

St. Brendan the Navigator Parish

Rockland - Camden - Belfast - Islesboro - Vinalhaven



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: 1:00 pm 3rd Sunday of the Month
(beginning November 16th)

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

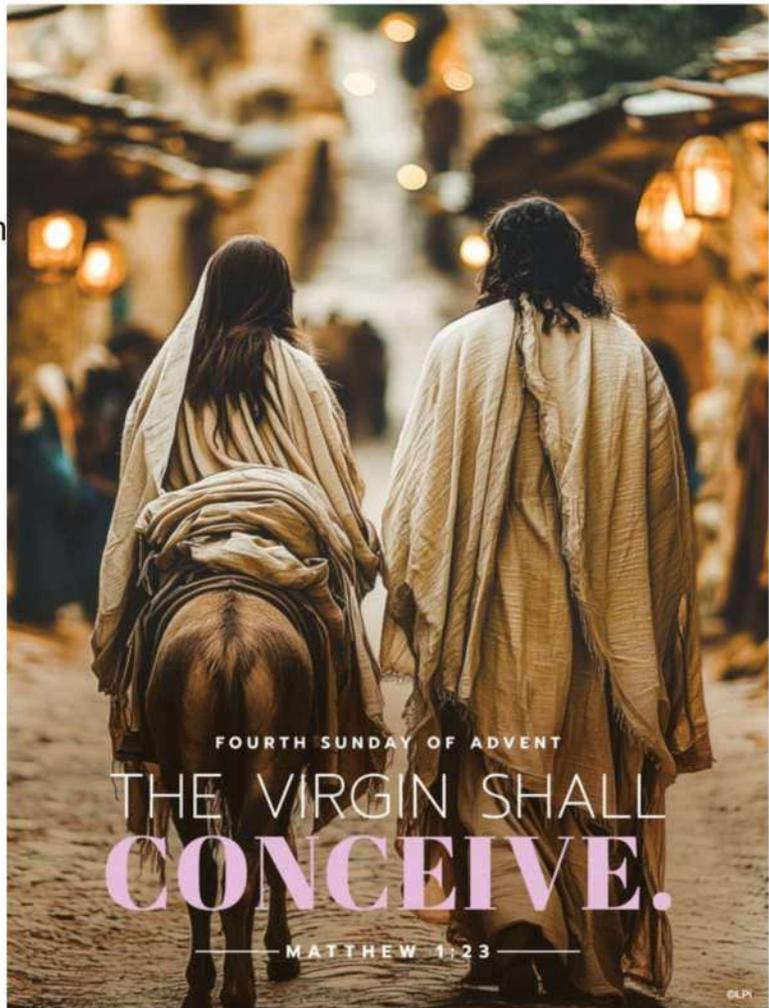
St. Mary of the Isles & Island Masses

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

(207) 236.4785

www.StBrendanParish.net

DECEMBER 21, 2025 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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, December 20, 2025 - the Vigil of the 4th Sun. of Advent

4pm	St. F	Fr. Anthonasius	for parishioners
4pm	OLGH	Fr. Javis	Bill Deptula by the Brownawell/Scott Family
6pm	St. B (LS)	Fr. Javis	Connie Bates by Eileen Skolds

Sunday, December 21, 2025 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

8am	St. B	Fr. Javis	Janette Mills by the family
8:30am	St. F (LS)	Fr. Anthonasius	Autumn Fox by the Clarks
11am	OLGH	Fr. Anthonasius	Eileen Sanger by the Brownawell/Scott Family
11am	St. B	Fr. Javis	Michael Freda by Josephine Freda

Monday, December 22, 2025

6:30pm	OLGH (LS)	Fr. Anthonasius	Dolores Piccari by Teresa Piccari
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Tuesday, December 23, 2025

8am	St. B	Fr. Anthonasius	Edward Gallant Jr. by Gayle Gallant
10am	NH - BW	Fr. Anthonasius	All souls by the parish

Wednesday, December 24, 2025 - Christmas Eve

4pm	St. F	Fr. Javis	All souls by the parish
4pm	OLGH (LS)	Msgr. Stefanko	David Deptula by Bill & Claire Deptula
4pm	St. B	Fr. Anthonasius	for parishioners

Thursday, December 25, 2025 - Nativity of the Lord, Christmas

8am	St. B	Msgr. Stefanko	All souls by the parish
8:30am	St. F	Fr. Javis	Fr. Paul Pare by St. Francis parishioners
11am	OLGH (LS)	Fr. Anthonasius	Living Int. Richard & Geraldine Stark by their children
11am	St. B	Fr. Javis	Liz Stern by Eileen Skolds

Friday, December 26, 2025 - St. Stephen, First Martyr

8am	St. F	Fr. Javis	Robert Smith by his children & grandchildren
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Saturday, December 27, 2025 - St. John the Apostle

4pm	St. F	Fr. Javis	All souls by the parish
4pm	OLGH (LS)	Fr. Anthonasius	Hannah Williamson by Deb & Jack Waterman
6pm	St. B	Fr. Anthonasius	for parishioners

Sunday, December 28, 2025 - Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

8am	St. B	Fr. Anthonasius	All souls by the parish
8:30am	St. F	Fr. Javis	All souls by the parish
11am	OLGH (LS)	Fr. Javis	Living Int. Gaby Wicklow by Maureen O'Donnell
11am	St. B	Fr. Anthonasius	Donna Meyers by Eileen Skolds

LS indicates Mass is livestreamed at www.stbrendanparish.net/livestream
Spanish Mass at St. Bernard - 3rd Sunday of the Month, 1:00pm
(No Spanish Mass on Dec. 21st)

Nursing Home Masses: BW - Breakwater (2nd and 4th Tues),
QH - Quarry Hill and WG - Windward Gardens (alternating Wed),
Mag - Magnolia (1st Thurs), HH - Harbor Hill (1st Mon.)

The Sanctuary Candle at
St. Francis of Assisi
is being lit this week for the
**Wedding Anniversary of
Brian & Dawn Beaulieu**



Our Clergy

Fr. Anthonasius Wirsiy, Pastor
Fr. Javis Laban, Parochial Vicar
Deacon Bob Cleveland

Email: firstname.lastname@portlanddiocese.org



COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



Giving

Laura Gibson, Business Coordinator
laura.gibson@portlanddiocese.org

Online Giving:

Through eCatholic:

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code or visit: StBrendanParish.net/Donate



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A special purpose or intention can be
noted on the memo line.

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: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Monday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

Wednesday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79

Thursday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 (Lk 2:11)/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 **Dawn:** Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 **Day:** Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Friday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

Saturday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8



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

Christmas Mass



Our Lady of Good Hope - Camden
Wednesday, December 24th - 4:00pm
Thursday, December 25th - 11:00am

St. Francis of Assisi - Belfast
Wednesday, December 24th - 4:00pm
Thursday, December 25th - 8:30am

St. Bernard - Rockland
Wednesday, December 24th - 4:00pm
Thursday, December 25th - 8:00am & 11:00am

Christmas Pageants at St. Brendan

If you have children interested in participating in the Christmas pageants at our churches at the 4pm Christmas Eve Masses, please contact the following. Children and grandchildren visiting are welcome to join the fun!

St. Francis - Jennifer Parker
jennifer.parker@portlanddiocese.org

St. Bernard - Barbara Hendricks
barbara.hendricks@portlanddiocese.org

Our Lady of Good Hope
Call the office: 236-4785



Feast of the MOTHER OF GOD

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

Our Lady of Good Hope - Camden
Wednesday, December 31st - 4:00pm
Thursday, January 1st - 11:00am

St. Francis of Assisi - Belfast
Wednesday, December 31st - 4:00pm
Thursday, January 1st - 8:30am

St. Bernard - Rockland
Wednesday, December 31st - 4:00pm
Thursday, January 1st - 8:00am & 11:00am

Backpack Program



This Christmas, every student in Maine's Catholic schools, as well as homeschool students learning in the Catholic tradition, will receive a new L.L. Bean backpack filled with school supplies and a rosary. These high-quality backpacks are not only a practical gift, but also a visible sign of unity

and belonging for students in Catholic schools and homeschooling across Maine.

HOMESCHOOLERS: To find out more about Mother Cabrini Maine Catholic Education Initiative, go here: <https://mainecatholiceducation.org/homeschool-collaborative>

TO SUPPORT THIS INITIATIVE:

<https://mainecatholiceducation.org/backpack-program>



Office of Faith Formation

Jacqueline Biddle, Parish Catechetical Leader - jacqueline.biddle@portlanddiocese.org

Faith Formation: Youth and Adult, OCIA, Sacrament Prep

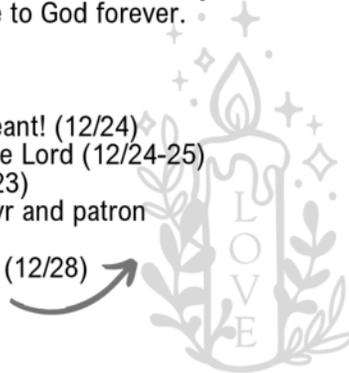
Jennifer Parker - St. Francis' Faith Formation Coordinator

Family Faith Formation

God brought Jesus into the world as a tiny baby. Jesus was God's Son. He was so powerful that He could have gotten anything He wanted. But Jesus did not come to earth to be a rich, selfish ruler. He did not need a palace or fancy clothes. Jesus came to show you the God is with you all the time. He was born to be the king over your life. He gave up His own life to rescue you from your sins, so that you could be close to God forever. (Gospel Reflection by LPI)

Advent Activities this week:

- Sign up for a Christmas Eve Pageant! (12/24)
- Attend Mass for the Nativity of the Lord (12/24-25)
- Last day of the O Antiphons (12/23)
- Celebrate St. Stephen -first martyr and patron of Altar servers (12/26)
- Learn about St. John the Apostle (12/28)
- Color the third candle of Love!



Vocations

"They shall name him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us.'" (Matthew 1:23) Mary's trust in God's plan is a model for all vocations. Could God be inviting you to priesthood, consecrated life, or holy matrimony, living fully for Him to bring His presence to others? Embrace His call with courage. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at (207) 773-6471 or via email: vocations@portlanddiocese.org

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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SECOND AND THIRD SUNDAYS OF EACH MONTH

Our Lady of Good Hope (Camden) 12:30-2pm
Take the first step on your Catholic journey. Explore what it means to be Catholic. What steps do I take to make it official? Find friendship amongst the community of believers.

Adult Faith Formation

That Man is You

Saturdays at 8:30am - OLGH - Upper Room.
Looking forward to seeing you then!

Walking with Purpose

Tuesdays, 6:30pm at Our Lady of Good Hope
Thursdays, 9am at St. Bernard
Contact: Carol Brownawell (410) 714.4549
Anne Norman (207) 691-6401

Faith Sharing Cell Groups: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Learn and practice how to talk about your faith and your religious experiences in a small group. Our clergy are providing monthly teachings for the groups. "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." **Get ready to bring your faith into your neighborhoods and to your every-day life neighbors.**

Rockland, at the Sacred Heart Center

1st and 3rd Wednesday of a month at 6:30pm
Contact: Ann Norman, ranorman18@gmail.com

St. George/Spruce Head, In-home and Zoom

1st Tuesday of a month at 6:30pm
Contact: Anja & Georg Haubs
georg.haubs@gmail.com

Camden, at Our Lady of Good Hope

Next meeting: 11/24 at 10am
Contact: Paula Williamson
paula.williamson@portland-diocese.org

Looking to start a group?

Contact below for more information!
FSCGStB@gmail.com

Franciscan Catechetical Institute

Franciscan Catechetical Institute Trainings - The Diocese of Portland has subscribed to a new outreach by the Catechetical Institute at Franciscan University of Steubenville. We are now able to offer online formation for every person in ministry - clergy, catechists, teachers, youth ministers, adult group leaders, volunteers, even (and especially) parents. It is **free** to all, with unlimited access. This program provides the most in-depth and faithful array of formative workshops ever created. With over 200 workshops available, we are now able to thoroughly train and spiritually nurture you in passing on the faith. To register, visit:
<https://franciscanathome.com/diocese-portland-maine>



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. Bernard Soup Kitchen

We are seeking two Part-Time Assistants.
This role will help manage the daily activities when the regular team is unavailable.
Contact: laura.gibson@portlanddiocese.org



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 **tuna and other canned meats; also packets of pasta or rice sides (eg., Knorr brand)** for the month of December. Please place your donation items in the bin at the entrance of Cote Hall at Our Lady of Good Hope.



Daughters of St. Bernard

The Daughters of St. Bernard meet at the Sacred Heart Center the 1st Fri. of the month at 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



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 on the public sidewalk near Belfast Family Planning
Your support and presence are needed to pray for all pregnant women - especially for those who are considering abortion and those who are hurting in the aftermath of abortion.

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 17, continued: It may be challenging to present a pro-life argument to another who is pro-abortion.

The SLED test may help...

- SLED stands for 4 points: size, level of development, environment, degree of dependency
- Developed by philosopher Stephen Schwartz in his book, *Moral Question of Abortion*, to discuss the value of human life from a logical perspective, not a religious one
- Popularized by Scot Klusendorf, who trains pro-life advocates to defend their views in his role as president of Life Training Institute
- SLED Test: Scan this QR code to watch the SLED Test, Part III (from Focus on the Family) - Environment



Pregnant?



We can help.
Please ask.

THE VATICAN HAS FIRST PRO-LIFE NATIVITY SCENE!

Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us and an increase in respect for the sanctity of all human life.

OLGH - Women's Club

The Women's Club at Our Lady of Good Hope meets in Cote Hall at 1pm on the 2nd Wed. of the month from April to December. All women of the parish are welcome!

We plan fundraisers for scholarships, social activities, speakers, & crafts. **Contact:** Pat Gibbons - (207) 785-6149





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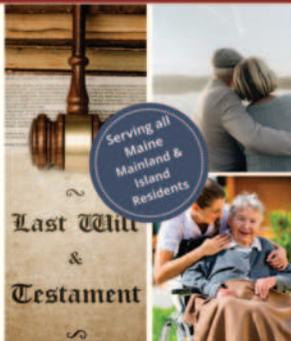
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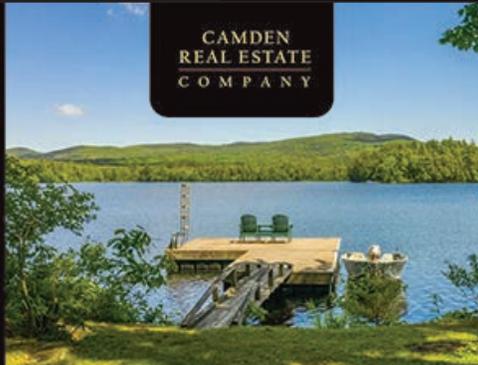


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Parish News and Around the Diocese

Bulletin Submissions - jacqueline.biddle@portlanddiocese.org
Parish Weekly Email - penny.wolfe@portlanddiocese.org



For Saturday Vigil Mass cancellations: As early as noon but no later than 2 pm on Saturday, to view any cancellations, please go to WABI Channel 5 www.wabi.tv/weather/closings/ or WCSH Channel 6 www.newscentermaine.com/

For Sunday Mass cancellations: The evening prior to but no later than 6 am Sunday, please go to WABI or WCSH (links above) to view any cancellations.

Parishioners who receive Flocknote email will be notified by email. Please call or email the office to be signed up!

If Sunday Mass is cancelled, all other activities at the churches will also be cancelled: Faith Formation, breakfasts, meetings, etc.

For weekday Masses: If school is delayed or cancelled there will be no morning Mass. Evening Adoration/Mass will be determined on a case-by-case basis and, if cancelled, parishioners will be notified by the means above and by no later than 3 pm that day.

Note: We use these resources as oftentimes, during severe weather events, the parish office will be closed so the phone message will not have updated cancellation information.

ST. FRANCIS PARISHIONERS: *In snow times, park on one side of the street to enable room for snow plows.*

Please be prudent and stay safe in deciding whether you will get to Mass in inclement weather!

Apostolate of Prayer for Priests

Please join us in prayer for the priests of the Portland Diocese.

"We thank you Father, for those who have responded to your call to priestly ministry. Fill your priests with the knowledge of your love."

This week, we pray for:
Bishop James Ruggieri, All Priests, Rev. Alou Pilizue, Rev. William Modlin, Rev. Joseph Jum, Msgr. Andrew Dubois, Rev. James Albert, Very Rev. Roland Bernggeh, Rev. Benjamin Simon, All Deceased Priests, Rev. Robert Parent, and Rev. Scott Mower



4th SUNDAY IN ADVENT



Contact Information

- Parish Office: 7 Union Street - Camden, ME 04843
- Phone: (207) 236.4785
- Email: stbrendan@portlanddiocese.org
- Website: stbrendanparish.net

Administrative Staff

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

Office Hours

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

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.