

Portland Diocese of Maine ~ Catholic Appeal Week 15

As of this week, St. Benedict's Parish has raised **\$12,475** which brings us to 117% of our goal of **\$10,656.36** for the Annual Catholic Appeal.

August 17th	Weekly Offertory
Regular	\$2063.00
August 24th	
Regular	\$1407.00
August 31st	
Regular	\$1434.21
Winter Operations	\$ 251.00
September 7th	
Regular	
Heat & Electric	

Amount needed weekly to run the Parish = \$1278.85

Capital Campaign
Capital Campaign Goal: \$200,000
Raised: \$55,634.81
Dispersed: -\$34,938.23
(for church roof scheduled for after VBS)
Balance: \$20,696.58
Please mark your donation
"Capital Campaign"
Thank you for your support!

SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR GAZA

Dear God's, wonderful people due to the worsening situation in Gaza, the Portland Diocese is pleading with us to support the Catholic Relief services (CRS) for its outreach to victims of the situation. The Diocese has already contributed \$18,000 to CRS from a special mission fund and are offering the parishioners a chance to help as well with donations.

Please, can we count on your generosity?
Donations can be made at [Support.org/donate/holy land](https://support.org/donate/holy-land).
Contact #1-877-Help-CRS.
or Mail:
Catholic Relief services, Holy land Response
PO. Box 5278
Tipton IA 52772-0517.

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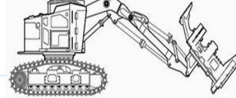
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**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS
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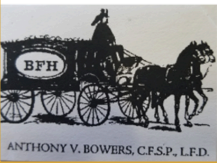


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ANTHONY V. BOWERS, C.F.S.P., L.F.D.



Welcome to ST. BENEDICT'S PARISH

PASTOR: REV. FR. SEFEMBIY JUSTIN

EMERGENCY NUMBER 765-4414 E-MAIL: SEFEMBIY.JUSTIN@PORTLANDDIOCESE.ORG



PASTOR'S CORNER - TABLE OF THE WORD

THEME: PLACE JESUS ABOVE ALL ELSE

Today's readings challenge us to place Jesus above all else and to entrust ourselves to God for guidance and understanding. In the first reading from the Book of Wisdom, we are reminded of our limited understanding. Yet it is through god's wisdom that we gain insight into the mysteries of life. We are reminded that true wisdom is not only the accumulation of knowledge but a divine gift that enables us to navigate the world through God's eyes. In this way, we are able to align our choices in life with His will. Without His wisdom we can easily go astray. The psalmist invites us to a constant awareness of how we are short lived and be wise to live with intention and purpose. Each moment is a gift from God meant to be used for His glory and the betterment of others.

In the Second reading, from the Letter to Philemon, Paul exemplifies Wisdom in action. He appeals for reconciliation between Philemon and Onesimus, urging Philemon to welcome back Onesimus who had escaped from him not merely as a servant but as a beloved brother. This teaches us that true discipleship is grounded in love, mercy and understanding. To follow Christ means to embrace the transformative power of forgiveness and sense of community.

In today's Gospel, Jesus instructs about the cost of discipleship. He urges us to consider the sacrifices we may need to make as His disciples namely our attachments, our comforts and perhaps the very relationships we hold dear. This is a call to a radical reordering of our priorities, placing love for Christ above all else. We cannot have Christianity in our own terms. Christianity is a cross-bearing enterprise. It is a life of inconvenience with an eternal reward of convenience. We pray for the wisdom and grace not to hesitate in loosing what ever for Christ in the here and now, so as to gain everything at the end, including eternal life.

**May God in his Goodness, bless, protect and
keep you for His greater Glory
Amen**

SUMMER MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS 8:30 AM
FRIDAYS 9:00 AM

ADORATION & CONFESSION

8:00AM FRIDAYS OR
BY APPOINTMENT

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
AFTER MASS UNTIL 3:00PM

COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND

CALL DEACON DAN (207) 731-8111

FAITH FORMATION

ANNA ROBINSON (207) 267-0586

PARISH OFFICE

1063 BENEDICTA ROAD
P.O. BOX 27
BENEDICTA, MAINE 04733
(207) 365-4294
LISA AMMERMAN, ADMIN. ASST.
LISAAMMERMAN@PORTLANDDIOCESE.ORG

OFFICE HOURS

TUES. 8:30-11:30 THURS. 8:30-11:30
FRI. 9:30-11:30
AFTER MASS ON SUNDAYS
OR BY APPOINTMENT 746-7960

STBENEDICTSMAINE.ORG

SEPTEMBER 7TH 2025 - 23RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME ~ YEAR C

TABLE OF THE EUCHARIST

Did you know?.....

WHY ARE WE TO OBSERVE SILENCE BEFORE MASS?

When we come to Mass, we recall the graces of our Baptism, genuflect to acknowledge Jesus truly present, and then we make our way to our seat. What is next? How about one of the best things churches were designed for? If there is a little time before Mass begins, some moments of prayer will help prepare you for the graces of the Mass.

The General Instruction for the Roman Missal says that there should be a quiet opportunity in the church for the faithful to prepare prayerfully for the Holy Mass (GIRM, n. 45). During this time before Mass, the silence provides the opportunity to reflect on the generosity of our loving Father and to prepare to thank Him in the worship of the Mass. You might also recognize any needs you have - you might talk to God about any difficulties, stresses, or anxieties you are experiencing and offer them to the Lord, asking for His help and grace.

-Fr. Luke Spannagel - National Eucharistic Revival

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:
SEPTEMBER 7, 2025 - LUKE 14:25-33

- For the Church, that many may hear Christ’s call to sacramental marriage and embrace the commitment and sacrifices it entails, fostering love and faith within their families. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For those discerning their vocation, that they may be willing to carry their crosses and follow Christ, trusting in His plan for their lives. Let us pray to the Lord.
- For our parish community, that we may support those who are called to a life of sacrifice in service to the Gospel, encouraging their journey of discernment. Let us pray to the Lord.



The Jubilee Prayer 2025

Father in Heaven, may the Faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

The Diocese of Portland has Approved,
Granted Permission, and assigned the **Tertiary Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi** from Cameroon in Africa, to our cluster for this year's **Mission appeals**. One of them shall be visiting all our Cluster Churches on the weekend of September 27/28 2025 to talk about their missionary activities and their various Charitable outreaches to the sick especially to Cardiac Patients, to orphans, the less educated, the disabled and the suffering in Africa. And then to do appeals for Assistance. Let us prepare ourselves to be kind, generous and charitable to support the effort of these sisters to put a smile on someone's face in Africa.

- We extend our condolences to any parishioner or visitor who is presently bereaved. Know of our fraternal and sisterly moral and spiritual support for the peaceful repose of your loved one and for the required strength of those mourning their deceased ones to bear their loss. May our strong faith in the resurrection of all believers console and strengthen you.
- Congratulations to all our parishioners and visitors celebrating their birth, marriage, vocation or any anniversary this week. We share in your anniversary joy and our prayers accompany you.
- We wish anyone travelling this week by air, land or sea, travelling mercies and God's protective guidance to and from our destination. Be still and know that God is in control.

In Memory of :

Joseph J. McAvoy
(09/10/1933—08/30/2021)



Wesley “Jim” Cunningham
(10/26/31 ~ 01/11/08)
Richard M Cunningham
(03/14/62 ~ 11/06/21)

Lovingly Remembered



Anders Staats Nielsen
07/07/2019



Basil & Margaret McAvoy
(8/5/1921 ~ 7/31/1969; 9/29/1923 ~ 12/30/2014)

Linda McAvoy Bouchard
(2/22/1945 ~ 1/6/1982)

Mary McAvoy Lowe
(10/15/1957 ~ 2/9/2005)

Anna McAvoy
(6/28/1964 ~ 7/30/2011)



Fred Lewis
(11/25/1897 ~ 7/05/1995)
Ethel Lewis
(5/12/1897 ~ 10/07/1981)
W. H. Lewis
(4/19/1923 ~ 03/28/2001)
Helen Lewis
(7/23/1926 ~ 10/19/2005)
Susan L Brooks
(8/01/1954 ~ 1/20/2009)



Lovingly Remembered

James C. (Buster) Guiggey
(4/8/1927 ~ 12/4/2010)



In Loving Memory Of

Lloyd E. Bryant (1928 ~ 1987)
Esther Grass Bryant (1931 ~ 1988)



In Loving Memory Of
Joseph P. Rush, Jr.
(11/02/1928 - 04/12/2013)
Jane M. Rush
(02/03/1930 - 09/02/2013)

Jacqueline M. Rush-Johnson
(05/04/1972 - 03/26/1996)

Francis H. Qualey
(5/22/1914 ~ 2/28/2000)

Margaret R. Qualey
(11/6/1919 ~ 5/01/2018)

Peter Qualey
(12/17/1948 ~ 09/07/2020)



In Loving Memor of:



Benedict Edward Cowan
May 2nd, 2025 -May 2nd, 2025)



Adam Rush
August 13th, 1989 - January 29th, 2016

In Loving Memory
Chris Marston
(9/18/1978 ~ 8/24/2018)
Aaron Marston
(04/04/1975~ 10/19/2022)



In Loving Memory Of:

Frank Duffy
(7/18/37 ~ 03/08/96)
Bobby Duffy
(3/21/72 ~ 10/08/93)



Arthur Qualey
(3/5/1916 ~ 10/24/2008)
Rita Qualey
(1/13/1924 ~ 9/4/ 2011)



Lovingly Remembered

Joan Filanowski
(5/26/1935 ~ 6/14/2000)



John J. Cummings
(8/23/1907 ~ 4/18/1993)

Lucile E. Cummings
(8/19/1908 ~ 3/15/2003)

Cecelia R. Cummings
(11/18/1933 ~ 2/18/2013)

Earl L. Cummings
(7/04/1929 ~ 3/10/2018)



Lovingly Remembered
Leo Joseph Crowe
(9/5/1935 ~ 1/8/2019)



In Loving Memory Of

Leo Crowe
(3/19/1893 ~ 12/17/1975)
Molly Crowe
(2/13/1900 ~ 11/18/1967)
Mary Crowe McDonough
(2/27/1937 ~ 9/28/2002)



In Memory of:

Robert Taylor
(12/13/1948 - 10/19/2023)
Charlene Taylor
(01/07/1943 ~ 02/20/2020)



In Loving Memory Of

Richard Rush
(01/02/1931—1/24/2024)
Celine Rush
(07/08/1936 ~ 11/04/2021)
Christopher Rush
(4/17/55 ~ 1/8/22)



In Loving Memory Of:

Robert Allen (10/13/46 ~ 10/18/21)
Andrew Allen (06/14/65 ~ 12/05/20)

Albert J. Qualey
(08/20/1923 ~ 06/11/2012)
Rowena Qualey
(9/22/1927 ~ 8/01/2017)



In Loving Memory



Martin Qualey
(2/16/1984 ~ 7/24/2017)



Edward Rush
(5/25/1920 ~ 10/17/2013)
Mary Rush
(12/04/1921 ~ 6/05/2005)



John W. Allen
(1912 ~ 1/02/2004)
Margaret L. Allen
(4/03/1924 ~ 11/19/2005)



Otis M. Hunt
(6/15/1936 ~ 5/30/1999)
Mary Ellen Hunt
(1/30/36 ~ 4/17/17)



“Oh Jesus, bless those living and dead, who have led me to the Holy Altar.”

A Remembrance of the Ordination to the

Priesthood of
Rev. James Clifford Brown
(6/6/1936 ~ 4/6/1941)

Brother Benedict Brown, O.F.M.
(3/23/1891 ~ 7/18/1969)
Sons of St. Benedict’s Parish



Baked Ham Dinner
 SEPTEMBER 7TH AT ST. PETER'S
 Featuring Live Music by
THUNDERING CLASSIC ROCK
 1:00 - 4:00

Ham Dinner
 4:00 - 6:00
 Baked Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Carrots, Rolls, Drinks, & Strawberry Shortcake

Suggested Donation - \$10
 Takeouts are available

Food Sale

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20TH
at the Sherman Bandstand

Bake sale items welcome and appreciated!

Franciscan Catechetical Institute Trainings

The Diocese of Portland has just subscribed to a new outreach by the Catechetical Institute at Franciscan University of Steubenville. We are now able to offer online formation for every person in ministry – clergy, catechists, teachers, youth ministers, adult group leaders, volunteers, even (and especially) parents. It is free to all, with unlimited access. This program provides the most in-depth and faithful array of formative workshops ever created. With over 200 workshops available, we are now able to thoroughly train and spiritually nurture you in passing on the faith.

To register, visit
<https://franciscanathome.com/diocese-portland-maine>
 More information will be available soon on specific trainings.

St. Benedict's PARISH COUNCIL

will meet
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH
@6:00PM
 at the Parish Center

Rosary in Honor of Our Lady of Fatima

All are invited to pray the Rosary in honor of Our Lady of Fatima on
October 11 at noon
at St. Benedict's

THE ROSARY GATHERING WILL COMMEMORATE THE BLESSED MOTHER'S FINAL APPEARANCE TO THREE CHILDREN IN FATIMA, PORTUGAL, IN 1917.

We are looking for money counters to join the rotation.

Join this or any of our ministries. please contact the office or stop in after Mass!

Date	Lector	Extra-ordinary Minister of the Eucharist	Alter Server	Offertory Counters*	Greeters
August 31st	Dustin	Rob	David	Harold, Pat & Rose	Deb D & Rose
Sept 7th	Scarlet	Dustin	Rob	Cindy, Deb & Betty	Mona & Lana
Sept 14th	Lana	/Tom	Anna Q + David R	Andrew, Ken, Harold	Mona & Lana
Sept 21st	Earl	Anna Q	David	Deb, Betty, John	Mona & Lana
Sept 28th	Chris	Brenda	Rob	Rose, Rob & Cindy	Mona & Lana

Sacristans:
 September - Chris November - Mike October: Pat

Eucharistic Adoration

will be held
TODAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH,
for this month only.

Visit with the Bishop

Many positive remarks were made concerning the Bishop's visit.

I thank you all, who helped in any way to make this visit a successful encounter. That thank you includes, all that were able to attend, the Youth Group and their music, the K of C Color Guard, as well as those who cleaned the church, set up the church and the meeting room, all who made and donated the delicious food, and finally those who gave the interesting items for the Benedicta basket, as a piece of history to take with him as a gift from us.

Thank you, everyone
and God bless you
Rose Rush

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time: September 7, 2025

"Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple." (Luke 14:27) Every vocation involves sacrifice. Whether you are married, learning to put your spouse's needs before your own, or a priest choosing to forgo family life to serve others, each path involves laying down your desires for the sake of love. Trust that Christ will provide you with the strength to follow Him on your journey. Talk to your priest or reach out to the Vocation Office at (207) 613-1091 or via email: vocations@portlanddiocese.org.

Lend us your voices!

St. Benedict's own Youth Choir is looking for members!

The Choir sings at the last Mass of every month, and rehearses weekly according to singers' schedules.

We believe God loves all voices and do not judge.

Join us!

Auspice Maria Episode 15
 The Parish as a Center for Mission

This week's episode of the Auspice Maria podcast is now live!

The Parish as a Center for Mission

Bishop James Ruggieri explores what it truly means to be a missionary parish in 2025. Moving beyond the walls of buildings, he reflects on the parish as a living community of faith, called to proclaim the Gospel, foster encounters with Christ, and build the kingdom of God. Drawing on the teachings of Vatican II and Canon Law, Bishop Ruggieri challenges us to reclaim a vision of parish life centered on mission, communion, and service.

A full transcript can be found on our website at <https://portlanddiocese.org/podcast>

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MASSES & INTENTIONS SEPTEMBER 7TH - SEPTEMBER 14TH

Saturday, September 6th St. Martin of Tours at 4:00PM – Maurice Rioux by Bruce & Julie

Sunday, September 7th: St. Benedict’s at 8:30AM - Richard McAvoy by Diane
 St. Peter’s at 10:00AM – Ed Cote by Julie & Jay Achorn
 St. Martin of Tours at 12:30PM – David Pelkey by his Wife Evelyn

Monday ,September 8th: St. Peter’s at 8:30AM – For the Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, September 9th: St. Peter’s at 4:30PM- Lorraine Morin by Esther & Frank Willette

Wednesday, September 10th Father Justin’s Day Off

Thursday, September 11th: St. Martin of Tours at 4:30PM – Rosa Bouchard by Leo & Family

Friday, September 12th: St. Benedict’s at 9:00AM - Reid Stanley Robert and Chris Cunningham

Saturday Sept 13th St. Martins at 4:00PM - Al Hughes 3rd Anniversary from Children & Grand Children

Sunday Sept 14th St. Benedict’s 8:30AM- Aaron and Chris Marston By Lana & Billy Robinson
 St. Peter’s 10:00AM- Rev George Pelletier 17th Anniversary By George ,Judy & Michelle
 St. Martin’s 12:30PM - The Marquis Family By: Bob and Family



We shall switch over Mass Times between St. Peter's Church and St. Benedict's Parish Church on the 1st weekend of October(October 4/5 2025). St. Peters will do Sunday 8:30 am while St. Benedict will do 10:30 am.

Weekly Readings and Observances of Saints' Days Will Keep You United with Christ Through His Words

Readings for the week of Sunday, September 7th - Sunday, September 14th

Sunday 9/7: Wis 9:13-18b/Phim 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33

Monday 9/8: Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23

Tuesday 9/9: Saint Peter Claver Col 2:6-15/Lk 6:12-19

Wednesday 9/10: Col 3:1-11/Lk 6:20-26

Thursday 9/11: Col 3:12-17/Lk 6:27-38

Friday 9/12: The Most Holy Name of Mary 1 Tim 1:1-2, 12-14/Lk 6:39-42

Saturday 9/13: Saint John Chrysostom 1TM 1:15-17/Lk 6:43-49

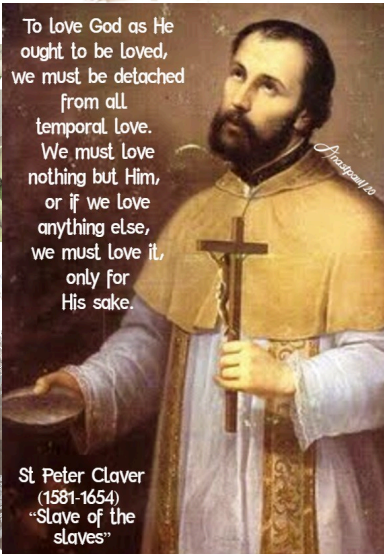
Sunday 9/14: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross Nm 21:4b-9/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17



Prayer List

Cathy Cyr Duffy
 Riley Wheaton
 Ryan Robinson
 Beckham Willett
 Janie Cummings
 Irene Heath

Families Afflicted by Addiction
 Our Men & Women in the Service



Pastor's Exultation for a Way Forward with our Parish Finances and Pastoral Life

Dear God's Wonderful People of St. Benedict's Parish,

As a follow up of our parish financial situation as presented to you a couple of weeks ago, and mindful of the new financial year that just started last month, I wish to communicate to you the following:

1 - I wish to congratulate all of you for your kindhearted donations towards the financial upkeep of our parish. You are few in numbers and parish size but your giving heart is large. Your donations in kind and cash - of any sort go a long way to enhance a smooth pastoral and spiritual life of our parish. Thank you so very much and may the lord reward your generosity as He himself promised that the more you give the more you receive (cf)

2 - I also wish to Congratulate you for the good will you have demonstrated in the ongoing Diocesan Catholic Appeals. Our progress in this area is so remarkable and a point that with continuous goodwill, determination and cooperation, we can achieve much for the growth and well-being of this wonderful Parish and our wonderful Diocese of Portland Maine. Within 15 weeks, we already are above our goal for this year's Diocesan Catholic Appeal as opposed to last year which was 50% of the goal - congratulations once more.

3 - I equally wish to thank those who have responded to the clarion call to step up our weekly offertory, to donate, to present supply request to the office for approval before they are made and cut down on unnecessary expenses. All these being ways forward to avoid ending our financial year in any deficit (like it is said, "Prevention is better than the cure"). Our objective for this new financial fiscal year is not to deep hands into our parish savings, but rather to add something to the savings for future reliance or for rainy days. Some great, remarkable changes in this respect have been observed.

4 - To meet up with this year's parish expenses, it will require a weekly offertory of **\$1278.85** as indicated in our weekly bulletin. We started implementing the 2nd collection for our Winter Operations budget Last Sunday, as announced the Sunday before. This shall be done on weekends that we have no other programmed National, Diocesan or Parish 2nd collections and also on all solemnities that have to programmed offertory or collections. This shall always be announced ahead of time and also included in the bulletin. This collection comes in addition to the collection for Heat and Electricity, because our other expenses depend on the intensity of the winter (no two winters seem to now be the same.) These collections also give our summer visitors an opportunity to support us to keep the church going in the absence during winter since they may be with us only for a weekend or two or in the summer period.

5 - to this effect, I wish to appeal that when a second collection is announced, it is done so as to prepare our minds to bring with us an extra offertory to the donations we make every weekend, rather than splitting our normal weekend offertory into two, and at the end of the day, defeating the purpose of a second collection. Thank you all for all you do and continue to do for the church. Together we can!

From a Pastoral point of view, in order that no church worship site of our cluster, nor Parish, nor Pastor finds it so weighing for weekend worship and celebrations and after discussing with the Worship and Spirituality Commissions, and Pastoral Councils of both parishes of our cluster, Mass times are being harmonized as follows:

This Summer of 2025.

- St. Martin's: Saturdays - 3:00pm Confessions, 4:00pm Mass
- St. Benedict's: Sundays - 8:30am
- St. Peter's: Sundays - 10:30am
- St. Martin's: Sundays - 12:30pm

Next Winter

St. Martin's: Saturdays - 3pm Confessions, 4pm Mass

- St. Peter's: Sundays - 8:30am
- St. Benedict's: Sundays - 10:30am
- St. Martin's: Sundays - 12:30pm

Next Summer

- St. Martin's: Saturdays - 3pm Confessions, 4pm Mass
- St. Benedict's: Sundays - 8:30am
- St. Peter's: Sundays - 10:30am
- St. Martin's: Sundays - 12:30pm

In this way, those who prepare both themselves and their children, those who cover long distances to drive for Mass, those who have to wait for the roads to be plowed, and salted and sanded, those who have to shovel their driveways and those who are uncomfortable driving to and from Mass when places are dark can fit in. I do greatly appreciate your understanding spirit and cooperation willingness.

Your Servant and Pastor, Fr. Sefembiy Justin