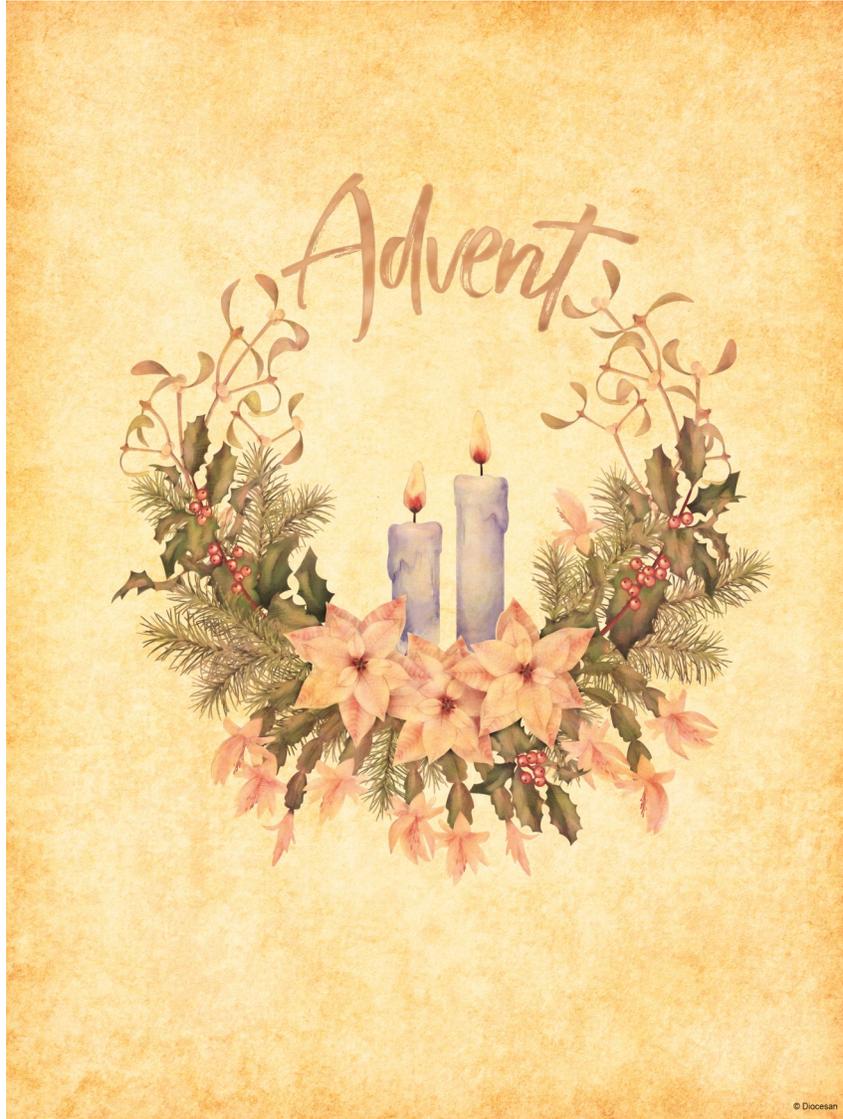


Saint Benedict Church

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 Office814-344-6548
Parish Fax814-344-8656
School Office.....814-344-6512
School Fax.....814-344-8530
Church Hall814-344-8770

Pastoral Staff

Father Michael J. Gabler, O.S.B...... *Pastor*
Lois Bridgman *Secretary*
Brother Michael J. Miller, O.S.B.
Annette Kelly..... *Director of Religious Education and*
Christian Initiation
Jeannine M. Cymbor *Business Manager*
Adam Orosz..... *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 7, Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Living and Deceased Members of the Holy Name and Altar Rosary Societies
10:00 a.m. For our Parish Family

Monday, December 8, Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary

8:15 a.m. +Cecelia McGary
12:00 p.m. +Terry Bills
6:30 p.m. For our Parish Family

Tuesday, December 9, Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. +Angelo and Elizabeth Mondì

Wednesday, December 10, Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. +Mary Jane Sutton

Thursday, December 11, Advent Weekday

8:15 a.m. +Walter Crossman

Friday, December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00 a.m. +Richard Bogus

Saturday, December 13, Saint Lucy

4:00 p.m. Living and Deceased Members of the Leo and Elizabeth Karlheim Family

Sunday, December 14, Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. +Marilyn Shoup
10:00 a.m. For our Parish Family



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

M. Greene K. Lallemand B.A. Bensor
O. Farabaugh
W. Rhoades

12:00 p.m.

C. Serafin R. Hoover M.C. Hoover
P.J. Stevens

6:30 p.m.

H. Shaffer R. Yahner J. Yahner
K. Shaffer B. Yahner
Z. Shaffer

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

S. Cronan

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

M.C. Hoover

Thursday, December 11, 8:15 a.m.

SBS Children's Mass

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

M. Farabaugh

Saturday, December 13, 4:00 p.m.

M. Farabaugh J. Kline S. Cronan
L. Baker P.J. Stevens

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

E. Cunningham C. Schall L. Huber
S. Cunningham K. Schall
W. Rhoades

10:00 a.m.

J. Wolfe C. Farabaugh M. Ryan
C. Greene B. Fox
M. Greene R. Hoover

Baptized in Christ



With joy we welcome into the Family of Saint Benedict Parish and the Family of God, Amancio Kapayapaan Regalado, son of Peter and Julie. We extend our love and best wishes to Amancio Kapayapaan Regalado and his parents.

Decorating the Church

We will be decorating the Church with the Nativity scene, Christmas trees and evergreens in the window sills, Sunday, December 14. Those who are interested in assisting with this holiday endeavor are asked to meet in the Sanctuary at 11 a.m. All help is greatly appreciated!



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.

Advent Giving Tree

Reminder: Return the gift or gift card with the tag to the tree, to the collection basket (for gift cards), or to the parish office by 10 a.m. Mass, **Sunday, December 14th.** Thank you!

The Immaculate Conception



This Monday, December 8, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary. This is a **Holy Day of Obligation** for Catholics to participate at Mass. Masses are scheduled for 8:15 a.m., Noon, and 6:30 p.m. This feast celebrates our Catholic belief that Mary was born without original sin, already full of grace.

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.

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 Birthday Remembrance for Andy Farabaugh From his brother Ted and sister Cecelia

Flowers Adorning the Altar this weekend In Memory of Those Who Served at Pearl Harbor



Pastor's Reflection

Preparing for the coming of Christ begins with a moral transformation. Making straight the way of the Lord means doing His will and obeying His commands. One cannot prepare without this inner conversion.



Peace,
Father Michael

Prayer Partners for 2nd Graders

On November 19th, sixteen 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, 2026, 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.

Families and the Gospel

December 7, 2025: Second Sunday of Advent (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?" ("A Family Perspective" by Bud Ozar)

Stewardship Reflections

As we begin the second week of Advent, let us recall our motto for this season: we are climbing God's holy mountain. Our readings inspire us and help us focus on this journey toward holiness.

Our first reading from the prophet Isaiah continues the theme of a journey towards the holy mountain, the Kingdom of God. The prophet gives us a beautiful glimpse of this mountain, where Christ will reign forever. It will be a place of peace, justice, and harmony among all God's creatures. "There shall be no harm or ruin in all my holy mountain...(This) dwelling shall be glorious."

As we straighten the paths of our own hearts and minds, we become more hospitable people, better stewards of God's grace and mercy, and far more open and ready to invite others into our lives, homes and parishes. We climb farther up God's holy mountain and attract others to join us on the path toward holiness. This is preparation fitting for our merciful Savior.

Priests For the Future

Bishop Bartchak is encouraging you to support our diocese's Vocation Appeal. Your gift will fund the diocese's renewed efforts to promote vocations to the priesthood, an especially urgent need as the number of seminarians for our diocese has been very low in recent years. To inspire more young men to consider the priesthood, the Vocation Office has developed a robust plan. Our Vocation Team's overall strategy is to identify and accompany young men as they discern God's call. Bishop Bartchak is asking all parishioners to be especially generous to ensure dedicated priests for the future of our diocese. To learn more and make a gift, visit ajvocation.org/give.

Adult Faith Formation

This Sunday's Adult Formation video will be about sin and mercy at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. in the Boniface Wimmer Room.

From other parishes and organizations...

Salvation Army Kettle Drive: will run through the beginning of January. Any individual or group interested in manning the kettle can schedule a date through Ron Boland, 814-761-7019. This is a great way to prepare for Christmas, by helping those who are in need.

Music Concert: Vox Nova from Mount Aloysius College will present a choral concert on December 10th at 7 p.m. at Holy Protection Church in Revloc. The concert will be music of the Western and Eastern Catholic Churches.

Grief Support Group: Sponsored by 365 Hospice; Wednesday, December 10, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Saint Benedict Church, Carrolltown, in the Boniface Wimmer Room. This is open for people of all ages. For more information, please contact Diane McCall, 814-270-4571 or email: diane.mccall@365hospice.com.

Lacue Chevrolet stuff the Truck and Food Drive: Saturday, December 13th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Santa and Mrs. Claus will visit from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All unwrapped toys will be distributed by Hope Fire Company December 20th. All residents in need are encouraged to contact Hope Fire Company. Food Drive will be done for the local cub scouts and be donated to local food pantries. Toy and food donations can be dropped off at Lacue Chevrolet from now until December 13th.



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 is available in the Parish Office.

Christmas Concerts

Christmas Concert, Tuesday, December 16 at 7 p.m., featuring the Northern Cambria Community Band. A good will offering will be accepted; all donations will benefit the Organ Fund.

Christmas Choral Concert, Sunday, December 28 at 3 p.m. See Kevin Luke for more information.



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: Denny Abrams, Dorothy Anna, Vickie Baran, Caryle Bearer, Dorothy Bearer, Katie Beckner, Michael Behe, Judy Bender, Ray Benjamin, Lyn Bills, Ben Bridgman, Fred Burgeson, Dustan Burkey, Joe Caretti, Tim Caretti, Peggy Cavallo, Evan Cicero, Joan Contorchick, John Contorchick, Maddox and Paxtyn Eckenrode, Neta and Harry Elder, Clare Falconi, Dan Farabaugh, Jane Farabaugh, Mike Farabaugh, Tim Farabaugh, Barbara Fasoli, Olivia Ferguson, Suzanne Ferrence, Frannie and Bill Findley, Jr. Gailey, Mary Kay Gallagher, Jane Graffius, Fred Gresco, Anthony Gwizdak, Eva Hart, Irene Haycisak, Jeanine Hite, Richard Hnatkovich, Charles Holder, Mary Catherine Hoover, Chuck Horn, Logan Horvath, Kendra Karabinos, Larry Kibler, Ava Koehle, Jason Koshinski, Louetta Kutchman, Bob Lapenna, Robert Letavish, Theodora McConnell, Brother Michael Miller, Camilla Miller, Chuck and Barb Mitchell, Denny O'Shea, Jody Panczak, Dorothy Penrod, Kevin Penrod, Norman and Pauline Polites, Maddox Raptosh, Jim Ropp, Adam Schaeffer, Special Intentions (31), Susan Snyder, Mike Springer, Debbie Stephenson, Edward Stevens, Jackie Stevens, Jodi Stevens, Eric Stoltz, Joseph Thomas, Owen Thomas, Benedicta Veneskey, Mary Kay Venslosky, Sara Weber, Judy Westover, Sarah Wilson, and Brenda Yeckley.

The Week Ahead

SUNDAY

- Masses 8 and 10 a.m.
- CCD Classes, School
- Soulcore 6 p.m. Boniface Wimmer Rm

MONDAY - IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

- Holy Day of Obligation - Masses: 8:15 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m.
- Scrip sold 9-10 a.m., Church Hall
- Confessions 7 p.m.

TUESDAY

- Holy Hour after Mass; Adoration until 4 p.m.
- Scrip sold 8-10 a.m., Church Hall
- Bingo, early birds 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

- Scrip sold 8 - 10 a.m., Church Hall
- Grief Support Group, 6-8 p.m., Boniface Wimmer Room

THURSDAY

- SBS Children's Liturgy 8:15 a.m.
- Scrip sold 9 - 10 a.m., Church Hall
- OCIA Meeting 5:30 p.m., Boniface Wimmer Room
- Card Party 7 p.m., Church Hall

FRIDAY

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

SATURDAY

- Confessions 2 p.m.; Mass 4 p.m.

SUNDAY

- Masses 8 and 10 a.m.
- CCD Classes, School
- Return gifts/gift cards to the Giving Tree
- Decorate the Church, 11 a.m.
- Soulcore 6 p.m., Boniface Wimmer Room

Church Support - November 22 & 23, 2025

Offertory	6473.25
Church Improvement	1870.00
St. Vincent de Paul	954.00
Adopt a Student	110.00
Catholic Charities	95.00
School Support	85.00
Christmas	71.00
Archdiocese for Military Services	50.00
Christmas Flowers	45.00
Solemnity of Mary	21.00
Immaculate Conception	21.00
Altar Fund	10.00
Organ Project	10.00

Church Support - November 29 & 30, 2025

Offertory	6281.19
Church Improvement	2112.00
School Support	1032.00
Christmas	735.00
Christmas Flowers	290.00
Catholic Charities	130.00
Immaculate Conception	70.00
St. Vincent de Paul	66.00
Solemnity of Mary	55.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	30.00
Altar Fund	22.00
Organ Project	20.00
Adopt a Student	10.00

Bingo on Tuesday



Doors Open @ 4 p.m.; Kitchen opens @ 5 p.m.
Early Birds @ 6:30 p.m.; Regular Games to follow

- Admissions \$16 (18 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 11, 2025



M/M Drew Stephens, Mr. Dan Stevens, Mr. Jim Stevens, Mr. John Stevens, Mr. Pat Stevens, M/M Patrick Stevens, M/M P.J. Stevens, Mr. Vince Stevens, Mrs. Lydia Strayer, Mr. David Strittmatter, M/M Fred Strittmatter, Mrs. Martha Swarden, M/M Chris Taylor, M/M Adam Terza, M/M Bill Turner

Sponsor of the Week

We wish to thank **Dr. Mary Petrunyak, 814-948-8600**, 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 Michelle Stehman at 717-774-8833.