

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

November 10, 2024

**Phone:** 908-756-3393

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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*

[pastor@bestchurch.net](mailto:pastor@bestchurch.net)  
908-756-3393 Ext - 101

**Rev. Bernardo Garcia**  
*Parochial Vicar*

[vicar@bestchurch.net](mailto:vicar@bestchurch.net)  
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**Karole Lechowski**  
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908-756-3393  
General Mailbox ext. 100

**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 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 – November 9... Dedication of the Lateran Basilica**

9:00AM...+ All the Faithful Departed  
5:00PM...+ Mr. & Mrs. Louis A. Tierno, Sr.,  
req. Mr. & Mrs. Michael Barrow

### **Sunday – November 10...32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Stewardship Sunday**

9:00AM...+ Carlo Riello, req. Antonia Riello  
11:00AM...+ Józef Górka, req. żona i rodzina  
+ Anna I Jarosława Stalenyj, req. rodzina  
1:00PM...+ William Populus, req. Wife Marilyn

### **Monday – November 11...St. Martinn of Tours**

9:00AM...+ Rosalba Salgado, req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

### **Tuesday – November 12... St. Josaphat**

9:00AM... + Joseph Valentino, req. Negri Family

### **Wednesday – November 13... St. Frances Xavier Cabrini**

9:00AM ...+ Special Intention, req. Cosmas Family

### **Thursday – November 14 ... Weekday**

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

### **Friday – November 15 ... St. Albert the Great**

9:00AM... + Elke Biddulph (2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary),  
req. Husband Keith

### **Saturday – November 16... St. Margaret of Scotland**

9:00AM...+ All Souls  
5:00PM...+ Mr. & Mrs. Charles Barrow,  
req. Mr. & Mrs. Michael Barrow

### **Sunday – November 17...33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00AM...+ Michael J. Onuska, Jr., req. John and Theresa  
11:00AM...+ Edmund Grzymala (1st. Anniv.), req. córka i rodzina  
1:00PM...+ John Skolka, Jr., req. Frank Morano and Fran

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

**The Bread and Wine used at Mass for the month of November is in Memory of all the Parish Faithful Departed.**

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

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

### **THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

#### **First Reading: I Kings 17:10-16**

Elijah asked a widow for a cup of water and a piece of bread. She told him she was almost out of flour, and that she and her son would soon starve. Elijah told her not to be afraid, as God had told him the jar of flour would not go empty. So she did as he had asked and prepared bread from the last of her flour. As God had said, her jar did not go empty, and she and her son had plenty to eat.

#### **Second Reading: Hebrews 9:24-28**

The high priests entered the sanctuary each year and offered a sacrifice, but not a sacrifice of their own blood. Just as people die once and are judged, Christ was offered up once for the sins of many.

#### **Gospel: Mark 12:38-44**

Jesus expressed disgust over the hypocrisy of some of the scribes for wanting special treatment from the people. He watched the wealthy put large contributions into the collection box, but explained that what they gave was surplus wealth, and not a real sacrifice. He told them the biggest donation was a small amount from a widow, because she had given up the only money that she had to live on.

*The Saint of the Week*  
**St. Stanislaus Kostka**

(November 13)

Stanislaus Kostka (Stanislaw Kostka, 1550-1568) is known for his youthful holiness and iron determination to follow God's call despite family obstacles. He was a Polish noble by birth and was destined for public life. In 1564 his parents sent Stanislaus and his older brother Paul to study at the newly opened Jesuit college in Vienna. Initially the two young nobles boarded in the Jesuit residence at the college, but moved to the house of Senator Kimberker after seven months. Kimberker was a staunch Lutheran who would not allow a priest to enter his home with the Blessed Eucharist. That became an issue when Stanislaus unexpectedly fell ill with an undiagnosed sickness in mid-December 1565. Stanislaus kept asking for Viaticum, but his brother put him off. Stanislaus prayed to God so he could receive Viaticum before he died. He had a mystical experience of Mary visiting him and placing the Christ Child in Stanislaus' arms, which he interpreted as meaning that he was to enter the Society of Jesus.

After this extraordinary experience, the young nobleman recovered and then approached the Jesuit provincial in Vienna to ask entrance into the Society. The provincial was favorable but said that he could not accept Stanislaus without his parents' approval, which Stanislaus knew they would not give. The determined student talked to another Jesuit who suggested he go to Augsburg, Germany to ask the provincial there, Father Peter Canisius, to accept him. Stanislaus decided to follow the suggestion and slipped out of Vienna on the morning of Aug. 10, 1567. He left behind his fine clothes and donned coarse pilgrim's robes, which hid him from his angry brother who had followed him on the road but did not recognize him dressed so poorly.

Stanislaus walked for 450 miles to Augsburg to see Fr. Canisius. He explained his desire and offered a letter of introduction from a Jesuit in Vienna. Canisius recognized his sincerity and spiritual qualities and decided to accept him. He also arranged for him to accompany two young Jesuits about to travel to Rome. Kostka and the two Jesuits left Germany in late September and arrived in Rome on Oct. 25, making their way to the residence of the superior general, Father Francis Borgia.

Stanislaus gave Canisius' letter of recommendation to Borgia, who had the young man remain at the Gesù for three months before going briefly to the Roman College and then to the novitiate of Sant'Andrea. Stanislaus's novitiate would only last 10 months. In early August 1568 he had a premonition he would soon die. He became sick with a fever. Since he did not seem to be gravely ill, the brother infirmarian discounted his premonition. On Aug. 14 Stanislaus told the infirmarian he would die the next day, but the remark was not taken seriously. Later that afternoon he took a turn for the worse and lost all strength. He received viaticum and prayed with the novices and other Jesuits who were with him. About three in the morning of the feast of our Lady's Assumption on August 15, he announced that Mary was approaching with angels to take him to heaven and soon died. St. Stanislaus Kostka is considered to be the patron saint of youth, young students, and seminarians.

 **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 Mass Attendance Books signed.

**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.

Bernardo.

**There will be an Altar Server Meeting Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 AM.**

**Liturgy of the Word**

Liturgy of the Word is at the 9AM Mass on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month for grades K-2, in the Church Chapel. Liturgy of the Word is this Sunday at the 9AM Mass in the Chapel of the Church.



**This Weekend  
BAKE SALE  
November 9th and 10<sup>th</sup>**

There is a Bake Sale, sponsored by the Rosarians, after all the Masses this weekend in the open area of the Church. Please stop by for some tasty treats.

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



## 32 NIEDZIELA ZWYKŁA B

Początek homilii autora z drugiego wieku

Bracia, odnowmy naszą wiarę w Chrystusa Jezusa, prawdziwego Sędziego żywych i umarłych; pamiętajmy o wielkości naszego zbawienia. Jeśli bowiem pomniejszamy znaczenie Chrystusa, pomniejszamy również to, co spodziewamy się otrzymać. Ci, którzy lekceważą otrzymywane pouczenia, grzeszą; grzeszymy także i my, jeśli nie zdajemy sobie sprawy, przez kogo, skąd i dokąd zostaliśmy wezwani oraz jak wiele wycierpiał dla nas Pan nasz Jezus Chrystus.

Czymże więc odpłacimy się Panu? Jakież owoc godzien jest daru, którym nas obdarzył? O, jakże bardzo jesteśmy Mu dłużni! On nas obdarzył światłem; ocalił, gdyśmy ginęli; jak Ojciec nazwał nas swymi dziećmi. Jakież hołd, jakąż zapłatę powinniśmy złożyć jako wynagrodzenie za wszystko, cośmy otrzymali? Byliśmy nierozumni, czciliśmy kamienie, drzewa, przedmioty ze złota, srebra i żelaza, sporządzane ręką ludzi; całe nasze życie było właściwie śmiercią. Byliśmy pogrążeni w mroku, zaślepieni całkowicie, a oto odzyskaliśmy wzrok i dzięki Jego łaskawości oddaliśmy ciemność, która nas otaczała.

Pan zmiłował się nad nami. Kiedy ujrzał nas zabłąkanych i ginących, nie mających żadnej, poza Nim, nadziei ocalenia, wybawił nas wiedziony miłosierdziem. Powołał nas, gdy jeszcze nie istnieliśmy; zechciał, abyśmy przeszli z nicości do istnienia!

"Raduj się, niepłodna, któraś nie rodziła; wołaj z radości i wykrzykuj, któraś nie doznała bólów rodzenia; bo liczniejsi są synowie porzuconej niż synowie tej, która ma męża". Słowa: "Raduj się, niepłodna, któraś nie rodziła" - odnoszą się do nas. Niepłodny bowiem był nasz Kościół, zanim zostały mu dane dzieci. Słowa zaś: "Wołaj z radości, któraś nie doznała bólów rodzenia" - zachęcają, abyśmy w szczerości zanosili nasze modlitwy do Boga i nie upadali na duchu, jak niewiasta doznająca bólów. A znowu słowa: "bo liczniejsi są synowie porzuconej niż synowie tej, która ma męża" - oznaczają, że naród nasz wydawał się opuszczony i porzucony przez Boga; teraz zaś, skoro uwierzyliśmy, staliśmy się liczniejsi od tych, których uważano za czcicieli Boga.

Na innym także miejscu mówi Pismo: "Nie przyszedłem powołać sprawiedliwych, ale grzeszników". Chrystus mówi tak, aby wykazać, iż pragnie zbawić ginących. Rzeczą naprawdę wielką jest bowiem podtrzymywanie nie tego, co stoi mocno, ale tego, co upada. Tak też i Chrystus chciał "zbawić to, co było zgineło", i ocalił wielu, bo przyszedł i wezwał nas, gdy szliśmy już ku ładzie.

## 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



Święto  
Niepodległości

11 listopada

## „WOLNOŚĆ: KOCHAM I ROZUMIEM”

Polska Szkoła Doksztalająca im. J. U. Niemcewicza  
w Plainfield, New Jersey  
serdecznie zaprasza  
Rodziców, Parafian i Przyjaciół Szkoły  
na spektakl poetycko - muzyczny  
w wykonaniu nauczycieli i uczniów

Uroczystość odbędzie się 10 listopada 2024 roku  
o godz. 12:00  
365 Emerson Avenue, Plainfield, NJ 07062

Uczcijmy wspólnie Święto Niepodległości  
oraz 80 rocznicę Powstania Warszawskiego

Po uroczystości zapraszamy na poczęstunek

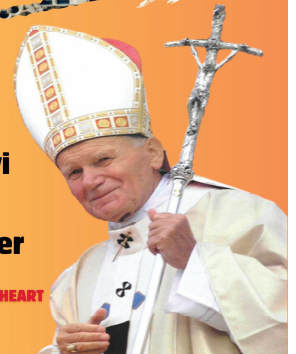
Polski Apostoł w Archidiecezji Newark  
zaprasza na

# Mszę Świętą za Polonię

Niedziela,  
17 listopada  
2024 roku  
o godz. 3:00PM

Mszę Świętą odprawi  
Jego Eksceleńcja  
Biskup Sławomir Oder

CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF THE SACRED HEART  
89 RIDGE ST.  
NEWARK NJ, 07104



## ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

The Rosary is prayed every day before the 9AM Mass.



### Have you thought about becoming a Rosarian?

The Rosarians meet the first Sunday of the Month in the Parish Commons. If you

would like more information about becoming a Rosarian, please contact Liz Smith, or call the Parish Office.

## Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the altar on Thursdays...

after 9AM Mass, closing with Benediction at 11AM.



## Ministry of Liturgical Environment (Church Decorating)

Anyone who would like to give a helping hand with the church decorating for the upcoming holidays.... you are more than welcome to help - *there is plenty to do*, and any help we can get will be a blessing for us. Just let us know.

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



## Christmas Bazaar

December 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>

We invite Everyone for Christmas shopping on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the church, before and after Masses.

It's a great occasion to buy some gifts for your family and friends and to support the students of the Polish School.

- ✦ traditional gingerbread cookies and local honey
- ✦ handmade Christmas centerpieces and decorations
- ✦ crochet and wooden ornaments
- ✦ glass ornaments hand painted in Poland
- ✦ holiday themed table runners and more...

Also, an opportunity to take your own pictures using the holiday background in the school cafeteria on Sunday at 12 p.m. and before or after Polish School on Monday evening.



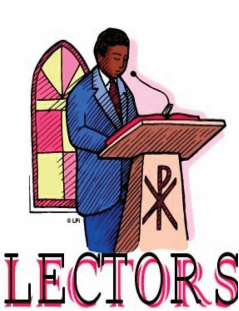
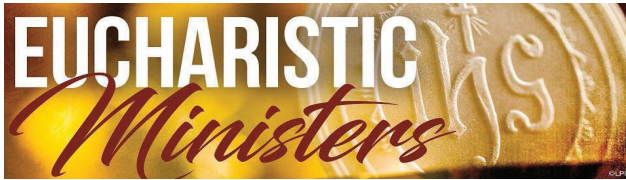
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## ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY

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Are you interested in serving God as a Lector or Eucharistic Minister?

Contact Bill Shlala

wgshlala@gmail.com  
or call (908) 755-8560.



## CHOIR

**Why not become a member?**

**It's never too late to join...Rehearsals are on Thursdays in the church at 7PM.**

The choir is preparing for the upcoming holidays and would like your help to enhance our choir, especially men's voices. If you are interested, please contact the office, or simply just come on a Thursday evening to one of our rehearsals in the church at 7PM.

We would love to see you there!

## **NON-PERISHABLE FOOD COLLECTION**

We are continuing to collect food for Starfish to be distributed throughout the Union County area. Food can be left in the open area of the church. Dates should be current and food non-perishable. The staff at Starfish would like to thank you all for your continued support.

## **BestChurch Seniors**



**Next Senior Meeting is November 21<sup>st</sup> At 12:30 PM, when we will celebrate a moment of Thanksgiving** in the Parish Community Room on George Street, using the side entrance. We will include at 1:00PM a guest speaker on...

**"Don't Get Scammed!"**

**And as always ...please feel free to invite someone to come with you.**

***It is so important that we don't fall into the crunch of a scam... we are opening this meeting at 1PM to anyone, even if you are not a senior, who would like to attend for more information on the scamming we encounter every day.***

***A representative from New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs will speak about how to avoid these scams, at 1:00PM on Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup> in the Parish Office.***

***If you are interested in joining us in this presentation, please call Karole in the office for more information or to let us know if you will be attending.***

**Don't Get Scammed,**

**Please Join Us**

**On November 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00PM**

**More information can be found on the bulletin boards in all the entrances of the Church.**

## **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.

## STEWARDSHIP

### 32<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury. For they all contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, her whole living."* (MARK 12:43-44)

CARDINAL JOSEPH TOBIN, C, Ss.R. - Jesus gets right to the point – we are all called to give money to support the mission of the Church, regardless of our circumstance. No gift is too small or insignificant! Giving money to support the mission of our local parish is a matter of our faith, just like praying and participating in parish ministries. When you make a financial offering, is it from your "first fruits" or from what is "left over"?



#### ONLINE GIVING

**IT IS POSSIBLE TO AUTOMATE YOUR FAITH GIVING TO OUR PARISH GIVING.**

**SIMPLY GO TO OUR PARISH WEBSITE.**

**Collection for ALL SAINTS .... \$ 1,080**

**Collection for November 3**

**Online..... \$ 2,743**

**In Pew.....\$ 4,716**

**Total Collection November 3.. \$ 7,459**

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

We made our goal

*Thank you so very much!!*

### *From Fr. Marcin's Desk*

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

Today's Gospel presents us with two contrasting figures: the scribe and the widow. The scribe represents important, wealthy, influential people; the other person — the widow — represents the least, the poor, the weak.

Jesus exposes the perverse mechanism of the scribes: He denounces the oppression of the weak carried out misleadingly on the basis of religious motivations, declaring clearly that God is on the side of the least. And to really impress this lesson on the minds of the disciples He offers them a living example: a poor widow, whose social position was irrelevant because she had no husband who could defend her rights. Therefore, she became easy prey to unscrupulous creditors, because these creditors hounded the weak so they would pay them. This woman, who goes to the temple treasury to put in just two coins — all that she had left — makes her offering by seeking to pass by unobserved, almost as if ashamed. But, in this humble way, she performs an act laden with great religious and spiritual significance – she gave everything that she had.

God does not measure quantity but quality; He examines the heart; He looks at the purity of intentions. This means that our "giving" to God in prayer and to others in charity should always steer clear of ritualism and formalism, as well as of the logic of calculation, and must be an expression of gratuity, as Jesus did with us: He saved us freely.

Jesus points to that poor and generous widow as a model of Christian life to be imitated. We do not know her name; however, we know her heart — we will find her in Heaven and go to greet her, certainly; and that is what counts before God.

*In the Love of God,*

*Fr. Marcin Fuks*

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

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