

ST. BENEDICT, RIDGELY**MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS****Saturday, March 14****4:00p.m. St. Elizabeth Church**

✠ Francis Kinnamon

Sunday, March 15**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT****7:15a.m. St. Benedict Church**

People of the Parish

8:30a.m. St. Benedict Church

✠ B. Vance & Kathleen Carmean

11:15a.m. St. Elizabeth Church

✠ William Hemmer

Monday, March 16

NO MASS/CONFESSIONS

Tuesday, March 17**9:00a.m. St. Benedict Church**

NO MASS/CONFESSIONS/ADORATION

Wednesday, March 18**9:00a.m. St. Elizabeth Church**

NO MASS/CONFESSIONS

6:00p.m. St. Elizabeth Church

NO MASS/CONFESSIONS/ADORATION

Thursday, March 19**9:00a.m. St. Benedict Church**

NO MASS/CONFESSIONS

Friday, March 20**9:00a.m. St. Elizabeth Church**

NO MASS/CONFESSIONS

Saturday, March 21**4:00p.m. St. Elizabeth Church**

John & Lora Breeding

Sunday, March 22**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT****7:15a.m. St. Benedict Church**

People of the Parish

8:30a.m. St. Benedict Church

✠ Armand Tremble

11:15a.m. St. Elizabeth Church

✠ Mike Porter

NOTE: ✠ indicates a deceased person(s).

TABERNACLE LIGHT INTENTIONS**MARCH 14 - MARCH 27****St. Elizabeth Church****In Memory of Fr. Eugene Hasson****St. Benedict Church**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 ~ Anne Jones ~ Jackie Poore ~ Amy Richter ~ Sue Fleegle ~ Tolbert Rowe ~ Karen Yoder ~ Helen Hadley ~ Teresa Dunmire ~ Greta Scanlan ~ Donna Baynard ~ Shannon Slacum ~ Richard Duld ~ Peggy Finnerin

Please remember to call if someone should be removed from the sick list.

We remember those who have died:**Mary Bashtarz ✠ James Dori**

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 at home 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)

THE SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING

If you are sick or preparing for surgery, please contact the Parish Office to schedule an anointing. Or, seek out Father Markellos before or after Mass and he will anoint you. Ideally, this sacrament should be celebrated so that the individual may consciously participate. In the event of an emergency, you may call the Parish Office at any time, night or day, and choose Extension 1 to request this Sacrament for the critically ill or dying.

CEMETERY COMMITTEE NEWS

In preparation for Spring, all expired Thanksgiving, Christmas & Winter flowers and decorations will be removed from graves at Holy Cross Cemetery within the next couple of weeks. If you have placed a decoration on your loved one's grave that you wish to keep, please retrieve it from the cemetery as soon as possible.

MARCH 14 & 15, 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.

LENT 2026**LENTEN FISH DINNER ~ Friday, March 20****5:30-7:30pm- Parish Hall (RSVP by 3/16)**

Hosted by the Knights of Columbus, dinner includes baked fish, potato wedges, homemade coleslaw and macaroni & cheese, roll, dessert & beverages. Cost is just \$9 per person and carryouts will be available. Sign up via Flocknote (<https://beparish.flocknote.com/signup/248431>) or by contacting the Parish Office (payment will be collected at the door). **STATIONS OF THE CROSS will take place at 7pm in St. Benedict Church.**

**RECONCILIATION MONDAY**

Catholics from throughout the Diocese of Wilmington are invited to receive the sacrament of reconciliation at any of the 57 parish churches in Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore on Monday, March 30, from 3-8 p.m., during the fifth annual diocesan-wide "Reconciliation Monday." The event is designed to make it more convenient for Catholics to receive the sacrament at the end of Lent and beginning of Holy Week, in anticipation of the celebration of Easter. At our parish, Fr. Markellos will hear confessions from 3-5pm at St. Elizabeth Church and 6-8pm at St. Benedict Church that day.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Don't forget to stock up on some delicious homemade chocolate bark, a.k.a "St. Benedict's Bark". Members of our Youth Ministry will be available after Masses for the next several weekends selling the bark at the cost of \$5 per bag. *NOTE: The bark freezes well so pick up enough to give as Easter gifts or put in Easter baskets.*

CAROLINE COUNTY RIGHT TO LIFE/RESPECT LIFE NEWS

For those who feel alone in their grief following an abortion: May they deeply experience the Lord's mercy and healing. There is free, confidential help available by calling 844-289-4673, or visit the website for Project Rachel Ministries at www.hopeafterabortion.com.

The Maryland March for Life will take place on Monday, March 16th in Annapolis, MD. The evening will include Mass at St. Mary's Church, the March and Rally, and a reception. A carpool will leave St. Benedict Church that day at 3:00p.m. If you are interested in joining the group to attend the March, please contact Tom Lough at 443-996-3024 or caroline@mdrtl.org. Visit <https://marchforlife.org/maryland-march-for-life/> for more information about the March and related events.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for the CCRTL Luncheon on Saturday, April 18th from 11am-2pm in the Parish Hall.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**LIFE IN THE PARISH FAMILY****Sunday, March 15**

- 2nd Collection - Evangelization 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 Knights of Columbus - 9:30-10:30a.m. - Parish Hall
- Confirmation Prep Class - 10:45-11:15a.m.
- Garlic & Gaelic Celebration & Chili Cook-Off - 4:00-6:00p.m. - Parish Hall

Monday, March 16

- NO MASS/CONFESSIONS
- Maryland March for Life in Annapolis - Carpool departs St. Benedict Church at 3pm

Tuesday, March 17

- NO MASS/CONFESSIONS/ADORATION
- Caroline County Right to Life Meeting - 6:30p.m. - Parish Hall

Wednesday, March 18

- NO MORNING or EVENING MASS, CONFESSIONS or ADORATION
- Intercessory Prayer Group - 9:30a.m. - St. Elizabeth Church
- Choir Practice - 6pm - St. Benedict Church
- Knights of Columbus Meeting - 7pm - Hall

Thursday, March 19

- NO MASS/CONFESSIONS
- Adult Bible Study - 9:30a.m. - FLC Resource Room
- Three Hearts Homeschool Classes - 9:30a.m. - 1:00p.m. - Parish Hall/Great Room
- 1st Eucharist Prep Gathering - 6:30p.m. - Hall

Friday, March 20

- NO MASS/CONFESSIONS
- NO MORNING STATIONS OF THE CROSS
- Lenten Fish Dinner - 5:30-7:30p.m. - Parish Hall
- Stations of the Cross - 7:00p.m. - St. Benedict Church

Saturday, March 21

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

Sunday, March 22

- 2nd Collection - Easter Flowers
- 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 Knights of Columbus - 9:30-10:30a.m. - Parish Hall



“I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.”

(Amazing Grace)

Getty Images/Richy Hewitt

March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

1 Sm 16:1b 6-7, 10-13a | Eph 5:8-14 | Jn 9:1-41

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

There has been much commentary over the centuries about Jesus' use of saliva and mud to heal the man born blind. One of the most profound interpretations I have read reminds us that in Genesis, God made man out of "the dust of the ground." (Gen 2:7) Jesus' use of mud in the Gospel suggests that he is re-creating the blind man before him. The man receives a whole new life, such that even those who see him after his healing question whether he is the same person as before: "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?" ... "No, he just looks like him." Through this Gospel, I've come to believe that Jesus is inviting us to see that every time he touches us in the sacraments, we are inwardly re-created, inwardly renewed. As we come to this midway point in Lent, let's open our eyes to the ways God is waiting to meet us with his healing love in the sacraments, and avail ourselves of this amazing grace.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Our first reading offers a powerful reminder that although humans see what's on the outside, God looks at our hearts. While the prophet Samuel thought surely God's hand was on Jesse's oldest son, God chooses David, the youngest, who was out tending the sheep. In the Gospel, the Pharisees look at the man born blind and think he is a sinner, born from sinners. But underneath is a man whom Jesus sends (the name of the pool that Jesus instructs him to go wash in means "Sent") to bear witness to all that God has done for him. God often chooses the unlikeliest (in our eyes) persons to be the messengers of his Gospel. At times we may wonder why God has chosen us or feel ourselves lacking in the qualities needed to lead others to the Lord. In those moments, let's trust that through our baptism and confirmation, the Lord has put his Spirit in us and has equipped us for the work of sharing the Gospel.

REFLECT

The lyrics "I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see," from the hymn "Amazing Grace" is based in part on today's Gospel reading. The man born blind says, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see." Locate a favorite rendition of this song and use it in your prayer time this week, reflecting on the ways God has brought you greater spiritual vision and inner renewal this Lent.

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

FOR MARCH 7 & 8, 2026

Offertory Giving @ Masses	\$ 3,129.00
Building & Maintenance	\$ 615.00
Poor Box	\$ 610.00



YEAR- TO-DATE OFFERTORY (Week 34 of 52)

Actual Offertory	\$ 205,676.37
Average Weekly Offertory	\$ 6,049.31
Budgeted Weekly Offertory	\$ 5,423.00

2026 FAITH & CHARITY CATHOLIC APPEAL

Many Hands, One Mission: A 50-Year Legacy

For fifty years, the Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal has carried faith into the future—strengthening our Church and caring for those in need throughout Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland. This year, Bishop Koenig is asking every parish family to join in. Your participation matters as much as the gift itself. When every household gives, our parish grows stronger—and our shared mission thrives. If you have not yet made your pledge, please do so today. 50% of all first-time gifts stay right here in our parish, and funds raised beyond our goal also support local needs. Together, with many hands and one mission, we can ensure our faith remains vibrant for generations to come. Visit cdow.org, click Giving → Faith and Charity Catholic Appeal, scan the QR code, or pick up a pledge envelope at the entrance of either church to participate.



AROUND THE DIOCESE/COMMUNITY

LISTEN TO THE CATHOLIC FORUM EACH WEEK.

Tune in on March 18th when Dan Pin, Director of Catholic Youth, Young Adult, and Family Ministry joins Catholic Forum to discuss the 15th Annual Catholic Youth Ministry Pilgrimage taking place this year on March 28, 2026. Listen in to find out what to expect at this year's pilgrimage and learn the meaning behind the theme: Maps of Grace / Mapas de Gracia. Additional Information and registration forms can be found on the CYM website: <https://cdowcym.org/pilgrimage/>. The Catholic Forum podcast on Apple, Spotify, iHeartRadio, Amazon Music podcasts and YouTube.com/DioceaseofWilm debuts every Wednesday at 12:00 p.m.

MALVERN RETREAT HOUSE - "COME INTO MY EUCHARISTIC PRESENCE"

We invite men and their sons to a weekend encounter with Jesus at the Mid-May & Archbishop Fitzmaurice Men's Retreat, May 15th-17th, 2026. Our Retreat Director is Msgr Stephen McHenry. Our guest speaker is Kevin Reliey, a former Eagle. Register at: <https://www.malvernretreat.com/events/mid-may-arch-fitzmaurice-2026/> or contact Maurice Sadowsky at mjsadowsky@yahoo.com. Malvern offers retreats for women, men, married couples, families, young adults, and those in addiction recovery. Please visit malvernretreat.com.

RACHEL'S VINEYARD CATHOLIC RETREAT

The next Rachel's Vineyard Catholic Retreat will be held the weekend of November 6-8, 2026. This retreat offers emotional and spiritual healing for anyone who has struggled with grief and loss from abortion or miscarriage. Whether you are post-abortive or know someone who is, freedom awaits. Contact Nan Bernardo-Freeman at 302-463-7711 (call or text) or lucyminn929@gmail.com by October 11.