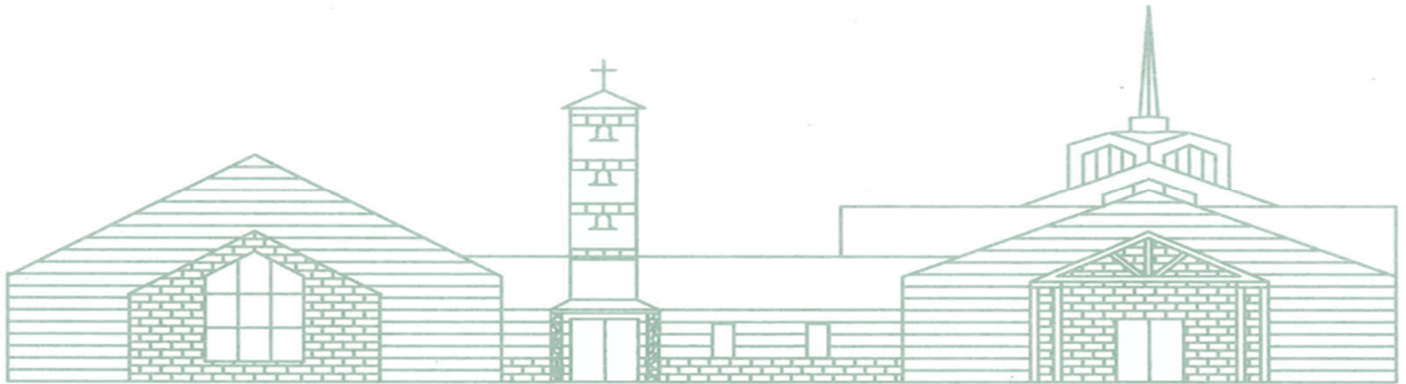


CHURCH OF SAINT BENEDICT

FEBRUARY 2, 2025



MASS SCHEDULE

Daily: Tues. 6:30pm; Mon. Wed., Friday 8am; First Thurs. 7pm, all other 8am; First Saturday: 8:00am; , all other no Mass

Holy Day (Vigil) 5:00pm, Holy Day 8:00am, 7:00pm
(Please check weekly listing for any changes.)

Sunday: 8:30am, 11:00am

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



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PARISH STAFF

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

CHURCH SAFETY INFORMATION

Richard Conte, 610-223-8846 To view plan go to:
<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 Deacon Mark Brezina at the Parish Office.

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

Church of Saint Benedict—February 2, 2025

THIS WEEK AT ST. BENEDICT

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

7:00pm Knights of Columbus, FLC
7:00pm Respect Life Committee, Chapel

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

7:00pm Women's Club, FLC

The month of February is dedicated
to the Holy Family.
In the words of St. Teresa of Calcutta,
"If you want to bring happiness to the whole
world, go home and love your family."

MILLIONS OF MONICAS – Praying With Confidence For Our Children —Many of us have children who are struggling to embrace their Catholic faith or have left the Church entirely. Like St. Monica, as mothers we persevere in prayer for their joyful return to full unity with the Catholic Church. We are not a support group or a self-help group. No sensitive information is shared. We believe that by coming together weekly, uniting our hearts and voices praying together, we can bring strength and joy to each other. We want to encounter God through prayer for ourselves and our children. Join other mothers, grandmothers, step mothers, godmothers, etc., as we pray to grow in holiness and humility, and for our children's faithful return to the Catholic Church. We have three meetings to choose from. Pick one or come to all. We meet on the first Wednesday of the month from 7pm - 8pm; the second Saturday of the month from 10:15am - 11:15am or the third Wednesday of the month from 9am - 10am. All meetings take place at St. Catharine of Siena Church 4975 Boyertown Pike, Reading, PA 19606 For more information please visit www.millionsofmonicas.com.



BERNARDINE BONANZA—The Bernardine Franciscan Sisters invite you to join them at the PLEX for their 14th annual Bernardine Bonanza on Friday March 7th at 6:30 pm. This special celebration features live music by the Uptown Band, a full open bar, food stations, a unique eight-item raffle extravaganza called Mission Madness, and an exciting live auction. There is also a raffle for a one-week Disney World vacation for 4 people valued at \$8,600! To see all the details or to purchase event tickets visit www.bfranciscan.org/bernardine-bonanza.



Monday 02/03 St. Blaise
8:00am Int. of Jeanie Hauck by Barbara Stark
Rev. Msgr. William Baker

Tuesday 02/04 Weekday
6:30pm George Groff by Debbie Mazzarelli
Rev. Algimantas Bartkus

Wednesday 02/05 St. Agatha
8:00am Rodney Focht by Marie & Justin Haux
Rev. Msgr. William Baver

Thursday 02/06 St. Paul Miki and Companions
7:00pm Richard Sweigart by the Keenan Family
Rev. Joseph Becker

Friday 02/07 Weekday
8:00am James Arnold by Joy & Lee Bandy
Rev. Frans Berkhout

Saturday 02/08 St. Josephine Bahkita, St. Jerome Emiliani
NO MASS
Rev. Msgr. Robert Biszek

Sunday 02/09 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00pm(Saturday) Deacon Larry Fessler by John & Mimi Frank
8:30am Shirley Ruhl by St. Benedict Staff
11:00am Janet Dolan and People of the Parish
by Tony and Carol Rowan
Rev. Kevin Bobbin

**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, Janet Cummings, Dan Dimeno, Joan Fondots, Theresa Fox, James Hart, Joseph Hunter, Millie Kremp, Bev Kuzmission, Bob and Helen Macminn, Sandy Maio, Marie Mast, Timothy McCarty, Aurora McHugh, Joan Moffa, Regina Moran, Frank Newhams, George Paul, Patrick, Patti, Sister Mary Lou Pleitner CSJ, Sister Maureen of the Eucharist OP, Gene Raser, Sr., Bridget Reagan, Anthony Rowan, Dustin Sands, John Slanga, Patricia Snow, Janet Teaford, Nettie Thomas, Josh Toresco, Miriam Ulrich, Linda Vieldhouse, Steven Wagner, David Williams, Rachel Williams, Josephine and all those who are homebound or 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.

HELP NEEDED for recent openings in our Wednesday Adoration schedule. The openings are 8:30am to 9:30am and 12:30pm to 1:00pm. We are also in need of substitutes for this ministry. Please consider spending some quiet time with our Lord. Any help given is greatly appreciated! Is Jesus calling you? Please contact Diane Arnold at 610-470-6616.

Thank you for your generous gifts!



January 26
Stewardship \$7,122.00 (166 envelopes)
Parish Giving \$2,955.00
Mortgage \$1,591.00 (73 envelopes)
Parish Giving \$730.00

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



The Sanctuary Lamp this weekend burns for a Special Intention requested by Maria Noon

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.



From the Pastor's Desk



Today's readings challenge us look more deeply at faithfulness and embrace it with both joy and firm resolve. Mary and Joseph, raised in the tradition of Judaism, set out to Jerusalem to do what most Jews at the time would have done, take the newborn Jesus to the Temple to present him to the Lord, consecrate him to God and offer sacrifice. The text tells us that they did this 'in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord.'

We could just leave it at that and be satisfied to think of faithfulness as obedience to God's laws and adherence to tradition, both of which are worthy in themselves. But what unfolds in the Temple helps us to look a little deeper. Two figures, Simeon and Anna, respond to this young family in ways that reveal God's faithfulness to Israel in the birth of Jesus, while illustrating their own faithfulness.

What we see in the Gospel are two elderly people who come to the Temple daily, not out of habit but with the anticipation of witnessing God's unfolding plan. Their devotion takes the form of active waiting, which means they show up with open eyes and minds and hearts.

Simeon is a man who is holding off death until he can see that God's promised consolation for Israel is no longer on the distant horizon but right before his eyes, With the child in his arms, he proclaims 'My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples.'

We also see the widow Anna, who apparently stayed in the Temple precincts, perhaps for safety after her husband had died. She is known as a prophetess, which means she was recognized as speaking for God. Her active waiting involves fasting and prayer, a way of readying herself for God's revelation of salvation.

Both of these figures show us how God calls forth exemplary faithfulness from ordinary people. Simeon and Anna are seen in our own parish in those who faithfully show up with anticipation. These people minister in our midst as catechists and lectors. They keep the grounds beautiful and fix what is broken. They minister to the sick and the homebound. They put faith into action on behalf of those who are in need of food or assistance. They pay attention to divisions and help empower those in isolation. Their prayer and service readies them to see God at work in our midst, and hopefully emulate Anna and speak of God's presence to all of us, bearing witness to God's merciful goodness on our behalf.

Each one of us can be an Anna or a Simeon by always looking for the signs of God's presence right in our ordinary lives.

God bless you,
Fr. Stan



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