

The Deacon's Bench

Deacon Jim Carper, Parish Life Director

The deacon's bench, historically, is where the deacons sat during church services in the early protestant church. It seemed an appropriate title for this small section of our Church Bulletin; since it is an opportunity for me to share with you what's going on in our Parish, from my point of view.

November – Month of the Holy Souls

On November 6 we will celebrate the feast day of 19 Saints and Blesseds? That is if you don't count all the Blessed Martyrs of Astoria from the Spanish Civil War. What is it with, what seems to be, our obsession with the dead? Our Catholic Faith teaches us to cherish the memory of our dead. It urges us to commune in prayer, especially at Mass, with the souls of those we loved while they walked this Earth. We are continually reminded that "life is changed, not ended." It is useless to speculate on the duration of this final, cleansing encounter with our God because "time," as we understand it on Earth, has no meaning in the realm of eternity. Hence our Faith very sensibly teaches us to forget "time" and commune in prayer with our dead. Just as "the living" are helped over the rough spots of this early life by experiencing the love, sympathy and solidarity of their friends, so also, we believe the dead are consoled and helped as they pass through the often painful "cleansing" of their ultimate encounter with God. How sad it is when we get so hung up on the earthly concept of "time" we allow our love and concern to stop at the moment of earthly death. During November, I encourage you to continue to "commune" with the dead. After all, we still love them and, for all we know, they still love us.

Purgatory? Do Catholics Still Believe That?

It is our belief, at the moment of death, we will experience our ultimate encounter with the God of Love. In this encounter we will experience God more vividly than ever before because our spirit will be free of all human constraints. For some this will be a very painful encounter because they will see their faults magnified in contrast with the goodness of God. Many believe that the pain of this encounter constitutes the essence of the doctrine of Purgatory. To own up to one's selfishness and meanness can be terribly painful, as we all know. To do so in the presence of Holiness Itself must constitute the ultimate purgation.

Service of Remembrance –

Saturday, November 17, 2018 – 10:00 AM

In the Roman Catholic Church the month of November is the traditional time to visit the graves of loved ones, as is the anniversary of their deaths. Autumn is the season when the earth seems to die, but it is only asleep waiting to return to life in the Spring.

INVITE A FRIEND or FAMILY MEMBER TO CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY!

Come Home to St Bernadette

Last Sunday's Collection.....\$6,639.00		
Intentions for the Week		
Saturday	5:30PM	+Msgr. Thomas Peter Leonard
Sunday	8:00AM 10:00AM	Intentions of All Parishioners +Mary Fletcher
Monday	8:00AM	Intentions of All Parishioners
Tuesday	8:00AM	+Harry Armstrong
Wednesday	8:00AM	Intentions of All Parishioners
Thursday	8:00AM	+Fr. Allan Roberts
Friday		NO MASS
<p>November 4th <u>31st Sunday of Ordinary Time</u> First Reading -Deuteronomy 6:2-6(152B) Psalm -18:2-3, 3-4,47,51 Second Reading -Hebrews 7:23-28 Gospel -Mark 12:28b-34</p> <p>November 11th <u>32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time</u> First Reading -1 Kings 17:10-16(155B) Psalm -146:7, 8-9, 9-10 Second Reading -Hebrews 9:23-28 Gospel -Mark 12:38-44 or 41-44</p>		

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL WHO HAVE DIED

especially, **the 11 people in the Synagogue in Pittsburg.** May they and all who have died be received into Our Lord's heavenly kingdom; and may those grieving the loss of loved ones be consoled and strengthened through faith and prayers.

VETERANS DAY

The Rectory/Office will be **closed Monday, November 12th** in observance of Veterans Day.

Christmas Dinner Committee Meeting

The 2018 Christmas Dinner Committee will host their first meeting for volunteers **TODAY Sunday, November 4, immediately following the 10:00 Mass.** Volunteers are needed to assist with decorations, donations, silent auction, ticket sales, logistics, etc. The dinner itself will be held on **Saturday, December 1st at 6:30 p.m.** in the church hall. Please contact Bara King @ 323-252-4984, Lorraine Sampson@,323-632-0964 or Vickie Race @ 323-293-4877 if you want to volunteer.

SOULFUL BRUNCH

The Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Court #162 invite you to join us in Celebrating National Blacks Catholics Month. **On Sunday, November 11th** in the parish hall at 10am-12:30pm Tickets are \$20 per person, and are on sale after the 8 & 10am Mass in the hall. For more information please see flyers located at all exits.

Adult Faith Formation & RCIA presents....

Who is Jesus?

By Carolyn James, MA @
St. Bernadette

3825 Don Felipe Dr.

Tuesday November 6th

7:00 p.m. refreshments are served

For more information contact: Norma Jackson 323-293-4877

Bible Study Sessions

Please join us in studying the Bible and in experiencing the Living Word of God.

Every first and third Thursday of the month in the hall 12:00pm-1:30pm and 7:00pm-8:30pm.

Safeguarding The Children Committee

St. Bernadette is looking for 5 volunteers to participate on the Safeguarding the Children Committee. This team meets twice a year to discuss parish responsibilities and planning ways to educate the parish on this important issue. Those who are currently Parents in Child Rearing, Experts who work with community and families (Social Workers, Therapists etc...) or any interested adults from this parish. Please call Mrs. Jackson at 323-293-4877 or email your interest to normajeane@pacbell.net

**Have You Remembered
St. Bernadette Catholic Church
in Your Will or Trust?**

Have you remembered your parish in your Will or Trust? For more information, please contact the Planned Giving Office at (213) 637-7504 or email plannedgiving@la-archdiocese.org
Website www.ADLAegacy.org

ST BERNADETTE SPECIAL MONTHLY COLLECTIONS

1st Weekend: Christian Service collection

3rd Weekend: Debt-Reduction collection



COFFEE HOUR

November

- 4th Mike Romo
- 11th Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Soulful Brunch
- 18th Seniors Group
- 25th Mike Romo

December

- 2nd
- 9th Santa's Sweet Shop
- 16th
- 23rd
- 30th Rachel's Hope

To have doughnuts available after mass we need more volunteers from the parish to sponsor them.

Please call the rectory@ 323-293-4877

if you can assist. Thank you for your support!

The hosting group will order and purchase donuts. Donations are accepted to cover the cost of the donuts. Hosting group will take the cost of the donuts from the donated funds and turn in to the Rectory any excess funds. In the event the donated funds are not sufficient to cover the cost, the parish will reimburse the difference.

1. Order Donuts (Yum Yum, Slauson Donuts, etc.) Call in donut order not later than Saturday night. Pick up donuts and set up before 8:00am Mass.
2. Make coffee, provide hot water for tea and hot chocolate, make punch. Set up tray with napkins, sugar, creamer, etc.
3. Hosting group will be available to greet and assist parishioners in selecting their choices of donuts and making parishioners feel welcome.
4. At the end of coffee and donut time, hosting group will clean and put away the coffee pot and punch container. However, if there is punch left over, put contain in small white refrigerator next to the freezer. Clean counters and mop floor area around coffee pot and punch container.

Did You Know?

Boundaries are critical, for you and for the children in your care. Establishing and maintaining boundaries helps teach children their importance, gives them the tools to establish their own, and to form appropriate and healthy relationships with other adults. You can avoid even a misconception of inappropriate behavior by upholding the boundaries you have established for yourself, allowing you more freedom to care for the children in your life. For a copy of the complete VIRTUS® article "Are Boundaries Really that Important?" visit <http://www.la-archdiocese.org/org/protecting/Pages/VIRTUS-Current-Online-Articles.aspx>.