



SAINT BERNADETTE OF LOURDES PARISH
"WHERE MIRACLES HAPPEN"

1035 TURNER AVENUE † DREXEL HILL PA 19026
RECTORY: (610)789-7676 † **FAX:** (610)789-9539 † **SCHOOL:** (610)449-5184
† **PARISH WEBSITE:** WWW.STBL.ORG

DECEMBER 1, 2024 — FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MASSES

SATURDAY VIGIL: 4:30PM
SUNDAY: 9:00AM AND 11:00AM

WEEKDAY MASS

MONDAY—FRIDAY 8:30AM

HOLY DAY MASSES

TIMES ANNOUNCED IN SUNDAY BULLETIN

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY: 3:30PM — 4:15PM

Pastor

Rev. John P. Masson (Ext. 104)
Email (frmasson@stbl.org)

Retired Priest

Rev. Lawrence F. Crehan

Retired Deacon

Deacon Thomas P. Fitzpatrick
Email (deacontom@stbl.org)

Director of Religious Education

Marykate Murphy (Ext. 212)

School Principal

Mrs. Fran McElhenney

Parish Business Manager

Robert J. Helmig (Ext. 103)

Administrative Secretary

Helen V. Kraus (ext. 101)

Parish Music Coordinator

Dorothy Toomey

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

On this first day of December, this first day of the season of Advent, and the first day of a new liturgical year, we are reminded that our relationship with the Lord can always begin anew. Even as we prepare for the coming of Jesus as an infant on Christmas night, we can also make this season an opportunity to receive him more deeply into our hearts and make him more central to the way we live our lives. Let us resolve to give Jesus a new birth in our hearts as we prepare for the celebration of his birth into the world.

Parish Information

NEW FAMILIES

Welcome to St. Bernadette Parish! To register in the parish, please email Deacon Tom Fitzpatrick at deacontom@stbl.org. He will get back to you to arrange a convenient time to meet with him to register. We are eager to greet new members of our parish community and look forward to meeting you.

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

The rectory office hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00am to noon and 1:00pm to 5:00pm. **During the summer the rectory will close at 3:00pm on Fridays.** Items for the Sunday newsletter must be at the rectory by Monday at noon for publication the following Sunday.

BAPTISMS

Baptisms are held at 12 noon on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. **Parents must attend a Pre-Jordan class held in the Wright Center at 12 noon on the first Sunday of every other month. Registration for the class is required. In order to arrange for a baptism, the parents must be active members of the parish. To register, please call the rectory office at 610/789-7676 ext. 101.** Godparents should be practicing Catholics, confirmed and at least 16 years of age. If not from this parish, sponsors must have a letter of eligibility from their parish stating that they have been actively participating. St. Bernadette Parishioners must be registered and actively participating.

MARRIAGES

We request that couples contemplating marriage call the rectory to make an appointment with the priest. At this initial interview, the date and time of your request will be recorded and you will receive a copy of the Parish Wedding Guidelines.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK/COMMUNION CALLS

A priest will administer Holy Communion to parishioners who are unable to come to Church. If you desire, Eucharistic Ministers can bring Communion each week. Please contact the Rectory to be placed on our Sick List. Parishioners who are to undergo serious surgery at a hospital are encouraged to make an appointment at the Rectory before going to the hospital.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

St. Bernadette School offers sessions for Pre-School and Kindergarten and conducts full-time classes from first through eighth grades. PREP classes are held in the parish school for all students attending public school. PREP classes are held on Monday evenings at 6:30pm. Adults seeking religious instruction should call Marykate Murphy, Director of Religious Education at (610) 789-7676 ext. 212. The RCIA Program begins in October.

SAINT BERNADETTE PARISH ON FACEBOOK

We can be found at "Saint Bernadette of Lourdes Parish". Check out the page and "like" us to keep up with the latest parish news.

Entrance to the Chapel is through the Prayer Garden. The entrance code is 5076.

WEDNESDAY ADORATION takes place in church every Wednesday through May following the 8:30am Mass and concluding at 7pm with devotions and benediction.

VISITS TO THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT can be made in the Chapel

RECITATION OF THE ROSARY takes place every Monday through Friday at 8:00am in the church.

DEVOTION TO ST. LEONIE AVIAT takes place every Tuesday at 7:00pm in the Chapel.

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP meets in the Wright Center/chapel every Tuesday at 7:30pm.

FLAME OF LOVE PRAYER CENACLE takes place Thursday at 7:00pm in the chapel.

RESPECT LIFE GROUP information can be obtained by calling Doris Hurd at 610-789-2708.

MUSIC MINISTRY is open to all who wish to share their time and talent in praise and thanksgiving to God – call Dottie Toomey at 610/449-4013 for rehearsal times.

MARTHAS AND JOSEPHS meet every Thursday in Church following the 8:30am Mass. All who wish to help clean the church are welcome to join us.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Ave Maria Council #4063 serve St Bernadette Parish invites interested men 18 years of age and older to join in fraternity and the service to our parish and greater community; contact jsavaresejr@gmail.com

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meetings are held every Thursday at 9:30am in O'Brien Hall.

ST. JOHN'S HOSPICE Casseroles to feed the homeless sponsored by St. John's Hospice in Philadelphia are collected in O'Brien Hall before the weekend Masses that precede the first Thursday of the month. Casserole pans are available in the main entrance of church. Call Mary at 610/789-6206.

FOOD PANTRY

Non-perishable food items for the Food Pantry can be placed in bags and left in the vestibules of church. Any monetary donations or donations of gift cards should be sent to Fr. Masson. If you have a question, contact Amy Sandman at foodpantry@stbl.org.

Mass Intentions for the Week

First Sunday of Advent

Saturday, November 30

4:30pm Regina Marie Dengel

Sunday, December 1

9:00am Matthew Sweeney

11:00am Living and Deceased of St. Bernadette Parish

Monday, December 2

8:30am Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, December 3 - St. Francis Xavier

8:30am Patrick Murphy

Wednesday, December 4 - St. John Damascene

8:30am Edward J. McDonough (47th Anniv.)

Thursday, December 5

8:30am Dolores del Raso

Friday, December 6 - St. Nicholas

8:30am Peter Condo

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 7

4:30pm Michael Johnson

Sunday, December 8

9:00am Loretta Repino

11:00am Michael Johnson



FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

This week's readings will be:

First Reading - Jeremiah 33:14-16

Second Reading - 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Gospel - Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

Next week's readings will be:

First Reading - Baruch 5:1-9

Second Reading - Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Gospel - Luke 3:1-6



PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into Hell Satan and the other evil spirits who prowl about the world for the ruin of souls. Amen

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, celebrated on Dec. 8, is always a holy day of obligation in the United States. In autumn of 2024, the Holy See directed that since the solemnity falls on a Sunday in Advent this year, it is to be observed with obligation on Monday, Dec. 9.

Due to the shortness of time to instruct the faithful on the directive and to ease their consciences over properly observing this obligation, Archbishop Nelson Pérez has dispensed the faithful from the obligation to attend Mass on Dec. 9 in the parishes, institutions, and religious communities in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Archbishop Pérez encourages the faithful to observe the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, patroness of the United States, by attending the celebration of Mass as possible, to pray the rosary or engage in another devotion in honor of the Blessed Mother.

MASSES ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9
8:30am and 5:00pm

FINANCIAL FACTS

Financial facts for Sunday, November 24 and Sunday, December 1 will be in the bulletin on December 8.



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|----------|---------------------------------------|
| December | 1 First Sunday of Advent |
| | 8 Live Nativity - Following 11am Mass |
| | 9 Immaculate Conception Masses |
| | 8:30am and 5:00pm |
| | 16 Confessions 7pm - 8pm |
| | Decorating the Church |
| | 15 Following the 11am Mass |
| | 23 Following the 8:30am Mass |

**Feel free to join us on the 15th and/or the 23rd
to help us decorate the church.
ALL are welcome.**

HOLIDAY BULLETIN DEADLINES

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| December 8 | due noon – Monday, December 2 |
| December 15 | due noon – Tuesday, December 10 |
| December 22 | due noon – Monday, December 16 |
| December 29 | due noon – Monday, December 16 |
| January 5 | due noon - Wednesday, December 18 |



2024 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

CONFESSIONS

Saturday, November 30 and December 7

3:30pm – 4:15pm

Saturday December 14 and 21

3:00 – 4:15pm

Monday, December 16

7:00pm – 8:00pm

MASSES

Vigil Mass

Tuesday, December 24

4:00pm and 6:00pm

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25

9:00am and 11:00am

2025 NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

CONFESSIONS

Saturday, December 28

3:30pm – 4:15pm

MASSES

Vigil Mass

Tuesday, December 31

4:30pm

New Year's Day

Wednesday, January 1

8:30am and 7:00pm

MASS & HEALING PRAYER SERVICE AT OUR LADY OF FATIMA

First Friday, December 6 at 6:45pm

"When the time is right, I the Lord will make it happen"

Isaiah 60: 22

All are invited to Our Lady of Fatima's Quarterly First Friday Mass and Healing Prayer Service on December 6. Praise and Worship begins at 6:45pm followed by the Mass and Healing Service. The pastor, Rev. Roland Slobogin, is the celebrant. Prayer teams will be available for individual healing afterwards. Witness stories are welcome. Martha's House will provide music.

Location: Our Lady of Fatima, 1 Fatima Drive, Secane

More Information: Check the website at

<https://www.archphilaccr.org>



Christmas Giving Project

PARISH GIVING TREE

November 30 — December 15

Christmas is a time for giving. Give a gift to the less fortunate families. Remove a tag from the tree and return the gift with the tag attached. **SPECIAL NOTE:** Gifts should **NOT** be wrapped and **NOT** placed in gift bags. We have been asked to bring the gifts with just the tags attached to ease the distribution of the gifts by the various organizations. You may bring the gifts in the boxes or bags from the store. **All gifts must be returned no later than Sunday, December 15 . The gifts will be distributed on December 16, 17 and 18.**

St. John's Hospice (Men)

Knitted hats, scarves, gloves, belts, long underwear (tops and bottoms), regular underwear, flannel shirts, hooded sweat-shirts (L & XL)

Women of Change

Single bed sheets, towels, wash cloths, nightgowns, robes, slippers, sweatshirts, sweatpants, flannel shirts, regular underwear, woolen hats and gloves (no scarves) - sizes L, XL and XXL for clothing items

Gift of Mary

(Mother Teresa's Sisters in Chester)

SPECIAL NOTE: This year, instead of toys, the Sisters have asked for diapers (especially large sizes), wipes, hats, gloves, napkins, disinfectant wipes, children's sweatpants and adult sweatpants.

PARISH CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

November 24 — December 15

The Christmas food is on Sunday, December 15 from 1pm - 3pm. Please leave any donations behind the last pew in the back of the church on the Blessed Mother side. If you wish to donate a fresh or frozen turkey please contact Amy Sandman at 610-931-5692 before December 15. Any monetary donations should be sent directly to the rectory labeled Food Pantry. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Items needed for the Christmas food drives:

turkey gravy, cranberry sauce, canned yams, canned vegetables, canned soup, applesauce, canned fruit, pasta and pasta sauce, boxed side dishes, boxed mashed potatoes, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter and jelly, condiments, salad dressings, cooking oil, cereal, oatmeal, breakfast bars, pop tarts, snacks, crackers, cookies, protein bars, mixed nuts, pancake mix, pancake syrup, boxed cake mix, boxed brownie mix, coffee, tea, juice, pudding cups, canned Chef Boyardee, canned beef stew, canned chili, canned tuna, Clorox wipes, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, shaving cream, shampoo and conditioner, toilet paper, paper towels, napkins, laundry pods, bars of soap, body wash, and lotion. Gift cards and any monetary donations should be dropped off at the rectory labeled Food Pantry.

OPERATION SANTA CLAUS

November 24 — December 15

Those who wish to adopt a family or a person in need in the parish who would otherwise not be able to provide Christmas presents, please call or text Amy Sandman at 610-931-5692.

THE PASTOR'S COLUMN

THE DAYS ARE COMING, SAYS THE LORD . . .

Today, after eating all the Thanksgiving leftovers and putting away all the fall decorations, we are starting on our Advent Journey. Today's gospel reminds us of something very important in our Christian journey. It calls us to be awake and watchful. Therefore, this is a call for us to intensify and strengthen our prayer life. This is because prayer purifies the soul and casts away all fears. It prepares and strengthens us in joyful hope.

How do we begin this preparation? Paul gives us a clue in our second reading when he says: "May he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God...when our Lord Jesus comes with all his saints." Holiness of life in our world today appears to have lost its meaning or perhaps is one concept that sounds so abstract or even relative. In other words, it is believed by many, even Christians, to be unattainable. Yet, it is a necessary condition for seeing and meeting the Lord when he comes because, "without holiness no man can see the Lord".

In spite of the difficulties we face in attaining holiness, this season Paul admonishes us to "conduct ourselves in the way that please God." This is a call to strive for perfection. If it were not possible, Christ would not have demanded it from us. So, this season, let us endeavor to avoid greed, anger, malice, backbiting, gossips, drunkenness, and all sorts of vices. We must prepare and equip ourselves with good virtues like a bride waiting for her groom.

Importantly, prayer provides us the spiritual energy, courage and confidence to stand firm. Therefore, as a family, this Advent offers us the opportunity to unite in prayers as we wait for the Lord. So, rather than engage ourselves only with mundane preparations, let us engage ourselves in intensive prayers. Let us prepare together as a family through prayer.



WE PRAY FOR THE SICK - Bill Albertson, Fred Amatucci, Elizabeth Burrichter Arginteanu, Hannah Atkins. Frank Barba, Anna Benoit, Marcus Bianco, Dan Bigioni, Tom Blisard, Pamela Bower, Joseph Bradley, Marie Bree, Chrissy Campbell, Theresa Caputo, Michael Carroll, Anne Casey, Peter Celucci, Robert & Joanne Christopher, Elaine Cole, Jennie Colianni, Mike Connors, Quinn Connors, Dennis Conway, Dave Costella, Tom Coyle, Floyd Crouch, Barbara Cunningham, Laurel Dee, Michael DeEmilo, Alicia DeStefano, Frances Diegnan, Christopher DiMarto, John DiSalvatore, Gabriella DiSaverio, Darrin Dougherty, Dawn Dougherty, Michael Dougherty, Lexi Dunn, Bernie Dupras, Jason Durkee, Matthew Dwyer, Bruce Einstein, Emily Einstein, Marie Feola, Abby Fitzpatrick, Patrick Flanagan, Jr., Emily Flynn, Jerry Flynn, Joe Flynn, Maggie Franz, Stu Glatsky, Christine Grosso, Joan Grycewicz, Rachel Hagan, Ruth Harold, Greg Harvey, Gail Hawthorne, Kim Hayman, Pat Henningsen, Kenneth Hernandez, Judith Holmes, Baby Lila Holmes, Adrian Hughes, Baby Rita May Hughes, John Huver, John Ingle, Ashley Juliano, David Kisella, Carla King, Linda King, Wilmer Lehman, Steven Little, Theo Lockhart, Betsy Long, Avi Lurie, Michele Malolie, Joseph Maturo, Patricia McDewitt, Kathy Martin, James Maynard, Donald Mayo, Neil McClelland, Helene McCole, Jean McCormack, Karen McIlvaine, Sean McKeefery, Theresa McKeefery, Rosie McKenna, Emily Meakim, Theresa Merlini, Christopher Milecki, Sue Mitchell, Will Mooney, Rita Morley, Eileen Morris, Baby Kyle Patrick Muldoon, Karyl Murray, Stephen Murray, Matthew Nicholas, Nancy Nicholas, Roman O'Brien, Nicole Pagett, Fr. Francis Pileggi OSF, Steve Piperno, Joseph Polto, Pearl Polto, Joseph Pozzuolo, Sharon Pozzuolo, Patty Quirk, Christopher Rafferty, Lucy Rapp, Mary Rhodunda, Alicia Ridge, Dan Rock, Rich Rogge, Anna Rokos, Evelyn Runk, John Rusenko, Tony Anthony Sarmiento, Marie Seiler, Shane Seningen, Michael Shane, Pamela Shapiro, Amy Sheeler, Theresa Sherwin, Marion Sloan, Kristin Sorrentino, Ron Spade, Kevin Spaziani, Joe Subio, Daniel Suskevich, Kathleen Coyle Tewey, Emily Tong, Renee Trivelis, Mario Turchiarolo, Jim Tyson, Annie Walker, Lily Walker, Zoe Wallace, David Weaver, Jim Weaver, Jerry Weiss, Mary Wieners, Susan Sterner Wood and those suffering from serious illnesses & incurable diseases.

HOSPITAL SICK CALLS - Emergency sick calls may be made to the rectory at any time. If surgery or admission to the hospital is scheduled, please call the rectory ahead of time to make arrangements to receive the Sacrament of the Sick. Due to the privacy act, if you are in the hospital and wish to see a priest, you must register as a Catholic when admitted or make sure a family member does so for you to assure a visit by a priest or Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist.

FIRST ADVENT CANDLE: HOPE

"Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world." – C.S. Lewis

It is only fitting that the first candle on the Advent wreath represents **Hope** – the first Sunday of Advent not only leads us to anticipate the birth of Christ but celebrate the beginning of a new liturgical season as well. The first candle is **purple**, the primary color of Advent and a color symbolizing royalty. Sometimes called the **"Prophecy Candle,"** the first candle harkens us back to Isaiah's foretelling of the birth of Christ and all of the promises God gave us in the Old Testament that would be fulfilled by the birth of Jesus. This Advent, light the first candle on **Sunday, December 1, 2024.**



Registration for our favorite holiday event is open! Join us in O'Brien Hall on Saturday, 12/7 from 9am — 11am for a delicious pancake breakfast, arts and crafts, Santa letters, and a chance to share your Christmas wish list with Santa! Please follow St. Bernadette Home and School on Facebook and register using the link on the event page. It costs \$10 per person to attend (ages 2 and under are free). We can't wait to kick off the holiday season with our St. Bernadette community!

<https://forms.gle/k33nSSMuJyKMWviNA>



St. Bernadette Scrip Program is the parish program where you purchase gift cards to your favorite stores and receive a rebate that can be applied towards school tuition, PREP, high school tuition or donated to the parish. The purpose of the program is to help St. Bernadette families earn cash back on everyday purchases and support the parish. Thank you to the parishioners who offer their rebate back to the school & parish. Your donation and support is greatly appreciated! If you are a school family, you know the rebates add up and significantly reduce your tuition payment over the course of the year. Please tell a friend so more families can save!

Gift card sales are Sunday mornings from 9:30am - 11:00am in the Wright Center. On-hand inventory for purchase includes: Giant, ACME, ShopRite, Colonial Village, CVS, Sam's Boardwalk Pizza & Dairy Bar, JD McGillicuddy's, Amazon, Dairy Queen, Krispy Kreme, Freddy's, Chipotle, WaWa, Dunkin, Panera & Kohl's. VISA gift cards are available with no activation fee; \$25, \$50 & \$100. For national card orders — order by 7pm on Monday for pick up on Sunday. For more info and a full list of retailers, please visit: <https://www.st-bernadette.org/scrip-program>.

Questions: email scrip4bernies@gmail.com

Thank you!

Susan Coyne & Karen Murphy, Scrip Coordinators

congratulations

Congratulations to the following students from Cardinal O'Hara High School who achieved honors:

First Honors

Samantha Dutkiewicz, Stephanie Shields, Amelia Christie

Second Honors

Marissa Palmer, Patrick Fornwalt