

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
or by appointment

BAPTISM

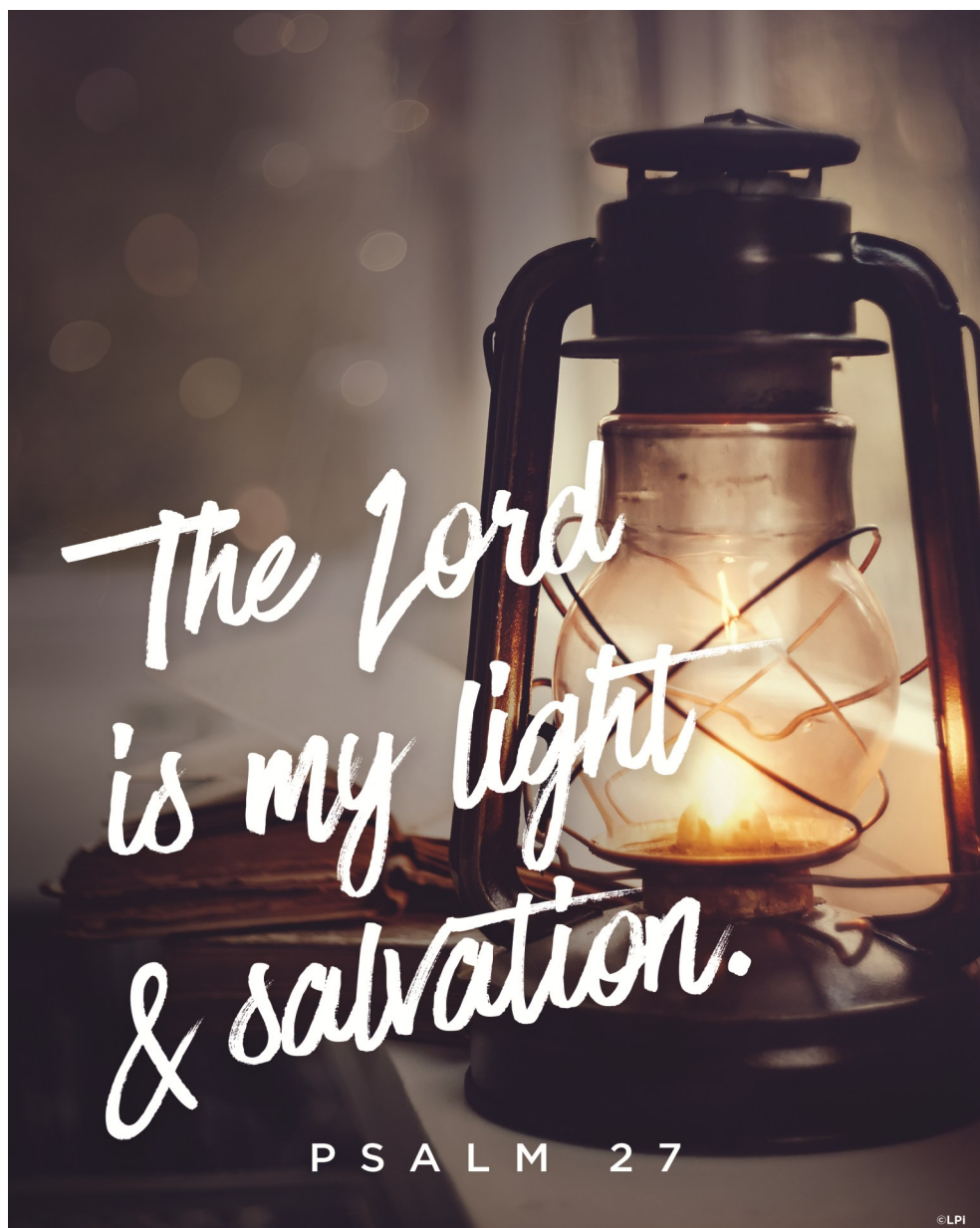
To begin the process of having your child baptized, please call the office or visit our website.

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.



Matthew tells us that Jesus began his public ministry by calling disciples, healing the sick and preaching the Good News of the Kingdom of Heaven. Have you ever felt a "call to action" to live out your faith?

WELCOME

Welcome
we're glad you're here

Readings for the Week

Monday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10, 21-22, 25-26/Mk 3:22-30
Tuesday: 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30/Mk 4:1-20
Thursday: 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29/Ps 132:1-2, 3-5, 11, 12, 13-14/Mk 4:21-25
Friday: 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6a, 6bcd-7, 10-11/Mk 4:26-34
Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mk 4:35-41
Next Sunday: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146:6c-7, 8-9a, 9b-10/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a

FAITH COMMITMENT OF TREASURE

Sunday Jan. 11, 2025	\$ 21,736.24
Online Giving**	14,444.02
Total Collection	\$ 36,180.26
Budget	34,752.31
Over budget	<u>\$ 1,427.95</u>

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

Upcoming Second Collections: February 18 – Archdiocesan Social Ministries-Ash Wednesday; February 22 – Black and Indian Missions

2025-Diocesan Services Fund As of Jan. 13, 2025

Goal	\$ 159,000
Paid to Date	\$ 143,161
Under Goal	\$ (15,839)

Refresh and Renew Capital Campaign As of Jan. 13, 2025

Total Goal	\$ 2,500,000
Total Pledges to Date	\$ 3,025,208
Payments Received to Date	\$ 2,239,556
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.

IS CHRIST DIVIDED? ST. PAUL'S CHALLENGE TO THE CHURCH TODAY

Is Christ divided? (1 Corinthians 1:13)

Today is the final day of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. For the past week, believers from virtually every Christian tradition have been praying for an end to all division among Christians: an end to the division between the Orthodox, Protestant, and Catholic churches; an end to divisions between Orthodox, Protestant, and Catholic believers; and an end to divisions within churches and parishes.

What a perfect reading, then, to close out this week! In it, we get a glimpse of St. Paul's inspired insights into causes of division. When he learns that factions are threatening the church at Corinth, he goes right to the heart of the problem. "Is Christ divided?" he asks, almost sarcastically (1 Corinthians 1:13). In other words, *How can you take sides like this when you were all baptized into the one Lord, Jesus Christ?*

Paul understood that divisions happen when we focus too much on our own opinions and selfish desires and not enough

on Jesus. We might favor one church leader over another (1 Corinthians 1:12). We might prefer our wealthy brothers and sisters over those who are struggling (11:18-22). Or we might be more impressed with those who seem spiritually gifted and less so with the ones who seem "ordinary" (12:4-7). But in each case, one crucial truth gets obscured: "In one Spirit we were all baptized into one body," the body of Christ (12:13).

Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa, former preacher to the papal household, once said, "If we will turn to Christ and go forward together toward him, we Christians will draw closer to each other" (Sermon, March 18, 2016). The closer we get to Jesus, the more he heals our wounds and leads us to repentance. And the more we are healed and forgiven, the easier it becomes to love and reconcile with each other.

No, Christ *is not* divided. So let's all draw closer to him and ask him to make us one! *"Jesus, heal every division! Lord, bring us together!"*

—The Word Among Us



CHRISTIAN ACTION

832-915-5677, 832-915-5678

NEIGHBORS
SERVED BY
YOUR
CHRISTIAN
ACTION IN
2026:

Date	Families	Individuals	# of Individuals Clothing	Electricity Assistance	# of Volunteer Hours
Jan 1-14, 2026	57	258	3	\$1,372.06	74.5

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

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** when the Christian Action office is closed. Donation days and hours at the Christian Action office are M-Th 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. **Please DO NOT use this bin as a "dumpster"**. We **DO NOT** accept expired food items, glass containers, large items or furniture. We are **NOT** accepting clothing or shoe donations. Thank you!

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. Please find the "Sponsor Forms" in the foyer of the church.

YOUR CHRISTIAN ACTION NEEDS THE FOLLOWING ITEMS... Small jars of cooking oil; All Purpose Cleaner; Shampoo; Chili; Small bottles of dish detergent; Small bottles or 1lb bags of laundry detergent; Jelly (no plastic jars); Pasta Sauce (no plastic jars). Thank you for keeping Christian Action in mind on your next trip to the grocery store.



EARLY CHILDHOOD CONNECTIONS



Big things are coming! We're getting ready for another great year!
2026-2027 Registration Information Coming Soon!
Scan the QR code to explore our website and stay connected.



*Peter and Andrew, James and John — they were not expecting God that day.
But there he was, right in front of them, beckoning. God stands before us today,
and like the Apostles, we often don't see him coming. But still, he beckons.
Will we follow?*

WFC, JRHIGH & HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION

JrH AND High School Information

(see below for JrH and High School specific events)

Faith Formation Today!

Doors open to the gym 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. Spots filling fast!

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.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

KofC Monthly Breakfast

Please join your fellow parishioners for breakfast and socializing on Sunday, Feb 1, after the 8:30 a.m. Mass in the Parish Life Center. Breakfast is prepared and served by the St. Bernadette's Knights of Columbus Council 10959. All proceeds go to the parish.



AROUND THE ARCHDIOCESE

Young Adults: Café Catholica Lite: January 29 The next Café Catholica Lite will be held on Thursday, January 29 at the Holy Family Parish Life Center in Galveston (1525 25th Street, Galveston) from 7–8:45 p.m. Our speaker will be Judge Stacy Allen Barrow, who serves on the 487th Criminal District Court in Harris County, presenting her talk: “Speak Truth, Judge Well, Make Peace: The Call to True Solidarity in Times of Division.” Judge Barrow will lead us in exploring how, as One Bread and One Body in Christ, we can embody the Catholic Social Teaching of Solidarity amid moments of division, and how this virtue guides us toward truth, peace, and deeper unity. The evening will include lite snacks, the talk, Q&A, and communal prayer. More information is available at www.archgh.org/cafecatholica

Jerome's Hope Support Group after Miscarriage – new start date The Office of Pro-Life Activities will be offering a six-week support group available for individuals and couples after miscarriage, stillbirth, or infant loss. These sessions are part of the Archdiocesan Jerome's Hope ministry for parents. Sessions will be held virtually and will begin Wednesday, January 28. Those interested should contact the Office of Pro-Life Activities for more information or to register at 713-741-8728 or jdumalet@archgh.org

SPIRITUAL LIFE

For more information concerning Spiritual Life, contact Laura Breaux at breauxl@stbchurch.org, 832-915-5643. Access all Spiritual Life programs at www.stbchurch.org/spirituality.

NEW!! CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER WORKSHOP SERIES: Come explore the contemplative prayer experience in this 6-week workshop on Monday evenings at 7 p.m. in the Youth Room of the Brandsma Building, following the Lenten Soup Supper. In this workshop, we will learn about Christian Meditation in the manner of John Main. The workshop is based on the book *A Pearl of Great Price* by Laurence Freeman. The workshop instructor is Laura Breaux (Director of Spiritual Life), and the session topics include: Week 1 (February 23): How to Meditate; Week 2 (March 2): John Main; Week 3 (March 9): The Christian Tradition of Meditation; Week 4 (March 16): The Wheel of Prayer; Week 5 (March 23): Leaving Self Behind; Week 6 (March 30): The Fruits of Meditation. There is no fee, but registration is required, and space is limited. Please register by completing the form at www.stbchurch.org/contemplative-prayer-workshop. *Come and see!*



NEW!! WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY: All adult women are invited to join the Spring 2026 book study on *The Holy Longing: The Search for Christian Spirituality* by Fr. Ronald Rolheiser. The group will resume meeting weekly on **Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. in the Brandsma Bldg. (2nd floor)**, beginning **January 29th**, for 13 sessions. The book study will be led by Chris Twardowski. For more information and registration, scan the QR code or visit www.stbchurch.org/womens-book-study.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: All are invited to join our Prayer Shawl Ministry on the **second Tuesday** of each month at **10:00 a.m.** in the **Tasker Room** of the **Parish Life Center**. As we knit and crochet the shawls, we pray that those who will receive them will receive God's comfort, strength and love. The prayer shawls are then given to those in need of them. If you know of anyone who would benefit from our prayer shawls, please contact Lillian Teixeira, 281-488-4412.

GRIEF SUPPORT: For those who are grieving the loss of a loved one, we offer an on-going support group on the **2nd Wednesday** of each month at **6 p.m. in the conference room in the church office building**. If you are interested in attending or know someone who might be, please complete the inquiry form on the parish website www.stbchurch.org/grief-support.



MEN'S & WOMEN'S MINISTRIES: All adult men are invited to **Men of the Cross**, and all adult women are invited to **Women at the Well**. These groups meet monthly with a potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m., followed by an engaging presentation, faith sharing & fellowship. **Men of the Cross meets on the 1st Thursday** of every month, and **Women at the Well meets on the 2nd Thursday** of every month. The meeting location for both groups is the Mini Hall. Even if you don't have time to cook or pick up food to share, come anyway and bring a friend. *Don't miss out on this very special opportunity to connect in community!*

HOLY FATHER PROCLAIMS JUBILEE YEAR OF ST. FRANCIS

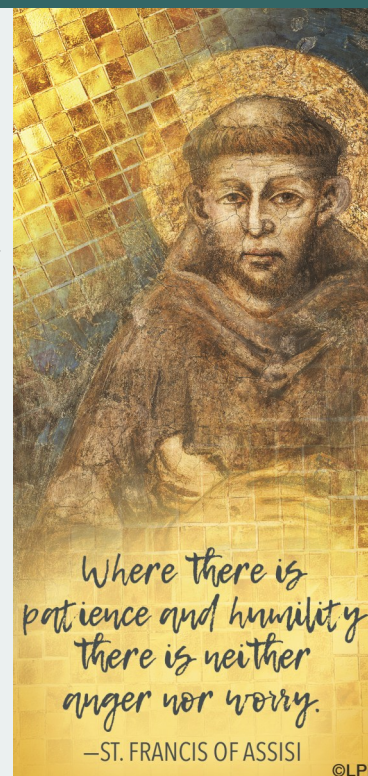
Pope Leo XIV has proclaimed a Special Franciscan Jubilee Year to mark the 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi, inviting the faithful to a year of spiritual renewal rooted in humility, peace, and love of the Gospel. The Jubilee will be observed January 10, 2026, through January 10, 2027.

The Jubilee decree, issued through the Apostolic Penitentiary, grants a plenary indulgence to the faithful who fulfill the usual conditions of confession, reception of Holy Communion, and prayer for the intentions of the Holy Father. The indulgence may be obtained by making a pilgrimage to a Franciscan church or shrine dedicated to St. Francis. Those who are elderly, sick, or homebound may also participate by uniting themselves spiritually through prayer and offering their sufferings to God.

In calling for this Jubilee, the Holy Father encouraged Christians to rediscover the heart of the Franciscan charism—conversion of life, simplicity, and reconciliation—especially in a divided world.

St. Francis himself reminds us of this call: *“Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.”*

May this Franciscan Jubilee Year inspire all of us to draw closer to Christ and to become instruments of His peace in our families, parish, and world.



DISCERNING YOUR GIFTS OF TIME AND TALENT

Each of us has been blessed by God with unique gifts—skills, interests, life experiences, and availability—that are meant not only for our own good, but for the building up of the Body of Christ. As St. Paul reminds us, *“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit... To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit”* (1 Corinthians 12:4,7).

Discerning how to offer our **time and talents** is an important part of our faith journey. Some are called to serve in visible ways—welcoming others, helping with events, teaching, or leading ministries. Others serve quietly behind the scenes through organization, technology, hospitality, prayer, or acts of care. No gift is too small when offered with love.

Volunteering is not just about filling a need—it is a way to grow in faith, build relationships, and deepen our sense of belonging in the parish community. When we serve, we encounter Christ in one another and allow Him to work through us.

If you have ever felt a nudge to get more involved, or if



you're unsure where your gifts might fit, you are warmly encouraged to take the next step. **There is a place for you here.**

To explore volunteer opportunities or to begin a conversation about how your gifts might serve the parish, please contact Suzanne Staron at starons@stbchurch.org or 832-915-5644. She would be happy to help you discern where you might feel most at home in serving.

Let us continue to ask the Holy Spirit to guide us, that together we may joyfully serve and strengthen our parish family.

Lord, show me how You desire to work through me.

MASSSES FOR THE WEEK JANUARY 25 THRU JANUARY 31, 2026

Sat. Vigil	5:00 pm:	Francis R. Tighe+
Sun.	8:30 am:	For our Sick Parishioners
Sun.	11:00 am:	Miriam Bailey+
Sun.	5:00 pm:	For All Parishioners
Mon.	No Mass	
Tues.	8:30 am:	For all Priests
Wed.	7:00 pm:	Joseph Croce+
Thurs.	8:30 am:	For our Church Volunteers
Fri.	8:30 am:	For the Souls in Purgatory
Sat.	No am Mass	



BORN INTO ETERNAL LIFE
Gene Edward Peter on January 10, 2026

WELCOME TO ST. BERNADETTE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Welcome to St. Bernadette Catholic Church! Whether you are new to the parish, returning after some time away, or visiting for the first time, we are glad you are here. St. Bernadette is a faith community rooted in prayer, hospitality, and service, where all are invited to grow in their relationship with Christ and one another.



Our parish strives to be a welcoming home for every stage of faith. Through worship, fellowship, formation, and outreach, we seek to live the Gospel and share God's love within our parish and beyond. Each person brings unique gifts, and together we form the Body of Christ, united in hope and mission.

We encourage you to get connected—join us for Mass, participate in parish events, and consider becoming involved in one of our many ministries. If you are looking for a place to belong, to serve, or to deepen your faith, St. Bernadette is here for you.

If you would like a tour of the parish grounds or have questions about getting connected, please contact Suzanne Staron, Newcomer Coordinator, at starons@stbchurch.org or 832-915-5644.

To register in the parish, please visit stbchurch.org > About > Join Our Parish.

May you always feel welcomed, supported, and encouraged as part of our parish family. We look forward to walking with you on your faith journey.

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE
Email or
Text Messages
VISIT: eva.us/stbchurch

St. Bernadette Church



Question: *Do we need to fast for one hour before Mass, or one hour before communion?*

Answer: The practice of fasting before receiving the Eucharist is a centuries-old act of devotion that was once very different than it is today. In the 1917 Code of Canon Law, for example, anyone who wanted to receive the Eucharist had to fast from midnight until the time of communion (even water and medications were forbidden). Over the following decades, the rules for the eucharistic fast were relaxed, first by Pope Pius XII and, later, by Pope Saint Paul VI.

The current Code of Canon Law (1983) states very clearly: “A person who is to receive the Most Holy Eucharist is to abstain for at least one hour before holy communion from any food and drink, except for only water and medicine” (Canon 919, §1). And, in the case of those who are ill and the elderly, the rules are even more accommodating, “The elderly, the infirm, and those who care for them can receive the Most Holy Eucharist even if they have eaten something within the preceding hour” (Canon 919, §3).

So, if we strictly follow the “letter of the law,” the fast is calculated from the time of Holy Communion and not the start of Mass. However, when we remember why we fast — it is a reminder of the deeper hungers of the spirit that our physical thirst or hunger symbolize — we see that the issue is much bigger than simply fulfilling what is called for by Church Law and tradition. Joining fasting to our prayers and reflection before Mass is an opportunity to really center ourselves and to prepare our minds, hearts, and bodies to welcome the One we receive in the Eucharist.

