

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

Wednesdays 5:30 - 6:30 pm

BAPTISM

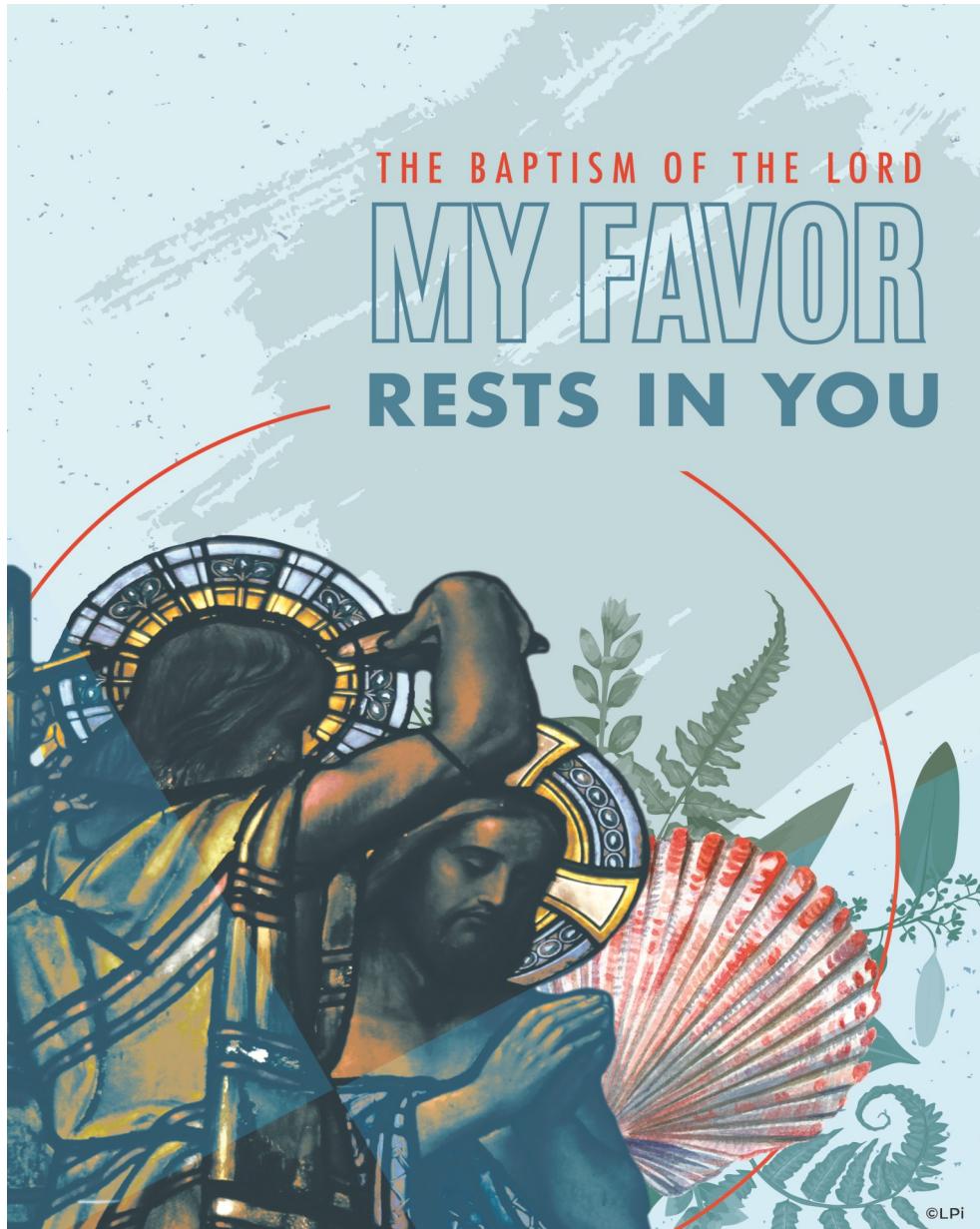
To begin the process of having your child baptized, please call the office or visit our website.

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.

John the Baptist initially hesitates baptizing Jesus. Do you have a friend or co-worker who needs your encouragement?

WELCOME



Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sam 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/ Ps 40:2 and 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10/1 Cor 1:1-3/ Jn 1:29-34

FAITH COMMITMENT OF TREASURE

Sunday Dec. 21, 2025	\$ 22,802.62	Sunday Dec. 28, 2025	\$ 19,345.62
Online Giving**	13,910.54	Online Giving**	13,910.54
Total Collection	\$ 36,713.16	Total Collection	\$ 33,256.16
Budget	34,752.31	Budget	34,752.31
Over budget	\$ 1,960.85	Under budget	\$ (1,496.15)

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

Christmas Dec. 25, 2025 \$ 25,856.00

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

2025-Diocesan Services Fund As of Dec. 30, 2025

Goal	\$ 159,000
Paid to Date	\$ 136,571
Under Goal	\$ (22,429)

Refresh and Renew Capital Campaign As of Dec. 30, 2025

Total Goal	\$ 2,500,000
Total Pledges to Date	\$ 3,019,588
Payments Received to Date	\$ 2,223,692
Total Number of Donors	647
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.

BEYOND ACHIEVEMENT: THE GIFT OF BEING BELOVED

Apple ran a commercial not long ago called “Behind the Mac – Greatness.” It shows artists and creators, such as Kendrick Lamar, Billie Eilish, and Lady Gaga, working behind their MacBooks. The narration says, “There’s a certain kind of person who doesn’t wait for greatness. They make it.” It’s a compelling message. There’s beauty in using our gifts with passion and purpose. But there lies a hidden weight in that idea: If you are what you make, what happens when you can’t anymore? When the project fails, the passion fades, or the spotlight moves on, where is greatness then?

Today’s Gospel offers a differing vision of greatness. Jesus steps into the Jordan River. He hasn’t preached, healed, or performed a single miracle. Then the heavens open, and the Father speaks: “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” It’s not a reward for success. It’s not earned. Before he does

anything “great,” Jesus receives the greatness of his identity from the Father.

And so do you. At your baptism, God said the same thing

over you: **“You are my beloved.” That is your true identity**, not constructed or earned but received. When we see ourselves and others this way, everything changes for the better. We discover a greatness that can never be taken away.

This week, reflect on your baptism: look up the date, thank God for it, pray for those baptized with you, or visit the church where it happened. Let your identity be rooted there.



— Father John Muir LPI

CHRISTIAN ACTION

832-915-5677, 832-915-5678

NEIGHBORS SERVED BY YOUR CHRISTIAN ACTION IN 2025:

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 and food. 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!** Donation days and hours at the Christian Action office are M-Th 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. THANK YOU.

HAPPY NEW YEAR! St. Bernadette Christian Action

“Sponsor an Item” Each year we invite our St. Bernadette family to choose one or more items they would like to sponsor for our food pantry. The commitment is for one year. As you are discerning, please keep in mind that the number of families we serve and the cost of food has increased. We serve 80-90 households a month. List of items to Sponsor for your Christian Action Food Pantry!

Please return this form to Christian Action office or place in the green bin marked Christian Action in the narthex of the church.

List of items to Sponsor for your Christian Action Food Pantry!

You may bring your item(s) to the Mass you attend and place it in the green bin marked Christian Action in the narthex of the church or drop them off at your Christian

Cereal	Pasta Sauce	Oatmeal	Laundry Detergent
Chili, canned	Tuna	Granola Bars	(small bag or container)
Bagged Rice	Instant Potatoes	Shampoo	Feminine Hygiene products
Dry Beans	Cooking Oil	Tooth Brush (adult and kids)	Diapers Size 5
Canned Vegetables	Eggs	Tooth Paste	Diapers Size 6
Ravioli/Spaghetti Os	Fresh produce and fruit	Toilet Paper	Diapers Size 4
Fruit Juice	Frozen Chicken	Bar Soap	Diaper wipes
Peanut Butter	Frozen Ground Turkey	Deodorant	
Jelly		All Purpose Cleaner	
Macaroni & Cheese	Bread	Dish Detergent	
Pasta	Milk		

Name	Phone	Item(s)	Quantity Monthly

Action office M-Th 9-noon! Should you have questions regarding donations to your food pantry, please e-mail christianaction@stbchurch.org

WFC, JRHIGH & HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION

JrH AND High School Information

(see below for JrH and High School specific events)

Faith Formation Today. – First day of Faith Formation back! Doors open at 3:30 p.m.

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 Expedition
- High School Bible Study - weekly event. Wednesday High School Bible Study will be from 5:30 pm-6:30 pm. Location: Brandsma Youth Room. Check email for cancellations.

*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.

PARISH POTLUCK GATHERING

Everyone is invited **this week** to a Parish Potluck on **Thursday, January 15, at 11:30 a.m.** in the Parish Life Center! Come enjoy a relaxed and welcoming time as we gather as a parish family—meeting new faces, reconnecting with friends, and sharing good food and conversation.

Please bring a favorite dish to share (enough for 6–10 people). Short on time? No problem at all—pizza or fried chicken picked up on the way is always welcome. Together we'll enjoy fellowship and look ahead with hope to the new year.

Volunteers are always appreciated! If you're willing to help with setup, serving, or cleanup, we'd love to have you.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Suzanne Staron at 832-915-5644. We hope you'll join us!



TAMALE FUNDRAISER

Support your Knights of Columbus' charities by ordering handmade tamales! Order by Thursday, January 22. Pick up your tamales (hot) behind the Parish Life Center (PLC) on Friday, Feb. 6 from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. or pick up the tamales, that will have been frozen, in the PLC Kitchen on Sunday, Feb. 8 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Don't wait!

Order now and have Tamales for *The Big Football Game!*

Tamales Salsa

Pork, Chicken or Bean	Verde (green) or Roja (red)
Regular or Spicy	Mild, Spicy or Hot
\$15.00 / dozen	\$12.00 / 32 oz. jar

Go to <https://kofc10959.org/tamale-fundraiser> or scan the QR code for ordering and pick-up information.



Questions? Contact Kyle Zandy at kzandy5953@gmail.com or 281-620-1102.

HOLY WATER FOR YOUR HOME

Parishioners are invited to take holy water home for personal prayer and blessing. Please bring a small clean container and fill it using the holy water dispenser located in the church narthex. Holy water is a beautiful reminder of our Baptism and can be used to bless your home, family, and daily life.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**Council Free Throw Championship
Knights of Columbus Free Throw
Championship
Saturday, January 17, 1-4 p.m.**

All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship. The competition is for boys and girls ages 9-14 yrs. (age as of Jan. 1). Contestants compete within their own gender and age group.

St. Bernadette Council is teaming up with the St. Clare of Assisi Council. This competition will be in St Clare's Gym at 3131 El Dorado Blvd. Each contestant gets 3 warm-up tosses, then 15 "tosses for record".

The competition starts at the local council level. Winners move on to the District, Diocesan, and State levels. From there, finalists will advance to the international level for championship competition in their group.

You may show up at the gym any time between 1:00-4:00 p.m. to fill out the registration form and compete. For additional information, contact Mike Kainer @ 281-846-8187 Event Coordinator



TIME AND TALENT THE GIFT OF GIVING: THANK YOU!

Did you know? The Time and Talent Ministry at St. Bernadette is our parish-wide volunteer program. Everyone who serves in any ministry is considered a Time and Talent volunteer, sharing their gifts to support the life and mission of the parish. Those interested in volunteering should contact Suzanne Staron at 832-915-5644 or starons@stbchurch.org to begin the required training and background check.

Christmas Crafts and Hope Bags

Thank you to the many volunteers who created cards, crafts, and Hope Bags to share Christmas cheer with others. These gifts were shared with nursing homes, homebound parishioners, individuals experiencing homelessness, and parishioners passing kindness along. Your generosity truly made a difference this season.



Hand-made Hats

Thank you very much for the beautiful hand-made hats for our clients. They are so soft, and the colors are fantastic! Thank you also for the amazing hand-made cards for our clients. They really appreciated all of the time and effort that went into making them. These home-made gifts have such a meaningful impact. It means a lot to our clients to know that your parishioners are thinking of them and using their talents to bring them warmth and joy. In gratitude, Gina Evans, The Mercy Tree (Ministry to the homeless.)

Thank You, Volunteers!

A heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who helped make the Christmas season at St. Bernadette so special! From decorating the Church and Parish Life Center, watering poinsettias, caring for the grounds, putting up outdoor lights, serving as Mass ministers and choir members, assembling and distributing worship aids, and to the countless other ways you shared your time and talent—your efforts were deeply appreciated and made a meaningful impact on our parish community.

PART-TIME JOB AT YOUR PARISH

Are you seeking meaningful work where your abilities and experience can support a vibrant parish community? St. Bernadette Catholic Church is currently seeking a Part-Time Time & Talent Assistant to join our parish staff (15 hours per week, onsite).

This position is well suited for someone who enjoys detail oriented, computer-based work, and contributing behind the scenes to parish life. Proficiency in Microsoft Office is essential. Responsibilities include producing the parish bulletin and providing administrative support for the Protecting Children and Youth program—vital roles that support the mission of our parish.

If this opportunity aligns with your skills and availability, please submit a cover letter, résumé, and salary requirements to Kathleen Keating at keatingk@stbchurch.org, with the job title included in the subject line.

Additional details can be found at www.stbchurch.org/employment-opportunities. If you're looking for part-time work that is purposeful, community-centered, and impactful, we invite you to consider joining our team.



AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

Capture my Heart: A One-Day Retreat for High School Girls

Take a break from the everyday hustle and bustle and escape into a spiritual retreat. Explore a beautiful convent, get to know other Catholic high schoolers, listen to awe-inspiring vocation stories from sisters and consecrated women and, of course, spend time with Jesus in prayer. Saturday, February 14. Register at houstonvocations.com



A Date with Jesus for Young Adult Women age 18-

35: Join us for an inspiring evening of Adoration with Jesus. Enjoy dinner and meaningful conversations with religious sisters and consecrated women. For young adult women, ages 18-35. Friday, February 13 at 6:30 p.m., St. Joseph Catholic Church, 1505 Kane St., Houston, TX 77007. Register at houstonvocations.com

The Bay Area Deanery Council of Catholic Women will host a baby supply drive (diapers, wipes, toiletries, gift cards) and a presentation by Deacon Scott and Terri Ryan on “The Dignity of Procreation,” which includes discussions on infertility and the Church’s teaching on In vitro Fertilization.” Event will be held Jan. 21 9:30 to noon, Mary Queen Church (606 Cedarwood Dr., Friendswood) includes refreshments and raffle. Call 713-412-8559 for information.

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

The Office of Pro-Life Activities will offer the next Rachel's Vineyard retreat of post-abortion healing on the weekend of February 27-March 1. This retreat is part of Project Rachel's ministry. All inquiries and registrations are strictly confidential. To register or for more information, please contact Zulema at the Office of Pro-Life Activities at 713-440-3445 or email at zgonzalez@archgh.org

MASSES FOR THE WEEK JANUARY 11 THRU JANUARY 17, 2026

Sat. Vigil	5:00 pm:	Albert Bea Jones Jr+
Sun.	8:30 am:	Peter Guilder+
Sun.	11:00 am:	For All Parishioners
Sun.	5:00 pm:	Edward & Stella Frydrychowski+
Mon.	No Mass	
Tues.	8:30 am:	Angelica & Stephen Kwong
Wed.	7:00 pm:	Pol Bernarso+
Thurs.	8:30 am:	For all Priests
Fri.	8:30 am:	Stanley A. Nathan+
Sat.	No am Mass	

Born Into Eternal Life

Rita Marie Owens-Hinton on December 18, 2025

BOARD GAME GROUP

All ages are invited for fun, laughter, and games! Join us on **Thursdays, Jan. 15 and Feb. 5, from 1–3 p.m.** in Room 201 of the Brandsma Building (yes, there's an elevator!).

We'll have favorites like Rummikub and Dominos, but feel free to bring along your own game to share. Don't know how to play? No worries—we'll happily teach you!

Bring a friend or just bring yourself—everyone is welcome.

Already part of a game group? If you need a space to play, come join us during game time and make it your own!

TECHNOLOGY DONATIONS

Do you have new or gently used technology you're no longer using—such as flat-screen TVs, laptops, tablets, speakers, or similar items? These may be a helpful resource for the parish. If you'd like to donate or have questions, please contact Suzanne Staron at 832-915-5644 or starons@stbchurch.org. We appreciate your generosity and keeping the parish in mind. Tax receipts available.

WELCOME TO ST. BERNADETTE CHURCH!

Whether this is your very first visit, your first time back in a while, or a step in exploring the Catholic faith, we're delighted you are here. At St. Bernadette, you'll find more than a parish—you'll find a family of faith, prayer, and support. If you'd like to learn more about our ministries, upcoming events, or ways to get involved, contact Suzanne Staron, Newcomer Coordinator, at 832-915-5644 or starons@stbchurch.org. We can't wait to journey with you!



I HOPE I AM LIKE HIM

I Hope I Am Like Him

“Who is this Christ? Is he like you?”

Perhaps you've heard this story, often attributed to the life of St. Teresa of Calcutta. A sick man asked her this question, as he marveled at her tireless service to himself and others in the name of someone named Jesus Christ.

“He is nothing like me,” the saint is said to have answered. “But I hope I am like him.”

Though the authenticity of this exchange cannot be verified, its message rings perfectly true: all the value of our stewardship lies in its relativity to the one in whose name we perform it.

Consider the figure of John the Baptist — a magnificent, towering character even purely from a literary or historical perspective. A martyr who fed on wild locusts and boldly spoke truth to power — a man so great some mistook him for the Messiah.

But why is he great? Because he prepared the way. All his accomplishments and escapades mean nothing if they are taken out of the context of salvation history. He only makes sense relative to Christ — and this is exactly as he wanted it. “One worthier than I is coming,” he insists. And because of that humility and that total embrace of God's will, he is given one of the greatest honors in the New Testament — he baptizes the Son of God.

Let's examine our lives in the light of their relativity to Christ. How do we prepare the way? When Christ comes to us, what do we do? How do we leave ourselves open to be actors in God's plan?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

+Small
>STEPS+
EVERYDAY