

Hope Advent



ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC CHURCH



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Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:45 am-4:00 pm

Pastor	Very Rev. Charles J. Benoit, O.S.B., V.F.	cbenoit@arch-no.org
Deacon	Rev. Mr. Daniel Musso	dmusso@arch-no.org
Deacon	Rev. Mr. Ellis Iverson	eiverson@arch-no.org
Parish Secretary	Channon Horner	office@stbencov.org
Parish Catechetical Leader (PCL):	Corina Montreuil	psr@stbencov.org
Youth Minister	Bobby Thomas	985-373-5198
RCIA	Corina Montreuil	rcia@stbencov.org
Lunch Ministry	Janie Ellis	jellis1129@gmail.com
	Anna Bienvenu	annabienvenu@gmail.com
Communion Ministers	Susan Desilva	shd777@charter.net
Communion to the Sick	Sylvia Norton	985-871-9688
Lectors	Darlene Bertrand	dennisbertrand@bellsouth.net
Ushers	Phil Rapp	rapppp1976@outlook.com
Blanket Ministry	Jackie Edrington	jgednotary@yahoo.com
Men's Club	Clint Jacob, President	Warrinercontrol@gmail.com
Altar Society	Lorelle Russell, President	lorellwr@yahoo.com
Knights of Columbus Council 3061		
	Grand Knight, Dale Bratschi	gkcouncil3061@gmail.com

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil 5:30 pm
Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 am
Tuesday-Friday 8:00 am

RECONCILIATION

Wednesday 5:00-6:00 pm
Saturday 4:00-5:00 pm

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Fridays 8:30-9:30 am
First Friday 7:00-8:00 pm

ROSARY FOR PEACE

Third Thursday 7:00 pm

MARRIAGE Please contact the church office at least six (6) months prior to the desired date of the wedding.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK Any Catholic who is in danger due to age or health, or undergoing medical procedures and feels the need for the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, please contact Father Charles. It is the parish's custom to do anointings during the daily Mass, but they can also be administered privately. For emergencies, call the parish office 892-5202 and follow the prompt for emergencies.

BAPTISM Please email Deacon Danny dmusso@arch-no.org or contact the office to begin preparations. Seminars are held on the last Monday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

MISSION STATEMENT

Guided by the Gospel, strengthened by the Eucharist, and inspired by Benedictine values, the mission of St. Benedict Catholic Church is to be a vibrant family of believers, worshipping God with joy, excitement, and reverence. Forming the Body of Christ and acting upon our faith in Jesus, we strive to spread the Good News by engaging in ministries of hospitality, hope, education, spirituality, and social justice to each other and those beyond our community.



Father Charles's Corner...

We have arrived at the powerful season of Advent, a season to prepare with awe and gratitude for the Feast of the Incarnation of Jesus (God becoming Man), born to us as Savior and Brother. A season to prepare for His return at the end of time. It is also a moment to remind ourselves that our individual judgment day is coming, too — the moment when we will be called to give an account for all the love God has shown us and the gifts He has given us during our lifetime.

Our readings for this first week of Advent waste no time in calling our urgent attention to these themes of reflection and preparation. They seem to shout, “Wake up! Get ready!” and offer us some practical advice to make the most of this Season.

The Gospel from Luke warns, “Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life.”

How easy it is to lose focus on our Lord either by too much indulgence in our lives or by too much worry about our lives. Both extremes are easy to fall prey to. To avoid these traps, we are told to “be vigilant” and “pray for strength to sustain us.”

During Advent, each of us must ask ourselves some hard questions. Am I staying faithful to my prayer life? Am I using my energy and skills to serve others? Am I overly concerned about material gain? Am I relying on my “stuff” or my investments as my source of comfort or security? Am I living for the moment or for the coming of the Lord?

Our Second Reading from Thessalonians offers us a beautiful Advent prayer as we move through this season of reflection and preparation. Let us make it our prayer for each other: “May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all... so as to strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones. Amen.”

Get ready, brothers and sisters! He is coming! Let us prepare with awe and wonder.

-Fr. Charles, O.S.B.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Tuesday, November 30

+Phillip E. Lee, Jr.

Wednesday, December 1

Members of Marianite Guild

Thursday, December 2

+Arthur deLaune

Friday, December 3

Gary Senac

Saturday, December 4

5:30 p.m.

+Louis & Ann Lavedan, +Normie Miller, +Art Seghers,
+Billy Thigpen, Patrick Rapp, +Nancy Jourdan,
+Guy Palermo, +Narvey & Esma DeLage, +Nina Chatelain,
+Yolande Billman, +Eldrige & Agnes Alexander,
+Zoey Bellocq, +Antoinette Bellocq

Sunday, December 5

8:00 a.m.

+Louis & Ann Lavedan, +Cody Lucia, +Anona Pecoraro,
+Chris & Doris Johnson, +Harrold Morris, Jr.

10:30 a.m.

Parishioners of Saint Benedict



Prayer List



Deacon Nelvin Luke, Jim Seward, Anthony Sorrentino, Dee Sylvia, Earline Todd, Hunter Wagner, Julie Wagner, Tina Zocco, Clara Armstrong, Dr. Jerry Casey, Lisa Valley, Scott Lee, Carol Everhardt, Bennett Miller, Joanne Leber, Anna Ison, Gerardo Antonucci, Presley Patrick, Kaiden Lessard, Jennifer Bradley, Derek Feske, Fred and Lynne Guillot, Ryan Ware, Lois Seals, Billie Chiasson, Timothy Rollman, Vivian LeBlanc, Michael Duran, Donna McFatter, Angela Brady, Jackie Catalanotto, Jean Kelt, Judy Woolley, Scott Stevens

The prayer list is for our parishioners who are homebound or sick. All others can be entered into the general prayer book in the church. Please call the church office to add a parishioner's name to the prayer list. All names will stay on the list for 30 days at a time.

The First Sunday of Advent



Advent Begins!

November 28 – December 24

Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

As we prepare for Christmas, the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* notes some differences to the Mass that should be observed during the season. For instance, the priest will wear violet or purple during Advent, except for the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) when rose is worn (GIRM, no. 316). Aside from what the priest wears, other aesthetic changes in the Church can include a more modestly decorated altar.

The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, we focus on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord at Christmas. In particular, the "O" Antiphons are sung during this period and have been by the Church since at least the eighth century. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but of present ones as well.

Advent devotions including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season. Our Advent calendar above can help you fully enter into the season with daily activity and prayer suggestions to prepare you spiritually for the birth of Jesus Christ.



Catholic
Current

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BULLETIN

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Saint Benedict Catholic Church



December 2021						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.	2	3 Friday Adoration after 8:00 a.m. Mass	4 Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Blessing of Marriages at the end of Mass
5 Blessing of Marriages at the end of Mass Coffee & Donuts after all Masses Angel Tree Gifts Due and Sorting	6 KC Choir Practice 6:30 p.m.	7 Angel Tree Distribution 8 a.m.	 Mass of the Immaculate Conception at 8 a.m. & 7 p.m. Parish Office Closed Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Family Faith Formation 6 p.m.	9 Men's Club Meeting 7 p.m.	10 Friday Adoration after 8:00 a.m. Mass	11 Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Retirement Fund for Religious Appeal Bambinelli Sunday Bring the infant Jesus from your Nativity Scene to Church
12 Retirement Fund for Religious Appeal Bambinelli Sunday Bring the infant Jesus from your Nativity Scene to Church Family Faith Formation 11:45 a.m.	13 KC Choir Practice 6:30 p.m.	14 Altar Society Meeting 9 a.m.	15 Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.	16 Rosary for Peace after 8:00 a.m. Mass	17 Friday Adoration after 8:00 a.m. Mass	18 Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
19	20 KC Choir Practice 6:30 p.m.	21	22 Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m. Parish Office Closes at Noon Deanery Penance Service at 7 p.m. at Most Holy Trinity	23 Parish Office Closed	 Christmas Vigil Masses at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Parish Office Closed	 Mass at 9 a.m. NO Sacrament of Reconciliation NO VIGIL MASS
26	27 Parish Office Closed KC Choir Practice 6:30 p.m.	28 Parish Office Closed	29 Parish Office Closed Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m. NO Sacrament of Reconciliation	30 Parish Office Closed	 Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Vigil Mass at 5:30 p.m. Parish Office Closed	 Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.



Archdiocese of New Orleans

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Office of the Archbishop

December 1, 2021

To: Clergy, Religious and Laity of the Archdiocese

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Pope Francis often highlights the role older adults play in conveying faith from one generation to the next. Recently, he noted that “there is no retirement age from the work of proclaiming the Gospel.”¹ As we approach the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection—an appeal that benefits some 26,000 elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests—I am reminded that senior religious never retire from their vows.

Instead, the prayer and ministry of older religious are an ongoing witness to the Gospel. In their younger years, they laid the foundation for Catholic schools, hospitals, and works of mercy. Today, many serve in volunteer ministry. Others are frail and need assistance. Yet all remain wholly committed to their vocations, accepting the limitations of aging and embracing the opportunity to spend more time praying for our Church and world.

Most senior religious worked for little pay, and now their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious offers support that helps religious communities provide loving care for older members while ensuring younger ones can continue the good works of their elders.

I recognize you may be experiencing your own financial difficulties. I ask only that you give what you can. Most importantly, please join me in praying for God’s continued blessing on our nation’s elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

Wishing you God’s blessings and with the assurance of my prayers, I am,

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend Gregory M. Aymond
Archbishop of New Orleans

¹ Pope Francis, *Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the First World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly*, July 25, 2021 (<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/nonni/documents/20210531-messaggio-nonni-anziani.html>).



Poinsettia Sponsorship Form

If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia for Christmas, please place your donation of \$20.00 per poinsettia in an envelope marked "Poinsettias" with this form and place it in the weekend collection or drop it off at the office by December 15th. It is important that you **PRINT** your dedication **CLEARLY** in order to avoid errors.

**Please note: One person, couple, family or group per numbered line.
\$20 per Poinsettia/Dedication Line.**

Donor Name(s): _____

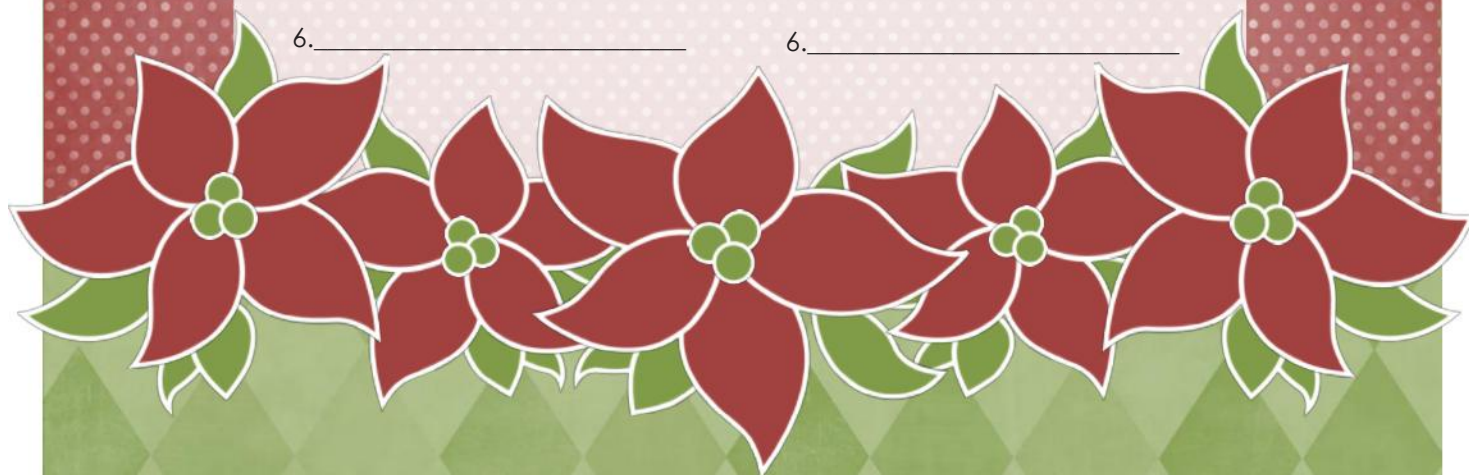
Quantity _____ X \$20 each = \$ _____

In Memory of:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

In Honor of:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____





Happening this Week

Wednesday, December 1

Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation available, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Friday, December 3

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after 8 a.m. Mass

Saturday, December 4

Sacrament of Reconciliation available, 4:00 to 5 p.m.

Blessing of Marriages

Sunday, December 5

Blessing of Marriages

Coffee & Donuts after all Masses

Angel Tree gifts due and sorting

Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to
those who have
given a lifetime.



A collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious Appeal will be held December 11/12. Elderly religious need your help. More than 32,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests live in the United States. Through prayer, love, and sacrifice, they established Catholic schools, hospitals, and more. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left a shortage in retirement funding. Your gift helps their religious communities furnish necessities such as medications and nursing care. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Please be generous.



Angel Tree gifts are due back next weekend, Sunday, December 5th.

Gifts need to be unwrapped and placed in gift bags. Please make sure the Angels are securely attached to the gift bags. The Angels are the only way we have of identifying the recipients of the gifts. Gifts will be sorted Sunday, Dec. 5th and will be distributed on Tuesday, Dec. 7th.

Thank you for your assistance and participation!



Merci! Thank You!

To all who contributed to the Men's Club Gumbo Fundraiser. Your generosity is much appreciated.

Annual Christmas Card Campaign

Starting next weekend, December 4/5 mail bins will be placed at the entrance of the church to begin collecting your Christmas Cards for those in our community in Long Term Care, Nursing, and Rehabilitation Homes. Please as many Christmas Cards as you like... Please include the *"thoughts and prayers from the Parishioners of St. Benedict Parish"* in your Christmas greeting/signature. The outside of the envelope can be left blank or you may write, "Merry Christmas". Please place your Christmas cards in the mail bins no later than Wednesday, December 15th. The Card will be distributed on Friday, December 17th and Saturday, December 18th by the Deacons.

Thanks for Giving

The Lunch Ministry collected enough items for numerous Holiday Baskets. Baskets were delivered and greatly appreciated by all who received them. **THANK YOU** for your support.

HOPE



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