

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT



St. Bernadette Catholic Church

9020 E 51st Terrace, Kansas City, MO 64133
Phone: 816-356-3700 Fax: 816-737-3447
Priest Emergency: 816-653-0068
Parish Office Hours: Mon-Thur 9am - 4pm;
Friday 9am - Noon

Mass Schedule:
Saturday - 4:30 pm
Sunday - 8:30 am
Weekdays:
Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 8:30 am

stbkcmo@gmail.com www.stbernadettekcmo.org
Facebook: St Bernadette Catholic Church KCMO

February 25, 2024

Parish Staff

Pastor **Reverend Bryan Amthor**
frbryan@stbernadettekcmo.org

Deacon **Joe Arnone**
jarnone@nativityofmary.org

Retired Deacon **Justin McMenamy**
jmcme1528@aol.com

Director of Liturgy & Music **Jerry Snow**
jerry@stbernadettekcmo.org

Coordinator of Faith Formation ... **Cameron Engelbrecht**
cameron@stbernadettekcmo.org

Business/Operations Manager **Vonda Geary**
vonda@stbernadettekcmo.org

Secretary **Judy Carneal**
judy@stbernadettekcmo.org

Ministry Council

Nick Briones
Ruthie Ethridge
Sherry Pils
Anna Smith

Helen Bugh
James Fox
Robin Reed
Beverly South

Report Abuse Diocesan Victim's Advocate

Ombudsman.....**Joe Crayon**
816-812-2500 crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org

Victim Advocate.....**Whitney True-Francis**
816-392-0011 true.francis@diocesekcsj.org

Annulment Process

Contact Fr. Bryan at the Parish Office.

Baptisms

Please contact the Cameron to register for the preparation class.

Bulletin Notices

Please submit in writing to the Parish Office or via email to Vonda@stbernadettekcmo.org and Judy@stbernadettekcmo.org by noon on the Thursday 10 days before bulletin publication.

Our bulletin is published weekly, in color, at www.stbernadettekcmo.org.

Interested in Becoming Catholic

Please contact Cameron for more information on the process to join the Catholic Church.

Communion for Homebound

We desire community connections. Please contact the Parish Office when lifestyle, through age or injury, keeps one from joining our weekend worship.

Food Pantry

Monday - Thursday, 9:30 - 11:30 am,
by appointment: 816-356-3700.

Marriage

Contact the Parish Office
at least nine (9) months before desired wedding date.

New Parishioners

Welcome! We are glad you are here.
Please see an usher or our Pastor after Mass,
or call the Parish Office, to register.

Reconciliation

Sunday 8:00 am or by appointment.

Religious Education Children/Youth Group

Please contact Cameron for information.

Jesus took Peter,
James, and John
and led them up
a high mountain
apart by
themselves. And
he was
transfigured
before them,
and his clothes
became dazzling
white.

Mark 9:2,3

Mission Statement

We, the faith community of St. Bernadette, strive to better know, love and serve God, through the teachings of His Son Jesus Christ and the graces provided to us through His Holy Spirit and the Sacraments.

Calendar of Events February 24th - March 3rd

- Saturday, February 24
Mass
- Sunday, February 25
Reconciliation, Mass, Coffee & Donuts
- Monday, February 26
Mass, Women’s Cursillo,
“The Search” - Lenten Small Group
- Tuesday, February 27
Bernadette Buddies, RCIA at Nativity of Mary,
Choir Practice
- Wednesday, February 28
Reconciliation, Mass, Eucharistic Adoration,
Worship Board, Staff Meeting,
PSR and Youth Group at Nativity of Mary
- Thursday, February 29
Ministry Council
- Friday, March 1
Reconciliation, Mass,
Altar Angels Church Cleaning, Bible Study,
Stations of the Cross
- Saturday, March 2
Mass
- Sunday, March 3
Reconciliation, Mass, Coffee & Donuts

St. Bernadette Contribution Report February 18

Regular Collection	\$	4,217
On-line Donations	\$	299
Loose Plate	\$	192
Mustard Seed	\$	3
Pantry	\$	102
Catholic Relief Services	\$	2
Catholic Charities	\$	891
Ash Wednesday	\$	139
Total	\$	5,845

From Death to New Life

† Ted Miller, father of Robin (John) Reed
and brother of Dee Phillips

*May our beloved
deceased rest in peace.*

Mass Intentions for the Week

- SATURDAY, February 24
4:30 pm † Ed Sosna by Larry and Patsy Kruse
† Renaud Dube by Gisele Dube
 - SUNDAY, February 25
8:30 am People of St. Bernadette
and Nativity of Mary
 - MONDAY, February 26
8:30 am Special Intention
 - WEDNESDAY, February 28
8:30 am † Dorothy Blosser by Leo and Dottie O’Brien
 - FRIDAY, March 1
8:30 am † Lanny Bennefeld by Carol and family
 - SATURDAY, March 2
4:30 pm St. Bernadette Memorials
 - SUNDAY, March 3
8:30 am CCW
- † Indicates Deceased

February Prayer Intentions

Pope Francis

We pray that those with a terminal illness,
and their families, receive the necessary physical
and spiritual care and accompaniment.

Bishop Johnston

For those who are discerning a call
to the priesthood or consecrated religious life.

Scripture Readings For the Week of February 25, 2024

- Sunday** **Second Sunday of Lent**
Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17,
18-19; Rom 8:31b-34; Mk 9:2-10
- Monday** Dn 9:4b-10; Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13; Lk 6:36-38
- Tuesday** Is 1:10, 16-20; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23;
Mt 23:1-12
- Wednesday** Jer 18:18-20; Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16; Mt 20:17-28
- Thursday** Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Lk 16:19-31
- Friday** Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Ps 105:16-17, 18-19,
20-21; Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
- Saturday** Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12;
Mt 5:43-48
- Sunday** **Third Sunday of Lent**
Ex 20:1-17 or Ex 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17; Ps 19:8, 9, 10,
11; 1 Cor 1:22-25; Jn 2:13-25

Knights of Columbus Fish Fries

Our fish fries are back Fridays during Lent through March 22nd. Come and enjoy a great meal with fried and baked fish, fried shrimp, vegetables, potatoes, salads, and bread. The menu changes every week so come and see what we are serving.

Where: 5101 Blue Ridge Cutoff, KCMO
When: 4:30 to 7:00

Cost: for eat in or To/Go
Adults-\$14.00, Children 6 to12- \$6.00,
5 and Under-Free

As always clergy, police, firefighters, and all first responders in uniform are free as a thank you for their service to us. I want to thank all of you for supporting us in the past and hope you continue to do so.



Qualities of a BeFriender

Some reflections on qualities of a person who is a BeFriender

- * A person who can listen to others even when what they say doesn't seem to make sense.
- * A person who can allow others to express their own feelings without telling them how they should or shouldn't feel.
- * A person who is willing to sit quietly with others when they can't put their hurts into words.
- * A person in whom others can freely confide, knowing that confidentiality is a priority.
- * A person who can accept others as they are, rather than the way that person thinks others ought to be.
- * A person who will give others time and opportunity to make their own decisions without feeling a need to decide for them.
- * A person who can ask how others are doing without feeling an obligation to tell them what they should be doing.
- * A person who is able to admit that they, too, experience life as burdensome at times and find it necessary to seek comfort and support from others.
- * A person who understands and values the faith community as necessary for spiritual growth.
- * A person who has an ability to draw on his or her own spiritual resources.
- * A person who can show concern and care in these ways is a true BeFriender.



CCW Clothing Drive

The CCW will be collecting clothing merchandise... clothes, shoes, belts, coats, jackets, socks, etc., as well as cloth items such as bed linens, blankets, etc. Items are being donated to Red Racks in conjunction with the DAV and we receive 20 cents per pound.

Donated merchandise **must be in plastic bags**; Red Racks is scheduled to pick up here on June 6th; Please contact Dee Phillips, 816-668-3620 for drop off arrangements or questions.



Lenten Small Groups

Join us as we journey through the Augustine Institute's original series, *The Search*, as we seek answers to life's big questions. This is also an opportunity to form new friendships, deepen your understanding of the faith, and grow in your love of God. We promise you that you will not want to miss this experience!

Weekly February 12 - March 28th

Monday Evening at 6:00 pm at St. Bernadette in the Parish Hall.

and

Thursdays at 9:15 am at Nativity of Mary in the Ministry Center Lower Level.

Can't join us in person? Then follow along on FORMED.org! Just click on create an account enter our Zip Code (64052) to sign up and get access!

THE SEARCH

See the trailer on our Facebook Page!

For more information and to sign up on our website or scan the QR code below!



Alms for the Poor

We continue to support the efforts of Gary White, former St. Bernadette parishioner/student, and his project WaterPartners for our Lenten Almsgiving. Gary White, WaterPartners executive director and co-founder and (actor) Matt Damon, H2O Africa co-founder, joined forces to create a organization called *water.org*.



Pick up an envelope in the vestibule and return it with your almsgiving donation, a corporal work of mercy, on Palm Sunday. There will be baskets in the vestibule to receive your almsgiving. Your envelope will be carried in procession with our gifts on Holy Thursday.

Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross will be prayed at noon every Friday during Lent. On Good Friday the stations will be at Nativity of Mary at 3 pm. Please make time to come and follow the Lord Jesus on His way to Calvary. It is because of our sins that He died. Through the merits of Your sorrowful journey, help us in our journey to heaven.

Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 12:00 pm (noon) through March 22nd

Good Friday, March 29th at 3:00 pm at Nativity of Mary



DCCW Spring Quarterly Meeting

March 6th - St. John LaLande

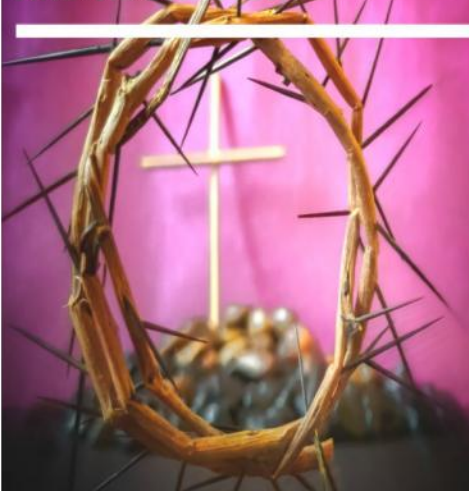
Hope to see you there!

Bring a friend - All women of the Diocese are invited!



Reservations for lunch must be made no later than noon on **Friday, March 1st**. Call Beverly South at (816)304-1568 (leave a message please) or email her at marydccw@gmail.com

LENTE PENANCE SERVICE AND ADORATION



Nativity of Mary Parish
10017 E 36th Terrace S
Independence MO 64052

Deanery XI
Nativity of Mary, St. Bernadette, St. Cyril,
St. Mark & St. Mary Parishes



BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD A Eucharistic Retreat

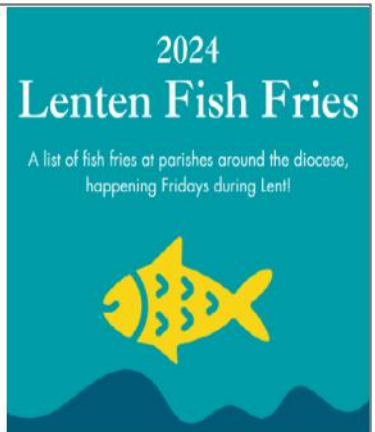
Nativity of Mary and St. Bernadette Catholic Churches invites all to a eucharistic retreat in the spirit of the USCCB's National Eucharistic Revival. Participants will learn the biblical, historical, and patristic roots and evidence for the belief in the Real Presence and an explanation of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided free of charge! Mass, Confession, and Adoration will also be available!

March 2, 2024, 8:30 am - 3:00 pm
Nativity of Mary Catholic Church and Parish Hall

Please RSVP on our Website!

Lent is a wonderful time together in fellowship and support local Catholic communities. Check out this list and find a fish fry that works best for you!



Click on the link below to see the list:

<https://catholickey.org/2024/02/02/2024-fish-fries-and-lenten-fare/?fbclid=IwAR3AcxeTD9euqoTe93BOW1D9a-YgTmYeA7FF7NZp0MWax85XMPHu30XL8Xs>

Please Pray For Our Parishioners

Lake Stockton Healthcare Facility - LaVern Fry
Lamar Court - Clara Lenox

Parkway Senior Living Blue Springs - Maxine Harris

Seasons Rehab & Healthcare Center - Jim Davis

St. Anthony's Senior Living :

John Henik, Genny Knaebel, Dan Marra, Patricia Cook

The Gardens at Jackson Creek - Sarah Brough

Trustwell Living Center - CeCe Theisen, Joann Walsh

Wilshire at Lakewood - Joanne Ferdig

Glenn Albin, Kathy Albin, Damian Arredondo,

Virginia Arlint, Mary Carter, Jeanne Caster,

Patrick Chapin, Cookie Crosby, Gisele Dube, David Evans,

Maxine Friederichs, Ena Gonzalez, Lori Grotewiel,

Lucille Grotewiel, Diane Humphreys, Annie Kaber,

Jerry Kimberlin, Tony & Sandy Lalumia,

Tom Lyndon, Kathy Marlatt, Elias Martin, Greg Marquart,

John Neger, Bill Orrick, Charito Ovalles, Dionisio Ovalles,

Paul Pace, Diane Brandt Page, Terry Plesser, Jean Precht,

Nancy Reves, Jerry Risser, Bea Robles, Bill & Helen Ruby,

Judy Saitta, Kimberly Sanders, Tattershall Family,

Dora Toledo, Marcella Vaughn,

Helene Vavruska, Alicia Young

Healing and Hope after abortion. If you have had an abortion and are still grieving, **Project Rachel** can help. Visit www.ProjectRachelKC.com or call 816-591-3804, 913-621-2199 or 1-888-246-1504. Complete confidentiality is assured.



The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combating sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

- 1) Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-392-3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18)
- 2) Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911
- 3) After reporting to these civil authorities, report sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816-812-2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org

If the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee, or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, the Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact Whitney True-Francis, Victim Assistance Coordinator, at 816-392-0011 or true.francis@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

Family and Friends Asking for Prayers

Michael Shortino, son of † Marguerite; **Denny O'Sullivan**; friend of Jeff & Teresa Thomas, **Deanna & Walt Cunningham**, aunt of Judy Carneal; **Nicole Friend**, granddaughter of Rosie Sosna; **Alivia Donovan**, great-granddaughter of Rosie Sosna; **Melany Donovan**, granddaughter of Rosie Sosna; **Jim Shepherd**, uncle of Teresa Thomas; **Julie Brown-Potts** friend of Judy Carneal; **Maria Teresa B. Ana**, niece of Natty Pricer; **Phil Rotert**, former parishioner; **Andrew Lawrence**, grandson of † Ed & Rosie Sosna; **Sandy**, sister of Sharan Ness; **Maria Richichi**, niece of Nettie Gaughran; **Ruby Grace Comfort**, granddaughter of Bill & Helen Ruby; **Marion Saladino** by † Marguerite Shortino; **Dr. John Saladino**, son-in-law of † Marguerite Shortino; **Travis Nalley**, son-in-law Jerry and Mary Snow; **Luan Miller**, mother of Robin (John) Reed; **Anne Marie and Paige**, Medina family; **John Vaughn and family**, son of Marcella Vaughn; **Mrs. Noti**, friend of Helene Vavruska; **Rosie Dorge**, sister of † Art (Genny) Knaebel; **Regina Seuferling**, aunt of Linda Sapenaro; **Larry & Connie Barringhaus**, brother & sister-in-law of Aloise; **Greg Novak**, brother of Mike & Ed; **Shaun Brandt**, son of Willy; **Cisco Arevalos**, friend of Shaun Brandt; **Christy Mayer**, niece of Liz Tattershall; **Monica Ehlers**, niece of Liz Tattershall; **Richard Habigar**, brother of Liz Tattershall; **Ruth Hunnicutt**, friend of Virginia Arlint; **Debbie Huffmaster**, family friend of the Linton's; **Ruth Eissler**, former parishioner; **Mitch Mervosh**, son-in-law of † Ed and Rosie Sosna; **Rob Crosby**, son of Cookie; **Tom Sosna**, son of † Ed and Rosie; **Easton Elaine Epperson**, great-granddaughter of Kathleen and † Michael Mendenhall; **Arnold Richichi**, brother of Nettie Gaughran; **Laura Conroy**, granddaughter of † Mary Conroy; **Melinna Becerra**, fiancée to Sosna's grandson; **Andrea Marchese**, daughter of Patty; **Carol Lankford**, sister of Jean Fahlstrom; **Anthony Pricer**, son of Naty; **Mike Axon**, son-in-law of Beth (Coons) Osborn; **Bob Lamb**, relative of the Brandt family; **Lisa**, daughter of Betty Medina; **David Arlint**, son of Virginia; **Lindsay Jarquio**, daughter of Kim (Todd) LeSage; **Jan Rogers**, daughter of Mike and Judy Cushing; **Dan Habiger**, family of Liz Tattershall; **Lyman Braydon**, brother of † Rhoda and Cyndy; **Janet Como**, daughter-in-law of Jo Como; **Ben Bongers**, friend of † Dorothy Kline; **Dean Kahler**, nephew of Mary (David) Kahler; **Brandon Lyndon**, grandson of Tom Lyndon; **Rosemary LeVota**, former parishioner; **Cheryl Martin**, friend of Liz Tattershall; **Carrie Giacometti**, former parishioner; **Isabella Angotti**, former parishioner; **Cathy Coffman**, friend of Claudia Dugan; **Benny Yslas**, friend of Chuck Linton; **Terry Burkes**, Linton family member; **Jack Robert Crosby**, grandson of Cookie; **Harold Mortis**, brother-in-law of Mary (Jerry) Snow; **Deverick Renner**, son of Erin Merrill and great-grandson of Tom & Mary Day; **David Tattershall**, son of Don and Liz; **Logan Ruby**, grandson of Bill & Helen; **Rose Marra**, daughter of Dan; **Dana Ruark**, daughter of Dee Phillips; **Joseph Shortino**, son of † Marguerite

Miss anyone? Contact Parish Office


March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>25 8a Reconciliation 8:30a Mass Coffee & Donuts</p> 	<p>26 8:30a Mass 9a Women's Cursillo 6 The Search - Lenten Small Group</p> 	<p>27 12:30 Bernadette Buddies 6 RCIA @ NOM 6:30 Choir Practice</p> 	<p>28 8a Reconciliation 8:30a Mass Eucharistic Adoration 9:15a Worship Board 10:30 Staff Meeting 6:15 PSR and Youth Group at NOM</p>	<p>29 6 Ministry Council</p>	<p>March 1 8a Reconciliation 8:30a Mass Altar Angels Church Cleaning Bible Study 12 Stations of the Cross</p>	<p>2 8:30a Eucharistic Retreat @NOM</p>  <p>BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD 4:30 Mass</p>
<p>3 8a Reconciliation 8:30a Mass Coffee & Donuts</p> 	<p>4 8:30a Mass 9a Women's Cursillo 6 The Search - Lenten Small Group</p> 	<p>5 6 RCIA @ NOM 6:30 Choir Practice</p> 	<p>6 8a Reconciliation 8:30a Mass Eucharistic Adoration 12:30 Soup & Speaker 6:15 PSR and Youth Group at NOM</p>	<p>7 1:30 CCW Board</p> 	<p>8 8a Reconciliation 8:30a Mass Altar Angels Church Cleaning Bible Study 12 Stations of the Cross</p>	<p>9 4:30 Mass Catholic Relief Service Collection</p>
<p>10 8a Reconciliation 8:30a Mass Catholic Relief Service Collection Chris Takes Pancakes Breakfast</p> 	<p>11 8:30a Mass 9a Women's Cursillo 6 The Search - Lenten Small Group</p> 	<p>12 6 RCIA @ NOM 6 Lenten Reconciliation Service @ NOM</p>  <p>Forgiveness</p>	<p>13 8a Reconciliation 8:30a Mass Eucharistic Adoration 10:30a Staff Meeting 6:15 PSR and Youth Group at NOM</p>	<p>14 2 BeFriender</p>  <p>BEFRIENDER MINISTRY A Listening Presence</p>	<p>15 8a Reconciliation 8:30a Mass Altar Angels Church Cleaning Bible Study 12 Stations of the Cross</p>	<p>16 4:30 Mass Pantry Collection Gina Schroer Full Communion into the Church</p> 
<p>17 8a Reconciliation 8:30a Mass Pantry Collection Coffee & Donuts</p> 	<p>18 8:30a Mass 9a Women's Cursillo 6 The Search - Lenten Small Group</p> 	<p>19 6 RCIA @ NOM 6:30 Choir Practice</p> 	<p>20 8a Reconciliation 8:30a Mass Eucharistic Adoration 6:15 PSR and Youth Group at NOM</p>	<p>21 3 Renew 6 Ministry Council</p>	<p>22 8a Reconciliation 8:30a Mass Altar Angels Church Cleaning Bible Study 12 Stations of the Cross</p>	<p>23 Palm Sunday 4:30 Mass</p> 
<p>24 Palm Sunday 8a Reconciliation 8:30a Mass Coffee & Donuts</p> 	<p>25 8:30a Mass 9a Women's Cursillo 6 The Search - Lenten Small Group</p> 	<p>26 12:30 Bernadette Buddies 6 RCIA @ NOM 6:30 Choir Practice</p> 	<p>27 8a Reconciliation 8:30a Mass Eucharistic Adoration 9:15a Worship Board 10:30a Staff Meeting 6:15 PSR and Youth Group at NOM</p>	<p>28 Parish Office Closed at Noon</p>  <p>Holy Thursday 6 Mass of the Lord's Supper</p>	<p>29 Parish Office Closed 3 Stations of the Cross at Nativity of Mary</p>  <p>6 Celebration of the Lord's Passion</p>	<p>30 8 Easter Vigil at Nativity of Mary</p> 
<p>31 Easter Sunday 8a Reconciliation 8:30a Mass</p>  <p>Easter Sunday</p>	<p>April 1 Easter Monday Parish Office Closed</p>	<p>2 6:30 Choir Practice</p> 	<p>3 8a Reconciliation 8:30a Mass Eucharistic Adoration 6:15 PSR and Youth Group at NOM</p>	<p>4 1:30 CCW Social</p>  <p>Ladies' FELLOWSHIP</p>	<p>5 8a Reconciliation 8:30a Mass Altar Angels Church Cleaning Bible Study</p>	<p>6 4:30 Mass</p>




Gina Schroer is welcomed by Bishop Johnston at the Rite of Election last Saturday, February 17th at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

Please join us on Sunday,
 March 10, 2024
 9:00 am until noon
 as



Chris Cakes

will be serving an entertaining,
 pancake flippin' breakfast consisting
 of pancakes, sausage, juice & coffee.



Join us in the
 Parish Hall for a
 delicious and
 entertaining
 breakfast

All you care to eat!
 Adults - \$9; Children - \$6
 Sponsored by CCW

RCIA

Please continue to pray for Gina and all those entering the Church this Easter season through the RCIA program. Gina will receive full communion into the Church on Saturday, March 16th at the 4:30 Mass. Several other's will receive full communion at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, March 30th at Nativity of Mary.

2023 Contribution Statements

If you have not received your 2023 contribution statement and would like one, please contact Vonda in the Parish Office, 816-356-3700, or email at vonda@stbernadettekcmo.org. Statements can be emailed, picked up or mailed via us postal service.

Holy Week and Easter 2024
St. Bernadette and Nativity of Mary

- March 28, **Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's Supper,** 6:00 pm
 at **St. Bernadette**
- March 29, **Good Friday, Stations of the Cross,** 3:00 pm
 at **Nativity of Mary**
- March 29, **Good Friday, Celebration of the Lord's Passion,**..... 6:00 pm
 at **St. Bernadette**
- March 30, **Easter Vigil** 8:00 pm
 at **Nativity of Mary**
- March 31, **Easter Sunday**.....8:30 am
 at **St. Bernadette**
- March 31, **Easter Sunday**.....10:30 am
 at **Nativity of Mary**



The Missouri Pro-Abortion Ballot

Read below for more information.
Issued February 21, 2024



I. What is the Missouri Pro-Abortion Ballot Initiative?

It is an attempt by pro-abortion groups to put forth a ballot measure to amend the Missouri Constitution and legalize abortion throughout ALL stages of pregnancy.



What are the pro-abortion groups doing to get the proposed change to the constitution on a fall 2024 ballot?

They are in the process of collecting signatures on a petition throughout Missouri. They need to collect approximately 172,000 total valid signatures from registered voters in six out of eight congressional districts.

If the measure is passed by Missouri voters in the general election, what does it mean?

It would place a right to abortion in the state constitution and would nullify all current state pro-life and parental notification laws.

II. What does the slogan “Decline to Sign” mean?

If you are approached to sign anything, read the petition summary on the front or the actual language on the back before you sign anything. After reading, you can say, “No, thank you.”

Don't take for granted what the signature gatherers tell you. In other states, voters have been falsely told that the petitions protect “women's health” or that it is “pro-life.” None of the pro-life groups in Missouri are collecting signatures for an initiative petition, so don't be misled.

Don't fall for the tactic “you can sign it, but still vote against it later.” No one should participate in abortion to any degree. It is morally wrong to help put it on the ballot so that others can vote in favor of it.

III. Why we as Catholics must NOT sign and allow this to appear on the fall ballot.

The dignity of the human person, the sacredness of each human being in God's eyes, and the humanity of the preborn is at the center of what we as Catholics must accept as truth.

We are called to defend human life by standing up against the proposed ballot initiative to put a right to abortion in the Missouri Constitution.



IV. How does the Church help mothers and fathers choose life for their children?

The Church's pastoral response will continue to focus on the needs of women facing unexpected or challenging pregnancies. We must and will answer Pope Francis' repeated challenge to go to the margins and bring help to those in need.

There are abundant ministries and agencies in the Diocese of Kansas City – St. Joseph that support women, children, and families. Please learn more and get involved.

- The Gabriel Project - supports women with a friend for the journey.
- Walking with Moms in Need - is a parish-based ministry to assist pregnant mothers. Many parishes collect funds for baby bottles, donate diapers, partner with a local pregnancy resource centers and more.
- Meet Life with the Knights of Columbus - offers ASAP (Aid and Support After Pregnancy) and the ultrasound initiative which gifts pregnancy resource centers with technology to view preborn babies and hear the heartbeat.
- Catholic Charities Moms Empowerment Program - equips mothers with knowledge and material support.
- There are over 20 Pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes in the Diocese that work with the Office of Life and Justice and the Knight of Columbus. To learn more, please scan the QR code.



V. What does the Church do to help those wounded by abortion?

Research shows that by the age of 45, as many as 1 in 3 women have had an abortion, and a similar number of men and family members have been involved.

Sadly, these numbers generally remain consistent for both Catholics and non-Catholics alike. Many Catholics who have participated in abortion believe they have committed the "unforgiveable sin."

However, the Church does not abandon women and men who have experienced abortion and then find themselves in spiritual, emotional, and psychological turmoil. All who are touched by abortion are invited to go to a priest for the sacrament of reconciliation. Additionally, Project Rachel and Project Joseph ministry offer local, confidential, healing retreats known as Unfailing Mercy.

For more information, please contact Deb Sheppard at sheppard@diocesekcsj.org.



"The Child Who Was Never Born,"
by Martin Hudáček. Located in Slovakia.

ST. BERNADETTE MEMORIAL

- † Barringhaus Family
- † Elton & Cindy Cook
- L&D Michael Medina Family
- L&D Dee Phillips Family
- L&D Jeanette Wood Family
- L&D Muessig Family
- † Holloway & Slattery Families
- L&D Ed & Rosie Sosna Families
- † Rebecca Marie Lueke
- L&D Cookie Crosby Family
- L&D Bock & Doelling Families
- L&D Marguerite Shortino Family
- L&D McNamara & Palermo Family
- L&D Hall & Meis Families
- L&D Babich & Kauzlarich Families
- † Brandt & Marra Families
- L&D Dan Baker, Baker & Thies Families
- L&D Riegel & Magyar Families
- L&D Henggeler & Maddock Families
- L&D Fahlstrom & Lankford Families
- † Maureen Humphreys & Carl Bendert
- L&D Gaughran & Richichi Family
- L&D Family of CeCe LaFleur-Theisen
- L&D Gellhaus & Honeycutt Families
- L&D Javier, Bariuau, Pricer, Zulueta, Farhat & Ana Families
- L&D Arrighi & Basso Families
- L&D Cushing & Malkmus Families
- L&D Hohm & Knaebel Families
- L&D Carr/Calovich & Sapenaro Families
- L&D Burgio & Saitta Families
- L&D Gojmaric & Rozell Families
- L&D Thomas E. Grace Family
- L&D Don Merker Family
- L&D Scherer, Smith & Beykirch Families
- L&D Arrighi & Basso Families
- † Jean A. Bruce
- L&D Ray & Betty Rinas Family
- L&D Serraro & S.V. Gutierrez Families
- L&D Abbott and Ridder Families
- L&D Members of St. Theresa the Little Flower Ladies Auxiliary of K of C
- † Christian Glenn Bradley
- L&D Beem & Clauson Families
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