

ST. BENEDICT, RIDGELY**MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS****Saturday, January 17****4:00p.m. St. Elizabeth Church**

✧ Helen Vogt

Sunday, January 18**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME****7:15a.m. St. Benedict Church**

✧ Pat Whalen

8:30a.m. St. Benedict Church

People of the Parish

11:15a.m. St. Elizabeth Church

✧ Al McCullough

Monday, January 19

NO MASS/CONFESSIONS

Tuesday, January 20**9:00a.m. St. Benedict Church**

Brett & Pam Carmean and Family

Wednesday, January 21**9:00a.m. St. Elizabeth Church**

✧ Mike Campbell

6:00p.m. St. Elizabeth Church

Stirling Ward

Thursday, January 22**9:00a.m. St. Benedict Church**

✧ Wendy Pizzadili

Friday, January 23**9:00a.m. St. Elizabeth Church**

✧ Holy Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, January 24**4:00p.m. St. Elizabeth Church**

John & Lora Breeding

Sunday, January 25**THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME****7:15a.m. St. Benedict Church**

✧ Fr. Jim Kirk

8:30a.m. St. Benedict Church

✧ Mike Campbell

11:15a.m. St. Elizabeth Church

The People of the Parish

NOTE: ✧ indicates a deceased person(s).

TABERNACLE LIGHT INTENTIONS**JANUARY 17 - JANUARY 30****St. Elizabeth Church**

Intentions of Deacon Hal &

Margaret Jopp

St. Benedict Church

Intentions of Ann Haywood

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

Kathleen Green ~ 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 ~ Peggy Finnerin ~ Sue Fleegle ~ Tolbert Rowe ~ Mary Bashtarz ~ Rene Floyd ~ Karen Yoder ~ Helen Hadley ~ Teresa Dunmire ~ Greta Scanlan

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) ~ 1st Lt. J. Aubrey Perry, US Army, Ft. Bragg, Fayetteville NC (Son of Carrie & Jim Perry)

CAROLINE COUNTY RIGHT TO LIFE/RESPECT LIFE NEWS

The next CCRTL meeting is January 20th at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall. Save the date for the Maryland March for Life in Annapolis which will take place on March 16th.

**2026 MARCH FOR LIFE ~ JANUARY 23, 2026**

The right to life is a human right. Our defense of that right is a joyful witness to the beauty and dignity of every human person. The March for Life is an inspiring, peaceful, vibrant, and joy-filled rally of women, men, young people, and children from across the country - and it's the largest annual human rights demonstration in the world. Every January, tens of thousands of pro-lifers converge in Washington, D.C. and march on Capitol Hill to remember the anniversary of the Supreme Court's 1973 *Roe v. Wade* ruling which legalized abortion in all 50 states. And while the *Dobbs* decision rightly returned the decision to the American people, our work to protect life continues at the state and federal levels. But the March for Life is not just a protest... it is a celebration of every life, from the moment of conception. We envision a world where every life is celebrated, valued, and protected. Although there will not be a bus from the Eastern Shore to the March this year, you can carpool with fellow parishioners to DC or to the Metro stop off Rt. 50 at New Carrollton. For more information, visit www.marchforlife.org.

JANUARY 17 & 18, 2026**CHRISTIAN FORMATION**

Just a Friendly Reminder... that a parent or guardian must still pick up your child(ren) from the classroom after each class every Sunday.

FEBRUARY SUPER SUNDAY

The Knights will host the February Super Sunday Breakfast on Sunday, February 1st. The delicious buffet breakfast includes scrambled eggs, breakfast meats, sausage gravy with biscuits, potatoes, pancakes and beverages. Cost is just \$6 per person with a \$35 max per family. RSVP [via Flocknote](https://www.flocknote.com) or by contacting the parish office by January 29th if you plan to attend.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS**ANNUAL "COATS FOR THE COLD" COLLECTION**

The Knights will be collecting new and gently used winter coats as well as new hats, gloves and socks through February for distribution to anyone needing these items, parishioner or non-parishioner. Donation boxes can be found in the back of St. Elizabeth Church and in the Parish Hall.

The Knights of Columbus would like to thank all parishioners that contributed to our annual supply and food drive for the Little Sisters of the Poor in Newark, DE. We were able to fill an 8ft pickup truck with goods and collected over \$1,000 in monetary donations and \$250 in gift cards. We delivered the goods and gifts the week before Christmas. Mother Mary Michael was more than pleased with tears in her eyes and passed on thanks and continued prayers for all. The Little Sisters of the Poor could not exist without support from parishes like ours. I thank all that contributed. Our wonderful parish always comes through when asked to support those in need. God Bless all!
~ Dan Tuel, Chairman of the LSP Fund Drive

Hopefully everyone has been enjoying the 60+ beautiful posters hanging in the parish hall. These posters were the entries received from our parish religious ed students for the annual Keeping Christ in Christmas poster contest sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Judging winners for each class was very tough as all the posters were amazing! **Here are the winners for each grade: PK-Carson Cutter. K-Nathan Hart. 1st-Cassidy Cutter. 2nd-Alexander Auerbach. 3rd- Emory Gardner. 4th-Elise Engle. 5th-Kit Breeding. 6th-Jacklyn Do. 7th-Isabella Feltz. 8th-Sophia Myers. Congratulations to all our winners!** The winners received an ice cream gift card courtesy of Bullocks Deli in Denton. Please stop by the hall and look at our wonderful posters and the meaning of Christmas through our students' eyes.
~ Dan Tuel, Chairman of Poster Contest

THIS WEEK ON FORMED[Saint Francis de Sales: Pastor of Souls](https://www.formed.org/signup)

St. Francis de Sales became a hero during the Catholic Reformation for his pastoral care and spiritual writings. Join Dr. Chris Blum as he walks through the life of this great saint, who is celebrated on January 24th. And, in case you didn't know, St. Francis de Sales is the patron saint of our diocese! **Did you know? That all parishioners of St. Benedict/St. Elizabeth can access the FORMED platform for free.** To sign-up, visit www.formed.org/signup and enter the parish zip code (21660). Then enter your name and email address. Then, start watching!

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**LIFE IN THE PARISH FAMILY****Sunday, January 18**

- 2nd Collection - Building & Maintenance
- 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.
- Confirmation Prep - 10:45-11:15a.m.

Monday, January 19

- NO MASS/CONFESSIONS

Tuesday, January 20

- 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
- Caroline County Right to Life Meeting - 6:30p.m. - Hall

Wednesday, January 21

- 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 22

- 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

Friday, January 23

- Annual March for Life in Washington, D.C.
- Confessions - 8:15-8:45a.m.; Rosary-8:30a.m.; Mass- 9am - St. Elizabeth Church

Saturday, January 24

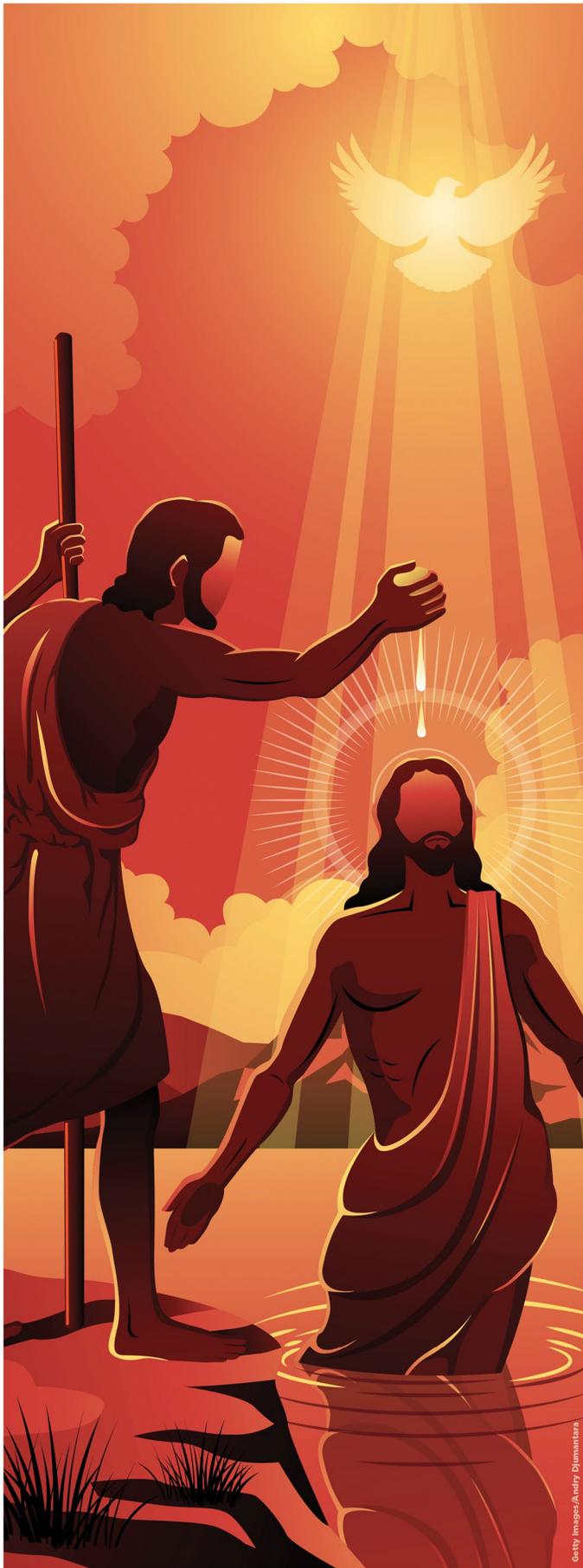
- Confessions - 3:00-3:45p.m./Mass - 4:00p.m. - St. Elizabeth Church
- Valentine's Day Raffle Ticket Sales - after Mass

Sunday, January 25

- 2nd Collection - Energy Offset
- 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
- Valentine's Day Raffle Ticket Sales - after Masses and at Hospitality
- Religious Ed/O.C.I.A. Classes - 9:40-10:45a.m.

SAVE THE DATE ...

The annual Spaghetti Dinner sponsored by the Youth Ministry will take place on Saturday, February 7th. See the flyer in today's bulletin.



Getty Images/Andy Dumanhara

January 18, 2026

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 49:3, 5-6 | 1 Cor 1:1-3 | Jn 1:29-34

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

I have struggled when doing work that feels unseen. Has anyone noticed that the floors were mopped today? Do my students care about the feedback I provide on their writing? Does my supervisor notice the extra time I put into my work? In today's Gospel we hear John the Baptist announcing Jesus as "the Lamb of God." John has been preparing for the coming of Christ and now that Jesus has arrived, his role is to step aside and encourage his followers to move their gaze toward Christ, the Messiah. Although we know John's name and his faithfulness, it would have been easy for him to assume that his work would have been forgotten — overshadowed by the signs and wonders of Christ himself. But in his humility, this is exactly what John seemingly wanted. His life and words were focused solely on proclaiming the coming of Christ. While I may have been tempted to say, "Please don't forget about what I did," John responded faithfully to God's call to preach and prepare for Christ's coming, without worry of receiving credit for his actions. And in our lives, too, what matters is not whether our work is appreciated or noticed, but whether our actions are in response to God's call to holiness.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Despite not knowing whether his work would extend for years or decades, John the Baptist continued to lead others toward repentance. He did not know the full scope of his role in the plan of salvation, but he trusted in the voice of God. Like John, we are called to persevere in faithfulness to the work that God has called us to do, right where we are. When we persevere in our faith, living according to the teachings of Christ and our vocation, we give witness to the truth that the God who called us is worthy of our trust.

WITNESS

Consider the countless men and women who have gone before us who remained faithful to God's call. Their lives bear witness to their trust in God, in big and in small ways, sometimes visible, but often hidden. What simple acts of faithfulness are you being called to persevere in today? Recommit to practicing faithfulness in the big — as well as mundane — aspects of daily living.

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

FOR JANUARY 10 & 11, 2026

Offertory Giving @ Masses \$ 2,778.00
Poor Box \$ 296.00



YEAR- TO-DATE OFFERTORY (Week 28 of 52)
Actual Offertory \$ 155,694.16
Average Weekly Offertory \$ 5,560.51

AROUND THE DIOCESE/COMMUNITY

LISTEN TO THE CATHOLIC FORUM EACH WEEK.

This week, author Mary Ruth Hackett will discuss her young adult book, *Discernment of Spirits for Beginners*. 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).

ANNUAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS - Bishop William E. Koenig invites all married couples in the Diocese of Wilmington to the Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass on World Marriage Sunday, February 9, 2025, at 1:00pm at St. Margaret of Scotland Church in Newark, DE. Those celebrating significant anniversaries (5-year increments) - 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, or any anniversary beyond 50, will receive a special certificate from the Bishop. Reservations are needed, no matter what the anniversary year. Reservations are required by February 4, 2026. Bishop Koenig will be available for photos with interested couples beginning at 12:00 pm and again after the Mass. If you would like to have a photo taken with Bishop Koenig, please arrive at 12:00 pm 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 OMFL@cdow.org.

Registration can be completed by visiting the Diocesan website at <https://cdow.org/ministries/office-for-marriage-and-family-life/wedding-anniversary-mass-2025/> or by completing the form that can be found at this link: <https://cdowmarriagepreparation.wufoo.com/forms/qf0nytf11mq100/>

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.

WEEKEND OF HOPE & HEALING (After Abortion)

Weekend of Hope & Healing retreat offers a beautiful opportunity to any woman or man who has struggled with the emotional or spiritual pain of an abortion. The retreat is a chance to get away from the daily pressures of work and family, to focus on a painful time in life, and to begin healing through a supportive and non-judgmental process. Spiritual exercises focusing on God's forgiveness, compassion, and mercy are shared through psychological exercises which help participants work through repressed grief and anger that may exist. Many preconceived fear of condemnation are transformed into blessings; memories of abandonment, pain, and confusion are replaced by peace and reconciliation. This retreat will focus on God's love and forgiveness in a nonjudgmental environment. Based in Catholicism, the retreat is open to and welcomes individuals of all denominations. The weekend begins on Friday late afternoon and concludes Sunday early afternoon.

Dates: March 20-22, 2026

Confidential Location: Ocean City, MD area, disclosed after registration

Suggested donation: \$250/person, \$400/couple (scholarships available)

For confidential inquiries and registration, please contact Project Rachel Ministry (Archdiocese of Baltimore): Call (410) 625-8491 or Text (410) 299-9345.

2025 TAX LETTERS

If you made contributions to the parish during 2025 via envelope or online via Flocknote Giving, you may request a 2025 tax letter by contacting parish bookkeeper, Kim Ernest, at kimsconqueringchaosllc@gmail.com.

To print your own letter, scroll to the bottom of any Flocknote email that you have received and click the "my info" link at the bottom of the email. When your Flocknote user page appears, click the "Giving" link on the left-hand side of the page and then click the colorful 2025 Donor Summary button on the right side of your user page. This will generate a printable tax letter which you can print on your own printer.

Did you know?

Our Diocese has Saint In Waiting!

Fr. Paul Wattson, who was born in our diocese in Millington, MD in 1863, was an Episcopal priest. Through prayer and discernment, Fr. Wattson and the Episcopal nuns, who resided at his parish and were headed up by Mother Superior Sister Lurana, converted to Roman Catholicism and moved to Garrison, NY. There they founded the Society of the Atonement taking vows of Franciscan poverty, obedience & charity with the mission of promoting Christian Unity. The Week of Prayer and Christian Unity January 18 to 23 was started by Fr. Wattson in 1908.

In 2015, Cardinal Timothy Dolan of N.Y. began the process of sainthood for Fr. Paul Wattson.

Every year since 2022, there has been a prayer service in our diocese alternating the locations at Sacred Heart RC Church in Chestertown, MD and St. Clements Episcopal Church in Millington, MD.

Come Join Us! All Are Welcome!

**This year, the prayer service will be at St. Clements Episcopal Church, 32940 Maryland Line Road, Massey, MD 21650 on Friday, January 23rd
6:00pm — Fellowship in Gettier Parish Hall
7:00pm — Ecumenical Service of Prayer & Worship**