

The Twentieth Sunday In Ordinary Time

August 16, 2026

Mass Intentions

August	17	8:00 AM	NO MASS
August	18	8:00 AM	Karen Peters requested by Pat Harshberger
August	19	8:00 AM	I/O Father Sharman requested by Deacon Robinson
August	20	8:00 AM	Kathy & Mike Brennan requested by Bob & MaryJane Moyer
August	21	8:00 AM	Shelby Barnart requested by Saint Bernard K of C
	22	5:00 PM	People Of The Parish
August	23	9:00 AM	Elizabeth Leach requested by John & Mary Blair

Liturgical Ministries August 22-23

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Servers
5:00 PM	Dave Suydam	Mary Zimmerman	Helena Krieger
9:00 AM	Trudi Heffley	Mark Ticehurst	Austin Hoffman Jacob Innerst

Schmidt Center Cleaning

August 16	Gabby Brandt & Jen Meek
August 23	Kim Lane, Marion McCoy

Next Sunday's Readings

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

Isaiah 22:19-23	Romans 11:33-36	Matthew 16:13-20
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Christian Stewardship

Last Sunday's Collection amounted to: \$5,739.00

The Collection One Year Ago amounted to: \$4,618.00

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

Church Calendar

Sunday, August 16th

Mass, 9:00AM

Monday, August 17th

No Mass

Tuesday, August 18th

Mass, 8:00AM

Wednesday, August 19th

Mass, 8:00AM

Prayer Group, 8:30AM

Thursday, August 20th (Feast of Saint Bernard)

Mass, 8:00AM

Parish Finance Committee, 7:00PM

Friday, August 21st

Mass, 8:00AM

Saturday, August 22nd

Confession, 4:00-4:45PM

Mass, 5:00PM

Sunday, August 23rd

Mass, 9:00AM

“Jesus proclaimed the gospel of the Kingdom and cured every disease among the people.”

From the Pastor's Desk

People have often wondered why Jesus' words to the Gentile woman in today's Gospel sound so harsh. The woman was simply asking Jesus to heal her daughter, as so many others before her had done. Jesus' reply that he had been sent only to the “lost sheep of the house of Israel” may have been true under the old covenant. But with his coming, Jesus initiated the new covenant where all are invited to be



transformed, all are welcomed to experience His forgiveness and His grace. Through the woman's gift of faith (whose prayer says simply, “Lord, help me”), she brings herself and her daughter into

the joy and goodness of the kingdom. Jesus commends her faith (and her persistence) and heals her daughter. This passage demonstrates the healing God wishes to provide for all of his people.

Thus says the Lord in Isaiah: “My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.”

Responsorial psalm: “O God, let all the nations praise you!”

Jesus to the Canaanite (Gentile) woman: “O woman, great is your faith!”

Our readings today spell out loud and clear that our God's love and forgiveness is meant for all people who will accept it. Not just the few. This is good news, indeed. What does God ask of us in return? He asks that we strive to do what is right ... what is just. In short, we must join [our]selves to the Lord, as Isaiah says, and God will welcome us into his holy kingdom. How do we do that? We can start by trying to imitate the generosity of God's grace and welcome those who seek God's mercy and healing. In other words, we reach out in love to each other and seek to build up the unity of his Church, the Body of Christ.

On some level, all the readings today speak of disparate people coming to the faith: foreigners, all the nations, the Gentiles, a Canaanite woman. While we do not have a welcoming committee, the power of a friendly smile, a warm handshake, a disposition of “we're happy you're here” cannot be underestimated for visitors to our church. Consider introducing yourself to someone at Mass you do not recognize, especially if they are a stranger or visitor, and make ours a welcoming parish.

Remember the Sick of our Parish in your charity and prayers: Marietta McQuaid, Marie Dishman, Pat Widdowson, Gene Odato, Annetta Round, Shirley Scotta, Samantha Strazisar, Ellen White, Louise Kline, Emerson Zahn, Virginia Klug, Jeff Galgon, Dawn Lowe, Mary Schoedel, Matt Morrison, Kay Utzig, Glenn Harshberger, Joe Rich, Yolanda McMillan, Lois Morningred, 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).

Deacon Robinson's Contact Information: Contact Deacon Robinson at his cell phone (602-6298) or deacon.robinson@analogyapologetics.com.

Prayer Group meets each Wednesday morning at 8:30AM in church. If you have prayer intentions for your loved ones or family members, for sick co-workers or people in the community, please give them to the Parish Office for prayer and spiritual support!

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) to begin in the fall of 2026: You are invited to join a journey of faith and explore your possible interest in the Catholic Church. This fall, Saint Bernard's Parish will begin another OCIA program, a series of basic instructions in the Faith. This program of prayer and study is designed to assist you in growing in your knowledge and love for the Lord. We will open our OCIA year with an inquiry evening on Tuesday, September 22nd. For more information contact Father Sharman (582-4113) or complete the application attached to the bulletin board and return it to the parish office.



A sense of decorum in dressing for Church: The summertime can be hot and humid and often calls for clothing that is more comfortable. We have no church dress codes we can look at except the one dictated by the virtue of modesty 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!

Saint Bernard of Clairvaux's feast day is Thursday, August 20th. Let us continue to ask his intercession for vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life, especially from our parish!

Please Register your Children for CCD: If you have not registered or re-registered your child(ren) for CCD for the 2026-2027 school year, please do so as soon as possible. Textbooks and other materials must be ordered shortly so they arrive in time for

the beginning of September. Contact Alice Vilks (alicevilks4@gmail.com) for registration forms or see the bulletin board.

Knights of Columbus New Member Initiation Ceremony will be held in the church hall on Sunday, August 30th from 10AM to 2PM. Any male parishioner who is active in the practice of the faith and over 18 years old who is interested in joining the Knights should contact a member of the Knights prior to the ceremony.

K of C Perry County Ice Cream Stand: The Knights of Columbus are asking for your assistance in staffing the Ice Cream Stand at this year's Perry County fair from August 18th through the 22nd. The Ice Cream Stand is the K of C major source of support to continue the programs they sponsor for our parish. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board with scheduled time slots you can choose from. Your kind assistance is appreciated.



Fall Schedule of Masses will begin on the weekend of September 12/13. 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.

CCD Begins September 13th: Parent and guardians should be aware that our program of Religious Education begins on Sunday, September 13th. 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 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 run between parked cars on their way to the Schmidt Center.



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**Saint Bernard of Clairvaux,
Pray for us!!**