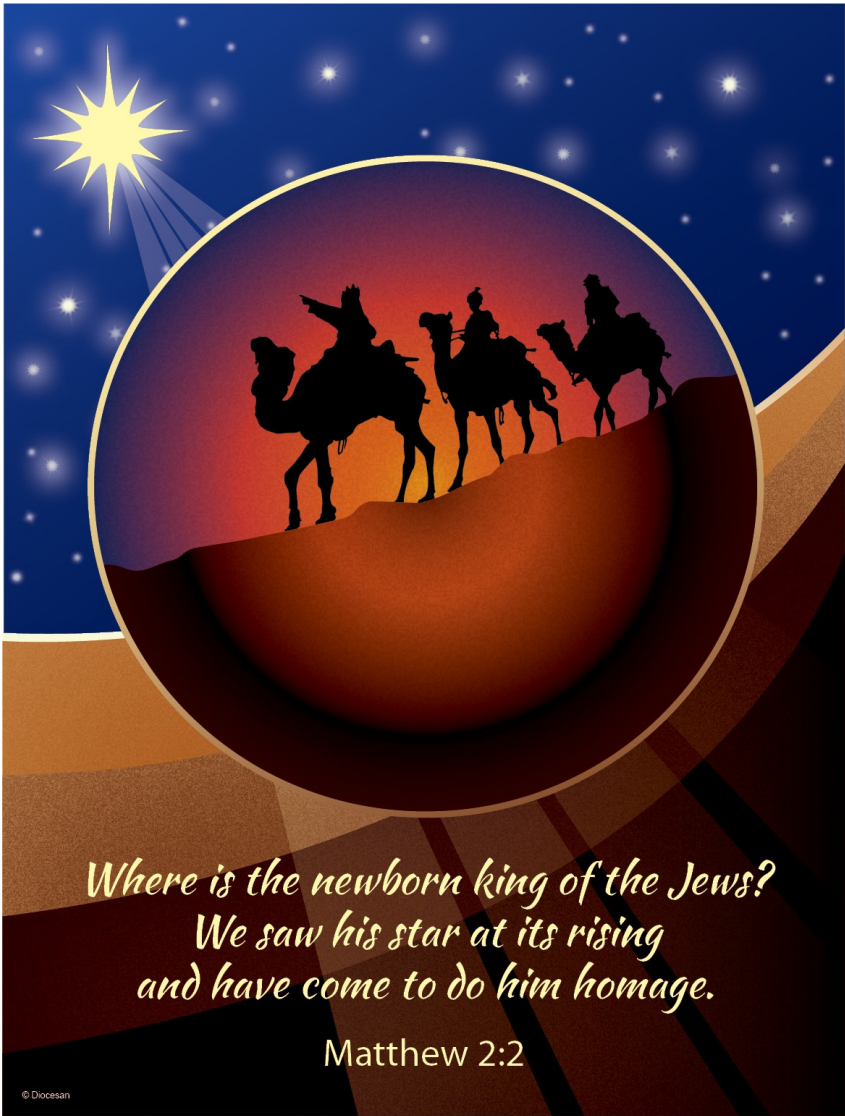


# Saint Benedict Church

PO Box 447 • 100 Main Street • Carrolltown, PA • 15722 • [www.saintbenedictschurch.com](http://www.saintbenedictschurch.com)



**Parish Office Hours:**

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

**Pastoral Staff**

Parish Office.....814-344-6548  
Parish Fax.....814-344-8656  
School Office.....814-344-6512  
School Fax.....814-344-8530  
Church Hall.....814-344-8770

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



## Mass Intentions

### Sunday, January 4, Epiphany

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

### Monday, January 5, Weekday

8:00 a.m. +Andrew Jim Anderson  
6:30 p.m. +Joseph F. Shank, Jr.

### Tuesday, January 6, Weekday

8:00 a.m. +Thomas Farabaugh

### Wednesday, January 7, Weekday

8:00 a.m. Anthony and +Dolores Gwizdak

### Thursday, January 8, Weekday

8:15 a.m. +Mary Jane Westrick

### Friday, January 9, Weekday

8:00 a.m. +Margaret Dominick

### Saturday, January 10, Weekday

4:00 p.m. +Mario Ceschini

### Sunday, January 11, The Baptism of the Lord

8:00 a.m. +Derek Cook (Birthday)  
10:00 a.m. For our Parish Family



Altar  
Servers



Eucharistic  
Ministers



Lectors

### Monday, January 5, 8:00 a.m.

S. Gregory

### 6:30 p.m.

B. Fox

### Tuesday, January 6, 8:00 a.m.

S. Cronan

### Wednesday, January 7, 8:00 a.m.

M.C. Hoover

### Thursday, January 8, 8:15 a.m.

SBS Children's Mass

### Friday, January 9, 8:00 a.m.

M. Farabaugh

### Saturday, January 10, 4:00 p.m.

S. Fisanick S. Gray  
E. Lamb J. Kline

S. Cronan

### Sunday, January 11, 8:00 a.m.

S. Cunningham B. Yahner  
O. Lechene R. Yahner  
L. Lechene

J. Yahner

### 10:00 a.m.

H. Shaffer R. Boland  
K. Shaffer F. Sutton  
Z. Shaffer R. McGowan

M. Farabaugh

## What is Epiphany?

Epiphany is the Christian festival marking the visit of the Magi to celebrate Jesus Christ's birth. It was the Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles.

Until recent years the Epiphany always fell on January 6. The feast was changed to the Sunday following New Year's Day due to its importance. Rather than make it a Holy Day that would often fall on a weekday, it was given a fixed Sunday so all people could celebrate the feast. Celebrating the Epiphany in a special manner helps us remember that Christmas is a "season" and not just a day.

The word epiphany has been used in various other ways in recent years so just what does it really mean?

It is a sudden realization or a leap of understanding through an ordinary occurrence. Or an illuminating discovery, a revealing scene or moment.

Jesus' birth was all of the above. And so are many other moments in our lives. Look for them and celebrate them. (Adapted and reprinted from the booklet published by the Family Life Office entitled "HOLIDAY SPIRITUALITY IN THE HOME—Thanksgiving to Epiphany".



## Maurus Blessing

Saint Maur, a disciple of Saint Benedict, has been called the miracle-worker since he has miraculously freed many persons from their bodily afflictions through the Sign of the Cross and the relic of the True Cross of Christ. The Maurus Blessing will follow after the 8:15 a.m. Mass on Thursday, January 15. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## Epiphany Water

Epiphany Water will be available Sunday, January 4th. Please bring your own Holy Water Containers. There will be some containers available.

## Bible Study

Fr. Michael will be having Bible Study on Monday evenings starting January 5th, right after the 6:30 p.m. Mass This year we will be studying 1 & 2 Timothy. There is no cost or requirement to attend every class.

## 'Un-Decorating'

The Christmas trees, wreaths, manger, etc. need to be taken down and packed away. If you can lend a hand, please join us next Sunday, January 11th after the 10:00 a.m. mass.

## Prayer List/Special Intentions List

We will be updating the Prayer Chain list and the Special Intentions list. If you would like to keep a name or a special intention on the list, call the office by January 19th. **Beginning Sunday, January 25, unless you have contacted the office, all names and intentions will be removed.** Thank you for your understanding and patience as we update our Prayer Chain.

## Thank You

Thank you to the Confirmation Class students who have completed their projects. Each project benefited different areas in our community and made the holidays much nicer.



*This week the votive candle will  
burn in front of the statue of  
Saint Joseph the Carpenter  
In Loving Memory of  
Bernadine, Jim and Jeff Kelly  
From the Family*

### Pastor's Reflection

The first time we see the second person of the Trinity is as a little baby. Why? So we wouldn't be afraid to approach Him. Who can be threatened by a little baby? This is how He draws us to Him.



Peace,  
Father Michael

### Families and the Gospel

**January 4, 2026: Epiphany (Matthew 2:1-12)**

Today's gospel tells us "all Jerusalem" was upset because "King Herod was deeply troubled." A similar ripple effect happens in families; one person's negative attitude can affect the whole family. If you want a peaceful and joyful home, it must start with you. Be peaceful and joyful! ("A Family Perspective" by Bud Ozar)

### Stewardship Reflections

As our celebration of Christmas continues, this week we observe the great feast of The Epiphany of the Lord. The word 'epiphany' comes from Greek and means manifestation of appearance. The stewardship way of life is one in which we live in grateful response to God's countless manifestations in our lives.

As Christian stewards, we are all called to manifest God's love to each other in the sharing of our gifts. St. Paul describes this beautifully in our second reading in his letter to the Ephesians, saying, "You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit..." We have all been given unique and wonderful gifts from our good and generous God. He wants us to share these gifts to benefit others and so to give Him glory.

Let us rejoice in God's manifestations in our lives and be watchful for the new ways He is calling us to share ourselves and our gifts in gratitude to our King in the year ahead.

### Pierogies for Lent

The Altar Rosary Society will be making delicious potato and cheese pierogies for Lent. The cost is \$11 a dozen. Orders are due by Monday January 19. Pick-up is in the Church Hall on Friday, February 13, from 4 to 6 p.m.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ dozen at \$11      Total cost \_\_\_\_\_

**(Return this order form to the Parish Office or drop in collection by Monday, January 19) Late orders will not be accepted. If there are any extra pierogies, they will be sold after all orders are filled.**

*Flowers Adorning the Altar  
this weekend  
In Birthday Remembrance of  
John D. Peters  
From his Wife, Children and Grandchildren*

### Yellow Ribbon Campaign

C.C.H.L. will be holding their annual yellow ribbon campaign the weekend of January 17th and 18th. There will be people accepting donations before and after all weekend Masses. The money raised from the yellow ribbon campaign is used to help defray the cost of the bus to the March for Life in Washington D.C. and to support C.C.H.L.'s ongoing educational activities. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

### March For Life

#### Why March for Life in our nation's capital?

The end of Roe doesn't mean the end of our national pro-life efforts. Radicals in Congress are pushing extreme pro-abortion legislation, such as H.R. 12- Women's Health Protection Act of 2025, that would codify abortion rights into federal law (more info at [congress.gov](https://congress.gov)). This would eliminate virtually all pro-life laws both federally and in the states. Therefore, we must continue our efforts to fight abortion on the national level, and encourage our elected officials to pass life-affirming laws.

In the words of the late Fr. Benedict Groeschel "Even when we do not choose evil, we choose good so half heartedly and with so many qualifications, that mediocrity becomes our canonized status quo."

Citizens Concerned for Human Life is sponsoring a bus to Washington, D.C. on January 23rd, 2026 to attend the annual March for Life. The cost is \$20 for adults and \$10 for students. Please contact Bill or Patti Frederick at 814-344-6521 for more information or to make reservations. For more information on the March for Life and many Pro-Life events, news and resources you can visit [marchforlife.org](https://marchforlife.org) and [prolifecambriasomerset.org](https://prolifecambriasomerset.org).

### Grief Share

Fr. Patrick Corrigan, TOR, will be hosting the "Grief Share" program beginning on **Thursday, February 5, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.** at St. Bernardine Monastery, 768 Monastery Road, Hollidaysburg. The "Grief Share" program is a 12-week bereavement workshop for those who have experienced a significant loss, and to assist in understanding and processing emotions. A workbook and resources will be provided for use throughout the program. For questions regarding the program or to enroll, please call 814-695-3802. You may also contact Fr. Patrick via email at [pcorrigan@dioceseaj.org](mailto:pcorrigan@dioceseaj.org).



### Sponsor of the Week

We wish to thank **AMERISERV, 1-800-837-BANK**, 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.



## 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, Paula Mitchell, Denny O'Shea, Jody Panczak, Dorothy Penrod, Kevin Penrod, Norman and Pauline Polites, Maddox Raptosh, Jim Ropp, Adam Schaeffer, Tim Semelsberger, Special Intentions (31), Susan Snyder, Mike Springer, Debbie Stephenson, Edward Stevens, Jackie Stevens, Jodi Stevens, Eric Stoltz, Joseph Thomas, Owen Thomas, Benedicta Veneskey, Sara Weber, Sarah Wilson, and Brenda Yeckley.

## The Week Ahead

### SUNDAY Epiphany

-Masses 8 and 10 a.m.

**-NO CCD**

### MONDAY

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

### TUESDAY

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

-Bingo, early birds 6:30 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY

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

-Blood Drive, 1-6:30 p.m., Church Hall

### 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

### 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

## Church Support - December 20 & 21, 2025

Offertory	7183.75
Church Improvement	2026.00
Christmas	1680.00
Christmas Flowers	1245.00
Organ Project	235.00
Maintenance Fund	220.00
Adopt a Student	210.00
School Support	210.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	115.00
First Offering	40.00
Solemnity of Mary	35.00
Altar Fund	25.00
Immaculate Conception	13.00

## Bingo on Tuesday



Join us every Tuesday for a fun night of Bingo

Doors Open @ 4 p.m.; Kitchen opens @ 5 p.m.

Early Birds @ 6:30 p.m.; Regular Games to follow

- Admissions \$16                      20 Regular Games
- 5 Specials                      • Early Bird
- Fast Bingo
- \$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 January 8, 2026

### All Volunteer Party



*If you can help with your time, small gifts, cookies, or monetary donations to help cover the meal cost, please contact Pat Kelly at 814-948-7656*

## From other parishes and organizations...

**All Saints Parish** in Boswell (Somerset County) will host their annual singing of Polish Christmas carols (known as Kolędy or Pastoralki) on Sunday, January 4th at 2 p.m. at their church (325 Quemahoning St., Boswell). The carols will be sung by the parish Polish choir. Following the singing of the hymns there will be benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and refreshments. While the singing of Kolędy was once a very common practice in the Polish-American community, in recent times church choirs that continue the tradition of singing Kolędy have become increasingly rare. These hymns help to capture some of the finest sentiments, values, and emotions of the Polish religious, national, and artistic heritage. Polish Christmas customs are very rich; whether you are Polish or not, please come and experience these time-honored hymns celebrating the birth of Christ. For more information; call the parish office at 814-629-5551.

**Jewelry Raffle:** Saturday, January 17, Immaculate Conception Church, 1635 New Germany Rd, Summerhill. Door ticket includes Admission, Meal, Dessert and Drinks. Over \$7500 in Jewelry and Accessories to be chanced off from door tickets. Grand Prize: \$1,000 jewelry shopping spree at Gold Rush Diamonds & Boutique. Doors open at 5. Only 500 tickets sold. \$30 Donation. *No Guests.* Contact Becky at 814-495-9594. For more details visit [www.facebook.com/ICJewelryRaffle](http://www.facebook.com/ICJewelryRaffle).

## 104th Birthday Celebration

The Miller family would like to invite fellow parishioners and friends to the Church Hall on Saturday, January 10th, 2026 from 12 to 4 p.m. to celebrate Merle Miller's 104th birthday. Stop by, say hello and have cake, coffee and punch. No gifts please. **Shhh, it's a surprise!**