

CHURCH OF SAINT BENEDICT

DECEMBER 22, 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
Email: Secretary@churchofsaintbenedict.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

PREP/CGS 484-269-8744
LaSalle Academy Office 610-777-7392
www.lsabear.org
Berks Catholic High School 610-374-8361
www.berkscatholic.org

 Find us on Facebook

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



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.

Thank you for your generous gifts!

December 15

Stewardship \$7,556.00 (184 envelopes)

Parish Giving \$3,725.00

Mortgage \$1,716.00 (72 envelopes)

Parish Giving \$1,125.00

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

We thank all of our parishioners who generously and consistently contribute to the support of the parish. Please consider signing up for the Parish Giving program, which allows you to make your contributions electronically. You may choose the dollar amount and frequency of your giving. You may contribute week by week, or set up the whole year's collections at one time. Go to the parish website and click on the words "Parish Giving" to get started.



Fr. Stan and the Staff of St. Benedict's wish you all a joyous Christmas and a blessed New Year!

From the Pastor's Desk



When we find out that we have passed a big test or are offered an exciting job, we naturally want to share that news with others. Mary and Elizabeth demonstrate that natural inclination to share joy in today's Gospel. When the two expectant women see and hear each other, they express joy and gratitude - even the infant John, leaps in Elizabeth's womb.

While expecting a child is a wondrous experience, it is one that can be marked by anxiety and difficulty as well. Surely these women shared their difficulties as well as their joy. In this way, Mary and Elizabeth teach us something about Christian community. They draw closer together to share in joy, pain, and difficulty. All the while - Jesus was in their midst.

Yet from an outsider's perspective, they probably looked like any other women. Who would have expected the Messiah to be born as a vulnerable infant? The first reading includes the prophecy of the birth of the Messiah. Micah proclaims that the ruler of Israel will come from Bethlehem-Ephrathah and even adds that Bethlehem is too small to be among the clans of Judah. The Messiah will be born in a place of little worldly significance, just as the Messiah will be born of a lowly virgin. Lowly in the world's eyes, not lowly by God. In this way, God will establish the new covenant.

God sanctifies these lowly and seemingly insignificant people and places. Through them, the Messiah is brought into the world for the salvation of all people. What a joyous truth that we are invited to share.

The call of Jesus can be difficult at times, but He is here in our midst and has given us the Holy Spirit to help us. The season of Advent reminds us of the joyful anticipation of celebrating our Messiah's birth and of His second coming. As a Christian community, we are called to embrace one another, to provide support, and most especially to share joy that through everything, Jesus is in our midst.

God bless you.
Fr. Stan

USHERS FOR ALL 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!

Church of Saint Benedict December 22, 2024

THIS WEEK AT ST. BENEDICT

NO EVENTS ARE SCHEDULED THIS WEEK.

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
DECEMBER 24TH THROUGH DECEMBER 30TH
EMAILS AND PHONE MESSAGES WILL BE MONITORED.



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**). The Christmas Mass times will be:

Christmas Eve—4:00pm, 6:00pm, 10:00pm
Christmas Day— 10:00am

Designer Bag **SAVE THE DATE!**—St. Benedict's Knights of Columbus is sponsoring a Designer Bag Bingo on Saturday, February 1st. Admission is \$30. Tickets will go on sale after all Masses beginning January 4th, 2025 and will be available until all tickets are sold. Join us for a fun night of prizes and surprises!



*The Sanctuary Lamp this weekend burns
in memory of Ronald Ney Sr.
by the Ney and Bilski Families*



If you wish to sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp for a love one, living or deceased, please contact the Parish Office. Suggested offering is \$10.



CALLING ALL YOUNG PARISH-IONERS 4TH GRADE AND OLDER—Have you received your First Communion and want to serve your church and Christ? Would you consider learning how to be an altar server? This

is an incredible ministry! Learn more about your faith...meet other young people in the parish...and most importantly, serve Jesus! 2 days of training will be January 11th 9am to 10:30am and January 18th 9am to 11:30am. If interested, contact Jim Valentino at bigbuck_val@yahoo.com or 610-999-6647.

Monday 12/23

NO MASS

Rev. Msgr. James Reichert

Tuesday 12/24 Christmas Eve

4:00pm People of the Parish

6:00pm People of the Parish

10:00pm People of the Parish

Rev. Anthony Ripp

Wednesday 12/25 Nativity of the Lord

10:00am People of the Parish

Very Rev. Eugene Ritz

Thursday 12/26 St. Stephen, Martyr

NO MASS

Rev. Philip Rodgers

Friday 12/27 St. John the Apostle & Evangelist

8:00am Alverda Rightus by the Brenner Family

Rev. Juan Rodriguez

Saturday 12/28 The Holy Innocents

8:00am Floss Pleitner by Sharon Helms

Rev. Paul Rothermel

Sunday 12/29 Feast of the Holy Family

5:00pm(Saturday) Int. of Justice Scheidel by Adam Scheidel

8:30am Kathleen Leininger by Kelly Leininger & Joe Roland

11:00am Alfred A. Schlert, Sr. by the Seven Sisters

Rev. Msgr. Edward Sacks

**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, Beth Kase, Millie Kremp, Bev Kuzmission, Bob and Helen Macminn, Marie Mast, Timothy McCarty, Aurora McHugh, Sandy Maio, Joan Moffa, Regina Moran, Frank Newhams, George Paul, Kevin Paul, Patrick, Patti, Sister Mary Lou Pleitner CSJ, Sister Maureen of the Eucharist OP, Gene Raser, Sr., Bridget Reagan, Vincent Rodgers, Anthony Rowan, Dustin Sands, John Slanga, Patricia Snow, Janet Teaford, Ted Teaford Jr., Nettie Thomas, Josh Toresco, Miriam Ulrich, Linda Vieldhouse, Steven Wagner, David Williams, Rachel Williams, Josephine and all those in nursing homes.



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



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