

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time – August 16, 2026



At that time, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon." But Jesus did not say

a word in answer to her. Jesus' disciples came and asked him, "Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us." He said in reply, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying, "Lord, help me." He said in reply, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour.

- Matthew 15:21-28

Saint Bernard of Clairvaux's Story-Feast Aug. 20th

Man of the century! Woman of the century! You see such terms applied to so many today—"golfer of the century," "composer of the century," "right tackle of the century"—that the line no longer has any punch. But Western Europe's "man of the twelfth century," without doubt or controversy, had to be Bernard of Clairvaux. Adviser of popes, preacher of the Second Crusade, defender of the faith, healer of a schism, reformer of a monastic Order, Scripture scholar, theologian, and eloquent preacher: any one of these titles would distinguish an ordinary man. Yet Bernard was all of these—and he still retained a burning desire to return to the hidden monastic life of his younger days.

Bernard was born into a high-nobility family in Fontaines, France. He was the third of seven children, with five brothers and one sister. As a member of a wealthy family with high social status, Bernard likely received a comprehensive education. His devout parents instilled in him a deep faith. At a young age, he was sent to be educated by the canons of the Church of Saint-Vorles at Châtillon-sur-Seine, located about eighty miles north of his hometown. There, he studied grammar, poetry, literature, rhetoric, dialectics, Scripture, and theology. He excelled in the study of Scripture, personalizing it through prayer. He also held a profound devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, continually seeking her intercession.

When Bernard was around nineteen years old, his mother passed away. This event profoundly affected him and his entire family. He had already begun contemplating religious life, and his mother's loss might have sparked a deeper resolve to abandon worldly pursuits and live solely for God. Back in Fontaines with his family, Bernard began to reveal his intention to enter the newly formed Cistercian monastery in Cîteaux, known as the Abbey of Notre Dame. Initially, he encountered resistance, as he would be relinquishing everything his noble family could provide. However, he remained resolute and eventually gained their support. In fact, his virtue, clarity of purpose, and evident holiness inspired thirty other young noblemen to join him, including all of his brothers except the youngest, who would join him later, as would his father. His sister would become a Benedictine nun.

In the year 1111, at the age of 20, Bernard left his home to join the monastic community of Cîteaux. His five brothers, two uncles, and some 30 young friends followed him into the monastery. Within four years, a dying community had recovered enough vitality to establish a new house in the nearby valley of Wormwoods, with Bernard as abbot. The zealous young man was quite demanding, though more on himself than others. A slight breakdown of health taught him to be more patient and understanding. The valley was soon renamed Clairvaux, the valley of light.

His ability as arbitrator and counselor became widely known. More and more he was lured away from the monastery to settle long-standing disputes. On several of these occasions, he apparently stepped on some sensitive toes in Rome. Bernard was completely dedicated to the primacy of the Roman See. But to a letter of warning from Rome, he replied that the good fathers in Rome had enough to do to keep the Church in one piece. If any matters arose that warranted their interest, he would be the first to let them know.

Shortly thereafter it was Bernard of Clairvaux who intervened in a full-blown schism and settled it in favor of the Roman pontiff against the antipope. The Holy See prevailed on Bernard of Clairvaux to preach the Second Crusade throughout Europe. His eloquence was so overwhelming that a great army was assembled and the success of the crusade seemed assured. The ideals of the men and their leaders, however, were not those of Abbot Bernard, and the project ended as a complete military and moral disaster. Bernard of Clairvaux felt responsible in some way for the degenerative effects of the crusade. This heavy burden possibly hastened his death, which came August 20, 1153. Patron of: beekeepers, mountaineers, Knights Templar, and candlemakers.

Reflection

Bernard's life in the Church was more active than we can imagine possible today. His efforts produced far-reaching results. But he knew that they would have availed little without the many hours of prayer and contemplation that brought him strength and heavenly direction. His life was characterized by a deep devotion to the Blessed Mother. His sermons and books about Mary are still the standard of Marian theology

..--Franciscan Media

Readings For This Sunday

Reading 1: Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

Reading II: Romans 11: 13-15, 29-32

Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

Readings For Next Sunday

Reading 1: Isaiah 22:19-23

Reading II: Romans 11: 33-36

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

FINANCE

Regular =\$2,481

Building & Maintenance = \$920

2nd Collection this week=Diocesan Seminarians

AMA 2026 Goal=\$34,900 Pledges=\$23,574 Rec'd=\$20,869

Eureka Holy Mass Schedule

Saturday, August 15

3:15 pm Confessions St. Joseph Church
4:00 pm +Suanna Rowell St. Joseph Church

Sunday, August 16

7:30 am +Fran Hill St. Joseph Church
9:00 am +Norma Crisostomo Sacred Heart Church
10:30am +Sofia Constable St. Bernard Church
12:15 pm Mass for the People Sacred Heart Church

Monday, August 17

12:15 pm Dorothy Thomas St. Bernard Church

Tuesday, August 18

7:30 am +Kaleiya Imlay St. Joseph Church

Wednesday, August 19

12:15 pm +Chad Kryla St. Bernard Church
6:00 pm Adoration/ Confession
7:00 pm No Intention (Sp) Sacred Heart Church

Thursday, August 20

7:30 am +Kaleiya Imlay St. Joseph Church
11:30 am No Intention St. Joseph Hospital Chapel

Friday, August 21

12:15 pm +David Kwong St. Bernard Church
1:00-2:00 pm Adoration & Confessions St Bernard Ch

Saturday, August 22

3:15 pm Confessions St. Joseph Church
4:00 pm +Donald Michael St. Joseph Church

Sunday, August 23

7:30 am Mass for the People St. Joseph Church
9:00 am +Michael Kevin Robinson Sacred Heart Church
10:30am Int. Mildred Perrone St. Bernard Church
12:15 pm No Intention Sacred Heart Church

Please Pray For: Jean DeSimone, Marie Ruchards, Jim Hogue and Family, Kimberly Ennis, Terri, Marian Griffin, Johnny, Lucy Sokolow, Janina Dzieciol, Kathi Branum, Orion, Sidney Gabby, Zenssi, Olivia, Hunter, & C., John Johnston, Barbara Hill, Chet Williams, Maria Mendes Da Costa, Martin Fosnaugh, Sylvia Clark, Catie Biesecker, Stacy Cudney, Josephine Silva, Jo Ann Dellabalma, Ann Marie DeSimone, Bill King, Martin & Claudia Vess, Chris Miller, Mary Alpers, Nancy Allen, David Russell, Sonny, Garrett Anderson, Dottie Barrett, Harvey & Mary Anne Bennett, Mildred Perrone, Massimo Matteoli, Gary Cormier, and Obdulia Walter

Please Pray For Our Beloved Departed:

Glen Schmidt, Derick Wyatt, Fran Hill, Dennis and Gina Costa, Joe Hohmen, Sandra Cofer, Lena Petty, Fred Emerson, John Gierak, Gloria Allen, Rebecca Bertain, Roseann Cooney, Lorraine Holland, Sandra Lingle, Sarah Mixon, Suanna Rowell, Erling Dellabalma, Paul Windham, Rosealee Schuler, Nick Giannini, Juvenal (John) Regalo, Evo Fannuchi, Dianne Luzzi, Rose Ann Hurst, Tom Long, Joe Thompson, Colleen Cruz, Rodrigo Reyna Sanchez, Mary Antonelli, Mary Ellen Hadley, Camille Regli, and Delores McBroome

Sons of Italy Bocce Tournament Sunday August

23rd: 10:00-3:30 PM Redwood Ballfields at the east end of Fern St. in Cutten. \$10 per person tournament fee.

<https://www.facebook.com/Order.Sons.of.Italy.Eureka/>
Phone: Dave Olivieri 707-444-3407 or Joe Bonino 707-445-5799. Bocce courts open for lessons and practice at 9AM. Please join us for family fun!

St. Bernard Rosary Totals You may place your rosary counts in the collection baskets **Report: 13,402!**

Rosaries prayed last week =82 Cumulative= 13,402

St. Bernard Feast Day, Thursday August 20, will be celebrated this year on Sunday, August 23. Following the 10:30 Mass there will be a procession around the church block to honor St. Bernard of Clairvaux, which will include carrying a relic of our patron saint. A coffee reception in the Pinochi Room will conclude the event. All are encouraged to participate.

Oceanview-Sunset Cemetery Plots Available

Thanks to generous donations to St. Bernard Church we have cemetery plots, valued at \$10,545, available at Sunset Cemetery. There is Crypt #1, Tier 7, Patio D for 2 people. Please consider this purchase which will benefit the church. We will consider best offer. If interested please call the St. Bernard Office at 707-442-6466.

Registration for Religious Education Classes for St. Joseph, St. Bernard and Sacred Heart have started.

Registration closes on August 23, 2026. Children in the 7th grade (13 years old) can register for the first year of religious instruction for Confirmation. Children in 1st grade (7 years old) can register for the first year of religious instruction for first communion. You can come to the Sacred Heart parish office on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Registration donations help us with the cost of textbooks, classroom materials, and facilities usage. (No child will be turned away because of financial need.) Base family registration donation (\$60/one child; \$90/two children; \$110/three or more children). Please complete the registration form per child and bring the completed form(s), together with the baptismal certificate or birth certificate if not baptized.

Is God Calling You to be a Sister? Join the Daughters of Charity "Come & See" Fall Religious Vocation Discernment Retreat, September 25 – 27, 2026 in the SF Bay Area. Stay with us! Pray with us and Explore God's Dream for YOU. For More Information: Daughters-Of-Charity.com/retreats/ **For Single Catholic Women Ages 18-40**

Conflict Management and De-Escalation

Training *A Half-Day Training Opportunity for Parish Members Offered by the Eureka Police Department*
Our parish is grateful that the city's police department has offered a half-day training session in conflict management and de-escalation for members of our three churches. This practical session is open to any parishioner who would like to learn how to respond calmly, communicate clearly, and help foster welcoming, peaceful interactions in parish gatherings and day-to-day life. Who should attend? All interested church members are welcome. This training may be especially helpful for ushers, greeters, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, catechists, youth ministry volunteers, event coordinators, ministry leaders, and anyone who wants to serve the parish with confidence and compassion. Training details: Date: Wednesday, August 26 Time: 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm Location: Pinochi Rm. Registration deadline: August 20 (No Cost) Contact: St. Bernard office (707) 442-6466 or Sacred Heart office (707) 443-8429 for registration and/ or more information.