

ST. BERNARD OF MONTJOUX PARISH

February 21, 2021



1st SUNDAY OF LENT

"This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent, and believe in the gospel." - Mk 1:15

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Worship Sites



St. Bernard's
27 St. Bernard St.
Saranac Lake, NY
12983

**Church of the
Assumption**
826 State Rt. 86
Gabriels, NY



Oratories

St. Paul's
1640 State Rt. 3
Bloomingdale, NY

**St. John's
in the Wilderness**
6148 St. Rt. 30 Lake Clear, NY

Our parish is one of only two in the U.S. named for St. Bernard of Montjoux, patron saint of hikers, skiers and mountaineers. All other St. Bernard's parishes are under the patronage of St. Bernard of Clairvaux.

Eleventh century Priest of the Diocese of Aosta in the Alps, St. Bernard was well known for his ministry among the travelers and hikers in the treacherous alpine passes between France and Italy. One of the monasteries he established developed the massive breed of dog that could function well in deep snow and unrelenting cold—the St. Bernard.



Pastor: Father Martin E. Cline Parochial Vicar: Father Alex Guimpol
Priest in Residence: Msgr. C.J. McAvoy

St. Bernard's Rectory 518-891-4616 www.stbernards.church

Regular Office Hours:

Monday: 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday: 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Deacon: Joseph Szwed, 518-891-5008

Pastoral Assistant: Sr. Carol Kraeger

School Principal: Andrea Kilbourne-Hill, 518-891-2830
www.stbernardsschool.org



St. Oscar Romero said, "Aspire not to have more, but to be more." These powerful words provide the perfect framework for a conversion-oriented Lenten experience. God is giving us this Lenten sign to stop being concerned about what we have and focus on who we are. This requires that we create a desert space and listen more attentively for God to reveal His presence. It is all so wonderfully simple on the one hand and so incredibly challenging on the other. The message is simple: love God, neighbor, and self. Those simple words make great sense, but we struggle translating them into reality. Our attachments, compulsions, obsessions, addictions, routines, and busyness all anchor us to the "idol of the self," keeping us mired in our compulsive need for self-aggrandizement. It's not about us!

God vowed, long ago, to nurture, sustain and protect the relationship He has with His people. He called us into being, nurtures us in being, and sustains us in being. Without the Loving Divine Presence, all life would cease. Once we slow down a bit and clear away some of the clutter, we can see how the journey of our life is unfolding. We can see what brings us in and out of tune with God's love and how we can better imitate God's loving fidelity in our relationship with Him. In short, we will see our myopic short sightedness and figure out how we can better share the Divine Fire within with others. Lent isn't just about giving stuff up for forty days and indulging again at Easter. We need to push things much farther and wrestle with the question of how we can be more. "Being more" means becoming more fully alive and in touch with the holiness of life and the divinity that lives in and empowers all beings and things. It is realizing that the "quality" of our presence is crucial to being an effective witness and herald of God's unconditional love.

The illusion we have bought into causes us to believe that the wrong things and systems matter. We tirelessly fight to keep things the way they are, to return to the former ways of doing things or restore some nostalgic fantasy memory of "life in the good old days." Lent isn't about maintaining what we have or returning to something that is gone. It's about becoming something new. It's about being more focused, centered, convicted, and grounded so that we can be a person who truly loves and treasures being made in the image of God. The secret to Gospel living is not found in accumulating anything for ourselves, even merit points for heaven. Gospel living means learning how to live with less so that others can live with more. The thought of permanently giving something up makes us feel uncomfortable. Truth often does.



From the Pastor

HELP!

We are looking for an apartment for Sr. Carol, who should be returning the middle of March, about the time we will be placing St. John's in the Wilderness on the market. Sr.

Carol can live there while it is on the market, but I would like to have some options for her. We would need a two-room apartment, ground floor if possible. She will not be picky; she wants to stay in the area. So, if you know someone who has a possible rental or if you do, please call the office at 518-891 4616! Thank you!

I would like to encourage you to check out our Facebook page and our website. I gave a talk to the Catholic Daughters of America on the Triduum and some of the details of the Holy Week masses. These masses have such details to them, and every action of the priest and people have some meaning. So please take a look before Holy Week, I believe it will add something to your celebration.

What to give up?

Fasting

- Fast with one full meal, no snacks, one day a week.
- Skip meat an extra day (or two) a week.
- Give up alcoholic beverages.
- Give up coffee (or reduce to one cup a day).
- Give up all desserts.
- Give up all unnecessary shopping.
- Fast from music in the car.

Prayer

- Begin (or begin again) the daily Rosary.
- Meditate for 10 minutes a day. (Daily meditations can be found at Catholic.net.)
- Choose one extra devotion per week during Lent: Stations of the Cross, Eucharistic Adoration or a weekday Mass.

Almsgiving/Charity

- Visit a nursing home with your children.
- Forgive someone and patch things up in a visit, or, if necessary, by phone or letter.
- Give up gossip, judging or profanity.
- Say a kind word to everyone you meet.
- Pay a significant compliment to each of your children every day.
- Visit an elderly friend or relative.
- Save up a significant amount of money for a deserving charity or apostolate.

For Young People

- Do chores without complaining.
- Restrict your TV, Internet or music time.
- Restrict your phone time.
- Send a letter or picture to a grandmother, aunt or godparent.
- Make a new friend outside your "crowd."
- Be a friend to a shy person.
- Give up that bad place, person or thing.
- Choose a favorite toy, book or piece of clothing and put it away until Easter.

If we don't do something more, then Easter will come and be gone again, without the miracle it is meant to be for us. We need Lent and the Easter season. Let us not lose it again amidst the unnecessary aspects of life, things we think are important, or the things the world tells us we need to focus on. The world right now, you right now need "to Lent."

The First Sunday of Lent



St. Bernard's School News

The service projects the students took on this month were huge successes.

We had our own "Souper Bowl" in which classes competed against each other to bring in the most soup for our Interfaith Food Pantry. Wow! Collectively, we gathered 452 items to donate! Our third graders won the Souper Bowl by bringing in over 100 items!

We also collected change for an inter-class battle of the "Penny Wars." Each class had a bucket for change. Each penny counted positively and each silver coin counted negatively. At the end of the week, the fifth graders' strategy worked out for them as they were the only class who had more pennies than silver coins. They were declared the official winners, yet an honorable mention went to the kindergarten class for collecting the most money, \$194 in change! Collectively, the school raised \$648, which was split between the Tri-Lakes Humane Society, the Backpack Program, and the Grace Pantry.

Our students and their families truly lived our theme of "doing small things with great love" this month!

Thank you to those who bought Snow Me the Money tickets in support of the school. Good luck!



Catholic Daughters'

Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court St. Bernard's, will again be sponsoring a Baby Shower for Catholic Charities/Birthright sometime in the spring. Please consider buying diapers and other baby supplies while they are on sale.

If you are more creative and wish to sew, crochet or knit items please know blankets, quilts, hats and mittens are very important. If you already have some of these items, RoseAnn (891-0212) would be happy to pick them up at your convenience.



Environmental Stewardship

LENT means SPRINGTIME. What needs to grow in the 'ground' of my soul this Season? Jesus gave us the tools of prayer, fasting and giving for working up the 'ground' to help bring about a rich harvest not only for me but for the world around me. Lent provides us with an opportunity to begin building those eco-friendly habits we've been meaning to get a jump on. Deciding what specific changes to make is up to you. Consider your lifestyle, how you can make the most impact and what is feasible for you and your family. Spending time with the Lord is a good place to begin.

Is God Calling You to a More Active Role in Your Parish?

The Formation for Ministry Program prepares men and women to serve in their local parish. This is a two-year program and classes are online through Boston College. Candidates also meet a few times a year as a group for workshops. More information is available on our diocesan website at: <https://www.rcdony.org/formation/candidate.html>. Or contact Cathy Russell at: crussell@rcdony.org or call (315) 393-2920.



A Letter from the Bishop

Lent 2021

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

I felt sure that by the end of last summer, we would be out of the woods. But here we are, a year later, and COVID 19 refuses to go away. Last year, this deadly virus invaded our lives. Its impact continues to devastate all in its path.

Lent is upon us, and we embrace the opportunity to enter this spiritual journey to be renewed in hope. We can make Lent 2021 like none other! In his Lenten message this year, Pope Francis reminds us that "Every moment of our lives is a time for believing, hoping and loving." This is our time to focus on the awesome Gift we have received in the Son of God, as we lift our hearts in gratitude for the Glorious Mystery of Christ's Resurrection. In Lent 2021, we beg for the grace to increase our faith, renew our hope, and strengthen our love for God and for one another.

Does Jesus' resurrection illuminate my life? In the middle of national political strife, a worldwide pandemic, family worries, job loss, and health concerns, this Lent can be a time to revive our faith that risks being weakened during times such as these in which we live. In my journey on this earth, does knowing that Christ is risen from the dead inspire my thoughts, influence my attitude, and inform my decisions?

Prayer, fasting and acts of charity are means for you and me to stay centered on the joy of the resurrection. Yes, even when things look pretty discouraging and bleak, we can find hope and peace because we are a resurrection people! Lent is not a dead-end journey of self-sacrifice and personal denial. No, Lent is a truly graced time to make space for the most important thing in life—my relationship with the Risen Christ. In that relationship we discover a hope that will never die.

I encourage you, if your health allows, to rejoin your neighbors at the liturgies and devotions offered at your parish this Lent, if you have been absent due to pandemic concerns. Our pastors and parishioners have worked so hard to ensure that health protocols are in place. The Eucharist is food for the journey, the very Body and Blood of Christ offered and poured out for our salvation. Christ-led and Christ-fed, we are hope-filled!

May the blessing of the risen Lord accompany all of us on our journey towards the light of Easter. Mary, Mother of the Savior, pray for us! Joseph, comfort of the afflicted, pray for us!

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop of Ogdensburg



Contribution Statements

Parishioners who would like a contribution statement for tax purposes for the 2020 tax year should contact Ellen at the church office. You can request one by emailing office@stbernards.church, or calling 518-891-4616. Statements will be mailed to you as soon as possible.



February 20 — February 28

Sat., Feb. 20 & Sun., Feb. 21 — 1st Sunday of Lent

4:30 p.m. (St. B) (Ant.) Eileen LaPlante by Virginia Shelhamer

8:00 a.m. (St. B) Elizabeth Vaughn by Cathy & Jim Vaughn

10:00 a.m. (St. B) People of the Parish

Monday, February 22 — The Chair of St. Peter

5:30 p.m. (St. B) Carolyn Miller by the Akey Family

Tuesday, February 23

12:00 p.m. (St. B) Benjamin Luciano by the Luciano Family

Wednesday, February 24

8:30 a.m. (St. B) Ann Hague by Family

1:30 p.m. (St. B) Barry Morgan McDonough by Geneva Courtney

Thursday, February 25

12:00 p.m. (St. B) Ed & Margaret O'Connor by Dorothy Metz

Friday, February 26

8:30 a.m. (St. B) Ann Winderl by Sandra & Fred Winderl

Sat., Feb. 27 & Sun., Feb. 28 — 2nd Sunday of Lent

4:30 p.m. (St. B) (Ant.) People of the Parish

8:00 a.m. (St. B) Mary Struss by Cathy & Jim Vaughn

10:00 a.m. (St. B) Dennis Duprey by Bob & Jacci Gardner

Readings for the week of February 21, 2021

Sunday: Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 10]/1 Pt 3:18-22/
Mk 1:12-15

Monday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 16:13-19

Tuesday: Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19 [18b]/Mt
6:7-15

Wed.: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19 [19b]/Lk 11:29-
32

Thursday: Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8
[3a]/Mt 7:7-12

Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8 [3]/Mt
5:20-26

Saturday: Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8 [1b]/Mt 5:43-48

Next Sun: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17,
18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10



Funeral Masses

The noon Mass is cancelled, and the intention is rescheduled, whenever a Funeral Mass is held.

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Sunday Liturgies:

4:30 p.m. (Anticipated) — St. Bernard's

8:00 a.m. — St. Bernard's

10:00 a.m. — St. Bernard's

Weekday Masses: (Throughout Lent)

Mon. — 5:30 p.m., Wed. & Fri. — 8:30 a.m.,

Tues. & Thurs. — 12:00 p.m. — St. Bernard's

Baptismal Preparation:

Please call St. Bernard's Rectory, 891-4616

Penance:

Saturdays: (*St. B*) 3:30 to 4:15 p.m.

Anytime by appointment.

Catholic Charities: 518-483-1460

Pregnancy Services:

Crisis Pregnancy? 1-800-NO-ABORT

Plattsburgh Pregnancy Center 518-578-9648 (Free pregnancy testing, counseling, & ultrasound)

Birthright 518-563-4300; OLV Gabriel Project 518-561-1842

Post-Abortion Healing is possible: 1-800-HOPE4ME, or

www.rachelsvineyard.org

St. Bernard's Parish Council:

Jeff Branch, RoseAnn Hickey (Vice-President), Tom Kalinowski, Jim Law (President), Dorothy Metz, Kathy Samperi, Sister Carol, Deacon Joe Szwed, Jim Murnane (trustee), Carol Ward (trustee), Andrea Kilbourne-Hill (school rep), Kathy Hall (secretary — non-voting member)

St. Bernard's Finance Council:

Andrea Kilbourne-Hill, Michael Kilroy, Alan Latourelle, Dorothy Metz, Jim Murnane, Carol Ward

	2/7/21 collection St. Bernard's Parish \$4,623.00 Your generosity is greatly appreciated.
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JOB POSTING

Diocesan Coordinator – Office of Parish Audit & Financial Support Services

The Diocese of Ogdensburg is seeking a **Diocesan Coordinator – Office of Parish Audit & Financial Support Services**. This position provides support in the financial operation of parishes, schools and related entities in the diocese including technical support in the use of QuickBooks Pro and standard accounting practices. This position also oversees the process by which reviews of parish fiscal operations are conducted and reviews annual submission of Parish Financial Reports to assure financial statements are in balance in accordance with diocesan accounting regulations. A Bachelor's Degree in accounting with two years audit experience is preferred. Knowledge of QuickBooks Pro accounting software is required. Candidates should possess excellent verbal and written communication skills, have the ability to work independently and manage/establish priority for several projects at the same time. Travel throughout the diocese is necessary on occasion. Submit letter of interest, resumé and three professional references to: Human Resources Office, Diocese of Ogdensburg, P.O. Box 369, Ogdensburg, NY 13669 or e-mail to: ksnover@rcdony.org. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

Food Pantry

For the month of February, you are asked to bring peanut butter/jelly and crackers. Your donations are greatly needed and appreciated during these unprecedented times.

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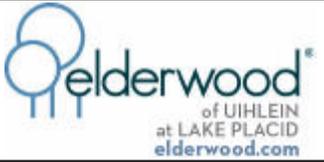
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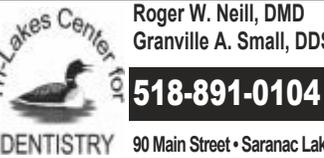
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