



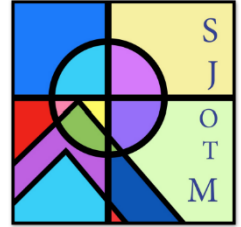
St. Bernard's Episcopal Church St. John on the Mountain

# THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

## FESTAL HOLY EUCHARIST

December 24, 2025, 8:00 pm

St. Bernard's Episcopal Church, Bernardsville, NJ



### PRELUDE

Nöel Joyeux

Gordon Young

### CHORAL INTROIT

Mid-winter

Bob Chilcott

### PROCESSIONAL CAROL 83 stanzas 1-3, 6 O come, all ye faithful

*Adeste fideles*

1. O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come, and behold him,  
born the King of angels; *Refrain*

2. God from God,  
Light from Light eternal,  
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
only-begotten Son of the Father;

*Refrain*

*Refrain* O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ, the Lord.

3. Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
glory to God, glory in the highest; *Refrain*

6. Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given; Word of the Father; now in flesh appearing. *Refrain*

### CHRISTMAS EVE OPENING ACCLAMATION

by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art

*Presider* If you are like Joseph, and you are seeking truth,

*Assembly* **There is room here for you.**

*Presider* If you are like Mary, and you are seeking rest,

*Assembly* **There is a seat here for you.**

*Presider* If you are like the Magi, the wise men, and you are looking for a sign,

*Assembly* **These candles are here for you.**

*Presider* If you are like the angels, and you cannot help but sing,

*Assembly* **These is a melody here for you.**

*Presider* Come in. You are in God's house. Love was born tonight, and there is love here for you.

*Assembly* **Let us worship the God of love.**

### GLORIA - CAROL 96 stanza 1

Angels we have heard on high

*Gloria*

1. Angels we have heard on high, singing sweetly through the night,  
and the mountains in reply echoing their brave delight.

*Refrain* **Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*

*Deacon* The Lord be with you.

*Assembly* **And also with you.**

*Deacon* Let us pray. God of glory, your splendor shines from a manger in Bethlehem, where the Light of the world is humbly born into the darkness of human night. Open our eyes to Christ's presence in the shadows of our world, so that we, like him, may become beacons of your love, hope, peace, and justice, and defenders of all for whom there is no room. **Amen.**

**FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 9:2-7***read by Michele Esposito-Edwards**Lector* A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.*Assembly* **Thanks be to God.****PSALM 96** *sung by the choir**sung to The Sussex Carol, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams*

*Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.  
Sing to the LORD and praise his Name; proclaim His salvation day after day.  
News of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth.  
For great is the Lord most worthy of praise; He is to be feared above all Gods.  
For all the gods are idols, but the Lord made the heavens.  
Angels rejoice with us and sing. All for to see the new born King.  
Let heavens rejoice, let earth be glad; let sea resound with shouts of joy.  
For out of darkness we have light; which made the angels sing this night;  
Glory to God in highest heav'n, Peace on earth, and goodwill, Amen.*

**SECOND LESSON: Titus 2:11-14***read by Patrick Constantinides**Lector* A reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus.

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.*Assembly* **Thanks be to God.****SEQUENCE CAROL 87**

Hark! the herald angels sing

*Mendelssohn*

1 Hark! the herald angels sing  
glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angelic host proclaim  
Christ is born in Bethlehem!

2 Christ, by highest heaven adored;  
Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail the incarnate Deity.  
Pleased as man with us to dwell;  
Jesus, our Emmanuel! **Refrain**

**Refrain:** *Hark! the herald angels sing  
glory to the newborn King!*

3 Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
Risen with healing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,  
hail, the Sun of Righteousness! hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace! **Refrain**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 2:1-14

*Gospeller*      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*Assembly*      **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom God favors!"

*Gospeller*      The Gospel of the Lord.

*Assembly*      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## THE SERMON

The Rev. Beth Rauen Sciaino

### RESPONSE CAROL 104

A stable lamp is lighted

*Andújar*

A stable lamp is lighted  
whose glow shall wake the sky;  
the stars shall bend their voices,  
and every stone shall cry,  
and every stone shall cry,  
and straw like gold shall shine;  
a barn shall harbor heaven,  
a stall become a shrine.

Yet he shall be forsaken,  
and yielded up to die  
The sky shall groan and darken,  
And every stone shall cry,  
and every stone shall cry,  
For stony hearts of men:  
God's blood upon the spearhead,  
God's love refused again.

This child through David's city  
shall ride in triumph by;  
the palm shall strew its branches,  
and every stone shall cry,  
and every stone shall cry;  
though heavy, dull, and dumb,  
and lie within the roadway  
to pave his kingdom come.

But now, as at the ending,  
the low is lifted high;  
the stars shall bend their voices,  
and every stone shall cry,  
and every stone shall cry,  
In praises of the Child  
by whose descent among us  
the worlds are reconciled.

**THE NICENE CREED** *The assembly stands for the Creed and the Prayers as able*

BCP p. 358

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through Him all things were made. For us and our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the**

living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*led by Paul Edwards*

Form VI, BCP p. 39

*Intercessor* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. For all people in their daily life and work;  
*Assembly* **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those are alone.**

*Intercessor* For this community, the nation, and world;  
*Assembly* **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

*Intercessor* For the just and proper use of your creation;  
*Assembly* **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

*Intercessor* For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
*Assembly* **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

*Intercessor* For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
*Assembly* **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

*Intercessor* For Sean our Presiding Bishop, Sally our Bishop; and for all bishops and other ministers;  
*Assembly* **For all who serve God in God's church.**

*Intercessor* For the special needs and concerns of our parishes. We pray for all on our parish Prayer Lists. *Silence. The assembly may add their own petitions.*

*Intercessor* Hear us Lord;  
*Assembly* **For your mercy is great.**

*Intercessor* We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *Silence. The assembly may add their own thanksgivings.*

*Intercessor* We will exalt you, O God our King;  
*Assembly* **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

*Intercessor* We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. *Silence. The assembly may add their own petitions.*

*Intercessor* Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
*Assembly* **Who put their trust in you.**

*Intercessor* We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.  
*All* **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;  
in your compassion forgive us our sins,  
known and unknown, things done and left undone;  
and so uphold us by your Spirit  
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,  
to the honor and glory of your Name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Presider* May the God of love and power forgive you and free you from your sins, heal and strengthen you by the Spirit, and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*Assembly* **And also with you.**

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## HOLY COMMUNION

*During the Offertory Anthem an offering is collected for God's mission and ministry.*

*Thank you for your generosity.*

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**      Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day      Richard Shephard

*The assembly stands and sing.*

**PRESENTATION HYMN 115**      What child is this      Traditional

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,<br>on Mary's lap is sleeping?<br>Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,<br>while shepherds watch are keeping?<br><i>This, this is Christ the King,<br/>whom shepherds guard and angels sing;<br/>haste, haste to bring him laud,<br/>the babe, the son of Mary.</i> | 2 Why lies he in such mean estate<br>where ox and ass are feeding?<br>Good Christian, fear: for sinners here<br>the silent Word is pleading.<br><i>Nails, spear shall pierce him through,<br/>The cross be borne for me, for you.<br/>Hail, hail the Word made flesh,<br/>the babe, the son of Mary.</i> |
| 3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him;<br>the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.<br><i>Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby<br/>Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.</i>                          |  |

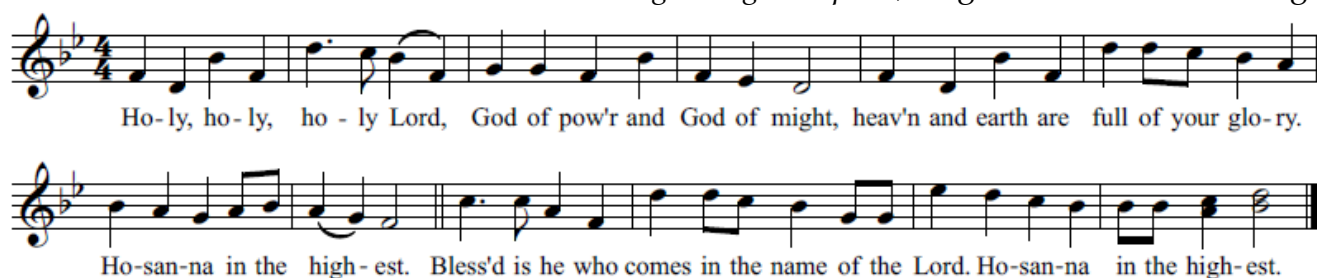
## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B, BCP p. 367

*Presider*      The Lord be with you.  
*Assembly*      **And also with you.**  
*Presider*      Lift up your hearts.  
*Assembly*      **We lift them to the Lord.**  
*Presider*      Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*Assembly*      **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth....Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**SANCTUS**      *sung to Regent Square, Angels from the realms of glory*



*Presider*      We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.... Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*All*      **We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

*Presider*      And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all.... By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

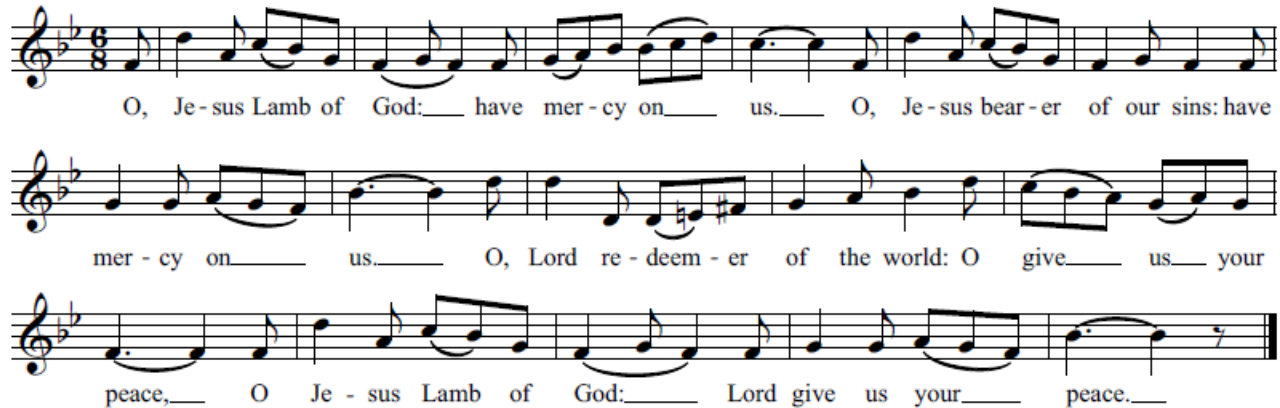
## THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP p. 364

*Presider* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD *Silence is kept.*

### FRACTION ANTHEM



## INVITATION TO COMMUNION *Presider* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*All are welcome to receive the real and living presence of the Body and Blood of Christ, coming forward and kneeling or standing at the altar rail. For those who choose to receive the Blood of Christ, there are two chalices: the pottery chalice is for intincting (dipping), the silver chalice is for those who wish to sip. Gluten-free Communion is available, please request. You may come forward for a blessing in lieu of Communion.*

### COMMUNION ANTHEM

Nativity Carol

John Rutter

### POST COMMUNION SOLO

Cantique de Noël

Adolphe Adam

*At the conclusion of Holy Communion, all kneel (as able) to sing the carol as the lights are dimmed.*

### CAROL 111

Silent night

Stille Nacht

1. Silent night, holy night,  
all is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace.  
Sleep in heavenly peace.
2. Silent night, holy night,  
shepherds quake at the sight,  
glories stream from heaven a-far,  
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!
3. Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*A New Zealand Prayer Book, p. 428*

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,  
that when we were still far off  
you met us in your Son and brought us home.  
Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace  
and opened the gate of glory.  
May we who share Christ's body live his risen life;  
we who drink his cup bring life to others;  
we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Amen.**

## CHRISTMAS BLESSING

May Christ our infant savior give you the joy of the Bethlehem shepherds, the peace and hope of the company of angels, and the humility and love of the holy family; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

## RECESSIONAL CAROL 100

Joy to the world

*Antioch*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come:<br>let earth receive her King;<br>let every heart prepare him room,<br>and heaven and nature sing.   | 2 Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;<br>let us our songs employ,<br>while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains,<br>repeat the sounding joy. |
| 3 No more let sins and sorrows grow,<br>nor thorns infest the ground;<br>he comes to make his blessings flow<br>far as the curse is found. | 4 He rules the world with truth and grace,<br>and makes the nations prove<br>the glories of his righteousness,<br>and wonders of his love.          |

## DISMISSAL

*Presider* Filled with joy and peace, let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.  
*Assembly* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

## POSTLUDE

Toccata on Antioch

Craig Phillips



## The Flowers and Music at Christmas are given to the Glory of God and



In loving memory of Helen H. Schnack, Edward A. Schnack, Cora Corwin Hildebrant

In thanksgiving to God for the people of St. Bernard's and St. John on the Mountain  
– *Pastor Beth*

In loving memory of John and Evelyn Cauley, Harry and Olive Van Ness, and Douglas Van Ness  
– *John & Valerie Cauley*

In honor and loving memory of family and friends of Greg and Mary Canose – *Greg & Mary Jane Canose*

In loving memory of Sue Smith – *John Smith*

In loving memory of Jack Fritts and loved ones – *Anne Fritts*

In loving memory of the Glazar and Kocsis families – *Katherine Glazar*

In memory of family members who have gone home before me and in thanksgiving for all the  
blessings that God has given me – *Mary Kempen*

In thanksgiving for our family and friends – *Mindy & Ned Kirby*

In thanksgiving for St. Bernard's Church, in memory of Katherine Mueller, Andrew McWilliams,  
Charlie Ashmun, and Jim Beringer – *Cindy & Sandy McWilliams*

In loving memory of our parents, Joan & Tom Curtin and Art & Jean Thomas, and Heather Jordan –  
*the Thomas Family*

In loving memory of Lisa Ryland – *the Hobson Family*

In celebration of our families and friends and our Clergy and Congregation  
– *Patrick & Sue Constantinides*

In memory of James Carrington, Caron Barry-Austin, and Karen Miller – *Jane Rauen*

In loving memory of Joseph Martin Byouk and Joseph Robert Byouk – *Phyllis Byouk*

In loving memory of the Fleetwood and Paul families – *Carmen Paul*

In loving memory of Peter & Betty Sayers, Pete Davidson, Charlie, Patrick, and Louie;  
in thanksgiving for our children; and much gratitude to this wonderful community –  
*Alison & Glenn Davidson*





## ASSISTING TONIGHT AT OUR SERVICE

The Rev. Beth Rauen Sciaino, *Presider & Preacher*  
The Rev. Karen B. Lewis, *Deacon*  
Tyler Weakland, *Interim Director of Music*

### *St. Bernard's Choir:*

Jim Ferrara, Samantha Ferrara, Caitlin Hwong,  
Taylor Hwong, Debi Kurisko, Valerie McEntee,  
Devin McGuire, Michael Myers, Jason Robinette,  
John Smith, Julia Somers, Chris Thomas

### *Chalicians*

Mary Kempen, Pamela Kenworthy

### *Lectors*

Michele Esposito Edwards, Patrick  
Constantinides, Paul Edwards

### *Usher*

Frank Curtis

### *Acolytes*

Teddy Hwong, David Sciaino



## St. Bernard's Episcopal Church Clergy, Staff, Wardens, & Vestry

The Rev. Beth Rauen Sciaino, *Rector*  
The Rev. Karen Burke Lewis, *Deacon*  
Tyler Weakland, *Interim Director of Music*  
Alison Davidson, *Parish Administrator*

Christopher Thomas, Valerie McEntee, *Wardens*

Michael Myers, *Treasurer*; Meg McKee, *Clerk*

*Vestry Members:* Anne Fritts, Mindy Kirby, Meg McKee,  
Jennifer Moss, Michael Myers, Jason Robinette

## UPCOMING CHRISTMAS SERVICES

### Christmas Day

10 am at St. Bernard's only and on Zoom,  
combined service with soloist



### Sunday, Dec. 28, 10 am, Lessons & Carols

10 am at St. John on the Mountain

One service only on this day,

no service at St. Bernard's.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS – December 24, 2025

### WORSHIP & COMMUNITY

#### UPCOMING JOINT SERVICES AT ST. BERNARD'S & ST. JOHN ON THE MOUNTAIN

- Sunday, **Dec. 28, 10 am**, at St. John's, Lessons and Carols in the chapel. Please join us for this festive Christmas service followed by coffee hour.
- Sunday, **Feb. 8, 10 am**, at St. Bernard's, Souper Bowl Sunday: soups for sale to benefit the Food Bank

#### TELL OUT MY SOUL – Stewardship 2026

We would like to thank those who have already pledged to St. Bernard's Episcopal Church for 2026. We are still accepting pledges. We hope you will prayerfully consider how your participation in the life of St. Bernard's parish helps you to grow in your faith and compassion for the God's world. Giving estimates (pledges) can be returned by mail or place in the offering plate. Thank you for being generous with all you have been given.

#### EVENING PRAYER resumes Wednesday, Jan. 7, 5:30 pm. via Zoom

Join us for Evening Prayer and learn about a saint in this 20-minute service held on Zoom every other week. *Upcoming dates:* Jan. 7 and 21, Feb. 4. Evening Prayer will shift back to weekly during Lent starting Feb. 25.

#### PARISH OFFICES CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

St. Bernard's and St. John's parish offices will be closed from Wed., Dec. 24, through Fri., Jan. 2, for the Christmas & New Year holidays. They will re-open on Monday, January 5, 2026. Please contact Pastor Beth directly by cell for any pastoral emergencies.

#### BAPTISM PREPARATION FOR YOUNG CHILDREN

Pastor Beth will offer developmentally appropriate and interactive classes on Baptism for children who have not yet received the Sacrament of Baptism. The classes will be adapted to the group. Please reach out to her if you are interested, [priest@stbernardsnj.org](mailto:priest@stbernardsnj.org). Note: Baptism does not occur during the Season of Lent, Feb. 18-April 3, 2026.

#### BOOK REFLECTION GROUP on *Jesus Sophia* by Sally Douglas, starting Jan. 21

Join us to read and reflect on *Jesus Sophia: Returning to Woman Wisdom in the Bible Practice and Prayer* by scholar/pastor Sally Douglas of Australia. She explores early Christian use of the Wisdom tradition in Scripture, personified as a female divine, to understand what God is doing in Jesus' ministry. In doing so, Douglas explores the implications on our own day to day faith lives and practices. We will meet over Zoom most Wed. from 7-8 pm starting on Jan. 21 with the Introduction and Chapter 1. Books will be available for purchase from the parish, or you can purchase the Kindle version. **Meeting dates: Jan. 21, 28, Feb. 4, 25, March 4, 18, 25, and April 1.**

#### CROSS ROADS DAY CAMP: July 6-10

Kids entering Kindergarten-6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join us for the week of July 6-10, 9:00 am-3:00 pm at St. Bernard's Episcopal Church, 88 Claremont Road, Bernardsville, for a wonderful Day Camp let by young adult staff from our Episcopal and Lutheran camp ([crossroadsretreat.com](http://crossroadsretreat.com)). Cost is \$50/child for the week with snack and lunch provided. We had a great experience last year. To pre-register, please email Alison Davidson, St. Bernard's Parish Administrator, [admin@StBernardsNJ.org](mailto:admin@StBernardsNJ.org). Cross Roads Day Camp is sponsored by St. John's, St. Bernard's, and St. Mark's, Basking Ridge.

#### RETIRING MEDICAL DEBT

Thanks to your generosity the **Watchung Convocation has raised over \$33,000 for this effort!** (This means approximately \$3.3 million of medical debt will be retired.) Thank you very much. One of the leading causes of bankruptcy in the US is medical debt. Existing medical debt also prevents people from seeking the help they need to stay healthy. Our Convocation (16 Episcopal churches in our region) took on the challenge to help retire medical debt. In NJ, the state has used leftover federal Covid relief funds to work with Undue Medical Debt to retire the debt of NJ residents. Looking to another state in need, we will pool our resources to buy medical debt for pennies on the dollar to give relief to people in Navajoland (3 counties in New Mexico) and El Paso County, TX. A donation of \$1 retires \$100 of medical debt. (Debt is bundled and there are income restrictions.) To donate, go to: <https://unduemedicaldebt.org/campaigns/?form=donate>

## ST. BERNARD'S AND ST. JOHN'S WEEKLY CALENDAR

### December 24, Wednesday, Christmas Eve

4:00 pm Family Holy Eucharist, St. Bernard's  
 6:00 pm Festal Holy Eucharist, St. John's  
 8:00 pm Festal Holy Eucharist, St. Bernard's

### December 25, Thursday, Christmas Day

10:00 am Joint Holy Eucharist, St. Bernard's

### December 28, The First Sunday after Christmas

9:30 am Choir Rehearsal, St. John's Choir Room  
 10:00 am Joint Lessons & Carols, St. John's Chapel  
 11:00 am Coffee Hour, St. John's

### December 31, Wednesday

8:00 am The Open Table, Zoom

### January 4, The Second Sunday after Christmas/ The Epiphany

7:45 am Holy Eucharist Rite I, St. John's Chapel  
*No St. John's Choir rehearsal*  
 8:45 am Childcare, Lower Level  
 9:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II, St. John's Church  
 9:00 am Sunday School, St. John's Parish Hall  
 10:00 am Coffee Hour, St. John's  
 9:30 am St. Bernard's Choir Rehearsal  
 11:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II, St. Bernard's  
 12:00 pm Coffee Hour, St. Bernard's

### January 7, Wednesday

8:00 am The Open Table, Zoom  
 5:30 pm Evening Prayer, Zoom

## OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES



**HOMEWORK HELPERS:** Homework help and assistance is given to children from Bernardsville Middle School on Weds., 3-5pm in St. Bernard's Parish Hall. To volunteer with this fabulous program contact: Priscilla Miller: [priscillajmiller@aol.com](mailto:priscillajmiller@aol.com)

**FOOD DONATIONS:** Much needed food donations can be donated at any time in the tote situated outside of St. Bernard's Church.



**VOLUNTEER AT THE GOD'S GIVING GARDEN:** Along with St. John on the Mountain and St. Mark's Church, volunteers tend to God's Giving Garden at Ross Farm, Basking Ridge to produce hundreds of pounds of fresh produce that is distributed to food banks in the community. To volunteer for next year's season contact Cathy Ferrara: [cathyhf2@gmail.com](mailto:cathyhf2@gmail.com)



Donations to St. Bernard's Church can be made through PayPal using this QR code.

