Saint Bernard Church

October 11, 2026
Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Rev. David F. Gaffney, Pastor

Rev. John E. Unsworth, Pastor, Emeritus
Rev. Albino Barrera, OP Weekend Assistant
Rev. Charles Maher, Weekday Assistant
Rev. Joseph Pescatello, Weekend Assistant
Rev. Alfred Ricci, Weekday Assistant

Pastoral Assistant: Angelo Giacchi
Business Manager: Brandy O'Donnell
Elementary Faith Formation: Dawn Masterson
Youth Faith Formation: Christina Pichette
Music Director: Alison Shea

Mass Schedules

Weekends
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM

Sundays
7:00 AM 8:30 AM 10:30 AM

Weekdays
8:00 AM Monday through Friday

Address: 275 Tower Hill Road
North Kingstown, RI 02852

Phone : 401-295-0387

E-mail: sbc.pastor@aol.com (Fr. Gaffney)
sbc.bus@verizon.net (Brandy)
sbc.pa@verizon.net (Angelo)

Web: www.stbernardnk.org

Hours: Mon - Tues: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Wednesday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Thursday & Friday: Closed

Baptism: Please call Angelo at the Parish Center for information about scheduling and preparation.

Communion to the Sick: Please notify us of those sick and in need of Communion at home.

Marriage: Please call 10 months in advance.

Holy Orders: Tel: 401-831-8011
www.catholicpriest.com

Project Rachel: Post abortion counseling
Tel: 401-421-7833, ext. 118

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:00 PM

Eucharistic Adoration

Following Tuesday's 8:00 AM Mass until 11:00 AM

Family Faith Formation Program

Our programs provide parishioners of all ages opportunities for learning, growing and living our Faith through common experiences, age-specific learning and interactive sharing. Please call the Parish Center for information regarding any of our programs or email:

First Communion Grade 2:
sbcreligiouseducation@gmail.com

Pre-Confirmation Grades 6 & 7 and Confirmation Grades 8 & 9: sbc.teenff@gmail.com

Gospel Weeklies Grades 1, 3, 4, 5, :
stbernardgospelweeklies@gmail.com

Ponderings

October is Respect Life Month. As Catholics, we respect life every year, every month, every day----but we use such opportunities to bring about greater awareness of this critical belief we hold so dear, the dignity of every life from the moment of conception to the moment of natural death. We need to be vigilant. Medical science changes. Laws change. The can and have impacted the protection of human life.

One very recent example is the Massachusetts law signed by their governor, Maura Healey, the "Prioritizing Patient Access to Care Act". This measure allows abortions after 24 weeks, potentially up until birth based solely on the "professional judgment" of a physician. This removed previous restrictions, which only allowed late-term abortions to preserve the patient's life or their physical or mental health, or in cases of lethal or severe fetal abnormalities.

In a letter to clergy, religious and lay Catholics recently, Archbishop Richard G. Henning of Boston, Bishop Robert J. McManus of Worcester, Bishop Edgar M. da Cunha of Fall River and Bishop William D. Byrne of Springfield note the law permits abortion throughout pregnancy for any reason and allows late-term abortion procedures outside hospitals. The bishops said the law leaves Massachusetts "most vulnerable citizens---children in the womb and their pregnant mothers—at perilous risk."

The bishop directed Catholics to an effort by Massachusetts Citizens for Life and Massachusetts Family Action to keep the law from taking effect in 2027. The groups formed the Compassionate Care Coalition, which is seeking enough signatures to suspend the law and place it before voters in 2028. "There is also an effort underway to pause and even possibly overturn this immoral law," the bishops wrote. "We encourage you to take part in this effort and raise your own voice in opposition to the law and in favor of life." Under the Massachusetts Constitution, petitioners can delay a law by collecting signatures equal to 2 percent of the votes cast in the most recent statewide election. Opponents need 49,716 certified signatures, but the coalition is aiming to obtain 80,000 to 100,000 because of stringent certification requirements. Signatures must be delivered to town clerks statewide by October 23 for certification as belonging to registered voters. Certified signatures are due to the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

The bishops also stressed alternatives to abortion. Citing a 2023 article in the Cureus Journal of Medical Science, they said 60 percent of women considering abortion would choose life if they felt they had more material and emotional support. "We invite every expectant mother in distress to ask us for help," said the bishops. "We ask that elected officials and healthcare providers---especially those whose consciences are rightly troubled by the new law---work to ensure that life-sustaining care for vulnerable children in utero and that mothers and fathers who feel alone and overwhelmed have all they need to welcome and raise their children with confidence."

While I was following this story unfold in the later summer months, I was also paying attention to the Lindsay Clancy trial. At least three elements are part of the ongoing debate about the verdict----what is criminal responsibility, what is maternal mental illness and what is the moral weight of taking innocent human lives. I do not plan to enter a discussion of this complex case, except to point out that there was such outrage and sadness at the deaths of five-year old Cora, three-year old Dawson, and eight-month-old Callan. Such a horrific loss of life.

Why is it that so many people do not feel the same outrage and sadness at the children who lose their lives in a late-term abortion. Worth pondering. Pray for an increase in the dignity accorded every human life.

--Fr. Gaffney

We welcome families to bring their children—our youngest parishioners in their strollers to Mass.

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, October 12
8:00 AM – ***Joseph Gillen***

TUESDAY, October 13
8:00 AM – ***Innocents of Abortion***

WEDNESDAY, October 14
8:00 AM – ***Elaine Boucher***

THURSDAY, October 15
8:00 AM – ***Fenwick Gardiner, III***
Elfrieda & Francis J. Haggerty
by Coreen, Fen & Arleen Gardiner

FRIDAY, October 16
8:00 AM – ***Maria & Salvatore Baldino***
by their family

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, October 17
5:00 PM – ***William & Margaret Morrissey***
by their family

SUNDAY, October 18
7:00 AM– ***Patricia La Freniere***
by her children

8:30 AM – ***Felicisimo Fiemter, Jr.***
by his family

10:30 AM – ***Michael Brennan***
by the choir

Name Tag Sundays

For the past several years we have put on "name tags" for the weekend masses from Labor Day to Columbus Day. We will do this again in the coming weeks. We take a moment before Mass begins to turn and greet our neighbors. During the year many new people join the parish. This is the chance to say hello to them and to renew old acquaintances. See A Face. Learn A Name. Share A Story. Love Your Neighbor.

All Souls Day Memorial Mass

On **Monday November 2nd, 2026 at 7:00 PM** there will be a special Mass for all those who have died in the parish during the past year. Please join us as we remember our parishioners who have had their funeral Mass celebrated in our Parish since November 1, 2025. Also, if you know of someone dear to you who has died in the past year and would like them mentioned at this Mass, please call the office at 295-0387 and leave us the name before Monday, October 26.

Funeral Planning Workshop

The Month of All Souls invites to take an honest look at our journey from this life to the next. It invites to look at our own mortality with faith and trust in God. The Church, through our Funeral Rites helps us on this passage. The time of planning for the Wake, Mass of Christian Burial and Committal Prayers at the ceremony can bring us comfort. Some of you have had to do this planning for a loved one. This includes planning the Funeral Mass. We are offering parishioners (of all ages) to come to a Funeral Planning Workshop to be held on Friday, November 6th at 1:00 p.m. in the parish center. Why do this "beforehand"? A few reasons: You will select the readings and music that you would want; you will take that burden away from family members; it will ensure that you do have a Funeral Mass at your passing; it will bring you a sense of peace. Some of you have made 'pre-arrangements' with Funeral Homes. We will have a funeral home representative at this workshop to answer 'general questions' about funeral planning, especially pre-arranging a funeral.

Parish Support

	September 27, 2026	2025
Basket	**$8,340.00**	**$6,104.00**
ACH	**$3,270.10**	**$3,749.00**

	September 27, 2026	2025
Basket	**$11,249.00**	**$7,896.00**
ACH	**$4,195.10**	**$5,889.00**
YTD	**$169,472.90**	**$180,032.00**

Annual Yard Sale

St. Francis de Sales Church, 381 School Street, North Kingstown, RI is holding its annual indoor Yard Sale on Saturday and Sunday, October 24 and 25, from 8:00am to 1:30pm, rain or shine. Items include jewelry, housewares, toys, games, electronics, CD's, furniture, books, baked goods, 50/50 raffle and more! Please join us for a great time and great bargains.

Prout Open House

The Prout School will be holding an Open House for Admissions on Sunday, October 25 from 12-3pm. Register online at: **theproutschool.org** .
Come meet faculty, students, and coaches. Tour the campus. Learn about our outstanding academics, amazing arts programs and athletic opportunities.

Bishop Hendricken Open House:

Bishop Hendricken High School will be hosting an Open house on Sunday, October 25th, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and an Information Night on November 10th at 6:00 p.m. These events will give families the opportunity to tour our facilities and receive information on our academics, admission procedures, financial aid, student life, transportation and college placement.

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Monday, October 12, 6:00 pm-7:30 pm
in the parish hall.

Adult Faith Formation

Tuesday, October 13
Tuesday, November 3
Tuesday, November 17
Tuesday, December 1
Tuesday, December 15

from 7:00pm to 8:00pm in the parish hall.

Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, October 14

9:00 am – 12:00 pm in Parish Hall or

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm in large conference room

Adult Choir

Thursday, October 15th, 6:30pm—8:30pm in the large conference room.

Grief Group

Upcoming dates:

Monday, October 19
Tuesday, November 10
Tuesday , December 22

6:30pm to 7:30 pm
in the large conference room.

Columbus Day

On Monday, October 12, the Parish Office will be closed and our daily Mass will be at 8:00AM.

Faith Formation

A BIG thank you to all those families who have already registered for the upcoming school year! We are looking forward to a joyful and blessed year of Faith Formation with your child and family.

* 10/18/26 - Grades K,1,3,4,5 : 1st In-person Gospel Weeklies Classes

* 10/25/26- Grades 2, 6,7,8,9 : 1st Sacramental Preparation Classes

If you have not registered yet, please register online at
www.stbernardnk.org/religious-education-registration/
In order for us to plan for the program year, please register on our website as soon as possible Upon your review of the documents should you have any questions, please contact the Faith Formation Office at 295-0387 or email at: sbcreligiouseducation@gmail.com

40 Days for Life Fall Campaign

Wed., Sept. 23 through Sun., Nov. 1 | Public right-of-way outside the abortion facility, 175 Broad St., Providence
40 Days of peaceful prayer vigils and Rosaries for life and for an end to abortion. Held in collaboation with RI Right to Life. Sign up your parish /group for a day to pray at https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/providence.

Parish Assembly: On Saturday, October 3rd, a group of 32 parishioners met as part of a pastoral planning process initiated by Bishop Lewandowski. Every parish in the diocese held such an assembly and the results of the discussions were sent to the diocese. A diocesan-wide assembly will be held in November. Thanks to all who participated.

Young at Heart October Luncheon

Monday, October 19 at noon (sign in at 11:30 AM) Menu: TBD
Name (s) _____

Cost: $15.00 per person. (Checks payable to St. Bernard) Please respond by **Monday, October 12.**

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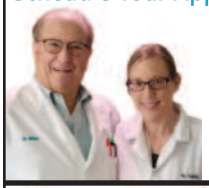

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Dr Stephanie Schultz
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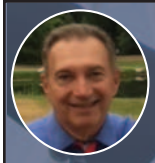

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