



*Church of St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Stanislaus Kostka*  
*1235 George Street, Plainfield, New Jersey 07062*  
*(908) 756-3393 – email: [office@bestchurch.net](mailto:office@bestchurch.net) – fax: (908) 756-3059*  
*April 14, 2024*

## CHOIR

We are fortunate enough to have a Parish Choir that has a full multi-lingual repertoire; English, Polish and Spanish. The Choir rehearses on Thursday at 7:00 PM. Instrumentalists are welcomed, either to play solo or with our choir. A parish orchestra made up of children and adults rehearses and performs several times during the year. If you are interested in joining or for more information or just to volunteer, contact the office at (908) 756-3393.

## PARISH REGISTRATION

New parishioners are most welcome and are encouraged to call the parish office and make an appointment to register. When you are moving from the parish, please notify the parish office.

## SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

Call the Office during regular hours.

## STEWARDSHIP AND TITHING

Stewardship calls us to freely give of our time, talent, and treasure for the good of our parish family and community. God gives us everything! I give Him back my tithes. Tithing is God's plan to support His Church. Full tithing means 10% of gross income to God – 5% for your parish church and 5 % for other charities.

## VOCATIONS

Those who are recognizing the call to the priesthood, diaconate, or the religious life are invited to speak to a priest or contact the Archdiocesan Vocations Office at 973-497-4365, or mail at [www.rcan.org/vocation/index.htm](http://www.rcan.org/vocation/index.htm)

## ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY

2032 Westfield Ave., Scotch Plains NJ  
908-322-4265 OR [www.STBACADEMY](http://www.STBACADEMY)

## **Mass Intentions** FOR THE WEEK

### **Saturday – April 13... Saturday within the Octave of Easter**

9:00AM... + People of the Parish

5:00PM... + Bob Chanda, req. Gayle Sullivan

### **Sunday – April 14... Third Sunday of Easter**

9:00AM... + Andrea and Rosa Negri, req. Sister and Family

11:00AM.. God's Blessings for Karina Radecki 18th Birthday  
req. Family

1:00PM... + Arthur Zaleski, req. Pat and John Zimmerman

### **Monday – April 15... Easter Weekday**

9:00AM... + William Garner (1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary), req. Wife Ann

### **Tuesday – April 16... Easter Weekday**

9:00AM... + Angela Apisa, req. Lucia Simeone

### **Wednesday – April 17... Easter Weekday**

9:00AM... + Carlo Riello, req. Antonia Riello

### **Thursday – April 18 ... Easter Weekday**

9:00AM... Peace, req. Kruse Family

### **Friday – April 19... Easter Weekday**

9:00AM... + Pastora Cuartas (6th Anniversary),  
req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

### **Saturday – April 20... Easter Weekday**

9:00AM... + Mary Casendino, req. Mary Ellen Chanda

5:00PM... + Bob Chanda, req. Ann Garner

### **Sunday – April 21... Third Sunday of Easter**

9:00AM... + Lena Ciallella, req. Pat, John and Erica Zimmerman

11:00AM.. Adam i Dorota Paszczyk ,20<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniv. and  
+Taraszkwoskich i Paszczyk Family,  
req. Children

God's Blessings for Prezemyslaw Blazejowicz  
40<sup>th</sup> Birthday, req. Mother and Family

1:00PM... + Eloise Dias, req. Ann Garner

**The Tabernacle Candle** will burn this week for all our **Parish Faithful Departed**.

The Bread and Wine used at Mass for the month of **April is for all the deceased members of the Parish**.

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** for those whose health is challenged in any way especially **Ray Van Haute, Gloria DeMatteo, Kate Rooney, Marian Parcinski, Dennis Powers and Lucille Thurston**.

**OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** for all the **Faithful Departed especially for Emilia Carlson and Daniel Cash**.

### THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

#### **First Reading: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19**

Peter reminds the people that they allowed Jesus to be killed, and preferred to allow a murderer to be released. But God raised him from the dead as had been prophesied. Therefore, all people should believe and turn to God, that their sins might be forgiven.

#### **Second Reading: I John 2:1-5a**

Jesus was offered up for the sins of the world. The only way to prove true faith in him, is to honor his commandments. Anyone who claims to believe, yet does not keep his word, does not truly believe.

#### **Gospel: Luke 24:35-48**

Jesus appeared to two disciples, though at first, they feared he was a ghost. Jesus ate with them to prove he was not a ghost. He explained that he had fulfilled the prophets' words about him. He also explained that in his name they must preach doing penance for the forgiveness of sins.

**Please Pray for our Parishioners in the Military**  
**SSG Katarzyna Czajka, US Army**  
**Ryan Percy, USN**  
**Declan Cassidy, US Army**

**The Saint of the Week**

**St. Bernadette Soubirous**

*(April 16)*

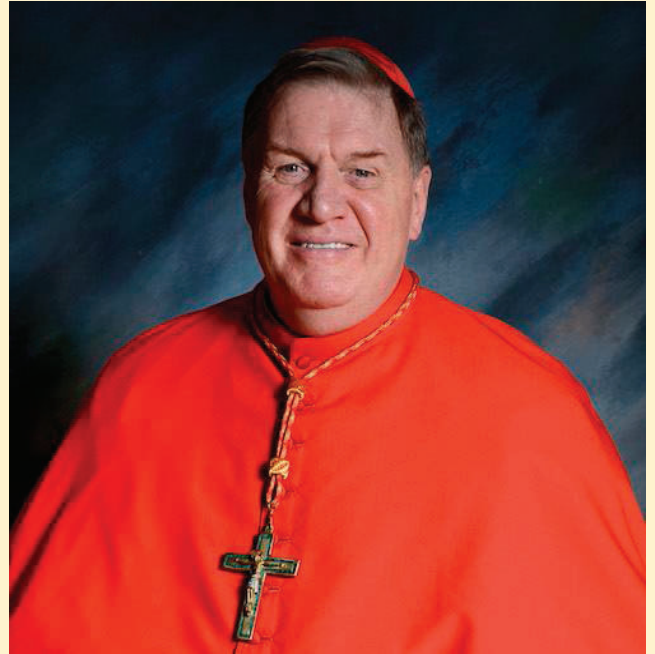
Saint Bernadette came from a very poor family in France and was the oldest of nine children. Our Lady appeared to Bernadette, 14 years old at the time, beginning on February 11, 1858. At the Grotto of Massabielle, Bernadette saw “a small lady in white” who asked her to return each day, to receive a series of 18 visions. Her family and townspeople were divided over what was happening: some believed that it was a miraculous vision of the Virgin Mary while others demanded that Bernadette be institutionalized. She was arrested at one point and interrogated, but Bernadette remained calm and was consistent in her telling of what was happening.

On February 24th, Saint Bernadette received a message from the Lady: “Penance, penance, penance...” During the following few days, she was commanded to dig at the grotto and then a spring of clear water began to flow. During the next few visions, the Lady told Bernadette to go to the Parish Priest and ask that he build her a Chapel at the Grotto. The Priest in turn commanded Bernadette to ask the Lady her name and also to ask for a sign. Finally, on March 25th, the Lady declared to Saint Bernadette: “I am the Immaculate Conception.” Four years earlier, Pope Pius IX had declared the infallible dogma of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary. Bernadette’s family, Priest, and friends all later testified that she would never have heard the term before in her life.

After the conclusion of the visions, Saint Bernadette joined the Sisters of Charity at the age of 22. She disliked the attention that she received because of the visions and lived the simple life of a consecrated Religious until she died from tuberculosis at the age of 35. When her body was exhumed as part of the usual requirements for the investigation of sainthood, it was found to be incorrupt. She was canonized as a Saint of the Church by Pope Pius XI on December 8, 1933, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

In her messages to Saint Bernadette, Our Lady emphasized prayer and penance for the sins of mankind. The visions also call to mind the love that Our Lady has for God’s people. May we always cherish the gift of God’s own Mother and call upon her when we are in trouble or in need. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee!

***Visit of Cardinal Tobin***



***Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>  
at 10AM***

***We will celebrate a bilingual  
Mass at 10AM***

*(the Mass at 9 & 11AM will be combined for his visit)*

***A Brunch will follow  
after the 10AM Mass***

***First Communion  
Retreat Saturday,  
May 4<sup>th</sup> 10:00AM***

**First Holy  
Communion  
Sunday, May 5th  
11:00AM in Polish  
1:00PM in English.**



## Polskie Duszpasterstwo w Parafii św. Bernarda i św. Stanisława Kostki



### 3 NIEDZIELA WIELKANOCNA

#### Z pierwszej Apologii chrześcijan św. Justyna, męczennika

Tylko ten może brać udział w Eucharystii, kto wierzy, że prawdą jest, czego uczymy, kto także został zanurzony w wodzie odradzającej i przynoszącej odpuszczenie grzechów, i żyje tak, jak nauczał Chrystus.

Albowiem nie przyjmujemy tego pokarmu jak zwykły chleb albo zwykły napój. Lecz jak za sprawą Słowa Bożego nasz Zbawiciel Jezus Chrystus stał się człowiekiem i przybrał ciało i krew dla naszego zbawienia, tak pokarm, który stał się Eucharystią przez modlitwę zawierającą Jego własne słowa, dzięki przemianie odżywia nasze ciało i krew naszą. Przekazano zaś nam w pouczeniu, że ów pokarm jest właśnie Ciałem i Krwią wcielonego Jezusa.

Apostołowie w napisanych przez siebie pamiętnikach, czyli Ewangeliach, podali nam, że takie przykazanie otrzymali od Jezusa, który wziął chleb, dzięki składał i rzekł: "To czyńcie na moją pamiątkę. To jest Ciało moje". Podobnie też wziął kielich, dzięki składał i rzekł: "To jest Krew moja". I rozdawał tylko im samym. Odtąd więc czynimy to samo na Jego pamiątkę, a zamożniejsi spośród nas wspierają tych wszystkich, którzy cierpią niedostatek, i tak zawsze stanowimy jedno. I przy każdej ofierze wielbimy Stwórcę wszechrzeczy przez Jego Syna, Jezusa Chrystusa, i przez Ducha Świętego.

A w dniu zwanym Dniem Słońca zbieramy się wszyscy razem w jednym miejscu, czy to z miast, czy też ze wsi, i czyta się wtedy pamiętniki apostołskie albo Pisma prorockie tak długo, jak na to czas pozwala.

Gdy zaś lektor skończy czytać, ten, który przewodniczy, upomina nas i zachęca do wprowadzenia w życie tych przepięknych pouczeń.

Następnie powstajemy z naszych miejsc i modlimy się; po czym, jak to już powiedziano, gdy przestajemy się modlić, przynoszą chleb oraz wino i wodę, a ten, który przewodniczy, znosi modlitwy dziękczynne, ile tylko może, a lud odpowiada "Amen". Wreszcie wszystkim obecnym rozdaje się i rozdziela to, co się stało Eucharystią, nieobecny zaś rozsyła ją przez diakonów.

Ci, którym się dobrze powodzi, dają dobrowolnie ze swego, co tylko chcą, a wszystko, co się zbierze, składa się na ręce przewodniczącego. On zaś przychodzi z pomocą sierotom, wdowom i chorym, i tym wszystkim, którzy dla jakiegokolwiek przyczyny cierpią niedostatek, a także więźniom i przybyszom z dalekich stron; jednym słowem, śpieszy on z pomocą wszystkim potrzebującym.

Dlatego zaś zbieramy się w Dniu Słońca, bo w tym pierwszym dniu Bóg przemienił ciemności i materię i stworzył świat. W tym też dniu zmartwychwstał nasz Zbawiciel, Jezus Chrystus. W przeddzień bowiem dnia Saturna, został On ukrzyżowany, a nazajutrz po owym dniu, czyli właśnie w Dniu Słońca, objawił się Apostołom i uczniom oraz pouczył ich o tym wszystkim, co właśnie przedstawiliśmy Wam tutaj do rozważenia.

LG tom II: III Niedziela Wielkanocna, str. 548-549

#### Szkoła Polska Doksztalająca

*Zajęcia w Polskiej Szkole działającej przy  
naszej Parafii odbywają się  
w każdy poniedziałek w okresie roku  
szkolnego  
od godz. 5:30 do 8:00PM.*

*Kontakt: [polskaszkolainfield@outlook.com](mailto:polskaszkolainfield@outlook.com)  
Dyrektorka Szkoły: Beata Benewiat*

## Word

**STEWARDSHIP** *Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' But they were startled and frightened...* - LUKE 24:36-37  
Throughout the day we have many opportunities to "see the face of Jesus" in others and to "be the face of Jesus" to others. Do we take that opportunity to provide "peace" to those we encounter or are we afraid of what others will think of us and do nothing? Pray for the strength and courage to live a "God-centered" life and not a "self-centered" life.

### DEVOTION



The Rosary is prayed daily before the 9AM Mass during the week.

On Thursdays after 9AM Mass the Blessed Sacrament

is exposed, closing with Benediction at 11:00AM.



### ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

The Rosary Mass is celebrated at the 9:00AM Mass on the First Sunday of the month followed by a short meeting after Mass in the Parish Commons. The next Rosary Mass and meeting is Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.

### MOUNT ST. MARY HOUSE OF PRAYER

Mt. St. Mary House of Prayer offers many programs that invite us to be stretched and grow in relationship with ourselves, others and God. For more information see the website:

[www.msmhope.org](http://www.msmhope.org) or email [msmhope@msmhope.org](mailto:msmhope@msmhope.org)

- **Mass Schedule:**
- **Monday – Saturday: 9:00 AM**
- **Saturday: 5:00 PM Mass - English**
- **Sunday: 9:00AM & 1PM Mass - English**
- **11:00 AM Mass - Polish**
- **First Fridays: 7:00PM Mass - Polish**
- **Office Hours:**
- **Monday – Friday: 10:00AM - 2:00PM**
- **Website and Live Mass:**
- **[www.bestchurch.net](http://www.bestchurch.net)**

## YOUTH

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education students must attend Sunday Mass every weekend, and remember to have their booklets signed.

#### **Confirmation Retreat**

**Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup> 10:00AM**



**Confirmation**  
**Sunday, June 2**  
**1:00PM Mass**

### ALTAR SERVERS

***Be joyful to serve at the altar, to be closer to Jesus!***

Serving God as an Altar Server is a wonderful way to grow in faith as well as in responsibility, friendship, and other virtues. This ministry is open to all youths: boys as well as girls.



### ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY

The Academy is a perfect place for a Catholic Education founded on learning a true Catholic way of life and achieving excellence in academics. The students are nurtured and cared for. Additional information, contact Maureen Doherty at 908 322-4265 or [www.stbacademy.org](http://www.stbacademy.org)

### Mother Seton Regional High School Spring Open House

Meet students and teachers to learn what a Catholic school education for girls can do for your daughter. You are invited Wednesday, April 24th at 7:00PM to an evening of conversation and tours. Register online at [www.motherseton.org](http://www.motherseton.org)

### SAINT PETER'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL

There will be a Spring Open House on Sunday, May 5th 1:00 – 3:00 PM  
Saint Peter's Prep is an independent, college preparatory school for boys, and it remains New Jersey's only Jesuit high school. For more information on the Spring Open House, please call 201-547-6465.

## COMMUNITY BUILDING



### BESTCHURCH SENIORS

Our meeting is this  
Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at  
12:30 PM.

*“Gardening with Lowes”*

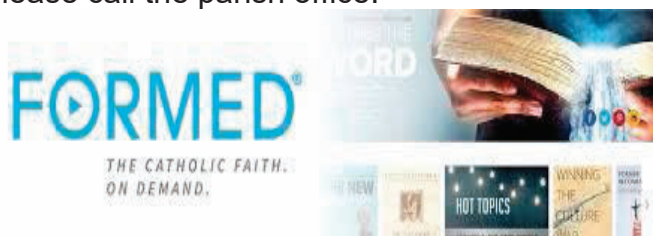
On May 16th, our last meeting until the fall, will be “Drumming in Prayer”. The Senior Meeting is open to all **seniors** and **almost seniors** on the third Thursday of the month at 12:30PM with programs, fun, socialization, as well as reminiscing, and some tasty treats. The weather should be nice so please join us! And feel free to invite a friend.

### NON-PERISHABLE FOOD COLLECTION

We are continuing to collect food in the open area of the church for Starfish to be distributed throughout the Union County area by Starfish. Dates should be current and food non-perishable. Thank you for all your support throughout the year.

### DIAPER COLLECTION

Through the efforts of our members of the St. Anne Society, the Rosary Society and our parish community we will be collecting diapers, pull-ups and wipes to be donated to United Families in Plainfield. Our parish has always generously supported this ministry, and the families in Plainfield are very appreciative of our caring donations. Diapers and Pull-ups should be in sizes of 3 or larger and can be left in the open area of the church or dropped off at the office. We will deliver them to United Families in early May. For more Information, please call the parish office.



- Visit: [www.formed.org/signup](http://www.formed.org/signup)
- Find **St Bernard and Stanislaus** by parish name, address, or zip code
- Enter your email – and you are in

## Calendar of Events

### SUNDAYS:

**April 14...Third Sunday of Easter**

9:00AM and 1:00PM.... Mass in English  
11:00AM...Mass in Polish

**April 21...Fourth Sunday of Easter**

9:00AM and 1:00PM.... Mass in English  
11:00AM...Mass in Polish

**April 28...Fifth Sunday of Easter**

10:00AM...Bilingual Mass - **Cardinal Tobin Visit**  
**Followed by a Brunch**  
1:00PM...Mass in English

### MONDAYS:

**April 15, 22, 29**

5:30PM...Polish School

### TUESDAY:

### WEDNESDAYS:

**April 17,24 (last Class)**

6:30PM.....Religious Education Class

### THURSDAYS:

**April 18, 25: May 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30**

7:00PM...Choir Practice

### FRIDAY:

### SATURDAYS:

**April 13, 20, 27**

4:15...Confession

**May 4**

10:00AM...First Communion Retreat

## Contact us:

### **Office Address**

368 Sumner Avenue, Plainfield, New Jersey 07062

**Rev. Marcin Fuks - PASTOR**

908-756-3393 EXT - 103

**Rev. Bernardo Garcia - Parochial Vicar**

[vicar@bestchurch.net](mailto:vicar@bestchurch.net) 908-756-3393 EXT – 110

**Karole Lechowski – Secretary**

[office@bestchurch.net](mailto:office@bestchurch.net)

**Iveth Parada - Religious Education-**

[bestreligioused@gmail.com](mailto:bestreligioused@gmail.com)

## FINANCE



### ONLINE GIVING

### TAX STATEMENTS

**It's that time again to file your taxes and to report to the IRS before April 15th!!!**

If you need a tax statement of giving for the 2023 Income Tax Purposes, please let us know. If you donated electronically through the online "Parish Giving" they will send you a statement for whatever was processed through them, but it might not be your total giving. So don't hesitate to ask us to provide you with a statement of by providing you with a statement of whatever was given before you signed up online.



### Collection for April 7

Online.....\$ 3,213

In Pew..... \$ 3,580

**Total Collection for April 7..... \$ 6,793**

**Thank you for all your donations!!!**

## ANNUAL <sup>2024</sup> APPEAL

The 2024 Annual Appeal has begun!

Each year we are invited to participate in the Annual Appeal, which is an opportunity to support essential ministries and programs of our Archdiocese.

Your sacrificial support makes it possible for us to carry out the important work that we are called to do as missionary disciples of Jesus.

Please consider participating in this year's Appeal to help make a significant difference in many lives.

We already collected **\$17,897.00**

**62%** of our goal for the AA 2024

Thank you for all your donations.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on a regular basis on Saturdays at 4:15PM and on Sunday mornings after Masses as well as after weekday Masses simply by requesting a celebration of the sacrament.

## From Fr. Marcin's Desk

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

As we continue the Easter Journey, on this Third Sunday of Easter, we return to Jerusalem. The Risen Christ presents himself in the midst of the group of disciples and greets: "Peace to you!". But they are frightened and believe "that they saw a spirit", as the Gospel says. Then Jesus shows them the wounds in his body and says: "See my hands and my feet" – the wounds – "that it is I myself; handle me". And to convince them, he asks for food and eats it before their astonished eyes.

The Apostles had such joy that they could not believe that this was true. And they were astonished because they encountered the Risen Lord.

They recognized the Risen Lord by looking at his hands and his feet. To look is not only to see, it is more; it also involves intention, will and LOVE. Looking is a first step against indifference, against the temptation to look the other way before the difficulties and sufferings of others.

By inviting the disciples to touch him, to verify that he is not a ghost – touch me! – Jesus indicates to them and to us that the relationship with Him and with our brothers and sisters cannot remain "at a distance". Christianity does not exist at a distance; Christianity does not exist only at the level of looking. Love requires looking, and it also requires closeness; it requires contact, the sharing of life. The Good Samaritan did not limit himself to looking at that man whom he found half dead along the road: he stopped, he bent down, he treated his wounds, he touched him, he loaded him on his mount and took him to the inn. And it is the same with Jesus himself: loving him means entering into a communion of life, a communion with Him.

Brothers and sisters, this Gospel passage tells us that Jesus is not a "ghost", but a living Person; that when Jesus draws near to us he fills us with joy, to the point of disbelief, and he leaves us bewildered, with that astonishment that only God's presence gives, because Jesus is a living Person.

**Christ is Risen!!!**

Fr. Marcin Fuks

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