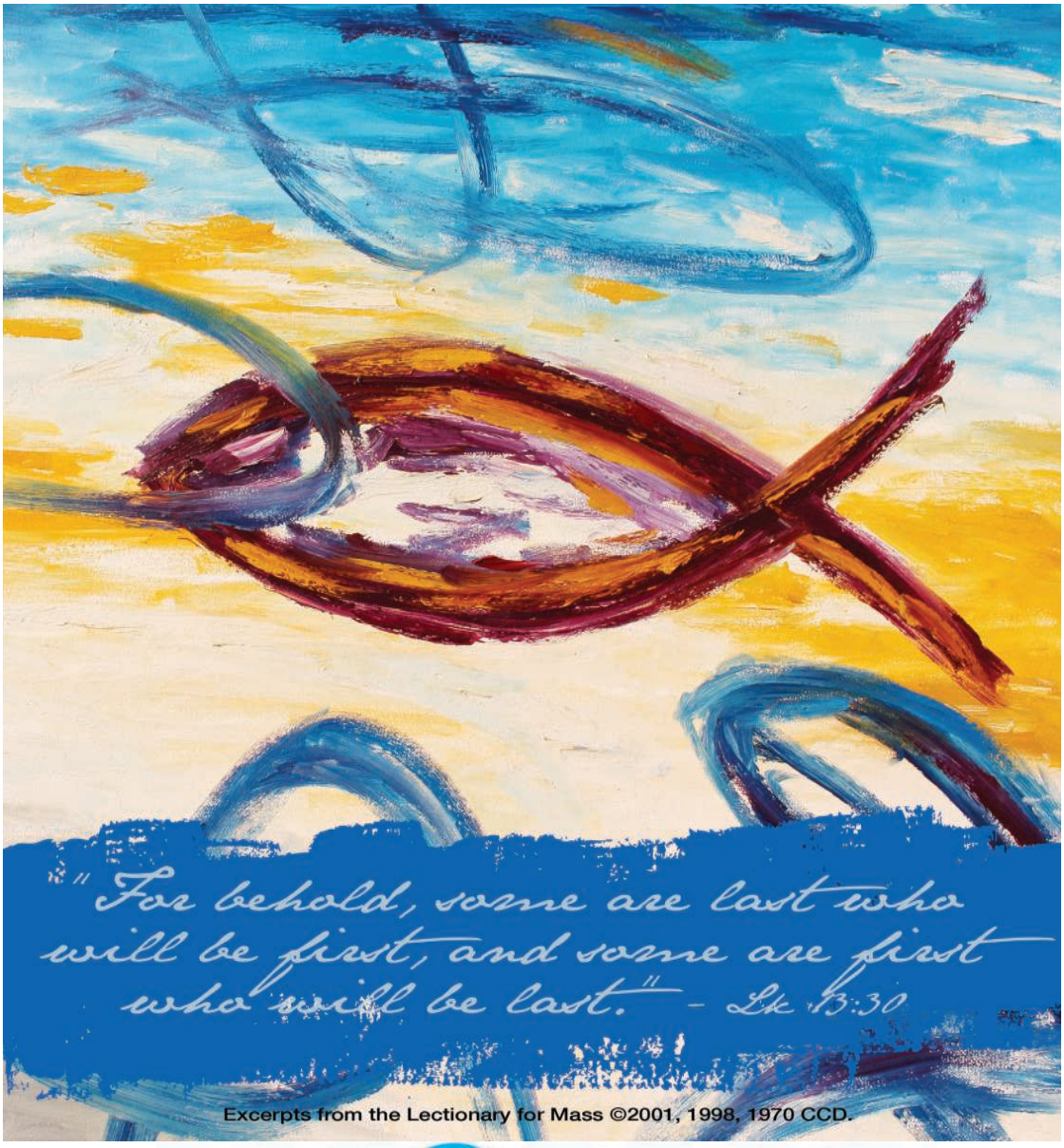
ST. BENEDICT
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCHOOL

165 BETHANY ROAD
732-264-4712 PARISH

HOLMDEL, NEW JERSEY 07733
732-264-5578 SCHOOL

ALL ARE WELCOME



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

AUGUST 21, 2016
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

OUR MISSION

Guided by the Gospel and strengthened by the Eucharist, we the Catholic people of St. Benedict worship God with joy, excitement and commitment. We welcome and reach out to each other and those beyond our community. Challenged by our call to receive God's gifts gratefully; nurture God's gifts responsibly; share God's gifts generously and return God's gifts with increase. Living our faith in Jesus Christ, we spread the Good News by providing hope, spirituality, education, hospitality and social justice.

Pastor:
Rev. Garry Koch

Parochial Vicar:
Rev. John Michael Patilla

Deacons
John Clymore
Richard L. Morris
Raymond R. Pelkowski
Stephen G. Scott

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
Monday - Saturday: 9:00 a.m.

RECONCILIATION

First Friday: following the 9:00 a.m. Mass
Every Saturday: 4:00 p.m. and by appointment

Parish Office

Office Hours: Monday to Friday
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Voice: 732/264-4712; Fax: 732/264-9080

Mrs. Lorrie McGee, *Administrative Assistant*
email: mcgee@stbenedictnj.org

Mrs. Eileen Cannarozzo, *Administrative Assistant*
email: cannarozzo@stbenedictnj.org

Mrs. Margaret Roddy, *Administrative Assistant*
email: roddy@stbenedictnj.org

Mr. Bob Cognat, *Facilities Manager*
email: cognat@stbenedictnj.org

Mrs. Francine DeMuria, *Business Administrator*
email: demuria@stbenedictnj.org

Mrs. Lori Ulrich, *Minister of Evangelization and Marketing*
email: ulrich@stbenedictnj.org

St. Benedict School

St. Benedict School is staffed by a state certified lay faculty, and has earned Middle States Accreditation. We provide Catholic education from kindergarten through eighth grade, as well as an extended day program.

Voice: 732/264-5578; Facsimile: 732/264-8679
Mrs. Candace Wallace, *Principal*
Mrs. Francine DeMuria, *Administrative Assistant*
email: demuria@stbenedictnj.org
Mrs. Monica Hurni, *Administrative Assistant*
email: hurni@stbenedictnj.org

Religious Education

The Religious Education Program provides religious formation and sacramental preparation for children from first through eighth grade.

Mrs. Denise Contino, *Director of Faith Formation*
732/264-4712 ext. 26
email: contino@stbenedictnj.org
Mrs. Carol Cesario, *Administrative Assistant*
732/264-4712 ext. 24
email: cesario@stbenedictnj.org

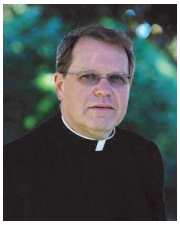
Catholic Youth Organizations (CYO)

The Junior CYO (Grades 6-8) and High School CYO (Grades 9-12) are open to all students for monthly meetings, as well as social and service activities.

Mrs. Lori McCahill, *Director of CYO*
732/264-4712 ext. 27
email: mccahill@stbenedictnj.org

Parish Registration

New parishioners, regardless of where they live, are always welcome and are encouraged to register at St. Benedict. Registration forms are available in the parish office and on our website at stbenedictnj.org.



From the Pastor

Dear Fellow Parishioners of Saint Benedict:

The contributions of many people to the life of a parish either go unnoticed or taken for granted. I am keenly aware that there are dozens of people around here who take care of things – no matter how big or small – that in some way improves or enhances the life, appearance, or functioning of this parish. Each of us owes them a debt of gratitude. I will write more on this at another time.

The principal reason that I mentioned this is that this past week we saw the retirement of **Tony Malone**, our business manager for the past dozen years. Tony's work here has been essential to the life of the parish. He helped us to recover from a challenging financial crisis and put into place the safeguards to insure the financial health and stability of the parish and the school. We wish him well in his retirement.

Over the past year the role of the business manager has evolved in various ways. The human resources responsibilities were taken over by Diane Laskowski in January and Lorrie McGee has been handling bills payable and payroll for most of the past year. Oversight, budgeting, cash flow, investments and coordination with the diocese, the Finance Council, and vendors remained with Tony. With Tony's departure we are able to do some restructuring allowing for flexibility and a reassignment of responsibilities.

I am pleased to announce that **Fran DeMuria** has assumed the role of Business Administrator for the parish. Her responsibilities will include the work that Tony was doing while continuing with some administrative work in the school office. This will allow for even better coordination between the school and parish offices as well as streamline much of the day to day operations of the parish.

While many people know Fran as a secretary in the school office, she holds an M.B.A. from Pace University and worked in finance before she switched careers to assume the responsibilities of a domestic engineer full-time. An active parishioner, Fran served for a time on the parish finance council, so she knows how that functions within the parish. She is an ideal fit for our needs and we are allowing the position to evolve over the ever-changing needs of the parish.

Some of the responsibilities that Fran has had in school will be shifting to other places where they seem to make the most sense. I fully expect that this will be a seamless transition and that with the able assistance of Lorrie McGee, Diane Laskowski, and our accountant, the diocesan financial offices, and Monica Hurni, Fran will settle into a comfortable routine soon enough.

This is yet another transition for our parish, but one that comes naturally when the same people have worked in a place for as long as some of the staff has been here.

Hopefully things are stabilizing now.

Stay cool this week!
Father Garry

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20TH

9:00 a.m. **Martin Conway**
req. Clergy, Staff and Parishioners of St. Benedict
Frank and Mafalda Aprile
req. Children and Grandchildren

5:00 p.m. **Rizieri Sica**
req. Ellen and Bob Gaudenzi and Family

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21ST

8:00 a.m. **Carl Saporito** req. Roberta and John Kolarick
9:30 a.m. ***Pro Populo***[1]
11:00 a.m. **Thomas Slater** req. Family
12:30 p.m. **Mary Skorka** req. Karpie and Doxbeck Families

MONDAY, AUGUST 22ND

9:00 a.m. **Ronald Jacob** req. Betty and Tom Scarano
Tina Iacuone req. Susan Sveva
Richard Ricigliano[2] req. The Ricigliano Family

TUESDAY, AUGUST 23RD

9:00 a.m. **Dylan Vassallo** req. The Vassallo Family
Mark Samolewicz req. Kevin Ryan

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24TH

9:00 a.m. **Donald Fey** req. Georgia and Joe Zisko
Mario Zulic req. Dragica Milohnic
Michael Gabel req. Rose Gandy
Nonna Cesario req. Georgia Zisko
Eileen Lynch req. Family
Dylan Vassallo req. The Vassallo Family
Tom McGagh req. Family
Joseph Harris
req. Clergy, Staff and Parishioners of St. Benedict
Sal Campanella req. The Schafer Family
Mark McGuigan req. Joan Kennedy
Eddie Power req. Wini and Jay Guage
Charlie Coutu
req. Clergy, Staff and Parishioners of St. Benedict
John Matthew Brennan, Jr. req. Loretta Facendo
Kathleen Closter req. Larry and Jo-Ann Egan
Christopher Stefano req. Judy and Paul Balestiero

THURSDAY, AUGUST 25TH

9:00 a.m. **Anjelina Jurasic** req. Dragica Milohnic
William Soletti req. Chris Montagnino

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26TH

9:00 a.m. **Phyllis Dellisanti** req. The Cristino Family
Nellie Cooper req. The Zisko Family

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1 For the people of St. Benedict
2 20th Anniversary of Death

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27TH

9:00 a.m. **Elizabeth Rodrick** req. Marie and Larry Watkins
Richard B. McNulty
req. Marie and Larry Watkins

5:00 p.m. **John McGlynn** req. Family

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28TH

8:00 a.m. **Joseph Clark** req. Family
9:30 a.m. **Valia Caruncho** req. The Vespa Family
11:00 a.m. ***Pro Populo***
12:30 p.m. **Ronald Herrmann**
req. Smith and Falzone Families

Please remember in your prayers all those whose names are listed in our Prayer Intention Book.

PAT BARTOLOMEO

OUR LADY OF VICTORY ADORATION CHAPEL

For those interested in giving up one hour a week to our Lord or for questions regarding scheduling please call Kathy, 732/739-3381.

For questions concerning Adoration or the Real Presence of our Lord please email inquiries to Deacon Steve Scott, dcnsteve06@gmail.com

DEVOTIONALS

If you would like to memorialize one or all of the candles in our Adoration Chapel in honor/memory of a loved one for one week, please contact the parish office.

Liturgical Ministry Schedule for Saturday, August 27th and Sunday, August 28th

	Sat. 5:00 p.m.	Sun. 8:00 a.m.	Sun. 9:30 a.m.	Sun. 11:00 a.m.	Sun. 12:30 p.m.
Altar Servers	J. Granger G. Riley A. Thamburaj	A. Granatelli M. Abel N. White	J. Campanella M. DeJesus T. Musilli	B. Berde A. Berde **1 Altar Server needed**	V. Hoskey O. Shepherd **1 Altar Server needed**
Lector	C. Catalano First reading M. Huber Second reading	V. Fasano First reading C. Faverio Second reading	**Children's Mass**	C. Gallo First reading R. Gallo Second reading	K. Remick First reading P. Remick Second reading
Eucharistic Ministers	E. Cannarozzo-B1 L. Barwood-B2 L. McCahill-C3 J. HuberB3 **Deacon-C4** A. Strozak-B5 M. Strozak-B6	L. Altobelli B1 & B2 R. Altobelli-C3 A. Merced-B3 **Deacon-C4** M. Costa-B5 A. Healey-B6	J. Lietz-B1 D. McEnery-B2 D. Contino-C3 K. McCabe-B3 **Deacon-C4** N. Nappi-B5 J. O'Neill-B6	J. Greene-B1 M. Kane-B2 G. McKeever-C3 T. Munning-B3 **Deacon-C4** M. Mykityshyn-B5 J. Fiorelli-B6	D. Vurchio-B1 W. Clark-B2 N. Morris-C3 P. Remick-B3 **Deacon-C4** S. Talamo-B5 A. Brescia-B6
Screen Operator	**Screen Operator needed**	C. Romano	**Screen Operator needed**	J. Bowen	**Screen Operator needed**

Church Offertory Collection
Sunday, August 14th

Church Contribution $10,695
Donations in cash $ 955
Vincentian Missionaries $ 4,543

MEMORIAL OPPORTUNITIES

If you would like to memorialize the Altar Bread and Wine, Altar Flowers or Sanctuary candle in honor/memory of a loved one for one week, please contact the parish office. Intentions will be listed in the bulletin.

Parish Mission

Fr. Jinu Puthusserry V.C., and all the Vincentian Missionaries thank you for your prayers and generous mission offering last weekend. Your offerings will help them to carry out their many missionary, educational and charitable activities in their missions and will help them educate young men studying for priesthood. Thank you for your generous support.

If you would like to sponsor a seminarian and help him to become a priest, you may write to:

Fr. Francis Cheruparampil V.C., Mission Procurator
P.O. Box 45
Hazlet, NJ 07730
Email: Feheru@aol.com

St. Benedict Catholic Church *Memorial Mass Society*

For a suggested donation of $20 those who are enrolled in the Memorial Mass Society will benefit from Masses to be celebrated on Twelve first Saturday's. A book with the names of all those enrolled will be placed near the altar for the Memorial Mass. The names of first time enrollees will be read at the first Mass in which they are remembered. When requesting enrollment in the Memorial Mass Society a blue padded Mass Card will be provided for presentation to the family of the deceased.

The Sacrament of Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the second and fourth Sundays of the month and the *fifth Sunday in a month when there is a fifth Sunday,* at 2:00 p.m. Parents must attend a Baptismal Preparation Class at any Catholic Church. Baptismal Preparation Classes are held at St. Benedict on the first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Church. Godparents must obtain a sponsor eligibility certificate verifying they are practicing Catholics who have been confirmed. A date for Baptism will not be confirmed before sponsor eligibility certificates are received at the Parish Office.

The next Baptism Preparation class will be held on Monday, September 12th at 7:30 p.m. in the Church.

The Sacrament of Marriage

Catholics have the duty to receive the Sacrament of Marriage in a church. Please make contact with the parish office at least one year prior to your intended marriage date to begin the preparation process. This includes attendance at a Pre-Cana Conference and several sessions with a priest or deacon.

If you are presently in a civil marriage and desire to receive the Sacrament and enter into a valid Catholic marriage, please make contact with the parish office. We offer direction and assistance on receiving an annulment for those who are divorced and re-married. Please do not hesitate to call – the process is generally less difficult or cumbersome than imagined.

Ministry to the sick and homebound

Parishioners who are ill or unable to get about are often the most neglected and in need. Please make contact with the parish office for any of the following ministries or services:

Anointing of the Sick – the priests will visit the persistently homebound at least twice per year but are available to come to your home anytime that there is a health crisis or a deteriorating condition. Please do not wait until the person is in the final stages of life – except for an emergency – to call for a priest.

Reception of Holy Communion – if a homebound parishioner would like to receive Holy Communion, please make contact with the parish office.

Hospital Nursing Homes – please call the office if a parishioner or a loved one is at Bayshore Community Hospital or has been moved into a local nursing home so that we can tend to the pastoral needs. For family members hospitalized outside of the area the in-house chaplaincy services can tend to the immediate needs. One of the priests will pay a visit as requested.

Other Services –

Help for People with Medicare (SHIP) - SHIP is a State Health Insurance Program that provides FREE, objective, confidential help to Medicare beneficiaries who have problems or questions with Medicare, Medigap, Medicare Advantage Plans, Part D and Long-Term Care. Please call the Parish Office for more information.

Alcoholics anonymous

Three meetings are held weekly: Monday 8:00 p.m., Tuesday 6:30 p.m. and Friday 5:45 p.m. Meetings are held in the Monte Cassino room of the Father Anderson Library.

Merciful savior group

The St. Benedict Merciful Savior Group will meet every Monday (except when a holiday falls on a Monday) at 7:30 p.m. in the Chapel. For further information, please call Sal and Janice Alagona at 732/264-5744 or Geri Ventura at 732/566-6642.

Music Ministry

The Contemporary Choir sings every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. Mass. The Youth Choir sings at the 9:30 a.m. Mass on the second and fourth Sundays . The Teen Choir sings at the 5:00 p.m. Mass on the third Saturday. For information about the Contemporary Choir, please contact Tom O'Brien, Choir Director at thomasobrienjr1@gmail.com. For information about the Youth Choir or Teen Choir, please contact Ellen Remick, Choir Director at remick@stbenedictnj.org.

Prayer intention group

The Prayer Intention Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month after the 9:00 a.m. Mass in the Chapel to pray for one another's special intentions.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets on alternate Tuesday mornings to knit or crochet shawls for those who are ill or have lost a loved one. If you would like a shawl for someone or would like to join us on Tuesdays, please call Caroline Cattani at 732/566-2085.

The St. Benedict 9 O'clockers

The Nine O'clockers meet in the Father Anderson Library after the 9:00 a.m. Mass every Wednesday morning. If you would like more information, please contact Lynn Altobelli at 732/264-4174. **The Nine O'clockers will resume their social gatherings on Wednesday, September 14th.**

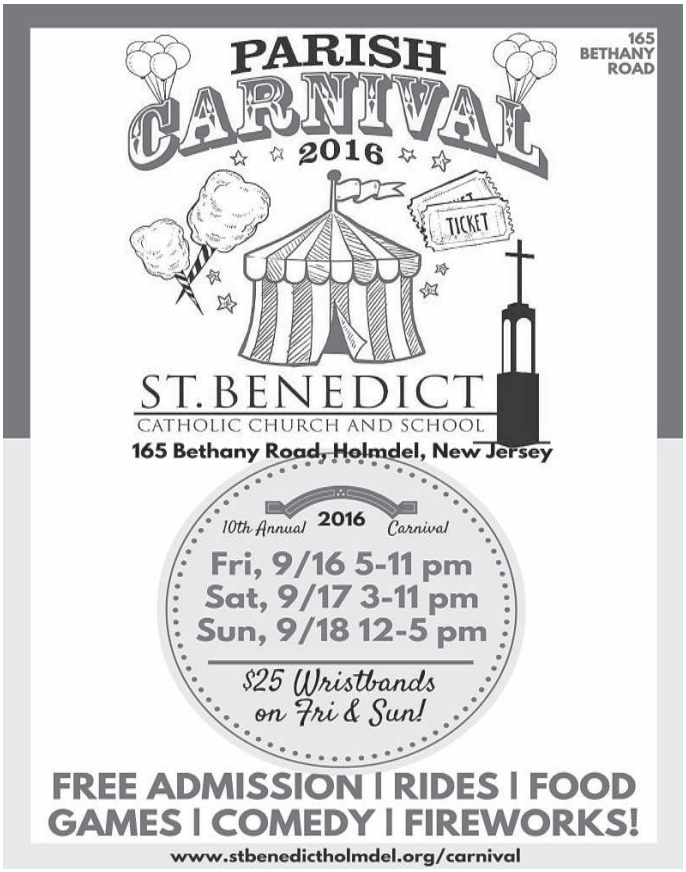
PARISH NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

We welcome into our Parish Family the following infants who were Baptized on August 14th.

Aurora Ann Bernaz
Briggs Matthew Moyer
Kayla Rose Della Universita

Support the Sisters of Mercy!

The Sisters will be selling their Golf Classic 50/50 raffle tickets after all the Masses on the weekend of September 10th and 11th. Tickets are $10 each (checks payable to Sisters of Mercy), and all proceeds from the raffle will benefit the retired Sisters. The winning tickets will be drawn at the Sisters Golf Classic on October 18th at the Spring Lake Golf Club. For more information please contact Linda Cavallo at 908/756-0994 ext. 4006 or lcavallo@mercymidatlantic.org.



Volunteer opportunities are still available please sign up in the Gathering Space.

Women's Bible Study

If you are longing to be filled with the Spirit of God's love, fellowship with other women, then this next Women's Bible Study is for you! Come join us as we share and grow in our faith, fellowship with other women and are moved by the Spirit. Through God's Word we begin to gain a new relationship with our Lord and Father, and each other.

Sessions are Tuesdays beginning September 13th from 7:00-9:00 p.m. and will last 6 to 8 weeks. Our study will be "Moved by the Spirit" by: Kevin Perrotta. Sign-up sheets are in the Gathering Space. For additional information please contact Vivian Rath 732/264-4795 or email vivm1926@verizon.net.

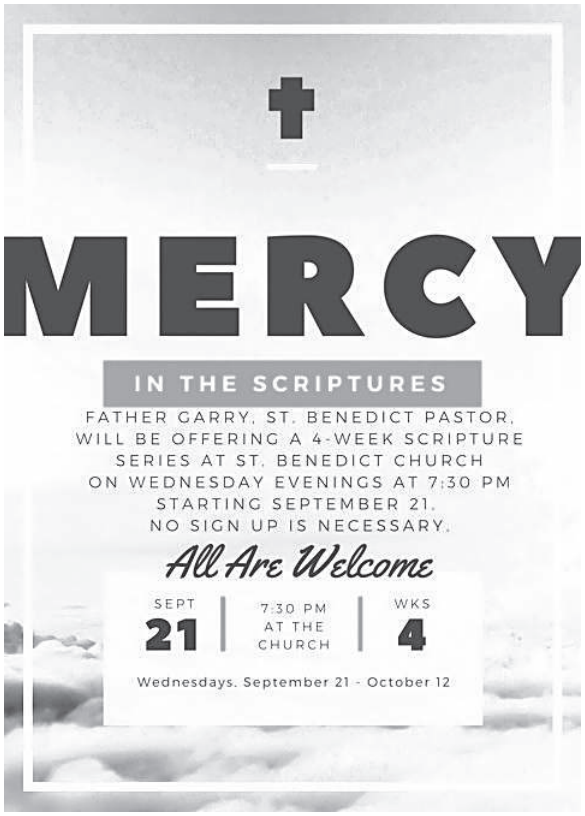
Faith Formation

RCIA

Are you – or anyone you know – Iterested in becoming a Catholic? Or, perhaps you are a Catholic but have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation and desire to do so.

You are invited and welcome to attend the R.C.I.A. program here at St. Benedict Church. R.C.I.A. (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a period of formation where we pursue the truths, teachings, and practices of our Catholic Faith in an open forum, with sound presentations and lively discussion. Each meeting is led by one of our priests, deacons or lay member of the team. RCIA process involves time not only for instruction, but also growth in the practice of the faith through discussion and prayer.

RCIA will begin on **September 18th** immediately following 9:30 a.m. Mass in the FAL (Father Anderson Library). Please call the Parish Office at 732/264-4712 to register or if you have any questions. A team member will call you prior to our start date.



Preschool Liturgy of the Word

Preschool liturgy of the Word meets every Sunday during the 9:30 a.m. Mass in the Father Anderson Library. Sessions are designed for children ages 4-6. Children are dismissed to a catechist after we pray the opening prayer during Mass and children will be brought back to Mass to meet their families for the Liturgy of the Eucharist. All children in this age group are welcome to attend. Volunteers are always welcome, if you are interested email Denise Contino at contino@stbenedictnj.org.

The Annual Bishop's Anniversary Blessing Mass and Celebration for all couples married 1 year, 25 years, or 50+ years will be held on Sunday, October 2nd for Monmouth and Ocean County Parishes at St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, Freehold, 3:00 pm Mass. Registration deadline is September 15th.

Couples must register through the parish, forms should be completed in signed by an authorized parish staff member and sent to the Department of Youth, Marriage and Family Life by mail, email: jruiz@dioceseoftrenton org or by fax: 609/406-7439.

St. Benedict parishioners are praying for vocations. Families have agreed to take an icon of St. Benedict and prayer cards home with them after Sunday Mass. The family will pray together for vocations every day for a week. The icon should be returned to the sacristy every Sunday so it can be taken by the next family.

Please sign the roster in the Gathering Space.

Pray for Vocations

This week (August 21st — August 26th) and next week (August 28th— September 2nd)

The Mariano Family
The Chivi Family
The Brescia Family
The Domashinski Family
The Cooper Family

WHY NOT YOU? WHY NOT NOW?

If you are looking for a more meaningful way to be of service to our brothers and sisters and desire to deepen your relationship with God, you might be hearing a call to the priesthood. To assist you in further discernment of where God is calling you in your life, make contact with Father Garry Koch, Monmouth County Regional Director of Vocations at: gkoch@dioceseoftrenton.org or by calling 732/264-4712 ext. 10. Information can be found at: dioceseoftrenton.org under the Vocations tab.

ST. BENEDICT SCHOOL CORNER

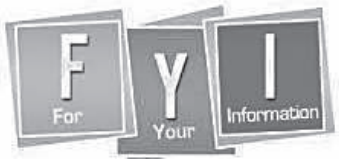
"Let our school be a place of mercy and hope, where all feel welcome, loved and forgiven."

Scrip

You can continue to support St. Benedict School by purchasing Scrip gift cards over the summer. Cards can be purchased in the school office Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Envelopes for purchasing ShopRite gift cards to support St. Benedict Saint Vincent de Paul Food Pantry will continue to be available throughout the summer. The envelopes are located on the tables around the Church. Your donation may be placed in a collection basket or returned to the parish office.

Please see the website for all school-related information at: **http://www.stbenedictholmdel.org**



Healing Hearts Support Group

Starting September 8th:
A healing program for the separated and divorced will begin on Thursday, September 8th from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at St. Veronica Church in Howell. This is a 12 week program for those who have suffered or are suffering from separation and/or divorce. ***The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide*** program incorporates a thought provoking DVD and follow-up discussion. Topics that are discussed are: shock, anger, peace, forgiveness, family issues, money, trust, dating, annulments and life beyond divorce. ***Registration and a small fee for this program will be required by September 1, 2016.*** Please email stveronicakre4u@gmail.com for more information or contact Maria at 732/363-5698. This program will be 12 consecutive Thursday evenings, please make a commitment to your healing!

Registration 2016/2017

Forms are available in the Gathering Space, in the RE office and on our website at www.stbenedictnj.org. For all new families coming into the RE program a copy of the students Baptismal Certificate is required for registration. Questions can be directed to the RE office at 732/264-4712 x24.

Volunteers Needed

We are currently in need of catechists in grades 4 and 5. If you are interested in sharing your faith with the young parishioners of our parish then this is the ministry for you. Classroom aides are needed as well as hall monitors. Religious Education classes for grades 1-6 will be meeting on Wednesday's from 4:45-6:00 p.m. from September through May. If you are interested please email Denise Contino at contino@stbenedictnj.org or call the RE office at 732/264-4712 x24.

Grade 7/8 Confirmation Program

We are launching a new Confirmation program this fall; we are looking for volunteers to help facilitate small group discussion. The program will meet two Sunday's a month from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. from September through May. There will be training offered for all volunteers. High School Students are encouraged to assist with the program. If you are interested please email Denise Contino at contino@stbenedictnj.org or call RE at 732/264-4712 x24.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The Parish of Saint Mary, One Phalanx Road, Colts Neck is offering a nine week program for those who are grieving the death of loved ones. The sessions include readings, reflection, sharing and journaling. The program will meet at 7:00 p.m. in the Spiritual Center's Chapel.

Starting: Tuesday, September 13
Ending: Tuesday, November 8

For information : Marilyn Simone at 732/462-8088

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus is the world's foremost Catholic Fraternal Benefit Society. It also maintains a highly rated insurance company with attractive rates for its members and their families. St Benedict Knights give their time and support to various charities both locally and state wide including but not limited to Birthright, Developmentally Disadvantage, Boy Scout Eagle Projects and other church, school, and community programs. Consider joining to make a positive difference in our world while enjoying the camaraderie of other like minded Catholic men. Information on how you can join us can be found on our Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/kofcholmdel, pick up a prospect card at the entrance of the church and drop it in the collection basket or drop us an email at kofcholmdel@gmail.com. Our meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month starting at 8:00 p.m. More information on the Knights of Columbus, their insurance products and services can be found at kofc.org.

Member Knights

The next Knights of Columbus business meeting will be held on Thursday, September 1st at 8:00 p.m. in the School Library.

Breakfast Buffet EVERY Month

Thank you, St Benedict Parishioners, for supporting our Buffet Breakfasts. The proceeds from EVERY K of C breakfast support those in need, including Birthright, the Developmentally Disadvantaged, Boy Scout Eagle Projects at St Benedict, our annual Basketball Free-Throw, Youth Soccer Challenges and other Church/community programs. Thank you, IHOP in Keyport, for donating the pancake batter for our monthly breakfasts. We are pleased to continue the monthly Breakfast buffets on the 3rd Sunday of every month, year round. Our next Knights of Columbus Buffet Breakfast will be held, **August 21st** after the 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. Masses in the Cafeteria.

Prices are $6.00 per adult, $5.00 per child or $18.00 per family.

Respect Life News

They may be called the Little Sisters but these Catholic nuns stood up to the Obama administration's pro-abortion HHS mandate in a big way — ultimately winning their case at the Supreme Court. Now, these principled pro-life women have received an award from the Knights of Columbus for their dedication to life. The Supreme Court issued a unanimous opinion earlier this year in the case involving the Little Sisters of the Poor, which have been fighting to not be forced to pay for abortion-causing drugs for their employees. The Little Sisters of the Poor were asking the nation's highest court to ensure they do not have to comply with Obamacare's abortion mandate. The mandate compels religious groups to pay for birth control and drugs that may cause abortions. Without relief, the Little Sisters would face millions of dollars in IRS fines because they cannot comply with the government's mandate that they give their employees free access to contraception, sterilization, and abortion-inducing drugs. The Supreme Court decision removes all of those threats of possible fines. At the 134th Knights of Columbus Supreme Convention in Toronto, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson presented the *Gaudium et Spes* award to the Little Sisters of the Poor for their commitment to their Catholic beliefs even in the face of strong government pressure. Named for the landmark Second Vatican Council document, the Gaudium et Spes (Joy and Hope) Award is the highest honor bestowed by the Knights of Columbus, the world's largest Catholic fraternal benefit organization, which has more than 1.9 million members. Awarded only in special circumstances to individuals of exceptional merit, the first recipient was Blessed Mother Teresa, in 1992, and the last recipient was the late Cardinal Francis George of Chicago, in 2015.

ADOPTION CONNECTIONS

Adoption Connections is a support group for all members of the adoption triad (birth parents, adoptive parents, adoptees) including pre-adoptive parents who are exploring the different pathways to adoption. The group facilitators are adoptive parents and St. Benedict parishioners. The group meets on the 3rd Friday evening of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Choir room. For information contact Suzy DelMage 732/670-2722 or email adoptionconnectionsnj@gmail.com.

HEALING THE WOUNDS OF ABORTION

Rachel's Vineyard can help you find your inner voice. It can help you experience God's love and compassion on a profound level. It creates a place where men and women can share, often for the first time, their deepest feelings about abortion. You are allowed to dismantle troubling secrets in an environment of emotional and spiritual safety.

Upcoming Retreat:
Friday, August 26th—Sunday, August 28th

For information, contact: Judy Warenkiewicz 732/536-6871 or email: judywarren543@msn.com

REIGNING MERCY

Have you suffered an abortion? Experience God's love and mercy and begin the journey of healing. Please call the Sisters of Life 888/575-0075 or email: hopeandhealing@sistersoflife.org. For men, call Theresa Bonopartis at Lumina 877/586-4621 or email Lumina@postabortionhelp.org.

Mercy for August

As we continue to join Pope Francis and the universal Church in the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy, during the month of August we are highlighting the Spiritual Work of Mercy, "Forgiving Injuries" Forgiving others is difficult at times because we do not have God's limitless mercy and compassion. But Jesus teaches us that we should forgive as God forgives, relying on him to help us show others the mercy of God. We can begin by letting go of grudges. Forgiveness truly transforms hearts and lives. This month challenge yourself to attend the sacrament of Penance and visit the Adoration Chapel to listen to God's call for transformation in our lives.

St. Vincent dePaul Society

A social ministry, SVdP provides spiritual, food distribution, emergency financial and other services to those in need. For questions or to volunteer contact Patti Dickens – pattimd05@aol.com. For emergency assistance, please contact 732/264-4712, ext. 33, leave a message and your call will be returned.

Food Pantry Hours

The Food Pantry will be open Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Tuesday evenings from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. *The Food Pantry is closed on Mondays and Saturdays.*

SCRIP Cards

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is providing food gift cards to area supermarkets for many of our pantry visitors. Parishioners are asked to use Scrip envelopes in the back of Church and make a donation. Scrip envelopes can be placed in the collection basket or at the Parish Office.

Volunteer Drivers / Loaders

The Food Pantry needs drivers to help pick up food at Aldi's, Hazlet and at the Food Bank in Neptune on a weekly basis. Help is also needed to unload vans and restock the shelves on Mondays. If you feel you could assist in either of these areas, please contact the Food Pantry at 732/264-4712 ext. 34.

Food Pantry-Bag Ministry

For your convenience, bags are left at all the Church doors on the 1st Sunday of each month. We welcome any donations for our pantry. Please consider supporting this ministry.

ITEMS NEEDED:

Diapers (all sizes)	Baby Food (stages 2/3)
Baby Wipes,	Children's cereal
Coffee/Tea	Juice
Soup	Soap
Shampoo	Toothpaste and Toothbrushes
Laundry Detergent	Dish Detergent
Toilet Tissue	

Thank you for your generosity.

St. Benedict Thrift Shop

St. Benedict Virtual Thrift Shop is a service for those wishing to donate clean, working household goods. Clothing is not accepted but may be donated via the clothing bin located behind the food pantry. We connect donors with individuals in need of goods. Donors and recipients should call 732/264-4712 ext. 13 and leave a message. When leaving your message please speak slowly and clearly. Volunteers update our list weekly and will contact you to arrange a convenient time for you to *drop off your donation if there is a match*. PLEASE NOTE WE ARE UNABLE TO PICK UP OR DELIVER DONATIONS. A tax letter receipt for accepted donations will be provided.

PLEASE DO NOT DROP OFF ANY ITEMS AT THE PANTRY WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL.

St. Catharine's employment resource committee

Frustrated in your career? In transition and don't know where to find someone who cares? Not sure that you're following the right job search path? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then join us at 7:00 p.m. in room 15 on the fourth Monday of the month for suggestions on preparing resumes as well as networking and interviewing techniques. Visit www.stcatharine.net/parish-ministries/employment-resource for employment news. For more information contact:

Deacon Tom DiCanio-*tjd55555@aol.com*
Vin Pizzolo-v*pizzolo@stcatharine.net*

Birthright Supplies

Birthright provides free and confidential support to women who are distressed by an unplanned pregnancy. Birthright provides emotional support, free pregnancy testing, maternity and baby clothes. It also provides information and referrals to help their clients meet legal, medical, financial and housing needs. There is a continuous need for newborn and size 4 diapers. There is a bin in the gathering space for diapers and maternity clothes only. All other baby supplies may be donated to St. Vincent de Paul.

Birthright of Freehold is located at 49 East Main St. Freehold. Any questions please call: 732/462-2888.

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For further information, contact the Diocese of Trenton, Office of Communications at (609) 403-7199; dotcomm@dioceseoftrenton.org

The Monitor will have full on-location and follow-up coverage of this special Mass. Check in at TrentonMonitor.com.

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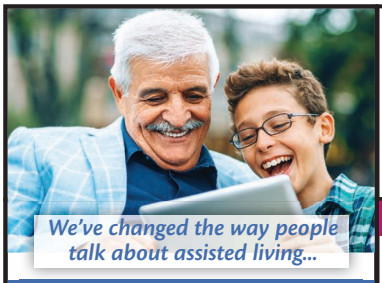

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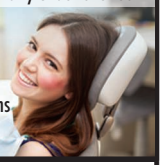

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