St. Bernard of Clairvaux Church

Sunday, February 8, 2026

Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time

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MRS. HELENE CIRRINCIONE
Youth Minister

MRS. SANDRA ARCATI
Office Manager

MRS. ANGELA ZITO
Receptionist

Mass Schedule

Sundays

Saturday at 5:00 p.m.
Sundays: 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.
Spanish-Once a Month on Saturday's at 7:00 p.m.

Weekdays

Monday - Friday at 8:30 a.m. Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

Holy Days

8:30 a.m. and Evening Mass at 7:30 p.m.

Reconciliation

Saturday at 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m.

Rectory Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m.-7:00p.m.
Saturday & Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
NATIONAL HOLIDAYS - RECTORY CLOSED

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Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

WHAT KIND OF FASTING

As we prepare ourselves for the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday, February 18th we will hear much about fasting. Many of us grew up doing acts of fasting from candy or soda, or a favorite television show or a favorite food. The purpose of fasting is to remind ourselves that God alone suffices and the everything else can only fill us for a time. Everyone desires fulfilment but only God can answer that need. As St. Augustine wrote, "We are made for you O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you." Fasting helps us to rest in God and not in material things, even those that may be good. Yet the Lord God, in both the Old and New Testaments, speaks to us about a different kind of fasting. It is basically a fasting from ourselves or at least the preoccupation with the self which has become something of an epidemic in contemporary society. We are told in this Sunday's first reading from Isaiah to "share (our) bread with the hungry;" to "clothe the naked;" and not "turn our back" on others. We are further told to "remove…oppression, false accusation and malicious speech." All of this points to charity and justice. To put it another way, what good is it to give up candy or soda, a favorite tv show or food, if we are not practicing that charity and justice that make us fully human, fully alive, fully Christian. It is no different with prayer. Prayer is not meant to change God. It is meant to change us to become Christ in our concern for others, both their temporal needs and their eternal salvation. This call to charity and justice, which is a call away from a preoccupation with the self, comes with a promise: "the light shall rise for you in darkness." The implication here is clear. Those who are preoccupied with the self and their own wants and needs live in darkness, whereas those who live for others live in light. The former cannot see well but the latter sees everything clearly and knows the peace that comes from a life of charity and justice. This gift, like every gift from God, is not just for ourselves. As our Lord tells us this Sunday in the Gospel of St. Matthew, we are to be light, our "light must shine before others so that they may see your good deeds and give glory to your heavenly Father." There are three things going on in the Gospel. First is the fact that salt without taste is useless. By implication our Lord is telling us that if we are primarily living for ourselves and not for others, we are of no use. It is the Lord who said, that this useless salt is to be "thrown out and trampled underfoot." Conversely, those who live lives of charity and justice will have clarity about who they are and who God is. Here authentic freedom is born. Lastly, we have a call to humility. Yes, people will see our good deeds but all glory goes to our heavenly Father for without God we cannot do anything. In this understanding of fasting we become, as mentioned already, more fully human, alive, and Christian. There is no better and freer way to live than with the eyes of the heart set on God and His people who are also our brothers and sisters in Christ.
Fr. John Maduri

Monthly 50/50 Raffle

Contribution is $25 and the proceeds will be used for the ongoing renovation and rebuilding of the parish facilities. Winner takes home half the amount collected for the given month. Simply drop your entry at the rectory or in the weekly collection basket. The next winner will be picked on March 3rd, 2026

Last Month's Winner of $300.00 was Frede Frederic

Ash Wednesday Schedule

Following is the schedule for Ash Wednesday as we begin our Lenten Journey.
Wednesday, February 18, 2026
8:30a.m. Mass, 2:00p.m. Service,
6:00p.m. Spanish Service & 7:30p.m. Service
Ashes will be distributed at all.

Stations of the Cross

There will be Stations of The Cross each Friday of Lent beginning on Friday, February 20th at 7:00pm in Church.

This weekend's second collection is a Parish Collection for Snow Removal.
Thank you always for your generosity! It is greatly appreciated!

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2026	
9:00am	Sven Oenmig by Ewa Cwaling
5:00pm	Angelo Messina by Robert & Eileen Magnavito Stefano Mastrandrea by The Gosh Family
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2026	
9:00am	Lillian Rao by Teresa & Thomas Sorrentino
11:00am	Jo Carmarda Happy 1st Anniversary in Heaven Love Camille
5:30pm	In Thanksgiving for Prayers Answered by Harolde John
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2026	
8:30am	Prayers for Joe Riggio by Ted & Maureen DeMarinis People of the Parish
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2026	
8:30am	Nicholas Burriesci by Michael & Terry Reinhardt
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026	
8:30am	Josephine DeLuca by Connie Carriero Jennie Maduri by Michael Lucci II Rev. Matteo J. Rizzo by Harolde John
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026	
8:30am	Edward Soldyn by Wife, Children & Grandchildren (15th Anniversary in Heaven)
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2026	
8:30am	Josephine DeLuca by Nick & Ellie Graziano
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2026	
9:00am	John Taliercio by The Taliercio Family
5:00pm	Joseph Giacobbe Love Mom & Dad
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2026	
9:00am	Gina Ferranti by Ellie & Nick Graziano (1st Birthday in Heaven) Christina Mazzara by Alexandra Galka
11:00am	Protection for Oliver Jacques Simon & Family by Harolde John
5:30pm	Arlene McShea by Thomas Langella

Offertory Procession

If you or your family has an announced Mass intention for a loved one and you would like to bring up the Communion gifts **PLEASE** see one of the ushers before Mass begins. Thank you!

Continue to Pray the Rosary Each Day!

Now, more than ever we need to come together in prayer and reach out to Our Blessed Mother with hope. We ask her to intercede with her Son and we implore her maternal care for all of her children.

Memorials

Altar Bread:
In Loving Memory of Edward Soldyn
Donated by This Wife & Children

Altar Wine:
In Loving Memory of Edward Soldyn
Donated by This Wife & Children

Altar Candles:
In Loving Memory of Edward Soldyn
Donated by This Wife & Children

Tabernacle Candle:
In Loving Memory of Edward Soldyn
Donated by This Wife & Children

Tabernacle Candle:
In Loving Memory of Edward Soldyn
Donated by This Wife & Children

Church Bells:
In Loving Memory of Edward Soldyn
Donated by This Wife & Children

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

Justin Andrickson
Jourdanna Barton
Jim Bellard
Margaret Bracco
Morelda Brown
Michael C. Thomas Caliendo
Carmine Carriero, Jr.
Domenic Carriero
Nick Codella
Daniel Commisso
Janet Commisso
Irma Cruz
Francine Danza
Joe DeAmbrosia
Maureen DeMarinis
Baby Demi
Rocco Gabriel DiMaggio
Donna Donzella
James Donzella
Rose Esposito
John Fahey
Teresa Fornaro
Jonathan Gan
Carole Gibbons
Tina Giberti
Mark Gottlieb
Robin Gottlieb
John Gullo
Ryan Hoefel
June Honovich
Micha Edmond Jordan
Jennifer Karayeanes
Ann Klauss
Greyson Livia
Kenny M
Eddie Boy McCarthy
Christine McCartney
Kelsey McCartney
Tannya Ortiz
Angela Pollio
William Prussing
Corinne Ramaglia
Gasper Sacco
Robert Sansone
Joanne Sarnicola
Stephanie Sheetz
Shawn Anthony Smith
Gene Stark
Maureen Stewart
Cigdem Tanriverdi

St. Joseph Novena

Tuesday's following the 8:30 a.m. mass. If you would like to memorialize flowers for a loved one during any of the weeks of this novena please come to the rectory for more information. Thank you

Faith Formation News

First Penance Saturday, March 28, 2026 at 11:00am
Penance Practice both groups Monday, March 16th & Wednesday, March 18th 3:30pm in Church

First Holy Communion Saturday, May 9, 2026
St. Bernard Academy - 11:00 am/St. Bernard Faith Formation- 1:00 pm
Communion Practice Academy Tuesday, May 5th 4:00pm-5:30pm in Church Children Only
Communion Practice Faith Formation Wednesday May 6th 3:00pm-4:30pm in Church Children Only

Confirmation Candidate Retreat
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday April 20, 21, 22, 2026 St. Bernard Church (More Information to Follow)

All children should be using their Mass intention cards and envelopes at Mass. Extra cards and envelopes can be found in the Kids Korner.

School of Religion Calendar: Use the dates below to plan accordingly.
Wednesday February 11, 25 (NO CLASS on February 18th)
Wednesday March 4, 11, 18, 25
Wednesday April 15, 22, 29 (NO CLASS on April 1st & 8th)
Wednesday May 6, 13, 20

SAINT BERNARD CATHOLIC ACADEMY
ROOTED IN CHRIST'S TEACHING

We teach with love-

Mrs. Melissa B. Wagner, Principal
Mrs. Kristen Calvert, Assistant Principal
Mr. Rick Martino, Board Chair

Saint Bernard Catholic Academy is now registering for the 2026-2027 academic year!

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For further information call 718-241-6040 or visit our website at www.stbernardcatholicacademy.org.
Follow us on Instagram@Saintbernardcatholicacademy

Stewardship Thought

Today's readings are both encouragement and instruction for us as Christian stewards. They offer clear direction on what matters most to God and how He calls us to use the gifts He has entrusted to us. In the first reading, the prophet Isaiah gives us straightforward guidance: "Share your bread with the hungry, shelter the oppressed and the homeless; clothe the naked when you see them, and do not turn your back on your own." There is no ambiguity here. Caring for our brothers and sisters in need is not optional — it is a fundamental responsibility of the Christian steward. Yet the Lord also reminds us of His generosity when we live this way. "Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your wound shall quickly be healed." When we give of ourselves, we do not lose — we gain. God's grace grows within us, and we experience deeper joy and peace as our lives become more aligned with His will. In the Gospel, Jesus speaks plainly to His disciples — and to us — calling us the "salt of the earth" and the "light of the world." But salt loses its purpose if it goes stale, and light cannot shine if it is hidden. Our faith must be lived, not concealed. We are called to act so that others may see the way we serve, how we care for the vulnerable, how we prioritize our families, and above all, how we love God — and through our witness, give glory to Him. This is the stewardship way of life. Let us embrace it fully.

Perform a Random Act of Kindness

Random acts of kindness on Super Bowl Sunday, often called the "Super Bowl of Kindness," focus on fostering community and positivity during the big game.

- **Surprise Treats:** Send a delivery of cookies, cupcakes, or pizza to a friend, neighbor, or coworker who might need a smile
- **Support First Responders:** Drop off snacks or warm cookies to local police or fire stations in honor of their service.
- **Game Day Messages:** Text or call someone you haven't spoken to in a while to wish them a happy "Super" Sunday

Bereavement Ministry

Working Our Way Through Grief

A journey from grief to healing for people coping with the loss of a loved one.
Saturday, February 14, 2026
11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Rectory
For more information please call
Barbara at 917-686-5444 or
Maureen at 347-436-5192

SAVE THE DATE

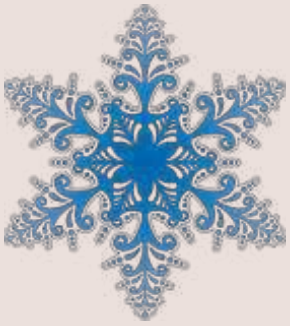
St. Bernard Church 10th Annual Card Party
Saturday, March 7, 2026

Scratch off's on sale
Now in the rectory!!

Mailings are out!!
Put the date on your calendar
Get ready for all the fun!!

Annual Catholic Appeal 2025
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

Dear Parishioners,
As we begin the new year with great hopes for a better, healthier and more peaceful year, I just want to thank those that contributed to our parish in one way or another. Your donations and contributions kept us afloat during these unsure and unprecedented times!
Besides donations directly to the Parish, we are proud to say that we have reached our goal for the Bishop's Annual Catholic Appeal. Not many parishes can say this. But with your dedication and faithfulness we did it - and because of this, we will be receiving several thousand dollars back for the general use in our Parish!
We have struggled this past year but together we came through!
Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!
Wishing you and your families a Blessed 2026 filled with new hopes, new dreams and new opportunities!
You are all in my prayers – please remember me in yours!
Reverend John Maduri
Pastor



Winter weather is here and that means ice and snow may make it difficult for some people to get to church and many "Snowbirds" take flight to Florida for the Winter months. But parish bills keep growing during the winter, including increased heating costs and snow removal expenses. You can make sure your parish support doesn't stop just when we need it the most. Check out our simple, safe and secure online giving program at SAINTBERNARDBROOKLYN.COM then click on the DONATE button and you will be guided through the giving process. Please consider joining the growing number of dedicated givers! We are most grateful to all those who make every effort to give consistently whether electronically or through the weekly offering basket. It really helps us plan and meet our budget.

For the Military

If you would like to add a loved one that is in active duty in the military, please call the rectory with their name and branch of service and we will add them to a list of military members to pray for. Thank you. Almighty & eternal God, protect these men & women as they discharge their duties. Protect them with the shield of your strength and keep them safe from all evil and harm. May the power of your love enable them to return home in safety, that with all who love them, they may ever praise you for your loving care.
We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen.
Shane Cawthon (Army)
Frank Gargano (Army)
Michael Gargano Jr. (Navy)
Marcello Gargano (Army)
Andrew-Jude Lao (SPC 2 Space Force)
Joseph Milone (Marines)
Ryan Moravcik (Army-Cavalry Scout)
Liam O'Connell (Navy)

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St. Bernard Weekly Mass Attendance

Weekend of January 31st & February 1st, 2026
Saturday, January 31st 5:00pm-113
Sunday, February 1st 25th 9:00am-111
Sunday, February 1st 11:00am-201
Sunday, February 1st 5:00pm- 19
Total-444

The Knights of Columbus council #14269 completed its annual donation to St Bernard Church & Academy on Sunday September 21st. The annual donation totaled $26,500.00.
DOING GOOD WHILE HAVING FUN!
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USE THE QR CODE TO JOIN US!

Membership

Parish Phone Numbers

RECTORY OFFICE: 718-763-5533 **FAX**:718-763-0224
EMAIL: sbchurchbrooklyn@aol.com
ACADEMY OFFICE: 718-241-6040
SCHOOL OF RELIGION: 718-763-5533

Gift Shop Hours

Weekdays 8:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m.-9:30 a.m., Sunday 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Devotions

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA
MONDAYS
Novena after the 8:30 a.m. Mass
ROSARY
Monday - Friday after 8:30 a.m. Mass
Saturday after 9:00 a.m. Mass
FIRST FRIDAYS
Exposition: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in Chapel

Baptisms

Scheduled for the fourth Sunday of each month at 12:30 p.m. Parents are required to schedule an appointment with a Priest or Deacon at least six weeks prior to Baptism.

Marriages

Arrangements must be made with a Priest or Deacon at least 6 months before the wedding.
Pre-Cana information can be found at **www.pre-cana.org.**

Sick Calls

Please call the Rectory to arrange a Communion call to the sick or elderly, or a pastoral visit to a hospitalized loved one.

Vocations

Anyone seeking information regarding the Priesthood, Permanent Deaconate, Religious Life or to serve in our Parish as a Lay Minister should speak to Fr. Maduri, Fr. Mike, Dcn. Frank, Dcn. Chris or Dcn. Herb.

Parish Membership

All new families are welcome to the Parish and encouraged to become actively involved in parish societies and activities. New parishioners should register at the Rectory as soon as possible. Parishioners are asked to use the weekly envelopes in making their contributions.

Catholics Come Home

Please feel free to invite those who have been away from our parish to attend Mass with you. If there is anyone you know of that is upset with the church and feels that my speaking to them would be of help, please let me know so that I may speak with them. Fr. Maduri.

Consider Leaving a Legacy of Faith

Remember Our Parish in Your Will

When you next update your estate plans, please consider continuing your lifelong stewardship by leaving a bequest to St. Bernard. For more information please see Fr. Maduri.

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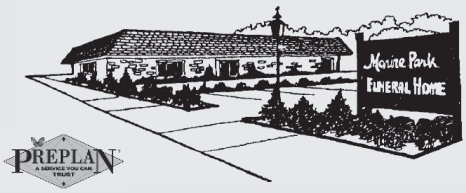

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