

Saint Bernadette Catholic Church

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

CLERGY

Fr. Robert Barras, Pastor
 Deacon Rick Ewan
 Deacon Jason Fossati
 Deacon Kevin Woodvine

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

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

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

RECONCILIATION

Regular schedule resumes Jan. 7 or by appointment.

BAPTISM

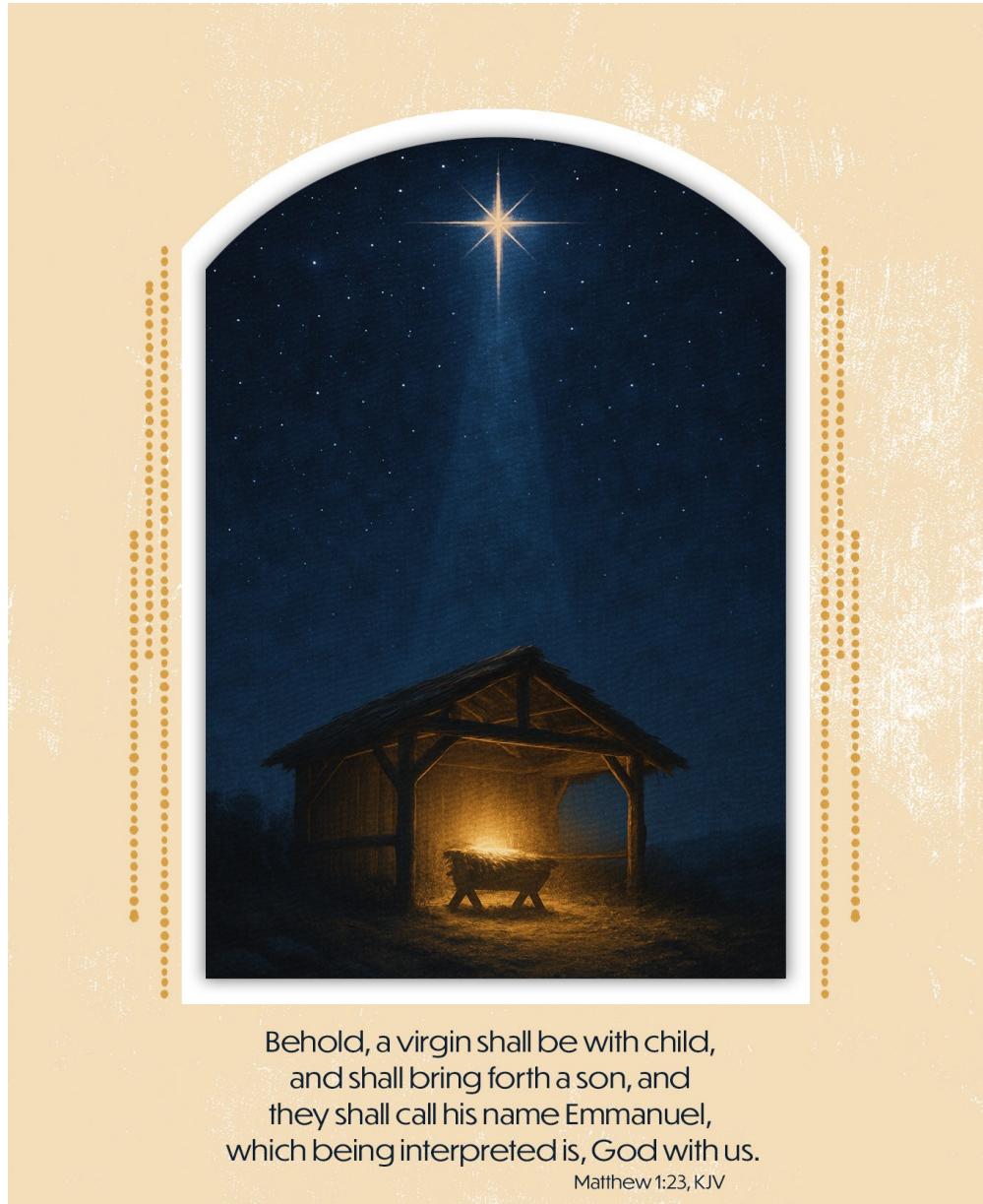
To begin the process of having your child baptized, please call the office or visit our website.

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.



THiNK
About It.

We hear how Joseph struggled initially with the news of Mary's pregnancy. How do you discern making difficult decisions?

WELCOME



Readings for the Week

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

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

Wednesday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79

Thursday: *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 (LK 2:11)/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 *Dawn:* Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 *Day:* Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

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

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

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1)/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

FAITH COMMITMENT OF TREASURE

Sunday Dec. 7, 2025	\$ 17,274.62
Online Giving**	\$ 13,910.54
Total Collection	\$ 31,185.16
Budget	\$ 34,752.31
Under budget	\$ (3,567.15)

** Online giving is a weekly average based on a monthly total

Upcoming Second Collection: January 25 – Bishops' Fund for Latin America

2025-Diocesan Services Fund As of Dec. 9, 2025

Goal	\$ 159,000
Paid to Date	\$ 131,446
Under Goal	\$ (27,554)

Refresh and Renew Capital Campaign As of Dec. 9, 2025

Total Goal	\$ 2,500,000
Total Pledges to Date	\$ 3,011,778
Payments Received to Date	\$ 2,193,813
Total Number of Donors	641
Expenditures to Date	\$ 2,053,327

The Campaign Committee would like to thank all the families who have contributed to this campaign and have made it a great success. May God Bless Your Stewardship!

Current St. Bernadette Parishioners Update Your Family Information Parish Soft gives current parishioners the opportunity to log in and update family information.

1. Go to the following link <https://galveston.parishsoftfamilysuite.com>
2. A **New User Registration Form** will come up. Fill out the form and hit submit.
3. Your request will be sent to St. Bernadette to obtain confirmation.
4. Once you receive confirmation, you may set a permanent password and make changes to your family information.

This system allows you to add family members but it does not allow you to delete them. If you need assistance in adding and/or deleting information or would like to provide your updated information via telephone or e-mail, please contact Ann Zajac at 832-915-5652 or finance@stbchurch.org.

A Simple Way to Give Back This Advent and Christmas

Advent is a season of hope, peace, joy and love. This is a perfect time to reflect on the blessings in your life and consider how you might share them with others. One meaningful way to do this is through eGiving. eGiving is a simple, secure way to give online, making it easy to support our parish all year long. Please consider eGiving to support our parish and sustain ministries, programs and services that strengthen our community and serve those in need every day.

It's easy to get started. Here are the ways to sign up: 1) Call ParishSoft Customer Service at 866-930-4774 option 6; 2) Scan the QR code; 3) Text "Give" to 346-209-9877. Thank you and may God bless your generosity.



Grateful Hearts This Christmas Season

As we celebrate Christmas and wrap up the Jubilee Year of Hope, we are grateful for the faith, generosity, and spirit you bring to our parish family. May the Christ Child renew your hope, strengthen your faith, and fill your home with peace.

Merry Christmas,

Fr. Bob, our Clergy and Staff

ADULT FAITH SPRING STUDY! ECCLESIASTES & WISDOM

Join us for an in-depth study of these often overlooked and underappreciated books of the Old Testament. The semester begins on Tuesday, January 6th.

Sessions are offered at both 10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. in the Marius Room of the PLC. No registration needed, just you and a Bible! Any questions or concerns, please contact Jason Honeycutt at honeycuttj@stbchurch.org

**There is a time
for everything,
and a season for every
activity under heaven...**



GET FIT WHILE YOU SIT CLASS!

Stay active, have fun, and connect with others in our Get Fit While You Sit class! Starting January 6, 2026, this class will be held Tuesdays at 10 a.m. in the Parish Life Center. This gentle, video-guided program lets you move safely while sitting or standing. Perfect for all fitness levels and wheelchair accessible. Caregivers are welcome to join, and everyone is invited—so bring a friend and enjoy a morning of movement, laughter, and community! There is no registration or fee to participate. For more information, contact Suzanne Staron at 832-915-5644.

PASTORAL COUNCIL FOR 2026

Members of the Pastoral Council for the calendar year 2026 were formally commissioned during the 5 p.m. Mass on Sunday, Dec. 7.

Members who are returning from last year's council are: Andrew Ching, Donna Sue Dolle, Thomas Diegeman, Samantha Ghan, Yolanda Rehrer, and Cassandra Seybold.

Newly discerned members for 2026 are: Phillip Hicks, Sarah Howell, Carmina Mortillaro, and Tom Shead

Please feel free to share your hopes, dreams, desires, and praises for St. Bernadette's with any of these Pastoral Council members! We ask that you keep them in your prayers as they begin their next year of service to all of us.

CHRISTMAS AT ST. BERNADETTE

Invite your family and friends and join us!

Wednesday, December 24th

4:30 p.m. Children's Christmas Eve Mass
Prelude music starts at 4p.m.

4:45 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass in the PLC

7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass

Prelude music starts at 6:40p.m.

10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass

Prelude music starts at 9:40p.m.

Thursday, December 25th

8:30 a.m. Christmas Day Mass

Glory to the newborn King!

The Parish Office will be closed

Dec. 24 - January 5, 2026.



LOOKING FOR A CHURCH TO CALL HOME?

Are you new to the area, returning to church after some time away, or curious about the Catholic faith? St. Bernadette Church welcomes you with open arms!

Join us to learn more about our parish community, meet fellow parishioners, and discover opportunities to worship, serve, and grow in faith. You're also invited to tour our beautiful grounds and experience our parish life firsthand.

For more information or to arrange a tour, contact our Newcomer Coordinator, Suzanne Staron at 832-915-5644 or starons@stbchurch.org. To register in the parish: www.stbchurch.org => About => Join Our Parish. We can't wait to meet you and share the joy of our faith community!

**YOU ARE
Welcome Here**

SPIRITUAL LIFE

For more information concerning Spiritual Life, contact Laura Breaux at breaux@stbchurch.org, 832-915-5643.
Access all Spiritual Life programs at www.stbchurch.org => Parish Life => Spiritual Life

MEN'S RETREAT: All adult men are invited to attend the annual men's retreat, which is scheduled for **Saturday, January 31st** and will be held at the Armand Bayou Nature Center from 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m., followed by 5 p.m. Liturgy at St. Bernadette. The cost is \$40. Registration is now open at www.stbchurch.org/mens-retreat. The theme is Eucharistic Spirituality. Join us as we explore how we can embrace Eucharistic spirituality in our daily lives. exploring the Eucharistic themes of gathering, listening, blessing, eating, and going forth. There will be time for personal prayer, reflection, and meditation. The retreat will be a guided silent retreat, led by our very own Deacon Kevin Woodvine! Space is limited, so register today!



YOUNG ADULT DAY OF PRAYER:

St. Bernadette is hosting a young adult day of prayer, entitled, **Wise Ones**

Still Seek Him, on **Thursday, January 8th**, following the 8:30 morning Mass and concluding at 1 p.m. All young adults returning to college in the Spring of 2026 are

invited to attend. REGISTER TODAY at www.stbchurch.org/retreats



NEW!! WALKING WITH PURPOSE: *Walking with Purpose* is a Catholic women's apostolate offering Bible studies for women and girls of all ages, providing practical Biblical teachings consistent with Church doctrine. Our next study will be a little different with no book to buy and no homework. We will listen to and discuss the *Walking with Purpose* podcast (*Hope for Right Now*) 4-part series on the Feminine Genius. Saint John Paul II coined the phrase "feminine genius" in his open letter titled, *Mulieris Dignitatem* (On the Dignity and Vocation of Women). Each week, through the writings of Saint Edith Stein, personal stories, and the Word of God, we will unpack one of these components. For more information, join us on **January 8** for a Women at the Well/ Walking with Purpose combined event. We will meet in the **mini hall at 6:30 p.m.** to enjoy a potluck supper, followed by an introductory talk on the Feminine Genius and *Mulieris Dignitatem* (*On the Dignity and Vocation of Women*).

CHRISTMAS: A CELEBRATION OF HOPE

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (John 1:5)

Merry Christmas! On this joyous day, we join with all the angels and saints in proclaiming that Jesus, the "light" that "shines in the darkness," has come (John 1:5)! He has come so that we could enter into his own triumph over the darkness.

On the night of Jesus' birth, it seemed that darkness would prevail. Joseph and Mary were unable to secure a clean, safe place where Jesus could be born. They had to settle for a cave and a manger. Then came the harrowing flight into Egypt so that Jesus could be shielded from Herod's attempt to have him put to death (Matthew 2:13-18).

Even after his family settled in quiet Nazareth, Jesus continued to face darkness and opposition. The devil tempted him, his neighbors tried to throw him off a cliff, and people accused him of being in league with demons. But never, not even in the deepest darkness of his suffering and death, did the darkness win out. Jesus rose in victory! Jesus doesn't just promise to overcome darkness—he does it!

Today, rejoice that Jesus, the Light, has come into the

world—into *your* world. He has come to bring peace, hope, and victory. Whatever darkness you're facing, Jesus is with you. If anxiety is shaking your peace, he can calm the storm in your mind. If trials have come in quick succession, he can shine on each of them and guide you. If family conflicts are dampening your joy, he can enlighten the heart of each person involved.

Hold on to the light of Christ. Keep your eyes fixed on him, the One who cannot be overcome. Jesus Christ, born this day in a manger, is the Light that you need. Call on him, look to him, and celebrate his amazing love!

"Jesus, I praise you for coming and dispelling the darkness!"

—The Word Among Us



CHRISTIAN ACTION

832-915-5677, 832-915-5678

NEIGHBORS SERVED BY YOUR CHRISTIAN ACTION IN 2025:

Date	Families	Individuals	# of Individuals Clothing	Electricity Assistance	# of Volunteer Hours
Oct-25	69	327	2	\$0.00	140
Nov-25	94	443	11	\$3,438.60	220
Dec 1-10, 2025	43	202	3	\$808.38	71.5

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 electricity, food, and clothing. We have a clothing distribution 2 times a year.

Neighbors in need may call on Monday or Wednesday (9:30 - 11:30 a.m.) to pick up bags of supplemental groceries on Tuesday or Thursday (9:30 - 11:00 a.m.). No walk-ins. Families in need are eligible for food assistance once a month.



We **DO NOT** accept expired food items, glass containers, large items or furniture. **WE ARE THANKFUL FOR ALL THE DONATIONS, BUT PLEASE DO NOT USE THE CHRISTIAN ACTION BIN AS A DUMP BIN!** Christian Action accepts donations of non-expired food, gently used or new clothes, and shoes. Donation days and hours at the Christian Action office are M-Th 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. **THANK YOU.**

FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

1. Christian Action is not currently accepting clothes or shoe donations.
2. Please use the green Christian Action bin in the narthex of the Church for Christian Action donations only.
3. Please do not put fresh produce or bread in the green bin in the Church.

THANK YOU!

Your Christian Action would like to say thank you for your amazing acts of kindness and generosity. Thank you for your supportive and loving heart. As a community, together we can move mountains! This year for Christmas, your St. Bernadette Christian Action supported students in the CCISD by collaborating with Hope Active and CCISD (we provided 70 gift cards), supported Immaculate Heart of Mary, our twinning parish (70 gift cards for the Jr High and High School students), The Mercy Tree (blankets, gloves, socks, sweatpants, disposable razors), the Crossing Guards, 2 families in Denver Harbor, and 6 families adopted through CHRISTUS Point of Light Clinic.

thanks
for your
support

CHRISTIAN ACTION WILL BE CLOSED DECEMBER 22, 2025-JANUARY 2, 2026.

WFC, JR. HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION

JrH AND High School Information
(see below for JrH and High School specific events)

- **No Faith Formation Today.**
Have a Merry Christmas break!
- **Brave (High School) Summer Camp** – Brave 2026 will be from June 28th to July 3rd. Register on the HS website.
- **Expedition (Junior High) Summer Camp** – Expedition 2026 will be from June 3rd to June 6th. Register on the JrH website.
- **Do you get the Thursday emails?**
If not, email ** us.
- **How can I help?** The first step is to take Safe Haven, our safe environment approval process: www.stbchurch.org/safe-environment-virtus

JRHIGH *and HIGH SCHOOL Events**

- **Social events for JrHigh** – Email with ideas for JrHigh activities this year!
- **Upcoming Events** to look for: JrH Youth Rally and JrH Extreme Challenge
- **High School Bible Study** - weekly event. Wednesday High School Bible Study will be from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Location: Brandsma Youth Room. Check email for cancellations. No Bible Study December 24th and 31st.

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

**www.stbchurch.org =>

Faith Formation => High School

**sentmanatc@stbchurch.org

Christopher Sentmanat, High School and Junior High FF, 6th-12th.



MASSES FOR THE WEEK DECEMBER 21 THRU DECEMBER 27, 2025

Sat. Vigil	5:00 pm:	All Parishioners
Sun.	8:30 am:	Dick & Toni Critelli+
Sun.	11:00 am:	Mike Widmar+
Sun.	5:00 pm:	Dorothy & Herman Rabert+
Mon.		No Mass
Tues.	8:30 am:	Constance Lewandowski+
Wed	4:30 pm and 4:45 pm	For All Families
Wed.	7:00 pm:	All Parishioners
Wed.	10:00 pm	All Parishioners
Thurs.	8:30 am:	All Parishioners
Fri.	8:30 am:	Andrea R. Domingue+
Sat.		No am Mass

EARLY CHILDHOOD CONNECTIONS



REGISTER TODAY. Registration Fee: \$250. For more information contact Jennifer Nevins, Director 832-915-5700 www.stbchurch.org => preschool => registration
2 Days: Mon/Wed (1s & 2s): \$305; Tue/Thu: \$310; 3 Days: Tue/Wed/Thu: \$440; 4 Days: Mon–Thu: \$510. Add-On Pre-K Fun Friday: \$80

JOB OPENING

St. Bernadette Catholic Church is seeking a part-time (15 hrs/week) Time & Talent Assistant. Responsibilities include preparing the parish bulletin and providing clerical support for the protecting children and youth program. Ideal applicants are detail-oriented, proficient in Microsoft Office, and comfortable working with technology and people. Send a cover letter, résumé, and salary requirements to Kathleen Keating at keatingk@stbchurch.org with the job title in the subject line. Visit <https://www.stbchurch.org/employment-opportunities> for more information.



INDOOR WALKING GROUP

Looking for a simple way to stay active and healthy? Join our **Indoor Walking Group** every Monday and Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. resuming Monday, January 5, 2026 in the Brandsma Building gym—complete with air-conditioned comfort!

The entrance will be open for walkers from 1:30 to 1:40 p.m., so be sure to arrive on time. All fitness levels are welcome, and you can walk at your own pace. Whether you're in physical therapy, using a cane or walker, or simply wanting some steady exercise, this group is for you.

Bring a friend, enjoy some fellowship, and take a step toward better health. No registration needed—just come walk with us! Contact Suzanne Staron at 832-915-5644 for more information.



GIFTS OF TIME AND TALENT: ADVENT SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Contact Suzanne Staron 832-915-5644 or starons@stbchurch.org

Make a "Thinking of You" Card or Craft

Help brighten the day of a homebound parishioner! All ages can participate by creating a homemade card or small craft. Cards should be 8½ x 11 or smaller, any medium, and no envelopes are needed. Please sign with your first name. Small craft items for shut-ins are also welcome. Drop off all items at the Time & Talent Office.

Bake Holiday Cookies for Our Volunteers.

Love to bake? Share your holiday cookies or sweets with our volunteers! Please call Suzanne Staron at 832-915-5644 to coordinate a weekday or weekend drop-off time. Teens earn 1 service hour for every dozen homemade cookies or treats.

Create a Snack Pack.

Support volunteers working on parish projects by making decorated snack packs! Decorate a lunch sack with encouraging words or artwork, and fill it with two store-bought, non-perishable snacks (examples: crackers, nuts, granola bars, fruit cups, trail mix, etc.). Label for Time & Talent and drop off at the office. Teens earn 1 service hour for every 10 completed bags.

Make a Paracord Lanyard for the Military

Show appreciation to service members and first responders by making paracord lanyards—each one provides 5 feet of emergency cord. All ages are welcome to participate. A limited supply of paracord is available through the Time & Talent Office (please call before picking up), or you may use your own. Drop off finished lanyards at the office. Teens earn 1 service hour for every 5 lanyards. More details at stbchurch.org/time-talent.

Parish Grounds Clean-Up

Join us in keeping our parish grounds beautiful! Volunteers of all ages can assist with light tasks like trash pickup, weeding, and raking (minors must be accompanied by a parent/guardian). Adults age 21+ may also help with mowing, edging, and leaf blowing. All equipment and training are provided. **Meet at 8 a.m. on Saturdays** at the back parking lot garage. Service hours available.

Donate Blood on Your Schedule

Give the life-saving gift of blood! The Gulf Coast Blood Center on Clear Lake City Blvd. is open 7 days a week. Sign up at giveblood.org and use sponsor code **1122** so St. B's receives credit for your donation.