

ST. BENEDICT, RIDGELY**MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS****Saturday, January 3****9:00a.m. St. Benedict Church
FIRST SATURDAY MASS**

✠ Holy Souls in Purgatory

4:00p.m. St. Elizabeth Church
People of the Parish**Sunday, January 4****THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD****7:15a.m. St. Benedict Church**
✠ Emma MacMannis**8:30a.m. St. Benedict Church**
✠ Cathy Alder**11:15a.m. St. Elizabeth Church**
For Widows & Widowers**Monday, January 5**

NO MASS/CONFESSIONS

Tuesday, January 6**9:00a.m. St. Benedict Church**
✠ Joyce Heisler**Wednesday, January 7****9:00a.m. St. Elizabeth Church**
✠ Mike Campbell**6:00p.m. St. Elizabeth Church**
✠ Al McCullough**Thursday, January 8****9:00a.m. St. Benedict Church**
Gene Ingram**Friday, January 9****9:00a.m. St. Elizabeth Church**
✠ Marvin Breeding**Saturday, January 10****11:00a.m. St. Benedict Church**
Memorial Mass for Mike Campbell**4:00p.m. St. Elizabeth Church**
✠ Susie Booze**Sunday, January 11****THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD****7:15a.m. St. Benedict Church**
The People of the Parish**8:30a.m. St. Benedict Church**
✠ John Brennan**11:15a.m. St. Elizabeth Church**
✠ Brian Petrichenko

NOTE: ✠ indicates a deceased person(s).

TABERNACLE LIGHT INTENTIONS**JANUARY 3 - JANUARY 16****St. Elizabeth Church**In Thanksgiving for Prayers offered
for Gene Ingram**St. Benedict Church**

Intentions of Fr. Markellos & Family

www.beparish.com**ST. ELIZABETH, DENTON****REMEMBERING IN PRAYER**

Kathleen Green ~ Edie Crank ~ Butch Petroski ~ Michael Petroski ~ Mary Jo Clancy ~ Socorro McIntire ~ William R. Walton ~ Erica Redgraves ~ Martie Greco ~ Remi Michael Tedesco ~ Frances Vogt ~ Joan Mollick ~ John & Anne Rastelli ~ Olivia Wade ~ Nancy Sollers ~ Erica Jarman ~ Mike Babige ~ Mark Hartlage ~ Page Murphy ~ George Sebestyen ~ Todd Gross ~ Jeffrey Kinnamon ~ Dawn Auman ~ MaryJo Hathaway ~ Yvonne Liswell ~ Debbie Layton ~ Cindy Cummings ~ Keith & Maria Poptanich ~ Freddie Adams, Jr. ~ Steve Goff ~ Mary Ellen Black ~ Dick Palazzolo ~ Jack Houtz ~ Carla Moure ~ Pat Pasciak ~ Jim Flohr ~ Mary P. Epps ~ Nial Straley, Jr. ~ Barbara Thompson ~ Jackie Gammons ~ Kathryn Belmonte ~ Mickey Dickerson ~ The Flaherty Family ~ Kathryn Poll ~ Ann Cannon ~ Jonathan Freed ~ Yacintha Johnson ~ Kelley Van Ess ~ Nina Taylor ~ Sid Pinder ~ Judy Mogilewski ~ Doug League III & Family ~ David Jones ~ Mary Ann Jones ~ Deacon Hal Jopp ~ Gene Ingram ~ Laurie Thomas ~ Carrie Lang ~ Stirling Ward ~ Cheryl Harris ~ Chrissy Jackson ~ Joseph Wood, Jr. ~ Anne Jones ~ Jackie Poore ~ Amy Richter ~ Lisa Gardner ~ Peggy Finnerin ~ Sue Fleegle ~ Tolbert Rowe ~ Mary Bashtarz ~ Rene Floyd ~ Karen Yoder

Please pray for our parish and diocesan seminarians and those discerning a call to religious life: Joe Lewis ♦ Dylan Emerson ♦ Kaya Manizade ♦ James Kimmel ♦ Anthony Miranda ♦ Tibor Nagy ♦ Jakob Brown ♦ Sr. Amanda Marie de Jesus, LSP

Please pray for our members of the military who are serving both here and abroad: Capt. Joseph Remaniak, US Army, Ramstein AFB, Germany (Son of David & Teresa Remaniak) ~ Lt. Catherine Remaniak, Joint Base Lewis/McChord, Tacoma Washington, US Army (Daughter of David & Teresa Remaniak) ~ Sgt. Trevon Price, US Army, Killeen, TX (Son-in-law of Kevin & Lori Parks), Staff Sgt. Jacob Stevens, USAF, Shaw AFB, South Carolina (Son of Brenda & John Stevens), Sgt. Jack Finnerin, USMC (grandson of Peggy Finnerin) ~ Lt. Col. Eric J. Fleegle, USMC, North Carolina (Son of Steve & Sue Fleegle), Sgt. Alexander Davis, US Army, Ft. Hood, TX & PV2 Christopher Davis, US Army, Ft. Hood, TX (Sons of Sylvia Davis) ~ 2nd Lt. J. Aubrey Perry, US Army, Ft. Bragg, Fayetteville NC (Son of Carrie & Jim Perry)

TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

In compliance with church and civil law, the election of parish trustees is to take place on the first Sunday of each year. Therefore, elections for trustees will take place this weekend, January 3 & 4, in the sacristy after all masses. Current trustees are: **St. Elizabeth: Paul Fountain** and **Beth McCullough** and **St. Benedict: Steve Fleegle** and **Kenny King**. If you would like to nominate someone to fulfill the responsibility of parish trustee other than those listed above, you will also have the opportunity to write-in your choice on the prepared ballot.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Religious Ed classes will resume this Sunday, January 4, Super Sunday, so enjoy a delicious breakfast by the Knights of Columbus before classes start at 10:00. As we keep moving forward, please continue to remember the importance of attending classes on a regular basis. More than four unexcused absences will require a meeting with Father Markellos. An absence will be marked excused once your student has completed and turned in all make-up work to their Catechist in a timely manner.

JANUARY 3 & 4, 2026**SOUP FOR SEMINARIANS**

If you placed orders for the Soup for Seminarians fundraiser sponsored by the Knights, you are reminded to pick up your soups and/or chicken salad between 8am and Noon in the hall this Sunday, January 4th.

PARISH & FAMILY LIFE**WE REMEMBER ✠ WE CELEBRATE ✠ WE BELIEVE**

Charlie Anne Butler, daughter of Mick and Caroline Butler and granddaughter of Cheryl & Blair Carmean, was baptized last Sunday. We celebrate the beginning of a life of faith for Charlie as she 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.

We pray for the repose of the soul of parishioner, **Ms. Jeannette Radtke**, who died on December 24th. The Radtke family will receive visitors on Tuesday, January 6th from 5 - 7pm at Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, P.A., 408 S. Liberty Street, Centreville, MD 21617. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, January 7th at 10am at St. Benedict Catholic Church at 2612 Wilkens Ave., Baltimore, MD 21223 with the burial following. Please keep the Radtke family in your prayers.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY...

We recently received thank you notes in the mail from N.U.T.S. and Martin's Barn:

Dear St. Benedict/St. Elizabeth Parish,
On behalf of Neighbors United to Serve (NUTS), we wish to thank you for your financial donation that will benefit our 2025 Thanksgiving Day Meal distribution. With your generosity and other members of the community, we provided 1,000 meals to families in Caroline County. Without your support and our wonderful volunteers, NUTS would not be able to do what we do in reaching out to those who otherwise may not have food on a day on which we give thanks. Your kindness is greatly appreciated. ~ 2025 NUTS Volunteer Planning Committee

Dear Parishioners ~
I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks for your generous donation of food to those in need within our community, 1038 lbs. worth! Your compassion and willingness to share your blessings have made a meaningful difference in the lives of many individuals and families who are struggling. Because of your kindness, we are able to support our neighbors with both nourishment and hope. Your generosity reflects the true spirit of our faith - caring for one another and uplifting those most in need. Thank you once again for your continued support. May God bless you abundantly for the love you have shown. *Sincerely, Odette Boyce-Ramirez, Food Pantry & Thrift Store Manager*

**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD****LIFE IN THE PARISH FAMILY****Sunday, January 4**

- 2nd Collection - Black & Indian and Home Missions
- Masses: 7:15a.m. & 8:30a.m. - St. Benedict Church & 11:15a.m. - St. Elizabeth Church
- Super Sunday Breakfast after 7:15a.m. & 8:30a.m. Masses - Parish Hall
- Religious Ed/O.C.I.A. Classes - 10:00-10:45a.m.
- Confirmation Class - 10:45-11:15a.m.
- Soup for Seminarians Fundraiser - Pre-Ordered Soups & Chicken Salad available for pick-up in the Parish Hall from 8am - Noon

Monday, January 5

- NO MASS/CONFESSIONS

Tuesday, January 6

- Parish Office Closed - Noon - 2:00p.m.
- Confessions - 8:15-8:45a.m.; Rosary-8:30a.m.; Mass- 9am - St. Benedict Church
- Adoration - 9:30a.m.-10:30a.m. - St. Benedict Church
- Ladies' Sodality Meeting - 6:30pm - Parish Hall
- Parish Security Group Meeting - 6:30p.m. - FLC Resource Room

Wednesday, January 7

- Confessions - 8:15-8:45a.m.; Rosary-8:30a.m.; Mass- 9am - St. Elizabeth Church
- Intercessory Prayer Group - 9:30a.m. - St. Elizabeth Church
- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions - 5:15-5:45p.m./Mass - 6pm - St. Elizabeth Church
- Knights of Columbus Meeting - 7pm - Hall

Thursday, January 8

- Confessions - 8:15-8:45a.m.; Rosary-8:30a.m.; Mass- 9am - St. Benedict Church
- Adult Bible Study - 9:30a.m. - FLC Resource Room
- Three Hearts Homeschool Classes - 9:30a.m. - 1:00p.m. - Parish Hall/Great Room
- 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Meeting - 6:00p.m. - Hall

Friday, January 9

- Confessions - 8:15-8:45a.m.; Rosary-8:30a.m.; Mass- 9am - St. Elizabeth Church
- 3:00p.m. - Hall Set-Up for Funeral Luncheon

Saturday, January 10

- Happy Birthday, Fr. Markellos!
- COR Men's Faith & Fellowship Gathering - 7-8am - Parish Hall
- Memorial Mass for Mike Campbell - 11 am - St. Benedict Church (luncheon to follow in Hall)
- Confessions - 3:00-3:45p.m./Mass - 4:00p.m. - St. Elizabeth Church

Sunday, January 11

- 2nd Collection - Catholic Communications
- Masses: 7:15a.m. & 8:30a.m. - St. Benedict Church & 11:15a.m. - St. Elizabeth Church
- Hospitality hosted by Knights - 9:30-10:30a.m. - Hall
- Religious Ed/O.C.I.A. Classes - 9:40-10:45a.m.
- Youth Ministry hosting dinner for His Hope Shelter residents - 3:00-8:00p.m. - Hall

January 4, 2026

The Epiphany of the Lord

Is 60:1-6 | Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 | Mt 2:1-12

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Have you ever had a moment where you've been so joyful that your heart "throbbed and overflowed"? (Is. 60:5) Perhaps this prompt might call to mind moments we have been chosen or noticed, especially when we otherwise felt sidelined or forgotten. (Imagine expecting to be picked last for the team, only to be someone's first choice!) Today's first reading speaks of a moment like that. While the nations of the earth are shrouded in darkness, God shines his light and glory on Jerusalem, and all the nations come streaming to her bearing precious tributes. Similarly, our Gospel speaks about how God chose Bethlehem — a seemingly insignificant town — to be the birthplace of his Son: "And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people." Like Jerusalem and Bethlehem, we, too, have been chosen by God. As we continue our celebration of Christmas, our hearts are filled to overflowing when we recall that by taking on our flesh, God has chosen to make his home with us for all eternity.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Paul reminds us that God has chosen us, not only for ourselves, but for the sake of others: "You have heard of the stewardship of *God's grace that was given to me for your benefit.*" God gives Paul a special revelation to know the mystery of God so he could preach the Gospel to the Gentiles and to all peoples. We who know the joy of having been chosen to be God's beloved sons and daughters have the beautiful task of helping others to know that they, too, are chosen by God. Because of this, evangelization is not simply an item on our spiritual to-do list; it is a work of joy — the joy of helping others to discover their own "belovedness" as children of God. And of course, this message is for *everyone!*

INVITATION

One of the best presents we can offer to someone is our presence. Make an effort this week to intentionally spend time with someone who may feel lonely or forgotten, setting aside other tasks to focus entirely on them. The goal is to help them feel special and *chosen* as a way of giving a glimpse of God's love that chooses each of us out of the many. May the gift of your presence help them to remember how very loved they are.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT OF STEWARDSHIP
BACK TO THE LORD**

FOR DECEMBER 27 & 28, 2025

Offertory Giving @ Masses	\$ 2,273.00
Online Giving via Flocknote for December	\$ 6,565.00
Christmas Collection	\$ 4,052.00
Poor Box	\$ 8,889.00



YEAR- TO-DATE OFFERTORY (Week 26 of 52)

Actual Offertory \$ 146,452.16

Average Weekly Offertory \$ 5,632.78

CAROLINE COUNTY RIGHT TO LIFE/RESPECT LIFE NEWS



Christ came in the flesh to show us that life has meaning through all the joys and sufferings of this earthly journey toward eternal life. Let us be the face of Christ to our neighbors in material and spiritual need. Next meeting is January 20th at 6:30 pm.

NEW HANDICAP SPACES AT ST. BENEDICT CHURCH

We are excited to report that a new concrete pass-through has been installed adjacent to the Parish Office entrance in Ridgely. This pass-through will make it safer and easier for those using walkers, canes and wheelchairs to access the sidewalk. In the near future, signs marking two handicapped parking spaces on either side of the pass-through will be installed. In addition, after helpful input from some of those using the handicap spaces along 4th Street closer to St. Benedict Church, an additional two handicap spaces will be added along the roadway in front of the church for greater ease of use (the three handicap spaces along the side of the church will also remain in place). Please contact the Parish Office if you have any questions about these changes.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

ANNUAL "COATS FOR THE COLD" COLLECTION

The St. Joan of Arc Knights of Columbus will be collecting new and gently used winter coats as well as new hats, gloves and socks throughout November, December, January, and February for distribution to anyone needing these items, parishioner or non-parishioner alike. *(Please, NO donations of clothing other than coats.)* Donation boxes can be found in the back of St. Elizabeth Church and in the Parish Hall.

AROUND THE DIOCESE/COMMUNITY

LISTEN TO THE CATHOLIC FORUM EACH WEEK.

Tune-in this week to learn about the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, founded by Maryland Eastern Shore native, Servant of God Paul Wattson when Paster Mark Hansen and Ed Gordon are the guests. The Catholic Forum podcast on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, Amazon Music podcasts and YouTube.com/DiocesefWilm debuts every Wednesday at 12:00 p.m.; and on Relevant Radio 640 every Saturday afternoon at 1:30. More information is available at cdow.org/CatholicForum and [FaceBook.com/CatholicForum](https://www.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 begins the weekend of February 6-8, 2026 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, call 215-766-3944 or visit www.MarriageHelpDelVal.org. All inquiries are strictly confidential.