

# The Church of St. Bernard of Clairvaux & St. Stanislaus Kostka

October 13, 2024

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**Website:** [www.bestchurch.net](http://www.bestchurch.net)

*The people of St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Stanislaus Kostka are a "Living Mosaic of God's People," who seek salvation through worship, education, stewardship and service, proclaiming our faith in God and in our heritages.*

## **PARISH STAFF**

**Rev. Marcin Fuks**  
*Pastor*

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908-756-3393 Ext - 101

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**Iveth Parada**

*Religious Education*  
[bestreligioused@gmail.com](mailto:bestreligioused@gmail.com)  
908-756-3393 Ext - 103

## **CHURCH ADDRESS**

1235 George Street  
Plainfield, NJ 07062

## **OFFICES & MAILING ADDRESS**

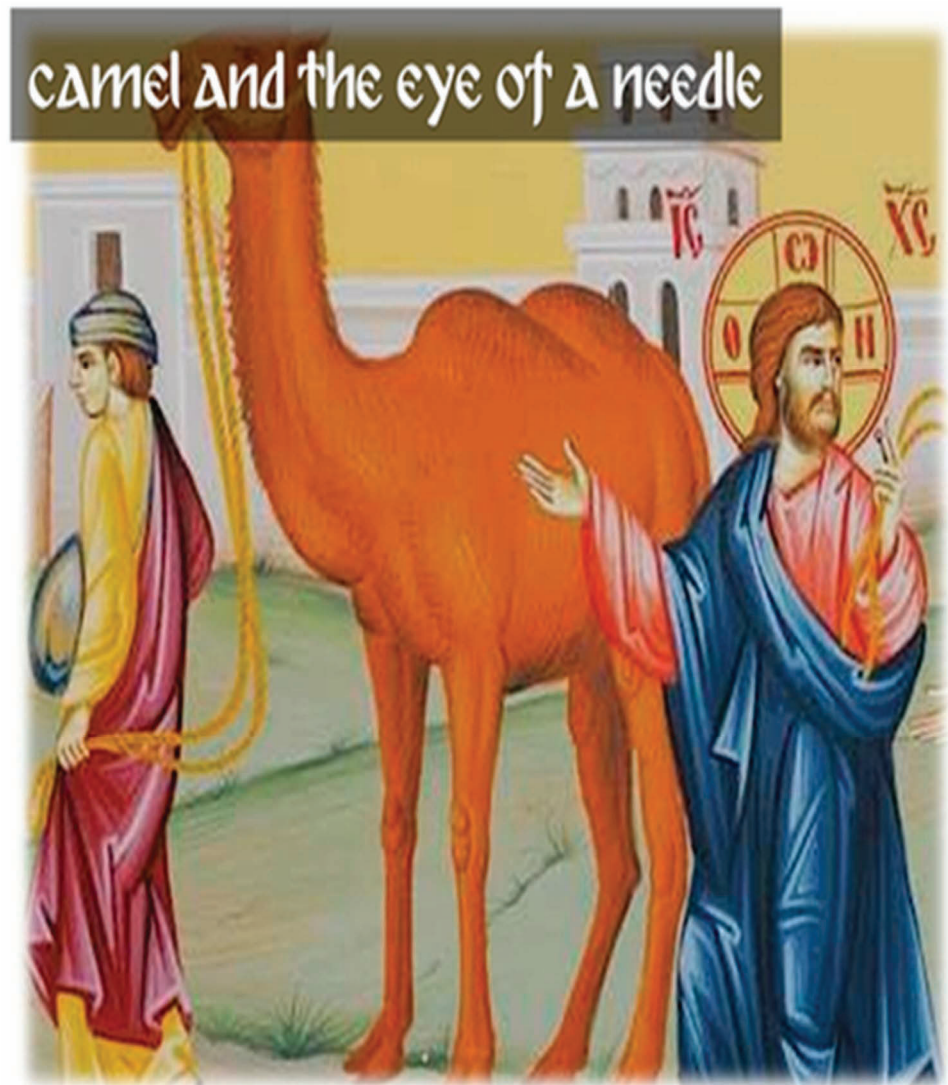
1232 George Street  
Plainfield, NJ 07062

## **OFFICE HOURS**

**Sunday:** Closed or by appointment

**Monday - Friday:** 10:00 am-2:00 pm

**Saturday:** Closed or by appointment



**BAPTISM:** Celebrated throughout the year in accordance with the policy of the Archdiocese and to accommodate the needs of our Parish Family. Attendance at a preparation session may be required. You must be a registered and active family for at least 90 days before a date for Baptism will be scheduled. Please call the Parish Office for an appointment.

**MARRIAGE:** Arrangements should be made with a priest as soon as possible. One year prior to marriage or as soon as engagement is announced is recommended.

## **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Levels 1 - 8:** Wednesday,  
6:30 - 7:45 pm

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK:** In the event of serious illness or when someone is hospitalized, the parish office should be notified. The Eucharist and the Sacrament of the Sick will be celebrated with anyone requesting them. Remember, the Hospital cannot notify us on their own.

## 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 adults who rehearse 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 on the website [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)



### **Saturday – October 12... Weekday**

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

5:00PM... + John Skolka, Jr., req. John and Theresa Cosmas

### **Sunday – October 13...28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00AM... Special Intention for Peace, req. Ebose Family

11:00AM... + Grzegorz Grzelak, req. Sister and Family

...+ Janina Książek, req. Książek rodzina

1:00PM... + Michael Duff, req. Byrne - Kruse Family

### **Monday – October 14...St. Callistus I**

9:00AM... + AR, req. Johanna Merkle

### **Tuesday – October 15...St. Theresa of Jesus**

9:00AM... + Eloise Dias, req. Parish Family

### **Wednesday – October 16...St. Hedwig and St. Margaret Mary Alacoque**

9:00AM... Health of Jim Rushforth, req. Johanna Merkle

### **Thursday- October 17...St. Ignatius of Antioch**

9:00AM... + Orfilia Cardona, req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

### **Friday – October 18 ...St. Luke**

9:00AM... + Giovanni and Antoniella Mone, req. Daughter

### **Saturday – October 19... St. John de Brébeuf and St. Isaac Jogues**

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

5:00PM... + Janet Lorraine Garbarini (2<sup>nd</sup> Anniv.)  
req. Parish Family

### **Sunday – October 20...29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00AM... + Mario and Angela Negri, req. Sister and Family

11:00AM... + Sylwester Jemiolo ( 5<sup>th</sup> Anniv), req. córka Sabina

1:00PM... + John Skolka, Jr., req. Doreen Kruse

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

The Tabernacle Candle will burn this week for  
**All Our Parish Faithful Departed.**

**The Bread and Wine used at Mass for the month of  
October is in Memory of John Skolka, Jr.**

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** for those whose health  
is challenged in any way especially **Cathy and Jack  
Rooney, Marian Parcinski, Frank Kazmierski,  
Olivia Schiffer, and Al Caraldo.**

**OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** for all the **Faithful  
Departed.**

### **TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

#### **First Reading: Wisdom 7:7-11**

This poem discusses how the spirit of wisdom is far more beautiful than any riches could be. All gold is no more than sand when compared to the importance of wisdom, which often leads people to the other good things in life.

#### **Second Reading: Hebrews 4:12-13**

God's perception of people is called "sharper than any two-edged sword." God is able to know the thoughts and feelings of all his people. We can hide nothing from him, and will need to account for all he has seen in us.

#### **Gospel: Mark 10:17-30**

A man asks Jesus how he can share in everlasting life. Jesus tells him to sell his possessions and travel with them. The man refuses and Jesus tells his disciples how difficult it is for a rich person to enter heaven if they are too concerned with their possessions. The disciples remind Jesus that they gave up everything for him, but he assures them they will be rewarded with everlasting life.

*The Saint of the Week*

## Margaret Mary Alacoque

(October 16)

Margaret Mary was chosen by Christ to arouse the Church to a realization of the love of God symbolized by the heart of Jesus.

Her early years were marked by sickness and a painful home situation. "The heaviest of my crosses was that I could do nothing to lighten the cross my mother was suffering." After considering marriage for some time, Margaret Mary entered the Order of the Visitation nuns at the age of 24.

A Visitation nun was "not to be extraordinary except by being ordinary," but the young nun was not to enjoy this anonymity. A fellow novice termed Margaret Mary humble, simple, and frank, but above all, kind and patient under sharp criticism and correction. She could not meditate in the formal way expected, though she tried her best to give up her "prayer of simplicity." Slow, quiet, and clumsy, she was assigned to help an infirmarian who was a bundle of energy.

On December 21, 1674, three years a nun, she received the first of her revelations. She felt "invested" with the presence of God, though always afraid of deceiving herself in such matters. The request of Christ was that his love for humankind be made evident through her.

During the next 13 months, Christ appeared to her at intervals. His human heart was to be the symbol of his divine-human love. By her own love Margaret Mary was to make up for the coldness and ingratitude of the world—by frequent and loving Holy Communion, especially on the first Friday of each month, and by an hour's vigil of prayer every Thursday night in memory of his agony and isolation in Gethsemane. He also asked that a feast of reparation be instituted.

Like all saints, Margaret Mary had to pay for her gift of holiness. Some of her own sisters were hostile. Theologians who were called in declared her visions delusions and suggested that she eat more heartily. Against her great resistance, Christ called her to be a sacrificial victim for the shortcomings of her own sisters, and to make this known.

After serving as novice mistress and assistant superior, Margaret Mary died at the age of 43, while being anointed. She said: "I need nothing but God, and to lose myself in the heart of Jesus."

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Children gather in the cafeteria, using the Emerson Entrance of the school building. Parents are required to pick up their children from the cafeteria at 7:45.

All Religious Education children **are required** to attend Sunday Mass every weekend and have their booklet signed.

**There will be a brief meeting for Confirmation Parents this Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> in the cafeteria at 6:30pm.**



**Liturgy of the Word** will resume on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month for grades K-2, in the church Chapel.



### **ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS**

#### **October is the Month of the Rosary**

The Rosary is prayed in church every Tuesday in October at 1PM. Everyone is invited to attend and pray together in **Honor of Our Blessed Mother.**

**The Living Rosary**, prayed in any language you prefer, will be prayed together in the church on **Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM.**

#### **Church Decor**

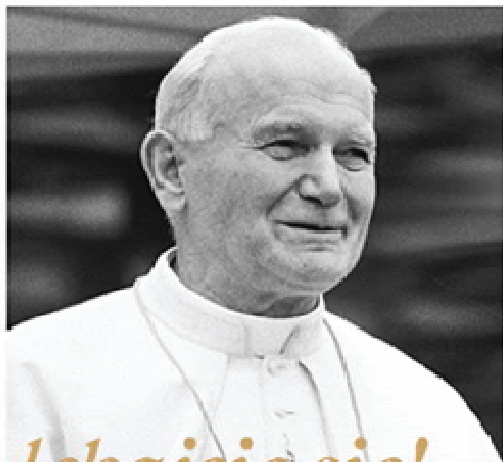
There will be a planning meeting of the **Church Décor Committee** on **Tuesday, October 15 at 6:30PM** in the church office. All are welcome to attend and any time that you can give will be greatly appreciated.

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



## **28 NIEDZIELA ZWYKŁA B**

**Z komentarza św. Cyryla  
Aleksandryjskiego, biskupa, do Księgi  
Aggeusza**



*Nie lękajcie się!*

W chwili przyjścia naszego Zbawiciela świątynia Boża objawiła się w sposób nieporównanie chwalebny; o tyle wspanialsza i wznioślejsza od dawnej, o ile kult starotestamentalny różni się od kultu chrześcijańskiego i ewangelicznego, a zapowiedź od rzeczywistości.

Na ten temat - jak sądzę - można powiedzieć, co następuje. Świątynia była jedna, i tylko w Jerozolimie. Ofiary sprawował w niej jeden lud izraelski. Odkąd jednak Jednorodzony Syn stał się nam podobny, chociaż był "Bogiem i Panem, oświecił nas" - jak powiada Pismo, odtąd cały świat napełnił się świątyniami i niezliczonymi czcicielami, którzy duchowymi ofiarami i kadzidłami wielbią Boga wszechświata. To właśnie, jak sądzę, zapowiadał Malachiasz w imieniu Boga: "Ja jestem wielkim Królem - mówi Pan - imię moje będzie sławione między narodami, a na każdym miejscu składany będzie mojemu imieniu dar kadzielnny i ofiara czysta".

Tak więc wspaniałość nowej świątyni, czyli Kościoła, będzie o wiele bogatsza. Tym, którzy zabiegają i trudzą się przy budowie tej świątyni, zostanie udzielony od Boga dar i nagroda z nieba - Chrystus. On jest dla wszystkich pokojem i "przez Niego mamy przystęp w jednym Duchu do Ojca". Pan zapowiada to w słowach: "Na tym miejscu udzielię pokoju, pokoju duszy, jako nagrody dla pracujących przy budowie tej świątyni". Na innym miejscu mówi także Chrystus: "Pokój mój daję wam". O tym, jak bardzo jest on pożyteczny, poucza święty Paweł: "Pokój Chrystusowy, który przewyższa wszelki umysł, będzie strzegł waszych serc i myśli". Także Izajasz, mędrzec, modlił się słowami: "Panie nasz, Boże, użyż nam pokoju, albowiem Ty odpłacasz wszystkie nasze czyny". Ci bowiem, co raz się stali godni pokoju Chrystusa, potrafią zachować swą duszę i skierować swe myśli ku przestrzeganiu cnoty.

Tak więc każdemu, kto buduje, obiecany jest pokój. Czy to gdy buduje Kościół, i jako mistagog wprowadzający w święte misteria postawiony jest na czele rodziny Bożej, czy też gdy doskonali własną duszę stając się żywym i duchowym kamieniem "świątyni Boga w Duchu", jako nagrodę osiągnie z łatwością zbawienie własnej duszy.

LG tom IV: XXVIII Niedziela Zwykła B, str. 291-292

### **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:* [polskaszkolaplainfield@outlook.com](mailto:polskaszkolaplainfield@outlook.com)  
Dyrektorka Szkoły: Beata Benewiat  
Tel. 732-266-4310

## STEWARDSHIP

### 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God."* (MARK 10:25)

Cardinal Joseph Tobin, C. Ss. R. - Jesus uses tough language that we may not want to hear. However, we are all called to be generous with all of our gifts. Not just the ones we pick and choose, but all our gifts, and especially the one that means the most to us! That includes our time in prayer to God, our talent in participating in parish ministries and our treasure supporting our local parish and other charities.

### 8<sup>th</sup> grade students planning to attend Catholic High School in the Fall of 2025!

The High School Placement Test (HSPT) will be given on Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup>. Registration information for the exam is online at [www.njcoopexam.org](http://www.njcoopexam.org). For more information <https://www.catholicchoolsnj.org/hs-admissions>

**Union Catholic High School**  
**1600 Martine Avenue Scotch Plains**  
**Next Fall Open House**  
**October 16th -7:00:PM**

**Mother Seton Regional High School**  
**1 Valley Road, Clark**  
Meet teachers and current students to learn about what a Catholic School education for girls can do for your daughter, Monday, November 4th 7PM. **Fifth through eighth grade girls** are welcome to register at [motherseton.org](http://motherseton.org). **Seventh and Eighth grade girls** are welcome to be a **Student for a Day** during October and November. Register at [motherseton.org](http://motherseton.org)

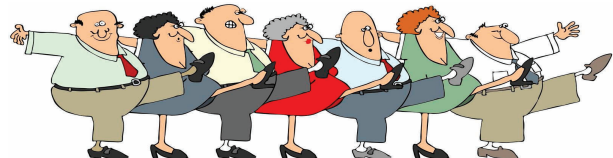
**ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY**  
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## CHOIR



### It's not too late to join...Rehearsals are on Thursdays in the church 7PM.

We are looking to enhance our Choir. If you are interested in joining our Choir, please contact the office, or simply just come on a Thursday evening to one of our rehearsals in the church at 7PM.



### Kick up your heels...Seniors!!!

We are looking forward to welcoming new members to join us. The BestChurch Seniors meet on the Third Thursday of the month at 12:30PM. Our meeting is open to all **seniors** and **almost seniors**. Our kick off Meeting is

### A Halloween Themed Celebration This Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup>

in the Parish Community Room in the office on George Street, using the side door entrance. You are invited to join together for programs, socialization and fun as well as reminiscing, and some tasty treats. Call the office to let us know you will be attending.

And...please feel free to invite someone to come with you, we will have a

## Hallowing Time!!

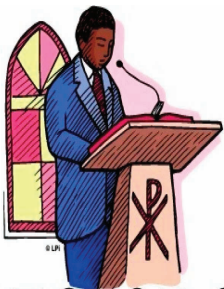
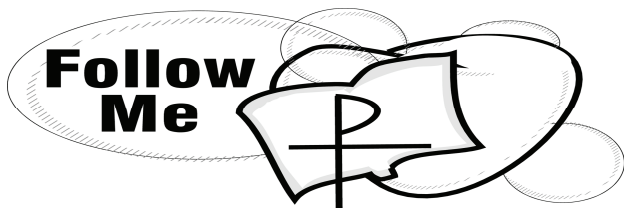
## ALTAR SERVERS

*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. Altar Servers make a difference! If you are interested in participating at Mass as an Altar Server, girls as well as boys, please contact Fr. Marcin or Fr. Bernardo.



- 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



Anyone who may be interested in serving as a Eucharistic Minister or Lector, please contact Bill Shlala at [wgshlala@gmail.com](mailto:wgshlala@gmail.com) or call (908) 755-8560.

# LECTORS

**Mercy House**  
**Archdiocese of Newark**

The Mercy House of our Archdiocese is having a coat giveaway on October 22, 28 & 30. If you have any coats for children, women or men in good condition and clean that you would like to donate, put them aside and let us know what you have.

house hold items: small kitchen appliances, gently used sheets, comfortors, quilts (twin, full or queen only), drinking glasses, plates and utensils.

**PLEASE DO NOT BRING THEM INTO THE CHURCH OR THE OFFICE**

Contact Karole in the office to let us know what you have to donate. Mercy House will pick up from the office this Wednesday, October 16th. **You may bring your items to the office on October 15<sup>th</sup>**

Sorry...but we are not able to store them at this time. Thank you.

## 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. Dates should be current and food non-perishable. The staff at Starfish would like to thank you all for your continued support.



### Safe Environment Corner How to Report Abuse

The Archdiocese takes very seriously any and all allegations of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform us so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse. Call the Coordinator for the Office of Accompaniment in the Archdiocesan Department for the Protection of the Faithful at

**201-407-3256**



**Blessing of the Animals takes place this Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> in the church courtyard at 2:30PM.**



**ONLINE GIVING**  
IT IS POSSIBLE TO AUTOMATE YOUR FAITH GIVING TO OUR PARISH GIVING. SIMPLY GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE.

**Collection for October 6**

Online..... \$ 3,278  
In Pew..... \$ 3,005

**Total Collection Oct. 6.... \$ 6,283**

**ANNUAL <sup>2024</sup> APPEAL**

**We made our goal for 2024 Annual Appeal!**

*Thank you so very much!!*



***The office will be closed on Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup>***

**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*

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

Jesus teaches that it is very difficult for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of God, but not impossible; in fact, God can conquer the heart of a person who has many possessions and move him to solidarity and sharing with the needy, with the poor, to enter into the logic of the gift.

As often happens in the Gospels, everything begins from an encounter. In this case Jesus' meeting with a man who "had many possessions." He was a person who from his youth had faithfully observed the commandments of God's Law, but he had not yet found true happiness; this is why he asks Jesus what he must do to "inherit eternal life." On the one hand, like everyone else, he is after life in its fullness. On the other hand, being used to depending on his wealth, he thinks that he might be able to "buy" eternal life in some way, perhaps by observing some special commandment. Jesus welcomes the profound desire that is in him and, the evangelist notes, casts a gaze full of love upon him, God's own gaze. But Jesus also understands what the man's weakness is: it is precisely his attachment to his many possessions, and this is why he invites him to give everything to the poor, so that his treasure – and thus his heart – will no longer be on earth but in heaven, and adds: "Come! Follow me!" That man, instead of accepting Jesus' invitation, goes away sad since he is unable to give up his wealth, which can never give him happiness and eternal life.

It is at this point that Jesus offers his teaching to the disciples, and to us today: "How hard it is for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" The disciples are puzzled, and even more so when Jesus adds: "It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for one who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." But seeing that the disciples are astonished he says: "For human beings it is impossible, but not for God".

The story teaches the rich that they must not neglect their salvation as if they were already condemned. They need not throw their wealth into the sea or condemn it as insidious and hostile to life, but they must learn how to use their wealth and obtain life."

*In the Love of God,*

*Fr. Marcin Fuks*

*E-mail: [pastor@bestchurch.net](mailto:pastor@bestchurch.net)*

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