemy Jego służbę. Jego postępowanie jest więcej niż sprawiedliwe, w takim sensie, że wykracza poza sprawiedliwość i przejawia się w łasce. Wszystko jest łaską. Nasze zbawienie jest łaską. Nasza świętość jest łaską. Dając nam łaskę, On daje nam więcej, niż na to zasługujemy. A zatem ten, kto rozumie kierując się logiką ludzką, to znaczy logiką zasług nabytych dzięki własnym umiejętnościom, z pierwszego staje się ostatnim. "Przecież ja tak dużo pracowałem, tak dużo zrobiłem w Kościele, tak wiele pomagałem, a płacą mi tyle samo, co temu, który przyszedł ostatni". Przypomnijmy sobie, kto był pierwszym świętym, kanonizowanym w Kościele – Dobry Łotr. "Skradł" niebo w ostatniej chwili swojego życia – to jest łaska, taki jest Bóg. Również w stosunku do nas wszystkich. Natomiast jeśli ktoś próbuje myśleć o własnych zasługach, ponosi porażkę; ten, kto z pokorą zawierza się miłosierdziu Ojca, z ostatniego – jak Dobry Łotr – staje się pierwszy

Papież Franciszek, Anioł Pański 20 września 2020 r.

1 października Parada Pułaskiego

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 “*Thus, the last will be first and the first will be last.*” - MATTHEW 20:16)

Cardinal Joseph Tobin, CSs. R.

You’ve heard the saying “it’s not where you start, but how you finish.” This certainly applies to this Bible passage. We have a responsibility not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. We are called to generously share our gifts with others, not hoard them for our own use. Our sincere gratitude and cheerful generosity will help us live “God-centered” lives and not “self-centered” lives.

WORSHIP

THE CHOIR



Why not be a member?

Rehearsals have begun and are on Thursdays in the church at 7:00 PM.

If you are interested in joining our Choir, please contact the office, or simply just come on a Thursday evening to one of our rehearsals.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND LECTORS

We are in need of Eucharistic Ministers (EM's) and Lectors for the 5:00PM Saturday and 1:00PM Sunday Masses. If you would like to be a Eucharistic Minister or a Lector for these Masses, please contact Bill Shlala at washlala@gmail.com or call (908) 755-8560. Bill will be glad to instruct on you on how to serve.

ROSARY DEVOTION

The Rosary is prayed on a regular basis every day before the 9:00AM Mass.

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed after the Mass on Thursdays with Benediction at 11:00AM

ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

The Rosary Mass is celebrated on the First Sunday of the month. After the 9 AM Mass, Rosarians gather together at the Blessed Mother's Altar to pray the Rosary. Anyone who would like to pray with us is welcome next **Rosary Sunday, October 1st**



MOUNT ST. MARY HOUSE OF PRAYER

Mt. St. Mary House of Prayer offers many programs that invite us to be stretched and grow in relationship with ourselves, others and God. For more information see the website:

www.msmhope.org

or email msmhope@msmhope.org

YOUTH

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Online registration is now closed. If you have any questions, please contact Iveth Parada at bestreligioused@gmail.com or call the office.

Classes begin Wednesday, October 4th 6:30PM.



ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY

Throughout the year, St. Bart's Academy in Scotch Plains hosts open houses to welcome interested students and their families to experience all the Academy has to offer. To schedule a tour or for more information call 908-322-4265.

ORATORY PREP SCHOOL - OPEN HOUSE

For boys grades 7-12, Sunday, October 1 from 1-3 PM and on Thursday, October 26 from 6:30-8:30 PM. Oratory Prep is located at 425 Morris Avenue, Summit, NJ. You may register to attend on the website under the *Admissions* tab. For further information, call 908-273-1084, ext. 1 or visit www.oratoryprep.org

UNION CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL FALL OPEN HOUSE

October 11th 7:00PM; November 4th 12:00 Noon
Contact 908-889-1600 ext. 301 or 328 or www.unioncatholic.org for more information.

SAINT PETER'S PREP

Saint Peter's Preparatory School will hold its Fall Open House on Sunday, October 15, from 1:00 – 4:00 at the school's campus in historic downtown Jersey City. Saint Peter's Prep is an independent, college preparatory school for boys, and it remains New Jersey's only Jesuit high school. For more information, please call 201-547-6389 or visit www.spprep.org

COMMUNITY BUILDING

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The Knights of Columbus is open to all men of the parish. If you would like more information about the Knights of Columbus, please contact John Beckman at

jabeckman111@gmail.com.

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD COLLECTION

The food we collect in the open area of the Church is ongoing and will be distributed in conjunction with STARFISH in Plainfield. You are welcome to bring any non-perishable foods whose dates are current to the open area of the church.

PRAYER SHAWL

Thank you, we have a new member...however we could use a few more. Current members are busy making blankets for our newly baptized children and lap covers for the nursing homes and hospitals. **We have plenty of yarn!!!** However, we need a few more volunteers to knit or crochet. If you have this talent or would like to learn, call the office for more information. This ministry can easily be done at your leisure at home.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW BEREAVEMENT

St. Bart's in Scotch Plains is offering a grief support group starting Wednesday, October 4th and continuing October 11, 18, 25, November 1, 8, 15. Meeting times are 7 PM to 8:30 PM. Meetings will be held in the cafeteria at St. Bartholomew Academy. If you choose to attend, please contact Jo-Anne 908-889-7790 or Bernadette 908-510-0995.

All conversations are held in confidence.

ST. HELEN'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

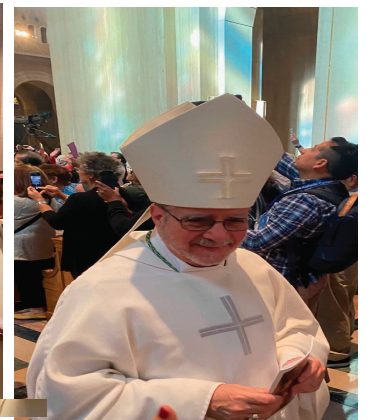
A support group for those caring for elderly or chronically ill loved ones meets on the first Wednesday of the month at the St. Helen's Parish Center in Westfield. The next meeting is Wednesday, October 4th at 7:30PM. For more information call Marilyn Ryan at 908-232-1214.

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.



**Saturday September 16th
Washington, DC**



FINANCE



ONLINE GIVING

It is possible to automate your Faith Giving to our Parish Giving, simply go to our parish website.

Faith Giving for St. Bernard and St. Stanislaus

Collection for September 17

Online \$ 1,538.00

In Pew.....\$ 4,615.00

Total for September 10... \$ 6,153.00

Collection for Catholic University

Additional \$ 30.00 Total...\$174.00

Calendar of Events

SUNDAYS:

September 24...25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM, 1:00PM...Mass in English

11:00AM...Mass in Polish

October 1...26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Respect Life Sunday

World Communion Sunday

9:00AM, 1:00PM...Mass in English

11:00AM...Mass in Polish

October 8...27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00AM, 1:00PM...Mass in English

11:00AM...Mass in Polish

MONDAYS:

September ... 25: October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

5:30PM...Polish School

TUESDAYS:

WEDNESDAYS:

October 4, 11, 18, 25

6:30PM...Religious Education

THURSDAYS:

September, 28, October 5, 12, 19, 26

7:00PM...Choir Rehearsal in the Church

FRIDAYS:

October 6

7:00PM...First Friday Mass...Polish

SATURDAYS:

September 23, 30

4:15PM...Confession

We are excited to announce that our parish received a **\$10,000** grant through the Archdiocese of Newark's Parish Unity Fund. The Parish Unity Fund is made possible by parishes across the Archdiocese that surpass their Annual Appeal goal. The grant funds are intended to assist parishes in achieving their capital and pastoral goals.

This grant will enable us to finish a "**Community Room**". We are thankful and blessed to have received this grant as it provides us the opportunity to bring in the resources to live our mission. The anticipated work started this August and is almost completed. Please keep our parish community in your prayers.

From Fr. Marcin's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today's parable from Matthew shows us God's generosity. For many of us this might be difficult to accept. We might question the landowner's statement that he can do whatever he likes with his money. It's easy to look at this parable and say that God is unjust, because the landowner let some workers work the full day and others just a few hours, but the pay remained the same. However, this parable presents us with the immense generosity of our God.

The economy of God is different from that of the world. The economy that we know is based on agreement of exchange: you know what you get in exchange for what you give. Laborers, in exchange for their work, receive wages, but they will only receive what is rightfully earned and rarely more. This economy is based on debt and obligation.

In contrast, the economy of God is based on a gift that is given to us. Jesus wants to open our hearts to the logic of the Father's love which is free and generous. It is about allowing oneself to be astonished and fascinated by the "thoughts" and the "ways" of God which, as the Prophet Isaiah recalls, are not our thoughts and not our ways. Human thoughts are often marked by selfishness and personal advantages, and our narrow and contorted paths are not comparable to the wide and straight streets of the Lord. He uses mercy, forgives and is filled with generosity and kindness which he pours forth on each of us. He opens for everyone the boundless territory of his love and his grace, which alone can give the human heart the fullness of joy.

In the Love of God,

Fr. Marcin Fuks


Phone: 908 756 3393 ext. 103

E-mail: pastor@bestchurch.net

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

Check Your Smoke Alarms....



What do you have to lose?

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

Lend an arm; we'll lend a hand.





 American Red Cross

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
 **NCPG**
National Council on Problem Gambling

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
 

Always be alert for pedestrians.
Safe Drivers Save Lives



 **NHTSA**

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



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

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

NEED A LAWYER? INJURED? 

★ Call For A Free Legal Consultation ★
 **MARC J. BRENNER ESQ.**
973-326-8902
• Personal Injury
• Workers' Compensation
• Social Security Disability
lawmarcbrenner.com • marc@lawmarcbrenner.com
222 RIDGEDALE AVE • CEDAR KNOLLS / 315 BROAD ST • BLOOMFIELD

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