

ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC CHURCH



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

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Amen, I say you,
tax collectors and
prostitutes are
entering the
kingdom of God
before you."

Matthew 21:31

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
New Baby Meal Ministry	Debra Dwight	debradwight07@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	Richard Thomas, President	rthomas85138@att.net
Altar Society	Lorelle Russell, President	lorellwr@yahoo.com
Knights of Columbus Council 3061		
	Grand Knight, Kenny Eberts	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	8:30 am
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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 challenge the modern-day disciple to imitate more fully both the actions and attitudes of Christ. St. Paul encapsulates the actions and attitudes we must strive for in the Second Reading, from the Letter to the Philippians. "Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others." In other words, Paul continues, "Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus." Whether we are at work or school or within our own homes, our actions should be focused on others first in imitation of Christ, Who is always perfectly focused on others.

But there is another reason for seeing others as more important than ourselves, a reason that will help us to become better stewards of what God has gifted each of us. It is the recognition that the "others" in my life — whether my spouse and children, my next-door neighbor, or even the co-worker that gets on my last nerve — all these others are gifts from God, to be treasured and nurtured for God's glory.

And just in case this seems like a bit too much to ask of us, St. Paul gives us another reminder about the Savior we are imitating as we embrace this attitude towards others. "Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied Himself, taking the form of a slave... he humbled Himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." Unimaginable humility.

We should not be overwhelmed by this high bar, however. Our God is a loving and patient Father. He embraces every faltering step we take in imitation of His Son. Jesus demonstrates this comforting truth through the parable He tells in today's Gospel from Matthew. It is the story of two sons whose father instructs them to go out and work in his vineyard that day. The second son gives the right answer: "Yes, sir." But he does not follow through. Despite the lip service, he has failed to follow his father's will.

The first son just can't seem to get on board with his father's command. He responds, "I will not." At least he is honest! And this honest, less-than-perfect response should be consoling to us. Haven't we all felt this way at times when God's will for us seems to be just too hard? We can be honest with God at these times. He knows already, after all. But when we stayed engaged in a real relationship with Him, even if it's just to say, "I don't think I can, Lord," He will supply us with just the grace we need to change our minds and do what He is asking us to do.

We are called to a high and holy standard — living as Christ's disciples every day and with every person the Lord places in our path. But we can move towards this goal in "baby steps." What matters is that we keep baby stepping along, even if at time stepping backwards, nevertheless assured of the grace we need to more closely imitate the actions and attitudes of Christ.

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



Tuesday, October 3

+Cody Lucia

Wednesday, October 4

Members of Marianite Guild

Thursday, October 5

+Earl Lemoine, Jr.

Friday, October 6

Marianites of Holy Cross Parents

Saturday, October 7

5:30 p.m.

+Carrol & Claudette Arcement, +Guy Palermo,
+Narvey & Esma DeLage, +Bob & Jane Ayerst,
+Steve & Anna Balogh, +George & Laverne Novak,
+Robbie Stiener, +Father Sam Polizzi, +Mike Lucas,
+Mike Langhart, +Cecile Desselle, +Mary Mayo

Sunday, October 8

8:00 a.m.

+Arthur DeLaune, Wes & Connie Koon, +John DeSilva,
+David Snyder, Brian Naccari, +Richard Seifert,
+Clarence Scott, +James Bell

10:30 a.m.

Parishioners of Saint Benedict



Prayer List



Deacon Nelvin Luke, Jim Seward, Anthony Sorrentino, Dee Sylvia, Julie Wagner, Tina Zocco, Clara Armstrong, Lisa Valley, Scott Lee, Carol Everhardt, Bennett Miller, Joanne Leber, Anna Istone, Gerardo Antonucci, Presley Patrick, Kaiden Lessard, Jennifer Bradley, Derek Feske, Fred Guillot, Ryan Ware, Timothy Rollman, Vivian LeBlanc, Angela Brady, Jackie Catalanotto, Judy Woolley, Joseph Candilora, Phillip E. Lee, Sr., Gloria Nordman, Jan Nordman, Flavia Langan, Addie Pitre, Harry LeBlanc, Carol Vickers, John Johnson, Evan Cartozzo, Ed Ansardi, Debra Dwight

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.

Saint Benedict Catholic Church

October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 KC Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.	3	4 Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Family Faith Formation 6 p.m.	5	6 Friday Adoration after 8:00 a.m. Mass	7 Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
8 Family Faith Formation 11:45 a.m.	9  KC Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.	10 Angel Tree Meeting 9 a.m. – Noon Altar Society Meeting 6:00 p.m. Grief Support Group 2:00 p.m.	11 Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Meeting 6:30 p.m.	12 Men's Club Meeting 7 p.m.	13 Friday Adoration after 8:00 a.m. Mass Blanket Ministry Meeting 10:00 a.m.	14 Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Altar Society Ornament Fundraiser after Mass
15  Blessing of Pets and Animals at 2:00 pm Altar Society Ornament Fundraiser after all Masses	16 KC Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.	17	18 Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.	19 Rosary for Peace 8:30 a.m. 4 th Degree Knights of Columbus Meeting 7:00 p.m.	20 Friday Adoration after 8:00 a.m. Mass	21 Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. World Mission Collection
22  Family Day Picnic and Trunk-or-Treat after 10:30 Mass World Mission Collection	23 KC Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.	24 Grief Support Group 2:00 p.m.	25 Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m. No Sacrament of Reconciliation	26	27 Friday Adoration after 8:00 a.m. Mass	28 Sacrament of Reconciliation 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Blessing of Marriages at the end of Mass
29 Blessing of Marriages at the end of Mass Coffee & Donuts after all Masses	30 Parish Office Closes at Noon KC Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.	31  Parish Office Closes at Noon				

RESPECT LIFE MONTH STATEMENT

Living Radical Solidarity

OCTOBER 2023

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Chairman, USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities



Since 1973, the year the Supreme Court legalized abortion nationwide in *Roe v. Wade*, the month of October has been set aside by the U.S. bishops as a time to focus on protecting God's precious gift of human life. While we thank God that the terrible reign of *Roe* has ended, we also recognize that abortion still continues in most states and is aggressively promoted at the federal level. A great many prayers, sacrifices, and good works are still desperately needed to transform a culture of death into a culture of life. Our public witness, our marching, and our advocacy must continue, yet laws alone will not end the tragedy of abortion.

While ending legalized abortion remains our preeminent priority, the most immediate way to save babies and mothers from abortion is to thoroughly surround mothers in need with life-giving support and personal accompaniment. This is radical solidarity.

St. John Paul II first defined "radical solidarity" in this way: *"In firmly rejecting 'pro-choice' it is necessary to become courageously 'pro woman,' promoting a choice that is truly in favor of women. ... The only honest stance, in these cases, is that of radical solidarity with the woman. It is not right to leave her alone."*¹

Being in radical solidarity with women who are pregnant or raising children in difficult circumstances means putting our love for them into action and putting their needs before our own. Pope Francis reminds us that solidarity "refers to something more than a few sporadic acts

of generosity. It presumes the creation of a *new mindset*," a transformation within our own hearts.²

This new mindset requires that we come alongside vulnerable mothers in profound friendship, compassion, and support for both them and their preborn children. It means addressing the fundamental challenges that lead an expectant mother to believe she is unable to welcome the child God has entrusted to her.

This includes collective efforts within our dioceses, parishes, schools and local communities, engagement in the public square, and pursuit of policies that help support both women and their preborn babies. It all the more so requires our individual, personal commitment to helping mothers in our own communities secure material, emotional, and spiritual support for embracing the gift of life. Radical solidarity means moving beyond the status quo and out of our comfort zones.

Our parish-based and nationwide initiative, [*Walking with Moms in Need*](#), for example, provides easy-to-follow, step-by-step instructions to help transform our parishes into places of welcome, support, and assistance for pregnant and parenting mothers facing difficulties. Melissa, a [*North Carolina mom*](#)³ with young children and a busy

job, attended a parish informational session for *Walking with Moms in Need*, thinking she might help out here and there. But she felt the Lord's call and "by the end of the session she had volunteered to be the ministry's coordinator." Her parish now holds "Hand Up Days" once a month during which families can "shop" free of charge for baby and toddler items they need that have been donated by parishioners.

Melissa shared some powerful words of encouragement: "I think for too long we have been comfortable leaving the work of accompanying women in crisis situations – pregnant or parenting – to others in the nonprofit and government sectors. It is very clear in the Gospel that this is our job — all of us! A woman in a pregnancy center once told me that most women considering abortion are wrestling with a financial matter less than \$250 and that has really stuck with me. If we can lighten the burden just a little, what a difference we can make — it is literally life or death."

God has given each of us particular gifts, and with those gifts He entrusts us with a role and duty within the Body of Christ. Embracing an attitude of radical solidarity calls us to honestly reflect on some challenging questions and to consider specific actions we can take to foster an authentic culture of life. Some questions we might ask ourselves could include: *Do I know what efforts are happening in my area to help women who are pregnant or parenting in difficult circumstances? What are the needs? What are my gifts and talents? How can I adjust my schedule or budget to assist efforts to help moms in need and their children?* Radical solidarity can be lived out in countless ways, including volunteering at your local pregnancy center;



helping an expectant mother find stable housing; babysitting so a mom can work or take classes; providing encouragement and a listening ear to a mom without a support system; or speaking to your pastor about beginning *Walking with Moms in Need* at your parish.

In addition to enshrining pro-life laws and policies, the transformation of our culture also requires continual conversion of our *own* hearts, so that we can recognize in every person the face of Christ and place their needs before our own.

And so, this October, I invite all Catholics to think about building a culture of life in terms of radical solidarity. We are the Church. Our prayers, witness, sacrifices, advocacy, and good works are needed now, more than ever. We are the hands and feet of Christ in the world today and we each have a personal responsibility to care for one another.

For more information on how to celebrate Respect Life Month and stand in radical solidarity with moms in need, please visit respectlife.org/celebrate.

1 Pope John Paul II, *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*, p. 207.

2 Pope Francis, *Evangelii gaudium (The Joy of the Gospel)*, no. 188.

3 Elizabeth Ascik, "One of the Best Ways to Walk with Moms in Need," *Aleteia*, March 23, 2023, <https://aleteia.org/2023/03/22/one-of-the-best-ways-to-walk-with-moms-in-need/>.

Excerpts from *Evangelii gaudium (The Joy of the Gospel)*, © 2013. Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved. Pope John Paul II. 2005. *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*. Edited by Alfred A. Knopf. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. All rights reserved. Models used for illustrative purposes only. iStock.com/SDI Productions; iStock.com/digitalskillet. Copyright © 2023, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C. All rights reserved.

St. Benedict Catholic Church

20370 Smith Road, Covington 70435

invites you to the

Blessing of Pets & Animals

Sunday, October 15th
2:00 p.m.



Then God said: Let the earth bring forth every kind of living creature: tame animals, crawling things, and every kind of wild animal. And so it happened: God made every kind of wild animal, every kind of tame animal, and every kind of thing that crawls on the ground.

God saw that it was good. (Genesis 1:24-25)





Happening this Week

Wednesday, October 4

Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation available, 5:00 – 6 p.m.

Family Faith Formation 6:00 p.m.

Friday, October 6

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Saturday, October 7

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

Sunday, October 8

Family Faith Formation 11:45 a.m.

Saint Benedict's GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The Grief Support Group welcomes anyone who may be looking for comfort and support after losing a loved one or a relationship; wanting to learn ways to cope and deal with the grief in their life; and searching to see where God is in their situation. The Grief Support Group will meet every second and fourth Tuesday of the month, from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm in the Parish Center. Two of our Marianite sisters, Sister Kateri Battaglia and Sister Elvira Brown, will facilitate these meetings. Prayerfully consider accepting this invitation to connect with others who are walking that same journey from grief to healing, to acceptance, to transformation.

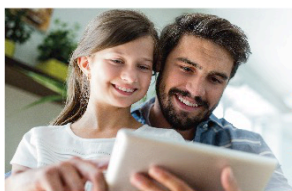
Ministry of Lector



Anyone interested in becoming a Lector, please contact Channon at the Parish Office 985-892-5202.

LECTOR BOOKS

The 2023 workbooks are now available in the usher's room for all Lectors.



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Weekly Collection:	\$4,014
E-Giving Online:	\$1,951
Poor Box:	\$115
Mass Attendance:	470
Building Fund on Deposit:	\$521,848

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