

## **St. Benedict's Pastoral Council Meeting Outreach Report March 10, 2026**

### **AD - Cursillo - Joy Bandy**

- \*Ultreya's are held the first Saturday of the month after 8:00 AM Mass at St. Benedict's.
- \*Cursillo Weekends for 2026 are at Mariawald Retreat House in Shillington.
- \*Men's Weekend-Sept.17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Women's Weekend-Sept.24<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>
- \*If interested, contact Joy Bandy for more information.

### **Bereavement – Mary Ann Razzano.**

- \*There are at least six members who have assisted at the funerals, meeting with families, planning the readings, etc. present at each funeral.
- \*Next Grief Support will be scheduled in the Spring if there is interest.
- \*The Knights have been lending assistance when needed at the funerals including adult altar servers.

### **Book Club – Anita Harrison**

- \*Currently reading "56 Days" by Catherine Ryan Howard.
- \*April Meeting we will discuss "The Forty Elephants" by Erin Bledsoe.
- \*April Meeting we will decide on a new book list for 2026-2027 (April).
- \*Book Club is a social non-denominational group that is open to all.
- \*Members continue to support other church committees with book sales, raffle baskets, volunteering and prayer.

### **Catholics Divorce Ministry – John Barse**

- \*Open to St. John's Parish & St. Benedict's.
- \*12 week session with DVDs and discussions is planned for February 16<sup>th</sup> through May 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Disabled Advocate Committee – Brooke Frech**

- \*Constantly working on improving conditions for the disabled.
- \*Several parishioners are experimenting with hearing devices during Mass.
- \*Looking forward to "push pads" on the front doors of the church.
- \*Looking forward to concrete modification on the right side of the church for handicap access.

### **Family Life – Andrew (AJ) Hogan**

- \*Hosted Hospitality Sunday on February 1<sup>st</sup>.
- \*Planning an Easter Egg Hunt the week before Easter. Check bulletin for details.

### **Friendly Visitors – Julie Angstadt**

- \*The group sends "thinking of you" notes periodically. There are currently no in-person visits from the group.
- \*Eucharistic Ministers are currently visiting parishioners to administer Holy Communion.

### **Gardens/Stewards of Creation – Tony Diederich**

- \*The beautiful gardens are currently taking a long winter's nap. Soon will be spring planting, maintenance etc.
- \*We will not be recycling in the future due to inconsistent pick-ups. Robeson Lutheran (Plow Church) will be the nearest location for recycling.

### **Knights of Columbus – Mike Maiers (Rich Conte)**

- \*Knights activities with the Parish are running smoothly.
- \*Jan.31<sup>st</sup> – Night at the Races.
- \*Feb.7-8 -Pickup Super Bowl Food (Hoagies, Perogies, and Chicken Corn Soup).
- \*Feb.19-22 – Pickup First Crab Cake Sale.
- \*Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> – First Lenten Fish Fry.
- \*Mar.20<sup>th</sup> – Second Lenten Fish Fry.
- \*Mar. 26-29 – Pickup Second Crab Cake Sale.
- \*June 12 – Annual Golf Outing Benefits St. Francis Home for Hospice Care.
- \*White Rose given to Parents at Baptism.
- \*Supporting Rosary before all Masses on Weekends & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Program.
- \*Provides assistance to any Parish function, when needed.

### **Prime Timers – Charlie Jones**

- \*The K.I.T. Program (Keeping in Touch) to reach out to members who are sick, homebound or in a nursing/hospital environment continues to be well received.
- \*Mark Schrum is planning trips for 2026. A trip to Maine is planned for September. St. John's Prime Timers Group will be invited to join us on future trips.
- \*St. John's Group invited our group on a one day trip to Gettysburg in April.
- \*The Annual Valentine's Luncheon was held at Yoder's Restaurant.
- \*The Prime Timers sponsored the first Simple Supper of the Lenten Season on February 20<sup>th</sup>.
- \*Selling nut rolls of various flavors to be picked up March 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> after the Masses.
- \*Guest speakers are scheduled for the next three meetings in April, May, and June.
- \*New members are always welcome. This is non-denominational Club.

### **Property Committee - John Bergandino**

- \*Repairs are being made on the parish campus, as needed.
- \*Future Planning is to update the roof on the Church.

### **Respect Life - Mary Alice Newhams**

- \*Respect Life Team will continue the billboard ministry (The Adoption Alternative to Abortion – Real Alternatives). The Baby Bottle Campaign helped to fund the billboard.
- \*The Sign -up for the Life Ad 2026 ended on January 18<sup>th</sup>.
- \*January 23<sup>rd</sup> – March For Life in Washington DC.
- \*Hosting a Lenten Simple Supper March 27<sup>th</sup>.
- \*Planning a Mother's Day Carnation Sale.
- \*Caregiver information is provided through the St. John Caregiver Organization.

### **Safety Committee – Rich Conte**

#### **\*Reminder: Evening Meetings**

- All manual lights out (FLC Main Hall, Church and Gathering Space Hallway)
- Lights in FLC Hallway go out automatically.
- Doors need to be **SHUT** and locked overnight. Church FRONT DOOR right side needs to have the levers engaged or it won't lock properly.
- Please make sure to closed any doors that are propped open so they can be locked.
- Thermostats in the Hall should be "system off" third button to the right.
- \*Planning a periodic review of the Emergency Plan and then brief our Pastor.
- \*Lee Bandy and Rich Conte did a review of church storage and clutter.
- \*Projects on HOLD pending funding (second state request denied):
  1. Right side of Church exit ramp for Handicap during emergency.
  2. New door keys with limited distribution but Organization access to key boxes.
  3. Front Door Replacement is pending a new estimate and state funding.
  4. Surveillance cameras.
- \*A Presentation for the Parish related Emergencies is being planned for the future (actual drill and/or walk through on equipment).

### **St. Vincent de Paul – Andy Terifay**

- \*Continues to support the needs of the poor whether by food, paying bills etc.
- \*Please sign-up to help when scheduled for Kennedy Soup Kitchen.
- \*SVPDP works with 5 different food pantries in Berks Co. Actively involved with Kennedy House Soup Kitchen and Catholic Charities to help people in need.
- \*Hosting a Lenten Simple Supper on March 13<sup>th</sup>.
- \*Food items are always accepted throughout the year.
- \*Turkeys and Hams are being collected for Easter Baskets.

### **Stewardship - John Bergandino**

- \*Working with the Parish Council & Outreach Groups to have a Welcoming for new parishioners.
- \*Planned New Parishioners Meetings for February 22<sup>nd</sup> & March 22<sup>nd</sup> (12:00-2:00 PM).
- \*Asked some other Parish Groups to attend the meetings.
- \*There is a booklet section in the Gathering Space. Many topics concerning the Church and world. All materials are "Free Suggested Donations".

### **Vocations - Mia Miller**

- \*A new prayer for Vocations from the Diocese is recited before each Mass.
- \*This year, the Diocese is focusing on ways to strengthen the call for priesthood.
- \*Messages of support and encouragement are sent at least once a month.

### **Women's Club – Rosanne Weidner**

- \*Working with the Knights for Super Bowl Weekend Food Sale, The Knights will prepare the Hoagies for sale and the Women's Club will prepare and sell the Pierogies and Chicken Corn Soup.
- \*Hosted a Lenten Simple Supper March 6<sup>th</sup>.
- \*Easter Eggs will be sold in March.
- \*Helping the Family Life Group with the Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday.
- \*The Annual Women's Retreat/Communion Breakfast is scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup>.
- \*Bibles will be presented to the children at First Communion.
- \*Offers a Funeral Luncheon for any parishioner who has a death in the Parish.

**Youth Group- Marci Zambito (St. Catharine's)**

- \*There are several members of this group who have been sharing activities with Saint Catharine's, St. Ignatius, and Holy Guardian Angels.
- \*The group meets every other Sunday evening at either St. Catharine's or St. Ignatius.
- \*Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>-Mar. 1<sup>st</sup> – A successful Youth Retreat at Camp Manatawny. Father Stan helped with Confessions during the Retreat.
- \*Retreat reunion and Bowling scheduled for March 8<sup>th</sup>.
- \*Kennedy House Soup Kitchen March 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- \*Holy Thursday Church Hop April 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- \*July 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> -Steubenville- Plans in the works.
- \*Check website [www.scsyouth.weebly.com](http://www.scsyouth.weebly.com) for updated activities.
- \*Every third Sunday is iWorship at HGA from 5-6:30 pm. Open to all.

**CYO - Cassandra Jones**

- \*Girls Varsity Volleyball Team won the County Diocesan Championship. Went on to the Diocesan Tournament and won their first Diocesan Championship.
- \*Hosted the annual Spelling Bee for the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes. Three students placed for districts at the Diocesan Level.
- \*Basketball season boys and girls (Grades 3-8) in full swing for the Winter.
- \*Kitchen Kapers was held in February at La Salle Academy.
- \*Hosted Hospitality Sunday in March.
- \*Declamation is scheduled for March 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> at La Salle Academy.
- \*Track and Field will be held in the Spring for Grades 5-8.

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<p>Schedule for Hosts for Hospitality Sundays 2026</p> <p>January 4 Bereavement</p> <p>February 1 Family Life</p> <p>March 1 CYO</p> <p>April 12 Vocations</p> <p>May 3 Women's Club</p> <p>June 7 Knights of Columbus</p> <p>July 5 Prime Timers</p> <p>August 9 Music Ministry</p> <p>September 6 OCIA (RCIA)</p> <p>October 4 Gardeners</p> <p>November 1 St. Vincent de Paul</p> <p>December 6 Respect Life</p>	<p>Schedule for Lenten Simple Suppers Fridays 2026</p> <p>February 20 Prime Timers</p> <p>February 27 KOC Fish Fry</p> <p>March 6 Women's Club</p> <p>March 13 SVDP</p> <p>March 20 KOC Fish Fry</p> <p>March 27 Respect Life</p>
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**PRESIDENTS MEETING Tuesday March 24, 2026 7:00 PM**

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Ellie Albright  
Outreach Coordinator**

