



3RD SUNDAY OF LENT



ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC CHURCH



20370 Smith Road, Covington, LA 70435 • Office: 985-892-5202 • Fax: 985-892-4211

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

“Sir, leave it for
this year also,
and I shall
cultivate the
grounds around
it and fertilize
it; it may bear
fruit in the
future. If not
you can cut
it down.”

Luke 13:8, 9

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	Parish Office	985-892-5202
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

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.

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.



Father Charles's Corner...

This weekend's readings capture the essence of God's Lenten message to us, offering words of compassion and mercy as well as warning of the need to repent and make the most of the gift of time God has given us.

Our first reading, from Exodus, recounts Moses' first encounter with the living God who provides reassurance of His nearness to the people in their suffering and tells of His desire to deliver them from slavery into freedom and fullness of life. He tells Moses, "I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and heard their cry of complaint against their slave drivers, so I know well what they are suffering. Therefore, I have come down to rescue them... and lead them... into a land flowing with milk and honey." This compassionate God goes even farther, revealing His name to the people as a sign of intimacy with them and telling them, "This is my name forever; thus am I to be remembered through all generations."

Our second reading, from St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, reminds us that God, though full of mercy and compassion, is also just, and that there will be consequences for our behavior. He admonishes us, "whoever thinks he is standing secure should take care not to fall."

The Gospel passage includes the familiar parable of the unfruitful fig tree. It is preceded by an interesting dialogue between Jesus and some people reporting the news of the day, asking for His "take" on the matter. They tell Jesus about a bloody massacre that some Galileans had suffered at the hands of Pilate. They expected Him to confirm their view that the Galileans had done something to deserve such a death. But Jesus defies their expectation, telling them that the people who died such an awful death were no more sinful than they themselves are. He goes on to say the same of another recent event in which a group of people had been killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them. They, too, Jesus says, were no more sinful than anyone else. They were simply in the wrong place at the wrong time when tragedy struck.

The point He is making is that life is precious and the gift of time on this earth is just that — a gift. None of us knows how much time will be granted to us, so we must use this gift intentionally to glorify God and serve our neighbor.

The season of Lent is a time to reflect carefully on the way we spend our time. Do we give first priority to God, tending to our spiritual growth and sacramental life with diligence? Do we give next priority to our loved ones, focusing intentionally on them each day without distractions from phones, screens, or thoughts of work? If not, now is the moment to repent of our waste of time or of misplaced priorities on our use of time. God is merciful but just. Let's turn to Him and ask Him to make our lives fruitful while we still have time to do so.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Tuesday, March 22

+Natalie Oalmann

Wednesday, March 23

+Debra Ritter

Thursday, March 24

+Tom Norton

Friday, March 25

Luke Mondello

Saturday, March 26

5:30 p.m.

+Donald Naquin, Patrick Rapp, +Lee Faust, +Jerry Luke, Harry & Delta LeBlanc, +Carrol & Claudette Arcement, Christine Davis, +Art Seghers, +Tom Norton, +Joan Engolia

Sunday, March 27

8:00 a.m.

+Cody Lucia, +Chris & Doris Johnson, +Steven Plauche

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, Timothy Rollman, Vivian LeBlanc, Michael Duran, Donna McFatter, Angela Brady, Jackie Catalanotto, Jean Kelt, Judy Woolley, Joseph Candilora, John DeSilva, Phillip E. Lee, Sr., Gloria Nordman, Jan Nordman

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.



Happening this Week

Monday, March 21

KC Choir Practice 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 23

Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m.

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

Friday, March 25

Men's Club Fish Fry 4 – 7 p.m.

Way of the Cross 7 p.m. followed by Adoration until 8 p.m.

Saturday, March 26

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

Blessing of Marriages

Sunday, March 27

Blessing of Marriages

Coffee & Donuts after all Masses

STEWARDSHIP – March 13th

Weekly Collection:	\$5,756
E-Giving Online:	\$1,913
Building Fund:	\$165
Poor Box:	\$15,581
Mass Attendance:	501
Building Fund on Deposit:	\$385,932

Thank you for your generosity!



St. Benedict Men's Club will hold their annual Fish Fry Dinners during Lent on March 25th and April 8th beginning at 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Dinner choices are: Fish or Shrimp Plate. Sides include Potato Salad, Green Beans and a Dinner Roll. The cost is \$12 per plate. Tickets will be available after Masses this weekend, April 2/3, online at the parish website, or by scanning:



Congratulations to the newly-installed members of the Ladies Altar Society:

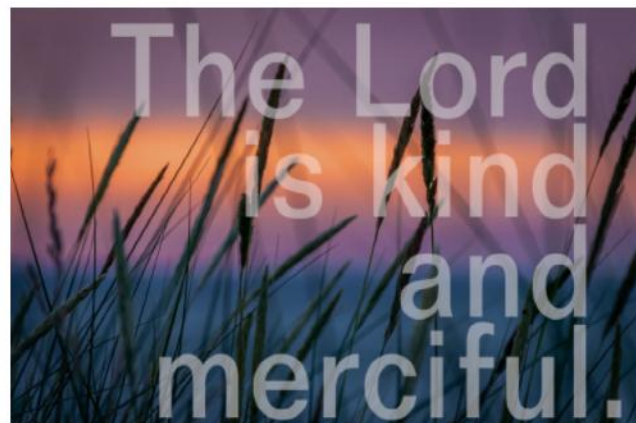
Lorell Russell, President
Betty Lemoine, Vice President
Carol Vickers, Treasurer
Earline Murray, Recording Secretary
Cindy Guevara, Corresponding Secretary

The Altar Society currently meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 9 a.m., but will begin meeting in June on the 3rd Sunday of the month between the two morning Masses. ALL ladies of the parish—of any age—are invited to attend and join this most important ministry in the parish.



THANK YOU

for your generous support for the people of Ukraine. To date, we have collected over \$19,500 that has already been sent to help feed, shelter, and clothe people in Ukraine. Any donations placed in the "Poor Box" this week will go to support people in Ukraine.





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