

ST. BENEDICT, RIDGELY

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 6	
4:00p.m. St. Elizabeth Church	People of the Parish
Sunday, January 7	
The Epiphany of the Lord	
7:15a.m. St. Benedict Church	David Velasquez
8:30a.m. St. Benedict Church	Walt Scanlan
11:15a.m. St. Elizabeth Church	Kevin Flynn
Monday, January 8	
9:00a.m. St. Elizabeth Church	NO MASS/CONFESSIONS
Tuesday, January 9	
9:00a.m. St. Benedict Church	NO MASS/CONFESSIONS/ADORATION
Wednesday, January 10	
9:00a.m. St. Elizabeth Church	NO MASS/CONFESSIONS
6:00p.m. St. Elizabeth Church	NO MASS/CONFESSIONS/ADORATION
Thursday, January 11	
9:00a.m. St. Benedict Church	NO MASS/CONFESSIONS
Friday, January 12	
NO MASS/CONFESSIONS	
Saturday, January 13	
4:00p.m. St. Elizabeth Church	Ron Seeley
Sunday, January 14	
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	
7:15a.m. St. Benedict Church	Mike Musachio
8:30a.m. St. Benedict Church	Ronald Talbert
11:15a.m. St. Elizabeth Church	People of the Parish

TABERNACLE LIGHT INTENTIONS

JANUARY 6 – JANUARY 19, 2024

St. Elizabeth Church

In Memory of Robert & Marty Kibler

St. Benedict Church

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT OF STEWARDSHIP BACK TO THE LORD	
FOR DECEMBER 23 & 24, 2023	
Envelopes	\$ 2,374.00
Loose	\$ 1,522.00
TOTAL OFFERTORY	\$ 3,896.00
FOR DECEMBER 30 & 31, 2023	
Envelopes	\$ 1,901.00
Loose	\$ 289.00
Online Giving via WeShare for December	\$ 4,994.01
TOTAL OFFERTORY	\$ 7,184.01
Christmas Collection	\$ 7,791.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 1,014.00
Poor Box	\$ 12,598.00
YEAR- TO-DATE OFFERTORY	
Actual Offertory	\$ 152,670.15
Average Weekly Offertory	\$ 5,871.93
(Week 26 of 52)	

Thank you for your generosity and support through your sacrificial giving. If you would like to make an online donation via WeShare, simply use this QR Code.



www.beparish.com

ST. ELIZABETH, DENTON

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR...

Dear Parishioners ~

This weekend, we celebrate Epiphany, which means manifestation. Christ is now manifested to both the Jews and Gentiles. But, in a more specific way, manifested to the Magi. The Magi were astronomers and scientists who unlocked the secrets of the world through speculation, observable patterns, and magic. This is where we derive the modern-day word. Even these “wise-men” realized there was something confounding and unexplainable about the newborn baby Jesus. Many wise-men still seek the truth and will only find it in Christ. Yes, we can certainly be “wise” to the world. But there are some things we can never explain. These things require a level of Faith.

I will be away this Sunday after the 11:15 Mass for approximately two weeks. In case of the need of an emergency anointing, please phone one of the priests at Sts. Peter and Paul in Easton at 410-822-2344. During this time, there will be no daily Confessions, Masses, or Adoration. A visiting missionary priest will be here to say the weekend Masses on January 13/14. I will not have access to a phone or email while I am away, so please leave me a voicemail or send me an email, and I will respond upon my return. Please know that I will be saying Mass daily when I am away and will be praying for your intentions. ☺

On another note, I'd like to let you know about a problem we have here at our parish. First, let me say that it is a good problem to have! But it is a problem, nonetheless. It is a problem that has slowly arisen since I first arrived. We have too many Mass intentions. You are probably thinking: Father! How could you say that! We can never have enough Masses! Canon Law stipulates that we can only feasibly take in the amount of Mass intentions for a year that can be satisfied by the priest. Also, the Church never dictates the number of Masses said that are beneficial to the soul even if they should be in purgatory and need those prayers and Mass intentions to get to heaven. In other words, even the power of a single Mass is monumental in itself.

I understand that people love to offer Mass intentions for those who are sick or deceased. But when we offer too many Mass intentions, it can become superfluous, lose its meaning, and become unfair to others in the parish who want to offer Masses. The problem has manifested itself when someone comes to the office and wants to have a Mass offered for a friend or loved one who is presently sick or who has recently died. Due to the number of Masses already on the calendar, that person quite often has to wait almost a year before a Mass can be offered. Often, by then, the person for whom they are requesting the Mass may no longer be sick or may have even passed away since the request was put on the calendar.

This issue, however, is not just isolated to our parish alone. Several parishes are facing this problem as there is an increased lack of priests to say Masses and the potential merging or closing of parishes looming on the horizon. Some people cannot find a parish that has an open calendar, and so they start going “calendar -hopping”...looking for a parish that has free days available for Masses. This has happened here, and I hesitate to let “outsiders” take advantage of our precious calendar and want the first-come basis to be offered to parishioners first.

Therefore, after consultation with our Deacons and staff, I am making the following changes starting **IMMEDIATELY**. Each parish family is limited to the following:

- You can only offer 5 (FIVE) Masses per year for any intention. If you have several people in your family for whom you have individually offered a Mass in the past, you could combine them and say: “For the Deceased Members of the.....Family” (or “For the Intentions of the Family).
- If a friend or another parishioner or family wants to offer a Mass for the same intention and there are already 5 Masses on the parish calendar for that same intention, they are not permitted to offer any more.
- If the Mass calendar becomes free, we will notify everyone via the bulletin and email that you may offer additional Masses.

This is not a rebuke or punishment for anyone or a means to reduce prayer and devotion, but rather a necessity so that we can allow other people in our parish the chance to offer a Mass for someone who is sick or who has died in a timely manner. Please bear with us as this new procedure may take some getting used to.

Remember: our prayers for the sick, suffering, those in need, and the deceased are not just limited to offering Masses. You can do any of the following to pray for them:

- Daily prayers, devotions, and rosaries
- Tabernacle lights
- Votive lights
- All Souls, Christmas, Easter, Mothers & Father’s Day Novenas
- Inscribing their names into the Intention Book in the back of both churches
- Giving their name to the Parish Office to be included in the Prayer of the Faithful at Mass and on the prayer list in the bulletin
- Asking Father or one of the Deacons to pray for them personally
- Asking the Ladies of our Monday Morning Intercession group to lift them up in prayer

~ Fr. Coffiey

JANUARY 6 & 7, 2024

LITURGY

Looking for some inspiration as we journey through this year of Eucharistic Revival in the Parish? Visit our Eucharistic Revival webpage at <https://16009.sites.ecatholic.com/national-eucharistic-revival> for some ideas/suggestions.



SIGN-UP TO TAKE HOME THE TRAVELING CHALICE
Pray for Vocations, Eucharistic Revival, Life, Peace & More!
Our parish has begun a Traveling Chalice prayer effort in observance of the National Eucharistic Revival and to pray in a special way for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The program will continue until the closing weekend of the Year of Parish Eucharistic Revival on July 20, 2024. We are asking all parishioners/parish families to consider signing up to participate. Participation entails receiving the Traveling Chalice at a weekend liturgy, keeping it in a place of honor in your home for a one-week period and offering simple prayers each day for vocations, Eucharistic Revival, peace and your own personal intentions (a prayer guide will be provided). If you would like to sign-up, visit <https://beparish.flocknote.com/signup/142285> to choose a date or contact Lori in the Parish Office (410-634-2253 or LParks@beparish.com). Once you sign up, you will be contacted as the date you have chosen draws near so that we can find out which Mass you plan to attend on your chosen weekend; then, the Chalice will be presented to you at that Mass.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS
Due to Maureen’s medical leave, there has been a necessity to adjust weekly office hours. Regular office hours are typically Tuesday through Friday from 8:30a.m. – 4:30p.m. Going forward, the office will only be open on Thursdays from 9:30a.m.- Noon (this is subject to change pending volunteer availability). Next week, the parish office will be open on Tuesday (1/9), Wednesday (1/10) and Thursday (1/11) from 8:30a.m.-4:30p.m. but will be closed on Friday, January 12th. To ensure best results, please call the parish office before visiting to be sure that a staff member or volunteer is present. Thank you for your patience.



CHRISTIAN FORMATION
IF YOU'D LIKE TO SEND CARDS/GREETINGS to MAUREEN
Many of you have asked, so if you'd like to send a card or greeting to Mrs. Maureen Duggan-Cassidy, you may do so by addressing cards to her in care of Mr. & Mrs. Colin Durner and mailing them to 578 Preservation Drive, Fort Mill SC 29715. Any cards mailed to her home address in Denton will also be forwarded to her in South Carolina. Your continued prayers are appreciated as Maureen continues to heal from her surgery.
(P.S. Maureen celebrated her birthday on January 4th!)



This Sunday, January 7th, is Super Sunday. The Knights will host their Super Sunday breakfast after the 7:15 & 8:30a.m. Masses in the Parish Hall (carryouts also available). Religious Ed classes will take place from 10:00a.m. – 10:45a.m.

CONFIRMATION PREP NEWS ~ Our next Confirmation Preparation gathering will take place this Sunday, January 7th from 10:45-11:15a.m. in the 10th grade classroom.

PARISH & FAMILY LIFE
WE REMEMBER + WE CELEBRATE + WE BELIEVE
BAPTISMS
Matthew Damien Rozwood, son of Matthew & Stephenie Rozwood, was baptized on Sunday, December 31st. Matthew is the grandson of Steve & Sue Fleegle. We celebrate the beginning of a life of faith for Matthew as he receives the gift of new life in God’s spirit and becomes a part of the fellowship of the Church through the Rite of Baptism.



SODALITY NEWS
The Blessed Virgin Mother Ladies’ Sodality will meet this Tuesday, January 9th at 7:00p.m. in the Parish Hall. The Rosary will be prayed at 6:30p.m. prior to the start of the meeting. All parish women aged 18 and older are welcome and encouraged to attend.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
LIFE IN THE PARISH FAMILY
Sunday, January 7
• Trustee Elections after all Masses
• Super Sunday Breakfast – after 7:15a.m. & 8:30a.m. Masses – Parish Hall
• Religious Ed/R.C.I.A. Classes – 10:00a.m.-10:45a.m.
• Confirmation Prep Class – 10:45-11:15a.m. – 10th Grade Classroom
• Youth Ministry Gathering – meet at 3:00p.m. in Parish Hall to prepare meal for His Hope Haven Homeless Shelter
Monday, January 8
• NO MASS/CONFESSIONS
• Intercessory Prayer Group – 9:30a.m. – SE Church
Tuesday, January 9
• NO MASS/CONFESSIONS/ADORATION
• Ladies’ Sodality Meeting – 7:00p.m. – Parish Hall (Rosary will be prayed at 6:30p.m. in the Hall)
Wednesday, January 10
• NO MORNING MASS/CONFESSIONS
• NO EVENING MASS/CONFESSIONS/ADORATION
Thursday, January 11
• NO MASS/CONFESSIONS
• NO Adult Bible Study
• Homeschool Group Classes – 9:30a.m.-1:30p.m. – Hall
Friday, January 12
• NO MASS/CONFESSIONS
Saturday, January 13
• COR Men’s Faith & Fellowship Gathering – 7am – Parish Hall
• Benedictine Oblate Gathering – 9am-1pm – Parish Hall
• Confessions – 3:00-3:45p.m. – SE Church
• Mass: 4:00p.m.– St. Elizabeth Church
Sunday, January 14
• 2nd Collection – Catholic University/Catholic Communications
• Religious Ed/R.C.I.A. Classes – 9:40-10:45a.m.
• Hospitality hosted by Ladies’ Sodality – 9:30-10:30a.m. – Parish Hall

REMEMBERING IN PRAYER THIS WEEK...
Kathleen Green ~ Edie Crank ~ Butch Petroski ~ Michael Petroski ~ Mary Jo Clancy ~ Socorro McIntire ~ Marianna Breeding ~ Jackie Long ~ Mary Ellen Black ~ Kenny Breeding ~ Randy Jopp ~ Doug League ~ Susie Crocco ~ William R. Walton ~ Ruth Susini ~ Helen Vogt ~ Erica Redgraves ~ Claire Stevens ~ Joan & E.T. Dize ~ Martie Greco ~ Remi Michael Tedesco ~ ~ Dan Finnerin ~ Dan Hayes ~ Frances Vogt ~ Mike Porter ~ Theresa Cochrane ~ Joan Mollick ~ Kathleen Ruskin ~ John & Anne Rastelli ~ Judy Klug ~ Josie Prince ~ Olivia Wade ~ Kim Mayer ~ Nancy Sollers ~ Keith & Maria Poptanich ~ Willard Parks ~ Erica Jarman ~ Mike Babige ~ Mark Hartlage ~ Maureen Duggan-Cassidy ~ Marie Harfeld ~ Donald J. Kempel ~ Page Murphy ~ George Sebestyen

**** NOTE:** As we begin a new year, some names have been removed from the prayer list. If you would like us to continue to pray for someone whose name has been removed, simply contact the Parish Office with your request. Remember to let us know if someone whose name you have added to the list has experienced significant healing or entered into eternal life. In this way, we can keep our prayer list focused and offer prayers for those who are most in need. Thank you.



The family of Mrs. Henrietta Wood would like to thank all parishioners for their support during her illness and at her funeral. Your cards, calls, visits, prayers, well wishes and luncheon food & assistance were most appreciated and gave Henrietta and her family deep peace. God bless you all for your kindness.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for

This year's SPAGHETTI DINNER



Our parish Youth Ministry will be hosting their annual Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, January 27th from 5:00-8:00pm in the Parish Hall. There will be a choice of two seatings:

5pm & 6:30p.m. Menu includes spaghetti, meatballs, salad, garlic bread, desserts, and drinks. Tickets are \$8 each with a maximum price of \$40 per family. RSVP via Flocknote (<https://beparish.flocknote.com/signup/150842>) or contact the parish office by 1/24. Tickets for a Money Raffle in conjunction with the dinner will also be on sale after all Masses on January 13/14 & January 20/21. Cost is \$5 per ticket or 5 for \$20.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

MEN'S FAITH & FELLOWSHIP GATHERING OPEN TO ALL PARISH MEN

Our next COR meeting is on Saturday, January 13th at 7 AM in the Parish Hall. Our mission at COR is answering the needs of Catholic men through prayer, formation, and fraternity. Our goal is to build a group of men with a foundation of faith within themselves and their brothers so that they can lead their families in faith. Please join us for fellowship and friendship over coffee. We are using the video series "Into the Breach" to guide our discussions. Questions? Contact Chris Grazzini, COR Director at (703) 927-3243 or wendiggrizz1750@gmail.com.

COAT DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting winter coats throughout December, January, and February for distribution to anyone needing these items, parishioner or non-parishioner alike. They are accepting new/gently used coats of all sizes as well as gloves and hats (only new, please). Please launder used coats before donation. Donation boxes can be found in the back of St. Elizabeth Church and in the Parish Hall. Please let us know if you know someone in need of winter coats, hats, or gloves. (NOTE: No clothes, please. Only coats/hats/gloves).

VOCATION REFLECTIONS

"For out of you shall come forth a ruler who will shepherd My people." Is Christ calling you forth out of your comfort zone to serve Him in others as a sister, brother, or priest? If so, speak with Fr. Coffey or reach out to the diocesan Vocations Office at at (302) 573-3113 or vocations@cdow.org.

Please pray for our diocesan seminarians and those discerning a call to Religious Life:

Deacon James Gebhart ♦ Dennis Stameza ♦ Eric Gianforcaro ♦
♦ Louis Namugera ♦ James Kimmel ♦ Harrison Frey ♦ Tibor Andrew Nagy ♦ Joseph Lewis ♦ Anthony Miranda ♦ Jakob Brown ♦ Brooks Jensen ♦ Sr. Amanda Marie de Jesus

AROUND THE DIOCESE/COMMUNITY

2024 MARCH FOR LIFE

March for Life Bus provided by Knights of Columbus

The annual March for Life will take place on Friday, January 19th in Washington, D.C. The District 26 Knights of Columbus are providing a free bus to the March. Bus schedule is as follows:

- 9 a.m., bus departs Sacred Heart Church, Chestertown
- 9:25 a.m. Route 213 and Route 18, Centreville
- 9:45 a.m. Chesapeake College
- 10 a.m. Route 8 and Route 50 Park and Ride (Kent Island).

The bus will drop off pilgrims in D.C. in time for the Noon rally and program followed by the 1 p.m. March on Constitution Ave. and then will depart for home at approximately 3 p.m. with a return at 5 p.m. with stops in reverse order. For reservations, contact Kenny Platt, (443) 926-2801, plattkpc@aol.com.

MILESTONE WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

with BISHOP KOENIG

Bishop William E. Koenig invites all couples celebrating their 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th, 50th, wedding anniversary, or any anniversary beyond 50th, to the annual Wedding Anniversary Mass being held on World Marriage Sunday, February 11, 2024, at 1:00PM at St. Margaret of Scotland Church in Newark, DE. Reservations are required by February 2, 2024. Bishop Koenig will be available for photos with interested couples beginning at 12:00pm and again after the Mass. If you would like to have a photo taken with Bishop Koenig, please arrive at 12:00pm or plan to stay after Mass. Questions may be referred to the Office for Marriage and Family Life at 302-295-0657 or by emailing QMFL@cdow.org. Registration can be completed by using the following link – cdowcym.wufoo.com/form...

RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT

A Rachel's Vineyard Catholic Retreat will be held the weekend of April 19-21, 2024. This retreat offers emotional and spiritual healing for anyone who has struggled with the pain of abortion. Whether you are post-abortive or know someone who is, freedom awaits. Contact Nan Freeman at 302-463-7711 (call or text) or lucyminn929@gmail.com by April 5.

PILGRIMAGE: Join Fr. Mike Gallagher on a SEINE RIVER CRUISE PILGRIMAGE IN FRANCE with an optional post-tour to Lourdes, June 9-17, 2024. Lourdes: 17-20. This will not be a strenuous journey. We will spend seven nights on a ship and a bus will take us from the ports to various religious sites. Visit the Chapel of the Miraculous Medal, the Church of St. Vincent de Paul, the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, the Basilica of St. Theresa (the Little Flower) and Church of St. Joan of Arc. We will also visit the gardens of Giverny and the beaches of Normandy. For further information and registration forms, call Lisad at 1-800-842-4842.

LISTEN TO CATHOLIC FORUM EACH WEEK. Next Saturday, January 13th, tune-in to hear an interview with Father James Loughran, SA, Director of the Graymoor Ecumenical & Interreligious Institute and learn about the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and the cause for canonization of their founder, Father Paul Wattson, who was born on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Catholic Forum airs on Saturday afternoons at 1:30 on Relevant Radio 640. You can listen online anytime at cdow.org/CatholicForum, or by searching "Catholic Forum" on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, or Amazon Music podcasts. You can see videos of select interviews at [YouTube.com/DioceseofWilm](https://www.youtube.com/DioceseofWilm). For photos, information regarding upcoming guests, links and more, "Like" Catholic Forum on Facebook at [@CatholicForum](https://facebook.com/CatholicForum).

RETRouvaille:

REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties, or crises. *The next program will be held February 16 - 18, 2024 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA.* For more information, or to register, visit HelpOurMarriage.com or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

What happens when someone dies without a will? Lots of Americans are about to find out. According to one recent study, 68 percent of U.S. adults do not have a will or any other estate planning document. If you die without a will or intestate, the laws of the state, not you, decide who gets your assets. Could you resolve to make 2024 the year you get your affairs in order? Remember: Estate planning is for everyone. Consider a legacy gift to our parish. For your complimentary Estate Planning Guide, please email cfacciolo@cdow.org or call the Development Office of the Diocese at 302-573-3121.