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

Phone: 908-756-3393
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E-mail: office@bestchurch.net

Website: 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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CHURCH ADDRESS

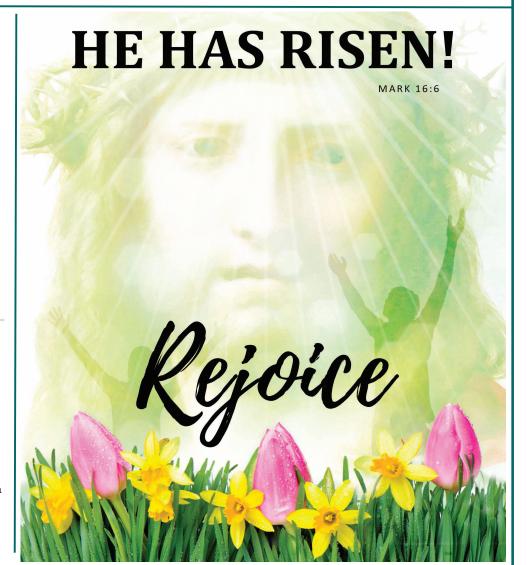
1235 George Street Plainfield, NJ 07062

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 tithe. 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, deaconate, 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

ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY

2032 Westfield Ave., Scotch Plains NJ 908-322-4265 OR WWW.STBACADEMY



Saturday - April 19... Holy Saturday

9:00AM...Morning Prayer 2:00PM...Blessing of food 8:00PM...Easter Vigil - bilingual

Sunday - April 20...Resurrection of the Lord

6:00AM...+ Maria Sipos (2nd Anniv.), req. Ciórka i rodzina ... W podzię Kowaniu za otrzymane łaski dla rodziny Radecki, i Lukas Radecki, 1st Birthday 9:00AM...+ Frank Kazmierski, reg. Ann Garner 11:00AM. + Anna i Marian Nawrocki, reg. Córka i rodzina 1:00PM....+ Peter Weachock, req. Thomas Strowe, Sr.

Monday - April 21... Monday within the Octave of Easter 9:00AM...+ Lena Ciallella, req. Pat, John and Erica Zimmerman

Tuesday - April 22... Tuesday within the Octave of Easter 9:00AM... James Amadin, Birthday Blessings req. Mom Esther

Wednesday - April 23... Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

9:00AM...+ Frank Kazmierski, req. Mary Ellen Chanda

Thursday - April 24... Thursday within the Octave of Easter 9:00AM... +Andrea and Rosa Negri, req. Sister and Family

Friday - April 25... Friday within the Octave of Easter 9:00AM...+ Lucia Simeone (1st Anniv.), req. Family

Saturday - April 26...Saturday within the Octave of Easter 9:00AM...+ People of the Parish 5:00PM...+ James DeCicco, req. Wife

Sunday - April 27...Second Sunday of Easter 9:00AM...Mia Milani, 7th Birthday Blessings,

req. Gammy and Pa

10:30AM...Pol.) Marzena i Jacek Olechowski Boże Błogosławieństwo na 35. rocznicę ... Wojciech and Danuta Gronek, Boże Blogosławieństwo na 50 lat małżeństwa.

12:00PM.. People of the Parish

1:30PM....(Sp.)+ All Souls, req. Alba Ledy Cuartas

The Tabernacle Candle will burn this week in Memory of Jerry Signorelli at the request of the Family.

The Bread and Wine for the Month of April is in Memory of Lucia Simeone at the request of Daughter, Maria Fame and Family.

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

OUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all the Faithful Departed.

EASTER SUNDAY: THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

First Reading: Acts 10:34a, 37-43

Peter discusses Jesus' life of preaching and healing. Jesus was crucified, and then he rose up and was seen by his chosen witnesses. Peter also mentions the importance of all the disciples bearing witness to what they saw, so that many people would believe in Jesus, and have their sins forgiven through him.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4

Paul asserts that we must pay attention to higher realms rather than earthly concerns. Our life is not yet completely known to us, until Christ appears and we are raised to glory in him.

Gospel: John 20:1-9

When Mary Magdalene discovered Jesus' tomb was open, she told Simon Peter and another disciple. They ran to the tomb and Peter went inside. He found the burial wrappings on the ground, with the head covering separate from the rest. The other disciple came in and they believed what they saw, although until then they had not understood the Scripture's message of Jesus' resurrection.

Starting next Sunday April 27th, 2025



New Mass Schedule:

9:00 AM - English

10:30 AM – Polish (after Mass Swieconka in the gym)

12:00 PM - English

1:30 PM - Spanish

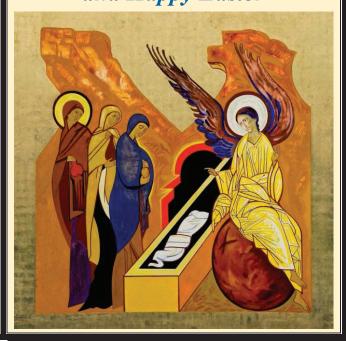
After the Spanish Mass 2:30PM - Exposition and Confessions

3PM – Chaplet of the Divine Mercy in English, Polish & Spanish The Office will be closed on Easter Monday

April 21st

From our Office Family to your Family

Have a very Blessed and Happy Easter







No Religious Education Class this week.
Classes resume - Wednesday,
April 30th at 6:30 PM
Mass Booklets are due on May 7th
Last Class of Religious Education
for this season.

SWIECONKA CELEBRATED SUNDAY, APRIL 27th

This is a Polish Tradition that takes its roots from the Blessing of Food that is to be shared on Easter. There will be a gathering to celebrate this tradition after the 10:30AM Mass next Sunday in the school cafeteria with prayer and fellowship. Of course, everyone is invited and welcome to attend.

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



Starożytna homilia na Wielka Sobote

Co się stało? Wielka cisza spowiła ziemię; wielka na niej cisza i pustka. Cisza wielka, bo Król zasnął. Ziemia się przelękła i zamilkła, bo Bóg zasnął w ludzkim ciele, a wzbudził tych, którzy spali od wieków. Bóg umarł w ciele, a poruszył Otchłań.

Idzie, aby odnaleźć pierwszego człowieka, jak zgubioną owieczkę.

Pragnie nawiedzić tych, którzy siedzą zupełnie pogrążeni w cieniu śmierci; aby wyzwolić z bólów niewolnika Adama, a wraz z nim niewolnicę Ewę, idzie On, który jest ich Bogiem i synem Ewy.

Przyszedł więc do nich Pan, trzymając w ręku zwycięski oręż krzyża. Ujrzawszy Go praojciec Adam, pełen zdumienia, uderzył się w piersi i zawołał do wszystkich: "Pan mój z nami wszystkimi!" I odrzekł Chrystus Adamowi: "I z duchem twoim!" A pochwyciwszy go za rękę, podniósł go mówiąc: "Zbudź się, o śpiący, i powstań z martwych, a zajaśnieje ci Chrystus.

Oto Ja, twój Bóg, który dla ciebie stałem się twoim synem. Oto teraz mówię tobie i wszystkim, którzy będą twoimi synami, i moją władzą rozkazuję wszystkim, którzy są w okowach: Wyjdźcie! A tym, którzy są w ciemnościach, powiadam: Niech zajaśnieje wam światło! Tym zaś, którzy zasnęli, rozkazuję: Powstańcie!

Tobie, Adamie, rozkazuję: Zbudź się, który śpisz! Nie po to bowiem cię stworzyłem, abyś pozostawał spętany w Otchłani. Powstań z martwych, albowiem jestem życiem umarłych. Powstań ty, który jesteś dziełem rąk moich. Powstań ty, który jesteś moim obrazem uczynionym na moje podobieństwo. Powstań, wyjdźmy stąd! Ty bowiem jesteś we Mnie, a Ja w tobie, jako jedna i niepodzielna osoba.

Dla ciebie Ja, twój Bóg, stałem się twoim synem. Dla ciebie Ja, Pan, przybrałem postać sługi. Dla ciebie Ja, który jestem ponad niebiosami, przyszedłem na ziemię i zstąpiłem w jej głębiny. Dla ciebie, człowieka, stałem się jako człowiek bezsilny, lecz wolny pośród umarłych. Dla ciebie, który porzuciłeś ogród rajski, Ja w ogrodzie oliwnym zostałem wydany Żydom i ukrzyżowany w ogrodzie.

Przypatrz się mojej twarzy dla ciebie oplutej, bym mógł ci przywrócić ducha, którego niegdyś tchnąłem w ciebie. Zobacz na moim obliczu ślady uderzeń, które zniosłem, aby na twoim zeszpeconym obliczu przywrócić mój obraz.

Spójrz na moje plecy przeorane razami, które wycierpiałem, aby z twoich ramion zdjąć ciężar grzechów przytłaczających ciebie. Obejrzyj moje ręce tak mocno przybite do drzewa za ciebie, który niegdyś przewrotnie wyciągnąłeś swą rękę do drzewa.

Snem śmierci zasnąłem na krzyżu i włócznia przebiła mój bok za ciebie, który usnąłeś w raju i z twojego boku wydałeś Ewę, a ta moja rana uzdrowiła twoje zranienie. Sen mej śmierci wywiedzie cię ze snu Otchłani. Cios zadany Mi włócznią złamał włócznię skierowaną przeciw tobie.

Powstań, pójdźmy stąd! Niegdyś szatan wywiódł cię z rajskiej ziemi, Ja zaś wprowadzę ciebie już nie do raju, lecz na tron niebiański. Zakazano ci dostępu do drzewa będącego obrazem życia, ale Ja, który jestem życiem, oddaję się tobie. Przykazałem aniołom, aby cię strzegli tak, jak słudzy, teraz zaś sprawię, że będą ci oddawać cześć taką, jaka należy się Bogu.

Gotowy już jest niebiański tron, w pogotowiu czekają słudzy, już wzniesiono salę godową, jedzenie zastawione, przyozdobione wieczne mieszkanie, skarby dóbr wiekuistych są otwarte, a królestwo niebieskie, przygotowane od założenia świata, już otwarte".

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od godz. 5:30 do 8:00PM.

Kontakt: polskaszkolaplainfield@outlook.com
Dyrektorka Szkoły: Beata Benewiat
Tel. 732-266-4310

27 kwietnia - ŚWIĘCONKA PARAFIALNA,

Mszą Świętą o **10:30am**. Po mszy zapraszamy wszystkich na poczęstunek do kafeterii szkolnej. W czasie Święconki wystawione zostaną prace uczniów przygotowane w ramach projektu szkolnego "PIĘKNA NASZA POLSKA CAŁA – OD MORZA AŻ DO TATR".

Palm Sunday Procession





Liturgy of the Word for young children

It is celebrated at the 9AM Mass on every other Sunday of the month for grades K-2, in the Church Chapel.

No Liturgy of the word on Easter Sunday. **Next Chapel Liturgy is April 27th.**



The Rosary is prayed every day before the 9AM Mass, including praying the Divine Mercy. On Thursdays the Blessed

Sacrament is exposed after 9AM Mass with Benediction 10:45AM

> Monthly Rosary Mass and Meeting is May 4 in the Parish Center.

BestChurch Seniors

Thursday, May 15th 12:30PM

Parish Center on George Street

CHOIR

Rehearsals are at 7:00PM on Thursdays.

No rehearsal this week

CHAIR EXERCISE for Seniors

A gentle practice in which postures are performed while seated with the aid of a chair. Classes start on Tuesday, April 29, 1:30PM. Please call the office, there is still time if you are interested in joining.

Starfish Food Pantry

We continue to collect current dated and nonperishable food for Starfish. At this time we have been asked to include donations of large toothpaste as well as empty egg cartons. Thank you so much for your generous support.



RICE BOWL

Rice Bowls should be returned by April 27th. You may return them to the office or in the collection basket at Mass.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

The Archdiocese has announced that they are once again preparing for the annual tradition of honoring couples in our Archdiocese who will be celebrating five, twenty-five and fifty years of Catholic marriage in the Jubilee Year 2025! This year there will be ONE anniversary liturgy for all couples from all counties celebrated by Cardinal Joseph Tobin on Sunday, June 1st at 3p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart in Newark. Contact the office to register.



St. Peter's Prep is a New Jersey Jesuit High School for boys in Jersey City. There will be a Spring Open House Sunday May, 4th from 1-3 PM. For more information, please contact John Irvine, Director of Admissions at IrvineJ@spprep.org or call 201-547-6389.

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> The students are nurtured and cared for. For information, please contact Maureen Doherty at 908-322-4265 www.stbacademy.org

The Saint of the Week



First Witness of Resurrection

St. Mary Magdalene is one of the greatest saints of the Bible and a legendary example of God's mercy and grace. The precise dates of her birth and death are unknown, but we do know she was present with Christ during His public ministry, death and Resurrection. She is mentioned at least a dozen times in the Gospels.

Mary Magdalene has long been regarded as a prostitute or sexually immoral in western Christianity, but this is not supported in the Scriptures. It is believed she was a Jewish woman who lived among Gentiles, living as they did.

The Gospels agree that Mary was originally a great sinner. Jesus cast seven demons out of her when He met her. After this, she told several women she associated with, and these women also became followers.

There is also debate over if Mary Magdalene is the same unnamed woman, a sinner, who weeps and washes Jesus' feet with her hair in the Gospel of John. Scholars are skeptical this is the same person.

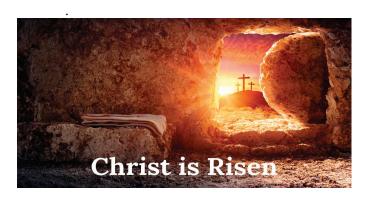
Despite the scholarly dispute over her background, what she did in her subsequent life, after meeting Jesus, is much more significant. She was certainly a sinner whom Jesus saved, giving us an example of how no person is beyond the saving grace of God.

During Jesus' ministry, it is believed that Mary Magdalene followed him, part of a semipermanent entourage who served Jesus and His Disciples.

Mary likely watched the Crucifixion from a distance, along with the other women who followed Christ during His ministry. Mary was present when Christ rose from the dead, visiting His tomb to anoint His body only to find the stone rolled away and Christ, very much alive, sitting at the place they laid Him. She was the first witness to His Resurrection.

After the death of Christ, a legend states that she remained among the early Christians. After fourteen years she was allegedly put into a boat by Jews, along with several other saints of the early Church, and set adrift without sails or oars. The boat landed in southern France, where she spent the remaining years of her life living in solitude in a cave.

St. Mary Magdalene's feast day is July 22. She is the patroness of converts, repentant sinners, sexual temptation, pharmacists, tanners, women, and many other places and causes



STEWARDSHIP

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

"...He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him." (ACTS 10:38) CARDINAL JOSEPH TOBIN, C.SS.R. -

We can't give what we don't have. Open your heart to receive God's love, mercy and forgiveness. Then, show the same to others. As God's adopted sons and daughters, we are made in His image and likeness. As Pope Benedict XVI says, "we are made for greatness." Let our lives reflect His light to others. Pray to live a grateful and generous life. Strive for greatness! We are made for more! We are made for God.



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

ANNUAL²⁰²⁵APPEAL

The 2025 Annual Appeal has begun!

We are grateful to share that we have already received \$18,848 in pledges—thank you to all who have given so generously! Your support of the 2025 Annual Appeal helps sustain the mission of Christ in our Archdiocese. Please help our parish reach our goal by June 30 and possibly receive financial incentives!

Our goal is **\$30,181.02**. If you have not yet made your gift, we invite you to prayerfully consider doing so. To make an online gift, please visit rcan.org/sharing.

Thank you for your prayers, your generosity, and your faithful support of our Catholic mission.

May God bless you abundantly!





It is possible to automate your Faith Giving to "Parish Giving." Simply go to our parish website for FURTHER INFORMATION.

COLLECTION FOR APRIL 20TH

ONLINE \$ 933 IN PEW \$ 4,226

TOTAL \$ 5,159

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILLIATION

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,

The women bring spices to the tomb, but they fear that their journey is in vain, since a large stone bars the entrance to the sepulcher. The journey of those women is also our own journey; it resembles the journey of salvation that we have made. At times it seems that everything comes up against a stone: the beauty of creation against the tragedy of sin; liberation from slavery against infidelity to the covenant; the promises of the prophets against the listless indifference of the people. So too, in the history of the Church and in our own personal history, it seems that the steps we take never take us to the goal. We can be tempted to think that dashed hope is the bleak law of life.

Today, however, we see that our journey is not in vain; it does not come up against a tombstone. A single phrase astounds the women and changes history: "Why do you seek the living among the dead?" Easter is the feast of tombstones taken away, rocks rolled aside. God takes away even the hardest stones against which our hopes and expectations crash: death, sin, fear, worldliness. Human history does not end before a tombstone because today it encounters the "living stone," the Risen Jesus. We, as Church, are built on Him, and even when we grow disheartened and tempted to judge everything in the light of our failures, He comes to make all things new, to overturn our every disappointment. Each of us is called to rediscover in the Risen Christ the one who rolls back from our heart the heaviest of stones.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us put the Living One at the center of our lives. Let us ask for the grace not to be carried by the current, the sea of our problems, the grace not to run aground on the shoals of sin or crash on the reefs of discouragement and fear. Let us seek Him, let us allow ourselves to be sought out by Him, let us seek Him in all things and above all things. And with Him, we will rise again!!

In the Love of God,

Fr. Marcin Fula

Pastor@bestchurch.net



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