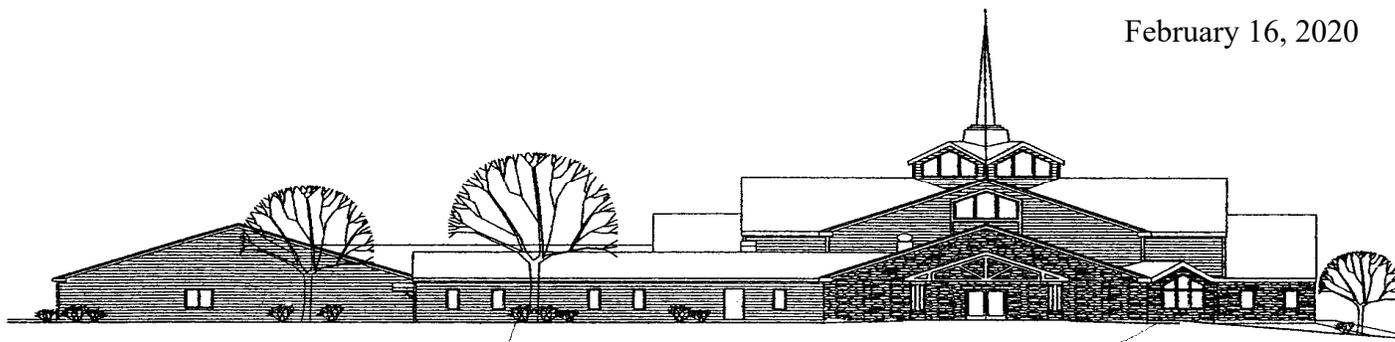


Church of Saint Benedict

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

February 16, 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
Email: 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

Berks Catholic High School 610-374-8361

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

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

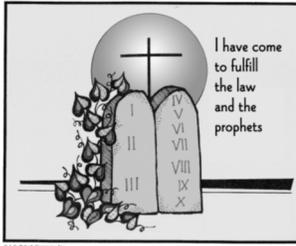
Saturday from 4:00-4:45pm or by appointment.

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 — God allows us to make choices, but we are not to choose injustice or sinfulness (Sirach 15:15-20).

Psalm — Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord! (Psalm 119).

Second Reading — God's wisdom is mysterious and hidden (1 Corinthians 2:6-10).

Gospel — Jesus has come not to abolish but to fulfill the law and the prophets (Matthew 5:17-37 [20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37]).

GOSPEL THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Stewardship involves more than just the gift we bring to the altar. Today's readings say clearly that it is fidelity to God's law that makes our offering acceptable.

Stewardship- Gifts of God
Thank you for your generous gifts!

Stewardship 02-09-20: \$11,072.00 (249 envelopes)
EFT: \$ 335.00

FLC Mortg. 02-09-20: \$2,856.00 (91 envelopes)
EFT: \$ 122.00

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND will be for the Catholic Home Missions—Black & Indian Missions

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF - We will take up a 2nd collection on the weekend of February 29-March 01 for Puerto Rico. Directed by our Bishop we are to assist those most in need from recent earthquakes. This new round of destruction comes on the heels of catastrophic damage caused by Hurricane Maria that has still not been totally repaired.

DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN YOUTH PROTECTION PROGRAMS can be found on the diocese website 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.

2019 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS will be available. If you received one last year, you will automatically get one for 2019. If you didn't receive one, please call the office or email Susan to request a statement.



SUPPORT A CULTURE OF LIFE

We pray for our president that God might guide and inspire his heart with a love for the Gospel of life.

LIFELINE OF BERKS COUNTY THANK YOU

The Lifeline of Berks County pantry is full of clothing, formula, diapers and other wonderful items for our mothers and their babies. Thank you so much for your continued generosity and support for Giving Tree. You enable us to provide hope to the women we serve, and *HOPE* changes everything!

.....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, Patty Bergeron, John Bonnell, Steven DeAngelo, Irene Didyoung, Ronnie Elmo, "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, Matt & Kelly Reagan, Sam Reber, Eleanor Slanga, Karen Stoner, Vickey & Joanne Sullivan, Judy Tamagno, Peggy Condon-Vance, David Voelker, Jeremiah Williams, Michael Wittorf, Doris Yeager, John Yost. Mary, Health of the Sick, please pray for them.

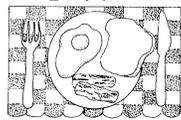
Remember in your prayers our homebound parishioners and also those in nursing homes.

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, Nathan Calhoun, Eric Dompkowski, Christopher Hari, Richard Hari, Matt Kurz, Adam Latshaw, Matt McGinn, Matt Palange, Andrew Sickora, James Yorke; USMC: Grant Dufin, Dan Kenyon, James Moran, Kevin Moran, Daniel Scheidel, Chris Timothy; USNavy: Danielle Becker, Cole Drahus, Michael Koch, Jessica Rutkowski; PA Air Guard: William C. Leinbach. Please pray also for an end to abortion, and for the victims of abortion.



Altar flowers this weekend in memory of Wilma Kompa by Sandy & Jim Kozlowski

BREAKFAST *"BREAKFAST SUNDAY"* Today, February 16 featuring Eggs Benedict OR Baked French Toast. Breakfast is served from 8:00-11:30 am. Cost is \$3.50 for adults and \$1.75 for child. Join us for good food and fellowship!



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K OF C OFFICERS MEETING Monday, February 17 at 7:00 pm in the RMR

RCIA MEETS Tuesday, February 18 at 7:00 pm in classroom #1.



Palms

PALM BURNING—Parishioners are invited to bring their old palm to church. Father Phil will conduct a special outdoor ceremony on February 20 with the PREP students as we burn all the palm collected and prepare the ashes for Ash Wednesday. Old palm may be deposited in baskets near the door of the church anytime before February 20.

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOLERS! Join other High School students from St. Benedict's and St. Catharine's for a fun and faith filled weekend at Camp Manatawney in Douglassville. It is an experience you will never forget! Dates: February 21-23, 2020. Cost: \$50.00 plus fundraising participation (scholarships available). Permission slips available at the Youth Group table or contact Rosemary Connelly at 610-368-1288.



KNIGHTS of Columbus

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K of C & LA SALLE CYO NIGHT AT THE RACES—Saturday, February 22 at 6:00 pm (snow date February 29. Call 484-263-0322 for a message on inclement weather postponement.) Ticket sales are in the gathering area. Proceeds will benefit the LaSalle CYO and youth charities for the St. Benedict K of C Council.

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 meet until March 15, 2020 at 1:00 pm. Each of the meeting sessions will be conducted on Sunday afternoons in meeting room #1. For more information please call or email: Joy Bandy at 484-797-5607 or email joyful0306@PTD.net



Blood Mobile

MILLER-KEYSTONE BLOOD DRIVE Monday, February 24 from 2:00-7:00 pm Sign up sheet in the gathering area or call Susan at 610-856-1006. Online registration sponsor code 49522. *Live here—give here.*

NEW PARISHIONER ORIENTATION has been re-scheduled to **Sunday, March 01 after the 11:15 Mass.** Anyone who has registered in our parish since last year at this time is warmly welcome to attend this meeting. Father Phil will welcome you and introduce the staff to you. The program is sponsored by our Parish Stewardship Committee.

PRIME TIMERS invite you and your friends to join us on May 18-20, 2020 traveling to the *Finger Lakes, New York.* Cost is \$430.00 per person (double occupancy). Deadline for reservations is April 1, 2020. For information call Marie Blimline at 484-332-3241 or Jeanie Hauck at 610-856-7575. More information on the flyer on the bulletin board.

TASTE OF LA SALLE HOMEMADE PIEROGI MAKING: We could use help preparing for our upcoming Taste of LaSalle and you can learn how to make homemade pierogis at the same time. One of our very own LaSalle grandparents will be leading this effort. Join us Sunday, February 23 from 9:30 am-12:30 pm making Ham, Swiss & Spinach Pierogi and Saturday, March 14 from 8:00 am –12 noon making Sausage & Mushroom Pierogi. Sign up sheets are available in the gathering area. You do not have to stay for the whole time but we appreciate any time you can help.

TASTE OF LA SALLE FOOD PRE-ORDERS for pick up on Saturday, April 4 & Sunday, April 5 are also available in the gathering area.

Liturgical Ministers—February 22 & 23

Saturday 5:00 PM

Lector: Stephanie Hartline
Servers: A. J. Crisi, Dalton Maiers, Matlyn Rhoades
EM: Ursita Blechman, Tom Culbert, Mary Kozak

Sunday 8:00 AM

Lector: Ellie Albright
Servers: Emily & Megan Hatcher, Timothy Machion
EM: Cindy Miller, Mary Ann Razzano, Sydney Machion

Sunday 9:30 AM

Lector: Steven Keech
Servers: Mary Henefer, Joseph & Sophia Kuszniir
EM: Bo Kuszniir, Paul Waterman, Father Phil

Sunday 11:15 AM

Lector: Dennis Brizick
Servers: Nicholas Barse, Mark Conlow, Robert Silver
EM: Paul & Carol Wirkus, Father Phil

BOARD MEETINGS—Father Phil represents our parish on several boards. Upcoming meetings are as follows: *CYO Berks County Executive Board* will meet Sunday, February 16 at 7:00 pm. *Berks Deanery* meeting at St. Ignatius Monday, February 17 at 2:30 pm. *St. Francis Advisory Board* next Gala March 19.



Message from the St. Benedict K of C Council for Men 18 years or older—In today's world, the Catholic Family and the Church are in crisis. They need the Knights more than ever and the Knights need men who reflect those three principles of Charity, Unity, and Fraternity. With an Admissions Interview and attendance at the new Unified Ceremonial, you can become, in less than an hour, an enhanced Man of Catholic Principles (Full Knight), ready to serve. **Wives and family members are also welcome and encouraged to witness these men's call to service within our Council.** The Knights will put on a luncheon on March 8, 2020 after the 11:15 Mass in the FLC in order for you to see what we are all about. Those in the council may achieve full Knighthood if they are first or second degree members. The Knights can also help you examine your financial health, if you pass on tomorrow, with an Introductory Insurance Presentation that day. Please sign up in the gathering space with the number of family members to attend in order to estimate food. Contact Jim Gregor at 610-858-5235.

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The St. Benedict Knights of Columbus (K of C) Council along with the K of C Supreme Council would like to thank all the parish families that contributed through our "Giving Tree" to the Christian Relief Fund during the Advent Season (41 contributions, totaling \$1,705).

God Bless the parishioners of St. Benedict parish for their very generous gifts to the Church and Christian Community in Iraq. Thanks to the generosity of our parish we are helping returning families to their homes in Iraq.

Many thanks to the following families for so generously giving:

<i>Alfiero</i>	<i>Cahill</i>	<i>Coccia</i>
<i>Connelly</i>	<i>Conte</i>	<i>Demaio</i>
<i>Katkovcin</i>	<i>Kozak</i>	<i>Lucchese</i>
<i>Mahony</i>	<i>McHale</i>	<i>Moran</i>
<i>Purvis</i>	<i>Reagan</i>	<i>Roland</i>
<i>Sculin</i>	<i>Selmer</i>	<i>Waterman</i>

Also, many thanks to 23 anonymous donors!

Bible Study *"NO GREATER LOVE"*
A Biblical Walk through Christ's Passion



We will walk step-by-step with Jesus on His journey from His agony in the garden to His crucifixion on Calvary. Along the way, we will unpack the Biblical background to these events, the prophecies, and most especially the ways Jesus is inviting us to walk more closely with Him today. This 5 week study begins in March with a choice of 3 times: Tuesdays at 10:30 am; Tuesdays at 6:30 pm; Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. Call the rectory (610-856-1006) to register.

BERKS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL Performing Arts Program Presents: GODSPELL Friday, March 6 at 7:00 pm and Saturday, March 7 at 7:00 pm. Tickets available online www.tinyurl.com/bctheater. Reserved seats: \$15 adult; \$13 senior; \$9 student. General admission \$11 adult; \$9 senior; \$5 student.

FRIENDS OF FRANCIS GALA—Join us for dinner with Silent and Live Auctions benefiting St. Francis Home on Thursday, March 19 from 5:00-9:30 pm at the Double Tree Hotel, Reading, PA. Cost per person: \$65.00 or table of 10 for \$600.00. Please consider being a corporate sponsor by advertising your business. For ticket and sponsorship information, please call the home at 610-898-4242.

BERKS HOLY NAME SOCIETY is planning a Communion Breakfast on March 15, 2020 at St. Ignatius. The public is invited. The event will start with 9:00 am Mass and followed by breakfast in the parish hall. The Communion Breakfast speaker is retired state policeman and inspirational speaker, Ralph Periandi. Tickets are \$10.00 per person. The requests should be sent to David Krick at 536 Walnut Tree Drive, Blandon, PA 19510. For more information call David at 484-336-3632.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES RAFFLE

First Prize—2 exclusive Broadway Tickets for the preview of *"Diana"*, new musical based on the life of Princess Diana.

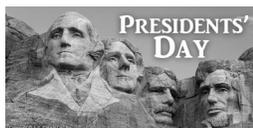
Second Prize—Diamond Tennis Bracelet—value \$1,000.00

Third Prize—Hotel Bethlehem Getaway—value \$500.00

Tickets available in the parish office. \$10.00 per ticket; 3 tickets for \$20.00. Drawing Sunday, March 8, 2020, 5:00 pm at DeSales University Center.

THIS WEEK AT ST. BENEDICT'S

Monday 02/17
7:00 PM K of C Officers meeting in the RMR



Tuesday 02/18
7:00 PM RCIA meets in classroom #1
7:00 PM Book Club meets in the conference room

Thursday 02/20
6:15 PM Burning of Palms
6:00-7:30 PM PREP Classes
6:00-7:30 PM CGS L1
8:00 PM AA meets in the RMR

Friday 02/21-23
High Schoolers weekend at Camp Manatawney

Saturday 02/22
6:00 PM Night at the Races

Sunday 02/23
Girl Scout Cookie Sale after all weekend Masses
9:30 Mass with Children's Liturgy of the Word.
Leader: Lisa Boyer
10:45-12:00 noon—CGS L1 & L2
1:00 PM Landings meets in classroom #1.

COMING EVENTS...

- 02/24 Blood Drive
- 02/25 Prime Timers monthly meeting
- 02/26 Ash Wednesday
- 03/01 "Hospitality Sunday"
- 03/01 New Parishioner Orientation
- 03/02 K of C General meeting
- 03/03 Women's Club monthly meeting
- 03/07 Ultreya meets
- 03/12 Pastoral Council meets

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.

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week in memory of Wilma Kompa by Sandy & Jim Kozlowski



Monday 02/17 Weekday The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order
6:30 PM James Trotter
by Wendy & David Mortimer, Jr.

Tuesday 02/18 Weekday
8:00 AM Charles Sexton
by the Riebe Family

Wednesday 02/19 Weekday
8:00 AM Rose Sullivan
by St. Benedict Book Club

Thursday 02/20 Weekday
5:30 PM Ruth Ann Blechman
by Robert & Ursita Blechman
7:00 PM PREP Adoration

Friday 02/21 Weekday St. Peter Damian
8:00 AM James Beningo
by the Parishioners of St. Benedict
Rosary will be recited after Mass

Saturday 02/22 Chair of St. Peter the Apostle
4:00-4:45 PM Confessions

Sunday 02/23 *Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*
5:00 PM (Saturday) Members of St. Benedict Memorial Society
8:00 AM People of the Parish
9:30 AM Ben Schools
by Mary Jo Gordon
11:15 AM John Vizza
by Ralph & Lisa Vizza

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Prayer for the Perseverance of Vocations:

O God, you have constituted your only-begotten Son supreme and eternal priest for the glory of your majesty and the salvation of mankind: grant that those whom he has chosen ministers and dispensers of his mysteries may be found faithful in fulfilling the ministry they have received. We ask this through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen