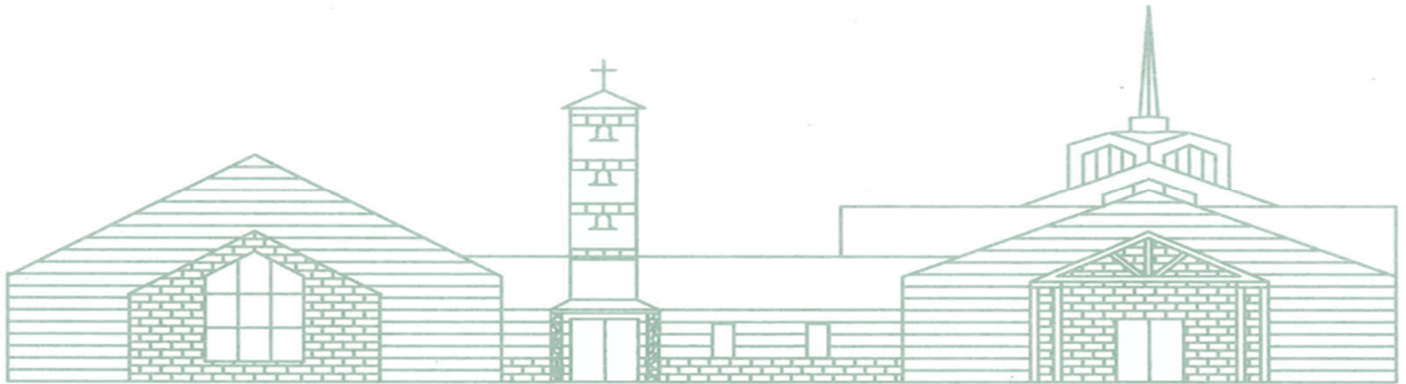


CHURCH OF SAINT BENEDICT

SEPTEMBER 8, 2024



MASS SCHEDULE

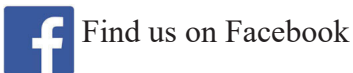
Daily: Tues. 6:30pm, Wed., Friday 8am, Thurs. 5:30pm
from Labor Day to Memorial Day/8:00am from Memorial Day to Labor Day
Saturday: 8:00am; Vigil: 5:00pm
Sunday: 8:30am, 11:00am
Holy Day Vigil: 5:00pm; Day-8:00am & 7:00pm

RECTORY PARISH OFFICE

2020 Chestnut Hill Rd, Mohnton, PA 19540
610-856-1006 Office Hours: Closed Wednesday; all other days 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



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

Church of Saint Benedict September 8, 2024

THIS WEEK AT ST. BENEDICT



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

6:30pm Respect Life, Chapel

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

7:00pm St. Vincent de Paul, Conference Room

DIOCESAN LOCAL PILGRIMAGE—will take place on Friday, September 20th, at the National Shrine of Padre Pio, Barto PA. The theme is *“My Heart – A Pilgrimage to the Heart of Jesus.”* The day will include Mass with Bishop Schlert, opportunity for Confession, Eucharistic procession and more. The day begins with registration/welcome from 8:15am-9am; pilgrimage events run from 9am-2pm, with free time to explore the shrine and Padre Pio museum from 2pm-4:30pm. All the faithful in the Diocese of Allentown are invited. No registration is required.

PROTECT THE LIVES THAT YOU LOVE THE MOST— Join the Knights of Columbus, your premier Catholic partner for financial services, for a free financial webinar to learn more about how extended care planning can help you protect your family’s future. Join us in Classroom 3 at 7:30 pm on Thursday September 10, 2024. For more information or to register, contact Rich Conte at 610-223-8846 if you plan to attend.



BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY— A person's life is forever changed with the death of a loved one, but memories live on. Please join our Support Group. Sessions will start on Monday, September 23 for six weeks ending with the All Souls' Mass November 2. You don't have to be alone in your journey. Call Mary Ann Razzano at 610-858-0946 or Rectory Office 610-856-1006 to register.



OCIA (formerly RCIA)—A new OCIA program starts on Tuesday, September 10th. An invitation is extended to those individuals in our

parish community who wish to be baptized or confirmed to contact Father Stan or fill out an application form found in the gathering space. The sessions are also meant for anyone wishing to join the Catholic Church. The sessions will be held in the church at 7:00 pm.

Monday 09/09 St. Peter Claver
NO MASS

Rev. Msgr. Michael Chaback

Tuesday 09/10 Weekday

6:30pm Joe Patro by Pat Luther

Rev. James Chalangadi

Wednesday 09/11 Weekday

8:00am Marian Gring by Joan & Roy Rothenberger

Rev. Msgr. John Chizmar

Thursday 09/12 Most Holy Name of Mary

5:30pm Joseph Piccora by Sharon Helms

Rev. Msgr. Donald Cieniewicz

Friday 09/13 St. John Chrysostom

8:00am Margaret Sabol by Clara Lush

Rev. Richard Clement

Saturday 09/14 Exaltation of the Cross

8:00am People of the Parish

Rev. Msgr. Robert Coll

Sunday 09/15 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00pm (Saturday) John Hryncyszyn by Barbara Stark

8:30am Int. of Mark Brezina

11:00am Jane Ann Braddick by Joe & Carol Hojnacki

Rev. Remy Coly

PLEASE PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

Altar flowers this weekend were given in memory of Joe and Jessie Piller by Elizabeth Potemski.

The Sanctuary Lamp was given for the intention of Genevieve Swift.

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, Janet Cannon, Curt Cassler, Sr. Maureen Clancy SSND, Cathy Coffman, Jonathan Cranley, Jeannine Dutton, Joan Fondots, Theresa Fox, James Hart, Maryann Hovan, Joseph Hunter, John Janiszewski, Millie Kremp, Karina Kupinski, Bev Kuzmission, Bob and Helen Macminn, Marie Mast, Timothy McCarty, Aurora McHugh, Sandy Maio, Mary Messner, Joan Moffa, Regina Moran, Frank Newhams, George Paul, Kevin Paul, Patrick, Patti, Sister Mary Lou Pleitner CSJ, Stanley Plevyak, Gene Raser, Sr., Anthony Rowan, Sr. Maureen of the Eucharist OP, John Slanga, Denise Smith, Susan Speicher, Janet Teaford, Nettie Thomas, Josh Toresco, Barbara Townsend, Miriam Ulrich, Tricia Vanderbeck, Linda Vieldhouse, Steven Wagner, 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.



Thank you for your generous gifts!

September 1
Stewardship \$7,872.00 (174 envelopes)
Parish Giving \$4,305.00
Mortgage \$1,939.00 (68 envelopes)
Parish Giving \$1,725.00

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



DIACONATE ORDINATION— St. Benedict is honored again this year with the ordination of Mark Brezina to the Permanent Diaconate on Saturday, September 14, 10am at the Cathedral. His first homily here will be at the 11:00 am Mass on Sunday, September 15. A hot lunch reception will follow in the hall. All are welcomed to congratulate "Deacon Mark" on his significant accomplishment.

LANDINGS—Did you or someone you know just return to the Church? Do you wish to grow in knowledge of your faith? Do you ever wonder Who God is and why we follow Jesus? Would you like to have a deeper understanding of the Mass and our Sacraments? Here at St. Benedict's, beginning on Sunday, October 6, we will be offering the "Landings" program for 7 weeks. The sessions will be held on Sundays at 1:00pm in the Chapel. We can help you learn and grow in our Catholic faith. Please prayerfully consider taking time and join us for fellowship, learning and growing in our faith. "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."—Matthew 18:20. If you have any questions please contact the parish office for assistance.



From the Pastor's Desk

Today's gospel is a familiar one. Jesus heals the deaf man. We've heard it many times before. And there is a certain 'wow' factor that goes along with this story. Jesus sticks His finger in the man's ear, spits on his tongue and makes what sounds like a groaning sound toward heaven saying, 'Ephphatha' - that is 'Be opened.'

The people present that day must have been looking at each other wondering what Jesus was up to. Needless to say, they were completely astonished at what happened next. The man could suddenly hear for the first time, and began speaking plainly. Clearly, as they were finding out, this Jesus was no ordinary man.

Hopefully, we come away from that story with a similar understanding. Jesus is a man; that much is true, but He is not an ordinary man, for the simple fact that He is also God. And we know that if Jesus could heal that man 2,000 years ago, He can heal you and He can heal me.

And yet, today's story is much more than a story about a physical healing, and even more than a story simply about the fact that Jesus can perform miracles. In today's Gospel passage we see a Jesus who wants to free us, wants to tear down whatever obstacles are getting in our way of us being fully alive. And that can only happen if and when we allow our loving God to free us from whatever is holding us back, heal us from whatever is wounding us, open our eyes and ears so that we can start experiencing the world a little bit like He does; by seeing the dignity of each person, by hearing the cries of the poor, and by speaking words of hope, kindness, understanding, encouragement, compassion and love.

Listen again to the beautiful words of Isaiah from our 1st reading: 'Here is your God....He comes to save you. Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap....the mute will sing....Streams will burst forth in the desert.'

That's what God wants for each of us; a life unlike any we can even imagine, a life in which we see, hear, and feel a little more like God does. God doesn't just save us from something, He saves us for something, for a life of real meaning, real joy and real freedom; with, in, and for God.

And so, as we say our prayers tonight or tomorrow or the next day, as we continue to pray for healing of every kind; physical, spiritual, emotional; let us be sure to also pray that God will help each of us 'be opened'; thereby allowing us to live the fullest and most faithful life possible; one in which our choices are the wisest and most loving we could ever make; for ourselves, and especially for others.

'Ephphatha' that is, be opened.' Jesus didn't just say it to the deaf man. He is saying it to you and to me this very day.

God bless you, Fr. Stan.



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