

The Twenty-First Sunday In Ordinary Time

August 23, 2026

Mass Intentions

August	24	8:00 AM	NO MASS
August	25	8:00 AM	Susanne Lupinetti requested by Dave & Patty Suydam
August	26	8:00 AM	Reid Wilson requested by Pat & Glenn Harshberger
August	27	8:00 AM	Giuseppe Gambino requested by The Rosselli Family
August	28	8:00 AM	Michael Matunis requested by Bob & MaryJane Moyer
August	29	5:00 PM	Anne & Angelo Altavilla requested by Louise Kline
August	30	9:00 AM	People Of The Parish

Liturgical Ministries August 29-30

	Lectors	Extraordinary Ministers	Servers
5:00 PM	Joe DeFrancesco	Betty Berry	Dave Suydam
9:00 AM	Erin Jenkins	Nancy Stanton	Joe Morrison Jacob Innerst

Schmidt Center Cleaning

August 23	Kim Lane, Marion McCoy
August 30	The Raugh Family

Next Sunday's Readings

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

Jeremiah 20:7-9	Romans 12:1-2	Matthew 16:21-27
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Christian Stewardship

Last Sunday's Collection amounted to: \$4,426.00

The Collection One Year Ago amounted to: \$3,268.85

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

Church Calendar

Sunday, August 23rd

Mass, 9:00AM

Monday, August 24th

No Mass

Tuesday, August 25th

Mass, 8:00AM

Wednesday, August 26th

Mass, 8:00AM

Prayer Group, 8:30AM

Thursday, August 27th

Mass, 8:00AM

Friday, August 28th

Mass, 8:00AM

Saturday, August 29th

Confession, 4:00-4:45PM

Mass, 5:00PM

Sunday, August 30th

Mass, 9:00AM

Knights of Columbus Meeting, 10AM-2PM

**“Jesus said: You are Peter and
upon this rock I will build my
Church, and the gates of hell shall
not prevail against it.”**

From the Pastor's Desk

In today's second reading, St. Paul reflects in awe over the “depth of the riches and wisdom



and knowledge of God.” God’s judgments are inscrutable, his ways unsearchable, he goes on to say. While on our own, we cannot know the depth of who God is and the beauty of his plan for us, we have been given access to this knowledge by the Holy Spirit. In the Gospel, Peter is able to grasp that Jesus is “the Christ, the Son of the living God,” not by “flesh and blood,” but by a revelation from our heavenly Father. The Church that is still led

by Peter’s successor continues to be guided by the Spirit into the fullness of truth. (Jn 16:13) As individual believers, we, too, have received the Spirit in our hearts. By living in communion with our Holy Father and by seeking to listen to the Spirit who also speaks into the depths of our hearts, we can rest assured that we are in a “sure spot” where we can receive all that the Lord wishes to reveal to us about what it means to live in him.

Today’s Gospel demonstrates that Christ desired to place Peter – and his successors – as the visible head of his Church. Yes, God willed from the beginning to leave his Church with a leader who could safeguard the quintessential confession of Christ as the “Son of the living God,” but there’s more to it than this. Peter is given keys to the kingdom of heaven. And what are keys for if not to open doors? In a very real way, the mission of our Holy Father is to open up access to God’s kingdom, and there are many examples of this. On World Mission Sunday in 2011, Pope Benedict said, “The proclamation of the Gospel is intended for all peoples.” And Pope Francis, speaking at World Youth Day in 2023, emphasized that the Gospel is for everyone, without exception. As we pray for our Holy Father and the immense task with which he has been entrusted, let us work in our own way to ensure that the doors of our churches, the way to the kingdom of heaven, remain open for all who want to be changed and transformed by God’s grace and live in the light of Christ’s truth.

As we reflect on the gift that Jesus left us by making Peter and his successors the visible head of his Church on earth, take some time to pray for our Holy Father and his intentions. You can pray along with the Pope at the Pope’s Worldwide Prayer Network (a site which contains a short video of the Pope’s monthly prayer intention and other prayer resources) at www.popesprayer.va.

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@analogypologetics.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 call 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!

Cleaning of the Schmidt Center: As we prepare for another year of religious education, your gracious assistance is needed in cleaning the Schmidt Center after our summer hiatus. If you are available on Saturday, August 29th at 8:00AM and can assist us, please sign up at the bulletin board.

The cleaning should not take long, and your help is certainly appreciated.

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.

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.



Thank You to the Parish Mowers: Many of our parishioners do not realize that the grounds are mowed each week by seven parishioners, who contribute their time throughout the summer to keep our property looking its best. While they do not want to be named, we are most grateful for their dedication, service, and labor of love. Well done good and faithful servants!!

Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Monday, September 14th at 7:00PM in the Parish Hall. We will hold the election of new Council officers and discuss some issues important to the life of our parish.

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