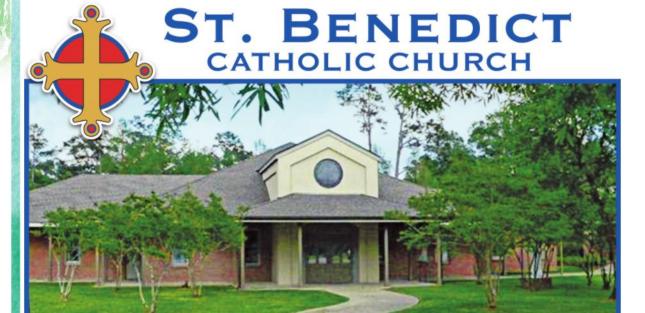
# SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY in Erdinary Time



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Very Rev. Charles J. Benoit, O.S.B., V.F. cbenoit@arch-no.org Pastor Deacon Rev. Mr. Daniel Musso dmusso@arch-no.org Rev. Mr. Ellis Iverson Deacon 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 Phil Rapp Ushers rapppp1976@outlook.com jgednotary@yahoo.com Blanket Ministry Jackie Edrington Men's Club Richard Thomas, President rthomas85138@att.net

Knights of Columbus Council 3061

Lorelle Russell, President

Altar Society

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

#### **EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Fridays 8:30-9:30 am First Friday 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 or contact the office to begin preparations. Seminars are held on the last Monday of the month, 7:00 p.m.

July 30, 2023



# Father Charles's Corner...

This weekend's readings show us the critical importance of recognizing the kingdom of heaven in our midst and prioritizing our lives in order to obtain it.

In our First Reading, from the First Book of Kings, God appears to Solomon in a dream and invites him to ask for something he desires. Rather than asking for riches or power, Solomon asks for the gift of "an understanding heart… to distinguish right from wrong." In other words, he asks God to help him discern what really matters in life. It is no surprise that God is pleased to give him this gift and will give the same gift to us if we ask Him sincerely.

When we pursue Godly — rather than worldly — priorities, we can do so with great peace because, as St. Paul reminds us in the Second Reading, from Romans, "all things work for good for those who love God and are called according to his purpose." All things — not just the major, life-altering decisions, but the countless tiny ones we make on a daily basis as we strive to serve the Lord and advance the kingdom of heaven.

In our Gospel passage from Matthew today, we arrive at the conclusion of three weeks of Jesus' teaching on the kingdom of heaven. In the first of today's parables, our Lord reminds us that living for Him and for His kingdom will be costly. But the deep joy that comes in following Him makes the "price" entailed worth it. Jesus says, "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." Next, He says the kingdom of heaven is "like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it."

In each of these parables, the kingdom of heaven is somewhat "hidden." We must intentionally search for it amidst the noise of the world that bombards us. We need wisdom to recognize it. Yet, our Lord reminds us that His kingdom is meant for everyone and He wants us to find it! He says, "It is like a net thrown into the sea which collects fish of every kind."

But Jesus concludes His teaching with a rather ominous image, reminding us that every "fish" will also be judged as good or bad. "The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth." This is a description that is difficult to forget. Clearly Jesus wants to get our attention.

Let us pray for the wisdom to recognize the kingdom of heaven in our midst and intensify our efforts to pursue it starting right now. There is no time to lose, and we will obtain the immeasurable joy that only comes when we live as disciples of Jesus.



Tuesday, August 1
+Ione Clark

Wednesday, August 2 +Yolande Billman

Thursday, August 3
+Cody Lucia

Friday, August 4
+Ione Clark

Saturday, August 5 5:30 p.m.

Corey Thomas, Bill Jourdan, +Guy Palermo, +Mike Lucas, +Robbie Stiener, +Father Sam Polizzi, +Mike Langhart, +Steve & Anna Balogh, +George & Laverne Novak, +Narvey & Esma DeLage, +Bob & Jane Ayerst, +Carrol & Claudette Arcement

> Sunday, August 6 8:00 a.m.

Parishioners of Saint Benedict 10:30 a.m.

+Arthur deLaune, +John DeSilva, +June Hendrick, +Jimmy Triay, Brian Naccari, +Joycelyn O'Shaughnessy, +Phillip E. Lee, Jr.



# 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 Isone, Gerardo Antonucci, Presley Patrick, Kaiden Lessard, Jennifer Bradley, Derek Feske, Fred Guillot, Ryan Ware, Timothy Rollman, Vivian LeBlanc, Donna McFatter, 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

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

## Wednesday, August 2

Lunch Ministry 8:45 a.m.

Catechetical Center Floor Waxing beginning at Noon Sacrament of Reconciliation available, 5:00 to 6 p.m.

#### **Thursday, August 3**

Catechetical Center Floor Waxing

#### Friday, August 4

Catechetical Center Floor Waxing

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

#### Saturday, August 5

Catechetical Center Floor Waxing

Sacrament of Reconciliation available, 4:00 to 5 p.m. Blessing of Students & Teachers at Mass

#### Sunday, August 6

Blessing of Students & Teachers at Mass

# STEWARDSHIP - July 23rd

Weekly Collection:\$4,307E-Giving Online:\$1,775Poor Box:\$16Building Fund:\$50Mass Attendance:494Building Fund on Deposit:\$509,261

Thank you for your generosity!

# 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, beginning July 2023, 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.

No one is meant to deal with loss alone.



The 2024 Mass Intention book will open on Tuesday, August 1st for the upcoming calendar year. Until November 1st we will accept no more than 12 weekday (single intention) requests from a household for the upcoming year (unlimited requests for Sunday or Saturday Masses will be accepted). After November 1st, all intentions will be accepted until the schedule is full. requests will be honored on a first-come, firstserve basis in the office. No Mass request will be taken over the telephone. Mass requests must be made in person in the parish office, mailed to the office, or put into an enveloped and placed in the collection. Forms for requesting a Mass can be obtained from the parish office, in the back of the church, or online on the parish website.

# **Job Opening: Parish Custodian**

Roxanne Kilpatrick has decided to pursue a new adventure after being our parish custodian. While happy for her new future, we are very sad to see her go. The parish now has an opening for custodian for the church, catechetical center, and rectory. This is a part-time job, with negotiable hours. If interested, please call Channon in the parish office (985-892-5202).

#### **CONFIRMATION 2023**

#### Sunday, August 13

Confirmation Prep 11:45 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

#### Sunday, August 27

Confirmation Prep 11:45 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

#### Saturday, September 9

Confirmation Retreat 10:45 a.m. – 6:45 p.m.

#### Tuesday, September 19

Confirmation Mass at 7 p.m.

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