



# MASS SCHEDULE

**Sunday, December 13, Third 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 14, Saint John of the Cross**

8:00 a.m. +Patty Maher

**Tuesday, December 15, Advent Weekday**

8:00 a.m. +Living and deceased members of the E. Paul Hoover Family (Eucharistic Adoration after Mass)  
10:30 a.m. Holy Hour

**Wednesday, December 16, Advent Weekday**

8:00 a.m. Special Intention

**Thursday, December 17, Advent Weekday**

8:00 a.m. +Clair and Regina Bearer

**Friday, December 18, Advent Weekday**

8:15 a.m. +Merle Kirsch, anniversary

**Saturday, December 19, Advent Weekday**

4:00 p.m. +Michael and Edith Mohler

**Sunday, December 20, Fourth Sunday of Advent**

8:00 a.m. +Leo and Rita Glass  
10:00 a.m. For our Parish Family

## Families and the Gospel

When the crowds in today's gospel asked, "What shall we do?" The Baptist was very clear: SHARE. Resist giving token obligatory Christmas gifts. Instead give necessities to the poor. If those who have nothing or very little are not on your Christmas list, you missed the point of Christmas.

## Advent Giving Tree Reminder

The Advent Giving Tree gifts are to be returned to the tree no later than this Sunday, December 13. 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.

## 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.



## Our Deepest Sympathy

Please remember in your prayers the soul of Thomas Koziicki, brother of our Parishioner Virginia Price. 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.

## Liturgical Ministers

### Altar Servers

**Monday, December 14**

8:00 a.m. Erin Behe Emily Behe

**Tuesday, December 15**

8:00 a.m. Brianna Kirsch Joslynn Kirsch

**Wednesday, December 16**

8:00 a.m. Gabe Yahner Ethan Cunningham

**Thursday, December 17**

8:00 a.m. Carly Lamb Luke Lamb

**Friday, December 18**

8:15 a.m. Dustin Farabaugh Adam Link Danielle Himmel

**Saturday, December 19**

4:00 p.m. A. Lallemand E. Behe E. Behe

**Sunday, December 20**

8:00 a.m. M. J. Farabaugh B. T. Farabaugh M. Farabaugh  
10:00 a.m. L. Lamb N. Lamb C. Lamb

### Eucharistic Ministers

**Daily 8:00 a.m.**

Monday, December 14 J. Farabaugh  
Tuesday, December 15 P. Cunningham  
Wednesday, December 16 R. Hoover  
Thursday, December 17 C. Farabaugh

**Saturday, December 19**

4:00 p.m. P. J. Stevens P. Kelly N. Minalow B. A. Bensor L. Stephens J. Kline

**Sunday, December 20**

8:00 a.m. E. Stoltz J. Farabaugh Br. Michael K. Colberg M. Farabaugh  
10:00 a.m. C. Farabaugh R. Springer F. Veneskey R. Boland D. Fox R. Bridgman

### Children's Liturgy of the Word Leaders

**Sunday, December 20**

10:00 a.m. A. Wholaver

### Lectors

**Saturday, December 19**

4:00 p.m. J. Stevens N. Behe

**Sunday, December 20**

8:00 a.m. E. Shoemaker S. Gregory  
10:00 a.m. M. Farabaugh F. Sutton

## Scrip Tip

Saint Benedict School Scrip makes the perfect gift. Saint Benedict School Scrip is available in \$10, \$25, and \$50 denominations, and can be redeemed at the Scrip Table for your choice of any retailer on our scrip form. Scrip is sold at every weekend Mass in the Annex, and scrip is sold every School day Monday through Thursday, 8 to 10 a.m., and on Friday, 9 to 10 a.m., in the Church hall.



Flowers Adorning the Altar this weekend:  
Christmas Blessings For All the Parish

This week the votive candle will burn in front of the statue of Saint Joseph the Carpenter:  
In Loving Memory of Raymond Behe  
by Linda Holler and Family



### Pastor's Reflection

Saint John the Baptist shows us that humility is a most important virtue. Humility is the virtue of truthfulness and calls us to a life of honesty and integrity. We are to own our giftedness but we also must own our vulnerability and sin. It is only in this way that the Lord can heal us and open our hearts to receive Him at Christmas.

Blessings,  
Father Jude

### PENANCE SERVICES



**Saint Bernard Church, Hastings**  
Sunday, December 13, 2 p.m.

**Prince of Peace Church, Northern Cambria**  
Monday, December 14, 5 p.m.

**Queen of Peace Church, Patton**  
Tuesday, December 15, 7 p.m.

**Saint Nicholas Church, Nicktown**  
Wednesday, December 16, 7 p.m.

**Saint Benedict Church, Carrolltown**  
Thursday, December 17, 7 p.m.

### Rejoice, the Lord Is Near

**"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit." (1 Thessalonians 5:17-19).**

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent, called *Gaudete* Sunday, the Sunday of joy. In the liturgy the invitation rings out several times to rejoice, why? Because the Lord is near. Christmas is near. The Christian message is called the gospel (good news), an announcement of joy for all people. The Church is not a haven for sad people but a joyful home! And those who are sad find joy in her, true joy!

The joy of the gospel consists in knowing one is welcomed and loved by God, who comes to save us and who seeks to help, especially those who are fearful of heart. His coming among us strengthens us, makes us steadfast, gives us courage and, when our lives become arid, makes the desert and the steppe rejoice and blossom.

However great our limitations and dismay, we are not allowed to be sluggish and vacillating when faced with difficulty and our own weakness. On the contrary, we are invited to strengthen our weak hands, to make firm our feeble knees, to be strong and to fear not, because our God always shows us the greatness of His mercy. God gives us the strength to go forward. God is always with us in order to help us go forward. God loves us so very much. That is why God is with us to help us, to strengthen us, to help us go forward. Courage! Always forward! - *Our Advent Journey with Christ: In the words of Pope Francis*

### 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 16, 23, 30, and February 6. The Servers will be installed at the 10 a.m. Mass on Sunday, February 14.

### Erecting the Christmas Trees & Tree Trimming

Next Sunday, December 20, we will be erecting and placing lights on our Parish's indoor Christmas trees, setting-up the Nativity scene and placing evergreens on the window sills. Adults who are interested in assisting with this holiday endeavor are asked to meet in the sanctuary at 12 noon.



### Liturgical Reflection

In today's Gospel of Luke, John the Baptist gives clear advice on ways to show mercy. To the crowds John says, "Share your clothes and your food." To the tax collectors, he advises, "Care for those people." And to the Roman soldiers, he warns, "Be fair. Don't abuse your power." Good advice to us. When people share with each other; when they care that all are justly treated; and when they see that all have what is necessary to live a life with dignity, then God's mercy is made evident.

### Vocations Thoughts

We pray that the lure of material things might not prevent our young people from embracing the spiritual life taught by Christ.

### Birthday Rememberance

Father Noel Rothrauff, O.S.B. former Pastor here at Saint Benedict's, and currently retired at Saint Vincent Archabbey, will be celebrating his 90th Birthday on December 31st. If interested in sending him a Birthday Card, his address is: Father Noel Rothrauff, O.S.B., Saint Vincent Archabbey, 300 Fraser Purchase Road, Latrobe, PA 15650.

### "May We Always Have ...

Enough happiness to keep us sweet; Enough sorrow to keep us human; Enough faith to give us courage; Enough wealth to meet our needs; Enough trials to keep us strong; Enough failure to keep us humble; Enough friends to give us comfort; Enough determination to make each day a good day." — *Apple Seeds*



## 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:

Dan Anna, Jr., Carol Ann Bean, Don Bearer, Sally Bearer, Daniel Bechel, Bernard Beck, Betty Ann Bender, Diane Bender, Martha Bender, Mary L. Bender, Betty Ann Bensor, Nancy Bensor, Msgr. Harold Biller, Mary Bogus, James Campbell, Jaclyn (Weakland) Cannon, Steve Cedor, Nixon Cicero, Joe and Mary Ciccotelli, John Contorchick, Millie Cunningham, Virginia Cunningham, Holly Ertter, Jimmy Ertter, III, Clare Falconi, Herbert Farabaugh, Lynn Farabaugh, Barbara Fasoli, Stacy Foister, Sage Foister, Barry Fox, Agnes Gailey, Betty Glass, Walter Gomolko, Gerald Gordon, Beth Ann Gormish, Shaw Graffius, Charlotte Gwizdak, Irene Haycisak, Barbara Henry, Clare Hoffman, David Horn, Dawn Renee Horn, Brynlee Jacoby, Gabriel Jarvie, Louise Julick, Jeff Kelly, Cynthia Kemper, Janice Kirsch, Bill Lutz, Jacqueline Kirsch, James J. Kline, Josephine Kuzar, Ann Link, Mary Jo Malloy, Tim Malloy, Evelyn Marks, Simon Meese, Paula Mitchell, Kieran Moore, Theresa Moore, Ricky Myers, Karen Needham, Trevor Nihart, Jim Owens, Gladys Palka, Viola Panaro, Judith Patterson, Jacob Peterson, Dorothy Plouse, Patrick Polites, Steve Price, Wayne Quist, Frances Reed, Maddox Raptosh, Marcus SanGregorio, Ryan Shaffer, Leo Shank, Lucas Shank, William Shank, Mark Sharbaugh, Velma Sharbaugh, Special Intentions, (22), Jodi Stevens, Ronald Stevens, Father Andre Strittmatter, Bud Vescovi, Dean Weber, Dorothy Weaver, Denny Weakland, Carrie Westover, Richard Whited, Jackie Wright, Theresa Yeckley, and Laura Zalznock.

## Church Support — December 6, 2015

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Offertory                              | 7,446.30 |
| Church Improvements                    | 1,823.00 |
| Christmas                              | 237.00   |
| Christmas Flowers                      | 122.00   |
| Solemnity of Mary                      | 113.00   |
| Immaculate Conception                  | 74.00    |
| Diocesan Retirement Fund for Religious | 47.00    |
| Adopt-A-Student                        | 23.00    |
| Tree-of-Life                           | 15.00    |
| 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 is \$147+
  - Jackpot - Straight line only
  - All Nighter #1 — \$133+
  - \$50 end of the month drawing (Must be present to win)
  - Refreshments (hamburgers, hot dogs, pizza, homemade goodies)
  - Circle 7-26 numbers for \$170
  - Full Card -55 numbers for \$600
  - Instant tickets
- The more that play — the more we pay. Extras are available.  
Regular games starting at \$30 a game and up.

## This Week In Our Parish

### SUNDAY

CCD classes, grades 7 thru 11, 8:45 to 9:45 a.m.; grades K-6, 11 to 12 noon, School.

Holy Name Society Mass, 8 a.m., Church.

**Penance Service, St. Bernards, Hastings, 2 p.m.**

**Return Advent Giving Tree gifts by today, Sunday, December 13.**

### MONDAY

Scrip sold 8 to 10 a.m., Church hall.

**Penance Service, Prince of Peace, Northern Cambria, 5 p.m.**

### TUESDAY

Scrip sold in the Church hall from 8 to 10 a.m.

Eucharistic Adoration after 8 a.m. Mass until mid afternoon.

Holy Hour, 10:30 a.m., Church.

Confessions, St. Benedict School, 11:30 a.m.

Bingo, early birds, 6:30 p.m., regular games to follow, Church hall.

**Penance Service, Queen of Peace, Patton, 7 p.m.**

### WEDNESDAY

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

**Penance Service, St. Nicholas, Nicktown, 7 p.m.**

### THURSDAY

Scrip sold 8 to 10 a.m., Church hall.

St. Benedict School Faculty meeting, 2:45 p.m.

**Penance Service, St. Benedict, Carrolltown, 7 p.m.**

Card party, 7 p.m., Church hall.

### FRIDAY

Scrip sold 9 to 10 a.m., Church hall.

Children's Liturgy, 8:15 a.m.

### SATURDAY

Confessions, 2 p.m., Church.

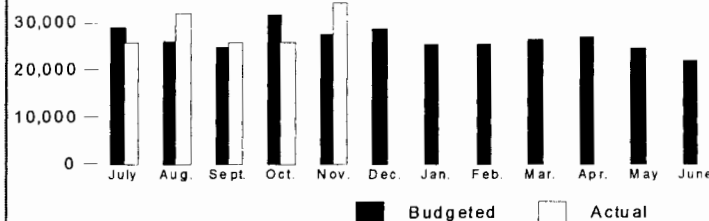
### SUNDAY

No CCD classes.

Parish Breakfast, 8 a.m. to 12 Noon.

Assemble and decorate Parish Christmas trees & Nativity, 12 Noon.

## Budgeted Monthly Collections



## Card Party for December 17

M/M Thomas E. Owens, Mrs. Shirley Pagano, M/M Steve Pagano, M/M James Panaro, Mr. Gerald Papson, M/M Don Paronish, M/M Martin Parrish, Mrs. Venessa Peadick, Ms. Cynthia Pecenak, Mrs. Dorothy Penrod, M/M John Peters, M/M Jack Petre, Ms. Fran Phillips, Mr. Kevin Phillips, Mrs. Mary Ann Phillips, Mrs. Robert Plouse, M/M Anthony Polisky, M/M Lonnie Polites, M/M Richard Prevost, and Mrs. Theresa Fortner.

**“Keep Christ in Christmas” Religious Christmas Cards**— The Father Peter Lemke Council of the Knights of Columbus, will be selling beautiful Christmas cards in the Narthex after all Masses this weekend and every weekend 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 thru the Knights.

### Sponsor of the Week

We wish to thank **LAUREL INSURANCE MANAGEMENT** for sponsoring an ad in our bulletin. Please patronize our advertisers; they make our bulletin possible.