



# 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, and 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

## 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.



## THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

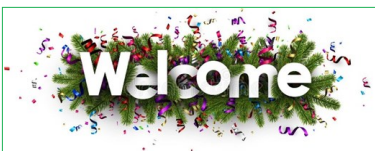


"For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you  
who is Christ and Lord." - Lk 2:11

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

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Welcome to St.  
Bernadette Church!

Whether you're here for a brief visit, recently relocated and becoming a part of our parish, or rediscovering your Catholic Faith, a warm welcome awaits you at St. Bernadette Catholic Church. Let us assist you in feeling truly "at home."

Embark on your Faith journey by exploring the vibrant aspects of our parish and discovering the multitude of opportunities it offers. For a tour of our grounds or information on our next meet & greet lunch with the Pastor, please call Suzanne at 281-486-0337 x110 or email [starons@stbchurch.org](mailto:starons@stbchurch.org).

We're delighted to have you here!

## Faith Commitment of Treasure

Sunday Dec. 10, 2023	\$ 49,593.62
Faith Direct**	<u>15,013.08</u>
Total Collection	\$ 64,606.70
Budget	<u>35,343.65</u>
Over budget	<u>\$ 29,263.05</u>

\*\* 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. 12, 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.



## Readings for the Week

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

**Christmas Eve** (Sunday 4:30, 4:45 and 7 pm Masses): Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/ Mt 1:1-25

**Christmas Eve** (Sunday 10 pm Mass): Is 9:1-6/ Ps 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/Ti 2:11-14/ Lk 2:1-14

**Monday: Christmas Day** (8:30 am Mass): Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6/Heb 1:1-6/ Jn 1:1-18

**Tuesday:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

**Wednesday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/ Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**Thursday:** 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8/ Mt 2:13-18

**Friday:** 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/ Lk 2:22-35

**Saturday:** 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/ Lk 2:36-40

**Next Sunday: The Holy Family; New Year's Eve** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/ Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

## Hope. Peace. Love. Joy

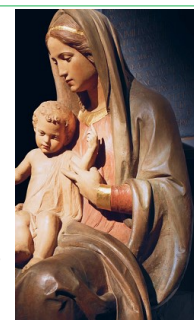
These are the gifts of the Advent season. The gifts you help share here in our community, throughout the year, with your thoughtful stewardship.

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](http://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.





**SOLEMNITY of MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD****January 1, 2023***10:00 am Mass**(not an obligation this year)***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 1-12, 23	32	142	8	\$ 700.00	78

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**

**YOUR CHRISTIAN ACTION NEEDS THE FOLLOWING ITEMS...**

- Cereal
- Apple Juice
- Canned Chili
- Toilet Paper
- Small bottle Cooking Oil
- Deodorant
- Oatmeal
- Spaghetti Sauce (no glass jars)
- Jelly (no glass jars)

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.  
HAVE A SAFE AND BLESSED CHRISTMAS!**

**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](mailto:starons@stbchurch.org)

**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](mailto: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.

**Early Childhood Connections**

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.

Come to our Open House on February 4  
Save the Date - Details coming soon!

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



Jennifer Nevins – St. Bernadette Early Childhood Connections  
281-486-0337 x114 or Direct Line: 832-915-5700  
[nevinsj@stbchurch.org](mailto:nevinsj@stbchurch.org) [www.stbchurch.org](http://www.stbchurch.org)

**Craft Activity**

Create unique Mix Media Collage Valentine Cards with us! Bring your creativity and join our crafting session on Thursday, January 18, at 12:30 pm in the Parish Life Center, following the potluck lunch. Please bring glue (stick or liquid), scissors, and your preferred markers.

Additional supplies will be available. All ability levels welcome! Don't miss out on this fun, chance to meet new people and artistic opportunity! For more information please call Suzanne at 281-486-0337 x110 or [starons@stbchurch.org](mailto:starons@stbchurch.org)



## Time and Talent Service Opportunities

Contact Suzanne Staron at 281-486-0337 x110 or email [starons@stbchurch.org](mailto:starons@stbchurch.org) for more information.

**Mailing Project:** We need many volunteers to help with a parish mailing on Tuesday, January 23. If you would be interested in working with a group to help stuff, seal, label and stamp mail, please call Suzanne.



**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 with a Cheer Bag. Engage the whole family in this heartwarming activity. Use a decorative 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, fun head band boppers, puzzle book or adult color book with colored pencils. Include a card (homemade cards are great, too) that says, *We care about you, 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 to a parishioner. 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/>

**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.cmgconnect.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](mailto: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!**

## Pre-K Faith Formation

Whole Family Catechesis (WFC)

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



Wishing you a blessed Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! No meeting in the classrooms for all Pre-K classes on December 24, December 31, and January 7.

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

For all WFC Pre-K FF classes, see you in the classrooms on January 14.

Call Aurora Summa at 281-486-0337 x 254 or email at [summaa@stbchurch.org](mailto: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 Merry Christmas!!

### JrH AND High School Information

Upcoming Dates:

- ⇒ **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 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 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.

•**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](http://www.stbchurch.org) => Faith Formation => JrHigh 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

\*[www.stbchurch.org](http://www.stbchurch.org) => Faith Formation => High School

\*\*[bartosm@stbchurch.org](mailto:bartosm@stbchurch.org) Marianne Bartos, JrHigh FF 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

\*\*[sentmanatc@stbchurch.org](mailto:sentmanatc@stbchurch.org) Christopher Sentmanat, HS FF, 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>

## Join us at the Gala

**Date:** Saturday, February 10, 2023

**Time:** 6 pm to Midnight (childcare ends at 11)

**Place:** Parish Life Center

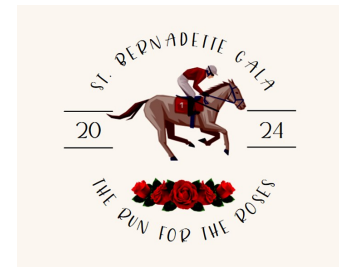
**Attire:** Semi-Formal; *optional Kentucky Derby Inspired*

Tickets are \$100.

January 1 Tickets are \$125



Get your tickets by December 31 for a good deal.



## Meet New People and Get Fit While You Sit



Starting January 4, join a welcoming group of people for the Get Fit While You Sit class. Participants socialize before and after a gentle DVD facilitated workout on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 10 am in the Parish Life Center. These chair and standing routines will teach you skills for breathing exercise, relaxation and meditation. Participants can remain seated for the entire workout, if desired. The exercise routines will be presented with warmth, respect and an appreciation for each person's physical uniqueness and ability. Men and women are welcome. Wheelchair accessible. All ability levels are welcome. No fee or registration needed. Call Suzanne Staron at 281-486-0337 x110 for more information.





**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

DECEMBER 24 THRU DECEMBER 30, 2023

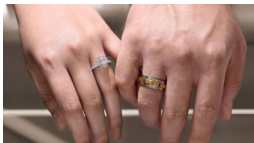
Sat. Vigil 5:00 pm: Martha Ares+  
 Sun. 10:00 am: All Parishioners  
 Sun. 4:30 pm: All Parishioners  
 Sun. 4:45 pm: All Parishioners  
 Sun. 7:00 pm: All Parishioners  
 Sun. 10:00 pm: All Parishioners  
 Mon. 8:30 am: All Parishioners  
 Tues. 8:30 am: James Thoppil+  
 Wed. 7:00 pm: Daniel Herwanto+  
 Thurs. 8:30 am: David Clark+  
 Fri. 8:30 am: Maria Ie Ing Nio+  
 Sat. No am Mass

**PLEASE REMEMBER OUR PARISHIONERS:**

Fidel Gonzalez, 12/24/2006; Paul Reed, 12/25/1998;  
 Russell Bealer, 12/25/2005; Antonio Chiari,  
 12/26/2000; Louise Chiotas, 12/26/2010; Mary E.  
 (Genovese) Maretti, 12/26/18; Anita Durkin,  
 12/27/1990; Herman Mendoza, 12/29/2007; Mary  
 Hodapp, 12/29/2019; Lillian Jenkins, 12/30/1991;  
 William Young, 12/30/2013 on the anniversaries of  
 their entrance into Heaven.

**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 at [woodvinek@stbchurch.org](mailto: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.



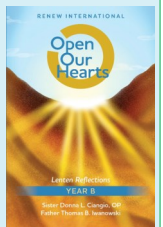
Gerald H. Gaff  
 November 20, 2023

**Adult Spiritual Life****Open our Hearts 2024**

Small faith sharing communities will once again be gathering. Books are available to order for this upcoming Lent.

If you would like to be involved in a small faith sharing community or you would like the series  *Open our Hearts* for yourself or family, please contact Deacon Kevin Woodvine or visit our small faith community

webpage for more information. <https://www.stbchurch.org/small-faith-sharing-groups> or scan the QR code.

**St. Bernadette Men's Retreat**

Joseph: Man of God

Saturday, January 27, 2024 in the PLC

For additional information and to register please scan the QR code.

**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@stbchurch.org](mailto:woodvinek@stbchurch.org) or 281-486-0337 x104



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.



[www.facebook.com/stbhouston](http://www.facebook.com/stbhouston)



[www.stbchurch.org](http://www.stbchurch.org)

*About Us > News and Events > Calendar*

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