

St Bernadette Catholic Church  
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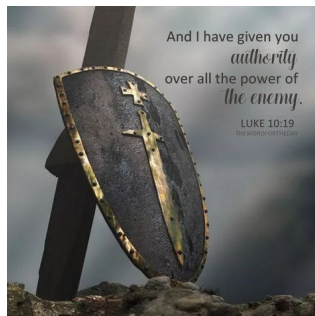


January 27/28, 2024  
Volume 04, Issue 04

January 28, 2024:

### “A New Teaching with Authority”

The Greek word for authority, *exousia*, is related to the verb *exesti*, meaning “it is free” or “it is permitted.” In other words, *exousia* is the “sovereign freedom” of one who acts without hindrance. Jesus’ teaching, which he does without restriction, in “sovereign freedom” is contrasted with the teaching of the scribes.



The difference is the scribes’ teaching authority depends on their knowledge of and adherence to tradition—especially the traditional interpretation of the Torah. Jesus teaches with an independent authority—or rather, on the authority of God. Whereas the scribes are bound to tradition, Jesus is relatively free—free in a way only one who lives directly from God’s authority is free. Jesus’ teaching in sovereign freedom is contrasted with the teaching of the scribes. The difference is the scribes’ teaching authority depends on their knowledge of and adherence to tradition—especially the traditional interpretation of the Torah. Jesus teaches with an independent authority; on the authority of God (cf. 11:28-33). Whereas the scribes are bound to tradition, Jesus is relatively free in the same way only God’s authority is free. **In short, the Scribes can only pass along what they have been taught. Jesus, on the other hand speaks based upon “personal knowledge”.**



### Septuagesima Sunday; The Third Sunday Before Ash Wednesday .

Septuagesima Sunday is the third Sunday before the start of Lent, which makes it the ninth Sunday before Easter. Traditionally, Septuagesima Sunday marked the beginning of preparations for Lent. Septuagesima and the following two Sundays (Sexagesima, Quinquagesima; see below) were celebrated by name in the traditional Roman Catholic liturgical calendar, which is still used for the traditional Latin Mass. No one is quite sure why Septuagesima Sunday bears that name. Literally, Septuagesima means “seventieth” in Latin. However, it is not 70 days before Easter, but only 63. The most likely explanation is that Septuagesima Sunday and Sexagesima Sunday derived their names from Quinquagesima Sunday, which is 49 days before Easter, or 50 if you include Easter. Quinquagesima means “fiftieth.” It was common for early Christians to begin the Lenten fast immediately after Septuagesima Sunday. Just as Lent today begins 46 days before Easter, since Sundays are never a day of fasting, so, in the early Church, Saturdays and Thursdays were considered fast-free days. In order to fit in 40 days of fasting before Easter, therefore, the fast had to start two weeks earlier than it does today.



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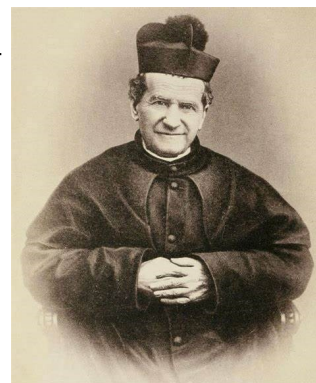
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*God Isn’t Asking You to Figure it Out? He’s Asking you to Trust He Already Has.*

## **Saint John Bosco, Italian Educator: Friday, January 31, 2024**

(born August 16, 1815, Becchi, near Turin, Piedmont, kingdom of Sardinia [Italy]—died January 31, 1888, Turin; canonized April 1, 1934; feast day January 31). A Roman Catholic priest who was a pioneer in educating the poor and founded the Salesian order. He is a patron saint of editors, publishers, youth, apprentices, and magicians.

John Bosco was born during a drought and famine in a time of reconstruction, following the end of the Napoleonic Wars. His father died when he was two years old, leaving his devout mother to raise him and his two elder brothers in poverty as subsistence farmers and shepherds. As a young boy, he saw the performance of a traveling circus troupe and began to teach himself magic tricks and acrobatics. He would gather groups of other children for his little shows and would recite a recent homily, prayer, or hymn at the end. He felt called to the priesthood but lacked the necessary education. He eventually found a sympathetic priest who helped him with some basic education, but his pursuit was harshly received by one of his brothers. Bosco left home at the age of 12 and worked odd jobs as a farm laborer until he came into the care of the future saint Joseph Cafasso, who helped to further his education at the seminary and taught him about the spirituality of St. Francis of Sales. Bosco was ordained a priest (1841) in Turin and, influenced by Cafasso, began to work to alleviate the plight of poor and neglected boys who came to seek employment in the city. Working in borrowed premises, Bosco provided boys with education, religious instruction, and recreation; eventually he headed a large establishment containing a grammar school, a technical school, and a church, all built through his efforts. He also achieved a local reputation as a popular and eloquent preacher and was known to use the magic tricks he had learned as a boy to get a crowd's attention. In Turin he and 22 companions founded the Society of St. Francis de Sales (also known as the Salesians of Don Bosco) in 1859, and before his death it had spread to England, France, Spain, and South America. With St. Mary Mazzarello he founded the Daughters of Our Lady Help of Christians (Salesian Sisters of Don Bosco) in 1872, a congregation of nuns dedicated to similar work among girls.



### **Join us for Bible Study**

**1st and 3rd Thursday  
1:00 & 7:00 PM  
Via ZOOM**

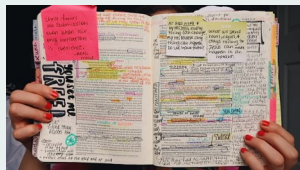
**1:00 pm Meeting  
ID: 87233018319  
Passcode: 689472**

**Contact:  
Carolyn James  
(323) 394-5441**

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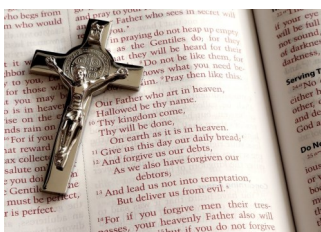
**7:00 pm Meeting  
ID 811 5705 8134  
Passcode: 6FuFf7**

**Contact:  
Elsie Dixon  
(310) 410-2962**



### **Catholics and Our Bible**

For a Christian face to face with a Bible passage the question Is it true? does not arise; The question in every instance is only, What does it mean? What did the biblical author, inspired by God, wish to convey and teach? To ascertain this the guidance of the Church is essential, as well as time and patience. Christians are often accused of using the Bible to prove the Church and the Church to prove the Bible. We must be careful to avoid this. We put the Church before the Bible because the Church existed first and wrote and compiled the Bible. Therefore, the authority of the Bible depends on the authority of the Church. If we use the Bible to prove the Church; we use it, not as an inspired document, but merely as an historical one. From the Gospels as historical documents we know Christ founded a Church. The authority of the Gospels, as inspired writings, rests on the word of the Church. If we are to understand a book, we must know the purpose for which it was written; if to understand a man, we ask what was/is the purpose his life. If we are to understand Scripture we must look for that which is central and around which all else is grouped. What is the center of the Bible? The Son of God made Man for us. It is only in the light of this "Central Figure" we can understand the Old Testament, as well as the New. All the great personalities of the Old Testament are vivid to us chiefly as types of "Him". He speaks through the words of prophets and of patriarchs. His voice is heard in the psalms of David. The whole of the Old Testament is a looking forward to and a preparation for Christ's coming. The New Testament looks back and tells the history of the coming and of the fulfillment of Christ's mission in his Church, and looks forward to a glorious second coming, when all things will be made subject to him, and God shall be all in all.



**WE NEED YOUR PALMS. JUST DROP THEM IN  
ONE OF THE BASKETS NEAR THE ALTAR.  
They will be burned, blessed and used to produce  
the Ashes for Ash Wednesday.**





**We need "Coffee and Donut Sponsors"**  
**No Set Up, or Pick Up, Just Pay Up.**  
**We will take care of the rest.**  
**Whether you are a Couple, a Family, a Parish**  
**Ministry, a Local Business**  
**Owner, or a Service**

**Organization. ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS: DO-**  
**NATE ALL OR PART OF THE (ONE TIME)**  
**WEEKLY COST TO THE CHURCH, WE TAKE**  
**CARE OF THE REST. FOR DETAILS CALL THE**  
**PARISH OFFICE at (323)293-4877 .**



**Congratulations to Our New Altar Servers: If you are interested in becoming an**  
**Altar Server, please see Deacon Jim after Mass or call the Parish Office at (323)**  
**293-4877. If you have already completed training, please contact the Parish Office**  
**at the Phone# above to schedule your Alb fitting!**

### **Fasting During Lent**

In the early Church there were two fasts. There was the "total fast" which preceded all major feasts or sacramental events. The ancient name for this fast was "statio" from the verb "sto, stare" to stand watch, on guard or in vigil. The second fast was a fast of abstinence from certain foods, e.g., meats or fats. This was an act of self-discipline and self-control. The statio fast was total; a means of watching and waiting...i.e. for something. The fast of abstinence was more general and personal, to help oneself be more disciplined. The total fast is still kept today, prior to reception of Holy Communion. Following Holy Communion, the total fast ceases because Jesus explicitly stated we do not fast when the bridegroom is here. What we were keeping vigil for has arrived...the wait is over. On the other hand, the fast of abstinence was allowed on Sundays because the continuity of abstinence is important for it to be effective. These observations teach us the Eucharist is always the end of the preparation. It is the fulfillment of an expectation. In the Orthodox Church during Lent, Eucharist is only distributed on Saturday and Sunday. Wednesdays and Fridays are total fast days. Those two days are also days for Communion Services (Liturgies of the PreSanctified) which are held in the evening, i.e., after the day of preparation. Note: Fasting is always preparatory.



**Please pray for the participants in this year's**  
**St Bernadette 2024 Men's Retreat this week-**  
**end at the Mater Dolorosa Retreat Center.**



Special Thanks to Bishop Matthew Elshoff and Dr Heather Banis from the Victims Assistance Ministry for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles for the wonderful Blessing and Dedication of our Garden of Healing at the corner of Don Felipe Drive and Marlton Avenue. Please stop by and take a few moments to pray for the victims of abuse.



**LITURGY SCHEDULE**  
**MONDAY,**  
**JANUARY 29 2024**  
**TO SUNDAY,**  
**FEBRUARY 04, 2024**

**Monday, Jan. 29, 2024**

**8:00 Communion Service**  
**Live-Streamed and In-Person**

**Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024**

**8:00 Communion Service**  
**Live-Streamed and In-Person**

**Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2024**

**8:00 am Mass**  
**Live-Streamed and In-Person**  
***St John Bosco, Priest***

**Thursday, Feb. 01, 2024**

**8:00 am Mass**  
**Live-Streamed and In-Person**

**Friday, Feb. 02, 2024**

**8:00 am Mass**  
**Live-Streamed and In-Person**  
**Presentation of the Lord**

**Saturday, Feb. 03, 2024**

**3:00 pm Reconciliation**  
**4:00 pm Vigil Mass**  
***St Blaise, Bishop and Martyr***

**Sunday, Feb. 04, 2024**

**10:00 am Mass**  
**Coffee & Donuts**  
**Sponsored by the Parish**  
**(Other Sacraments**  
**as Scheduled)**

**Mass Intentions**

**(323) 293-4877**

**[j.carper.sbccc@gmail.com](mailto:j.carper.sbccc@gmail.com)**

**\*LOTW: Liturgy of the Word**

#### PARISH STAFF

DCN JIM CARPER, PLD  
MSGR LORETO GONZALES  
FR MARCELLINUS MBATA  
DCN EMILE ADAMS, RIP  
DAVID CHRISTENSEN  
EMANUEL HOLDER  
CLARENCE DIXON  
MARGARITA HURST  
MARINA AYALA

(OFFICE VOLUNTEERS)  
TERESA CARPER

#### 1 Corinthians 15:58

*Oh Lord, help every worker to  
work wholeheartedly for the  
church. Help them to remember  
the work they do in the church is  
not in vain as Your Word  
declares Your work is never  
wasted.*



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Website  
[stbernadettela.org](http://stbernadettela.org)

Facebook  
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SaintBernadetteCatholicChurch](https://www.facebook.com/SaintBernadetteCatholicChurch)

Twitter  
[https://twitter.com/stbernadettecc\\_](https://twitter.com/stbernadettecc_)



#### Mass Intentions: January 27 to February 02, 2024

Saturday, January 27, 2024 at 4:00 pm

**For an Increase in Family Worship**

Sunday, January 28, 2024 at 10:00 am

**Ramoa Moret RIP**

**Francis Williams Sampson, Sr. RIP**

**Requesting a Mass Intention?**

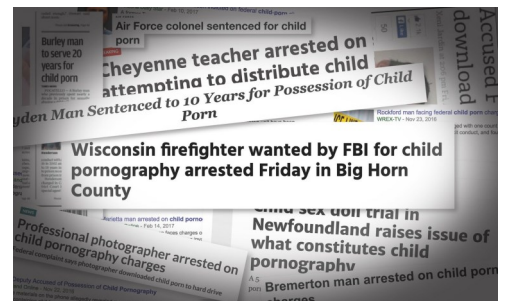
**Contact the Parish Office (323) 293-4877**

#### **DID YOU KNOW? January 27/28**

##### **The crime of child pornography**

Child pornography is the visual depiction of a minor in sexually explicit conduct. There is some general public confusion surrounding the term “child pornography” — for example, some people believe child pornography can be accidentally found while browsing the internet, or the “children” depicted are actually older and simply appear younger. Using the term “child pornography” can also minimize the horrors of children being exploited for profit in this way.

To learn more,  
read the VIRTUS® article  
“Responding to the Crime of  
Child Sexual Abuse Materials”



#### **The Blessing of St Blaise February 03**

The Blessing of the Throats is a sacramental of the Roman Catholic Church, ordinarily celebrated on February 3, the feast day of Saint Blaise of Sebaste (modern Sivas, Turkey). It is also celebrated in some of the Eastern Catholic Churches, and in parishes of the Anglican Communion on the same day as a commemoration.

The Order of the Blessing of Throats on the Feast of Saint Blaise is in the Book of Blessings

**Please submit Bulletin Articles and Pulpit Announcements  
AT LEAST TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE.**

**If you have questions?**

**Please contact the office at (323) 293-4877**