

St. Brendan the Navigator Parish

Rockland - Camden - Belfast - Islesboro - Vinalhaven



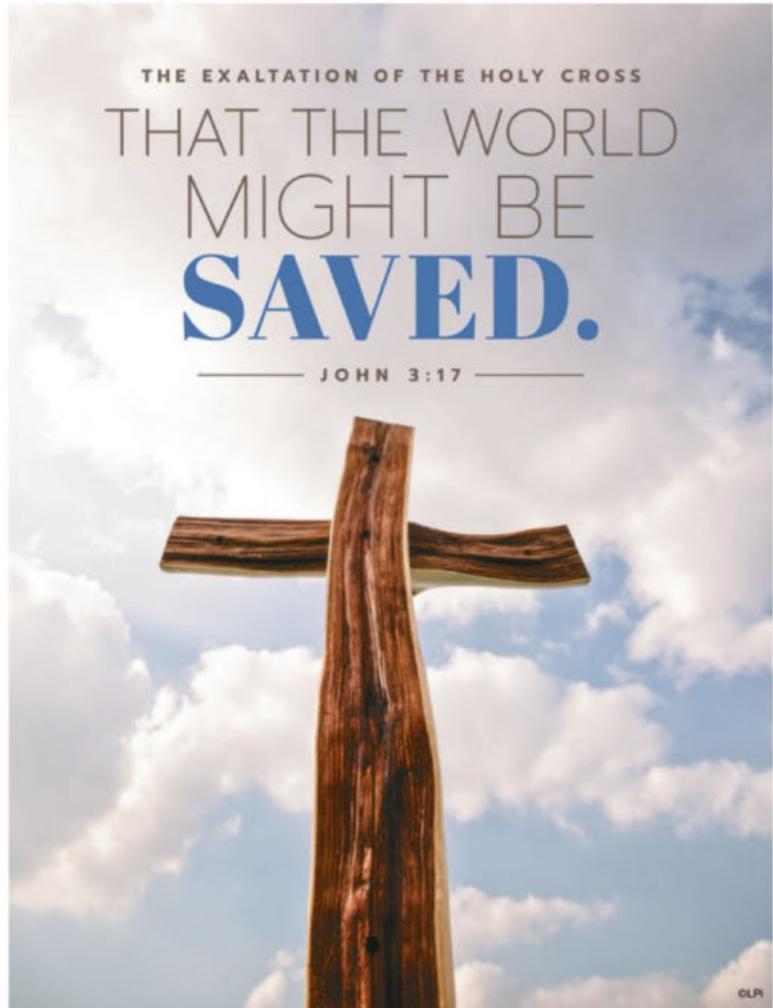
SEPTEMBER 14, 2025 | EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

St. Bernard
150 Broadway, Rockland, ME 04841
Saturday 6:00pm
Sunday 8:00am & 11:00am
Tues 8am & Thurs 6:30pm
Adoration: Thurs. 5:30pm-6:30pm
Spanish Mass: 6:00 pm 3rd Friday of the Month

Our Lady of Good Hope
7 Union Street, Camden, ME 04843
Saturday 4:00pm
Sunday 11:00am
Mon 6:30pm & Wed 8am
Adoration: Mon. 5:30pm-6:30pm

St. Francis of Assisi
81 Court Street, Belfast, ME 04915
Saturday 4:00pm
Sunday 8:30am
Wed 6:30pm & Fri 8am
Adoration: Wed. eves 5:30pm-6:30pm

St. Mary of the Isles & Island Masses
From July-Sept - Saturday: 9:00am
18 Pendleton Point Rd, Islesboro, ME 04848
Vinalhaven at Union Church
North Haven TBA



Doors are open at all mainland churches, Monday - Friday from 12pm-3pm.

Welcome to Catholic Life in Mid-Coast Maine!

We are a Roman Catholic community serving as a beacon that helps people encounter the transforming love of Jesus Christ through full, conscious, and active celebration of the Sacraments, with special attention to Reconciliation and Eucharist.

7 Union Street - Camden, ME 04843

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www.StBrendanParish.net

Mass Intentions and Sanctuary Lamps

Contact the Parish Office to have a Mass or Sanctuary Lamp offered for a loved one.

Envelopes are also available in the vestibules of all church locations.

Saturday, September 13, 2025 - The Vigil of the Exaltation of the Cross

4pm	St. F	Fr. Ben	Ann Goguen by Nancy Whitcomb
4pm	OLGH	Fr. Anthansius	K.P. Gricus by Ken Gricus
6pm	St. B	Fr. Javis	Tom Masters by Eileen Fitzgerald

Sunday, September 14, 2025 - Exaltation of the Cross

8am	St. B	Fr. Javis	Living Intention of Christine Ouellet by Carmel Ouellet
8:30am	St. F	Fr. Ben	for parishioners
11am	OLGH	Fr. Anthanasius	Living Intention of Esther O'Donnell by Maureen O'Donnell
11am	St. B	Fr. Javis	Michael Freda by Josephine Freda

Monday, September 15, 2025

6:30pm	OLGH	Fr. Anthansius	for parishioners
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Tuesday, September 16, 2025

8am	St. B	Fr. Ben	Living Intention of Carolyn Ouellet by Carmel Ouellet
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Wednesday, September 17, 2025

8am	OLGH	Fr. Javis	Willis Sutherland by Bob Souther
10am	NH - WG	Fr. Javis	Kendall Jones by Michele Jones
6:30pm	St. F	Fr. Anthansius	Paula Cannon by Penny Wolfe

Thursday, September 18, 2025

6:30pm	St. B	Fr. Ben	Benjamin Snow by Robin Snow
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Friday, September 19, 2025

No Mass - Parish Pilgrimage to Lewiston

Saturday, September 20, 2025 - The Vigil of the 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time

4pm	St. F	Fr. Javis	Dr. Thomas Piel by Beck Piel
4pm	OLGH	Fr. Ben	Becky Jones by Michele Jones
6pm	St. B	Fr. Anthanasius	Marion Marie Kennan by Gretchen Ferreira

Sunday, September 21, 2025 - The 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time

8am	St. B	Fr. Anthanasius	Living Intention of Allison Ouellet by Carmel Ouellet
8:30am	St. F	Fr. Javis	Roger Ptak by the family
11am	OLGH	Fr. Ben	Bill Deptula by June Pokokski
11am	St. B	Fr. Anthanasius	for parishioners

LS indicates Mass is livestreamed at www.stbrendanparish.net/livestream

Next Spanish Mass at St. Bernard - 3rd Friday of the Month, 6:00pm
Nursing Home Masses: BW - Breakwater (2nd and 4th Tues),
QH - Quarry Hill and WG - Windward Gardens (alternating Wed),
Mag - Magnolia (1st Thurs)

A Sanctuary Candle is being lit at:
St. Francis for
**the Living Intention of
Larry and Velma Kinsley
by the Clarks**



Our Clergy

Fr. Anthonasius Wirsiy, Pastor
Fr. Javis Laban, Parochial Vicar
Fr. Benjamin Simon, HGN (in residence)
Deacon Bob Cleveland

Email: firstname.lastname@portlanddiocese.org

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Laura.Gibson@PortlandDiocese.org

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We humbly and gratefully want to express our sincere gratitude for your donations to our parish. Please make checks payable to:
"St. Brendan the Navigator"
A special purpose or intention can be noted on the memo line.

Upcoming Second Collections

Sept. 13th/14th - Catholic University of America & Special Education Needs
Sept. 20th/21st - Catholic Relief Services for Gaza
Sept. 27th/28th - Parish Increased Offertory Renewal Weekend

Job Openings: Soup Kitchen

We are seeking two Part-Time Assistants. This "on call" role will help manage the daily activities when the regular team is unavailable.

Contact: laura.gibson@portlanddiocese.org

Liturgical and Sacramental Life

Penny Wolfe, Pastoral Life Coordinator - Penny.Wolfe@PortlandDiocese.org
Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Music, Sacristans, Eucharistic Ministers

Baptisms

If you are planning to have a child baptized, please call the Parish Office, two months prior to the birth for preparation and scheduling purposes.

Weddings

All couples planning a wedding should contact the parish office at least one year prior to their planned wedding date so that the church or mission can be reserved and the necessary preparation can be discussed.

Funerals

The priests and parish staff are here to help, please call the parish office at (207) 236-4785 for funeral planning preparations for your loved one.

Daily Readings

Sunday: Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17
Monday: 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
Tuesday: 1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6/Lk 7:11-17
Wednesday: 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 7:31-35
Thursday: 1 Tm 4:12-16/Ps 111:7-8, 9, 10/Lk 7:36-50
Friday: 1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3

Sacrament of Reconciliation

A half hour before weekend Masses or by appointment. Priests are also available during Adoration (schedule on the front page of the bulletin).

Anointing, Communion to Homebound

Please reach out if you or a loved one is in need of Anointing of the Sick. Communion can also be brought on Sundays to those who can no longer attend the Celebration of the Mass in person.

Liturgical Music Coordinators

Joani Mitchell, Our Lady of Good Hope
Barbara Hendricks, St. Bernard
Elisabeth Parker, St. Francis



Parish News and Upcoming Events

Bulletin Submissions - Jacqueline.Biddle@PortlandDiocese.org
Parish Weekly Email - Penny.Wolfe@PortlandDiocese.org

Basket Raffle



The **Daughters of St. Bernard** will be holding a basket raffle before and after all of the Masses on the weekends of **September 13th/14th and 20th/21st**. We'll have baskets with gift cards and other seasonal items for adults and children with a **FALL** theme. **Tickets are \$1.00 each or a book of six for \$5.00.**

In addition to the gift baskets, we will be raffling off a **\$300.00 gas grill donated by Home Depot**. Proceeds for the raffle will go toward scholarships for high school seniors and other needs in our parish

Feast of St. Francis - Belfast

Saturday, October 4th is the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Join us at the 4pm Mass in Belfast followed by a special event in the hall. There will also be a parish-wide novena offered leading up to the feast. More details to come!



Michaelmas



A celebration honoring St. Michael the Archangel - Join us at this fall-themed event with novena, food, and desserts.

St. Francis - Belfast
Friday, September 26th
(after the 8am Mass)

Contact: Jennifer.Park@PortlandDiocese.org

TRIUMPH OF THE CROSS



Office of Faith Formation

Jacqueline Biddle, Parish Catechetical Leader - Jacqueline.Biddle@PortlandDiocese.org

Faith Formation: Youth and Adult, OCIA, Sacrament Prep

Jennifer Parker - St. Francis' Faith Formation Coordinator

Rachel Vallance - St. Bernard's Faith Formation Coordinator

Faith Formation 2025-2026

Registration is now open! Please contact the Faith Formation Office (above) to sign up for all available classes (PK-12th). We will meet once a month for a parish-wide faith formation gathering at Our Lady of Good Hope (Camden) in hopes of giving children the opportunity to gather with more kids in their age groups and widen their Catholic community of friends. On the second Sunday of each month, join us after the 11am Mass for potluck, class (1-2pm), and Family Adoration/Confession (2-2:30pm). Materials for continued catechesis at home will be provided. Our first gathering will be **October 12th**.

Upcoming Dates to Note:

Reconciliation Retreat

Sept. 20th @ St. Francis, 10am-1pm



Things Visible and Invisible

Faith and Science Conference - Sept. 26th & 27th

Children and youth in grades 1-12 are invited to participate in a unique experience of research and learning at the Saints of Science Fair. Please contact (above) for more information.

Michaelmas - Sept. 26th

Novena, Mass, and fellowship after the 8am Mass

Communion/Confirmation Retreat

October 4th @ Our Lady of Good Hope, 10am-1pm

Children's Mass - October 5th

Sign your children up to assist in the liturgy at Mass. Our children's Masses are held the first Sunday of each month at all three locations. Sign-ups are available through Flocknote or by emailing the Faith Formation office (above).

Sacrament Mass

October 19th @ St. Bernard (Practice held 10/18 - 10am)

Laudato Si'

"Care for Our Common Home"

Here is a link to Catholic Climate Covenant
<https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/seeds-9-Final-.pdf>
Check it out!



Garden of Peace
Isaiah 32:14-18

Important dates to place on your calendar:

- **Wednesday, September 24th** - A Parish Mass at St Francis of Assisi, 6:30pm. Let's join with each other to celebrate the special liturgical approved this year by the Vatican. More information to follow.
- **Saturday, October 18th** (9-11am) - St Francis of Assisi. A program with Doug Fox. Details to be announced soon.
- **Saturday, November 22nd** (9-11am) - OLGH. Program with Peter Dugas. Details to be announced soon.
- Discussion groups to be formed at each church using the book by Elizabeth Johnson, A Catholic Theologian, "Come Have Breakfast," a meditation on God and Earth.

Contact: Martha Block: marthamblock@gmail.com

Dianne Smith: dcrsmith@gmail.com,

Maureen Haining: mfhaining@gmail.com

Adult Faith Formation

That Man is You

We are on break for the summer!
We will resume on Saturday, Sept. 13th at 8:30am,
OLGH - Upper Room.
See our table at the Parish Picnic on Sept. 7th.
Looking forward to seeing you then!

Walking with Purpose

Join a community of women supporting one another in the journey to know Christ personally through Scripture.
Save the Date - Fall Study Tues. or Thurs. starting September 30th and October 2nd.
Contact: Carol Brownawell (410) 714.4549
Anne Norman (207) 691-6401

Faith Sharing Cell Groups: Do you want to share and grow your faith with a small group of friends in the neighborhood? Listen to a monthly teaching provided by our priests? Pray together? Come and join one of the Faith Sharing Cell Groups. There are active groups in the Belfast, Camden and Rockland areas. Everybody is welcome, so you also could invite your non-Catholic friends. Please contact FSCGStB@gmail.com if you would like to join a group or to receive further information.

Streaming Service

Watch, listen and read **FREE** movies, audiobooks, audio dramas, talks, programs and teachings on your phone, iPads, electronic notebooks, and smart TVs with our parish subscription!

- Go to formed.org on a web browser
- Choose Formed for Parishes
- Choose Find Your Parish Subscription
- Under Create a New Account in the box, put in zip code of 04843
- Choose St. Brendan the Navigator, Camden, ME.
- Enter your name and email and follow the prompts.
- From then on you will just have to click the SIGN IN button in upper right, and you'll likely have to enter your email.

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Vocations

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him might not perish but might have eternal life." (John 3:16) Just as Christ selflessly gave Himself for the sake of humanity, you may be invited to reflect that profound love by dedicating your life to the service of others. Are you open to discerning whether God is calling you to share in this mission through a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life? Allow yourself to ponder the depth of this calling. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at (207) 613-1091 or via email: vocations@portlanddiocese.org.

Get Involved - Parish Ministries

Contact information for each ministry can be found below.
If you would like your ministry featured, please contact the Parish Office.

St. Brendan Pro-Life Ministry



BEHOLD Children are a Gift of the Lord,
the Fruit of the Womb is a Reward
Psalm 127 3:4

Pray a Rosary for Life

The Rosary for Life continues weekly at each church weekly.

Weekly Event: Peaceful Prayer Vigil

Fridays @ Belfast Family Planning

Contact: Edward Jones - mgtdocean@gmail.com

Paulette Spera - Paulette.spera@gmail.com

A Valuable Resource: There is Healing After Abortion

Visit <https://portlanddiocese.org/projectrachel>

Did you know? Part 14 - The Practice of Ending Life Before Natural Death

- **What is it called?** The act of ending life early has a number of official names depending on the scope of the practice, from PAS (Physician-Assisted suicide) to MAiD (Medical Aid in Dying) to the euphemistic Death with Dignity to Euthanasia.
 - **Widespread Expansion:** A small number of countries allow euthanasia or physician-assisted suicide, but the number is slowly growing (e.g., Netherlands, Belgium, Canada, Spain, Colombia, Ecuador, Germany, Austria, New Zealand, and parts of Australia).
 - **United States:** Euthanasia is illegal everywhere, but PAS is legal in 11 states and Washington, D.C.
 - **See Part 15 next week** for more in-depth facts about expansion and how we can respond as faithful Catholics.
- Upcoming**
- October is Respect Life Month. The theme for 2025 is LIFE: Our Sign of Hope
 - Join thousands of Catholics for the Novena for Life, October 22 – October 30.

Pregnant?



We are here to help.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for an end to abortion.

Our Lady Queen of Heaven, pray for an increase in respect for the dignity of all human life, from conception to natural death.

St. Bernard Soup Kitchen

For the week Sept 1st, we provided the following meals.

M - Holiday, T - 63, W - 56, T - 62, F - 50

Within the next month, we will be losing some of our "snowbird" volunteers as they will be heading to warmer climates. Interested in helping?

Rich Norman (207) 691-6400

Daughters of St. Bernard

The Daughters of St. Bernard meet at the Sacred Heart Center the first Friday of each month, 1pm. We warmly welcome all women of St. Bernard to join as we help with various parish activities, such as funeral receptions, scholarships, and more.

Contact: Claire Redden (207) 208.0584



Knights of Columbus

Our parish is blessed to be served by two primary Knights of Columbus Councils.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI, BELFAST:

The William S. Brannagan Council #3942 Monthly Breakfast: Every third Sunday of the month after the 8:30am Mass

Contact: Brian Beaulieu 542-8967, bbeaulieu@allenfg.com
Joseph Mathieu 323-1436, painterjo56@gmail.com

ST. BERNARD, ROCKLAND: The Limerock Council #136 meets the 3rd Thursday at 7pm in Grispi Hall, at St. Bernard's Church, Rockland. Monthly Breakfast: Last Sunday of the month after the 8:00am Mass.

www.stbrendanparish.net/knight-of-columbus-rockland

Contact: Kevin Bailey (978) 404-1594, kfb723@verizon.net

KOFC 4TH DEGREE: The KOC 4th Degree meets every other month rotating the meeting place among all three churches.

Contact: Faithful Navigator Gregg Turley at (702) 408-5996.

KNIGHTS HELPING NEIGHBORS: The Knights of Columbus in Rockland and Belfast have a new program for members, widows of members, and parishioners of our parish. We will donate labor to help those that need help around their homes and are either physically or financially unable to do the work. This will be for smaller inside projects or yard projects.

Rockland Contact: John Redden (207) 720-0246
Rich Norman (207) 691-6400

Belfast Contact: Brian Beaulieu (207) 542-8967
Joseph Mathieu (207) 323-1436

GBAM Food Cupboard - Belfast

St. Francis of Assisi has a bin for collecting canned and boxed food donations for the GBAM Food Cupboard. Thank you for donations of cereal, canned meats, soups, peanut butter & jelly, as well as adult diapers.



Camden Area Christian Food Pantry



The Camden Area Christian Food Pantry will continue collecting **canned baked beans** for the month of September. Please place items in the bin at the entrance of Cote Hall at Our Lady of Good Hope.

Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive

This September, help relieve food insecurity by donating jars of peanut butter and jelly. For each jar received, Bangor Savings Bank will donate an additional jar of peanut butter or jelly to local food insecurity programs!



OLGH - Women's Club

The Women's Club at Our Lady of Good Hope meets in Cote Hall at 1:00pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from April to December. All the women of the parish are invited to come to our meetings as we plan fundraisers for scholarships, have social activities, guest speakers, and demonstrations of crafts.

Contact: Pat Gibbons - (207) 785-6149





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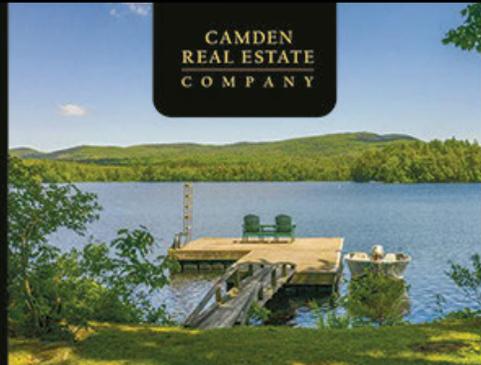


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Around the Diocese

Update Diocesan Norms and Upcoming Workshops

Ending the practice of presenting the pyx at the Communion Line:

Though it does not happen as often in our parish, it has been the practice for some to present a pyx in the Communion line in order to receive a host to bring to the homebound. No later than July 31, 2025, this will no longer be allowed. To arrange for Holy Communion to be brought to a loved one, please call the parish office or email penny.wolfe@portlanddiocese.org and we will arrange a way for your loved one to receive Communion from an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion to the homebound on Sundays.

Low-Gluten Hosts:

The parish will continue to provide low-gluten hosts as it is no longer necessary, nor will be accepted, for the faithful to bring their own low-gluten host. For those wishing to receive a low-gluten host, please see the Sacristan before Mass.

Fall Annulment Workshops

The Diocese of Portland's Office of the Tribunal will hold presentations on annulments this September across the state. There will be a question-and-answer period at each session as well as an opportunity to speak privately to a canonist.

September 9 at 6 p.m.
Holy Martyrs
266 Foreside Road - Falmouth

September 18 at 6 p.m.
Christian Life Center
444.S. Route One
Frenchville

September 10 at 6:30 p.m.
Holy Family Church
607 Sabattus Street - Lewiston

September 24 at 6 p.m.
St. Rose of Lima Church
1 Church Street - Jay

September 17 at 7 p.m.
Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
333 Main Street - Presque Isle

Parish News and Upcoming Events (cont.)

Bulletin Submissions - Jacqueline.Biddle@PortlandDiocese.org
Parish Weekly Email - Penny.Wolfe@PortlandDiocese.org

Parish Picnic

Thank you! Despite the weather, we had a wonderful parish picnic this past weekend. Thank you to all those who were able to attend and provided the many delicious potluck items to share. We wanted to extend our gratitude to the Rockland Knights of Columbus for grilling and feeding us all! Thank you to the Women's Club and Daughters for the wonderful desserts. To all the many volunteers...



...who helped with the set-up, tear down, and cleaning, thank you! We also wanted to thank Russell Spera for providing the music and to the Biddle boys for face painting. We hope you were able to connect with some ministries and look forward to seeing you at other upcoming parish-wide events!

Finally, a big THANK YOU to Paula Williamson for taking on the coordination of this fun event!

Contact Information

- 📍 Parish Office: 7 Union Street - Camden, ME 04843
- 📞 Phone: (207) 236.4785
- ✉ Email: StBrendan@PortlandDiocese.org
- 🌐 Website: StBrendanParish.net

Office Hours

- Monday** - 8:30-3:30
- Tuesday** - 8:30-3:30
- Wednesday** - 8:30-12:00
- Thursday** - 8:30-3:30
- Friday** - closed

Administrative Staff

Laura Gibson, Business Coordinator
Paula Williamson, Safe Environment Coordinator
Mike Colson, Sexton
John Maas, Custodian
Richard Norman, Soup Kitchen Supervisor

Contact any Staff Member by Email:
firstname.lastname@portlanddiocese.org

Office Notes: Please be mindful of your personal items when at church and keep them close at hand.