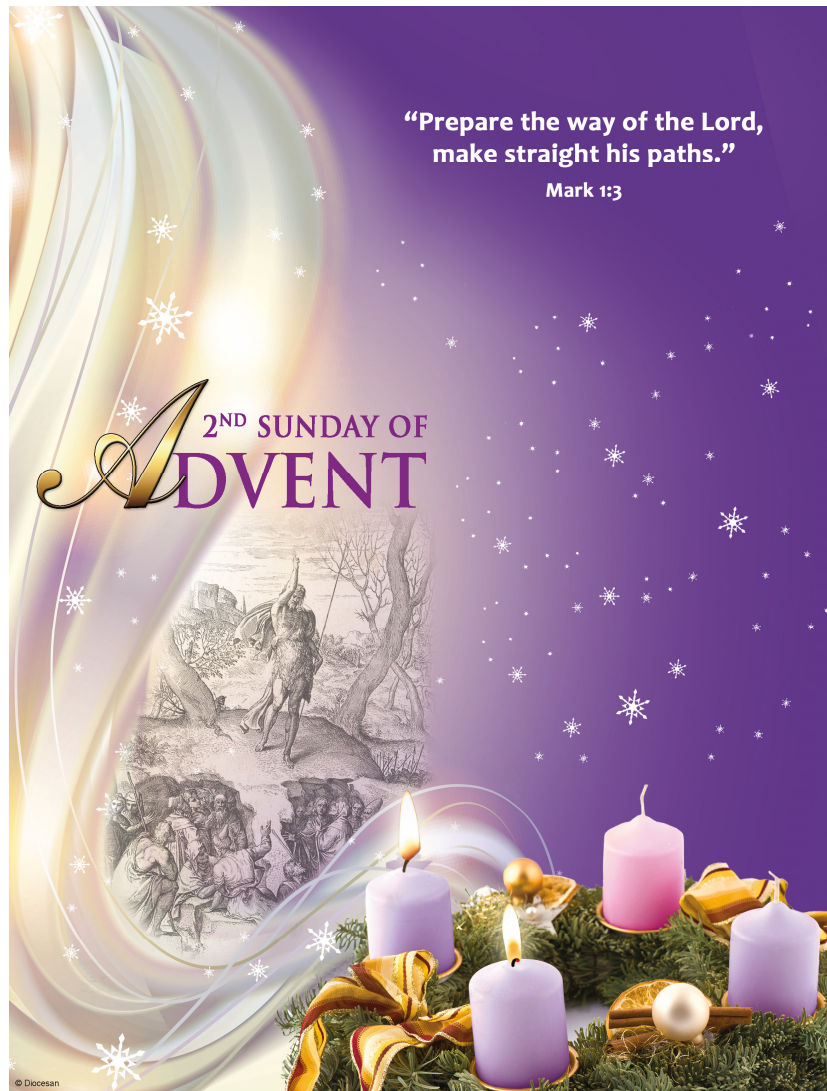


Saint Benedict Church

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 Office..... 344-6548
Parish Fax..... 344-8656
School Office..... 344-6512
School Fax 344-8530
Church Hall..... 344-8770

Pastoral Staff

Father Jude W. Brady, O.S.B...... *Pastor*
Lois Bridgman..... *Secretary*
Brother Michael J. Miller, O.S.B.
Deacon Benton M. Clift..... *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 10, 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
Monday, December 11, Advent Weekday	
8:00 a.m.	+ Tony Reed
Tuesday, December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe	
8:00 a.m.	+Patrick Herzog
Wednesday, December 13, St. Lucy	
8:00 a.m.	+Alva Gillette
Thursday, December 14, St. John of the Cross	
8:00 a.m.	+Josephine Kuzar
Friday, December 15, Advent Weekday	
8:15 a.m.	+Joyce Baum
Saturday, December 16, Advent Weekday	
4:00 p.m.	+Marian Bearer
Sunday, December 17, Third Sunday of Advent	
8:00 a.m.	Living and Deceased Members of the Raymond and Pearl Weber Family
10:00 a.m.	For our Parish Family



Please remember in your prayers the soul of Lou Bodek, father of our Parishioner Brian Bodek. May the angels lead you into paradise, may the martyrs come to welcome you, and take you to the holy city, the new and eternal Jerusalem.

Advent Giving Tree Reminder

The Advent Giving Tree gifts are to be returned to the tree **no later than Sunday, December 10**. Gifts are to be wrapped and labeled with the tag. Many thanks for helping to brighten the Christmas holiday for those who are less fortunate. May God bless you for your thoughtfulness toward others.



"Keep Christ in Christmas" Cards

The Father Peter Lemke Council of The Knights of Columbus will be selling beautiful "Keep Christ in Christmas" religious Christmas cards in the Narthex after all Masses during the Advent Season. Help promote the true meaning of Christmas and support our parish Knights in all the good work they do for the parish and community by purchasing your Christmas cards through the Knights.



Baptized in Christ

With joy we welcome into the Family of Saint Benedict Parish and the Family of God, Clara Alice, daughter of James & Melissa Kane. We extend our love and best wishes to Clara Alice and her parents.



Eucharistic Ministers



LECTORS

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

Marshall Farabaugh R. Cunningham
Seth Cunningham

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

Lauren Behe J. Farabaugh
Luke Behe

Wednesday, December 13, 8:00 a.m.

Leah Behe R. Hoover
Ricky Kirsch

Thursday, December 14, 8:00 a.m.

Logan Behe C. Farabaugh
Cameron Drahnak

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

Seth Hilyer
Sophia Hoover
Dustin Farabaugh

Saturday, December 16, 4:00 p.m.

R. Kirsch	F. Sutton	B.A. Bensor	J. Link
B.J. Farabaugh	B. Shockley	P. Kelly	J. Busch
D. Farabaugh	L. Stephens		
	R. Witham		

Sunday, December 17, 8:00 a.m.

G. Yahner	R. Cunningham	G. Yeckley	J. Yahner
C. Weiland	R. Yahner	B. Yahner	M. Ryan
N. Nihart	Br. Michael		

10:00 a.m.

I. Eckenrode	R. Boland	R. Bridgman	M. Farabaugh
M. Eckenrode	R. Hoover	D. Fox	M.C. Hoover
E. Hayes	B. Fox		
	C. Farabaugh		



Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy

S. Bills

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 the 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." The call to repentance is intended to purify us for the coming of the Lord.



Decorating the Church

Next Sunday, December 17, we will be decorating the Church with the Nativity scene, Christmas trees and evergreens in the window sills. Adults who are interested in assisting with this holiday endeavor are asked to meet in the Sanctuary at 11 a.m.



Christmas Flower Donations

Each Christmas many visitors and friends come to celebrate Mass and see the beautiful decorations at Saint Benedict's. This year will be no exception. To enhance the beauty of our Church, we are now accepting donations for the purchase of poinsettias. An envelope is in your collection packet for this purpose.





*This week the votive candle will burn
in front of the statue of
Saint Joseph the Carpenter
In Loving Memory of
Bill and Joyce Eckenrode
By Gordon and Betty Ann Farabaugh*

Pastor's Reflection

St. John the Baptist is calling all of us to repentance. The sacrament of reconciliation is a most beautiful way for us to open our hearts to the presence of the Lord. We should never be afraid to approach the priest, as he is the source of healing, coming directly to us from the divine presence of Christ the Lord.



Peace,
Father Jude

Families and the Gospel

Why is it so hard to forgive, yet so easy to get even? Listen to John the Baptist in today's gospel and repent of the anger and ugly feelings which block your ability to forgive. This Christmas give a gift which makes a difference. Give forgiveness.

Marriage Matters

Making Progress

To make progress on the journey to love you must make changes, don't wait for your spouse to change, and don't force change on your spouse. If you wonder where to start, begin where you know there is pain in the relationship. Change must begin with you. Are there painful situations in your relationship?

John Bosio—Happy Together: the Catholic Blueprint for a Loving Marriage, © 2008) (Quote 49 of 52)



Stewardship Reflections

It is through repentance that we acknowledge our sins. In their pastoral letter on stewardship, the U.S. bishops proclaim that "the Spirit of wisdom and courage helps people seek pardon and be mindful that in the face of all their forgetting, the most important work of their lives is to be Jesus' disciples." As we prepare to celebrate God's greatest gift to us in the birth of our Savior, have we reconciled our sins so as to continue along the path to eternal life?



Prayer Partners for 2nd Graders

On November 29th, thirty one second grade children of our Parish received God's grace as they celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time; and on Sunday, April 22 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 every day until April 22. Thanks for your support.

Parish Breakfast Next Sunday

We will have the Parish breakfast in the Church hall on Sunday, December 17, from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. The menu features eggs, bacon, sausage, ham, home fries, pancakes or toast, french toast, juice, and coffee. The cost is \$8 for adults; \$3 for children 6 to 12; children 5 years and under, free. Take-outs are available.



*Flowers Adorning the Altar
this weekend
In Thanksgiving for
Blessings Received
From Louise and Dan Kline*



PENANCE SERVICES

Saint Bernard Church, Hastings

Sunday, December 10, 2 p.m.

Prince of Peace Church, Northern Cambria

Monday, December 11, 7 p.m.

Queen of Peace Church, Patton

Tuesday, December 12, 7 p.m.

Saint Nicholas Church, Nicktown

Wednesday, December 13, 7 p.m.

Saint Benedict Church, Carrolltown

Thursday, December 14, 7 p.m.



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 four wafers.



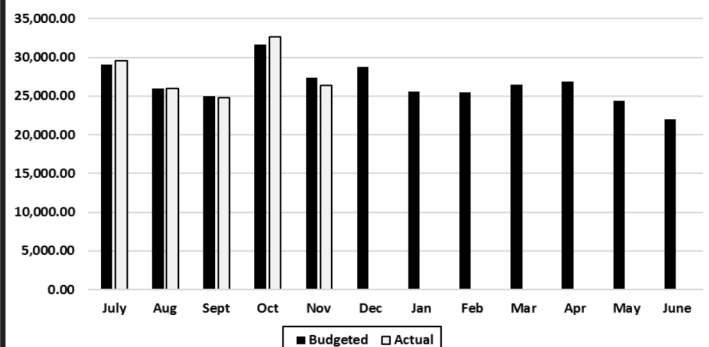
Altar Server Training

Children of our Parish who are in the 4th grade and up are invited to minister as Altar Servers. Servers function at Mass, Stations of the Cross and other Liturgies. Those who are interested in this ministry are invited to attend four training sessions which will be held in the Church from 9 to 10 a.m. on Saturdays, starting January 20, 27, February 3, and 10. The servers will be inducted at the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday, February 18.

Masses sent to St. Vincent

The following Masses were sent to the Archabbey to be satisfied at the conventual Masses of the Benedictine Monastic Community: Sylvia Sherry (1), Karen Kraynak (1), Patricia Cunningham (12), and Laura Zalitzock (24).

Budgeted Monthly Collections



Sponsor of the Week

We wish to thank **A&M Discount Beverages, 814-344-6581**, for sponsoring an ad in our bulletin. Please patronize our advertisers; as they make the bulletin possible.



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:

Denise Bailey, Ed Bearer, Elizabeth Bearer, Dorothy Bechel, Bernard Beck, Michael Behe, David Bender, Judy Bender, Betty Ann Bensor, Msgr. Harold Biller, Mary Bogus, James Campbell, David Ceschini, Joe and Mary Ciccotelli, Nixon Cicero, John Contorchik, Millie Cunningham, Thomas Deckard, Derrick Deyarmin, Clare Anne Dumm, Kevin Eckenrode, Rebecca Eckenrode, Neta Elder, Jimmy Ertter, III, Clare Falconi, Ed Farabaugh, Lynn Farabaugh, Barbara Fasoli, George Ferris, Sr., Brian Ford, Denise Fox, Gitta Gagne, Thom Gagne, Agnes Gailey, Betty Glass, Beth Ann Gormish, Shaw Graffius, Maurita Grimes, Charlotte Gwizdak, Kay Haggerty, Irene Haycisak, Barbara Henry, Clare Hoffman, Rane Horn, Betty Lou Huber, Brynlee Jacoby, Diane Jodon, Louise Julick, Bernadine Kelly, Betty Kelly, Jeff Kelly, Jim Kelly, Cynthia Kemper, Jimmy Kirsch, James J. Kline, Catherine Lieb, Ann Link, Charles Lutak, Bill Lutz, Mary Jo Malloy, Pauline Maurer, Thelma McNulty, Francis Mecurio, Cindy Miklos, Paula Mitchell, Kieran Moore, Theresa Moore, Ann Morealli, Virginia Morealli, Odessa Morris, Ricky Myers, Chuck Nagle, Karen Needham, Trevor Nihart, Helen Paige, Viola Panaro, Katie Pardon, Dulcie Perry, Jacob Peterson, Judith Peterson, Steve Price, Charlene Quist, Maddox Raptosh, Ken and Eva Rasmussen, Frances Reed, Michelle Romagna, John Roush, Marcus SanGregorio, Matthew Sclesky, Ryan Shafer, Lucas Shank, William Shank, Mark Sharbaugh, Deborah Smith, Gary Sowers, Special Intentions (34), Jodi Stevens, Ronald Stevens, Dorothy and Earl Strittmatter, Edward Venslosky, Denny Weakland, Dorothy Weaver, Dean Weber, Sara Weber, Carrie Westover, Jim Westrick, Joyce Westrick, Gabriel Weyandt, Emmitt Whited, Richard Whited, Janine Wilson, Carol (Owens) Woodward, Jackie Wright, Brenda Yeckley, and Theresa Yeckley.

Church Support — December 3, 2017

Offertory	7808.00
Church Improvements	842.00
Christmas	371.00
Christmas Flowers	180.00
Immaculate Conception	106.50
Solemnity of Mary	86.50
Retired Fund for Religious	58.00
Tree of Life	15.00
Benedictine Annual Appeal	10.00
Catholic Charities	7.00
School Support	6.00
All Souls' Day	5.00
All Saints' Day	5.00
Adopt-a-Student	3.00

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—\$0+
 - Circle 7 – 26 numbers for \$170
- Jackpot - Straight line only
 - Full Card – 50 numbers \$500
- Instant tickets
 - All Nighter - \$54+
- \$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.

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY

- Scrip sold after all weekend Masses
- Giving Tree gifts due
- CCD Classes: School Gr 7—11, 8:45 to 9:45 Gr K-6, 11 a.m. to Noon
- Penance Services:** St. Bernard Church, Hastings, 2 p.m.

MONDAY

- Scrip sold in Church hall 8 to 10 a.m.
- SBS Student Advent Penance Service 11:35 a.m.
- Penance Services:** Prince of Peace, Northern Cambria, 7 p.m.

TUESDAY

- Scrip sold in Church hall 8 to 10 a.m.
- Eucharistic Adoration after 8 a.m. Mass; Holy Hour, 10:30 a.m.
- Penance Services:** Queen of Peace, Patton, 7 p.m.
- Bingo, early birds, 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

- Scrip sold in Church hall 8 to 10 a.m.
- SBS Christmas Program, 6:30 p.m., Church
- Penance Services:** St. Nicholas, Nicktown, 7 p.m.

THURSDAY

- Scrip sold in Church hall 8 to 10 a.m.
- Penance Services:** St. Benedict Church, Carrolltown, 7 p.m.
- Card Party, 7 p.m., Church hall

FRIDAY

- Children's Liturgy 8:15 a.m.
- Scrip sold in Church hall 9 to 10 a.m.

SATURDAY

- Confessions, 2 p.m., Church

SUNDAY

- Parish Breakfast, Church hall, 8 a.m. to 12 noon
- Scrip sold after all weekend Masses
- CCD Classes: School Gr 7—11, 8:45 to 9:45 Gr K-6, 11 a.m. to Noon
- Assemble and decorate Nativity and Parish Christmas trees, 11 a.m.



Card Party Thursday December 14



Mrs. Mary Ann Burkhart, Mr. David Burskey, Mr. Frank Burskey, M/M Gerald Burskey, Mr. Gerald Burskey, Jr., Mr. Paul Bursky, Ms. Dorothy Busch, Mr. James M. Busch, M/M Herman Campbell, Mrs. Rosella Campbell, M/M William Campbell, M/M Joe D'Andrea, Ms. Christine Cantalope, Mr. Greg Cantalope, Mrs. Judith Cantalope, M/M Frank Carruba, M/M Jayson Carroll, Mr. Joseph Caretti, M/M Raymond Caretti, M/M Mike Cavallo, Mrs. Sharon Jones, M/M Christopher Ramsey



From other parishes and organizations...

Christmas Bake Sale Saturday, December 16, Queen of Peace Parish Center, upper level, Doors open at 9 a.m. No Pre-orders, come early for the best selection of cookie platters and trays, cinnamon rolls, sticky buns, fruit cake, pumpkin rolls, apricot, nut, poppy seed, prune, and raspberry rolls, panettone bread, yule logs, Old English plum pudding, cheese balls, cranberry walnut tarts, pecan tarts, St. Lucy Wreaths, and much, much, more.

What is "Best Advent Ever"? It's a free email program that will help you slow down and focus on what matters most during this busy season. You will experience Advent in a whole new way-leading to the best Christmas of your life! Sign up at <https://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever>.

Gabriel Project: The Holy Name Gabriel Project is a Pro-Life movement offering parish-based pastoral care to women in a crisis pregnancy. It is the goal of the Gabriel Project to help such women with all their practical needs, as well as offering them unconditional love in an apostolate of friendship throughout their pregnancy. For more information about the Gabriel Project, please call 814-472-5249 or 472-8814.