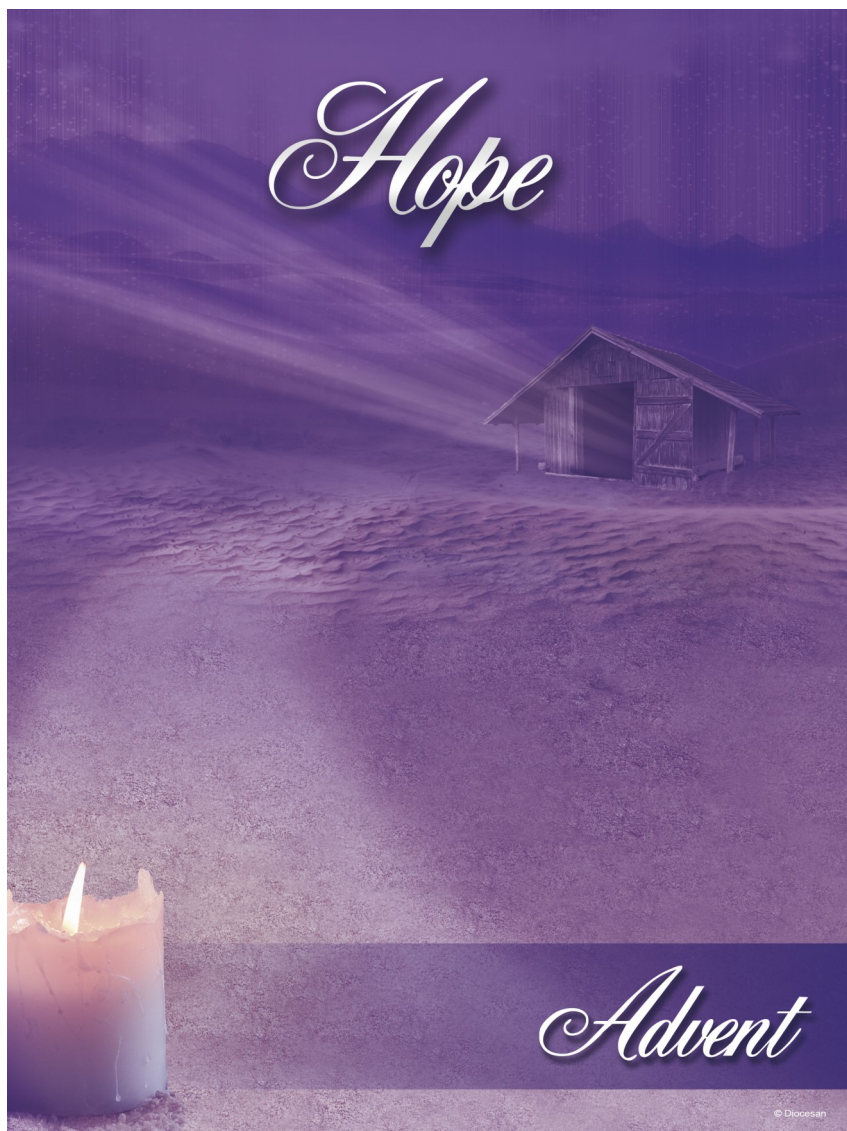


Saint Benedict Church

PO Box 447 • 100 Main Street • Carrolltown, PA • 15722 • www.saintbenedictschurch.com



Parish Office Hours:

Monday thru Thursday:
9 am to 12 pm and 1 pm to 4 pm
Office closed on Friday

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

Pastoral Staff

<i>Father Michael J. Gabler, O.S.B.</i>	<i>Pastor</i>
<i>Lois Bridgman</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>Brother Michael J. Miller, O.S.B.</i>	
<i>Annette Kelly</i>	<i>Director of Religious Education and Christian Initiation</i>
<i>Jeannine M. Cymbor</i>	<i>Business Manager</i>
<i>Adam Orosz</i>	<i>Maintenance</i>
<i>Jeffrey Maucieri</i>	<i>Principal</i>

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

First Sunday of



Altar Servers	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors
Monday, November 28, 8:00 a.m.		
		C.L. Bills
6:30 p.m.		
		B. Fox
Tuesday, November 29, 8:00 a.m.		
		M. Lieb
Wednesday, November 30, 8:00 a.m.		
		M.C. Hoover
Thursday, December 1, 8:15 a.m.		
Saint Benedict School		
Friday, December 2, 8:00 a.m.		
		M. Farabaugh
Saturday, December 3, 4:00 p.m.		
M. Farabaugh	J. Kline	S. Cronan
E.L. Farabaugh	S. Boyle	
Sunday, November 4, 8:00 a.m.		
E. Cunningham	Br. Michael	G. Yahner
S. Cunningham	C. Schall	
E. Cunningham		
10:00 a.m.		
R. Eckenrode	R. Boland	F. Sutton
M. Eckenrode	C. Farabaugh	
B. Eckenrode		

Sunday, November 27, First Sunday of Advent	
8:00 a.m.	Living and Deceased Members of the Thomas Busunis Family
10:00 a.m.	For our Parish Family
1:00 p.m.	Anointing Mass
Monday, November 28, Advent Weekday	
8:00 a.m.	+Una Cunningham
6:30 p.m.	+William Campbell
Tuesday, November 29, Advent Weekday	
8:00 a.m.	+Ivan Baum
Wednesday, November 30, St. Andrew	
8:00 a.m.	+Frank and Mary Grace Hipps
Thursday, December 1, Advent Weekday	
8:15 a.m.	Living and Deceased Members of the John F. Kelly Family
Friday, December 2, Advent Weekday	
8:00 a.m.	Sacred Heart League
Saturday, December 3, St. Francis Xavier	
4:00 p.m.	+Felix and Eleanor Cymbor
Sunday, December 4, Second Sunday of Advent	
8:00 a.m.	Living and Deceased Members of the Altar Rosary Society
10:00 a.m.	For our Parish Family

Advent Giving Tree



The Advent Giving Tree is set up near the Sanctuary. Parishioners are invited to purchase a gift or gift card for a nursing home resident, home bound parishioner, child, or family in need. Those who would like to participate are asked to: 1. Select a tag from the tree; 2. Purchase a gift or gift card, as noted on the tag; 3. Return the gift or gift card with the tag to the tree, to one of the collection boxes (for gift cards), or to the parish office by **Sunday, December 11.**

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 1 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.

Confessions During Advent

Fr. Michael will hear Confessions on Monday evenings after the 6:30 p.m. Mass during the Lenten Season.

Tower Project



Our first Tower Project fundraiser is through the **#iGiveCatholic** campaign on Giving Tuesday, November 29th. To donate online, go to [aj.iGiveCatholic.org](https://www.givecatholic.org) and search for Saint Benedict Catholic Church, Carrolltown. Donation envelopes are also available at the entrances to the Church, and may be placed in one of the collection boxes or dropped off at the parish office.

Advent Reflections

The four weeks of Advent prepare us to celebrate the mystery of the Incarnation; God became human to bring us out of the darkness into His eternal light. During Advent, liturgy stresses not only penance, but also hope, light, joy, and surrender.

1st Sunday of Advent—HOPE

Jesus is our hope. Hope believes that the best is yet to come. "Christ is in you, the hope of glory. It is He whom we proclaim." (Colossians 1:27-28) As Saint Clement of Alexandria wrote, "If you do not hope, you will not find what is beyond your hopes."



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 available in your collection packet.





*This week the votive candle will
burn in front of the statue of
Saint Joseph the Carpenter
In Loving Memory of
Richard Kirsch
From his Wife and Children*

Pastor's Reflection

The season of Advent is all about preparing for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. But Jesus is among us at every Mass in the Eucharist. Proper preparation is required for the Eucharist as well.



Peace,

Father Michael

Families and the Gospel

November 27, 2022: First Sunday of Advent (Mt 24:37-44)

In today's gospel Jesus advises: "Stay awake, watch out, and pray for the strength to hold your ground" when "fearful and bewildering signs" appear threatening your family. Resist being "fearful;" fear cripples! Instead "pray for the strength" to be courageous. ("A Family Perspective" by Bud Ozar)

Stewardship Reflections

Advent is a beautiful season meant for preparing for the celebration of our Savior's birth and the anticipation of His second coming. How can we as Christian stewards get ready for a holy celebration of Jesus' birth on December 25 and for His certain second coming at a date we do not know? We can push back against the world's pressure and scale back on the material kind of gift-giving, the complicated menus, the unessential trappings of the season so that we have more time for the spiritual preparations of the "perfect" Christmas: Confession, weekday Mass, adoration, family prayer time, lighting the Advent wreath, performing acts of kindness.

The intentional and wise use of the gifts of time, talent and treasure is what the Christian steward is called to do, and with even greater intensity during Advent. Stay awake and go climb the Lord's mountain as the prophet Isaiah proclaimed! (*Stewardship Reflection, Catholic Stewardship Consultants, Inc. 2022/10/25*)

Nut, Poppy Seed, & Apricot Rolls and Tea Rings for Christmas

In preparation for the holidays, the Altar Rosary Society will be making delicious **Nut, Poppy Seed & Apricot Rolls and Tea Rings. The cost is \$10 each. Last day to order is on Sunday, November 27. The rolls can be picked-up in the Church Hall on Friday, December 9, from 4 to 6 p.m.**

Name _____

Phone _____

Nut _____; Poppy Seed _____; Apricot _____; Tea Rings _____

Total Cost _____

*Flowers Adorning the Altar
this weekend
In Loving Memory of
Richard Kirsch
From his Wife and Children*



Eucharistic Adoration

Following the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Tuesdays the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed, followed by Holy Hour, continuing with silent Adoration until Benediction at 3:55 p.m. All are invited to spend one hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament.

"Jesus wants us all to come to Him in the Blessed Sacrament. He is there in person, just waiting for you. Nowhere on earth are you more loved, than by Jesus living and truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. The time you spend with the Blessed Sacrament is the best time you will spend on earth. Each moment you spend with Jesus will deepen your union with Him and make your soul everlasting more glorious and beautiful in heaven and will help bring about everlasting peace on earth." (Saint Mother Teresa)

Spiritual Revision of Life

According to the text by Fr. Lawrence Lovasik, S.V.D. from his book on Kindness: Kind Deeds - "Have I demanded acknowledgement or praise for the acts of charity I do?"

From other parishes and organizations...

An Advent Recollection: The Sisters of Saint Ann announce An Advent Recollection, Saturday, December 3 at St. Ann Retreat Center, 1120 N. Center St., Ebensburg, at 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Spiritual Director, Rev. Mark Pattock, OFM cap. Donation - \$40 (including Lunch) For more information and reservation, call: Sisters of St. Ann, 814-472-9354. All are welcome.

Toy Drive: Northern Cambria Hope Fire Company Toy Drive with Santa at Lacue Chevrolet Buick, 1003 4th Ave, Patton. Saturday December 3rd; Open House from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Photos with Santa from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Free Santa photo with every donation.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry: Thank you for your generous support in donations of food, money, time and prayers to the St. Vincent de Paul St. Bernard Food Pantry. From October 2021 to October 2022, 74 volunteers gave 10,120 hours serving 990 seniors, 2040 Temporary Emergency Food Assistance families, 20,562 Produce/mass food giveaway to families; for a total of 22,592 families getting 1,169,600 lbs. of food. If you wish to continue to support our efforts you can do so through your church, scouts or directly by mailing donations to: PO Box 452, Hastings, PA 16646. Again, thank you.

Sponsor of the Week

We wish to thank **Double D's Repair, 814-421-6156**, 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 Tony Melchiorre at 717-421-3242.



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. Names will be updated annually in January.** Our prayers have been requested for the following: Shawn Baker, Vickie Baran, Michelle Burnette, Joe Caretti, Evan Cicero, Jack Dominick, Mary Dumm, Maddox Eckenrode, Neta and Harry Elder, Clare Falconi, Connor Farabaugh, Nathan G. Farabaugh, Vera Farabaugh, Barbara Fasoli, Clara Fitzpatrick, Jan Franceschini, Bill Frederick, Anne Gray, Anthony Gwizdak, Rodney Harbrige, Eva Hart, Irene Haycisak, Brian Holtz, Tom Hoover, Chuck Horn, Doug Kieffer, Patty Kirsch, Scott Kirsch, Ava Koehle, Mike Kovall, McKenzie Kuzio, Cindy Ladika, Bob Lapenna, Charlotte Lechene, Theresa Leonard, Judi Lesko, Charles Lutak, Barb Mitchell, Michael Mondj, Odessa Morris, Will Mortensen, Norman Polites, Pauline A. Polites, Maddox Raptosh, Dennis Richter, Andy Ropp, Jim Ropp, Mike & Michelle Rosmus, Lindsey Sammarco, Becky SanGregorio, Marcus SanGregorio, Betty Ann Sclesky, Lucy Shank, Special Intentions (12), Renee Smith, Jackie Stevens, Patrick J. Stevens, Sandy Stevens, Aniyah Theys, Benedicta Veneskey, Reagan Walker, Esther Warner, Sara Weber, Jeffrey Wheeler, and Theresa Yeckley.

Bingo on Tuesday

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

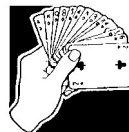


- Admissions \$16 (18 cards) • \$13 (12 Cards)
- Kitty — \$?+ • Full Card — ? numbers \$?
- Jackpot - Straight line only • All Nighter - \$?+
- Instant tickets
- \$50 end of the month drawing (Must be present to win)
- Refreshments (hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza, homemade goodies)

The more that play — the more we pay. Extras are available.
Regular games starting at \$30 a game and up.

CARD PARTY

Thursday December 1
ALL VOLUNTEER



If you would like to help with the lunch or donate a small gift, please call Pat Kelly at 814-948-7656

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY

- Masses: 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
- Scrip sold after all weekend Masses
- Anointing Mass 1 p.m., followed by a reception in the Church Hall
- Nut, Poppy Seed, Apricot Rolls and Tea Ring orders due

MONDAY

- SBS - No School
- Confessions after the 6:30 p.m. Mass

TUESDAY

- Scrip sold 8 - 10 a.m., Church Hall
- Holy Hour after Mass; followed by Adoration; Benediction at 3:55 p.m.
- Bingo, Early Birds, 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

- Scrip sold 8 - 10 a.m., Church Hall
- 2nd Grade First Penance 6:30 p.m., Church

THURSDAY

- Children's Liturgy 8:15 a.m.
- Scrip sold 9-10 a.m., Church Hall
- Card Party 7 p.m., Church Hall

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

- Confessions 2 p.m., Church
- Mass 4 p.m.

SUNDAY

- Masses: 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
- Scrip sold after all weekend Masses
- CCD Classes, School
- RCIA Meeting 7:30 p.m. Boniface Wimmer Room

This week is The First Sunday of Advent, beginning a new Church year, and a "new" Gospel is opened for our reflection during the coming year. The Catholic liturgy provides a three-year cycle of reading for the major feasts and seasons of the year.

The Sunday Gospels are generally taken from Matthew during year A, from Mark during year B, and from Luke during year C. Portions of the Gospel of John are read each year (especially during year B, because Mark's gospel is so short). In our daily prayer we should try to follow the Sunday readings as well as the spirit of the changing seasons.



One of the strongest symbols of Advent is an evergreen wreath holding four candles. The circular wreath is a sign of God's loving care, which has no ending. The evergreen branches suggest the faithfulness of God, which is always alive and fresh.

During the first week of Advent, a single candle is lighted during daily prayers. Two candles are lighted during the second week, then three, and finally four. In this way the light gradually increases as we move toward the coming of Jesus, the Light of the world.

According to tradition, three candles are purple, while the candle for the third Sunday is a bright rose color. It is meant to lift our spirits, just as the liturgy for that day tells us to rejoice (*gaudete* in Latin!)

The wreath should be somewhat large and placed in a prominent place. It can be decorated with ribbons or symbols, but it should retain its simplicity and beauty. It might even be hung by wide ribbons from the ceiling, calling to mind a royal crown, or a victory wreath, or even the wheel of time.

The use of candles during the darkest and coldest days of the year is an ancient custom adopted in the sixth century by European Christians. The Jewish people have a similar tradition. Even as we light candles on our Advent wreath, they will be lighting the candles on their menorahs in celebration of Hanukkah, the festival of lights.