

St Bernadette Catholic Church
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February 24/25, 2024
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February 25, 2024: The Second Sunday of Lent

Peter, James, and John join Jesus on a high mountain for “special training.” There, Jesus is transfigured, His holiness displayed in such a grand way the three followers are terrified to look at him. Elijah and Moses meet Jesus on the hill, and God affirms Jesus is His Son. Moses represents the 10 Commandments and the Levitical Law. Elijah represents the prophets. After Moses and Elijah leave, the disciples ask about Elijah. Both the Old Testament and rabbinical teaching say the Old Testament prophet will return at the end of days, but Jesus explains Elijah has already come, in the form of John the Baptist. An event, which should have revealed to the disciples Jesus is God. Unfortunately, it leaves them more confused than ever about why Jesus is there. (Mark 9:2–13). In the Byzantine view the Transfiguration is not only a feast in honor of Jesus, but a feast of the Holy Trinity, for all three Persons of the Trinity are interpreted as being present at that moment: God the Father spoke from heaven; God the Son was the one being transfigured, and God the Holy Spirit was present in the form of a cloud. In this sense, the transfiguration is also considered the “Small Epiphany” (the “Great Epiphany” being the Baptism of Jesus, when the Holy Trinity appeared in a similar pattern).

The Transfiguration: Jesus Fulfills the Old Testament

The presence of Moses and Elijah in today’s NT reading indicates how Jesus fulfills the Law and the Prophets. In the Old Testament, the Levitical law was given to God’s people as a “temporary fix”, demonstrating their need for a Savior. Later, the prophets would tell of a Messiah, sent to mend the rift between God and man caused by sin. Jesus was the only man able to satisfy the Law; the perfect, sinless sacrifice. Jesus is also the Glorious Son. God affirms Jesus as his Son, confirming his deity, and telling the disciples to “listen to him.” Peter, James, and John are given a glimpse of Jesus’ true glory: God the Son, who reigns eternal, and against whom “the gates of hell shall not prevail.” God the Father shows himself as he appeared to the Israelites of the Old Testament: in a cloud, because his glory is too great to be witnessed.

The same glory is reflected on Jesus, whose clothes become dazzling white. This event emphasizes both the mystery and necessity of the Incarnation. In order for us to be made right with God, God became human, because we, in our finite and sinful state, are unable to behold his full glory.



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St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church - February 27

Grigor Narekatsi; anglicized as Gregory of Narek; c. 950 – 1003/1011) was an Armenian mystical and lyrical poet, monk, and theologian. He is venerated as a saint in the Armenian Apostolic and Catholic Churches and was declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Francis in 2015. The son of a bishop, Gregory was educated, ordained, and later stationed at Narekavank on the southern shores of Lake Van (modern Turkey). Scholars consider Gregory the most beloved and significant theological and literary figure of the Armenian religious tradition. He is best known for his Book of Lamentations, a significant piece of mystical literature which serves as a confessional prayer book in many Armenian religious households. His works have inspired many Armenian literary figures and influenced Armenian literature in general throughout the ages.

Whether Gregory led a secluded life has become a debate among Armenian scholars. Both literary critic Arshag Chobanian and scholar Manuk Abeghian believe he did. In contrast, literary critic Hrant Tamrazyan argues Gregory was very well aware of the secular world and his time, had a deep knowledge of both peasants and princes and the complexities of the world. Tamrazyan believes he could not have lived solely on literary ecstasy. Gregory was buried inside the walls of the monastery of Narek. A rectangular-shaped chapel-mausoleum was built on his tomb, which survived until the mid-20th century, when the monastery, abandoned in the aftermath of the Armenian genocide, was destroyed by the Turkish authorities, and later replaced with a mosque.

The central idea of Gregory's philosophy is eternal salvation relying solely upon faith and divine grace, and not necessarily upon the institutional church, in which his views are similar to those of the 16th century Protestant Reformation. The interpretation of Gregory as a precursor of Protestantism has recently been challenged.

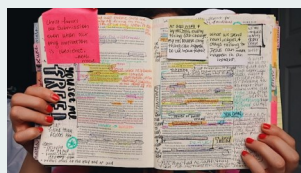


**Join us for
Bible Study**
1st and 3rd Thursday
1:00 & 7:00 PM
Via ZOOM
1:00 pm Meeting
ID: 87233018319
Passcode: 689472

Contact:
Carolyn James
(323) 394-5441

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

Contact:
Elsie Dixon
(310) 410-2962

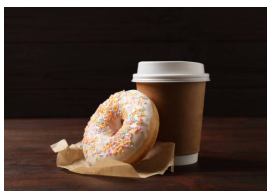


The 2024 Los Angeles Religious Education Congress (From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)

The Los Angeles Religious Education Congress (RECongress) is a four-day event held by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The event began in 1956 as an "Institute" of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, popularly known as CCD. In 1967, the first three-day "Congress" was held. In 1970, the event moved to the Anaheim Convention Center in Anaheim, California. It had been named as the largest annual gathering of Catholics in the United States with roughly 40,000 people attending. In recent years, after COVID, attendance has dropped to approximately 12,000 people over the four-day event. The focus of the RECongress is for those in attendance to learn more about the Catholic faith as well as seeking personal growth. It is open to all people of different faiths.

Nation's Largest – Sponsored by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Office of Religious Education, "Congress" is the nation's largest annual gathering of Roman Catholics! With 40,000 in Attendance – The previous Religious Education Congress, held in March 2019, brought together over 36,000 for the four-day event! 33,452 registered from across the country and nearly 700 registered from as far away as the U.K. and Australia. Attendance at Youth Day 2019 was 12,837! Over the three days, the adult days of Congress offer over 300 workshops presented by 200 speakers. Topics range from personal growth to music to spiritual topics – in English, Spanish and Vietnamese. Representing Many Cultures – Congress annually offers a number of liturgies of different character. Congress 2024 offered Eucharistic Liturgies of different character, including Celtic, Contemplative, Indonesian, Mass for the Evangelization of the Peoples, Mass of Charity in the African American Perspective, Mystery of the Holy Cross in the Vietnamese Perspective, Paz y Justicia (Spanish), Spanish, Young Adult, along with Morning Praise (one with the English Keynote and one with the Spanish Keynote), Evening Prayer and Taizé. All the Exhibits were free. (open to Registrants only)





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:
DONATE 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 .



Buy a Lilly, Beautify the Altar,
Benefit Confirmation Candidates
Our Confirmation Class is selling Lilies again this year.
The Lilies beautify our altar at Easter, and the funds
raised help pay for the Confirmation Retreat.



Why do we fast during lent?

There are many reasons to fast during Lent—joining ourselves to Christ's suffering, detaching ourselves from worldly things, making more room for God in our lives, practicing holy habits which help us grow in virtue, etc. Lenten fast is not about us, it's about Jesus Christ. **We fast to repent**, to turn away from sin. The penitential act of fasting cannot compensate for our sin, it shows our sorrow and offers a small reparation for our offense against God. When we fast, we **discipline our bodies and train our minds** to obey God's will. In so doing we prepare ourselves to resist future sin. Fasting, therefore, is an act of worship. We turn away from temptation and toward God. **To open our hearts to the Lord.** Secondly, we fast **to give the Lord access to our hearts.** When we fast from things, we remove clutter from our day, lives and schedules. This frees up time and space, physically, mentally and spiritually to focus on Christ and allows Him to occupy more room in our lives and have a greater presence in our hearts. **To pray for specific intentions.** By denying ourselves something of earthly pleasure, we can offer the sacrifice back to God on another's behalf. The thought of this intention motivates us and gives us greater resolve to fast even when it is difficult.



What do Catholics call themselves?

The term Roman Catholic is used to differentiate the Catholic Church and its members in full communion with the pope in Rome from other Christians who identify as "Catholic".

Feeding the Hungry During Lent. Support our Food Box Giveaway.

On the first Sunday of Lent, the Gospel brought us to the desert where Jesus spent forty days and forty nights fasting. During Lent we renew our promises to reject sin and live more holy lives. Lent is about sacrifice, prayer, charity, and helping others. Let us focus on helping our neighbors in need — non-Catholics and Catholics alike. One way we do this is to ensure vulnerable families and individuals have nutritious food. We need to feed the hungry in the name of Jesus. It is an honor and a calling. Make sure none of our neighbors are ever turned away when they look to the church for help.



LITURGY SCHEDULE
MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 26, 2024
TO SUNDAY,
MARCH 03, 2024

Monday, Feb. 26, 2024

7:30 Adoration

8:00 Communion Service

Live-Streamed and In-Person

Tuesday, Feb 27, 2024

St Gregory of Narek

7:30 Adoration

8:00 Communion Service

Live-Streamed and In-Person

Wednesday, Feb. 28, 2024

8:00 am Mass

Live-Streamed and In-Person

Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024

8:00 am Mass

Live-Streamed and In-Person

Friday, March 01, 2024

8:00 am Mass

Live-Streamed and In-Person

Saturday, March 02, 2024

3:00 pm Reconciliation

4:00 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday, March 03, 2024

Third Sunday of Lent

10:00 am Mass

Coffee & Donuts

Sponsored by Den Jim and

Teresa Carper

(Sacraments as Scheduled)

Mass Intentions

(323) 293-4877

j.carper.sbce@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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Twitter
https://twitter.com/stbernadettecc_



Mass Intentions: February 24 to March 02, 2024

Saturday, February 24, 2024 at 4:00 pm

Myrlee Walder, RIP

Sunday, February 25, 2024 at 10:00 am

Walter Moret, RIP

Kay Shavers, Health

Requesting a Mass Intention?

Contact the Parish Office (323) 293-4877

Did you Know

February 24/25, 2024 Understanding "Sexting"

"Sexting" is the sending of sexually explicit messages or images via text. Sexting commonly happens in conversations between teens and tweens, and usually involves nude "selfies." When these images are shared or distributed on social media platforms like TikTok, Instagram, and Snapchat, the problem is made worse. Some states have laws against sexting that could have criminal ramifications for teens.



What are 3 forms of sexting?

To learn more, read the VIRTUS® article "Responding to the Crime of Child Sexual Abuse Materials" at iacatholics.org/did-you-know/. **Read the VIRTUS® article "Responding to the Crime of Child Sexual Abuse Materials" here.**

7 Things You Can Give Up For Lent (Besides Food)

1) TV can be a distraction, and you can become so focused on your programs that you neglect other areas of your life, such as your faith. If you find television to be a challenge for you, then giving up watching television for a certain period of time can be a meaningful shift. **2) You may spend hours in front of your computer with a favorite game.** By giving up playing games, you can focus time on God. **3) Fasting from one or both of your weekend nights out** **4) Fasting from your time on the cell phone or giving up text messaging.** **5) Social Media** Social media sites like Facebook, Twitter, SnapChat, and Instagram are a major part of daily life for millions of teens. Most check into sites several times a day. By banning these sites for yourself, you can get back time to devote to your faith and your connection to God. **6) The Lunch Hour:**

You don't have to give up food in order to fast your lunch hour. Why not take your lunch away from the crowd and spend some time in prayer or reflection? **7) Secular Music:** If you love mainstream music, then try **turning the radio station to strictly Christian music or turning it off completely** and spend the time talking to God.

