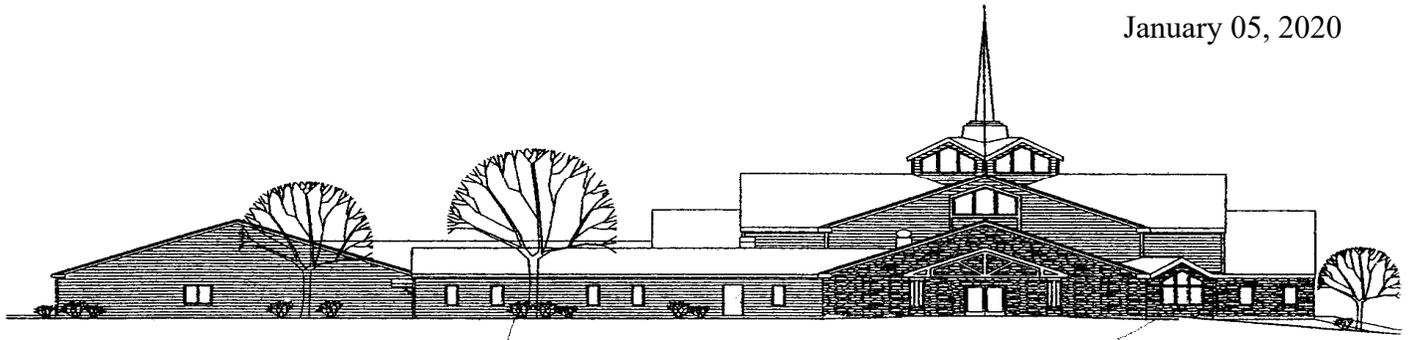


# Church of Saint Benedict

Diocese of Allentown - Bishop Alfred A. Schlert, D.D.

January 05, 2020



## MASS SCHEDULE

Daily: Mon. 6:30pm-Thurs.5:30pm Tue-Wed-Fri. 8:00am  
Saturday: Vigil: 5:00pm  
Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:15am  
Holy Day Vigil: 5:00pm; Day-8:00am & 7:00pm

## RECTORY PARISH OFFICE

2020 Chestnut Hill Rd, Mohnton, Pa 19540  
610-856-1006 Office Hrs. Mon-Friday 9am-4:30pm  
Website: [www.churchofsaintbenedict.com](http://www.churchofsaintbenedict.com)  
Email: [Secretary@churchofsaintbenedict.org](mailto:Secretary@churchofsaintbenedict.org)



Church of St. Benedict

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

PREP (W) 610-856-5146 - (C) 484-269-8744  
LaSalle Academy Office 610-777-7392  
[www.lsabear.org](http://www.lsabear.org)  
Berks Catholic High School 610-374-8361  
[www.berkscatholic.org](http://www.berkscatholic.org)

## PARISH STAFF

Fr. Philip F. Rodgers.....Pastor  
Fr. Thomas Kuller, S.J.....Weekend Ministry  
Valerie Christo.....Director Religious Education  
Andrew Angstadt.....Music Director  
Stephen Mickulik, M.Ed.Principal LaSalle Academy  
Susan Teaford.....Parish Secretary  
Jeanie Hauck...Safe Environment/Rental Coordinator  
Anne Long.....Bookkeeper  
Clara Lush.....Bulletin Editor  
Rosanne Weidner.....Rectory Housekeeping  
Richard Ball.....Maintenance

## Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator:

Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., **DIRECT** 800-791-9209  
Sister Meg Cole, S.S.J. Safe Environment Coordinator  
610-332-0442, Ext. 2019

Allentown Diocese website  
[www.allentowndiocese.org](http://www.allentowndiocese.org)

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Celebrated the 1st Sunday of the month at 12:30pm and the 3rd Sunday at 11:15am mass. Baptism preparation class held 2nd Saturday. Please call the office to schedule a baptism & class.

## SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Couples should call the priest at least 6 months before the wedding. A marriage preparation program is offered to every couple.

## MINISTRY TO THE SICK

Please call the parish office if a parishioner is homebound or hospitalized. Sacrament of Anointing is offered anytime. Eucharistic Ministers are available every Sunday.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday from 4:00-4:45pm or by appointment.

## R C I A

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a program for anyone interested in the Catholic faith or in returning to the Church. If interested or have questions contact Mark Schrum at 610-750-5414.

## PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We the Parish of St. Benedict, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and our patron St. Benedict, are a vibrant, worshipping and welcoming community of God. The strength of our people is obtained through joyful celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Our commitment is to promote the Gospel of the Lord through our prayers, words, and actions with Jesus as our guiding light.

**TODAY'S READINGS**



**First Reading** — Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! The LORD shines upon you and the glory of the Lord appears over you (Isaiah 60:1-6).

**Psalm** — Lord, every nation on earth will adore you (Psalm 72).

**Second Reading** — The

mystery has been made known that the Gentiles are coheirs, copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel (Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6).

**Gospel** — Magi from the east arrived, saying, “Where is the newborn king of the Jews?” (Matthew 2:1-12).

**GOSPEL THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK**

Today we remember the three wise men from the East who came to pay homage to the infant Jesus, bringing him rich gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The gifts we bring—our time and service and some share of what we earn for the work we do—are equally precious in His sight.

**Stewardship- Gifts of God**

*Thank you for your generous gifts!*

Stewardship	12-22-19:	\$9,265.00	(249 envelopes)
	EFT:	\$ 355.00	
FLC Mortg.	12-22-19::	\$2,403.00	(103 envelopes)
	EFT:	\$ 122.00	

**DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN YOUTH PROTECTION PROGRAMS** can be found on the diocese website [DioceseofAllentown.org](http://DioceseofAllentown.org). Click on Youth Protection upper right corner. It contains a list of programs, events and clearances needed for a safe environment for the children of the diocese.



Pray for the repose of the souls of *Marian Condon, mother of Peggy Vance; Marie Franks, mother of Allen Franks*. May their souls rest in peace.



**SUPPORT A CULTURE OF LIFE**

We pray for all the candidates for president that they might be moved by a love for the lives of those whom others would forget.

**MARCH FOR LIFE  
WASHINGTON DC  
JANUARY 24, 2020**

St. Benedict's will run a bus to the March. Please see the sign up list in the Gathering Space. A Pro-life rally will take place in the mall area near the Washington Monument. The March will proceed from the rally area to the steps of the Supreme Court. Please consider attending this peaceful protest of an immoral law on the books in our nation, namely the destruction of human life in the womb.

**PRAYER LIST.....**

*For those in need of Hope, Healing and Health pray for all in our parish who are ill, especially Baby Isabella, Rich Ball, Loretta Becker, John Bonnell, Tom Cioffi, Steven DeAngelo, Irene Didyoung, “Charlie” Flannery, Don Fronczak, Wayne & Ellen Gohacki, Marian Gring, Bob Kacmar Jr., Andy Kuzmission, Doris LaMonaca, Jason Leininger Jr., John Lodge, Pat Luther, Sandy & Ralph Maio, Gertrude Mastrosante, Francis Newhams, Kelly Reagan, Sam Reber, Eleanor Slanga, Karen Stoner, Vickey & Joanne Sullivan, Judy Tamagno, Peggy Condon-Vance, Jeremiah Williams, Michael Wittorf, Doris Yeager, John Yost, Greg Zimmerman. Mary, Health of the Sick, please pray for them.*

*Remember in your prayers our homebound parishioners and also those in nursing homes.*

*Please remember in your prayers all who are in the military service: USAir Force: Mark Cahill, Tom Gutherman, Michael Rodgers, Ryan Vance; USArmy: Zach Brann, Kelly Bunch, Nathan Calhoun, Christopher Hari, Richard Hari, Matt Kurz, Adam Latshaw, Matt McGinn, Matt Palange, Andrew Sickora, James Yorke; USMC: Grant Dufin, Dan Kenyon, Kevin Moran, Daniel Scheidel, Chris Timothy; USNavy: Danielle Becker, Cole Drahus, Michael Koch; PA Air Guard: William C. Leinbach.*

*Please pray also for an end to abortion, and for the victims of abortion.*

**WINTER BREAK**— Father Phil will be away January 3-January 13. He was invited to join Father Henry and parishioners from St. Thomas, Sarasota to sail through the Panama Canal. Bon Voyage. The priest from the order Apostles of Jesus will cover all the daily Masses. Father Brensinger and Father Kuller, S.J. will cover the weekend Masses.

**K OF C GENERAL MEETING** Monday, January 6 at 7:00 pm in the RMR.

**RCIA MEETS** Tuesday, January 7 at 7:00 pm in classroom #1.

**WOMEN'S CLUB MONTHLY MEETING** Tuesday, January 7 at 7:00 pm in the conference room. ALL women of the parish are welcome.

**WOMEN'S CLUB HOLIDAY PARTY**—Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 6:30 pm at Mimmo's Restaurant, 290 Morgantown Road. Cost: \$25.00. Sign up sheet in the gathering area.

**PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETS** Thursday January 9 at 7:00 pm in the conference room.

**MILITARY MASS JANUARY 12 at the 9:30 am Mass.** We will remember and pray for all active duty military personnel. We remember our sons and daughters who serve our country, not only on special holidays, but every day of the year. Prayers will be offered at all Masses. Special recognition will be given at the 9:30 Mass. All veterans are invited to this special Mass.



**SAVE THE DATE:** The Knights of Columbus **Designer Bag Bingo** is returning Saturday, January 25, 2020. Doors open at 6:00 pm with games to start at 7:15 pm. Tickets on sale after Masses beginning this weekend. Last year the event was sold out. Get your tickets early!



**FLOWER CALENDAR FOR 2020** is posted on the front vestibule bulletin board. If you are interested in requesting altar flowers in memory of a deceased loved one or a special intention, please sign the name on the date requested. Cost for each arrangement is \$50.00

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS: MINISTRY WORKSHOP DAY JANUARY 25.** Keynote Speaker: State policeman on church safety.



**VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY** is scheduled for January 19 after the 11:15 a.m. Mass. If you volunteered at any event, activity, ministry, etc. during 2019 you are most welcome to attend this party. Come join the happiest people in

Berks County and rub elbows with the most famous people in our parish—our volunteers. Sign up ahead of time is a must. Please call Susan in the parish office (610-856-1006) or sign your name to the list in the gathering space.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND HELP LASALLE ACADEMY PLAN FOR DELICIOUS SUCCESS!** This spring on Palm Sunday weekend, April 4 & 5 after all the Masses LaSalle Academy is hosting "A Taste of LaSalle" at the school with a kitchen full of traditional Easter foods to eat, to buy as well as family attractions. We will also have a pre-order coming out mid-February for you to get your holiday favorites in time for Easter. We want to invite members from the parish to help us turn it up a notch this year.

We are having a planning meeting on Tuesday, January 7th at 7:00 pm in the school cafeteria where we will be planning the Pre-order menu and some of the foods menu for the event and hopefully doing some taste-testing. Then we will meet again on Tuesday, January 14th at 7:00 pm to taste even more. If you are great at making traditional Polish foods or just want to help us plan to have some great things to enjoy, please join us to help the school plan for an outstanding "Taste of LaSalle!"

**Liturgical Ministers—January 11 & 12**

**Saturday 5:00 PM**

Lector: Laura Kamerdze  
Servers: Mary Creamer, Karyn & Nathan Creelman  
EM: Kathleen Minnich, Ursita Blechman, Rich Conte, Mary Kozak, Glenn Unger

**Sunday 8:00 AM**

Lector: Sylvia Firth  
Servers: Emily & Megan Hatcher, Grace Kelly  
EM: Cindy Miller, Ray Clapper, Sylvia Firth, Mary Ann Razzano, Joe Boylan

**Sunday 9:30 AM**

Lector: Steven Keech  
Servers: Joseph & Sophia Kuszniir, Bryanna Gallagher  
EM: Tom Culbert, Kelly Leininger, Bo Kuszniir, Karen Keenan, Gary Scollick

**Sunday 11:15 AM**

Lector: Emily Coppa  
Servers: Mark Conton, Mora & Sam Coppa  
EM: John Carie Leggett, Helen MacMinn, Kelly & Kim Mazur

**BERNARDINE FRANCISCAN SISTERS** *Event supports over 90 retired nuns.* The Sisters invite you to *Bernardine Bonanza* on February 22 from 6:00-9:30 pm at their motherhouse, 450 Bernardine Street, Reading. To make a donation for their retired Sisters or to purchase tickets, visit [bfranciscan.org](http://bfranciscan.org) or call Sister Maria Bartos at 484-334-6815.

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Monday of this week is Christmas Day in Russia and in much of the Orthodox world. This curious difference in schedule has a lot to do with how calendars have been developed and changed over the years. In the year 45 B.C. Julius Caesar gave the empire his Julian Calendar, with the winter solstice on January 6. This put an end to a system in which officials called “pontiffs” were able to tweak the calendar by adding extra days in as needed. He invented two new months at that time, December and January; and in order to correct the mess the pontiffs had made, forced a year of 445 days on the empire in what he named “The Last Year of Confusion.” The new months varied in number of days according to a complex schedule, but the calendar was still off by nearly twelve minutes a year, and lost a full day every 130 years.

Pope Gregory XIII reformed the calendar in 1583, but not everyone appreciated his efforts. England held out for two hundred years. The year 1700 was a leap year in England, but not in France; they were eleven days apart! George Washington was really born on February 11; when the Gregorian calendar was finally adopted in the English colonies shortly before the Revolution, he had to move his birthday to February 22. Now the calendars are thirteen days apart, which accounts for Russia’s Julian calendar Christmas. And Caesar thought he had brought confusion to an end!

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



*January’s Prayer  
Holy Spirit,  
grant me the wisdom  
to refrain from judging  
others  
and the charity to love  
them  
as they are.*

### FINDING GOD

The splendid magi, all sparkle and dash and solemnity, march right up off the pages of Matthew’s Gospel and into our churches today. Matthew alone tells us this grand and seductive story so that we might see the light and know that the child these magi visited is the fulfillment of prophecy, the king of the world that stretches to the magi’s home country and beyond, right down the ages to us.

We too see and understand anew. Like the magi, our patron saints for this day, we see in the newborn child the king of the universe and light of the world. Like the magi, we find in ourselves a new faith and a new life. Like them, we return to our home by a new route.

We are asked to come away from this festive season ourselves renewed and awake to the presence of God among us. We are asked to find God where God is to be found, to be attentive and surprised and ready to bow down in adoration and to offer our gifts

### LANDINGS: WELCOMING RETURNING CATHOLICS

Our Landings Ministry of St. Benedict Church welcomes returning and inactive Catholics. If you are a Catholic and have been away from the church know that we have been thinking of you. Perhaps you feel the need to refresh or strengthen your faith base. Landings offers a safe place to land and a way to return home to the faith. We invite you to be an active part of us again. Our winter session will be scheduled to start within the month of January 2020. Each of the eight consecutive meeting sessions will be conducted on Sunday Afternoons from 1:00-3:00 pm. These will be held in meeting room #1. For more information please call or email: Joy Bandy at 484-797-5607 or email [joyful0306@PTD.net](mailto:joyful0306@PTD.net)

### ETIQUETTE IN CHURCH

1. Come on time - don’t leave early.
2. Dress properly - you are in the presence of the Lord.
3. Speak in whispers - others are trying to pray.
4. Don’t congregate in church - use the gathering space and parking lot.
5. Take the bulletin home - don’t litter the pews.
6. No chewing gum.
7. Take restless young children into the Crying Room or gathering area so others are not disturbed.

## THIS WEEK AT ST. BENEDICT'S

*The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week in memory of Robert Didyoung Sr. & Jr. by Irene Didyoung*

### Monday 01/06

- 7:00 PM Respect Life meets in the chapel
- 7:00 PM K of C General meeting in the RMR



### Tuesday 01/07

- 7:00 PM Women's Club meets in the conference room
- 7:00 PM RCIA meets in classroom #1

- Monday 01/06 Christmas Weekday  
St. Andre Bessette
- 6:30 PM Sonja Joerger  
by Bill Joerger

### Thursday 01/09

- 6:00-7:30 PM PREP Classes
- 6:00-7:30 PM CGS L1
- 7:00 PM Pastoral Council meets in the conference room
- 8:00 PM AA meets in the RME

- Tuesday 01/07 Christmas Weekday  
St. Raymond of Penafort
- 8:00 AM Intention of Joan Fondots  
by Robin Ball

### Sunday 01/12

- 9:30 Mass with Children's Liturgy of the Word. Lauren Machion
- 9:30 AM Family Life Committee meets in the conference room

- Wednesday 01/08 Christmas Weekday
- 8:00 AM Ernie Schiefer  
by John & Mimi Frank

- Thursday 01/09 Christmas Weekday
- 5:30 PM Marilyn Jackson  
by MaryJo Lewis

- Friday 01/10 Christmas Weekday
- 8:00 AM Salvatore Miccicke  
by Rich & Robin Ball
- Rosary will be recited after Mass*

- Saturday 01/11 Christmas Weekday
- 4:00-4:45 PM Confessions

- Sunday 01/12 *Baptism of the Lord*
- 5:00 PM (Saturday) Wallace & Wilma Kompa  
by Sandy & Jim Kozlowski
- 8:00 AM Erika Kulick  
by John Kulick
- 9:30 AM All Living & Deceased Veterans of St. Benedict  
*Military Mass*  
Janet McBryan  
by Don McBryan
- 11:15 AM

### COMING EVENTS...

- 01/13 St. Vincent de Paul Society meeting
- 01/14 Women's Club Holiday Party
- 01/14 RCIA meets
- 01/19 Volunteer Appreciation Party
- 01/20 K of C Officers meeting
- 01/25 Ministry Workshop

*The SANCTUARY LAMP* burns to remind us of the sacramental presence of Jesus Christ. You may have the sanctuary lamp memorialized for either a sick person or a deceased love one or any special intentions for a weekly donation of \$10.00. Please call the parish office to reserve a specific date.

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*Please remember in your prayers all the living and deceased priests and deacons of our Diocese. Please also pray for our seminarians and for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life.*