



"This is the one about whom it is written:  
'Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;  
he will prepare your way before you.'"

Matthew 11:10



## 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

<b>Pastor</b>	Very Rev. Charles J. Benoit, O.S.B., V.F.	<a href="mailto:cbenoit@arch-no.org">cbenoit@arch-no.org</a>
<b>Deacon</b>	Rev. Mr. Daniel Musso	<a href="mailto:dmusso@arch-no.org">dmusso@arch-no.org</a>
<b>Deacon</b>	Rev. Mr. Ellis Iverson	<a href="mailto:eiverson@arch-no.org">eiverson@arch-no.org</a>
<b>Parish Secretary</b>	Channon Horner	<a href="mailto:office@stbencov.org">office@stbencov.org</a>
<b>Parish Catechetical Leader (PCL):</b>	Corina Montreuil	<a href="mailto:psr@stbencov.org">psr@stbencov.org</a>
<b>Youth Minister</b>	Bobby Thomas	985-373-5198
<b>RCIA</b>	Corina Montreuil	<a href="mailto:rcia@stbencov.org">rcia@stbencov.org</a>
<b>Lunch Ministry</b>	Janie Ellis	<a href="mailto:jellis1129@gmail.com">jellis1129@gmail.com</a>
<b>New Baby Meal Ministry</b>	Debra Dwight	<a href="mailto:debradwight07@gmail.com">debradwight07@gmail.com</a>
<b>Communion Ministers</b>	Susan Desilva	<a href="mailto:shd777@charter.net">shd777@charter.net</a>
<b>Communion to the Sick</b>	Parish Office	985-892-5202
<b>Lectors</b>	Darlene Bertrand	<a href="mailto:dennisbertrand@bellsouth.net">dennisbertrand@bellsouth.net</a>
<b>Ushers</b>	Phil Rapp	<a href="mailto:rapppp1976@outlook.com">rapppp1976@outlook.com</a>
<b>Blanket Ministry</b>	Jackie Edrington	<a href="mailto:jgednotary@yahoo.com">jgednotary@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Men's Club</b>	Richard Thomas, President	<a href="mailto:rthomas85138@att.net">rthomas85138@att.net</a>
<b>Altar Society</b>	Lorelle Russell, President	<a href="mailto:lorellwr@yahoo.com">lorellwr@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Knights of Columbus Council 3061</b>		
	Grand Knight, Kenny Eberts	<a href="mailto:gkcouncil3061@gmail.com">gkcouncil3061@gmail.com</a>

### MASS SCHEDULE

<b>Saturday Vigil</b>	5:30 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	8:00 & 10:30 am
<b>Tuesday-Friday</b>	8:00 am

### RECONCILIATION

<b>Wednesday</b>	5:00-6:00 pm
<b>Saturday</b>	4:00-5:00 pm

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

<b>Fridays</b>	8:30-9:30 am
<b>First Friday</b>	7:00-8:00 pm

### ROSARY FOR PEACE

**Third Thursday** 8:30 am

**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](mailto: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.



## *Two for One is for Retail Stores, Not Masses*

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states: "On Sundays and other holy days of obligation the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass." It goes on to explain: "The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason, the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants) or dispensed by their own pastor. Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin."

I have been asked many times in the past few weeks *Do I have to go to Mass twice the weekend of Christmas?* The simply answer is **YES**. It is important to remember that no single Mass fulfills both a Sunday obligation and the Christmas obligation. Because they are different liturgical days – even if they overlap on the calendar – they require attendance at different Masses.

Typically, Mass celebrated at any time on Sunday – including Sunday evening – fulfills Catholics' obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Same goes for Saturday evening Masses that anticipate Sunday Mass. Likewise, an evening Mass before a holy day of obligation (such as Christmas) also typically satisfies a Catholic's requirement to attend the holy day Mass.

This year with Christmas Eve being a Sunday, many are asking if attending Sunday evening Mass this year can "count" for both. Sorry, but *a two for one special is for retail stores, not for Masses*. Because there are two days of obligation – Sunday and Christmas – this means that there are two distinct obligations to fulfill: each separate obligation needs to be fulfilled by attending a separate Mass. That is, you cannot 'double dip' by attending a Christmas Eve Mass that happens to be on Sunday and have this one Mass fulfill two obligations. *But maybe we could look at this a little differently: this year we have the opportunity to attend Mass and celebrate two different feasts next weekend: the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent and Christmas!*

-Fr. Charles, O.S.B.

### **Holiday Mass Schedule**

#### **Christmas Eve**

Vigil Masses at 4 p.m. & 7 p.m.

#### **Christmas Day**

Morning Mass at 9 a.m.

#### **New Year's Day**

(not a holy day of obligation this year)

Mass at 9 a.m.

### *Christmas Baskets*

The Lunch Ministry is collecting canned vegetables, instant mashed potatoes, easy mac and cheese, and stuffing to place in our Annual Christmas Baskets. Please drop your non-perishables off at the Catechetical Center before December 19th.



### *Prayer List*



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, Evan Cartozzo, Ed Ansardi, Debra Dwight, Margaret Ruiz





## Home Prayers for the Third Week of Advent

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O Lord,  
stir up you might and come,  
so that those who trust in your goodness  
may be freed quickly  
from all that could harm us.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## STEWARDSHIP – December 10th

Weekly Collection:	\$7,316
Retirement Fund for Religious Appeal	\$3,044
E-Giving Online:	\$1,898
Building Fund:	\$940
Poor Box:	\$1,294
Mass Attendance:	474
Building Fund on Deposit:	\$534,237

*Thank you for your generosity!*

Please consider utilizing our parish's online giving program. Explore the convenience of online giving at [giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stbencov](http://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stbencov) or by scanning our QR code.



## Christmas Second Collection

There will be a second collection at Mass on Christmas for various chaplaincies and archdiocesan ministries. This collection helps cover the salaries and expenses of Hospital and Hospice Chaplains, Chaplains at Nursing Homes and High Schools, and those involved in retreat ministries. We have already been assessed \$10,500 for this. Please be generous.

## Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



**Tuesday, December 19**

+Louis Schneider

**Wednesday, December 20**

+Ruth Accardo

**Thursday, December 21**

+Charmaine Hebert

**Friday, December 22**

+JoAnn Creech

**Saturday, December 23**

**5:30 p.m.**

+Mary Mayo, +Joe & Gwen Gagliano, +Payton Strain,  
+Nelvin & Joyce Luke, +George Bartley, +Ruth Accardo,  
+Diana Minden, Earl & Betty Lemoine,  
Ed & Charmaine Ansardi,  
+Deceased Religious Sisters of  
Daughters of Divine Providence,  
+Deceased Parents, Relatives & Benefactors of  
Daughters of Divine Providence

**Sunday, December 24**

**8:00 a.m.**

Parishioners of Saint Benedict

**10:30 a.m.**

+Robert Mayo, +Opal Pruden, +Priscilla Cosse,  
+Hunter Wagner

**Christmas Vigil Masses**

**4:00 p.m.**

Brian Naccari, Robbye Rapp, Patrick Rapp

**7:00 p.m.**

Skip Miller

## Happening this Week

**Wednesday, December 20**

Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m.

**Parish Office Closes at Noon**

**NO Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Benedict's.**

**Deanery Penance Service at 7 p.m. at Most Holy Trinity**

**Thursday, December 21**

**Rosary for Peace after 8:00 a.m. Mass**

**Parish Office Closed**

**Friday, December 22**

Decorating of Church for Christmas

**Parish Office Closed**

**Saturday, December 23**

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

**Sunday, December 24**

**Christmas Vigil Masses at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.**



**Kelly Tranchina**  
Tax Analyst  
Parishioner

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