

ST. BENEDICT, RIDGELY**MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS****Saturday, February 7****9:00a.m. St. Benedict Church
FIRST SATURDAY MASS**

✠ John Vogl

4:00p.m. ST. BENEDICT CHURCH

People of the Parish

Sunday, February 8**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME****7:15a.m. St. Benedict Church**

✠ Pat Whalen

8:30a.m. St. Benedict Church

✠ Mike Campbell

11:15a.m. St. Elizabeth Church

✠ Irena Dlouhy

Monday, February 9

NO MASS/CONFESSIONS

Tuesday, February 10**9:00a.m. St. Benedict Church**

✠ Yvonne Wildanger

11:00a.m. St. Elizabeth Church

Funeral Mass for Francis Douglas League III

Wednesday, February 11**9:00a.m. St. Elizabeth Church**

✠ Al McCullough

6:00p.m. St. Elizabeth Church

✠ Jim Baker

Thursday, February 12**9:00a.m. St. Benedict Church**

✠ Holy Souls in Purgatory

Friday, February 13**9:00a.m. St. Elizabeth Church**

✠ Mike Campbell

Saturday, February 14**4:00p.m. St. Elizabeth Church**

Gene & Cyndy Ingram

Sunday, February 15**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME****7:15a.m. St. Benedict Church**

People of the Parish

8:30a.m. St. Benedict Church

✠ John Stant

11:15a.m. St. Elizabeth Church

✠ William T. Schuyler

NOTE: ✠ indicates a deceased person(s).

TABERNACLE LIGHT INTENTIONS**JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 13****St. Elizabeth Church**

Intentions of Gene Ingram

St. Benedict Church

Intentions of Stirling Ward

www.beparish.com**ST. ELIZABETH, DENTON****REMEMBERING IN PRAYER****We remember the sick:**

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 & Bernie 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 ~ David Jones ~ Mary Ann Jones ~ Deacon Hal Jopp ~ Gene Ingram ~ Kenny Wood ~ Laurie Thomas ~ Carrie Lang ~ Stirling Ward ~ Cheryl Harris ~ Chrissy Jackson ~ Joseph Wood, Jr. ~ Anne Jones ~ Jackie Poore ~ Amy Richter ~ Sue Fleegle ~ Tolbert Rowe ~ Mary Bashtarz ~ Karen Yoder ~ Helen Hadley ~ Teresa Dunmire ~ Greta Scanlan ~ Carlene Reich ~ Donna Baynard ~ Shannon Slacum

Please remember to call if someone should be removed from the sick list.**We remember those who have died:**

**Francis Douglas League III (son of Pat & Doug League)
Mary Dickerson**

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

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) ~ 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

It's time again to renew membership or to become a new member of Caroline County Right to Life. Dues are \$15 a year and go a long way to help us buy educational materials and rent spaces at local fairs and festivals. Dues (and donations) can be mailed to Tom Lough, 516 Old Denton Rd., Federalsburg, MD 21632. Thank you for your financial, physical, and prayerful support!

**FEBRUARY 7 & 8, 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.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS**YOUTH MINISTRY SPAGHETTI DINNER POSTPONED**

The Youth Ministry Spaghetti Dinner, originally scheduled for February 7th has been postponed until Spring due to slow sign-ups which were attributed to our current icy & cold weather. If you already signed up for the dinner we will keep your name on the list for the dinner in the Spring. If you would rather that we remove your name from the list and refund any payment you already made, simply contact the Parish Office via phone or email to let us know.

SODALITY NEWS

The Blessed Virgin Mother Ladies' Sodality is once again sponsoring a "Love for Our Seminarians" collection throughout the month of February in honor of our two parish seminarians, Joe Lewis and Dylan Emerson. At the

entrance of each church are boards which contain paper hearts listing items that would help support our seminarians in their vocation journey. You are encouraged to take a heart from the board, purchase the requested item, and then return the items to the vestibule of either church or the parish office by the end of February. If you are purchasing a gift card, you may place it in an envelope marked "Love for Our Seminarians" and drop it in the collection basket at any Mass. Thank you for helping us to shower our seminarians with love and care.

LENTEN 2026**ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE ~ FEBRUARY 18, 2026****Prayer Services with the Liturgy of the Word & Distribution of Ashes**

6:30a.m. - St. Elizabeth Church

Noon - St. Elizabeth Church

Masses with the Distribution of Ashes

9:00a.m. - St. Elizabeth Church

7:00p.m. - St. Benedict Church

**SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE & SAUSAGE DINNER**

The Knights of Columbus are hosting a Shrove Tuesday Pancake & Sausage Dinner next Tuesday, February 17th from 5-7pm in the Parish Hall. There will be a free will offering basket at the door and all proceeds will benefit the parish Poor Box. Please RSVP if you plan to attend by contacting the Parish Office or via Flocknote: <https://beparish.flocknote.com/signup/244763>.

ASH WEDNESDAY SOUP & BREAD DINNER

The BVM Ladies' Sodality will offer a variety of meatless soups along with bread & crackers from 5:00-6:30p.m. on Ash Wednesday, February 18th in the Parish Hall. No sign-up is needed; a free will offering basket will be available.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**LIFE IN THE PARISH FAMILY****Sunday, February 8**

- 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.

Monday, February 9

- NO MASS/CONFESSIONS

- Hall Set-Up for Funeral Luncheon - 1-3pm

Tuesday, February 10

- 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

- Funeral Mass for Francis Douglas League III - 11am - St. Elizabeth Church (with luncheon to follow in Parish Hall)

- Finance Council Meeting - 7pm - FLC Finance Office

Wednesday, February 11

- 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

- Parish Council Meeting - 7pm - FLC Great Room

Thursday, February 12

- 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, February 13

- **PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

- Confessions - 8:15-8:45a.m.; Rosary-8:30a.m.; Mass- 9am - St. Elizabeth Church

Saturday, February 14

- COR Men's Faith & Fellowship Gathering - 7:00-8:00a.m. - Hall

- Confessions - 3:00-3:45p.m./Mass - 4:00p.m. - St. Elizabeth Church

Sunday, February 15

- 2nd Collection - Poor Box Support

- Masses: 7:15a.m. & 8:30a.m. - St. Benedict Church & 11:15a.m. - St. Elizabeth Church

- Religious Ed/O.C.I.A. Classes - 9:40-10:45a.m.

- Hospitality offered by Ladies' Sodality - 9:30-10:30a.m. - Parish Hall

- Confirmation Prep Class - 10:45-11:15a.m.



February 8, 2026

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 58:7-10 | 1 Cor 2:1-5 | Mt 5:13-16

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

My understanding of prayer changed when I read St. Teresa of Calcutta's statement that says, "I used to believe that prayer changes things, but now I know that prayer changes us and we change things." Prayer is not an incantation that can change the will of God. It is the act of raising our hearts and minds to God, and of opening ourselves — our will, our understanding, our joys, and our sorrows — to be sanctified. The prophet Isaiah seems to be saying something similar in the first reading. He lists off the commands of the Lord to clothe the naked, feed the hungry, and shelter the homeless, and then tells the faithful that if they do these things, "then your light shall break forth like the dawn." We certainly serve those who are vulnerable because each person has immeasurable dignity and deserves to be cared for as a child of God. But the act of caring for another also changes us. We are made more fully into who we were created to be — not an individual living in isolation, but one who is deeply connected in community to the rest of humankind.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

An act of service, then, is much bigger than simply donating money or giving of our time. In caring for our neighbor, we proclaim God's goodness to a world in darkness, bearing witness to the love of God which is the source of all our actions. In the Gospel, Christ calls his followers to be "the light of the world," reminding us that he wants to shine his light through us. But we are not the source of the light. Even when we are the ones serving, we still remain only the vessel the true light shines through. When we love others, we are changed because we allow ourselves to be conformed more closely to Christ, allowing others to encounter his love in our actions.

SERVE

The corporal works of mercy are to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bury the dead. This is not a list meant to overwhelm, but rather to provide opportunities to care for God's children. What act of service can you and your family engage in this week to allow the light of Christ to shine through you?

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

FOR JANUARY 24 - FEBRUARY 1, 2026

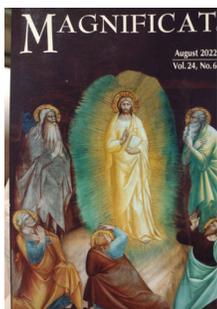
Offertory Giving @ Masses	\$ 10,072.21
Online Giving via Flocknote for January	\$ 6,980.00
Building & Maintenance	\$ 455.00
Energy Offset	\$ 295.00
Poor Box	\$ 700.00



YEAR- TO-DATE OFFERTORY (Week 29 of 52)

Actual Offertory	\$ 172,746.37
Average Weekly Offertory	\$ 5,956.77
Budgeted Weekly Offertory	\$ 5,423.00

MAGNIFICAT SUBSCRIPTIONS



Magnificat is a monthly publication which contains daily and weekend mass prayers and readings, morning and evening prayer, meditations, spiritual writings and essays on the saints. Magnificat subscriptions will be available through the parish office beginning with the May 2026 issue. The cost is \$42.00 per subscription (which is a \$10 savings off the cost of ordering a subscription on your own). The deadline to subscribe through the parish is March 20,

2026. You can find an order form at the entrance of either church, on the Bulletin Insert page of the parish website (www.beparish.com/bulletininserts) or you can request one by contacting the Parish Office.



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.

AROUND THE DIOCESE/COMMUNITY

LISTEN TO THE CATHOLIC FORUM EACH WEEK.

Tune-in this week to learn about Nuns Against Gun Violence when Sister Patricia Millen, OSF, is the guest. 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).

PUT FAITH INTO ACTION ON MARYLAND'S VIRTUAL CATHOLIC ADVOCACY DAY

Maryland's Virtual Catholic Advocacy Day, the largest annual multi-issue advocacy outreach, is Wednesday, February 11th. Advocacy staff for the Maryland Catholic Conference will prepare action alerts on up to six bills under consideration by the Maryland General Assembly at the time of Advocacy Day. These alerts, on life, education, and social and economic justice topics will be posted on the Conference Action Center, <https://mdcatholic.org/take-action> on the morning of February 11th. Parishioners just sign and send messages to their legislators on the issues they choose. The Conference will send out additional action alerts during the 90-day Maryland General Assembly session, but Virtual Catholic Advocacy Day is the largest advocacy event of the session.

HOLY HOUR FOR PEACE at SAINTS PETER & PAUL CHURCH IN EASTON ON MARCH 3, 2026

In response to an invitation from Archbishop Paul S. Coakley, president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), to pray for peace in our nation and communities, Bishop William E. Koenig and the priests of the Diocese of Wilmington gathered Feb. 4 during their Presbyteral Retreat to offer a Holy Hour for Peace and have scheduled Holy Hours for Peace in each of the diocesan deaneries in coming weeks. This national invitation to pray for peace follows the [USCCB's Special Pastoral Message on Immigration issued in November 2025](#), in which the bishops of the United States affirmed their concern for immigrants suffering in a "climate of fear and anxiety," urged respect for the fundamental dignity of all persons, and called for meaningful reform of immigration laws and humane treatment of those seeking a better life in this country.

The Holy Hour for Peace in our deanery of the diocese will take place on Tuesday, March 3rd at 7:00p.m. at Saints Petre & Paul Church, 1210 S. Washington Street, Easton MD.

LENTEN RETREAT: PONDERING WITH MOTHER MARY at the National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes

Saturday, February 28th Registration: \$35 With Lunch: \$50

The National Shrine Grotto invites you to join us for a Day of Retreat with Retreat Master Fr. Dwight Schlaline! Fr. Dwight Schlaline is the pastor of the historic Sacred Heart Basilica (aka "Conewago Chapel") located near Hanover, PA. He has served as a priest of the Harrisburg Diocese since June 2010; first at St. Patrick Church in Carlisle, then at Our Lady of the Visitation in Shippensburg, and now in Hanover. A fellow overthinker, Fr. Dwight asks, "Has someone ever said: You think too much. Why don't you just let it go?" Have you ever tried to stop ruminating about something but just couldn't do it? It's possible to be free from overthinking. Visit [//nsgrotto.org/events](http://nsgrotto.org/events) for more information. **Come out and let's see what God can do to heal our minds and hearts.**

Questions? Contact Lisa Rush at 301-447-5521 or l.m.rush@msmary.edu

National Shrine Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes on the campus of Mount St. Mary's University

16330 Grotto Road, Emmitsburg, MD 21727 301-447-5521 www.nsgrotto.org

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER - Learn tools to revitalize romance and deepen communication in your marriage!!! No group sharing required. The next weekend is March 6-8, 2026 at the Brighton Suites in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. For information or to register visit our website www.wwme.org or call Tony and Linda Massino at 302-648-2228.

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.