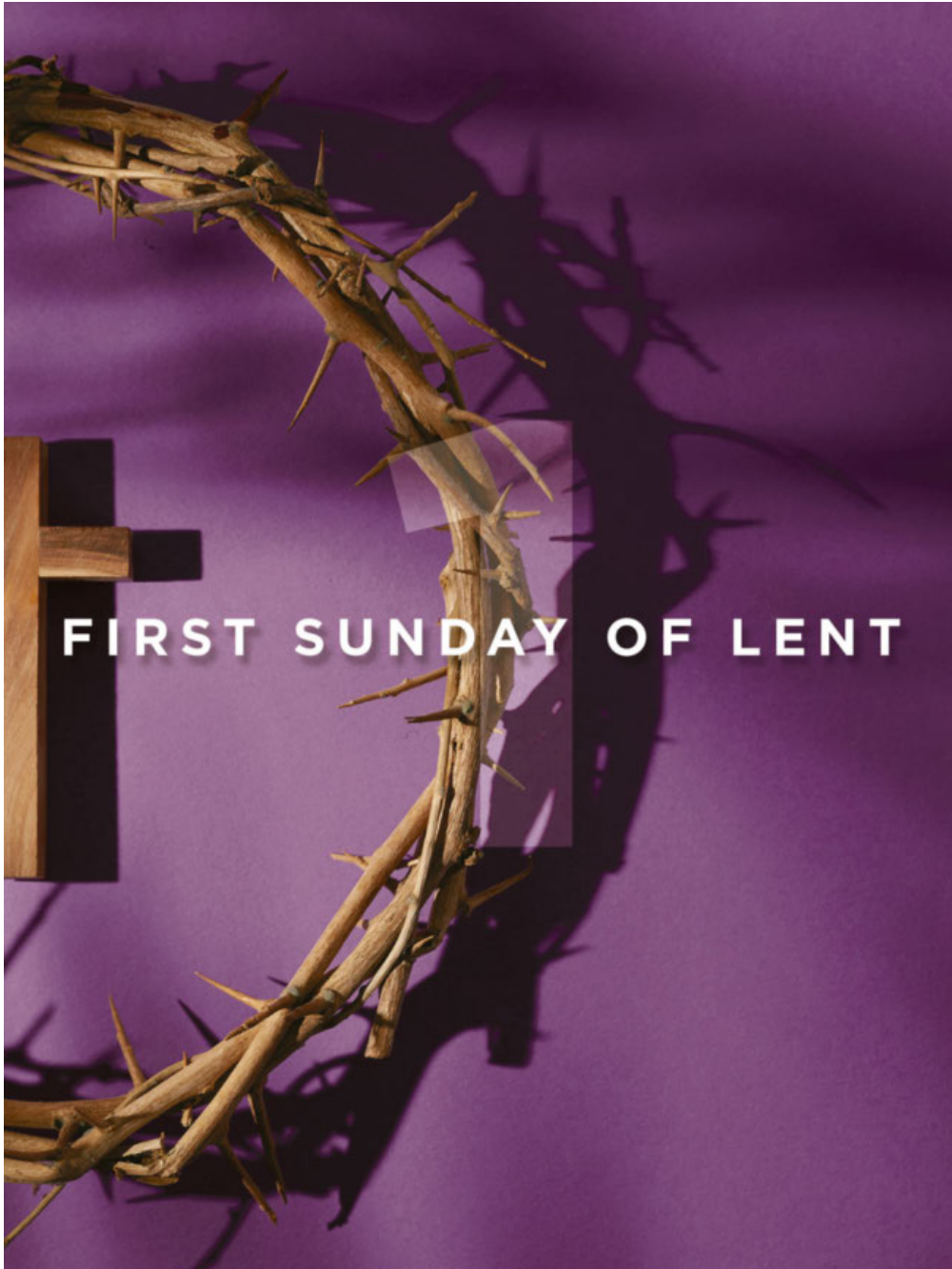




# St. Benedict Parish



**SUNDAY,  
MARCH 6, 2022**

### PARISH STAFF

Fr. Donald Hertges, Pastor  
Nick Francois, Deacon  
Steve Haluska, Principal  
Bonnie Breja, Business Manager,  
Development Director  
Tyler Wheeler, Pastoral Associate  
Karie Valkosky, Parish Secretary,  
Director of Religious Education

### CONTACT US

PHONE: 563-382-9631  
Email: [stbenedict@stbenedictcc.com](mailto:stbenedict@stbenedictcc.com)  
PARISH WEBSITE: [stbenedictcc.com](http://stbenedictcc.com)  
CEMETERY: [cp.stbenedictcc.com/](http://cp.stbenedictcc.com/)  
FACEBOOK PAGE:  
[facebook.com/StBenedictCCDecorah](https://facebook.com/StBenedictCCDecorah)

### ST. BENEDICT SCHOOL

563-382-4668  
WEBSITE: [www.st-ben.pvt.k12.ia.us](http://www.st-ben.pvt.k12.ia.us)

### BULLETIN INFORMATION

Deadline: Wednesdays, 8:00am  
Email to: [k.valkosky@dbqarch.org](mailto:k.valkosky@dbqarch.org)

### CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Counseling: 563-382-1231  
Immigration: 319-364-7121

#### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Mass: 5:30pm  
Sunday Masses:  
7:30am, 10:00am

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday: 5:30pm, Church  
Wednesday & Thursday: 7:00am, Church  
Fridays through the school year: Livestreamed on FB

#### RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 4:30-5:00pm, Confessional  
Sunday: 9:00-9:30am, Confessional  
Other times, by appointment

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER HERTGES



We are now on the First Sunday of Lent, therefore a reminder is very much in order that we will be offering the sacrament of reconciliation this Sunday at 1:00pm, weather permitting of course. There will be additional priests present to hear individual confessions. Partaking in this vital sacrament of healing is fundamental to the true meaning of Lent and living a genuine Roman Catholic Christian life. Going to confession at least once a year is still one of the precepts of the Church.

Unfortunately due to our fallen human condition, life is full of temptations that often result in sin, but Jesus models for us in this Sunday’s Gospel that through obedience and unwavering love to His Heavenly Father that we can overcome any evil or temptation that comes our way.

On a much different note, I would like to provide a bit of follow-up regarding the parish surveys which continue to trickle in. One of the major insights gleaned from the spiritual assessments were the HUGE need for better and more organized visits to parishioner’s homes whereby homebound/elderly parishioners are able to still receive Holy Communion and have some human interaction at the same time.

The surveys also revealed that many would enjoy visits from me. I very much enjoy visiting with parishioners in their homes and this has always been a number one priority; but obviously this has been seriously hindered these last two years, for obvious reasons.

As long as people are comfortable with me in their homes and I know who they are I try my best to visit in a timely fashion. The surveys revealed to me specifically who some of these individuals are. However, I wish to remind everyone through this bulletin article that if you would like a visit from me, either to receive the sacraments of the anointing of the sick or reconciliation, please contact the parish office and I am happy to oblige.

The same holds true concerning parishioners who are residents of nursing homes or patients of hospitals. In general too, I have always believed that until one has a chance to visit someone in their residence it is hard to really get to know them on a deeper level. Of course when one is a pastor of a parish one has to be a good steward of time, balancing many different demands, thus I am in the process of personally contacting other parishioners that could help provide the homebound visits regularly as I mentioned earlier. More on that later. Even a personally mailed card means a great deal and the surveys revealed a strong need and desire for this to continue in a more sustained fashion. More on that later.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Make your donation **online** from anywhere at any time.  
<https://www.stbenedictcc.com/donate>

BUDGET FOR FEBRUARY.....	\$48,945
Received February 1-12.....	\$16,685
Received February 13-19.....	\$17,284
Received February 20-26.....	\$5,964
February 27-28.....	\$18,926
Over for February.....	\$9,914
YEAR TO DATE BUDGET.....	\$473,766
YEAR TO DATE RECEIVED.....	\$473,523
YEAR TO DATE SHORT.....	-\$243

Today’s first reading describes the offering of first fruits the people of Israel were to present to the Lord in thanksgiving for their deliverance from Egypt and the gift of the promised land. Is my offering at today’s Mass an appropriate response to the many blessings the Lord has given me?

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

9:00am School Mass, Livestreamed: Jerry McEnany  
To watch: click [here](#) or visit Facebook.com and search "Decorah St. Benedict School"

SATURDAY, MARCH 5 | FAMILY WEEKEND

4:30pm Patriotic Rosary, Church  
5:30pm Mass, Church: James, Mary, Noel & Joe Henry

SUNDAY, MARCH 6 | FAMILY WEEKEND

7:30am Mass, Church: The People  
8:30-noon CDA Breakfast, PH  
10:00am Mass, Church: Herb & Charlene Zweibohmer  
1:00pm Communal Reconciliation, Church  
6:00pm StBenYouth, CR

MONDAY, MARCH 7

7:00am-8:00pm Adoration, Church  
6:30pm Mass, Mediacom Channel 15  
8:00pm Benediction, Church

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

6:30am Undaunted, Church  
5:30pm Mass, Church: Elaine Seifert  
Following 5:30 Mass Stations of the Cross, Church

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

7:00am Mass, Church: Dennis Frana  
7:30am Coffee after Mass, GS

THURSDAY, MARCH 10

7:00am Mass, Church: Bernadette Fentzel

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

9:00am School Mass, Livestreamed: Tom Duggan  
To watch: click [here](#) or visit Facebook.com and search "Decorah St. Benedict School"

SATURDAY, MARCH 12

5:30pm Mass, Church: Serena & Kathleen Timp and Elberta Huinker

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

7:30am Mass, Church: The People  
10:00am Mass, Church: Darlene Elsbernd  
11:00am Baptism Class, Church  
6:00pm StBenYouth, CR

CDA CORNER

COME ONE, come all to the first annual CDA free will donation egg bake on Sunday, March 6th after 7:30 and 10:00 Masses. Breakfast will include egg bake, muffins, oranges along with drinks. Also be sure to look at the baby quilts, table runners, and mini quilts for sale. We will have a CDA table set up for people to look at. Women will be available to answer any questions regarding joining CDA.

REMINDER of our first meeting for 2022 on Sunday, March 13th at 11:15am. This will be a brainstorming meeting to discuss projects or activities for the coming year. We are entirely open to suggestions. Our April 10th meeting will be to decide on what we actually will be working on this year. All ideas will be entertained and voted on.

If you can't attend the meeting and want to discuss any ideas or thoughts, please call

Joan Leuenberger 563-382-0014, Diane Sadler 563-382-2114  
Peggy Lensing 563-379-0924, Mary Jane Michels 563-382-9522  
Trish Hartman 563-380-2942

BAPTISM CLASS

The next baptism class will be on Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> in the church after the 10:00am Mass (about 11:00). This one hour class is for first time parents desiring baptism for their child. If possible, please call the parish office to register for the class

BUILDING COMMUNITY

COFFEE AFTER WEDNESDAY MASS

After every Wednesday morning Mass (7:00am), a group of parishioners gathers for coffee, goodies, and fellowship in the Gathering Space. Join us! All are welcome. Consider it a Lenten practice as you're attending a daily Mass and loving your neighbor!





## AROUND OUR AREA

### OUR CDA BREAKFAST IS THIS SUNDAY!!!

Sunday, March 6th, from 8:30-noon. Serving egg bake, muffins and fruit. Bring the FAMILY!!!! Free Will Donation

### 8TH GRADE DC FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST

All Vets Club. Sunday, March 6th, 8:00am-noon. Free will

### MADISON 4-H ANNUAL SOUP SUPPER

Sunday, March 13th, 4:00-7:00pm, Madison Lutheran Church, Chili, Chicken Noodle & Vegetable Beef w/dumplings  
Adults: \$10.00, Children 10 & Under \$5.00, Preschool Free

### ST. PAT'S DINNER WAUKON

Saturday, March 12th, 4:30-7:30pm in the Church Hall.  
Serving meatballs and ham. Children's menu is hotdogs and mac & cheese. Adults; \$15, Children 6-10: \$5, Family: \$40.00

### ST. BERNARD'S DRIVE THRU PORK CHOP SUPPER

Alta Vista Municipal Hall, March 13th, 3:00-6:00pm. \$15.00

### MOVE THE SCHOOLHOUSE FUNDRAISER

March 13th, St. Benedict Parish Hall, 7:00am-12:00noon. All you can eat pancakes with scrambled eggs, \$10.00. Proceeds to Laura Ingalls Wilder Museum.

### COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION

The Church, in her infinite wisdom, asks us to receive the healing sacrament of Reconciliation at least once per year, during the season of Lent. Father Hertges, along with other area priests, will be offering Communal Reconciliation **this Sunday, March 6th, at 1:00pm.**

### GIFTS FOR TOMORROW

As we demonstrate our devotion to God and appreciate the sacrifices made by Jesus Christ this Lenten season, there are reminders that call us to be good stewards of our faith. Providing a planned gift toward St. Benedict Parish/School is a way to show your commitment to the good work of the Church and have your faith live on forever. For more information on what this may entail, please contact the Parish Office or any member of the Legacy Committee to speak confidentially about your wishes. If you would like information about gift planning, please contact our planning partner at the Catholic Foundation at 563-552-0176 or [CFAD@OurCFAD.org](mailto:CFAD@OurCFAD.org)

## FATHER HERTGES CONTINUED

Continued from page 2....

As I predicted, Ash Wednesday Masses were well attended. I must also express a heartfelt thank-you to all who contributed money last Wednesday to Catholic Charities Relief Services for the nation and people of Ukraine who experiencing not only Lent but hell on earth in their own country. PLEASE continue to pray and offer your own spiritual sacrifices for this tragic, and violent situation that so violates human life and dignity and is another stark reminder that evil and darkness are very real. Let us also hope and pray for some profoundly felt divine intervention that is experienced not only in Ukraine and the Russian Federation but the entire world. Have a great week!

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES

### CARING FOR OUR BROTHERS & SISTERS IN UKRAINE

As we watch the tragic situation unfold in Ukraine, many people are seeking ways to help those fleeing violence.

[Catholic Relief Services \(CRS\)](#) and [Caritas Ukraine](#) are in Ukraine helping displaced individuals and families. They are on the ground providing relief services such as food kitchens, transportation assistance, and evacuation centers where individuals can eat, rest, and receive psychological support. [Click Here](#) to make a donation to CRS and to learn more about how CRS is providing relief services for displaced individuals through Caritas Ukraine's 17 diocesan offices. Please continue to pray for peace for all those displaced and suffering around the world.

### JAIL AND PRISON REENTRY SERVICES

Did you know that 95% of clients in Catholic Charities' Jail & Prison Ministry were employed with stable housing six months after release from jail or prison? This saves taxpayer money, decreased strain on our law enforcement and most importantly, improves the quality of life for those in the program and their families. Support this important work, and much more with your gift to the Catholic Charities Annual Appeal. Learn more at <https://catholiccharitiesdubuque.org/>



ASH WEDNESDAY  
AT ST. BENEDICT SCHOOL

LET US PRAY

**PATRIOTIC ROSARY**

Please join us in praying the Rosary over the citizens of all fifty states on Saturday, March 5th at 4:30pm in the Church.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS - ON FRIDAY**

There will be an additional Stations of the Cross offered by parishioners on Fridays at 3:00pm in the church. All are welcome. This is in addition to the Stations of the Cross led by Fr. Hertges after the Tuesday evening (5:30pm) Mass.

ACCW IMMIGRATION PRESENTATION

To all women of the Decorah Deanery, please come to the March 22, 2022 meeting of the Archdiocese Council of Catholic Women (ACCW) at St. Benedict Parish, Decorah, beginning at 4:00pm. The afternoon will begin with the business meeting, then mass at 5:30pm and the program will be at 6:15pm. The program is open to all persons in the deanery. Yer Vang, immigration lawyer from the Archdiocese Catholic Charities office will present how immigration is being addressed here in the Archdiocese and our southern border.

Refreshments will follow.

BIBLE IN A YEAR DISCUSSION

St. Ben's Bible in a Year discussion group is meeting Tuesday, March 8th at 7:00pm in the parish classroom. New listeners are welcome! Come join conversation as we journey from Genesis all the way through Revelation. For more information contact Cindy See or the Parish Office.

Tuesday, March 8  
6:30-7:30am  
St. Benedict's Church

**UNDAUNTED: AM**  
**A Gathering for Men**

- Start your day in peace and quiet
- Come and go as you please
- Content:
  - Adoration
  - Reconciliation
  - Optional time to chat with coffee starting at 7:00am

"What will convert America and save the world? My answer is prayer. What we need is for every parish to come before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in Holy Hours of prayer." St. Mother Teresa



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