



**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](http://WWW.STBL.ORG)

**DECEMBER 8, 2024 — SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

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**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**

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**Pastor**

Rev. John P. Masson (Ext. 104)  
Email ([frmasson@stbl.org](mailto:frmasson@stbl.org))

**Retired Priest**

Rev. Lawrence F. Crehan

**Retired Deacon**

Deacon Thomas P. Fitzpatrick  
Email ([deacontom@stbl.org](mailto: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

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Make straight his paths," we hear John the Baptist proclaim today. How do we do so? John's primary message throughout the whole region answers that question: We must repent of our sins. Our sins are the obstacles that block the path of the Lord, that make it more difficult for him to enter our hearts. True repentance allows for God's forgiveness to clear those obstacles, to make straight the Lord's path into our heart. Let us resolve today to repent of our failings and seek God's forgiveness.

## Parish Information

### NEW FAMILIES

Welcome to St. Bernadette Parish! To register in the parish, please email Deacon Tom Fitzpatrick at [deacontom@stbl.org](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:foodpantry@stbl.org).

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### Second Sunday of Advent

#### **Saturday, December 7**

4:30pm Michael Johnson

#### **Sunday, December 8**

9:00am Loretta Repino

11:00am Michael Johnson

#### **Monday, December 9 - Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

8:30am Thomas and Mary Mullin

5:00pm Living and Deceased of St. Bernadette Parish

#### **Tuesday, December 10 - Our Lady of Loreto**

8:30am Rose and Frank Florio

#### **Wednesday, December 11 - St. Damasus**

8:30am John Gaudreau

#### **Thursday, December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe**

8:30am Judith Maken (1st Anniv.)

#### **Friday, December 13 - St. Lucy**

8:30am Cathy Huyette

### Third Sunday of Advent

#### **Saturday, December 14**

4:30pm Living and Deceased of St. Bernadette Parish

#### **Sunday, December 15**

9:00am Patty Kelly (19th Anniv.)

11:00am Bob McKenna and Mary Copley



### FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

#### **This week's readings will be:**

First Reading - Baruch 5:1-9

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

Gospel - Luke 3:1-6

#### **Next week's readings will be:**

First Reading - Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Second Reading - Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel - Luke 3:10-18



### 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 MONDAY, DECEMBER 9**  
8:30am and 5:00pm

### FINANCIAL FACTS

#### November 24, 2024

**Weekly: \$10,814 target of \$15,000**

**\$7,645 (Collection) + \$3,169 (Parish Giving)**

#### December 1, 2024

**Weekly: \$13,256 target of \$15,000**

**\$10,836 (Collection) + \$2,420 (Parish Giving)**



December 8 Live Nativity - Following 11am Mass  
9 Immaculate Conception Masses  
8:30am and 5:00pm  
16 Confessions - 7pm - 8pm

**We will be decorating the Church for Christmas on**

December 15 Following the 11am Mass  
December 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

**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, 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

### Second Advent Candle: Peace

*"May we be in this world a ray of that light which shone forth from Bethlehem, bringing joy and peace to the hearts of all men and women."*

– Pope Francis

The second candle on the Advent wreath represents **Peace**. Like the first candle, it is also purple. Often called the "**Bethlehem Candle**," the second Advent candle reminds us of Mary and Joseph's journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before Mary gave birth to Jesus. Building on the meaning of the Prophecy Candle, this second candle reminds us that after all of the division, destruction, and dispersion of the kingdom in the Old Testament, there might finally be peace on Earth – Jesus is coming, and so is his Kingdom of Peace. As we read in the quote from Pope Francis, this light of peace shone forth from Bethlehem for all the world. This Advent, light the second candle on **Sunday, December 8, 2024**.



## 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 sweatshirts (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

### “PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD”

I love the story of the couple that has plans at the end of the week to have dinner with the husband's parents. The wife reminds him on Tuesday, “don't forget, we have dinner with your parents on Friday”. The husband gets annoyed and says “I know, I know.” The wife reminds him again on Thursday, and he says, “Oh right, I forgot”. The wife calls him at work on Friday and says, “Don't forget, dinner tonight with your parents.” He gets home from work. He sits down on the couch. He puts his feet up and turns on the TV. His wife says to him “don't get too comfortable we are leaving in 10 minutes.” He responds with the question: “Where are we going?”

In this first and second week of Advent, we are not only looking to prepare for this year's Christmas celebration, but we are reminded to look forward to Christ's coming at the end of time. The Church reminds us that we need to be looking forward to and preparing for Christ to come again. In the first reading from Baruch we hear a part of the poem of consolation as the Jewish people return to Jerusalem from Exile. In the Gospel we hear John the Baptist cry out “prepare the way of the Lord”. How do we anticipate and prepare for this unknown day? The answer is in repentance.

John the Baptist calls the people to repent. The Jewish people were able to return to the Promised Land only after they acknowledged their sinfulness and repented, changing their ways. We are called to do the same: repent and change our ways. This does not mean we need a dramatic, drastic, huge change. Repentance simply means turning away from sin and self to God and others. We may hear this so often that we get annoyed or think we know it already but it is important enough to be reminded over and over. We live in a loud world with many distractions. Sin comes in all shapes and sizes. It is not hard to give in to the temptations that bombard us and cause us to turn inward and away from community. But the Church reminds us to be vigilant, to acknowledge our sinfulness no matter how big or small, to turn from that sinfulness, to fix our attention on Love of God and Neighbor. If we listen and act on these reminders we know the answer to the question: “Where are we going?”





**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 Glatzky, 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, Jim Light, Steven Little, Theo Lockhart, Betsy Long, Avi Lurie, Michele Malolie, Joseph Maturo, Patricia McDevitt, 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.

### WELCOME TO THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Owen Robert Robbins

### SYMPATHIES AND PRAYERS

We extend our sympathies and prayers to the family and friends of Martin Crothers, Sr. who was recently buried from our church.

### ST. BERNADETTE FOOD PANTRY

The St. Bernadette Food Pantry would like to thank everyone who donated hats, gloves, scarves and blankets to our "Be a Blessing Initiative." They will be distributed to the homeless at the Life Center of Delaware County. Our very own "Be a Blessing Initiative" was created for the month of November, as an additional entity of the Food Pantry. Your kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated. God bless.



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](mailto:scrip4bernies@gmail.com)

Thank you!

Susan Coyne & Karen Murphy, Scrip Coordinators

## What's Happening

### EILEEN GEORGE PRAYER GROUP

Join us on Sunday, December 15 from 2pm – 3pm for a grace-filled Holy Hour. We will have Adoration, Confessions, and Benediction along with our Novena for Eileen George's intercession for our personal needs. Priests will be available for Confessions.

**Location:** Annunciation BVM Church, 401 Brookline Blvd., Havertown; Enter on Brookline Blvd doors.

#### For questions contact:

Jeanmarie Lorello at 610-547-7308 (phone or text).

Follow Eileen on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/eileengeorge.org/) or <https://eileengeorge.org/>

### SPIRIT POWER

**Monday December 9 from 8:30am to 3:00pm**

Celebrate Advent with the words of our Lord and music and talks by Fr. Stephen DeLacy, Marty Rotella and Anna Iatesta for this powerful one-day retreat.

**Location:** Malvern Retreat House, 315 St. Warren Avenue, Malvern, PA 19355. For **More information:** to register, visit [www.malvernretreat.com](http://www.malvernretreat.com)

### CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

**Wednesday, December 11 (6:30 pm)**

Collegium Institute, the Penn Newman Catholic Community, the Drexel Newman Catholic Community, and St. Agatha - St. James Parish invite you to an ecumenical Christmas event full of scripture, fellowship, and song. All are welcome. A reception will follow.

**Location:** St. Agatha - St. James Parish in University City (3728 Chestnut Street)

**More Info:** <https://www.saintsaj.org/>