



Saint Bernadette Catholic Church

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

CLERGY

Fr. Robert Barras, Pastor
Fr. Dominic Pistone, in Residence
Deacon Kevin Woodvine

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

REGULAR MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:30 am

Wednesday: 7:00 pm

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 am,* 11:00 am,
and 5:00 pm

*Live streamed on YouTube

See inside
for
Christmas
Mass
schedule

RECONCILIATION

Wednesdays 5:30-6:30 pm or by
appointment.

BAPTISM

To begin the process of having your
child baptized, please call the office
or visit our website.

FUNERALS

Please contact the parish office if
there is a death in the family. The
parish will cooperate with funeral
arrangements.

MARRIAGE

It is necessary for couples to contact
the parish when the engagement is
made. You should be a registered
active member of the parish. Allow
nine to twelve months for preparation
for the sacrament. Extra time must be
allotted if either of the parties has
been married before.



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"I baptize with water; but there is one among you
whom you do not recognize, the one who is coming
after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie."
- Jn 1:26-27

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI



*Isaiah rejoices over God's call in his life and the promise of restoration for
all nations. As we continue in the season of Advent,
what has brought some joy to you or your family?*



2023 Advent & Christmas at St. Bernadette

ADVENT PENANCE NIGHTS

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation will not be offered at St. B's on the Wednesdays of Advent. Please take advantage of the opportunities throughout Advent at our area churches at 7 pm:*

December 19 at St. Mary, League City

December 20 at St. Hyacinth

Wednesdays at St. Clare from 7-8:15 am and Thursdays from 6-7 pm

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday, December 23 - 5:00 pm Vigil Mass

*Sunday, December 24 - 10:00 am Mass

*Please note: The 10 am Mass will be the only Mass in the morning.

SOLEMNITY of CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

4:30 pm Church Mass - 4:45 pm PLC Mass

7:00 pm Church Mass - 10:00 pm Church Mass

Monday, December 25 - Christmas Day 8:30 am Church Mass

SOLEMNITY of MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

January 1, 2023 - 10:00 am Mass (not an obligation this year)

Readings for the Week

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent

Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/ 1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent; Christmas Eve 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 (2a)/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

St. B's. Board Game Group Forming

Are you interested in meeting new friends and sharing time playing table games? Come relax, enjoy and socialize. We



will play the fun and easy games of Rummikub

and Dominos (instructions provided), or you can suggest your favorite game. Our first get-together will be Thursday, January 11. We will meet on the Second Thursdays of the month, from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm, in the Parish Life Center as long as there is interest. Everyone is welcome. Invite a friend. Please contact Suzanne Staron for further information, 832-915-5644 or email starons@stbchurch.org

Faith Commitment of Treasure

Sunday Dec. 3, 2023	\$ 20,785.62
Faith Direct**	15,013.08
Total Collection	\$ 35,798.70
Budget	35,343.65
Over budget	\$ 455.05

** Faith Direct is a weekly average based on a monthly total

Upcoming Second Collection:

January 28 – Bishops' Fund for Latin America

2023-Diocesan Services Fund

As of Dec. 5, 2023

Goal	\$ 143,000
Paid to Date	\$ 161,470
Over goal	\$ 18,470

Thank you for your continued commitment to St. Bernadette Parish. We pray for your continued generous support of God's work here at St. Bernadette.

Hope. Peace. Love. Joy

These are the gifts of the Advent season. The gifts you help share here in our community, throughout the year, with your thoughtful stewardship.

Advent is a meaningful time to reflect on your generosity. One special way to give is eGiving. It can simplify your stewardship and provide steady, consistent support to the parish – so we can be ready with programs, services, and ministries for church families and those in our community. Your recurring gifts will sustain our parish, even if you need to miss a Sunday service.



It's easy to get started. Here are the ways to sign up:

- Visit faith.direct/TX631
- Call Faith Direct Customer Service at 866-507-8757
- Scan the QR code
- Text "Enroll" to 346-209-9877



Thank you and may God bless your generosity.

Join Us for a Potluck Lunch!

Want to be more involved at St. B's and get to know more people in 2024? Whether you are new to the parish or a long-time member, please join us for a potluck get-together, where



food and delightful company await. This is your chance to savor a variety of culinary delights while mingling with both familiar faces and newcomers. Come share stories, laughter, and food at this memorable gathering.

Date: Thursday, January 28, 2024

Time: 11:30 am **Location:** Parish Life Center

Who: Everyone is welcome!

What to Bring: Please contribute to our feast by bringing a dish to feed 6-10 people to share. Whether it's your signature recipe, a cherished family favorite, or even a bought item like pizza or fried chicken, your contribution is most welcome. We'll provide the drinks and utensils.

Contact Suzanne at 281-486-0337 x110 or email starons@stbchurch.org. Feel free to invite a friend—it's bound to be a memorable occasion! We can't wait to celebrate the new year with you.

Adult Spiritual Life

More than a women's bible study: *Living in the Father's Love*, a brief but powerful Bible study, is the ideal way to revive and refresh yourself. In a world where women are measured by their beauty, achievements, and possessions, wouldn't it be nice to find a place where you could just be valued for who you are? Join Walking with Purpose as we begin this study in January 2024. To assist with planning, we ask you to please register by December 22, 2023.



St. Bernadette Men's Retreat: *Joseph: Man of God;* Saturday, January 27, 2024 in the PLC

Come and join us as our presenter, Bruce Williamson, will help us explore who the step-father to Jesus was and how he can be a role model for us today.

Cost is \$50. Early bird price before January 8 is \$35. Seating is limited to 75 men. All attendees will receive the book:



Consecration to St. Joseph by Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC. Breakfast and a BBQ lunch is included.

For additional information and to register please scan the QR code. Questions: please contact Grant Bue, Phil Prasek or Deacon Kevin Woodvine

DIY Retreat: Considering take an afternoon or an entire day to spend time in God's creation by yourself, as a date with your beloved, or with your children, grandchild, nieces, nephews, or even your godchild.

You are welcome to scan the QR code for additional information and how to begin Pilgrimage into Nature or pick up a booklet in the entry of the church building.



Any questions please contact Deacon Kevin at woodvinek@stbhchurch.org or 281-486-0337 x104

Christian Action

NEIGHBORS SERVED BY YOUR CHRISTIAN ACTION:

Date	Families	Indiv- iduals	Indiv. Clothing	Financial Assistance	Volunteer Hours
Oct-23	75	328	1	\$2,582.07	197.5
Nov -23	153	721	425	\$1,363.67	299
Dec 1-4, 23	16	65	7	\$ 700.00	21.5

Christian Action is here to serve registered parishioners and families in our community. We serve our neighbors in crisis living in the following zip codes: 77062, 77058, 77059, 77598. We assist with utilities, food, and clothing. Christian Action donation drop off hours are Monday - Thursday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. We **DO NOT** accept expired food items, glass containers, large items or furniture. **Phone numbers for the food pantry: 832-915-5677, 832-915-5678**

FRIENDLY REMINDER!

Here at Christian Action, we appreciate all the donations you provide and keeping us in mind when you go to the grocery store! Just a friendly reminder that the green bin in the Narthex of the Church, labeled "Christian Action", is for your convenience to drop off items for **CHRISTIAN ACTION**. Please **DO NOT** use this bin as a "dumpster". Please see below a list of items we distribute in the food pantry. We **DO NOT** accept expired food items, glass containers, large items or furniture. In the clothing pantry, we accept gently used or new clothing and shoes. We don't have the space or capacity to accept household items, toys or large furniture.

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|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|
| • Cereal | • Tuna | • Toilet Paper |
| • Chili, canned | • Instant Potatoes | • Bar Soap |
| • Bagged Rice | • Cooking Oil | • Deodorant |
| • Dry Beans | • Eggs | • Cleaning Products |
| • Canned Vegetables | • Butter/Margarine | • Dish Detergent |
| • Ravioli/SpaghettiOs | • Fresh produce and fruit | • Laundry Detergent |
| • Fruit Juice | • Meat/Chicken | • Diapers All Sizes (Especially Size 4, 5 and 6) |
| • Soup | • Bread | • Diaper wipes |
| • Peanut Butter | • Milk | • Adult Diapers (any size) |
| • Jelly | • Oatmeal | • Feminine Hygiene Products |
| • Macaroni & Cheese | • Granola Bars | |
| • Pasta | • Shampoo | |
| • Pasta Sauce | • Tooth Brush/Tooth Paste | |

Thank you for keeping Christian Action in mind on your next trip to the grocery store.

**CHRISTIAN ACTION WILL BE CLOSED
DECEMBER 22, 2023 - JANUARY 2, 2024.**

The parish offices will close at noon on December 22.
Have a Safe and Blessed Christmas!

Time and Talent Service Opportunities

Contact Suzanne Staron at 281-486-0337 x110 or email starons@stbchurch.org for more information.

Snowman Crafts: Here are 2 simple craft ideas. Make a no-sew snowman or make a cotton ball snowman for individuals who are in the hospital during the holidays. Instructions can be found at: <https://www.stbchurch.org/time-talent> service activity section. If making crafts for parishioners or local hospital patients, please drop them off to the **Time and Talent office**. Teens can earn 1 service hour for making 10 no-sew snowmen that are dropped off at the parish.

Make a Cheer Bag: Brighten the day of someone who needs some cheer this Christmas with a Cheer Bag. Engage the whole family in this heartwarming activity. Use a holiday-themed lunch sack or decorate a lunch sack, and fill it with 3-4 items such as: travel-sized hand lotion, lip balm, hot chocolate, packaged cookies, an ornament, fun head band boppers, puzzle book or adult color book with colored pencils. Include a Christmas card (homemade cards are great, too) that says, *We care about you! Merry Christmas from your friends at St. Bernadette Church* or something similar. Deliver the bag directly to someone you know that needs some cheer or drop it off at the Time and Talent Office for distribution. Your small act of kindness can make a significant difference in bringing Christmas cheer to someone.

Cookie Baking for First Responders! Let's bake cookies for First Responders and make cards to show our appreciation! Join this fun cooking activity and say thank you to our community heroes! Drop off your cookies to the local police, constable, EMS, hospital workers and fire fighters. Please be sure to call ahead to ensure that they are able to accept home-baked goods.



Interested in Volunteering and Getting Involved, but Not Sure

Where? We can help you explore a variety of volunteer opportunities with various time commitments. No pressure. Call or email Suzanne to learn more.

The Houston Food Bank has many volunteer opportunities this holiday season, including kid-friendly projects, which can vary from inspecting and sorting food, to packing food into family-sized bags, to stocking the Emergency Food Pantry. Children as young as age 6 can volunteer alongside a parent or guardian. Volunteer shifts are available daily, but hours vary. Sign up at: <https://www.houstonfoodbank.org/ways-to-give/give-time/volunteerwithhfb/>

City Wide Club Christmas Eve Feast needs volunteers for the annual feast held at the George R. Brown Convention Center. Volunteer shifts are available in the morning and afternoon on December 22 and 23. Volunteers age 16+ can help with meal prep or the feast. Sign up at <https://citywideclub.com/volunteer-registration/>

Re-build a Tool Shed for GardenKids of Kemah. Individuals 16+ can help as they put the final touches on our rebuilt tool shed. Supplies provided. They want our tools stored safely. GardenKids of Kemah is a Junior Master Gardener Group. It is an all abilities accessible outdoor classroom, community garden and playground located at one site. Link to sign up and more information can be found at <https://www.stbchurch.org/time-talent>

Chalk Messages. Fill your driveway or sidewalk with positive chalk messages, Bible verses or drawings. As people in your neighborhood go for walks, they will enjoy your upbeat artwork.

Safe Haven Training for all Volunteers: Safe Haven is required for all parish volunteers. Once you take the training you can volunteer at

the parish. Safe Haven is a 1 hour online training that you can do at home or parish. The link is <https://galvestonhouston.cmconnect.org/> You can take the training at the parish if you would like computer assistance or do not have a computer. For questions or to schedule a time to take the training at the parish, please call 281-486-0337 x111.

CPR Instructor Needed: St. B's will would like to have free CPR skills classes onsite. Participant certification cards are not necessary. We have access to mannequins. If you are a CPR instructor, please call or email Suzanne.

Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen is continuing to serve food to the homeless. Volunteers are needed to help provide a free hot lunch to about 400 chronically hungry guests daily (except Mondays), and breakfast on the weekends. Please call 713 824-0344 between 8 am and 11 am, Tuesday through Sunday, or email lcronin@mhihouston.org, to help. Soup Kitchen located at 2009 Congress.

Caring for animals. Make Homemade Dog Treats. This is a fun project to help our furry friends of individuals who are homebound, at a local animal shelter or help people in need with a dog who don't have resources for dog treats. After making treats, put a few treats in several small zip lock bags with a card and give to a neighbor who needs some cheer. The recipe can be found at <https://www.stbchurch.org/time-talent> Summer of Service section. Teen service hours are available.



Heartfelt
THANKS
TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

Gospel Weeklies

Pflaum  FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

Pre-K Faith Formation

Whole Family Catechesis (WFC)

Pre-K Faith Formation 2 ½ to PreK 5 years old

On December 17, no meeting in the classrooms, all Pre-K families are invited to a special parish festival of Lessons and Carols at 3:30 pm in the Parish Life Center! The Festival is a service of Scripture and song. We will listen to Scripture lessons which recount the Fall, the promise of a Messiah, the Incarnation, and the Great Commission to preach the Good News.

No meeting in the classrooms on December 24, December 31, and January 7. See you in the classrooms on January 14, 2024.

At-home Pflaum Gospel Weeklies handout, coloring/activity pages can be found in your child's class folder. Additional resources can be found at <https://www.pflaum.com/>.

Call Aurora Summa at 281-486-0337 x 254 or email at summaa@stbchurch.org if you have any questions or are interested in volunteering in the WFC Pre-K Faith Formation ministry. Junior High and High School students, we have opportunities for service hours.

WFC, Jr High and High School Faith Formation

JrH AND High School Information

Upcoming Dates:

- ⇒ **December 17** – Lessons and Carols PARISH FAMILY EVENT – 3:30 – 4:45 in the PLC
- ⇒ **December 24, 31, January 7** – No Faith Formation
- ⇒ **January 14** – Circle of Grace – at home lesson
- ⇒ **January 21** – Regular Faith Formation, Sunday at 3:45.



• **Brave The Wilderness Summer Camp, “Prepare the Kingdom”** for 7th-12th graders, June 24-28, 2024 – Registration is open!! **Spots are limited** so register today with your down payment to hold your place. Use the qr code to access last year's video, more information, and registration.

• “The Run For The Roses” is the theme for this year's Gala! **We need help creating a gift basket for the Gala silent auction** – JrH and High School are creating a “Manly Themed Basket”. Gift cards to hardware stores, specialized tools, etc are needed! Check your Thursday email for more ideas. Deadline for items is January 21, 2024.

• **Did you get the Thursday emails? WE NEED YOUR HELP** – we are researching why some emails are not receiving our messages. Please help us out and let me know if you have not received them (check junk/spam also.) The more data we receive from our families, the better we can research the problem. Email ** me if you are not getting them. They are sent out on Thursdays.

• **How can I help?** The first step is to take Safe Haven, our safe environment approval process: <https://www.stbchurch.org/safe-environment-virtus>

HIGH SCHOOL

Announcing a new High School Bible Study! Starting in January of 2024, there will be a weekly "High School Bible Study and Fellowship" available for all high schoolers. To help us decide the best day and time for the weekly Bible study, check your Thursday email to join the survey.

*www.stbchurch.org => Faith Formation => JrHigh 6th-8th

*www.stbchurch.org => Faith Formation => High School

**bartosm@stbchurch.org Marianne Bartos, JrHigh FF 6th-8th

**sentmanatc@stbchurch.org Christopher Sentmanat, High School FF, 9th-12th

Elementary Faith Formation

• **Elementary Upcoming Dates:**
December 17 – Lessons and Carols PARISH FAMILY EVENT – 3:30 – 4:45 in the PLC

December 24, 31, January 7 – No Faith Formation

January 14 – Circle of Grace – at home lesson

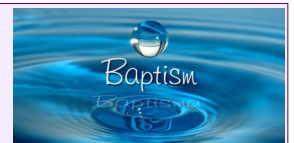
January 21 – Regular Faith Formation, Sunday at 9:40 am and 3:45 pm

• “The Run For The Roses” is the theme for this year's Gala!
We need help creating a gift basket for the Gala silent auction – Pre K and Elementary are creating a “Picnic Themed Basket”. Gift cards to subway or any sandwich shop, ice chest, picnic basket, camping chairs, picnic blanket, etc are needed! Check your Thursday email for more ideas. Deadline for items is January 21, 2024.

• **Did you get the Thursday emails? WE NEED YOUR HELP** – we are researching why some emails are not receiving our messages. Please help us out and let me know if you have not received them (check junk/spam also.) The more data we receive from our families, the better we can research the problem. Email ** me if you are not getting them. They are sent out on Thursdays.

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The 2024 schedule for the Baptism Workshop is:



January 7, June 2, August 18, and October 20.

Parents are encouraged to attend prior to the birth of your child. Godparents are encouraged to attend with the parents. For more information and to register please scan the QR code.



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

DECEMBER 17 THRU DECEMBER 23, 2023

Sat. Vigil 5:00 pm: Anthony Nguyen Dinh+
 Sun. 8:30 am: Tivo Perez+
 Sun. 11:00 am: Christine Marie Referente
 Sun. 5:00 pm: All Parishioners
 Mon. No Mass
 Tues. 8:30 am: Sam Long+
 Wed. 7:00 pm: Sammy Patrenella, Sr.+
 Thurs. 8:30 am: Roland Bolduc+
 Fri. 8:30 am: Frances Moreno+
 Sat. No am Mass

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR PARISHIONERS:

Anna Dorstewitz, 12/18/1990; Robert Murphy, 12/19/1992; Robert Brown, 12/19/1998; Florence Chauvin, 12/19/2003; Rose Lonero, 12/20/2003; Mary Christine Warfield, 12/21/1989; Rene Zook, 12/21/2005; Carol Koerschner, 12/22/1986; Charles Brown, 12/22/2004; Helen Davin, 12/22/2006; Marie Tamalenus, 12/22/2008; Bud Forrest, 12/23/2002 on the anniversaries of their entrance into Heaven.

Interested in Child Care here at St. B's?

St. B's Early Childhood Connections is always striving to create a program that provides for the social, emotional, spiritual, and educational development of our children. To that end, we also focus on our families' needs and financial considerations.

With annual Registration approaching, we would appreciate your feedback regarding how the program is structured including the days and times of our program. Our hope is to meet the needs of others in our parish and the community. Maybe your children could attend if there were a few changes to the hours.

If you have children ages 1-5 years old, please consider completing the survey to help us make decisions for the 2024-2025 school year.

Scan the QR code to participate. The Password is ECCSurvey2023

Please complete the survey asap.
 Deadline is December 20.



We appreciate your opinion to help us shape the future of the program!

Early Childhood Connections

Registration Information 2023-2024



ECC strives to meet the needs of the children of our diverse community. We welcome all children. Our positive Christian learning environment recognizes the uniqueness of each child as we work with parents to prepare their child for success.

St. Bernadette Early Childhood Connections strives to place each child in the best learning environment. Our teaching staff is highly qualified and strives to meet the individual needs of children.

January is a great time to start school! Contact us today to schedule a tour.



Registration is open! Scan the QR Code to find out more!

Current Families Registration Fee, Tuition Rates, and Class Options: Registration Fee \$200.

2 days -Monday/Wednesday(1s & 2s ONLY) \$235;

2 days Tuesday/Thursday \$240;

3 days Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday \$345;

4 days Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday \$400;

5 days Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday/ Friday (Pre-K 3s & 4s ONLY) \$465.

Ages 1-year-old to 5 years-old

9:00 am – 1:00 pm. All classes must have a minimum for the class to be offered.

Discounts: Sibling Discount - 10% off tuition for all children in the same family.

Family Discount - Non-Refundable Registration Fee: First Child = \$200; Second child in family = \$125; All other children in family = \$50.

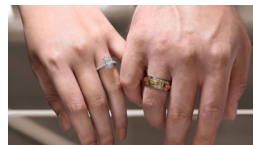
Military Discount - 10% off total tuition with proof of Active Military ID Card.

Extended Day Options: Breakfast Bunch, 8:00-9:00 am for an additional fee. MAGIC 1-2 pm OR 1-3 pm for an additional fee.

Jennifer Nevins nevinsj@stbchurch.org
 281-486-0337 x114 or 832-915-5700

Holy Matrimony

Marriage is a life-long commitment and we want your relationship to be a joy-filled one for many years to come.



The entire process – which can take 9-12 months- helps to prepare the engaged couple to enter into life together as one.

If you are civilly married or married outside of the Catholic Church and

have questions about being married in the Catholic Church, please contact Deacon Kevin woodvinek@stbchurch.org or 281-486-0337 x104 For more information and to begin the preparation to receive this sacrament, please complete the inquiry form by scanning the QR code or contact Deacon Kevin.



www.facebook.com/stbhouston



www.stbchurch.org

About Us > News and Events > Calendar

For updates and to see what's
happening in the parish