

The Catholic Community of Bradford

The Epiphany of the Lord
January 4, 2026

Rev. John Jacquel
Pastor

Rev. Edward Walk
Senior Associate

Our Mission: We are a Catholic Christian community committed to being welcoming, outreaching to the homebound and forgotten, while strengthening the faith formation of our youth and adult members in their faith journey.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux
95 East Corydon Street, P.O. Box 2394
Bradford, PA 16701-5394



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

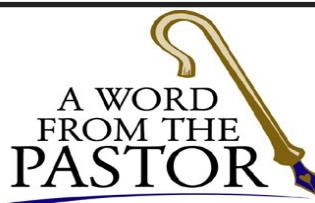
[Youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

St. Bernard of Clairvaux, Bradford PA



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. - Mt 2:10-11a



I'm a subscriber to *Atlantic* magazine and have been for decades. It's one source to help get behind the headlines and sound bites that seem to make for "news" today. I think I'd do better at Trivial Pursuit as a result.

Two weeks before Christmas, I caught an article by Arthur C. Brooks "How to be Happy like Thomas Aquinas." The answer: Pay attention to your passions, your intellect, and your will. And this was promoted by a professor at the University of Paris who died in 1274. Yes, one of our canonized saints.

Aquinas was a Dominican friar who wrote many books. He wrote, "the final happiness of man does not consist in anything short of the contemplation of God." But "imperfect happiness" can also be achieved by mindfulness to and understanding of our strong emotions and basic urges. That doesn't mean giving in to them, but by using our brain to consider the consequences and then making a decision along those lines – passion, intellect, and will.

He said that everyone can do this – you don't need a superior intelligence or education (thank Heaven!). And will power can be strengthened, so say psychologists. Repeated efforts will pay off just like physical muscular development with training.

Thomas was no saint in his youth (but neither was Francis of Assisi), but the Church considers them both saints now – for what they grew into. And, that's our goal, too – isn't it?

Perhaps this could be a valid resolution for the new year. The world has gotten so prickly and tensions so high. Let's do what we can to bring this down a notch. "Let there be peace on earth,  and let it begin with me."

Fr John

SPECIAL PRAYER FOR A NEW BISHOP: O Almighty God, Pour forth the Holy Spirit upon the Holy Father and those who assist him in the discernment of our new bishop. May the one chosen have the strength to be a compassionate leader, who models humility and joy. Grant him the wisdom of Solomon, the courage of the apostles, and the tenderness of your Son, the Good Shepherd. We also pray for the Diocese of Erie that he is called to serve. May we welcome him with open hearts and work with him in a spirit of synodality, called to listen, collaborate, and build unity. Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, St. Joseph, the protector of the Church, and St. Patrick, the patron of our diocese, may we journey the path of life with an unwavering focus on the hope we have in Christ. For he lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER

WELCOME CATECHUMEN & CANDIDATES—On Sunday, December 14th at the 8:00 am Mass, Andy Brooks was accepted as a Catechumen and Schuyler Montague and Mike Pessia were welcomed as Candidates for Full Communion into the Church. Others will join them in January.



PRAYER REQUEST LIST: We are refreshing our Prayer Request list. If you, or someone you know, would like to remain on the list please let the office know. If you, or someone you know, has recovered and may no longer need to remain on the list, again please let the office know. Thank you for your attention to this matter.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Rosary Altar Society: Thursday, February 12th @ 6:30 pm
Widow's Group: TBA
K of C #403 : Tuesday, January 13th @ 7:00 pm
Cemetery Board: Wednesday, January 7th @ 11:00 am
Pastoral Council: TBA
Finance Council: Thursday, January 22nd @ 4:30 pm
SF 50+ Club: TBA
Liturgy Committee: TBA
Catholic Women's Club: Tuesday, January 6th @ 6:00pm
 (Board Meeting) 6:30pm (Regular Meeting)



**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 January 13th.** Council members are urged to attend, and new members are most welcome.

MARRIAGE MOMENT—January is get organized month. Pick a room, a book case, a file, or a drawer to organize. Often one spouse has more interest in organizing than the other. If so, this could be a gift to your spouse. If you both enjoy it, make it a date.



Grades 1-5 meet Sundays in Gallina Hall(11:00 am—12:15)
 Jan. 11th & Feb 1st

Grades 6-9 meet Sundays in Gallina Hall (5:45—7:15 pm)
 Jan. 4th (Confirmation Class Only) & Jan 25th

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS

Total Collection - Needed Weekly: \$ 10,072

December 21..... \$ 7,731

December 28..... TBD

2025 Combined CSA Assessment \$ 94,414

2025 CSA Collected \$ 93,209

Checks for CSA must be made out to St. Bernard.

Please do not COMBINE other payments with CSA.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS



*St. Bernard Sanctuary
 Candle will be burning this
 week in Memory of
 Andrew Taylor*

There are a few March and a few April weeks available for the Sanctuary Candle at \$15. Call the office if you would like to reserve a week. Two weeks per family.



EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

—Although little is known about the Three Wise Men, tradition provides us with their names: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. The Epiphany celebrates the moment Christ, the ultimate gift, was made known to the Three Wise Men and thus the Gentiles. Their journey is central to the Feast of the Three Kings 2026, highlighting the global acknowledgment of Jesus as the Messiah.

Tradition venerates the Three Wise Men as saints, including because they not only recognized Christ but also revealed him to the world. Their visit symbolizes the Gentiles finding Jesus (Isa. 11:10; Matt. 2:18-20) and expressing, through their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, who he is: King, God, and Savior (Isa. 60:6; Matt. 2:11). In doing so, they show that Christ himself is the greatest gift to all humanity.

The term “Epiphany,” based on the Greek word meaning “manifestation” or “revelation,” commemorates key events in the life of Christ: the visitation of the Three Wise Men, the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan, and Christ’s first public miracle at Cana. Each reflects a moment of divine revelation.

Epiphany
OF THE LORD

PARENTING POINTERS—Consider doing something proactive for the new year like starting the tradition of having a Family Night once a week. Start today by playing a family game together. Need more ideas for Family Nights? Check out *Just Family Nights*. A few simplified versions of Family Nights from the book are on the *Family Activities* part of my website.



St. Bernard Church is hosting a Hygiene Drive on behalf of Destinations. Please drop donations off to the Parish Office during the month of January.

Requested Items

Toothpaste	Dish Soap
Toothbrushes	Household Cleaners
Shampoo	Paper towels
Conditioner	Mops
Body Wash	Brooms
Soap	Buckets
Deodorant	Rags
Toilet Paper	Garbage Bags
Laundry Detergent	Ziplock Bags
Lotion	Socks



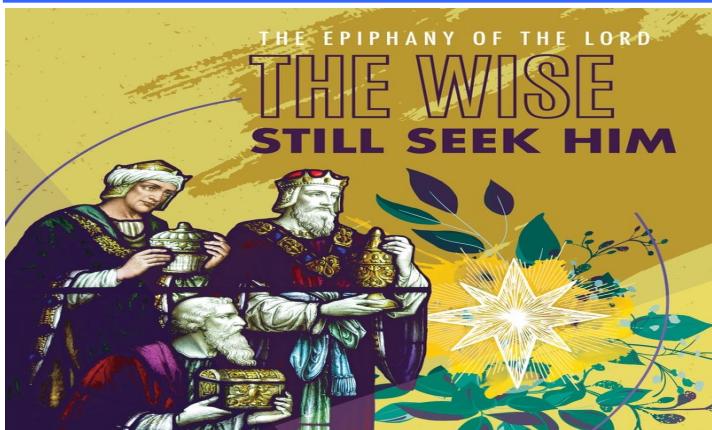
CATHOLIC TRIVIA Question: Who are the four Gospel authors?

Answer: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

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A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE—Today's gospel tells us that "all Jerusalem" was upset because "King Herod was deeply troubled." Similarly, in families, one person's negative attitude can ripple through and affect everyone. If you desire a peaceful and joyful home, it must begin with you. Embrace peace and joy, and let it spread to those around you.

Respect Life - Infertility: Did you know that 1 in 5 women struggle with infertility ([CDC](https://www.cdc.gov/reproductivehealth/infertility/index.html))? Couples carrying the cross of infertility are in our families, among our friends, and in our pews. They need to know that they have many gifts to bring to our parish, that their marriages are life-giving in many beautiful ways, and that God has not abandoned them—and neither have we. If you know someone struggling with infertility or pregnancy loss, resist the temptation to offer solutions or make predictions about what will happen if they "just pray a little harder." Instead, show these couples your support by listening to them, praying for them, reminding them that God is with them, and that they are not alone. For more resources and support, visit www.springsinthedesert.org.



It's Not Too Late to Register for Engagement Encounter!

Still planning your 2026 wedding? Make time for a weekend that will stay with you long after the big day. **Engagement Encounter** offers couples a chance to reflect, connect, and prepare for a lifelong marriage. When: **February 6–8, 2026** Where: **St. Mark Catholic Center, Erie** A few openings remain—don't wait! This retreat fulfills diocesan marriage prep requirements and welcomes **Catholic and interfaith couples**. Call the Family Life Office at **814-824-1261** or email: familylife@erieRCD.org. Register and learn more at eriercd.org/familylifeoffice

"A wedding is one day, but marriage is for a lifetime."

Word of Life - The Gospel of Life: "Through the Incarnation and birth of Christ, God reveals to us the dignity of all human life. Human life, as a gift of God, is sacred and inviolable. The Son of God has united himself with every human being and desires for us to share eternal life with him... Each of us is made in the image and likeness of God, and we reflect his glory in the world." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities. "The Gospel of Life: A Brief Summary"



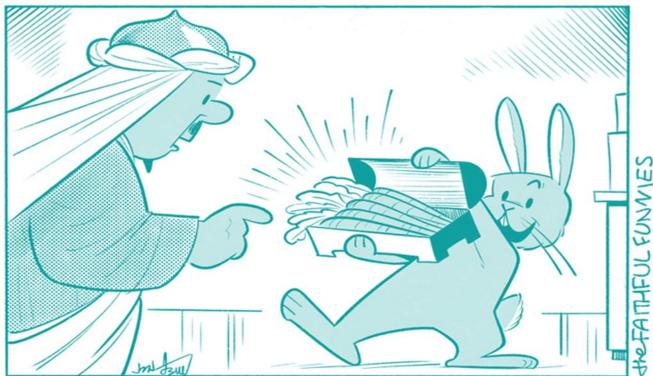
Epiphany Blessing

Dear God, It was You who inspired the Magi to follow the star to find You. Inspire us to seek You, as well. Bless our homes and families this season, make them places where we can encounter You through prayer and community.

Amen.

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"I thought you said this was a chest of gold?"



"Yes! It's 14 carrots!"

FUN FACT!

The Magi offered Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Gold was a gift recognizing Jesus' Kingship, even as a humble baby.

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This American saint was born in Bohemia in 1811. He was looking forward to being ordained in 1835 when the bishop decided there would be no more ordinations. It is difficult for us to imagine now, but Bohemia was overstocked with priests. John wrote to bishops all over Europe but the story was the same everywhere no one wanted any more priests. John was sure he was called to be a priest but all the doors to follow that vocation seemed to close in his face. But John didn't give up. He had learned English by working in a factory with English-speaking workers so he wrote to the bishops in America. Finally, the bishop in New York agreed to ordain him. In order to follow God's call to the priesthood John would have to leave his home forever and travel across the ocean to a new and rugged land. In New York, John was one of 36 priests for 200,000 Catholics. John's parish in western New York stretched from Lake Ontario to Pennsylvania. His church had no steeple or floor but that didn't matter because John spent most of his time traveling from village to village, climbing mountains to visit the sick, staying in garrets and taverns to teach, and celebrating the Mass at kitchen tables. Because of the work and the isolation of his parish, John longed for community and so joined the Redemptorists, a congregation of priests and brothers dedicated to helping the poor and most abandoned. John was appointed bishop of Philadelphia in 1852. As bishop, he was the first to organize a diocesan Catholic school system. A founder of Catholic education in this country, he increased the number of Catholic schools in his diocese from two to 100. The ability to learn languages that had brought him to America led him to learn Spanish, French, Italian, and Dutch so he could hear confessions in at least six languages. When Irish immigration started, he learned Gaelic so well that one Irish woman remarked, "Isn't it grand that we have an Irish bishop!" John died on January 5, 1860 at the age of 48.



SAVE THE DATE-A Favorite Parish Event is coming up. Saturday, January 24th—Annual Parish Chili Cook Off in Gallina Hall, following the 4 pm Mass . Details to come.

THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS

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ITALIAN AMERICAN PROGRESSIVE CLUB!



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.

STEWARSHIP 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

PASTORAL STAFF:

Rev. John Jacquel, *Pastor*
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:

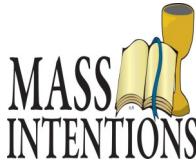
St. Bernard — Saturdays from 3:15 to 3:45 pm before 4:00 pm mass; Thursday before First Friday from 4:30 to 5 pm; After 9 am mass on Saturdays.

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.



JANUARY 5TH-JANUARY 11TH All daily masses are in the Divine Mercy Chapel (Including Saturday, 9am) (Subject to change) Weekend Masses in the Church

Monday, January 5th

SBC 8:00 am Douglass Hannon (Cindy Greek)
SBC 9:00 am Irene Onuffer (Chris Pehonsky)

Tuesday, January 6th

SBC 9:00 am White, Zetts & Sorokes Families (Dave White)

Wednesday, January 7th

SBC 8:00 am Mary Lou Cleveland (Katherine Sirvet)

Thursday, January 8th

SBC 8:00 am Lynette Keane (Peggy Pyle)
SBC 9:00 am All Parishioners

Friday, January 9th

SBC 12:10 pm Ann Mongillo (Sam Pecora)

Saturday, January 10th

SBC 9:00 am Zachary Vigliotta (Family)
SB 4:00 pm Patrick Geary (Tom & Dianne Deloe)

Sunday, January 11th

SB 8:00 am Richard Cavallero (Ann Cavallero)
SB 10:00 am Robert Greeley (The Choir)
SB 11:30 am Patrick Geary (Cindy Greek)

Weekly confessions: Saturdays after 9 am Mass & 3:15 to 3:45 pm before 4 pm Mass.

EPIPHANY

BLESSINGS!

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Readings for the week of January 4th

Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

Monday: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6/Ps 2:7bc-8, 10-12a/Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday: 1 Jn 4:7-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8/Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday: 1 Jn 4:11-18/Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13/Mk 6:45-52

Thursday: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4/Ps 72:1-2, 14 and 15bc, 17/Lk 4:14-22a

Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20/Lk 5:12-16

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 and 6a and 9b/Jn 3:22-30

Next Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10/Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17



WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

JANUARY 10TH, 2026

Saturday: St. Bernard 4:00 pm

LECTOR: Mary Anne Stauffer

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

Servers: VOLUNTEERS

JANUARY 11TH, 2026

Sunday: St. Bernard 8:00 am

LECTOR: Mike Kozminski

EM: VOLUNTEER **CUP:** Dawn Kozminski/Chris Pehonsky

Server: Dave Hill

St. Bernard 10:00 am

LECTOR: Joyce Geis

EM: Gloria Scarano **CUP:** Beth Mongillo/Teri Everett

Servers: Daniel Marasco/Caleb & Carter McAndrew

St. Bernard 11:30 am

LECTOR: David Ditz

EM: Craig Cuthbertson **CUP:** Kim Ditz/Sue Lee

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, Tami, Charters, Dick Clark, Kelly Costello, Melissa Cox, Billie Cummins, Paul & Marianne Curcio, Charlotte Cuthbertson, Jennifer Smith Dawson, Gerry Davis, Josh Dawson, Christine DiStrola, Brady Dolan, Denise Douthit, Richard Douthit, James Drumm, Alliynson Feldman, Ferguson Family, John Fornataro, Stepheny Franco, Robin Fuller, Chip Giordano, Pat Girard, Donna Gocella, Janet Goebel, Tonya Graves, Anthony Haller, Paul Hamer, Jan Hancock, 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, Don Long, Paula Louk, Judy Mazzeo, Susan McCann-Piganelli, Dan McCarthy, 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, Linda Rabineau, 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, Rosanne Strotman, Alex Tingley, Molly Thompson, Carol Vinca, Damion Wasiewski, Heather Watson, Philip Weese & Family, Rick Wheaton, Matthew Whelan, Beckett Whitney, Jim Wineberg, Lisa Zurat.

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