

The Catholic Community of Bradford

*Twenty-First Sunday in
Ordinary Time
August 24, 2025*

*Rev. James Gutting
Parochial Administrator
Rev. Edward Walk
Senior Associate*

95 East Corydon Street
P.O. Box 2394 Bradford, PA 16701-5394

St. Bernard of Clairvaux



ST. BERNARD MASSES

Saturday 4:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:30 am

DIVINE MERCY CHAPEL MASSES

Monday & Thursday — 8:00 am & 9:00 am
Tuesday — 9:00 am Wednesday — 8:00 am
Friday — 12:10 pm Saturday — 9:00 am

Phone: (814) 362-6825

Email: office@stbernardcatholic.org

Website: www.stbernardcatholic.org

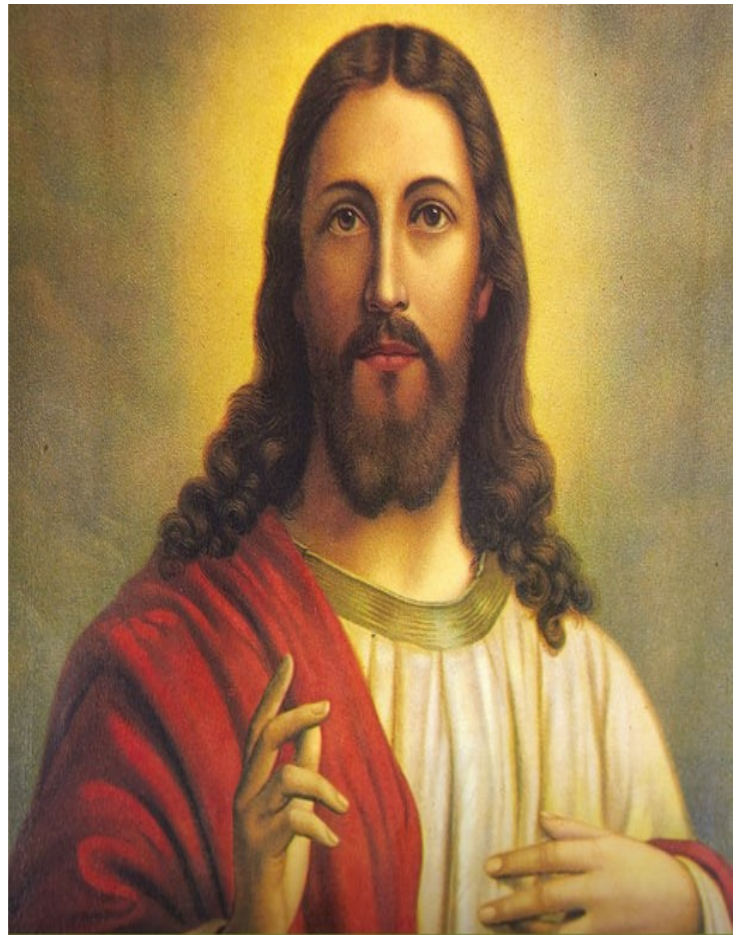
Facebook:

St Bernard of Clairvaux - Bradford, PA

LIVE STREAMING SUNDAY 10 AM

Youtube.com

St. Bernard of Clairvaux, Bradford PA



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"People will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." - Lk 13:29-30

GOSPEL MEDITATION: ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

I've been hiking Camelback Mountain in Phoenix, Arizona most of my life. It is a vigorous forty-five minutes to the top. Near the peak, the end suddenly appears much further away, and steeper. At that moment, a descending hiker often offers encouragement:

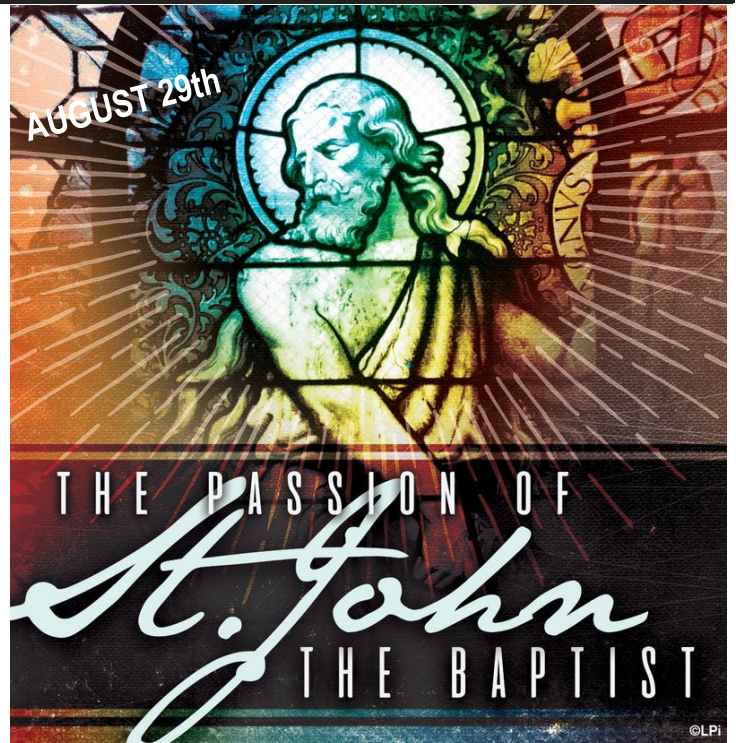
"Keep going! The peak is right there. It's not as far as it looks. You can do it!" It usually works. After another five minute push, you summit and enjoy a glorious panorama of the Sonoran Desert in the Valley of the Sun.

When Jesus is asked about how many people are saved, he says: "Strive to enter through the narrow gate" (Luke 13:24). How many? Strive! Focus on your journey. What does heavenly census taking have to do with you or me? How would it help a hiker on a mountain to ask the others coming down, "How many people are going to make it to the top?" A normal response would be something like: "How is that a relevant question? Carry on!"

Jesus links one virtue directly to salvation: perseverance (cf. Matt 24:13; hypomone in Greek). Strive! Endure! Keep going! The one absolutely necessary virtue is perseverance, to not give up on our journey. The mountain we struggle to climb is often our own weakness, failures, and sins. Persevere in prayer. Keep celebrating the sacraments. Embrace daily duties. With God's grace, you are strong enough to keep going. Perhaps the peak is not as far away as you might fear. Keep going!

— Father John Muir

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We know quite a lot about John the Baptist from the Gospels and other historical sources. John was the son of Zechariah and Elizabeth through a graced post-menopausal conception (Luke 1). John would have been raised with an intimate knowledge of Jewish doctrine and religious practice, due to his father being a Levite priest. Elizabeth is a "kinswoman" of Mary. While not in the same nuclear family, the two were close enough that Mary would journey to spend several months with Elizabeth during her pregnancy. We don't know how close John and Jesus were as children, but they certainly knew of one another as cousins.

Despite his remoteness, John's ministry was prophetic. People came from across the region to be baptized in water as a sign of repentance. John, however, continually pointed beyond himself to the one who was to come: Jesus Christ. John the Baptist's call to repentance extended to the rules of his day. John critiqued the local rulers, Herod Antipas and his wife Herodias. Previously, Herodias had been married to Antipas' brother, Herod Philip, but had betrayed him, left him, and married his more powerful brother. John was arrested for the slight and was eventually executed (Mark 6). This martyrdom prophetically anticipates the trials that awaited Christ and his followers. In life and death, John the Baptist served as the herald of the Messiah.

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Prayer for Holiness

Good Shepherd,
Guide me through the narrow gate. Remove from me anything that distracts me from You, Your love, Your invitation, Your mission. Keep me close to You, familiar at every step. Amen.

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August 18, 2025

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The humanitarian crisis in Gaza prompts concern from all people of goodwill. As Catholics, we especially are called by Christ to care for the suffering and the needy.

Pastoral concern has prompted the bishops of the United States to take up a collection for the assistance of Christians and other innocent victims of violence in Gaza and surrounding areas. Many are struggling to survive, protect their children, and live with dignity in dire conditions.

I ask you to give generously to this special collection, held in our parishes on the weekend of September 6-7, 2025. Funds received will be passed on to Catholic Relief Services. This group has a long-standing relationship with the Catholic Church in the region, which allows them to provide humanitarian relief and medical assistance quickly and efficiently.

Thank you for doing what you can to support our suffering brothers and sisters in Gaza and surrounding areas. I join with you in praying for peace.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Lawrence T. Persico

The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, JCL
Bishop of Erie

Scan to Give



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Rosary Altar Society: Thursday, September 11th @ 6:00 pm In Ritchie Hall

Widow's Group: **Wednesday, September 17th @ Noon**

K of C #403 : Tuesday, September 9th @ 7:00 pm

Cemetery Board: Wednesday, September 24th @ 11 am

Pastoral Council: Tuesday, October 28th @ 6 pm

Finance Council: Wednesday, September 17th @ 4:30pm

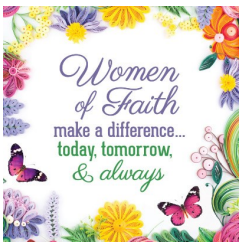
SF 50+ Club: Wednesday, September 10th @ 11 am in Ritchie Hall

Liturgy Committee: TBA

Catholic Women's Club: Sunday, September 14th @ 10am
Mass—Communion Breakfast to follow @ Togi's Blue Room
Officer Installation/New member Introductions

ATTENTION WIDOWS! We will meet in the Divine Mercy Chapel on Wednesday, September 17th at Noon for the Rosary. We will then go over to the Social Hall for a meeting. Bring your own lunch. All widows are welcome.

PARISH DIRECTORY COMMITTEE—with the talents of Francie Long of Long Art Photography and other local resources, we are looking to form a committee of parishioners to organize and create a Parish Picture Directory in 2026. This will be the first parish directory created since the consolidation of our parishes back into one. And we plan to do everything locally. Please contact the parish office by September 2nd if you are interested to help with this exciting project!



The St. Bernard Catholic Women's Club is compiling a history of the Bradford Catholic Community from the 1860's, when a priest traveled on horseback to say Masses throughout the area, to the present day. If you would like to share your stories or historical accounts, please provide your information below, tear it off, and drop in the collection basket or at the Parish Office. A Catholic Women's Club member will contact you! Thank you.

Yes, I have information I'd like to share.

Your Name

Phone #

Email



**The Bradford Council #403
of the Knights of Columbus**
www.koc403.com

Meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the parish office. **Please Note: Next meeting on September 9th.** Council members are urged to attend, and new members are most welcome.

COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA

Thank you for your generous support for last week's Collection for the Church in Latin America. The money collected will go to share the faith with our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean, so they in turn can share the Good News in their communities. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Visit www.usccb.org/latin-america. #iGiveCatholicTogether also accepts online funds for this work—see usccb.igivecatholictogether.org. Your gift makes a difference!

MARRIAGE "Marriage is our last, best chance to grow up." (Joseph Barth) Don't waste it by always having to have your way.

Wedding Anniversary Celebration with Bishop Persico

Congratulation to all couples celebrating their **Milestone Anniversaries** today at St. Tobias, Brockway

CATHOLIC TRIVIA Question: According to the Gospel stories, who was the first person to encounter the risen Jesus?

Answer: Mary Magdalene.

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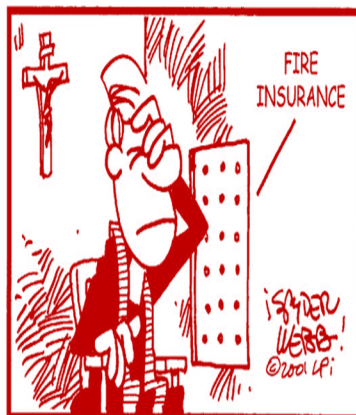
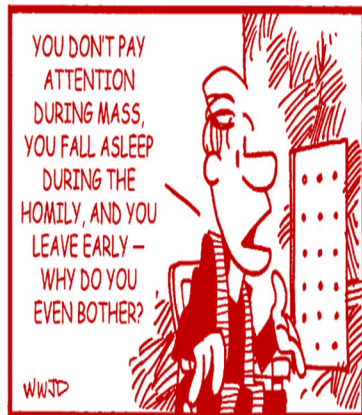
FRIDAY HOURS—for the remainder of August and all of September the office will be closing at 3 pm on **FRIDAYS ONLY.**

PARENTING POINTERS As summer winds down and many parents' thoughts turn to school, prepare your child by talking about bedtime and morning routines, hopes for the year, and safety tips. Review past routines, consider changes with the start of the new school year.



We have a number of left over school desks free for the asking. If interested in one (or more) desk call the parish office. Must pick-up, no deliveries.

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



COMMUNITY BLOOD BANK

The Blood Bank will be available in the St. Bernard Cafeteria (Gallina Hall)
Monday, **August 25th**
12:00 Noon until 5:00 pm



"We continually aspire to something 'more' that no created reality can give us; we feel a deep and burning thirst that no drink in this world can satisfy. Knowing this, let us not deceive our hearts by trying to satisfy them with cheap imitations! Let us rather listen to them! Let us turn this thirst into a step stool, like children who stand on tiptoe, in order to peer through the window of encounter with God."

Pope Leo XIV

MASS CARDS—If you need a Mass card please stop in between 12 and 4 pm. (3 pm on Fridays) Mornings at the Parish Office, especially Mondays, are our busy times. We appreciate your patience!



St. Bernard Sanctuary Candle will be burning this week in Memory of Louis Vigliotta



Grades 1-5 meet Sundays in Gallina Hall from 11:00 am—12:15 pm. Sept. 7 & Sept. 28.

Grades 6-9 meet Sundays in Gallina Hall from 5:45 pm—7:15 pm. Sept. 14 & Oct. 5

(Full schedule in packets.)

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE The phrase in today's gospel, "I don't know where you're coming from," is often echoed by parents about their children and vice versa. With rapid changes, one generation often has little in common with another. To bridge this gap, we must rely on love, trust, and mutual respect.



**J.A. LUCIANO & SONS BUILDERS
PLEASE GIVE THEM YOUR SUPPORT!**

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Total Collection - Needed Weekly: \$ 10,072

August 17.....\$ 7,436

Church in Latin America.....\$ 2,186

2025 Combined CSA Assessment \$ 94,414

2025 CSA Collected \$ 55,313

**Checks for CSA must be made out to St. Bernard.
Please do not COMBINE other payments with CSA.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

**PASTORAL STAFF:**Rev. James Gutting, *Parochial Administrator*Rev. Edward Walk, *Senior Associate***LIVE STREAMING SUNDAY 10 AM:****You Tube, St Bernard of Clairvaux Bradford****WEBSITE:** <https://stbernardcatholic.org/>**FACEBOOK:** St Bernard of Clairvaux - Bradford Pa**MAILING ADDRESS:** PO Box 2394, Bradford, PA 16701**OFFICE HOURS:****Monday thru Friday: 8:30 am to 4 pm**Gina Davidson, *Business Manager**Email: business@stbernardcatholic.org*Elaine Doriguzzi, *Administrative Assistant**Email: office@stbernardcatholic.org***CONFESSIONS:****St. Bernard** — Saturdays from 3:00 to 3:45 pm before

4:00 pm mass; Thursday before First Friday from

4:30 to 5 pm; After 9 am mass on Saturdays.

Private appointments may be made by calling the **Parish Office 362-6825**.**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM (REP)****REP Coordinator: Cindy Greek**

Students not attending Catholic school should be enrolled in REP programs. The Bradford Catholic Community Religious Education program is Grades 1—5 & Grades 6—9 (Confirmation). Please call the parish office for more information.

REP NEWS! Registration packets for the 2025-2026 year are available in the back of the church, the parish office and online at www.stbernardcatholic.org. Signed forms and payment may be turned in to the office or the offertory baskets. Please return paperwork **before** the first class begins. For those who turn in the paperwork at the Feast Day dinner on August 23, after 4pm mass, a small token of appreciation will be given.



BULLETIN INFORMATION MUST BE RECEIVED IN WRITING BY NOON ON FRIDAY 2 WEEKS PRIOR TO BULLETIN DATE.

MEMBERSHIP: All Baptized Catholics should be registered, practicing and supporting members of a Parish. Only properly registered members appear on our parish list and are eligible to receive the benefits of parish membership for sacraments. Each parishioner is called upon to practice good stewardship of time, talent and treasure. If you are not currently receiving envelopes, you may not be registered. Call the Parish Office - we would love to meet you!

MARRIAGE: Couples need to contact a priest *at least six months before their wedding*. Registered and active participation needs to be considered before marriage.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS:

We welcome all inquiries about the Catholic faith. This **RCIA** process begins in the fall of the year. Please call the Parish Office for further information.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK: Please call the Parish Office to request the Sacrament of the Sick for family members who are seriously ill. Communion for the sick is taken to the hospital, nursing homes, and the home-bound on a regular basis.

BAPTISM: Both parents must attend the Pre-Baptism Preparation Program. Please call the St. Bernard Parish Office for dates and times of upcoming class. Baptisms are scheduled after completing the program. Call the Parish Office to schedule the class and baptism. Godparents must be at least 16, confirmed and active, registered members of their parish.

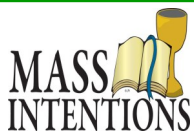
STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**Liturgical****Altar Servers, Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors**

Organist St. Bernard	Rita Bennardi
	Michael Hicks
Resurrection Choir	Joan Raabe
God's Housekeepers	Parish Office
Liturgy	Fr. John B Jacquel

Parish Community

Pastoral Council	Craig Cuthbertson
Catholic Women's Club	Joan Yohe
Rosary Altar Society	Dawn Kozminski
Telephone Prayer Chain	Natalie Marasco (598-5565)

Cover photos of churches by LongArt Photography



WEEK OF AUGUST 25TH—AUGUST 31ST. All daily masses are in the Divine Mercy Chapel.

Monday, August 25th

SBC 8:00 am Tubby Maduri (Joyce Schaming)
SBC 9:00 am Nancy O'Donnell (SF Rosary Altar)

Tuesday, August 26th

SBC 9:00 am James Beeman (St. Bernard HS Class of 1952)

Wednesday, August 27th

SBC 8:00 am John Hayes (Jessica Hervatin)

Thursday, August 28th

SBC 8:00 am Anna Mae Place (John & Deb Place)
SBC 9:00 am All Parishioners

Friday, August 29th

SBC 12:10 pm Nancy O'Donnell (Louise Stoltz)

Saturday, August 30th

SBC 9:00 am Richard Cavallero (Vicki & Darwin Swan)
SB 4:00 pm Betty Sullivan (Fr. Steve, Diane & Mike)

Sunday, August 31st

SB 8:00 am Michael Sturm Comilla (Comilla Family)
SB 10:00 am Dominic Cavallero
(Richard & Ann Cavallero)
SB 11:30 am Deceased Members of OMPH
(Doriguzzi Family)

Weekly confessions: Saturdays after 9 am Mass & 3:00 to 3:45 pm before 4 pm Mass.



Readings for the week of August 24, 2025

Sunday: Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2 (Mk 16:15)/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/Lk 13:22-30

Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Mt 23:13-22



Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8/Ps 139:1-3, 4-6/Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab/Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8 (429)/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12/Mk 6:17-29

Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9/Mt 25:14-30

Next Sunday: Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 (1a)/Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14



AUGUST 30TH, 2025

Saturday: St. Bernard 4:00 PM

LECTOR: Tammy Black

EM: Chris Pehonsky **CUP:** Peggy Johnson/Dick Williams

Servers: **VOLUNTEERS**

AUGUST 31ST, 2025

Sunday: St. Bernard 8:00 am

LECTOR: Joan Yohe

EM: Suzie Sperry **CUP:** Deb Woodley/Chris Pehonsky

Server: Dave Hill

St. Bernard 10:00 am

LECTOR: Jody Randolph

EM: Gloria Scarano **CUP:** Beth Mongillo/Lynn Hogue

Servers: **VOLUNTEERS**

St. Bernard 11:30 am

LECTOR: Craig Cuthbertson

EM: Carol Vinca **CUP:** Karen McClain/Charlotte Cuthbertson

Server: Dan Cuthbertson



Please pray for those who are sick or suffering

Thomas Ackley, Virgil Anderson, Arnold Family, Dianne Barr, Mary Beth Behan, Nancy Black, Theresa Bond, Sue Bradley, Nancy Bukowski, Tim Burris, Michael Cagney, GiGi Carroll, Dominic "Frank" Cavallero, Dick Clark, Kelly Costello, Melissa Cox, Billie Cummins, Paul & Marianne Curcio, Charlotte Cuthbertson, Jennifer Smith Dawson, Josh Dawson, Christine DiStrola, Brady Dolan, Denise Douthit, Richard Douthit, James Drumm, Alliyson Feldman, Ferguson Family, John Fornataro, Stepheny Franco, Robin Fuller, Pat Geary, Kate Geils, Chip Giordano, Pat Girard, Donna Gocella, Janet Goebel, Tonya Graves, Anthony Haller, Paul Hamer, Melissa Hannon, John Hart, Jill Henry, Joy James, Craig Johnson, Judy Keenan, Lilly Keesler, Mary Keesler, James Kibby, Bill Kline, Craig Kloss, Lisa Komidar, Bob Kuntz, Chris Lechner, Elizabeth Lindemuth, Don Long, Paula Louk, Susan McCann-Piganelli, Pat McCormick, Anita Magnetti, Mariana Militelo, Virginia O'Brien, Mary O'Connell, Chris Pehonsky, Lois Pessia, John Pockey, Joan Pointon, Dan Popiel, Courtney Prentiss, John Pupo, Donna Rail, Anne Reed, Virginia & Ed Reed, George Rhodes, Sandy Rhodes, Kathy Ryan, Jackie Schlegel, Steve Schmidt, Judy Signor, Steve Skaggs, Eileen Smith, Hailey Smith, Betty Soble, Alex Tingley, Molly Thompson, Carol Vinca, Damion Wasiewski, Heather Watson, Philip Weese & Family, Rick Wheaton, Matthew Whelan, Beckett Whitney, Lisa Zurat.

May they be strengthened by the healing presence of God's Spirit.