

Give therefore to Caesar, the things which are Caesar's,  
and give unto God, those things which are God's.



*Church of St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. St. Stanislaus Kostka*  
*1235 George Street, Plainfield, New Jersey 07062*  
*908) 756-3393 – email: office @ bestchurch.net - fax: (908) 756-3959*  
*October 22, 2023*

## **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 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, diaconate, or the religious life are invited to speak to a priest or contact the Archdiocesan Vocations Office at 973-497-4365, or 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 – October 21...Weekday in Ordinary Time***

9:00AM...+ Deceased Members of the Parish

5:00PM...+ Hugo Guerrero-Coello, req. Veiga Family

### ***Sunday – October 22...29th Sunday in Ordinary Time***

9:00AM... + Robert DeMair, req Knights of Columbus  
Council 552

11:00AM...+ Tadeusz Deręgowski, req. Wife and Children

1:00PM...+ Julie C. Farnoly, req. Doreen Kruse

### ***Monday – October 23...St. John of Capistrano***

9:00AM... + Albert and Evelyn Carella,  
req. Daughter Kathy Merklinger

### ***Tuesday – October 24... St. Anthony Mary Claret***

9:00AM... + Stefano Apisa, req. Family

### ***Wednesday – October 25... Weekday in Ordinary Time***

9:00AM...+ Chuck Ropars, req. Parish Family

### ***Thursday –October 26... Weekday in Ordinary Time***

9:00AM...+ Robert Merkle (6th Anniversary) req. Wife Johanna

### ***Friday – October 27... Weekday in Ordinary Time***

9:00AM....+ Santos Justa Granadas (9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary),  
req. Juan F. Benitez and Alba Ledy Cuartas

### ***Saturday – October 28...Sts. Simon and Jude***

9:00AM...+ Leonard Pacio, req. Family

5:00PM...+ Robert DeMair, req. Morano Family,

### ***Sunday – October 29...30th Sunday in Ordinary Time***

9:00AM... People of the Parish

11:00AM...+ George and Maria Sipos,  
req. Tom and Chris Sanford

1:00PM...+ Robert DeMair, req. Doreen Kruse

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 Mr. & Mrs. Nikodem Lysy**  
**at the request of the Parish Family.**

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** for those whose  
health is challenged in any way especially **Lisa Motos,**  
**Ray Van Haute, Nancy Toth, Gloria DeMatteo,**  
**and Kate Rooney.**

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

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

### **First Reading: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6**

Cyrus, King of Persia and friend to the Jewish people, becomes the Lord's anointed one, and through God's intervention, returns the Jews to their own country.

### **Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b**

Paul rejoices that the Thessalonians, newly converted to Christianity, are displaying remarkable constancy in their new-found faith.

### **Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21**

Seeking to entrap Jesus in his speech, the hostile and hypocritical Pharisees ask him this dangerous question, "Is it lawful to pay tax to the emperor or not?" Realizing their treacherous motives, Jesus asks for a Roman coin, and pointing to the inscription of Caesar's, he answers, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, but give to God what is God's."

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



**REV. MARCIN FUKS**

PASTOR  
PASTOR@BESTCHURCH.NET  
908-756-3393 EXT - 103

**REV. BERNARDO GARCIA**

PAROCHIAL VICAR  
VICAR@BESTCHURCH.NET  
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**KAROLE LECHOWSKI**

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**JEFFERY PERSHAY**

MAINTENANCE

**IVETH PARADA**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
BESTRELIGIOUSED@GMAIL.COM

**THE TRUSTEES OF THE PARISH:**

MARY ELLEN CHANDA  
JOHNNY SKALSKI

**OFFICE ADDRESS**

368 SUMNER AVENUE, PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07062

**The Saint of the Week**

**St. John of Capistrano**  
*(October 23)*

St. John was born at Capistrano, Italy in 1385, the son of a former German knight in that city. He studied law at the University of Perugia and practiced as a lawyer in the courts of Naples. King Ladislas of Naples appointed him governor of Perugia. During a war with a neighboring town, he was betrayed and imprisoned. Upon his release he entered the Franciscan community at Perugia in 1416. He and St. James of the March were fellow students under St. Bernardine of Siena, who inspired him to institute the devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus and His Mother. John began his brilliant preaching apostolate with a deacon in 1420. After his ordination he traveled throughout Italy, Germany, Bohemia, Austria, Hungary, Poland, and Russia preaching penance and establishing numerous communities of Franciscan renewal. When Mohammed II was threatening Vienna and Rome, St. John, at the age of seventy, was commissioned by Pope Callistus III to preach and lead a crusade against the invading Turks. Marching at the head of seventy thousand Christians, he gained victory in the great battle of Belgrade against the Turks in 1456. Three months later he died at Illok, Hungary. His feast day is October 23. He is the patron of jurists.

**SACRAMENTS**

**Baptism**

Baptisms are celebrated throughout the month on Saturdays and Sundays, except during Lent. First-time parents are required to complete Baptismal Preparation. Call the office at (908) 756-3393.

**Marriage**

Arrangements should be made one year in advance to begin your preparation process. Please reach out to us as soon as engagement is announced, and we will help make the arrangements. Visit our website or call the office at (908) 756-3393 for an appointment.

**Eucharist for Homebound**

If you or someone you know is homebound or unable to attend Mass in person and would like to have a Eucharistic Minister bring Communion at home, please reach out to Fr. Marcin Fuks at: Pastor@bestchurch.net. We will make arrangements for Communion visits on a weekly basis.

**Anointing of the Sick**

Contact office for appointment for homebound or infirmed.

**RCIA**

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) introduces adults to the Catholic faith and tradition. The RCIA Process is for adults who seek full initiation in the Catholic Church, including those who have never been baptized, Christians desiring to convert from other denominations, and baptized Catholics desiring to receive Sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation. Please contact the office for an appointment.

**Mass Schedule:**  
**Monday - Saturday**  
**9:00 AM**  
**Saturday: 5:00 PM Mass**  
**In English**  
**Sunday: 9:00 AM Mass**  
**In English**  
**11:00 AM Mass in Polish**  
**1:00 PM in English**

**Office Hours:**  
**Monday – Friday**  
**10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

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



### 29 Niedziela Zwykła

Ewangelia tej niedzieli ukazuje nam Jezusa borykającego się z obłudą swoich przeciwników. Prawią Mu wiele komplementów – na początku wiele komplementów – lecz potem zadają podchwytliwe pytanie, żeby Go postawić w kłopotliwej sytuacji i zdyskredytować wobec ludu. Pytają Go: „Czy wolno płacić podatek cesarzowi, czy nie?”, to znaczy płacić świadczenia cesarzowi. W tamtym czasie w Palestynie panowanie imperium rzymskiego było źle tolerowane – i jest to zrozumiałe, byli najeźdźcami – również ze względów religijnych. Dla ludności kult cesarza, podkreślany także przez jego wizerunek na monetach, był zniewagą dla Boga Izraela. Rozmówcy Jezusa są przekonani, że ich odpytywanie nie ma alternatywy – albo „tak”, albo „nie”. Czekali, bo byli pewni, że właśnie tym pytaniem zapędzą Jezusa w kozi róg i wpadnie w ich pułapkę. On jednak zna ich przewrotność i wymyka się z sideł. Prosi ich, żeby Mu pokazali monetę, monetę, którą płacone były podatki, daniny, bierze ją do ręki i pyta ich, czy wizerunek jest na niej wybity. Oni odpowiadają, że cezara, czyli imperatora. Wówczas Jezus odpowiada: „Oddajcie więc cesarzowi to, co należy do cesarza, a Bogu to, co należy do Boga”.

Dając taką odpowiedź, Jezus staje ponad polemiką. Jezus zawsze jest ponad. Z jednej strony uznaje, że danina należna cesarzowi winna być płacona – dotyczy to również nas wszystkich, podatki winny być płacone - bowiem wizerunek na monecie jest jego; ale przede wszystkim przypomina, że każdy człowiek nosi w sobie inny wizerunek – nosimy go w sercu, w

duszy – wizerunek Boga, i dlatego każdy z nas winien jest swoje istnienie, swoje życie Jemu i tylko Jemu.

W tym orzeczeniu Jezusa zawiera się nie tylko kryterium rozróżniania sfery politycznej i sfery religijnej, ale ujawniają się jasne wskazania co do misji wierzących wszystkich czasów, także dla nas dzisiaj. Płacenie podatków jest obowiązkiem obywateli, podobnie jak przestrzeganie słusznych praw państwa. Zarazem konieczne jest potwierdzanie prymatu Boga w ludzkim życiu i w historii przez przestrzeganie prawa Bożego w tym, co do Niego należy.

Z tego wynika misja Kościoła i chrześcijan – mówienie o Bogu i dawanie o Nim świadectwa mężczyznom i kobietom swoich czasów. Każdy z nas ze względu na chrzest jest powołany do tego, by być w społeczeństwie żywą obecnością, nasycać je Ewangelią i życiową limfą Ducha Świętego. Trzeba angażować się z pokorą i zarazem odważnie, wnosząc swój wkład w budowanie cywilizacji miłości, w której panują sprawiedliwość i braterstwo.

Papież Franciszek, Anioł Pański, 18 października 2020 r.

**22 Października godz. 15:00 –  
Msza w intencji Polonii w Katedrze w  
Newarku**

**25 Października godz. 18:30 –  
Zebranie rodziców dzieci przygotowujących  
sie do bierzmowania**

### **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

## Word

**STEWARDSHIP** “Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s...” MATTHEW 22:21

Cardinal Joseph Tobin SSs.R.

Everything we are and everything we have belongs to God. We aren’t “owners” of anything, we are merely “stewards” of the gifts God has given each of us. All God is asking is that we give back a portion of what He gave us. This is the essence of stewardship. God should be our first priority in everything. All else comes second, especially our money.

## Worship

### COMMEMORATION OF THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

#### MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY

Thursday November 2<sup>nd</sup>, is All Souls Day. We will have a 7PM Mass, where we will remember all those in our Parish Family who have died this past year. Psalms of Evening Prayer will be incorporated into Mass and names of the deceased will be called. If anyone who will be attending has a member of their family who has passed this year and you would like them included, please be in touch with the office. Those included do not have to be parishioners, just family.

### THE CHOIR



#### **Why not be a member?**

Rehearsals are on Thursdays in the church at 7:00 PM.

- *We have a new member, now let’s have a few more of your fabulous voices!* 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.



### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND LECTORS

There will be a meeting on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM in the Church for new altar procedures. If you are currently a part of this ministry, you are encouraged to attend. Anyone who may be interested in serving in this ministry is also welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Bill Shlala at [wqshlala@gmail.com](mailto:wqshlala@gmail.com) or call (908) 755-8560.

### ROSARY DEVOTION

The Rosary is prayed on a regular basis every day before the 9:00AM Mass.

**The Blessed Sacrament is exposed after the Mass on Thursdays with Benediction at 11:00AM**



### ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

The Rosary Mass is celebrated on the First Sunday of the month. After the 9 AM Mass, Rosarians gather together at the Blessed Mother’s Altar to pray the Rosary. Anyone who would like to pray with us is welcome. The Rosary is also prayed daily after the 9AM Mass during the week.

#### **October –**

#### THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY

**The Living Rosary** will be prayed in Church together this Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM. The Rosary may be prayed in any language you prefer.

### 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)

## YOUTH

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

All Religious Education children are required to attend Sunday Mass every weekend. There will be a Confirmation parent meeting in the Church this Wednesday at 6:30PM. Children in Sacrament classes for First Holy Communion and Confirmation are required to be present in Religious Education classes every week. There are only 3 absences allowed for the Sacrament classes in order to receive First Holy Communion and Confirmation this year.

### ST. BARTHOLOMEW ACADEMY

St. Bartholomew Academy in Scotch Plains is a perfect place for a Catholic Education founded on learning a true Catholic way of life and achieving excellence in academics. For information, please contact 908-322-4265.

### ORATORY PREP SCHOOL - OPEN HOUSE

There will be an open house for boys grades 7-12, this Thursday, October 26 from 6:30-8:30 PM, located at 425 Morris Avenue, Summit, NJ. You may register to attend on the website under the *Admissions* tab. For further information, call 908-273-1084, ext. 1 or visit [www.oratoryprep.org](http://www.oratoryprep.org)



**UNION CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
FALL OPEN HOUSE**

**November 4<sup>th</sup> 12:00 Noon**

Contact 908-889-1600 ext. 301 or 328 or  
[www.unioncatholic.org](http://www.unioncatholic.org) for more information.

**Families of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students planning to  
attend Catholic High School in the  
Fall of 2024.**

High School placement test (HSPT) will be given on  
Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. Registration is available online  
at [www.njcoopexam.org](http://www.njcoopexam.org) for more information go to  
[www.catholicschoolschoolsnj.org](http://www.catholicschoolschoolsnj.org)

**COMMUNITY BUILDING**



**BESTCHURCH  
SENIORS**

Our seniors met last  
Thursday reminiscing  
the past with  
socialization, looking  
through old pictures,  
trying to remember  
"who's who", and  
discussions on new

programs as well as possible trips. The next meeting is  
November 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 PM for a Thanksgiving  
Celebration. If you are a senior or almost a senior, don't  
be shy, come join us on the third Thursday of the month.  
We welcome everyone who wants to be connected with  
fellowship and interesting things to do. Just come and  
be a part of a very fabulous "young at heart" group.  
Remember: **"An active lifestyle can be the key  
leading to a longer life"**. What better way to do this  
than with friends.

**NON-PERISHABLE FOOD COLLECTION**

The food we collect in the open area of the church  
is ongoing and will be distributed in conjunction with  
STARFISH in Plainfield. You are welcome to bring  
any non-perishable foods whose dates are current  
to the open area of the church.

**ST. BARTHOLOMEW BEREAVEMENT**

St. Bart's in Scotch Plains is offering a grief support  
group on Wednesdays at 7PM now thru November  
15th. Meeting times are 7 PM to 8:30 PM. and are  
held in the cafeteria at St. Bartholomew Academy.  
If you choose to attend, please contact Jo-Anne  
908-889-7790 or Bernadette 908-510-0995.

**All conversations are held in confidence.**

**ST. HELEN'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP**

A support group for those caring for elderly or  
chronically ill loved ones meets on the first  
Wednesday of the month at the St. Helen's Parish  
Center in Westfield. The next meeting is  
Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:30PM. For more  
information call Marilyn Ryan at 908-232-1214.

**PRAYER SHAWL**

Current members are busy making blankets for our  
newly baptized children and lap covers for the  
nursing homes and hospitals. **We have plenty of  
yarn!!!** If you have this talent or would like to learn,  
call the office for more information. This ministry  
can easily be done from home at your leisure.

**FINANCE**



**ONLINE GIVING**

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

**Collection for October 15th**

**Online ..... \$ 963.00**

**In Pew.....\$ 3,103.00**

**Total for October 15th ...\$ 4,066.00**

**The 2023 Annual Appeal!**

We have **\$28,115** already pledged. This is  
approximately **86%** of our goal of \$30,242. We are  
still missing **\$2,127** The outpouring of support from  
many parishioners like you helps sustain the  
important ministries across the Archdiocese of  
Newark. These programs help to make our own  
parish a more vibrant place of worship. If you have yet  
to give, please pick up a pledge envelope at the back  
of the church or visit [www.rcan.org/sharing](http://www.rcan.org/sharing)

We are excited to announce that our parish  
received a **\$10,000** grant through the Archdiocese of  
Newark's Parish Unity Fund. The Parish Unity Fund is  
made possible by parishes across the Archdiocese  
that surpass their Annual Appeal goal. The grant  
funds are intended to assist parishes in achieving  
their capital and pastoral goals.

## Calendar of Events

### SUNDAYS:

**October 22...29th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**World Mission Sunday**

9:00AM, 1:00PM...Mass in English

11:00AM...Mass in Polish

**October 29...30th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00AM, 1:00PM...Mass in English

11:00AM...Mass in Polish

**November 5...31st Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9:00AM, 1:00PM...Mass in English

11:00AM...Mass in Polish

**Daylight Savings Time Ends**

**November 12...32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Stewardship Sunday**

9:00AM, 1:00PM...Mass in English

11:00AM...Mass in Polish

### MONDAYS:

**October 23, 30; November 6, 13, 20, 27**

5:30PM...Polish School

### TUESDAYS:

**October 24**

7:00PM...Living Rosary

### WEDNESDAYS:

**October 25; November 1, 8, 15**

6:30PM...Religious Education

Confirmation Parent Meeting in Church

### THURSDAYS:

**October 26**

6:00PM...Eucharistic Minister and Lector Meeting  
(in Church)

**October 26; November 9, 16**

7:00PM...Choir Rehearsal in the Church

**November 2**

7:00PM...All Souls Day Commemoration

### FRIDAYS:

### SATURDAYS:

**October 21, 28**

4:15PM...Confession

### 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,*

After a long period of parable stories, today we have an actual discussion between Christ and the Pharisees, who are attempting to set a trap for Jesus. They knew that He was calling all to turn away from the corruption of the world and the superstitious practices of devotion invented by men, and instead to fix their thoughts and hopes upon His Kingdom of Heaven. Therefore, the Pharisees arranged a question: Is it lawful to give tribute to Caesar or not?

The answer of Christ that is given to them: Render, therefore, to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's. What are the things of Caesar? All the concerns of this world, all the material things that we gain during our lifetime, all power and fame.... If we possess nothing that is Caesar's, we are not bound to render anything to him; but since we **are** concerned with the things of this world which are his, we make use of his power, and are subject to him as paid servants. When we take care of his property, we cannot question our duty to render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's.

All of us are always bound to render to God the things that are God's: our body, our soul, and our will. These things we obtain from Him, for He is our Creator. It is, therefore, just and proper that those who acknowledge that they owe to Him their being, life, and preservation, should render to Him all that they are and have.

*In the Love of God,*

*Fr. Marcin Fuks*

*Phone: 908 756 3393 ext. 103*

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



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