

# CHURCH OF SAINT BENEDICT

DECEMBER 29, 2024



## MASS SCHEDULE

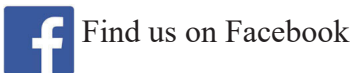
Daily: Tues. 6:30pm, Wed., Friday 8am, Thurs. 5:30pm  
from Labor Day to Memorial Day/8:00am from Memorial Day to Labor Day  
Saturday: 8:00am; Vigil: 5:00pm  
Sunday: 8:30am, 11:00am  
Holy Day Vigil: 5:00pm; Day-8:00am & 7:00pm

## 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 29, 2024

### THIS WEEK AT ST. BENEDICT

NO EVENTS ARE SCHEDULED THIS WEEK.

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED  
ON DECEMBER 30TH, REOPENING DECEMBER 31ST.  
EMAILS AND PHONE MESSAGES WILL BE MONITORED.



**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! Snow date is February 8th.



*Wednesday, January 1, 2025 is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God and a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass times will be Tuesday, December 31st Vigil Mass, 5:00pm and Wednesday morning, January 1st at 9am.*

*The Sanctuary Lamp this weekend burns in memory of the Jeschke Family by Bridget Jeschke*



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

**DIVORCE SUPPORT GROUP—SURVIVING DIVORCE**—a confidential program offering hope and healing from divorce starts February 3, 2025 and runs through April 21, 2025, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm at the Church of Saint Benedict, 2020 Chestnut Hill Road, Mohnton, PA 19540. For more information please contact Joe Boylan, 610-781-6415 or joeboylan@berksfoods.com.



**CALLING ALL YOUNG PARISHIONERS 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 12/30** 6th Day in the Octave of Christmas  
**NO MASS**

*Rev. Msgr. Walter Scaffer*

**Tuesday 12/31** 7th Day in the Octave of Christmas  
**5:00pm** Floss Pleitner by the Knights of Columbus #14654  
*Rev. Aaron Scheidel*

**Wednesday 01/01/2025** Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God  
**9:00am** People of the Parish  
*Most Rev. Alfred Schlert*

**Thursday 01/02** St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory Nanzianzen  
**NO MASS**  
*Rev. Msgr. Francis Schoenauer*

**Friday 01/03** The Holy Name of Jesus  
8:00am Donald Hammes by Jim Pleitner  
*Rev. Mark Searles*

**Saturday 01/04** St. Elizabeth Ann Seton  
8:00am Richard DuBois by Norman Schuhwerk  
*Rev. Adam Sedar*

**Sunday 01/05** Epiphany of the Lord  
5:00pm(Saturday) St. Benedict Memorial Society  
8:30am Elizabeth & Andy Potochny by Terry Grundman  
11:00am John Yost by Jim & Sandy Kozlowski  
*Rev. Thomas Shanfelt*

**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.



**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*



Today we gather to celebrate the feast of the Holy Family, a day in which we recognize and give thanks to God for the beautiful, loving example shown us by Mary, Joseph and Jesus. But one thing we should not do is over-romanticize the lives they led. Their lives were anything but easy. They had struggles. They must have certainly wondered whether they understood their call from God (through angels) correctly. They had more than their fair share of sorrow and heartache and ‘What does this all mean?’ moments. Simeon, in his heartfelt words at the Presentation prophesied that ‘and you yourself a sword will pierce.’ In today’s gospel of the finding in the Temple, we hear a frustrated, worried Mary saying, ‘Son, why have you done this to us?’ and Jesus responds by saying something about His need to be in His Father’s House.

There is no doubt that they could ever have imagined, or chosen, that way the events surrounding the life of their Son would play out. The ridicule He faced. The suspicion He was under. The friends He probably lost. And of course, the violence; resulting in a death we would not wish on our worst enemy. No, life for the Holy Family was almost certainly filled with struggle, sorrow and confusion; not unlike ours at times. I guess you could say that we, and they most certainly, make plans and well, life happens.

And so, maybe in the Holy Family we can find a certain kind of hope; that in the messiness of life, amidst the difficulties and curveballs and disappointments, love and faithfulness can triumph over all that. This hope in the Lord and in his promises can give us strength to keep moving down the path to greater and greater holiness and peace; even when our lives might feel as if they are coming apart at the seams. You see, in the end, the depth of Jesus’ love and his willingness to remain faithful to his Father no matter what, won eternal victory over every sorrow and every disappointment and every struggle; even over death itself. For those who loved Jesus it must have seemed as though their world was crashing down around them and well, new life happened; and the world, and we, were never the same again.

Thank you Joseph, for your compassion and understanding and basic decency. Thank you Mary for saying yes to the most outrageous and awe-inspiring request a human being ever received. And thank you Jesus for, well.... everything.

God bless you,  
Fr. Stan.



*Thank you for your generous gifts!*

**December 22**

**Stewardship \$7,167.00 (167 envelopes)**  
**Parish Giving \$2,795.00**

**Mortgage \$1,623.00 (71 envelopes)**  
**Parish Giving \$890.00**

**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.



**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.

**ALTAR FLOWERS**—The 2025 Altar Flower Calendar is now open. You may offer flowers in honor of or in memory of a loved one. You may also offer them for a special occasion, such as a wedding anniversary. The calendar will be placed on the bulletin board at the main entrance after the new year, but if you wish to sponsor the flowers before then, please call the Parish Office to schedule your requested date. The offering is \$75 per arrangement.





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