

ST. BENEDICT, RIDGELY

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, March 9	
4:00p.m.	St. Elizabeth Church Henrietta Wood
Sunday, March 10	
Fourth Sunday of Lent	
7:15a.m.	St. Benedict Church Mike Musachio
8:30a.m.	St. Benedict Church People of the Parish
11:15a.m.	St. Elizabeth Church Walt Scanlan
Monday, March 11	
9:00a.m.	St. Elizabeth Church Gus Sargent
Tuesday, March 12	
9:00a.m.	St. Benedict Church Mark Cassidy
Wednesday, March 13	
9:00a.m.	St. Elizabeth Church James & Shirley Lombardo
6:00p.m.	St. Elizabeth Church Souls in Purgatory
Thursday, March 14	
9:00a.m.	St. Benedict Church Intentions of Flossie Skirvin
Friday, March 15	
NO MASS/CONFESSIONS	
Saturday, March 16	
4:00p.m.	St. Elizabeth Church Delilah Davis
Sunday, March 17	
Fifth Sunday of Lent	
7:15a.m.	St. Benedict Church People of the Parish
8:30a.m.	St. Benedict Church Hiram Callahan
11:15a.m.	St. Elizabeth Church Ken Flynn

TABERNACLE LIGHT INTENTIONS

MARCH 2 – MARCH 15, 2024

St. Benedict Church

St. Elizabeth Church

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT OF STEWARDSHIP BACK TO THE LORD FOR MARCH 2 & 3, 2024	
TOTAL OFFERTORY	\$ 9,374.00
2 nd Collection – Catholic Relief Services	\$ 316.00
Poor Box	\$ 210.00
YEAR- TO-DATE OFFERTORY	
Actual Offertory	\$ 209,717.15
Average Weekly Offertory (Week 35 of 52)	\$ 5,991.92/wk.

2023 TAX LETTERS
If you would like a 2023 statement of your contributions for tax purposes, please contact the parish office to request one (parishoffice@beparish.com or 410-634-2253).
Do I need a tax letter? If the amount of your deductible 2023 donations & expenses is more than the standard deduction (*standard deductions for the tax year 2023 are: \$13,850 for single and married filing separately, \$27,700 for married filing jointly, and \$20,800 for heads of households*) then you should consider itemizing and requesting a tax letter from the parish would be necessary.

www.beparish.com

ST. ELIZABETH, DENTON

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR...

Dear Parishioners ~



We all desire to see the truth and find God. We also desire to be seen. This is the way that we can assure ourselves that we have found God and that someone accepts, loves, and notices us. But what about someone who is blind? They cannot physically see manifestations of God, although, they can be seen by others. They can be told that they are valued, loved, and accepted. God even assures them of this in prayer. But, deep down, there is a tremendous emphasis on being able to physically see. We place a tremendous emphasis on the ability to see in our world. Just think how many things we are pressured to watch, view, and scroll on our phone, tv, or computer. Just think of traffic jams, caused by people who love to rubberneck and see what's happening. Just think of incidents or drama that happens in the world, people love to watch and record it on their phones so they can post it to social media for others to see, watch, and subscribe.

But do we always have to see? Is physical sight important? In the end, Jesus doesn't think so. After all, he tells us: "Blessed are those who have not seen, yet still believe." The man born blind in the gospel today was able to see Jesus, the man who cured him. Blessed he was! But if we are unable to see Jesus because of so many distractions or a less than ideal prayer life, don't be discouraged! He is there! Even if we can't "see" Him!

It is with great pleasure that I announce that I have hired Mrs. Kasey Perza as the new Coordinator of Religious Education (CRE) for our parish. Four ladies applied for the new position and were interviewed. Kasey will be responsible for coordinating the religious education, sacramental, safe environments, and faith formation programs at the parish. Kasey is mother to Kayleigh and Kari and is Deacon Adam's wife. She begins her new position on Tuesday of this week. Please welcome and congratulate her. ☺ I am sure our parents, children, and catechists will be joyful upon her arrival. We continue daily to pray for Maureen Duggan-Cassidy, our former CRE, who is on medical leave courageously fighting cancer. We miss Maureen! Maureen wants everyone to know that she is also praying for all of our children, parents, and catechists and misses everyone in the parish. She is grateful for our love, prayers, and support!

Please don't forget our Gaelic and Garlic event on St. Paddy's Day- Sunday, March 17th at 4:00 PM in the Parish Hall. It will feature a chili cook off contest, homemade delicious Italian desserts to celebrate St. Joseph day on March 19th, as well as fun and music for the whole family. There will be a \$100 gift card for the first prize winner of the chili cook off, \$50 second place, and \$25 for the third place. Come and show your cooking skills off to the entire parish. Make a crockpot of chili to enter it into our contest ☺

Our Youth Group continues to sell their delicious homemade chocolate Easter Eggs after all weekend Masses. You have your choice of coconut, butter-cream, and peanut butter. They are only \$4.00 each. Get them while supplies last. They make a delicious treat for Easter and wonderful gifts to celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord. We thank you for supporting our young people!

~ Fr. Coffey

LITURGY

RECONCILIATION MONDAY on MARCH 25th
Our third annual Reconciliation Monday will take place on Monday, March 25th at churches throughout our diocese. Here at our parish, the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions) will be offered from 3:00-5:00p.m. at St. Elizabeth Church and 6:00-8:00p.m. at St. Benedict Church. If it is more convenient for you to go to another church that day, just visit www.cdow.org/ReconciliationMonday for more information and schedules. Please invite those friends and family members who have been away from the Sacraments to take advantage of this opportunity.

PARISH LEADERSHIP NEWS

HELP WANTED: PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS
JOB DESCRIPTION: "To discern, with the authorization of the pastor, a set of pastoral goals for the parish, to assist with the implementation of these goals, and to evaluate existing programs and policies for their pastoral effectiveness." (*from the Parish Council constitution*)



WHEN: Elections held in May, 2023. Meetings are monthly 9 times a year in the evening.

QUALIFICATIONS: Registered members of the parish at least 18 years of age who are fully initiated and practicing members of the Roman Catholic Church.

If you would like to be included on the ballot or to nominate someone for inclusion, please contact Lori in the Parish Office. A short bio and photo of each nominee will be required (samples will be provided).

MARCH 9 & 10, 2024

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

FIRST EUCHARIST PREP ... All parents of First Eucharist students are reminded that the first preparation class for the Sacrament will take place on Thursday, March 21st from 6:15-7:30p.m. in the Parish Hall. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

PARISH & FAMILY LIFE

GAELIC & GARLIC CELEBRATION
 Come to the Parish Hall on St. Patrick's Day, Sunday, March 17th, for our Gaelic & Garlic celebration sponsored by the Parish & Family Life Committee. The afternoon will begin at 4:00p.m. and will feature a Chili Cook-Off as well as some Italian pastries in anticipation of the Feast of St. Joseph on March 19th. Any interested parishioner is encouraged to bring a crock pot of chili to enter into the Cook-Off (and to share for dinner). Non-alcoholic beverages will be provided as well as some festive music and fun! No sign-up or RSVP is necessary.

SODALITY NEWS

A great big thank you to all the parishioners who donated to the "Love our Seminarians" campaign. We received everything on their wish list, plus over \$450 in cash and \$800 in gift cards to share between the two. Your love and generosity goes a long way to show them our love and support their vocation. As you may know, these wonderful young men have no income and rely only on donations to aide their studies.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

The St. Benedict's Youth Group has chocolate Easter eggs for sale! They are filled with butter cream, coconut, or peanut butter and are \$4 each. The egg fundraiser is one of our two fundraisers for the year and helps fund our monthly gatherings, recreational trips, and summer retreat at Camp Veritas for youth in grades 6-12. We always sell out, so get your eggs early! They are available in the parish hall on Sunday mornings. Thank you in advance for your support!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

Hello Fellow Parishioners,
The St. Joan of Arc Council hopes you are having Holy Lent season. We want to thank all of you for always making our Super Sunday Breakfasts a great success. Our council is always looking for a few good catholic men to help us serve our church and our community. If you are interested, please let us know. Contact our membership director, Tom Lough, at 443-996-3024. In addition, any men of our parish who would like to build on their faith are welcome to attend our COR meeting which is held on the second Saturday of each month at 7am in our parish hall. We meet for an hour to socialize and to discuss our Catholic faith. Thank you and God Bless, *Chuck Gailunas*, Grand Knight

The Knights of Columbus has wrapped up its annual Coats for the Cold coat drive. With the fantastic support of our parish community, we collected over 400 coats this year! More than half of them were new. We also collected a large lot of new gloves, hats and scarfs, Including many homemade items. The coats, gloves and hats were delivered to His Hope Haven, Benedictine homes, The Barn, Samaritan House, local elementary schools and parishioners in need. The St. Joan of Arc Council of Knights of Columbus would like to send a HUGE and sincere thanks to all parishioners that contributed to our annual coat drive. Just another example of our wonderful parish community and their generosity to those in need. We look forward to starting this coat drive again in the late fall. So, save (or buy) your coats until then. Thanks again, Dan Tuel , Coat Drive Chairman

CAROLINE COUNTY RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

MARYLAND MARCH FOR LIFE ~ Bus Transportation Available
 The bus to the Maryland Right to Life March in Annapolis will depart from St. Benedict Church on Monday, March 11th at 3:30p.m. All registered bus riders should arrive no later than 3:15 to board the bus. The bus will return to Ridgely by 9:30 pm. Participation is particularly important now as we try to defeat the proposed "Reproductive Freedom" amendment. A few spots remain on the bus. Register via Flocknote (<https://beparish.flocknote.com/signup/156205>) by this Sunday at 7pm.

Caroline County Right to Life has a huge announcement: **Our next meeting is March 19th at a DIFFERENT LOCATION. We are pleased to announce that our meeting will be at ST. LUKE'S METHODIST CHURCH at 7 pm.** This will be a great opportunity to grow our chapter with fellow pro-lifers. We need all the pro-life support we can get in order to stop the passing of the Reproductive Freedom amendment this November. Can you imagine being a parent and not having a say in irreversible medical and surgical procedures done to your child? Can you imagine having to choose between your job and your conscience? That's what this amendment would do. Please save the date. Please show up on March 19th
Thank you ~ *Tom Lough*, Caroline County Right to Life President

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

LIFE IN THE PARISH FAMILY

- Sunday, March 10**
- 2nd Collection – Building & Maintenance
 - Masses: 7:15a.m. & 8:30a.m. – SB Church and 11:15a.m. – SE Church
 - Religious Ed/R.C.I.A. Classes – 9:40-10:45a.m.
 - Hospitality in the Parish Hall - Breakfast items offered by Sodality – 9:30-10:30a.m.
 - Private Event – 1:00-3:15p.m. – Parish Hall
 - Youth Ministry Gathering – 6-8pm – Parish Hall & SB Church (Shadow Stations Practice)
- Monday, March 11**
- Confessions – 8:15-8:45a.m./Mass – 9am – SE Church
 - Intercessory Prayer Group – 9:30a.m. – SE Church
 - Maryland March for Life – Bus departs from St. Benedict Church at 3:30p.m. with return at approx. 9:30p.m.
- Tuesday, March 12**
- Confessions – 8:15-8:45a.m./Mass – 9am – SB Church
 - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – 9:30-10:30a.m. – SB Church
 - Finance Council Meeting – 7pm – Pastor's FLC Ofc.
- Wednesday, March 13**
- Confessions – 8:15-8:45a.m./Mass– 9am – SE Church
 - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions – 5:15-5:45p.m./Mass – 6pm – SE Church
 - Parish Council Meeting – 7pm – FLC Great Room
- Thursday, March 14**
- Confessions – 8:15-8:45a.m./Mass – 9am – SB Church
 - Adult Bible Study – 9:30a.m. – Resource Room
 - Homeschool Group Classes – 9:30a.m.-1:30p.m. – Hall
 - Cemetery Committee Meeting – 6:30p.m. – FLC Resource Room
- 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Meeting – 6-9pm - Hall
- Friday, March 15**
- NO MASS/CONFESSIONS
 - Knights of Columbus Exemplification – 6:30p.m. – Hall
 - Stations of the Cross – 7:00p.m. – SE Church
- Saturday, March 16**
- Cemetery Clean-Up at Holy Cross Cemetery – 10am
 - Confessions – 3:00-3:45p.m. – SE Church
 - Mass: 4:00p.m.– SE Church
 - Chocolate Egg Sales after Masses
- Sunday, March 17**
- 2nd Collection – Easter Flowers
 - Masses: 7:15a.m. & 8:30a.m. – SB Church and 11:15a.m. – SE Church
 - Chocolate Egg Sales after Masses
 - Religious Ed/R.C.I.A. Classes – 9:40-10:45a.m.
 - Hospitality in the Parish Hall - Breakfast items offered by Sodality – 9:30-10:30a.m.
 - Confirmation Prep Class – 10:45a.m.
 - Garlic & Gaelic Celebration & Chili Cook-Off – 4pm – 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 ~ 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 ~ Erica Jarman ~ Mike Babige ~ Mark Hartlage ~ Maureen Duggan-Cassidy ~ Donald J. Kempel ~ Page Murphy ~ George Sebestyen ~ Todd Gross ~ Tom Haney ~ Jeffrey Kinnamon ~ Mark & Dawn Auman ~ Christina Jewell ~ Sue Kibler ~ James Smith ~ Renee Medri ~ MaryJo Hathaway ~ Brigett Clark ~ Chelsey Townsend ~ Yvonne Liswell ~ Andrea Emilia Bernabey ~ Gustavo Caceres and the Caceres Family



With Springtime on the horizon, we respectfully request that all Christmas and Fall decorations are removed from gravesites at Holy Cross Cemetery by early March. A general Cemetery Clean-Up will take place on Saturday, March 16th at 10am at the cemetery and any parishioner interested in lending a hand is encouraged to join us.

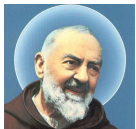
VOCATION REFLECTIONS

"Whoever lives the truth comes to the light." Your vocation is your sanctification in this life to lead you to sainthood in the next. Are you called to belong to Christ alone as a priest or through the consecrated life? Talk to Fr. Coffey or reach out to the diocesan Vocations Office at (302) 573-3113 or vocations@cdow.org.

PASS THE WORD for HIGH SCHOOL BOYS

Attention high school boys: What is your greatest love? What compels you? Could priesthood be a thought? Come to a day for reflection among peers at St. Elisabeth Ann Seton, Bear, Delaware, on Thursday, March 14, 2024 from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. for Pass the Word 2024 with Bishop Koenig. Sponsored by the Office for Priestly and Religious Vocations of the Diocese of Wilmington. Contact vocations@cdow.org for more information and to RSVP.

AROUND THE DIOCESE/COMMUNITY



PADRE PIO MINI RETREAT

Immaculate Heart of Mary Is hosting a MINI RETREAT on PADRE PIO! Please join us for an informational session AND hear up-close and personal experiences by Father John Aurilia O.F.M., PhD! Tuesday, April 16 10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon IHM Church, 4701 Weldin Road, Wilmington Fr. John was the secretary to Saint Padre Pio in 1967 and he will share his remarkable experiences with Saint Pio. For questions, contact Rita McDowell at mcdowell@ihm.org or 302-438-9739. To register, contact Lisa Krueger at lkrueger@ihm.org or 302-762-5550.

PILGRIMAGE TO IRELAND with Fr. Mike Gallagher, MAY 17-27, 2024. For an itinerary and registration forms, contact Heidi at gythnks@aol.com or at 1-540-760-6387. Only three spaces remain.

LISTEN TO CATHOLIC FORUM EACH WEEK. Next week, author Connie Marshner will discuss her upcoming book, "**Monastery and High Cross: The Forgotten Eastern Roots of Irish Christianity.**" The Catholic Forum podcast on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, Amazon Music podcasts and YouTube.com/DiocesefofWilm debuts every Wednesday at 12:00 p.m.; and on Relevant Radio 640 every Saturday afternoons at 1:30. More information is available at cdow.org/CatholicForum and FaceBook.com/CatholicForum.

EUCCHARISTIC ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

St. Elizabeth Parish and School are honored to host the Eucharistic Miracles of the World Exhibit, collected and designed by +Blessed Carlo Acutis, from Friday, March 22 through Sunday, March 24. It contains extensive images and historical descriptions of Eucharistic Miracles recognized by the Catholic Church. Enjoy a self-guided tour of these miracles, on loan from Malvern Retreat House. The presentation, created by +Blessed Carlo, will be displayed in Msgr. Grant Hall at St. Elizabeth Church. Throughout the exhibition, there will be the opportunity to venerate a first-class relic of +Blessed Carlo Acutis and St. Benedict. For updates about the event, the full schedule and video, please visit <https://steparish.org/>. Please call 302-353-0480 with any questions. For information about +Blessed Carlo and his cause for canonization, visit carloacutis-en.org.

QUEEN ANNE CHORALE SPRING CONCERTS

The Queen Anne's Chorale is presenting its annual Spring concerts (two days). The theme this year is "Chorale Classics". The two concerts are on Saturday, April 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, April 21, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. Both of the concerts are being held at **the Centreville Methodist Church, 608 Church Hill Rd, Centreville**. The concerts will feature stunningly beautiful music with selections by Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Mendelssohn and more and will also feature accompaniment by a String Quartet. There will be a few fun selections to delight the audience which will include a few sing-alongs. Tickets are available online starting February 23 at www.qachorale.org. The ticket price is \$25 per adult; students age 13-17 are \$15 and Children under 12 are FREE (when accompanied by a paid adult admission and with a FREE ticket). Our fellow parishioner, Sharon Balling, is a member of the Chorale and thanks you for your past support and is looking forward to seeing you at this year's Spring concerts. If you have any questions or concerns, you may reach her by e-mail at edwardballing@comcast.net or by phone at 410-897-7663.

PREPARE YOUR HEART FOR EASTER
RECONCILIATION
MONDAY
MARCH 25 3-8 PM

