



# St. Benedict Parish



**SUNDAY,  
MARCH 13, 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

# PARISH COMMUNICATION

## BAPTISM

For Baptism preparation program and arrangements, call the Parish Office, 563-382-9631.

## MARRIAGE

For Preparation programs and arrangements, call the office.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A Family of Faith: Life in Christ, September–May

## CONFIRMATION

Grades 9-11, varying Wednesdays, 7:00pm, Classroom

## RCIA

For inquiry into the Catholic Faith, please call the office.

## PARISH MEMBERSHIP

If you are new to the parish or are moving, call the office

## PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Catholic Daughters-Joan Leuenberger

Knights of Columbus-Tom Hartman

ACCW-Julie Vulk

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Make your donation **online** from anywhere at any time.

<https://www.stbenedictcc.com/donate>

BUDGET FOR MARCH.....	\$48,945
Received March 1-12.....	\$17,278
Needed for March.....	\$31.667
YEAR TO DATE BUDGET.....	\$492,712
YEAR TO DATE RECEIVED.....	\$498,274
YEAR TO DATE OVER.....	\$5,562

Peter, James, and John wanted to build a “booth” for Jesus and just stay on the mountain where His transfiguration took place. But the Son of God, the Chosen One, knew that He must instead keep moving toward His Crucifixion. We, too, must rise from worship and do what we can to hasten the coming of the Kingdom.

## FROM THE DESK OF FATHER HERTGES

I was EXTREMELY pleased with Ash Wednesday Mass attendance and I do firmly believe that Lent is off to a stellar beginning at St. Benedict Parish! Weekend Mass attendance has also been steadily improving in recent weeks, and weekday Mass numbers and participation in stations of the cross is promising as well.

Thank-you also for your generous contributions to the people and nation of Ukraine as over \$2,000.00 was collected on Ash Wednesday! As I type up this bulletin article, the number of displaced people in Ukraine due to hostilities by the Russian Federation has resulted in one million refugees to Poland and nearby European countries.

Unfortunately, this war is still in its early stages, and only God knows how many more people will be killed, injured and/or forced to flee homes and communities undergoing massive collateral damage due to the fighting so characteristic of modern warfare.

Whether you are able to contribute financially to Catholic Charities Relief Services or not, please continue to pray for the situation in Ukraine. My heart goes out to all directly affected by the violence; and I am deeply concerned as to what other far-reaching consequences may be due to the aggression exhibited by the Russian Federation.

On a much more joyful and “normal” note, Deacon Nick and I will be conducting training/refresher sessions after all three Masses for extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion *next weekend March 19-20th*.

This is intended for all those who were extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion prior to the pandemic, in addition to those who are now interested in distributing the Eucharist during Mass and/or bringing the Body of Christ to the homebound and residents of nursing home/assisted living facilities. Part of the training will consist of a commissioning of new extraordinary ministers should any appear. Please note that one must be a Roman Catholic in good standing with the Church to be an extraordinary Eucharistic minister.

Honestly speaking, I was open to reinstating extraordinary ministers last May when Archbishop Jackels granted pastors and pastoral life coordinators the ability to make decisions on the local level regarding Covid mitigation strategies. But summer flew by quickly and new variants of the Coronavirus kept emerging and I thought it would be prudent to just stay the course, so to speak, of distributing the Eucharist myself in addition to Deacon Nick or Fr. Knipper when they were able to be present at our Masses.

Continued on page 4...

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

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

MONDAY, MARCH 14

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

TUESDAY, MARCH 15

5:30pm Mass, Church: Jerry Stortz  
Following 5:30pm Mass Stations of the Cross, Church

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

7:00am Mass, Church: Wendy Dotzenrod-Ney  
7:30am Coffee after Mass, GS

THURSDAY, MARCH 17|ST. PATRICK'S DAY

7:00am Mass, Church: Tom & Doly Lynch

FRIDAY, MARCH 18

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

5:30pm Mass, Church: Cyril & Jean Corrigan

SUNDAY, MARCH 20|CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

7:30am Mass, Church: Clarence & Marie Brincks and The People  
10:00am Mass, Church: Florence Gehling  
2:00pm Confirmation Mass, Church: Confirmation Students  
6:00pm StBenYouth, CR

CDA CORNER

We want to thank everyone who made last weekend's CDA Breakfast such a wonderful success!!! A very special thank you to Fareway, Hillandale Egg Processing of West Union, Hy-Vee, and Oneota Co-op for thier donations. Thanks also to our parishioners who donated food, time and/or a financial gift. Finally, thank you to all who came out and enjoyed breakfast! We couldn't have done it without everyone's support!!!

Our next meeting will be on March 13th at 11:15am in the Classroom. All parish women are encouraged to come, listen, share ideas and possibly join our group!

We are always looking for people to assist with our quilt making. We also offer quilts to those in need within our community, so if you know of a need, please let us know.

We are also always accepting fabric of all colors and sizes! We're currently in need of earth tones. Donations can be left in the basket next to our cabinet in the Parish Hall. Tax receipts available. Please call Peggy 563-379-0924 or Mary Jane 563-382-9522 with any questions.

BAPTISM CLASS

The next baptism class will be held **this Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>** in the church after the 10:00am Mass (about 11:00). Please meet up by the Baptismal Font.

KC SPRING DINNER

Sunday, March 27th, 11:00am-1:00pm,  
Serving Yankee Pot Roast, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Coleslaw, Rolls, Hot Vegetables and Dessert.

Adults: \$15.00

Children 6-12: \$8.00

Children under 5: Free

Tickets available from KC members or at the office.

## AROUND OUR AREA

### 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.

### 8TH GRADE DC FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST

March 20th, 8:00am-noon, All Vets Club, Public Welcome, Serving pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage or ham, hash browns and toast with choice of juice, milk or coffee. Free Will All proceeds go to the kids.

### DECORAH COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

March 24th, 12:30-5:30pm, Stone Ridge Church, Call 800.287.4903 or text LIFESERVE to 999-777 for an appt.

### GIVE THE GIFT OF AN IRA ROLLOVER

Giving an IRA Rollover Gift to St. Benedict Parish/School makes sense this year!

Beginning January 1, 2020, if you were born after July 1, 1949, and have an IRA, you must take annual IRA Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) when you turn 72. If you were born on or before July 1, 1949, you are still required to take your required minimum distribution at age 70 ½.

You must take the distribution whether you need the money for living expenses or not. If you do not need those proceeds to make financial ends meet, then we ask you to consider giving those proceeds directly to St. Benedict Parish/School.

By doing so, you pay **NO** income tax on this RMD. More importantly, by doing so you help continue the important spiritual work of your parish/school. It is important to first contact your IRA administrator to see how you can “roll over” into tax savings while helping support your spiritual mission. There is a specific process and forms that need to be used and they can help you through those simple steps.

We have many parishioners giving to the parish this way! It is great for them and great for the parish! Thank you to all who do “IRA Rollover” gifts to St. Benedict Parish/School!!

## FATHER HERTGES CONTINUED

Continued from page 2....

As of the writing of this “spiel,” I have no plans to offer the cup containing the Precious Blood of Christ, but *will* have one additional Eucharistic Minister distributing the Body of Christ when Deacon Nick is assisting at Sunday Mass, and two Eucharistic Ministers will be needed when I am the only clergy present on a Sunday Mass and/or when we have large numbers of people present, such as occurs often at weddings and funerals.

Of course I realize that as with the other liturgical roles such as ushers, Mass Servers, etc., it will take some time for people to remember to sign up and/or volunteer when no one has actually committed themselves for a given Mass. This is natural after a two-year absence of extraordinary ministers at our parish.

One final, and very important, policy I would like to remind everyone about is that *I ask everyone who has been or wishes to receive Holy Communion on their tongues to approach me, Deacon Nick or Fr. Knipper to do so.*


As always, *thank-you* for your patience and support during this two-year ordeal. That’s all for now, have a great week and don’t forget to move your clocks ahead one hour this weekend; it’s that time of the year again (pun intended)! More to come!

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Communal Anointing of the Sick will be offered after all Masses on the weekend of March 26-27th.

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Did you know that Catholic Charities is the largest provider of social services in the U.S., second only to the government? There are approximately 160 Catholic Charities agencies in the U.S., all working together to reduce poverty and help the most poor and vulnerable among us. This makes your contribution to the Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque Annual Appeal all the more critical! Learn more at [www.CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org](http://www.CatholicCharitiesDubuque.org)



**St. Benedict School**  
Decorah, Iowa

St. Benedict Catholic School is founded on the core values of faith, leadership, and responsibility with an emphasis on prayer and service, as modeled by Saint Benedict. As an educational component of St. Benedict Parish, we welcome students and families of all faiths who seek academic excellence through Gospel values and Catholic teachings. We serve students in preschool through eighth grade from Decorah and surrounding rural communities. Students are nurtured in a safe and caring environment that promotes respect and compassion. Our dedicated staff endeavors to educate students to develop lifelong learning skills and to create a positive impact in an ever-changing world.

**SCRIP FOR SALE THIS WEEKEND**

Scrip will be for sale in the Gathering Space after all the Masses this weekend. Thank you for supporting St. Benedict School!!!

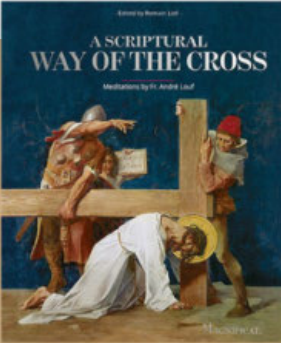
**ACCW NEWS**

The Spring edition of The Link newsletter from ACCW is full of articles and photographs that you do not want to miss!

Featured items in the newsletter are:

- ACCW Sunday, April 24th
- Leadership Training & Development Opportunity
- Member spotlight on Patti Davis
- Pics from around the Archdiocese of Beauty in Christ Conference attendees.


Click [here](#) to stay up to date on all ACCW news



**LIBRARY: BOOK FEATURE**  
*A Scriptural Way of the Cross*

Located in the Gathering Space, pray and meditate on 14 Stations of the Cross drawn from Sacred Scripture. These simple, yet profound meditations were written by Trappist monk Father André Louf for Pope John Paul II.

Unite yourself to Christ's Passion aided by over forty pieces of sacred art from masters such as El Greco and Paul Rubens.



**ALL ARE WELCOME! NO COST**

**CATHOLICISM AND IMMIGRATION**

Yer Vang, immigration lawyer for Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Dubuque, will speak to current immigration issues, specifically Afghani immigrants at Ft. McCoy, WI and the situation at the southern border of the US. A question and answer period will follow with refreshments provided.

**Tues. March 22**  
**Presentation: 6:15-7:15pm**  
**Q&A: 7:15-7:45pm**  
**St. Benedict Church Hall**  
**Decorah**

THE DECORAH DEANERY OF THE ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN IS SPONSORING THE EVENT.

**LOOKING FOR MORE?**

If you are looking for a little boost to your faith life, consider joining a small group.

- You'll join a group of other people, just like, looking to grow in their faith. We all have struggles, shortcomings, and joys. It's nice to know we're not alone.
- You'll have a weekly dose of encouragement and support, plus new insights and inspirations.
  - No long-term commitments are needed and if you need to miss sessions, it's no problem.

If interested, contact Tyler Wheeler at [dbq049s@dbqarch.org](mailto:dbq049s@dbqarch.org) or 563-382-9631.

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