

# The Twentieth Sunday In Ordinary Time

August 17, 2025

## Mass Intentions

August	18	8:00 AM	NO MASS
August	19	8:00 AM	I/O Jerry & Karen Kupris
August	20	8:00 AM	Rudolph & Bernadine Potetz requested by Patti Gravante
August	21	8:00 AM	I/O Christina Fordyce requested by Elizabeth Firoozmand
August	22	8:00 AM	Deceased Of The Harshberger & Montrose Families
August	23	5:00 PM	People Of The Parish
August	24	9:00 AM	Elizabeth Leach requested by John & Mary Blair

## Liturgical Ministries August 23-24

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Servers
5:00 PM	Joe DeFrancesco	Betty Berry	Terry Meek
9:00 AM	Nicole Wood	Scott Dunkelberger	Joe Morrison Zoey Lowe

## Schmidt Center Cleaning

August 17	The Raugh Family
August 24	Tonya Sands

## Next Sunday's Readings

*Please prepare for Mass and the Homily by reflecting on these texts from the Sacred Scriptures*

Isaiah 66:18-21

Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13

Luke 13:22-30

## Christian Stewardship

Last Sunday's Collection amounted to: \$3,963.00

The Collection One Year Ago amounted to: \$4,332.00

**May God Bless you for your generous and responsible stewardship!!!**

## Church Calendar

### *Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>*

Confessions, 8:00-8:45AM

Mass, 9:00AM

CCD Catechist Meeting, 10:15AM (at pavilion)

### *Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup>*

No Mass

### *Tuesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>*

Mass, 8:00AM

### *Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> (Feast of Saint Bernard)*

Mass, 8:00AM

### *Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup>*

Mass, 8:00AM

### *Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>*

Mass, 8:00AM

### *Saturday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>*

Confession, 4:00-4:45PM

Mass, 5:00PM

### *Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>*

Confessions, 8:00-8:45AM

Mass, 9:00

**“My sheep hear My voice,  
says the Lord; I know them,  
and they follow Me.”**

### **From the Pastor’s Desk:**

Today’s readings acknowledge the real challenges of living our faith. Following Christ will sometimes put us at odds with others – an uncomfortable reality that many will face in our broken and divided world. Yet we can find



strength knowing that Jesus understands the constant opposition (both inward and outward) that we face. The second reading says, “Consider how he endured such opposition from sinners.” Jesus knows what it’s like to face

opposition, but he endured it “for the sake of the joy that lay before him.” That is our calling too. We are made to

know the joy that awaits us beyond our crosses. We find the strength to persevere through our trials by “keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus.” Keeping Christ as our focus, we will be able to overcome any obstacle we may face and run toward the goal of heaven.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus said, “I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing.” Jesus’ desire is that the whole world be set aflame with his love, and yet, he knows that this will not come easily. The good news is that Jesus is with us in the midst of the struggle. He too knows the deep longing and even anguish (the Gospel today uses that word!) that we experience as we work so that others may come to know God’s love. We can take comfort in the fact that as much as we want to see others come to faith, God desires it even more than we do, and he is also pouring out his grace continually upon us. In the midst of any discouragement, we may feel about those who seem opposed to God and to faith, may we remember the burning love that Christ has and his immense desire to draw all people to himself.

Pray for those whom you may know who seem closed to the Gospel, or who are away from the Church. Invite the Holy Spirit to touch your heart with a particular love and zeal to pray for them, that those who may seem the most opposed to faith might come, one day, to embrace it.

**Remember the Sick of our Parish** in your charity and prayers: Marietta McQuaid, Marie Dishman, Suzanne Matunis, Pat Widdowson, Kay Dorundo, Gene Odato, Annetta Round, Shirley Scotta, Samantha Strazisar, Ellen White, Louise Kline, Emerson Zahn, and all the long-suffering in our community and at Perry Village.

**Online Information:** You can access the weekly bulletin and other information at our parish website ([www.stbernardsnbpa.org](http://www.stbernardsnbpa.org)).

**Deacon Robinson’s Contact Information:** Contact Deacon Robinson at his cell phone (602-6298) or [deacon.robinson@analogypologetics.com](mailto:deacon.robinson@analogypologetics.com).

**How do we know the Catholic Church is the one Jesus founded?** The answer starts here: if Jesus is God, then whatever He founded, we should follow. And Jesus founded only one Church. He didn’t leave behind a loose collection of believers with

different doctrines and competing leaders. He built a single, visible, united Body, with real authority to teach in His Name (Matthew 16:18-19; and 18:17-18). The Bible itself points to the Catholic Church. Jesus makes Saint Peter the first Pope, He promises the Holy Spirit would guide the Church to all truth, and Saint Paul calls the Church “the pillar and foundation of truth.” When you follow the trail of history, Scripture, and the unbroken line of leaders from Saint Peter to today, it all leads to one place: the Catholic Church.

**Knights of Columbus Thanks:** The Knights of Columbus are most grateful to all parishioners who helped setup for and dismantled/cleaned up after their annual Ice Cream stand at the Perry County Fair last week. The Ice Cream Stand is the K of C major source of support to continue the programs and activities they sponsor for our parish. Your kind assistance was greatly appreciated.



**Fall Schedule of Masses** will begin on the weekend of September 6/7. Mass on Saturday will be celebrated at 5:00PM and Masses on Sunday mornings begin at 8:00 and 10:30AM. Confessions are heard on Saturday afternoon from 4:00-4:45PM and on Sunday mornings from 7:00-7:45 and 9:45-10:15AM.

**A Summer Reminder: A sense of decorum in dressing for Church:** The summertime can be hot and humid and often calls for more comfortable clothing. There is, however, a proper decorum to be used when considering the clothing we wear to Mass and church. We have no church dress codes we can look at except the one



dictated by the virtue of modesty, respect, and good taste. In general, we should avoid the following when dressing for church: *Spaghetti straps/tank tops, bare backs or shoulders, sleeveless shirts or plunging necklines, tubes, skimpy skirts or shorts, low waist pants, Jersey shorts/gym wear, caps or flip-flops.* Thank you for your consideration!

**CCD Catechist and Teacher Aide Meeting:** There will be an important “Back to School” meeting for all CCD Personnel this Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:15AM. This meeting will allow us to coordinate our activities for the coming year. Refreshments will be served, and, for your convenience, someone will be available to babysit your children, if you desire to bring them.



**Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)** will begin on September 16<sup>th</sup> with a series of prayers, reflections, and instructions in the Catholic Faith for those who may be interested in joining the Catholic Church. We meet each Tuesday evening from 7:00 – 8:00PM in the Parish Hall. For more information, please call Father Sharman.

**CCD Begins September 7<sup>th</sup>:** Parent and guardians should be aware that our program of Religious Education begins on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. Classes start at 9:15 and conclude at 10:15 for all registered students (Pre-K through high school). Please have your children to the Schmidt



Center by 9:10AM at the latest so classes can begin on time and will not be disrupted by the tardiness of the students arriving late. Please be mindful of your speed while driving in the parking lot. Many students dart between parked cars on their way to the Schmidt Center.

**Saint Bernard of Clairvaux’s feast day** is Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup>. Let us continue to ask his intercession for vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life, especially from our parish!

**Get Hold of your finances:** a parishioner is offering a series of six meetings on taking control of your personal finances. This program is open to all parishioners. Please see the bulletin board for details, dates, topics, and a signup.

Saint Bernard of Clairvaux,  
Pray for us!!