Saint Bernard Church

March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Parish Staff

REV. JOHN J. MADURI
Pastor

REV. MICHAEL G. TEDONE
Parochial Vicar

REV. DOMINIC PEPRAH
In Residence

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Permanent Deacon

DEACON CHRISTOPHER A. WAGNER
Permanent Deacon

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Director of Liturgy and Music

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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PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES WHILE IN CHURCH!

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word
Fourth Sunday of Lent

AWAKE, O SLEEPER, AND ARISE FROM THE DEAD

These words from this 4th Sunday of Advent's second reading from St. Paul's letter to the Ephesians has much that we can look at. The impact of Sacred Scripture is such that even a few words can leave us with much to reflect on. It is a basis for Lectio Divina which I have previously written and spoken about. Perhaps the first thing some may notice is that "sleeper" and "dead" are in the same sentence. We invariably think of sleep and death as two very different things. We awake from sleep but not from death (at least not in this life). Our Lord though is not speaking about the physical death of the body but rather the spiritual and moral death that can permeate the consciences of many until those consciences go to sleep and in too many cases become dead. Yet in all of this hope is realized. The first word "awake" says it all. Just as we have the hope born of faith that we will rise from the dead so St. Paul is reminding us that we too can rise from the spiritual and moral sicknesses that plague many. Much of this is due to a spiritual blindness that we can all too easily fall prey to. There are those who simply will not see or listen to anything they do not want to see or hear. This is the case of the incident of the blind man in today's Gospel from St. John. Jesus is declaring Himself, "the light of the world" and is offering the gift of the "light of life" and all the Pharisees do is complain about the fact that Jesus cured someone on the Sabbath. The blind man chose to see while the Pharisees chose to remain blind and deaf in their own self-made reality. The challenge offered us today is really quite simple. Do we want to awake to the newness of life as sons and daughters of God or not? There is no in between. The question compels an answer. One of the best ways of answering that question is to ask ourselves what are the areas of our own lives that we choose to turn a blind eye or deaf ear to? For the blind man, as odd as it may sound, there would have been a certain discomfort coming out of the darkness that he knew so well. We can find ourselves in the same situation where we come to fear awaking to the new life in Christ. What will it entail? What must I give up? What must I change in my life? Can I still continue to do such and such? Where will it lead? The blind man stepped forward in faith and he did in fact awake, not just physically but also in the depths of his soul when he responds to Jesus' question, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" and he responds "I do believe, Lord." This is the "light of life" that our Lord is offering to us: faith; a faith that is awakened every time we take off the self-imposed blinders and see clearly through the eyes of Christ, He who is the way, the truth, and the life.
Fr. John Maduri

Dear Parishioners:
I am writing to communicate that I have been notified that Fr. Peter Penton has been placed on administrative leave. This matter does not involve any allegation of sexual abuse or sexual misconduct of any kind. The Diocese's Safe Environment protocols are not implicated here.
Sincerely in Christ,
Fr. John Maduri
Pastor

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 April 7th, 2026

This Month's Winner of $275.00 is
Joanne Sechiano

St. Bernard Pilgrimage to France

St. Bernard will be hosting a pilgrimage to France from September 30th through October 7th to celebrate the 65th anniversary of St. Bernard.

Please see flyers in the back of Church for all the information.

This weekend's second collection is a Parish Collection for Building Maintenance & Diocesan Collection for Catholic Relief Services.

Thank you always for your generosity! It is greatly appreciated!

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026

9:00am Richard Podd by Edward Houston

5:00pm Blessings for Oliver Jacques Simon

SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2026

9:00am Vito Mattioli by MaryAnn Vigliante

11:00am Giuseppina Evangelista by Joanna & Carmine Evangelista
Patrick Morris by Diane & Joe Cordano
John Hansen by Terri & Carlo D'Angelo

5:30pm Marie Guastella by Frances & Sal Guastella & Family
(1st Anniversary in Heaven)

MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2026

8:30am Tommy Camoia by Mom & Dad

People of the Parish

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026

8:30am Happy Birthday Grant DeMarinis Love Grandma & Grandpa
DeMarinis (Living)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2026

8:30am Domenick Puleo by Stephanie Puleo
Kory Guglielminetti by his Family
Alberta Sirett by Annette & Richard Hinners
Jeff Henri Chouloute Prayer & Blessings Love Mom
Happy Birthday Syllia J. Chouloute Love Mom (Living)

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2026

8:30am Joseph Giacobbe In Loving Memory Mom & Dad

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026

8:30am Joseph & Stanley Harsko by Halina & Family

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026

9:00am Maurice Mulligan by Eileen & Robert Magnavito

5:00pm Anne & Jim Cooper by Mary Cooper
Philip Blank by Nick, Ellie & Tina

SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026

9:00am Toni Ann Seddio by her Family
Remy Grossi by Teresa & Thomas Sorrentino

11:00am Larry DeVito Happy Birthday in Heaven Love Your Daughters
Janine & Chris

5:30pm In Thanksgiving for Ahria Imani Jacques Simon

Personalized Fresh Flowers for Paschal Candle & Mary's Fresh Flower Floral Crown

If you would like to memorialize our Fresh Flowers for the Paschal Candle for the remaining Easter weeks Or Fresh Floral Crown for The Blessed Mother for the remaining weeks of May "In Memory of or In Honor of" a loved one please call the rectory as soon as possible to do so as there are minimal weeks left.

Memorials

Altar Bread:

In Loving Memory of Tommy Camoia
Donated by Mom & Dad

Altar Wine:

In Loving Memory of Tommy Camoia
Donated by Mom & Dad

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

Weather permitting, we will have outdoor Stations of the Cross through the neighborhood on Good Friday, April 3rd. Our procession will be followed by a simple "Soup and Bread" Supper in the Parish Hall. There will be a free will donation for the supper which will be given to the poor. If you live in the proximity of East 69th Street & Royce Street and Avenue T & Avenue V, please consider volunteering your home to be used as a stop on the route. We will gather outside your home on the street. Please call Angela in the Rectory as soon as possible at 718-763-5533 if you would like to have your house included. Thank You!

Annual Catholic Appeal 2026
DIOCESE OF BROOKLYN

One Church.
Diverse Ministries.
United Mission.

The **2026 Annual Catholic Appeal** is now underway at **St. Bernard**. We encourage each family to make a pledge prayerfully. Every gift—large or small—brings us closer to our parish goal and strengthens the vital ministries of our Diocese. To help you prayerfully decide your pledge, we've prepared a simple breakdown showing how different pledge amounts can be fulfilled monthly, weekly, or even daily—making it easier to see what level of giving may be right for your family.

Based on a 9-month period ending December 31.

PLEDGE	MONTHLY	WEEKLY	DAILY	EQUIVALENT TO...
$2,000	$222	$51	$7.40	A daily subway commute
$1,000	$111	$26	$3.70	A morning coffee from Dunkin'
$500	$56	$13	$1.85	A bottle of water
$250	$28	$6.50	$0.90	Loose laundromat change
$100	$11	$2.50	$0.37	Just a few coins a day

Make a pledge today to support your parish and the many ministries of our diocese by scanning the QR code above, visiting AnnualCatholicAppeal.org or texting DONATE to 917-336-1255.

Watch this year's video at: **https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OHxBEwmSgM**

Stewardship Thought

Today's readings for this Fourth Sunday of Lent are filled with powerful contrasts — God's vision versus human vision, the light of Christ versus the darkness of sin, and spiritual blindness versus spiritual sight. Embracing a stewardship way of life frees us from spiritual blindness, helps us see as God sees, and allows us to reflect Christ's light in our daily lives. In our Second Reading from Ephesians, St. Paul reminds us, "… You were once in darkness but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light." Through Baptism, the very life and light of the Blessed Trinity dwell within us. Yet amid the busyness and challenges of daily life, it is easy to forget this truth. We may even struggle to recognize whether our actions truly reflect Christ's light. A stewardship way of life — with its intentional and grateful use of our time, talent, and treasure — provides a daily guide to help us live as children of the light. It encourages us to make choices that reflect Christ in the way we serve, give, and love others. In today's Gospel from John, Jesus restores sight to a man born blind, and the man simply testifies that Christ "opened my eyes." During these Lenten days, we too can ask Jesus to open our eyes — to help us see areas where spiritual blindness may still linger, especially in how we use the gifts entrusted to us. As we continue our Lenten journey, let us renew our efforts wherever our vision has grown dim, so that by Easter we may truly live as children of the light.

HOLY FAMILY SHRINE

If you are interested in reserving a Block or Heart, on the HOLY FAMILY SHRINE in Honor or in Memory of a loved one, or if you have questions, you can contact Rita at 917-698-5506.

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.

Preparing For Lent

The Lenten Season provides a great opportunity for deepening our faith, hope and love through prayer, penitential practices and works of charity.
Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend any or all of the following:

Stations of the Cross will be said on Friday evenings during Lent at 7:00 p.m. in the Church beginning Friday, February 20th. You can also watch on our website and Facebook page when available.
Taize Prayer: On Wednesday, March 25th at St. Bernard at 7:00pm.
Holy Hours of Prayer & Reflection: On Wednesday, March 18th at Mary Queen of Heaven at 7:00pm.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday, March 29, 2026
Saturday 5:00pm, 7:00pm Spanish, Sunday 8:30am, 10:00am & 11:30am
(Procession of Palms from Academy Building)
Reconciliation Monday, Monday, March 30, 2026
Confessions 9:00am-10:00am, 2:00pm-4:00pm & 5:00pm-7:00pm
Holy Thursday, April 2, 2026
Morning Prayer 8:30am,
Mass of the Lord's Supper with Eucharistic Adoration 7:30pm
Good Friday, April 3, 2026
Morning Prayer 8:30am, Liturgy of the Lord's Passion with Stations of the Cross Procession in the Neighborhood 3:00pm, Liturgy of the Lord's Passion in Spanish 7:00pm
Holy Saturday, April 4, 2026
Morning Prayer 9:00am, Blessing of Food 11:00am, Easter Vigil 8:00pm
Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026
8:30am, 10:00am, 11:30am & Spanish Mass 1:00pm

Bergen Beach Sports & Recreation Camp

at St. Bernard Catholic Academy
Open House/ Registration in Lobby of Academy Building
Saturday, March 21, 2026
Saturday, April 25, 2026
Saturday, May 16, 2026-
Saturday, June 13, 2026
11:00a.m. - 2:00p.m.
June 29th-August 7th, 2026
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Perform a Random Act of Kindness

Each year, during Lent many Christians choose to give things up for 40 days. Lent is traditionally a time of abstinence and many people give up chocolate, or wine, or bread even. Some people choose to take up something, such as doing an act of kindness, or giving a small amount to charity each day. It can be difficult to think about just one thing to give up, or take up. Small acts of kindness are the way to go, especially if you're doing them with children.

We all need a bit of kindness at the moment, and being kind to others is often a kindness to ourselves.

- Be More Charitable
- Pray More Often
- Invite Someone New to Church
- Give Up Harsh Judgements
- Think Kindly Thoughts

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 March 7th & March 8th, 2026
Saturday, March 7th 5:00pm-163
Spanish Mass-81
Sunday, March 8th 9:00am-105
Sunday, March 8th 11:00am-203
Sunday, March 8th 5:00pm- 33
Total-585

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!
ARE YOU A KNIGHT WHY NOT?
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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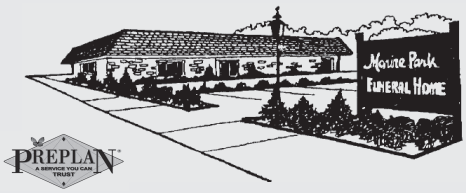

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