

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.
Brother Conrad Wald, O.S.B. *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



Mass Schedule

Sunday, December 9, 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 10, Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. +James Bogus

Tuesday, December 11, Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. +Patrick Hertzog

Wednesday, December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00 a.m. +Living and Deceased Members of the Vincent Sikora Family

Thursday, December 13, St. Lucy

8:00 a.m. +Bill and Mildred Buck

Friday, December 14, St. John of the Cross

8:15 a.m. +Francis Veneskey

Saturday, December 15, Advent Weekday

4:00 p.m. +Fred and Betty Miller

Sunday, December 16, Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. +William and Louise Fox
10:00 a.m. For our Parish Family



Altar Servers



Eucharistic Ministers



LECTORS

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

Garrett Farabaugh J. Farabaugh
Marshall Farabaugh

C.L. Bills

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

Eli Cunningham J. Farabaugh
Lauren Behe

M. Lieb

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

Sean Fisanick R. Hoover
Dustin Farabaugh

M.C. Hoover

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

Miley Hoover C. Farabaugh
Ricky Kirsch

M. Ryan

Friday, December 14, 8:15 a.m.

Sophia Hoover
Seth Cunningham
Seth Hilyer

Saturday, December 15, 4:00 p.m.

L. Lamb S. Boyle B. Shockley
C. Lamb S. Gray P.J. Stevens
N. Lamb B.A. Bensor

C.L. Bills
J. Busch

Sunday, December 16, 8:00 a.m.

H. Farabaugh J. Schall B. Yahner
E. Farabaugh M.N. Schall R. Yahner
O. Farabaugh K. Schall

Br. Michael
J. Yahner

10:00 a.m.

M. Wholaver B. Fox C. Farabaugh F. Sutton
A. Link R. Springer R. McGowan M.C. Hoover
L. Wholaver L. Bridgman R. Hoover



Children's Liturgy Sue Bills

Advent Giving Tree Reminder



The Advent Giving Tree gifts are to be returned to the tree **no later than Sunday, December 16**. 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.



Prayer Partners for 2nd Graders



On December 5th, eighteen 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 5th, 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 5th. Thanks for your support.

Baptized in Christ

With joy we welcome into the Family of Saint Benedict Parish and the Family of God, Mara Marie Gwizdak, daughter of Michael and Nadine. We extend our love and best wishes to Mara Marie and her parents.



Decorating the Church

On Sunday, December 16, we will be decorating the Church with the Nativity scene, Christmas trees and evergreens in the window sills. Those who are interested in assisting with this holiday endeavor are asked to meet in the Sanctuary at 11 a.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 a package of four wafers.

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."



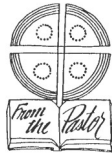


*This week the votive candle will burn
in front of the statue of
Saint Joseph the Carpenter
For the Living and Deceased Members
of the Vincent Sikora Family
By Michael Covel*

Pastor's Reflection

In today's gospel, John the Baptist is preaching the coming of our Savior. We pray that we listen to his words of wisdom always attempting to grow closer to Our Lord and Savior through a life of conversion.

Peace,
Father Jude



Families and the Gospel

Lk 3:1-6, Today's gospel shows John the Baptist and parents have similar vocations. Like the Baptist, parents are asked to make "rough ways smooth" and to "prepare the way of the Lord" for their families. This Advent ask: Does my life hinder or help my family to know Jesus?

Liturgical Reflection

Advent is a time of hopeful anticipation as we prepare to celebrate the remembrance of the Lord's first coming and, also, recalling his final coming in glory at the end of time. There are many preparations for Christmas that demand our time and attention. Make sure to fill your Advent days with prayerful preparation. Read scripture, pray the rosary with special attention to the Joyful Mysteries, spend time before the Blessed Sacrament. Advent is a time of hope and joy. 2018, Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Liturgy Office

Stewardship Reflections

Paul prays that all in the faith community increase their love and their knowledge to "discern what is of value" (Phil 1:10). We grow as stewards and disciples of Jesus Christ by making decisions daily that demonstrate just how much we value our faith. (Parish Life Office.)

Retirement Fund for Religious

Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests ministered for years for little or no pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate retirement savings. Your gift to this collection envelope helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. Please be generous.

Spiritual Resolutions

We work on our physical fitness but what about our spiritual fitness?

DECEMBER: Rest and be refreshed by reflections of the past year.

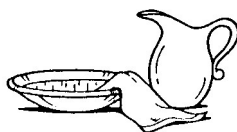
"Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree." (Gen. 18:4)

The end of an exercise routine usually involves refreshing our bodies with water and rest. Just as Abraham invited his heavenly guests to rest their bodies awhile, so, too, do we need to listen to

God's invitation to take a spiritual Sabbath and rest our spirits before we start on the next phase of our spiritual journey. Celebrate the birth of Christ this year as a renewal and refreshment for the human race. Let yourself be at peace. Shalom.

Excerpted and reprinted with permission from:

Catholic Parent, 200 Noll Plaza, Huntington, IN 46750



*Flowers Adorning the Altar
this weekend
For the Living and Deceased
Members of the Bill and Mildred
Buck Family*



PENANCE SERVICES

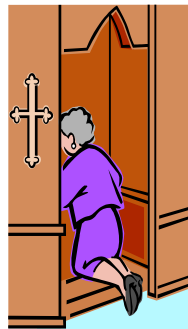
Saint Bernard Church, Hastings
Sunday, December 16, 2 p.m.

Saint John Church, Summerhill
Monday, December 17, 7 p.m.

Queen of Peace Church, Patton
Tuesday, December 18, 7 p.m.

Saint Nicholas Church, Nicktown
Wednesday, December 19, 7 p.m.

Saint Benedict Church, Carrolltown
Thursday, December 20, 7 p.m.



A Christmas Creed

I Believe that Christmas is more than a time for parties and ornaments; it is a time for remembering Christ and the incarnation of God's love in human flesh.

I Believe there are gifts more important than the ones under the Christmas tree; the things we teach our children, the way we share ourselves with friends, and the industry with which we set about reshaping the world in our time.

I Believe that the finest carols are often sung by the poorest voices; from hearts made warm by the wonder of the season.

I Believe in the angel's message that we should not be afraid—that the Child of Bethlehem is able to overcome all anxieties and insecurities.

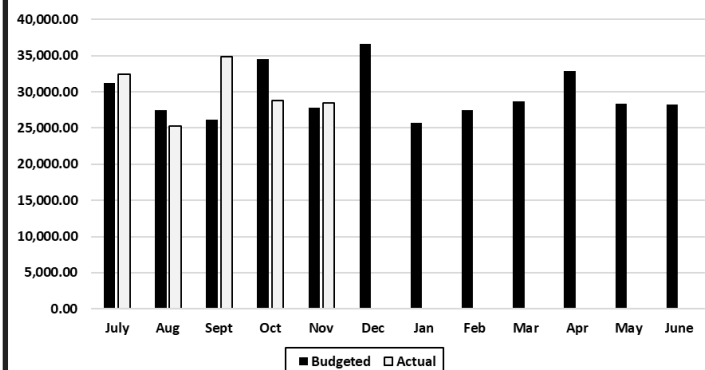
I Believe in prayer and quietness as a way of appropriating Christmas—that if I wait in silence I will experience the presence of the one born in the manger, for He lives today as surely as He lived then.

I Believe in going away from Christmas as the wise men went "another way." I want to be different when these days are past—more centered, more thoughtful, more caring.

Reprinted with permission from:

The Family Life Office, Altoona-Johnstown Diocese NEWSLETTER

Budgeted Monthly Collections



Sponsor of the Week

We wish to thank **RH Kelly & Son, (814) 247-6581**, 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:

Denise Bailey, Bernard Beck, Michael Behe, David Bender, Judy Bender, Betty Ann Bensor, Mary Bogus, Addison Brooks, James Campbell, Ken Caretti, Tim Caretti, David Ceschini, Joe and Mary Ciccotelli, Nixon Cicero, Amanda Cloud, John Contorchik, Joe Corio, Kelly Cunningham, Millie Cunningham, Clare Anne Dumm, Kevin Eckenrode, Rebecca Eckenrode, Neta Elder, Jimmy Ertter III, Clare Falconi, Ed Farabaugh, James Farabaugh, Lynn Farabaugh, Barbara Fasoli, Brian Ford, Denise Fox, Norma Jeanne Frederick, Patricia Freeman, Gitta Gagne, Thom Gagne, Agnes Gailey, May Kay Gallagher, Betty Glass, Beth Ann Gormish, Shaw Graffius, Charlotte Gwizdak, Kay Haggerty, Irene Haycisak, Barbara Henry, Clare Hoffman, Tom Hoover, Raneé Horn, Betty Lou Huber, Brynlee Jacoby, Diane Jodon, Bernadine Kelly, Betty Kelly, Jeff Kelly, Jim Kelly, Cynthia Kemper, Jimmy Kirsch, Don Kline, James J. Kline, Charles Lutak, Bill Lutz, Mary Jo Malloy, Darlene Markovich, Pauline Maurer, Francis Mecurio, Cindy Miklos, Paula Mitchell, Kieran Moore, Theresa Moore, Ann Morealli, Virginia Morealli, Odessa Morris, Phyllis Myers, Ricky Myers, Karen Needham, Trevor Nihart, Amber Novella, Viola Panaro, Judith Patterson, George Penrod, Betty Perry, Dulcie Perry, Jacob Peterson, Connie Polisky, Kevin Polites, Mike Presutti, Ann Marie Price, Steve Price, Charlene Quist, Maddox Raptosh, Michelle Romagna, Marcus SanGregorio, Lisa Schrift, Matthew Sclesky, Patricia Sever, Ryan Shafer, Lucas Shank, William Shank, Mark Sharbaugh, Deborah Smith, Gary Sowers, Special Intentions (46), Jodi Stevens, Ronald Stevens, Dorothy Strittmatter, Edward Venslosky, Denny Weakland, Dorothy Weaver, Dean Weber, Sara Weber, Jim Westrick, Joyce Westrick, Gabriel Weyandt, Emmit Whited, Richard Whited, Janine Wilson, Jackie Wright, Brenda Yeckley, Theresa Yeckley, and Theresa Zachar.

Church Support — December 2, 2018

Offertory	8883.05
Church Improvements	798.00
Christmas Offering	185.00
Christmas Flowers	135.00
Immaculate Conception	125.00
Benedictine Appeal	95.00
Retirement for Religious	90.00
Solemnity of Mary	85.00
St. Vincent de Paul	45.00
School Support	32.00
Tree of Life	15.00
Catholic Charities	11.00
Adopt A Student	10.00

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 – 32 numbers for \$220
- Jackpot - Straight line only
- Full Card – 57 numbers \$675
- Instant tickets
- All Nighter - \$48+
- \$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 13th



M/M Francis Gobris, Mrs. Ida Gobris, M/M Fred Gorba, M/M Clay Gormish, M/M Vince Gormish, Ms. Shirl Gray, Ms. Dianne Gray, Ms. Barbara Herman, Mrs. Sandy Gregory, M/M James Gresko, M/M Eric Groer, Miss Blanche Gwizdak, M/M Ken Gwizdak, M/M Ron Gwizdak, M/M Tom Gwizdak, Mrs. Brian Hayes, Mr. Ben Haley, Mr. Ed Haycisak, Mr. Tim Haycisak

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY

- Scrip sold after all weekend Masses
- CCD Classes, School Building
- Parish, School, Finance Council Meetings, 11 a.m., Boniface Wimmer Room

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

- SBS Scrip Sold 8-10 a.m., Church Hall
- SBS Christmas Program grades PreK—8, 6:30 p.m., Church

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

- Children's Liturgy, 8:15 a.m.
- SBS Scrip Sold 9-10 a.m., Church Hall
- Pick up Nut, Poppy Seed and Apricot Rolls, 4-6 p.m., Church Hall

SATURDAY

- Confessions, 2 p.m.

SUNDAY

- Scrip sold after all weekend Masses
- CCD Classes, School Building
- Advent Giving Tree gifts returned to the Church
- Set up and decorate the Church for Christmas, after 10 a.m. Mass
- Penance Service, 2 p.m., St. Bernard Church, Hastings

Catholic Ministries Drive

Thank you to all parishioners who have responded to the 2018 *Catholic Ministries Drive*. 173 of our families have generously donated/pledged \$38,564.01 toward the Parish goal of \$40,711.00. We are short \$2,146.99 to reach our goal. 100% of your gift supports 14 ministries.

Salvation Army Kettle Drive

The Salvation Army has started their Christmas Kettle Drive, in this area, 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 can schedule by calling Ron Boland 247-8882 for Patton, Lois Davis 674-5978 for Hastings and Carrolltown, and Anne Marie Minemyer 247-6541 for Northern Cambria. Christmas is about giving—give and it will be given back to you. Please give some of your time to help others.

All you can eat breakfast, Sunday, December 16, 6:30 a.m. to 12 noon, St. Nicholas Church Hall, 203 St. Henry Street, Nicktown. Adults \$8, Children 5-12 \$4, Children under 4 Free.

Christmas Bake Sale, Saturday, December 15, doors open at 9 a.m., Queen of Peace Parish Center. Christmas cookie platters & trays; cinnamon rolls; sticky buns; pumpkin rolls; apricot, nut, poppy seed, prune & raspberry rolls; Panettone bread; Yule logs; Old English Plum Pudding; cheese balls; cranberry walnut tarts; pecan tarts; and much more. Come early for best selection: No Pre-Orders.