Saint Bernard Church

March 22, 2026

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Parish Staff

REV. JOHN J. MADURI
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REV. MICHAEL G. TEDONE
Parochial Vicar

REV. DOMINIC PEPRAH
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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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Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word
Fifth Sunday of Lent

WHY DO WE DO WHAT WE DO?

Anyone reading this Sunday's Gospel passage from St. John for the first time would be forgiven for thinking that our Lord was perhaps a bit harsh with Martha. After all, He is a guest in her home and like any good host or hostess she is doing everything she can to make Jesus' visit an enjoyable and comfortable one. Even those who have heard this passage many times might wonder what Jesus is getting at when He is correcting Martha. The first thing that many erroneously think is that Jesus is criticizing Martha for doing her work while He commends Mary for sitting at His feet and listening to His words. If we read the passage carefully our Lord is doing no such thing. Rather than saying something along the lines of "why are you working?", he says, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and upset about many things." The key point is not that Martha is busy about the household task. It is the fact that she seemed to forget why she was doing it, or more so, who she is doing it for. If she was more attentive to the fact that she was doing her work for Jesus her attitude towards that work would have taken on a very different tone for her. Rather than being "anxious and upset" she would be rejoicing that she was serving her Lord and the sacrifices necessary to do that would become easy. As our Lord tells us elsewhere in Sacred Scripture, "my yoke is easy and my burden light." In order to enter into this teaching, we need to have a relationship with the Lord. Martha had one to be sure, but in that moment, she was forgetting who was the object of her work and service. Thereupon it became burdensome. An example that many can identify with is family life. Parents work hard, in and out of the home. They raise their children the best they can in an oftentimes hostile world. They face financial struggles at times and have to pay the bills, keep up the home, in some cases pay tuition, and so on. These can become very burdensome and easily leave parents "anxious and upset." However, once parents look on their children with love and recognize why they do what they do, the work they undertake does not get any easier, but it is approached with a great sense of purpose and even joy. The same is true for priests and Religious. The work at hand can become overwhelming at times and if it is devoid of any sense of relationship with the Lord it becomes nothing but burdensome. Yet once priests and Religious are conscious of who they are doing it for, others and ultimately for God, their work too does not get any easier but it takes on a very different tone. The sacrifices that are made take on a sense of peace. It is all about the relationship. In today's Gospel reading Mary is not sitting at the feet of Jesus, listening attentively to His words, because she cannot be bothered helping her sister with the work. Mary knows the work needs to be done and she knows she must take her part in it. She though has the wisdom to recognize that if she is going to serve our Lord well, even joyfully, she must first know Him more deeply and that is what she is doing. Then she is ready to serve without being "anxious and upset." It is interesting to note, as I have for the nearly 39 years of priesthood, that once people encounter the Lord in a notable way, they inevitably return to church and worship. It is no longer "I don't get anything out of it," but rather, "I want to give God His due worship." The relationship changes everything. The practice of the faith is no longer a burden but a joy entered into by those who are seeking the Lord with a sincere heart, and not as an afterthought. It is the same with fidelity to the Commandments, the Beatitudes, Gospel living, and the teachings of the Church. Without the relationship much of it becomes burdensome. With the relationship it all becomes easier to live, for our Lord Himself tells us that His commandments are not burdensome. Yet again we have to know Him, allow Him to transform us, in order to understand and live this. Martha and Mary are both powerful teachers each in her own way. Martha teaches us that we must be about the work of building up God's Kingdom on earth. Mary teaches us that we must first listen attentively to Jesus so that a true relationship of love and fidelity continues to grow as the foundation of that work. It is contemplation as the root and work as the fruit of our contemplation.

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 April 7th, 2026

This Month's Winner of $275.00 is Joanne Sechiano

FAMILY MASS

Our Next Family Mass
Sunday, March 29, 2026
at 11:30am

Come With Your Families,
Especially Your Children.
This will be followed by the Easter Egg Hunt in the Parish Gardens.

This weekend's second collection is a Parish Collection for Spring Clean Up.

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

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

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
Frank Guy Rizzi by Patricia Killian

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

MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2026

8:30am Toni Ann Seddio by her Family

People of the Parish

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2026

8:30am Toni Ann Seddio by her Family

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2026

8:30am Ann Tedone
Toni Ann Seddio by her Family
Ann Carsten by Tina & Family
Rose Giberti by Tina (Birthday in Heaven)

THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2026

8:30am Toni Ann Seddio by her Family

FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2026

8:30am Toni Ann Seddio by her Family

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2026

9:00am Anthony Cangelosi by Rosemary & Thomas Camoia

5:00pm Mary Casatelli Anniversary in Heaven by Christopher & Melissa

SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026

9:00am Mary Wagner 6th Anniversary in Heaven Loving Memory Her Son Christopher
Rosa Filippazzo by Renee & Thomas Sorrentino
Rosa Flora by Mr. & Mrs. William Pasterak

11:00am Frederick & Josephine Houston by their son Edward

5:30pm Deceased Member of St. Bernard Choir by St. Bernard Choir

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

Church Bells:

In Loving Memory of Toni Ann Seddio
Donated by Sandra & Angela

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
Cheryl Lupo
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

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United Mission.

MARCH 2026

Thank you to all who have already pledged to the **2026 Annual Catholic Appeal** at **St. Bernard Parish**. If you have not yet made your gift, we warmly invite you to participate. Reaching our parish goal of **$46,712** is essential to supporting vital ministries across Brooklyn and Queens while helping those most in need.

PLEDGE	MONTHLY	WEEKLY	DAILY
$2,000	$222	$51	$7.40
$1,000	$111	$26	$3.70
$500	$56	$13	$1.85
$250	$28	$6.50	$0.90
$100	$11	$2.50	$0.37

You can make your pledge today at
AnnualCatholicAppeal.org,
by texting **DONATE** to **917-336-1255**,
or by calling **718-965-7375** to request a pledge card.

REV. JOHN J. MADURI
Pastor

Stewardship Thought

At this point in our Lenten journey, it is tempting to grow weary of the spiritual disciplines we have taken on. Today's readings inspire us to remain faithful, in grateful response to a God who loves us so much. In our first reading, the prophet Ezekiel speaks God's own words to us. "I will put my spirit in you that you may live… I have promised and I will do it, says the Lord." Our God wants to be so closely united to us that we are one with Him. And He has promised He will do it. But only if we make room for Him by making Him THE priority of our lives. Putting God first is a grateful response that is very pleasing to Him. How can we do this? Our second reading, from Romans, tells us. "Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh… you are in the spirit if only the Spirit of God dwells in you." The disciplines of Lent and a stewardship way of life are wonderful gifts that free us from too great an attachment to "the flesh." The sacrifices we make as Christian stewards are not meant to restrict our freedom and joy. Quite the contrary. They are tools to help us find the real freedom and joy that only come when we make room in our lives for God. As we journey closer to the Passion of our Lord, let us intensify our Lenten resolutions and our stewardship way of life, inviting the Holy Spirit to take over more and more of our lives. By Easter, we will be freer to rejoice in Him and truly pleasing to God.

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. 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 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, April 25, 2026
Saturday, May 16, 2026-
Saturday, June 13, 2026
11:00a.m. - 2:00p.m.
June 29th-August 7th, 2026
Boys and Girls Ages 4 to 15
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Perform a Random Act of Kindness

Instead of giving up something, perform a random act of kindness each day during Lent – even just making a point to smile at strangers as you run errands or sending an "I'm thinking of you" message to one person each day can make a difference. Do one household chore each day. (one that someone else is supposed to do)
Pray More Often

Save The Date For Our International Festival

St. Bernard Parish International Festival will be on Sunday, April 26, 2026 at 2:00pm in the Parish Hall
Flyers will be coming soon

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.

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 14th & March 15th, 2026

Saturday, March 14th 5:00pm-194
Sunday, March 15th 9:00am-143
Sunday, March 15th 11:00am-242
Sunday, March 15th 5:00pm- 44
Total-623

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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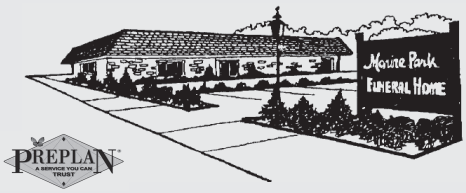

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