

# CHURCH OF SAINT BENEDICT

DECEMBER 1, 2024



## MASS SCHEDULE

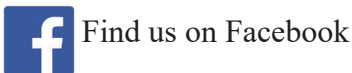
Daily: Tues. 6:30pm, Wed., Friday 8am, Thurs. 5:30pm  
from Labor Day to Memorial Day/8:00am from Memorial Day to Labor Day  
Saturday: 8:00am; Vigil: 5:00pm  
Sunday: 8:30am, 11:00am  
Holy Day Vigil: 5:00pm; Day-8:00am & 7:00pm

## RECTORY PARISH OFFICE

2020 Chestnut Hill Rd, Mohnton, PA 19540  
610-856-1006 Office Hours: Closed Wednesday;  
all other days (M, T, Th., F) 9:00am-4:30pm.  
Website: [www.churchofsaintbenedict.com](http://www.churchofsaintbenedict.com)  
Email: [Secretary@churchofsaintbenedict.org](mailto:Secretary@churchofsaintbenedict.org)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

PREP/CGS 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

Rev. Stanley Moczydlowski.....Pastor  
Valerie Christo.....Director Religious Education  
Stephen Mickulik, M.Ed. Principal LaSalle Academy  
Susan Teaford.....Parish Secretary  
Rick Ruhl.....Accountant  
Beverly Perella.....Director of Music  
Rosanne Weidner.....Rectory Housekeeping

## CHURCH SAFETY INFORMATION

Richard Conte, 610-223-8846  
Location of Emergency Operating Plan  
<https://www.churchofsaintbenedict.com/wp-content/uploads/St-Benedict-Emergency-Operating-Plan-Rev-00.pdf>

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Celebrated on the first and third Sunday of the month, immediately following the 11:00am Mass. Baptism Preparation Class (Pre-Jordan) held 2nd Saturday of the month. 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 any time.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

## O C I A

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults is a program for anyone interested in joining the Catholic Church, receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. If interested or have questions contact Mark Schrum at 484-706-2215.

## PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We the Parish of St. Benedict, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and our patron St. Benedict, are a vibrant, worshiping 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.

## DIOCESAN VICTIM ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR:

Wendy S. Krisak, M.A., DIRECT 800-791-9209  
Pamela J. Russo, M.S.W., M.S. Safe Environment Coordinator at 610-332-0442, Ext. 2019  
Website [www.allentowndiocese.org](http://www.allentowndiocese.org)

# Church of Saint Benedict December 1, 2024

## THIS WEEK AT ST. BENEDICT

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

7:00pm Knights of Columbus, FLC

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

7:00pm Women's Club, FLC

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

6:00pm Lighting of The Manger and KOC complimentary spaghetti dinner, FLC

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

2:00pm Christmas Concert, in church

*The Parish Office will have limited hours this week. Please call before coming to make sure someone is available to help you.*

St. Benedict Christmas Concert—will take place on Sunday, December 8 at 2 PM, featuring the youth of our parish, three choirs, the Contemporary Group and Christmas carols. There will be a Cookie Social to follow. What better way to get into the holiday spirit than by coming out to hear inspirational songs of the season!



**KNIGHTS' NEWS**—Save the dates for these upcoming events sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. On Saturday Dec. 7 after the 5:00pm Mass we will have our traditional blessing of the Manger Scene at the Bell Tower, followed by a complimentary spaghetti dinner. Tables will also be set up for the Vocations Committee "Adopt a Priest Program." On Friday Dec. 13 at 5:00pm, the annual Advent Fish Fry will take place. Tickets will go on sale shortly.

**ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS**—During Advent, Fr. Stan will be available for Confessions every Saturday from **3:30pm-4:45 pm**, as well as 30 minutes before each Mass on Sunday morning (**7:45am-8:15am and 10:15am-10:45am**). There will also be additional priests available hearing Confessions on Tuesday, **December 10th, from 7:00pm-8:00pm**. There will be no penance service, simply Confessions. Christmas Mass times will be: Christmas Eve—4:00pm, 6:00pm and 10:00pm; Christmas Day 10:00am.

## *Our History*

**PARISH HISTORY—DID YOU KNOW?** In 1958 a program issued for the third annual barbecue reported that the motivation for the barbecue was the purchase of a school bus. Thus every child of the parish was able to attend a Catholic school in Reading. Author's note: "I had been attending the one-room schoolhouse near the junction of Rt. 10 and Rt. 568." Read about it in the forthcoming History of the Church of St. Benedict'.



**Monday 12/02** Advent Weekday

**NO MASS**

*Rev. Keith Mathur*

**Tuesday 12/03** St. Francis Xavier

6:30pm Pat & Vince Suglia by Clara Lush

*Rev. Msgr. John McCann*

**Wednesday 12/04** St. John Damascene

8:00am St. Benedict Memorial Society

*Rev. Robert McConaghy*

**Thursday 12/05** Advent Weekday

5:30pm Bette Kostrab by Her Family

*Very Rev. Brian Miller*

**Friday 12/06** St. Nicholas

8:00am Barbara Ianni by Joy & Lee Bandy

*Very Rev. Michael Miller*

**Saturday 12/07** St. Ambrose

8:00am Florence Pleitner by the Terifay Family

*Rev. Ronald Minner*

**Sunday 12/08** Second Sunday of Advent

5:00pm(Saturday) Theresa Vizza by Ralph & Lisa Vizza

8:30am Mary Dolan by Diane Arnold

11:00am Barbara Ianni by St. Benedict Ultreya Group

*Rev. Stanley Moczydlowski*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS  
TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE,  
ESPECIALLY IN OUR DIOCESE.**

## PRAYER LIST

Please pray for those in need of hope, healing and health, for all in our parish who are ill and homebound, especially Robert Blechman, John and Elsie Bauer, Gerald Braddick, Janet Cannon, Sr. Maureen Clancy SSND, Cathy Coffman, Jonathan Cranley, Joan Fondots, Theresa Fox, James Hart, Jeanie Hauck, Joseph Hunter, John Janiszewski, Beth Kase, Millie Kremp, Bev Kuzmission, Bob and Helen Macminn, Marie Mast, Timothy McCarty, Aurora McHugh, Sandy Maio, Joan Mofa, Regina Moran, Frank Newhams, George Paul, Kevin Paul, Patrick, Patti, Sister Mary Lou Pleitner CSJ, Sister Maureen of the Eucharist OP, Stanley Plevyak, Gene Raser, Sr., Bridget Reagan, Vincent Rodgers, Anthony Rowan, Dustin Sands, John Slanga, Patricia Snow, Janet Teaford, Nettie Thomas, Josh Toresco, Miriam Ulrich, Linda Vieldhouse, Steven Wagner, David Williams, Josephine and all those in nursing homes.

Mary, Health of the Sick, please pray for them.





**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**—takes place here at St. Benedict on Wednesdays. The day begins with Mass at 8:00am and continues through the day, concluding at 7:00pm. Feel free to come any time during the day and spend some time in peace and quiet with the Lord. There are some prayer resources available to assist you if Adoration is a new prayer practice for you. We also have Eucharistic Adoration on the First Saturday of the month, before the 5:00pm Vigil Mass, from 4:00pm-4:45pm.

Please remember when entering the church or the Adoration chapel to maintain sacred silence. Please avoid all unnecessary conversation before Mass, as there are people who have come early to pray. Please also be respectful of those who are praying after Mass and move any extended social conversations to the gathering space. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

*From the Pastor's Desk*



With Advent beginning this weekend, I thought it might be good to explain the symbolism of the Advent Wreath.

The wreath is made of various evergreens, signifying continuous life. Even these evergreens have a traditional meaning which can be adapted to our faith: The laurel signifies victory over persecution and suffering; pine, holly, and yew, immortality; and cedar, strength and healing. Holly also has a special Christian symbolism: The prickly leaves remind us of the crown of thorns, and one English legend tells of how the cross was made of holly.

The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life found in Christ. Any pine cones, nuts, or seedpods used to decorate the wreath also symbolize life and resurrection. All together, the wreath of evergreens depicts the immortality of our soul and the new, everlasting life promised to us through Christ, the eternal Word of the Father, who entered our world becoming true man and who was victorious over sin and death through His own passion, death, and resurrection.

The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent. A tradition is that each week represents one thousand years, to sum to the 4,000 years from Adam and Eve until the Birth of the Savior. Three candles are purple and one is rose. The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also can wear rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas. The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of His second coming to judge the living and the dead.

Since Advent is a time to stir-up our faith in the Lord, the wreath provides us another way to augment this special preparation for Christmas. Moreover, this good tradition helps us to remain vigilant and not lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas.

God bless you and Happy Advent,  
Fr. Stan.



*Thank you for your generous gifts!*

**November 24**  
**Stewardship \$8,089.00 (173 envelopes)**  
**Parish Giving \$2,830.00**  
  
**Mortgage \$1,682.00 (69 envelopes)**  
**Parish Giving \$ 880.00**

**Giving is worship, giving back to the One Who gave first.**

**FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**—This year, the feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8th, falls on a Sunday. Because of this, the feast day has been moved to Monday, December 9th. *This date will still be a Holy Day of Obligation.* There will be **NO** Vigil Mass on Sunday evening, December 8th. However, there will be 2 Masses on Monday, December 9th at 8:00am and 7:00pm.



**SAVE THE DATE**— March for Life in Washington DC on **Friday, January 24, 2025**. St. Benedict's will be hosting a bus to the event. More details to follow.

**USHERS FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES**—There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board at the main church entrance for ushers for all the Christmas Masses. If you know you will be attending, please be sure to add your name to the sheet. We will have the following Christmas Masses: **Christmas Eve 4:00pm, 6:00pm and 10:00pm. Christmas Day will be at 10:00am.** Thank you for offering to help!





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