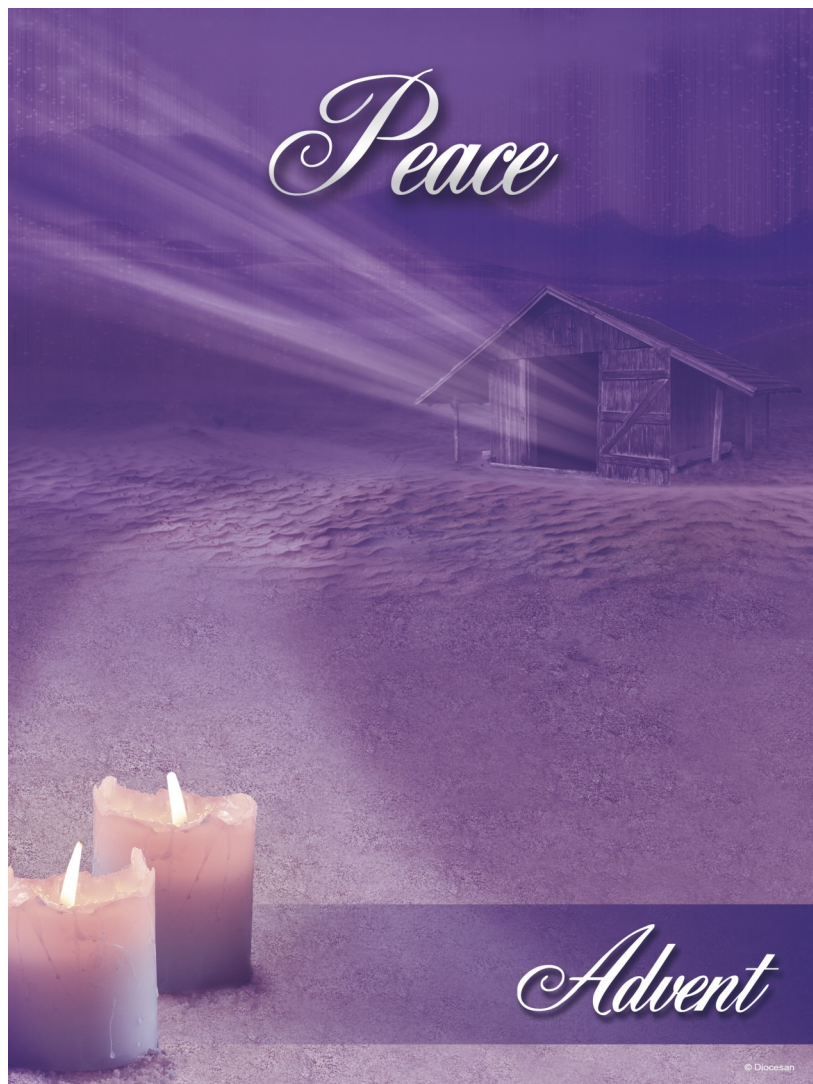


Saint Benedict Church

100 Main Street • Carrolltown, PA • 15722 • www.saintbenedictschurch.com



Parish Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
and Friday:
9 am to 12 pm and 1 pm to 4 pm
Office closed on Thursday

Parish Office344-6548
Parish Fax344-8656
School Office344-6512
School Fax344-8530
Church Hall344-8770

Pastoral Staff

Father Jude W. Brady, O.S.B. *Pastor*
Father Alfred Patterson, O.S.B. 814-421-6607 *Hospital Ministry*
Lois Bridgman..... *Secretary*
Brother Michael J. Miller, O.S.B.
Deacon Jordan Hainsey.....*Deacon*
Suzanne M. Bills..... *Director of Religious Education and*
Christian Initiation
Jeannine M. Cymbor *Business Manager*
Denise N. Bailey..... *Choir Director and Organist*
Jim Mohler..... *Maintenance*
Jeffrey Maucieri..... *Principal*

Mission Statement

We, the members of Saint Benedict Parish, in union with our Pastoral staff, our Bishop, and our Holy Father, and together with the Church of Altoona-Johnstown, commit ourselves to the building up of the Kingdom of God in our personal lives, within our families, within our Faith Community, and in society as a whole. We join with one another in prayer and public worship, in the practice of gracious hospitality, and in works of charity and mutual support. Mindful of the Lord's care and loving concern for our common welfare, and with profound Faith and great hope, we strive to accomplish the tasks at hand and to meet the challenges of the future so that in all things God may be glorified.

The first parish in the United States established by the Benedictine Order

Second Sunday of



Sunday, December 8, Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Living and Deceased Members of the Holy Name Society
10:00 a.m. For our Parish Family
2:00 p.m. Anointing Mass

Monday, December 9, Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 a.m. +Charles Nagle

Tuesday, December 10, Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. Living and Deceased Members of the I.J. and M.E. Bearer Family

Wednesday, December 11, Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. +Walter Crossman (Anniversary)

Thursday, December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00 a.m. +Anthony and Viola DeSalvo

Friday, December 13, St. Lucy

8:15 a.m. +Charles R. and Alice Farabaugh

Saturday, December 14, St. John of the Cross

4:00 p.m. +Theodore and Stephanie Tucker

Sunday, December 15, Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Living and Deceased Members of the W. F. Bender and H.T. McNulty Families
10:00 a.m. For our Parish Family



Altar Servers



Eucharistic Ministers



Lectors

Monday, December 9, 8:00 a.m.

Miley Hoover R. Cunningham
Cameron Drahnak

C.L. Bills

Tuesday, December 10, 8:00 a.m.

Eli Cunningham J. Farabaugh
Sean Fisanick

M. Lieb

Wednesday, December 11, 8:00 a.m.

Emma Farabaugh R. Hoover
Lauren Behe

M.C. Hoover

Thursday, December 12, 8:00 a.m.

Macy Johnston C. Farabaugh
Ricky Kirsch

P. Kelly

Friday, December 13, 8:15 a.m.

Ella Lamb
Seth Hilyer
Sophia Hoover

Saturday, December 14, 4:00 p.m.

L. Behe	S. Gray	B.A. Bensor	J. Busch
L. Behe	S. Boyle	R. Witham	J. Stevens
S. Fisanick	P.J. Stevens		

Sunday, December 15, 8:00 a.m.

C. Drahnak	M. Drahnak	Br. Michael	M. Weiland
G. Yahner	K. Lallemand	J. Schall	J. Yahner
C. Weiland	T. Lallemand		

10:00 a.m.

M. Eckenrode	B. Fox	R. Boland	M. Farabaugh
I. Eckenrode	R. McGowan	F. Sutton	P. Kelly
B. Eckenrode	R. Springer		
	C. Farabaugh		

Advent Giving Tree



The Advent Giving Tree gift cards are to be returned to the tree **no later than Sunday, December 15**. Please attach the gift tag to the card. Many thanks for helping to brighten the Christmas holiday for those who are less fortunate. May God bless you for your thoughtfulness toward others. (Gift Cards are also available for purchase from the Scrip Table.)

Advent Reflections

2nd Sunday of Advent—LIGHT

The Light of Jesus dispels the darkness of sin and confusion. He said, "I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in darkness." (John 12:46) Saint Athanasius said that "True joy and genuine festival calls for a casting off of selfishness and everything that is not of God."



Prayer Partners for 2nd Graders

On December 4th, twenty-four second grade children of our Parish received God's grace as they celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time; and on Sunday, May 3rd, 2020, they will be nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ in the Eucharist for the first time. We invite our Parishioners to select a child as their "Prayer Partner" and offer a prayer for him or her every day, until their first Holy Communion. If you wish to participate, please select a child from the names in the main vestibule, write your name and address on the information card provided at the display, and leave the card in the basket for our records. Then offer a prayer for the child everyday until May 3rd. Thanks for your support.

Baptized in Christ



With joy we welcome into the Family of Saint Benedict Parish and the Family of God, Rosalie Kay Bigler, daughter of Brandon and Maggie. We extend our love and best wishes to Rosalie Kay and her parents.

Anointing Mass This Sunday

Many Catholics are uncomfortable with the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The old "Last Rites" name conveyed a fearful tone. The name change was intended to help us to see the healing nature of this Sacrament. We are urged to use it when in need of healing of both soul and body.

As the Church prepares to celebrate the Birth of our Lord, our Parish will offer an Anointing Mass in the Church this Sunday, at 2 p.m. If you, or someone you care about is sick, dealing with the problems that come with aging, facing surgery, or struggling with mental or emotional problems, please come and share with us the Lord's healing and strength. A reception will follow in the Church hall.

Help Needed

Help is needed in making pine garlands and wreaths to decorate the Church for Christmas. If you are interested in learning how and helping, please contact Jeannine Cymbor, 344-8033. Thank you.



The Immaculate Conception

Since December 8, 2019, is the Second Sunday of Advent, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is transferred to Monday, December 9, 2019. The obligation to attend Mass, however, does not transfer.



*This week the votive candle will
burn in front of the statue of
Saint Joseph the Carpenter
Birthday Remembrance For
Andy Farabaugh
From his sister Cecelia and brother Ted*

Pastor's Reflection

As we listen to the Voice of John the Baptist, we ask the Lord to give us the ears to hear His voice and the mouth to speak His Word, enabling us to evangelize our Catholic Faith to all in our lives.

Peace,

Father Jude



Families and the Gospel

December 8, Matthew 3:1-12 Like John the Baptist, every parent "prepares the way of the Lord" in the hearts of their children. Advent is a good time to ask: "Do I help or hinder my children to know Jesus?" (Used with permission from "A Family Perspective" by Bud Ozar)

Stewardship Reflections

People who want to live as Christian disciples and Christian stewards face serious obstacles in the United States and in other nations who have a dominant secular culture. This often contradicts religious convictions about the meaning of life. As Catholics, many of us also have been adversely influenced, but we know what it is to struggle against selfishness and greed.

May we recognize our dependence upon God and become as passionate about living our faith as John the Baptist in today's Gospel. Through Baptism we entered a covenant with God to place "our resources—our very selves—at God's service in and through the Church." (*Stewardship: A Disciple's Response*; USCCB, 1992) (Parish Life Office, 2019)

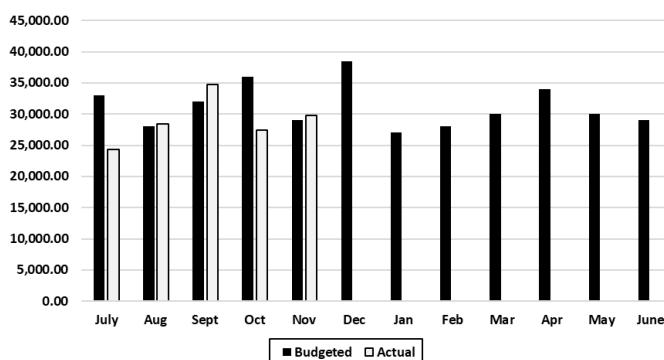
Happy Partners

Our spouse deserves a happy partner. When you are in a place of appreciation, you're not complaining or criticizing. You are a pleasure to be with!

The ripple effects are profound. Your husband or wife may be surprised at the new you who greets them at the door, but soon they will be in appreciation of you and a lack of stress.

Another word for stress is fear. Diminish the fear and you diminish stress. Diminish marital stress and you open space for play, joy, curiosity, tenderness, and more. All by simply adjusting your perspective to appreciate something, anything. (Used with permission from: Trudy Costa, Relationship Coach 972-240-5832, coach@trudycosta.com)

Budgeted Monthly Collections



*Flowers Adorning the Altar
this weekend
In Loving Memory of
The Reed Family
From Connie Reed*



Retirement Fund for Religious

Support Aging Religious. Many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for little or no pay. Today, religious communities often do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your gift helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. It also helps to ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Please be generous.

Catholic Ministries Drive

Thank you to all parishioners who have responded to the 2019 Catholic Ministries Drive. The Catholic Ministries Drive solely exists to provide funds to support 14 ministries that Nurture Our Youth, Form Clergy and Laity, and Care for the Poor/Strengthen Families. You can be assured that 100% of all CMD gifts are restricted to these ministries. **As of October 31, 2019**, 133 of our families have generously donated \$30,266.50 toward the Parish goal of \$38,128.00, leaving a balance of \$7,861.50. If you did not receive a pledge card in the mail, please use the envelopes available at the Church entrances.

Be a good shepherd: You can mail your gift to the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, 2713 W. Chestnut Ave., Altoona, PA 16601-1720; place in your parish offertory; or make online at www.dioceseaj.org.

Oplatky (Christmas Wafers)

"Oplatky" or Christmas wafers, are imprinted with a scene of the birth of Jesus. Everyone at the table then shares and eats the oplatky with honey. They remind the family of the unleavened bread of the Passover supper. Oplatky, a centuries old custom, is the word "oblatum" from the Latin "Holy Bread." This ritual is observed in many countries, and in many American homes. Oplatky will be available in the Parish Office. The cost is \$2 for a package of four wafers.

PENANCE SERVICES

Saint Bernard Church, Hastings

Sunday, December 15, 2 p.m.

Saint John Church, Summerhill

Monday, December 16, 7 p.m.

Queen of Peace Church, Patton

Tuesday, December 17, 7 p.m.

Saint Nicholas Church, Nicktown

Wednesday, December 18, 7 p.m.

Saint Benedict Church, Carrolltown

Thursday, December 19, 7 p.m.

Prince of Peace, Northern Cambria

Friday, December 20, 7 p.m.



Sponsor of the Week

We wish to thank **Bearer Appliance, (814) 344-8171** for sponsoring an ad in our bulletin. Please patronize our advertisers; as they make the bulletin possible.

If interested in advertising in the bulletin call Rick Cortez at 412-292-0132.



Prayer Chain

Prayer is an important part of our Catholic Faith. In an effort for our Parish Family to respond to the prayer requests of our members and friends, Parishioners have the opportunity to be part of a prayer chain. If you have a prayer request, please call the Parish Office at 344-6548. **Names will remain on the prayer chain unless we hear otherwise from the one who requested the prayer.** Our prayers have been requested for the following: Mary Lou Anderson, Denise Bailey, Judy Bender, James Campbell, Tim Caretti, David Ceschini, Jim Chirdon, Nixon Cicero, James Connors, Dave Contorchick, Joan Contorchick, John Contorchick, Millie Cunningham, Oliver Cunningham, Jim Eckenrode, Harry & Neta Elder, Clare Falconi, Connor Farabaugh, Barb Fasoli, Denise Fox, Gitta Gagne, Thom Gagne, Mae Gallagher, Beth Ann Gormish, Shaw Graffius, Shirl Gray, Constance Griak, Cory Hall, Irene Haycisak, Marci Hite, Jim Kline, Joanne Link, Charles Lutak, John Martella, Dick and Pauline Maurer, Mary Miller, Chucky Mitchell, Paula Mitchell, Theresa Moore, George Penrod, Betty Perry, Dulcie Perry, Jere Perry, Jacob, Olivia, & Amber Peterson, Connie Polisky, Kevin Polites, Maddox Raptosh, Michelle Romagna, Jim Ropp, Marcus SanGregorio, Lisa Schriff, Matthew Sclesky, Tim Semelsberger, Patricia Sever, Patti Sliko, Nick & Mercy Smith, Special Intentions (19), Ronald Stevens, Mary Jane Sutton, Richard Ulery, Esther Warner, Denny Weakland, Dean Weber, Dennis Weber, Sara Weber, Judy Westover, Edna Westrick, Pat Wojno, Cliff Wolf, and Brenda Yeckley.

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY

-SBS Scrip sold after all weekend Masses
-CCD Classes, School
-Anointing Mass, 2 p.m., followed by Social (9th grade CCD group project)

MONDAY

-Scrip sold 8-10 a.m., Church Hall

TUESDAY

-Scrip sold 8-10 a.m., Church Hall
-Eucharistic Adoration after Mass, Holy Hour 10:30 a.m.
-Bingo, early birds, 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

-Scrip sold 8-10 a.m., Church Hall
-SBS Christmas Concert, 6:30 p.m., Church

THURSDAY

-Scrip sold 8-10 a.m., Church Hall
-Card Party, 7 p.m., Church Hall

FRIDAY

-Children's Liturgy 8:15 a.m.
-Scrip sold 9-10 a.m., Church Hall
-Nut, Poppy Seed & Apricot Rolls and Tea Ring pick-up, 4-6 p.m., Church Hall

SATURDAY

-Confessions 2 p.m.

SUNDAY

-SBS Scrip sold after all weekend Masses
-CCD Classes, School
-Giving Tree Gift Cards Due
-Penance Service, 2 p.m., St. Bernard, Hastings

Giving and Receiving Life

The family table is a natural place to nurture life. Whether the meal consists of macaroni and cheese from a box or a thanksgiving feast, we are given the chance to restore our bodies with food. While we feed our bodies, we also feed the spirit of each member of the family as a whole. Sometimes the spirit is fed by the warmth that is shared over a simple bowl of soup. At other times the companionship of family around the table reassures us of our connections to each other and our fidelity to maintaining and sustaining those connections. Even if the meal is a fast food hamburger, if we gather in love we gather in the name of Jesus and are reminders to each other of the life we share in the Spirit. Catholic Spirit—The heart of the family Meal
Sr. Marilyn Welch, CCW

Church Support — November 24, 2019

Offertory	5786.00
Catholic Charities	1126.00
School Support	651.00
Church Improvements	105.00
Christmas Offering	105.00
Benedictine Appeal	50.00
Immaculate Conception	40.00
Christmas Flowers	32.00
Solemnity of Mary	30.00
St. Vincent de Paul	20.00
Maintenance Fund	12.00
Adopt A Student	10.00

Church Support — December 1, 2019

Offertory	7352.00
Church Improvements	1120.00
Christmas Offering	90.00
Christmas Flowers	60.00
Maintenance Fund	55.00
Benedictine Appeal	40.00
Immaculate Conception	38.00
Retirement for Religious	27.00
Solemnity of Mary	18.00
St. Vincent de Paul	15.00
Tree of Life	15.00
Adopt A Student	13.00
Catholic Charities	6.00
School Support	1.00

Bingo on Tuesday

Doors Open @ 5 p.m.; Kitchen opens @ 5:30 p.m.
Early Birds @ 6:30 p.m.; Regular Games to follow



- Admission \$15 — Includes 20 Regular Games
 - Kitty —\$149+ • Circle 7 – 27 numbers for \$180
 - Jackpot - Straight line only • Full Card – 52 numbers \$550
 - Instant tickets • All Nighter - \$0+
 - \$50 end of the month drawing (Must be present to win)
 - Refreshments (hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza, homemade goodies)
- The more that play — the more we pay. Extras are available.
Regular games starting at \$30 a game and up.

Card Party Thursday December 12



M/M Kevin Kirsch, M/M Richard & Debbie Kirsch, M/M Richard & Marian Kirsch, M/M Bob Kirsch, M/M Wayne Kirsch, Mr. Anthony A. Kline, M/M Anthony Kline, Mr. Dan Kline, M/M David H. Kline, Ms. Jade Kline, M/M James J. Kline, Ms. Dorothy Kline, M/M John Kline, Ms. Louise Kline

Salvation Army Kettle Drive

The Salvation Army has begun the Christmas Kettle Drive from now until Christmas Eve. This would be a great opportunity to donate some time to a very worthy cause. Jesus told us "whatever you do for the least of my brothers, you do to me." Any individual or group that would be interested in manning a kettle, please schedule by calling Ron Boland 247-8882 for Patton, Lois Davis 674-5978 for Hastings and Carrolltown, and Anne Marie Minemyer 948-8400 for Northern Cambria. Christmas is about giving— give and it will be given back to you. Thank you for giving your time to help others.