



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 22, 2024 — FOURTH 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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Christmas is so close now that we can nearly taste it! Children can hardly contain their excitement while adults panic about all they still need to do. But for now, let us consider Mary and Joseph, just days before she would give birth, struggling to make their way up an unfamiliar and dangerous road, hoping to make it to a warm, comfortable place to stay in the city of David. As we well know, nice warm places were no longer available, but it all worked out, even if not exactly as they had hoped. May we keep that in mind during these final days of preparing our hearts and our homes for Jesus' birth.

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 for the
Intentions for the Week*

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 21

4:30pm Paula and Michael Lumi

Sunday, December 22

9:00am Living and Deceased of St. Bernadette Parish

11:00am Joseph and Virginia DiMario

Monday, December 23 - St. John of Kanty

8:30am Jeannine Cox Teti

Tuesday, December 24

8:30am Rev. William A. Wright (16th Anniv.)

Tuesday, December 24 - Vigil of Nativity of the Lord

4:00pm Larry Farnese & Arthur and Marie DeLuca

6:00pm Living and Deceased of St. Bernadette Parish

**Wednesday, December 25 - Solemnity of the Nativity
of the Lord: Christmas**

9:00am Living and Deceased of St. Bernadette Parish

11:00am Patricia Bannister

Thursday, December 26 - St. Stephen

8:30am Deceased of Holley & McConnell Families

Friday, December 27 - St. John, Apostle

8:30am Robert F. Stock (5th Anniv.)

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Saturday, December 28

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

Sunday, December 29

9:00am Loretta Repino

11:00am Michael Johnson



FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

This week's readings will be:

First Reading - Micah 5:1-4a

Second Reading - Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel - Luke 1:39-45

Next week's readings will be:

First Reading - Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Second Reading - Colossians 3:12-21

Gospel - Luke 2:41-52



**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

2024 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

CONFESSIONS

Saturday, December 21

3:00pm – 4:15pm

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



We will be decorating the Church for Christmas on

Monday, December 23 following the 8:30am Mass

**Feel free to join us to help
us decorate the church. ALL are welcome.**

FINANCIAL FACTS

Financial Facts for

**December 15 through January 5
will be in the bulletin on January 12.**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
NEWLY MARRIED**

John and Sophia (Cavalli) Staiber

SYMPATHIES AND PRAYERS

We extend our sympathies and prayers to the families and friends of Linda Kline and John Paylor who were recently buried from our church.

THE PASTOR'S COLUMN

HE SHALL BE PEACE

We are in week Four. We are almost there. Almost to the great celebration of Christmas! The gospel of this last Sunday in Advent presents us with the visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth. In spite of her pregnancy, Mary still found time to visit her cousin in order to share her joy and to assist her. It was not only Mary that visited Elizabeth but also, the Divine Child. This visit was not merely human but divine.

What happened between the child in Mary's womb and the child in Elizabeth's womb was a divine encounter. Both Elizabeth and Mary felt and recognized it. The visit of Mary to Elizabeth was not a mere coincidence. It was a well thought plan of God, which was executed at the appropriate time. This season, God has planned to honor each one of us personally with a divine visit. This visit is not by an accident. Rather, it is a well planned visit. He knows the way to where we live, he knows our house number, and he knows exactly the number of our room. He comes quickly to visit us personally in order to bring about some remarkable changes in our lives.

This season, what we are about to have is a divine visitation and encounter with the child Jesus. This encounter will fill us with the Holy Spirit who will empower us as he empowered Elizabeth. This divine encounter with Christ will bring us transformation and it will provoke peace and greater joy in our hearts as it did for Elizabeth and the child in her womb.

From all here at St. Bernadette of Lourdes Parish
I wish you and your families a very Merry and Joyful Christmas
and a Blessed New Year.

May God, who by the Incarnation brought together the earthly
and heavenly realm, fill you with the gift of his peace and favor.





DID YOU KNOW?

... that the practice of putting candles in the windows arose directly from the circumstances of continual religious persecution that Irish Catholics lived under? The candle served as a secret signal to priests passing through the village on Christmas Eve that the home was Catholic and that the priest was welcome to enter and celebrate Mass there.

... that in Ireland, berry-laden holly branches serve as the prevalent greenery in decorating homes and churches for Christmas? Every church and most families have a Nativity scene. At home, the crèche is set in place several days before Christmas. Customarily, the family gathers before “the Bethlehem Scene” nightly to recite the rosary there.

... that it is said among the Irish that it is a blessing to die on Christmas Eve, for on that night the gates of heaven stand wide open, and on Christmas Eve every prayer is answered? May Christmas be for us all a preparation for eternity, as the concluding words of the *Wexford Carol* declare: “In faith and hope, whatever befall, we’ll wait in peace His holy call.”



This
Christmas
end a quarrel.

Seek out a forgotten
friend. Dismiss suspicion,
and replace it with trust . . .

Write a love letter. Share some
treasure. Give a soft answer. En-
courage youth. Manifest your loyalty in
word and deed. Keep a promise. Find
the time. Forget a grudge. Forgive an enemy.
Listen. Apologize if you were wrong. Try to under-
stand. Flout envy. Examine your demands on others.
Think first of someone else. Appreciate. Be kind; be
gentle. Laugh a little. Laugh a little more. Deserve
confidence. Take up arms against malice. Decry
complacency. Express your gratitude. Go to Church.
Welcome a stranger. Gladden the heart of a child.

Take pleasure in the
beauty and wonder of the earth.

Speak your love.
Speak it again.
Speak it still
once again.

RECTORY — OFFICE HOURS

**The rectory will close at noon on Monday, December 23 and will be closed through Wednesday, January 1.
The rectory will open at 9:00am on Thursday, January 2.**



WE PRAY FOR THE SICK - Bill Albertson, Fred Amatucci, Elizabeth Burrichter Arginteanu, Janet Annett, Hannah Atkins, Frank Barba, Anna Benoit, Marcus Bianco, Dan Bigioni, Pamela Bower, Joseph Bradley, Marie Bree, Theresa Caputo, Michael Carroll, Anne Casey, Peter Celucci, Robert & Joanne Christopher, Elaine Cole, Mike Connors, Quinn Connors, Dennis Conway, Dave Costella, Francis Coyle, 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 Flanigan, 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, Theresa Merlini, Christopher Milecki, Sue Mitchell, Will Mooney, Eileen Morris, Baby Kyle Patrick Muldoon, Karyl Murray, Stephen Murray, Matthew Nicholas, Nancy Nicholas, Roman O'Brien, Nicole Pagett, Theresa Perry, 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 Sarmento, 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 Tewey Coyle, 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.

**This Christmas
and in the coming year
may you and your loved ones
know peace and live it;
understand love and give it;
have happiness and share it.**



**ST. LEONIE AVIAT
FEAST DAY - JANUARY 10**

Ahead of the Feast Day of St. Leonie Aviat, there will be a 9 Day Novena prayed in our parish from January 2nd-January 10th. The Novena Prayers will be made available to all through a booklet and will be posted each day online.

To learn and understand more about the humble life of Leonie Aviat ~ whose motto is to "Work for the Happiness of Others" ~ The Oblate Sisters of St. Francis DeSales will speak at the 9am and 11am Masses on January 5th. The Sisters were an integral part of our parish for many years. There will be light hospitality after each Mass on January 5th.

Mrs. Denise McKenzie will join us on Monday, January 6th and Wednesday January 8th at 7pm to share about the Power of Prayer and the healing of her daughter through the intercession of Leonie Aviat and the prayers of this parish!

The Novena will conclude on Friday January 10th, the Feast Day of St. Leonie Aviat, with a Parish Mass at 6pm followed by refreshments in O'Brien Hall.

Please join us in the prayerful start to the New Year.

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