

ST. BENEDICT, RIDGELY
MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS
Saturday, March 23 4:00p.m. St. Elizabeth Church Intentions of Greta Scanlan
Sunday, March 24 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord 7:15a.m. St. Benedict Church People of the Parish 8:30a.m. St. Benedict Church F. Donald Kempel 11:15a.m. St. Elizabeth Church Intentions of Maggie Humphries
Monday, March 25 9:00a.m. St. Elizabeth Church Paul John Forti
Tuesday, March 26 9:00a.m. St. Benedict Church Rita Miedl
Wednesday, March 27 9:00a.m. St. Elizabeth Church Intentions of Barbara Nolet 6:00p.m. St. Elizabeth Church Mark Cassidy
Thursday, March 28 HOLY THURSDAY NO MORNING MASS 7:00p.m. St. Benedict Church People of the Parish
Friday, March 29 GOOD FRIDAY 3:00p.m. St. Elizabeth Church No Intention
Saturday, March 30 HOLY SATURDAY 8:00p.m. St. Benedict Church People of the Parish
Sunday, March 31 EASTER SUNDAY of the RESURRECTION OF THE LORD 7:15a.m. St. Benedict Church People of the Parish 8:30a.m. St. Benedict Church People of the Parish 11:15a.m. St. Elizabeth Church People of the Parish
TABERNACLE LIGHT INTENTIONS
MARCH 16 - MARCH 29, 2024 St. Benedict Church
St. Elizabeth Church

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT OF STEWARDSHIP BACK TO THE LORD FOR MARCH 16 & 17, 2024	
TOTAL OFFERTORY	\$ 2,460.00
2 nd Collection - Easter Flowers	\$ 773.00
Poor Box	\$ 85.22
YEAR- TO-DATE OFFERTORY	
Actual Offertory	\$ 215,199.15
Average Weekly Offertory (Week 37 of 52)	\$ 5,816.19/wk.

www.beparish.com	ST. ELIZABETH, DENTON
A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR...	
	Dear Parishioners ~ This weekend, we mark the beginning of Holy Week. Many of the same individuals who were shouting “Hosanna” this weekend, will, only a few days from now shout instead, “Crucify Him”. It shows how we can easily change our demeanor and fall into sin. The question for us is what will we say when the Sacred Triduum happens? Will we have in our hand’s palms or nails? Will we shout “Hosanna” or “Crucify Him”?
Please take advantage of Reconciliation Monday this week as you prepare your heart for Easter. We will have confessions at St. Elizabeths from 3-5 PM and St. Benedicts from 6-8 PM. You may also choose to go to another church in the Diocese. Please check different churches bulletins and websites carefully, as not all churches will have confessions at their mission parishes and are only offering confessions at one church due to the shortage of priests.	
Now is a good time to think about who you want to invite to church at Easter. A friend? a spouse? a child? a grandchild? Someone who has fallen away from experiencing the healing touch of God for a long time? Perhaps you may even bring them to Reconciliation Monday. Easter miracles happen. Sometimes you may be the spark of that miracle.	
~ <i>Fr. Coffiey</i>	
LITURGY	
BLESSING EASTER FOOD & BASKETS	
	On Holy Saturday, March 30 th , there will be a blessing of Easter Food and Baskets at Noon at St. Benedict Church. All parishioners are invited to bring food and/or Easter baskets for blessing. The blessing of Easter food has been a beloved Catholic ritual for centuries among families of Eastern European origin. On Holy Saturday morning, families prepare their Easter Baskets and fill them with symbolic items. The baskets are then brought to church to be blessed. After Easter Sunday Mass, the family and their guests share their blessed fare and exchange good wishes. The custom of blessing the Easter foods arose from the strict Lenten fasting of the past, when meat, eggs, fats, and other foods were forbidden during Lent. Easter was thus greeted with great joy as the day when Christ arose and when fasts were ended.
RESURRECTION PROCESSION & EASTER EGG HUNT	
On Easter Sunday, March 31 st , there will be a Resurrection Procession prior to the start of the 8:30a.m. Mass at St. Benedict Church. Then, after Mass, there will be an Easter Egg Hunt on the church grounds for children aged 4 through 2 nd Grade. Children are encouraged to gather on the sidewalk outside the church immediately following Mass to receive a bag for collecting eggs along with instructions about when to begin the hunt.	
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY	
The Second Sunday of Easter (April 7) is Divine Mercy Sunday. We will have a Divine Mercy Holy Hour at 3pm at St. Benedict Church followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall. If you would like to join in praying the Divine Mercy Novena (which begins on Good Friday) you can pick up a booklet at the entrance of either church. See insert in today’s bulletin for more details.	
PLEASE SEE THE INSERT IN TODAY’S BULLETIN FOR FULL SCHEDULE OF LITURGIES/EVENTS FOR TRIDUUM & EASTER. CHRISTIAN FORMATION	

MARCH 23 & 24, 2024
CHRISTIAN FORMATION
PRE-REGISTRATION - 2024-2025 RELIGIOUS ED & SACRAMENTAL PREP During the last few Sundays of CCD classes on April 7 th , 14 th , 21 st , and 28 th , there will be early registration for next year’s CCD classes, First Reconciliation/First Eucharist, and Confirmation! Sign up early for CCD classes and get a discounted rate. You can register before, during, and right after classes on each of these Sundays in the Great Room (the large room in the middle of the classroom area). If you have any questions, please contact Kasey Perza, Coordinator of Religious Education at 410-634-2253 or kperza@beparish.com .
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Are you interested in sending your child to Vacation Bible School this summer? Do you have an older child who would like to volunteer or needs service hours? VBS is a great opportunity! Adult volunteers are needed too! See the interest form in today’s bulletin or find it on the parish website at https://16009.sites.ecatholic.com/christianformation .
ADOPT A CANDIDATE As our RCIA and Confirmation candidates prepare to receive the sacraments in a few weeks, we'd like to make an effort to pray for them more intentionally. In the back of each church you'll find a basket with the names of the candidates and ideas for prayer. We encourage you to draw a name from the basket and to pray for our candidates by name as they draw closer to receiving the sacraments this spring!
PARISH & FAMILY LIFE
GAELIC & GARLIC CELEBRATION  Last Sunday, many parishioners gathered for a festive celebration in the parish hall featuring a Chili Cook-Off in celebration of St. Patrick's Day. Special Italian desserts were also featured in anticipation of the Feast Day of St. Joseph on March 19 th . Winners of the Chili Cook-Off were: Tony & Denise Sala - Best Overall Chili; Chuck & Erika Gailunas - Most Unique Chili; and Mike & Michele Groves - Best Flavor/Spice. To see some photos from the event, visit the parish website.
CAROLINE COUNTY RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS
MARYLANDERS FOR HEALTH NOT HARM Protect Your Family- Reject the Constitutional Amendment. The protection of human life extends to the dignity of the human person and the gift of family. Conversely, the culture of death attacks the physical reality of God’s creation of male and female. In the November 2024 General Election, Marylanders will be asked to vote FOR or AGAINST amending the Maryland Constitution. Learn the truth and why every Marylander needs to reject this amendment. Go to HealthNotHarmMD.org
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." <i>(from the Parish Council constitution)</i> 
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).

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD
LIFE IN THE PARISH FAMILY
Sunday, March 24 PALM SUNDAY of the LORD’S PASSION 2nd Collection – Operation Rice Bowl - Social Ministries Committee collecting non-perishable items for Martin’s House & Barn prior to all Masses - 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. (Keeping Our Promises Curriculum for 7th * 8th Grades) - Hospitality in the Parish Hall - Breakfast items offered by Sodality – 9:30-10:30a.m. - Confirmation Interviews w/Fr. Coffiey – Pastor’s FLC Ofc. - Private Event – 1:00-2:00p.m. – Parish Hall
Monday, March 25 ~ RECONCILIATION MONDAY - Confessions – 8:15-8:45a.m./Mass – 9am – SE Church - Intercessory Prayer Group – 9:30a.m. – SE Church - Confessions – 3:00-5:00p.m. – SE Church - Confessions – 6:00-8:00p.m. – SB Church
Tuesday, March 26 - Confessions – 8:15-8:45a.m./Mass – 9am – SB Church - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – 9:30-10:30a.m. – SB Church - Chrism Mass – 7:00p.m. – Holy Cross Church, Dover
Wednesday, March 27 - 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 - RCIA Retreat – 6pm
Thursday, March 28 ~ HOLY THURSDAY - NO MORNING MASS/BIBLE STUDY - PARISH OFFICE CLOSED - Rehearsal for Holy Thursday Liturgy – 10am – SB Church - Holy Thursday Liturgy – 7:00p.m. – SB Church
Friday, March 29 ~ GOOD FRIDAY - PARISH OFFICE CLOSED - Rehearsal for Good Friday Liturgy – 10am – SE Church - Ecumenical Cross Walk – begins at Noon at St. Luke’s UMC, Denton - Good Friday Liturgy – 3:00p.m. – SE Church
Saturday, March 30 ~ HOLY SATURDAY - Rehearsal for 8:30a.m. Easter Liturgy – 9am – SB Church - Rehearsal for Easter Vigil Liturgy – 10am – SB Church - RCIA Rehearsal for Vigil – 11am – SB Church - Blessing of Easter Food & Baskets – Noon – SB Church - Easter Vigil Liturgy – 8:00p.m. – SB Church
Sunday, March 31 - EASTER SUNDAY 2nd Collection – Easter - Masses: 7:15a.m. & 8:30a.m. – SB Church and 11:15a.m. – SE Church - Resurrection Procession prior to 8:30a.m. Mass - Easter Egg Hunt after 8:30a.m. Mass - NO Religious Ed/R.C.I.A. Classes

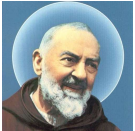
REMEMBERING IN PRAYER THIS WEEK...

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 ~ Debbie Layton ~ Cindy Cummings ~ Rosemary Kinnamon ~ Keith Poptanich

VOCATION REFLECTIONS

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." Docility in prayer is essential to vocation discernment. Are you open to a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life? Talk to Fr. Coffey or reach out to the diocesan Vocations Office at (302) 573-3113 or vocations@cdow.org.

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 rmcdowell@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 gvthnks@aol.com or at 1-540-760-6387. Only three spaces remain.

LISTEN TO CATHOLIC FORUM EACH WEEK. Next week, listen-in for the annual Easter Program featuring **Bishop Koenig's Easter Message** to the people of the Diocese of Wilmington. 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 Cario, 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 Cario 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 aged 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

