



APRIL 9, 2023
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Readings for the week

Sunday:
 Acts 10:34a, 37-43/
 Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23 (24)/
 Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9
 or Mt 28:1-10

Monday:
 Acts 2:14, 22-33/
 Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/
 Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday:
 Acts 2:36-41/
 Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20 and 22/
 Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday:
 Acts 3:1-10/
 Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/
 Lk 24:13-35

Thursday:
 Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8:2ab and
 5, 6-7, 8-9/Lk 24:35-48

Friday:
 Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118:1-2 and
 4, 22-24, 25-27a/Jn 21:1-14



BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF TRENTON
 MOST REVEREND
 DAVID M. O'CONNELL, C.M.

PASTOR
 Rev. Garry R. Koch

PAROCHIAL VICAR
 Rev. Augusto "Al" Lorenzo Gamalo

DEACONS
 John L. Clymore
 Richard L. Morris
 Raymond R. Pelkowski (Ret.)
 Paul A. Remick
 Stephen G. Scott

TEMPORARY MASS SCHEDULE
 Saturday Vigil: 8:00 p.m.
 Sunday: 6:00, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
 Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m.

RECONCILIATION
 Monday, Wednesday, Friday
 following the 9:00 a.m. Mass
 and by appointment

PARISH OFFICE
 Office Hours: Monday to Friday
 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.
 Sunday 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
 Voice: 732/264-4712;
 Fax: 732/264-9080
 Email: parishoffice@stbenedictnj.org

Mr. Bob Cognat,
Facilities Manager
 email: cognat@stbenedictnj.org

Mrs. Francine DeMuria,
Office of Temporal Administration
 email: finance@stbenedictnj.org

Mrs. Margaret Roddy,
Pastoral Minister for Church Management and Sacrament Coordination
 email: roddy@stbenedictnj.org

Mrs. Lori Ulrich,
Director of Marketing and Event Management
 email: ulrich@stbenedictnj.org

ST. BENEDICT SCHOOL
 Mr. Kevin Donahue, *Principal*
 email: kdonahue@stbenedictnj.org



Our Lady of Victory Adoration Chapel is open for Perpetual Adoration. Contact Kathy 732/739-3381 for more information

YOUTUBE LIVE STREAMING OF ST. BENEDICT CHURCH MASSES
 SUNDAY 9:30AM
 (INCLUDING HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION)
www.youtube.com
 Channel: St. Benedict Holmdel



PARISH REGISTRATION

Registration forms are available in the parish office and on our website at stbenedictholmdel.org



Like

Like us on Facebook @
 St. Benedict Church and School
 Follow us on Twitter @stbensholmdel





FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Fellow Parishioners of St. Benedict:

ALLELUIA! Happy Easter.

We are coming off a very busy Lenten Season with all of the energy of the pre-pandemic era. “Thank you” to the Faith Formation Department: Nancy, Jen, Ciro, and Loretta for all of their efforts in coordinating the many activities of the season. The Buildings and Grounds team: Bob, Tom, Sal, Walter, and Matt, likewise made sure that all was in good shape, and got all of the moving parts in place. Eileen prepares the screens and coordinates ministry assignments; Margaret sets flowers and organizes the church; the Deacons, Steve, Rich, Paul, and our candidate Anthony are involved in every aspect of the Lenten and Easter celebrations. Patti and Lori Ulrich coordinate many of the events and handle publicity, social media, etc. Lori McCahill coordinates all of the school Lenten activities, and Lorrie McGee handles much of the parish end. A special thank you to Mrs. Audra Erkman, art teacher at SBS, for the Holy Week art projects which we displayed in the church and the Altar of Repose this past week. It is great to see the students integrating their religious instruction within the entire curriculum. We are all profoundly grateful for their hard work and dedication to the parish and our school.

It has been a long Lenten journey, I think that so many parishes got back to doing everything, and we all did so much, that there were days when Father AL and I were all over the place, assisting with penance services, that neither one of us had any time to relax. I am looking forward to a few days off; as is Fr. AL.

The Adoration Chapel will close at 5pm on Thursday and open again next Monday morning after the 9am Mass. Adoration is not permitted during the Triduum (apart from the Holy Thursday resposition). This gives us a chance for some maintenance and cleaning in the Chapel as well.

While the Easter Season is less hectic than Lent, we still have plenty of things to think about and do over the next couple of months. The Easter Season extends until Pentecost, which is May 29.

Next Sunday is Divine Mercy Sunday. We will pray the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy at 3pm in Church, followed by a talk on Mercy given by Matthew Butler, a theology teacher at Christian Brothers Academy. During this time Confessions will be heard as well. There will follow Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until the beginning of the 5pm Mass. Please join us for an afternoon of prayer, devotion, and worship as we reflect on God’s infinite mercy for us.

Thank you for your generous donations for the Easter Flowers. This certainly enhances the beauty of our church throughout the Triduum and the Easter Season.

May the blessings of the Risen Christ reign in our hearts, forever!

Fr. Garry

Easter Flower Memorials

The beautiful Easter flowers adorning our Church are in memory of ...

Michael and Christine Brusca

req. Anthony, Michele and Sierra Brusca

Rose, Dominic and Carmela Limeri req. Cathy and Phil Limeri

Shaun Walsh req. Betty Walsh

Michael Lubrano and Margaret Lubrano-Cortes

req. Stephanie Lubrano

Deceased members of Dalton and Seery Families

req. Betty Dalton

James P. Benson req. Jeanette Benson

Peter and Mark McGuigan req. Doris McGuigan

Carmine and Josephine Demma

req. Frank, Maureen and Justen Tornabene

Frank and Joan Tornabene

req. Frank, Maureen and Justen Tornabene

Patrick and Anne Hogan req. Al and Anne Valentino

Susan Dunn req. Al and Anne Valentino

Alice Long req. The Kubis Family

Gerard Lucas req. The Kubis Family

Edgar and Irene Smith req. Valerie Niess

Brennan and Bowen Families req. Lois Brennan

Carol Healey req. Andrea Healey

Podgorski Family Members req. Andrea Healey

Healey Family Members req. Andrea Healey

Genito Family Members req. Andrea Healey

Special Intention req. Andrea Healey

Carol Cesario req. Family

Emanuel and Marie Vizzotti req. Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Asfour

Elias and Agnes Asfour req. Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Asfour

Richard T. Petri req. The Cangelosi Family

Catherine Goeller req. James Goeller

Jim Manning req. Marion Manning

Deceased members of Manning Family req. Marion Manning

Deceased members of Cunningham Family

req. Marion Manning

Charles Benjamin req. Chris and Carol Baker

Kevin Michael Benjamin req. Baker Family

Charles and Lorraine Baker req. Baker Family

Brian Baker req. Baker Family

Jack Waugh req. Baker Family

Brian Armenti req. Baker Family

Richard Lane req. Baker Family

Joseph Pomara Sr. req. Jackson Family

Rachel Jackson req. Jackson Family

Ben and Lucy Pomara req. Jackson Family

Deceased members of the Kozicki Family

req. Evelyn and Danny Smith

Deceased members of the Smith Family

req. Evelyn and Danny Smith

Albert Douglass req. The Heite Family

Rev. Vincent Douglass CSSR req. The Heite Family

Anna Abbate req. The Heite Family

Antonio and Concetta Crudele req. The Heite Family

Philip and Josephine Romano req. The Heite Family

Stanley and Joan Heite req. The Heite Family

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Poko req. Marian Mendryk

Raymond and Frances Pignato req. Marguerite Pignato

Joseph and Eleanor DiFalco req. Marguerite Pignato

Ray Thomson req. Bobbie Thomson

Christine Carapucci

req. Mike and Frank Gasparini and Carapucci Family

Walter and Patricia Coe req. Christopher and Kimberly Coe

Our Parents req. Ron and Lucille Terrone

John E. Farrell req. The Farrell Family

Edythe DiMauro req. Joanne Bunzel

Michael DiMauro req. Joanne Bunzel

Louis DiMauro req. Joanne Bunzel

Ann and Mike Cwik req. Monforte Family

Christine and Joseph Monforte req. Monforte Family

Joseph and Arlene Kondek req. The Kondek Family

James and Eileen Lynch req. The Cannarozzo Family

Maureen and Packie McCabe req. Roddy Family

Brendan McCabe req. Roddy Family

Mary McGagh req. Lillian Roddy

Robert Ronchetti req. Ronchetti Family

Albert Batch, Dan Bowman and Dr. Fuad Doany

req. Linda and Matthew Szabo

Anthony and Barbara Ritti req. Anne Malcolm and Sons

Joseph Reardon req. Mary Reardon and Family

Anna and Daniel Murphy req. Pat and Joel Liptzin

Robert Agresta req. Pat and Joel Liptzin

Elvira and Gino Coletta req. Umberto and Sue Coletta

Mauro Coletta req. Umberto and Sue Coletta

Rose and Sam Costanzo req. Umberto and Sue Coletta

Maria and Joseph Gambone req. Umberto and Sue Coletta

Carolina and Amaddio Lucchesi req. Umberto and Sue Coletta

Anna and John Kolp req. Umberto and Sue Coletta

Edwin Thomas req. Umberto and Sue Coletta

John Visconti req. Umberto and Sue Coletta



Holy Saturday, April 8th

9:00 a.m. **Morning Prayer**

Easter Vigil

8:00 p.m. **Pro Populo**

Sunday, April 9th

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

6:00 a.m. **Pro Populo¹**

8:00 a.m. **Pro Populo**

9:30 a.m. **Pro Populo**

11:00 a.m. **Pro Populo**

Easter Monday, April 10th

9:00 a.m. **Simon Anthony Dixon** req. The Canales Family

Easter Tuesday, April 11th

9:00 a.m. **Frank Tornabene** req. The Tornabene Family

Easter Wednesday, April 12th

9:00 a.m. **Wayne Monzo** req. The Wintjen Family
Daniel, Charlotte and Dylan Vassallo
 req. The Vassallo Family
Adam Quinones req. Mom and Dad
Michael Murphy req. The Wintjen Family
Philip Pagente req. Joy Pagente
Patricia McAleavy req. The McAleavy Family
Beverly Kiely req. Mary Jane McAleavy
Joe Carroll req. Patti and Matthew Dickens
Carmela Gingola
 req. Clergy, Staff and Parishioners of St. Benedict
Lourdes Zeik req. Ivette Fernicola

Easter Thursday, April 13th

9:00 a.m. **Gerard Carney** req. The Carney Family

Easter Friday, April 14th

9:00 a.m. **Chiara Mingione**
 req. Becker, DeMarco and Perret Families
Margaret Severino req. Courtney Mayer
Joe Carroll req. Carol Ford
Jacqueline Policastro req. Eileen Johansen
Danny Day req. Frances Day
Maria Sacca req. Ivette Fernicola
Leon Barbanell req. Levi Barbanell
The Day Family* req. Courtney Mayer
**Living Intention*
Special Intention* by Anita Asfour
**Living Intention*

Saturday, April 15th

5:00 p.m. **Henry Meacock** req. The Roddy Family

Sunday, April 16th

Sunday of Divine Mercy

8:00 a.m. **Pro Populo**

9:30 a.m. **Angelina Nastacio** req. The Family

11:00 a.m. **Jack Cennamo** req. The Parziale Family

5:00 p.m. **Marija and Ivan Jurasic** req. Dragica Milohnic

Please remember in your prayers all those whose names are listed in our Prayer Intention Book

Memorial Intention

Altar Bread and Wine

In loving memory of **Peter Hoskey**
 req. Wife and Daughters

Sanctuary Candle

In loving memory of **Norma Corbin**
 req. Family



**April 9, 2023
Easter Sunday**

“When Jesus had risen, early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons.” (Mark 16:9)

Popular Catholic piety sometimes posits that the newly risen Jesus appears first to the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a happy thought, but it’s simply not what the scriptures report. We are told quite directly that he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, **“out of whom he had driven seven demons.”**

Why would the gospel writer remind us of this unsavory detail of Mary’s past? Historians tell us women were not qualified to give legal testimony. On top of that, to be possessed by not just one, but seven demons, is unsavory and terrifying. What damage had they done to her? What did she do to allow herself to be home to such evil? It doesn’t seem to matter. Jesus chose Mary Magdalene to be the first one who saw him risen from the dead. He decided she was qualified.

Do you think that you are disqualified from seeing and announcing the risen Jesus because of your past demons? Maybe they are the demons of despair, confusion, self-hatred, pride, addiction, failure, boredom, laziness, or other sins. Well, don’t. In the light of the Risen Jesus, all these past demons make our witness that much more believable — only if we allow ourselves to be touched by the liberating hand of Christ, just as Mary Magdalene did.

— *Father John Muir*

¹ For the People of St. Benedict

The Exsultet: Christ our Light



Getty Images

BY FATHER MICHAEL J. FLYNN

The first major section of the annual Easter Vigil celebration may be the most memorable and engaging to the senses. It certainly includes some vivid symbols and actions which we do not encounter in the liturgy every day. Formerly called simply the “Service of Light”, in the present English translation of the third edition of the Roman Missal this introductory sequence of liturgical elements is entitled “The Solemn Beginning of the Vigil or Lucernarium”. The solemn liturgy begins—usually outdoors—with the blessing of the fire followed by the preparation and lighting of the Paschal Candle. As the candle is being carried in procession into the dark church, all those in attendance are given individual candles which have received their light from the one Paschal Candle. When the Paschal Candle is placed in its prominent candle stand in the church, the church’s lights are turned back on, the candle is incensed, and the deacon (or a priest, or a lay cantor if need be) intones one of the most evocative and poetic hymns of praise in all liturgy: the Easter Proclamation—also known as the Exsultet, named after the first word of the Latin original. The liturgy’s symbolic movement has been from darkness to light; now words and music are used to praise and thank God for what the light represents: God’s saving activity throughout human history, culminating in Christ’s defeat of death and resurrection from the dead.

To appreciate fully the function of this great hymn on this most holy of nights, it is important to note that this portion of the Easter Vigil has not always been the only example of a “service of light.” Such services were once commonplace. Imagine how precious a candle, as the only source of light, must have been to families and monastic communities alike as the day came to an end and the sun began to set in Gaul, Spain, and other areas in the early Middle Ages. There were of course no electric street lights, no lamps available at the touch of a switch. Candles were costly, and often a single candle provided the sole source of light throughout the impenetrable darkness of the night. The importance of such a light found liturgical expression in evening lamp-lighting services called lucernaria. In monastic communities these often served as a kind of prelude to



THE EXSULTET: CHRIST OUR LIGHT

all-night vigils, especially on important feast days. The hymn and prayer texts which accompanied the lucernaria made ready use of the solitary light—this one sign of security and hope enclosed by an otherwise dark night—as a symbol of Christ as the light to the world. It is no wonder, then, that a most elaborate Lucernarium came to climax the opening moments of the Vigil of Easter, the most important vigil of the year.

In texts prior to the early Middle Ages, we find that a lengthy prayer of blessing of the candle was used in Rome and in the areas most influenced by Roman liturgy. In areas of northern Europe, however, the practice of a deacon intoning a proclamation of praise in the presence of the Easter Light became customary, and during the course of the Middle Ages, this was eventually imported into regular Roman practice as well. It is quite possible that the earliest of these Easter Proclamations were improvised, but by the Middle Ages the text we now know as the Exsultet became the standard hymn for the Easter Vigil in the West. In fact, in the important and influential Sacramentary compiled from both Roman and Northern European sources for the 9th century court of Charlemagne, we find the Exsultet essentially as we know it today. Despite its antiquity, this 1200-plus year old Latin text is nearly identical to the one in our Missal today, except that the older one is about one third longer. In this early Exsultet, there was an entire long section devoted to a rich symbolism drawn from the activities of bees. In our present version, this has been reduced to two references to the role of bees in the production of the wax which makes up the sacred candle—language which has been noticeably restored in the new English translation of the Exsultet. In Southern Italy during the later Middle Ages the Exsultet was often written out on elaborately decorated scrolls. As the deacon progressed through the long text, the assembly was able to see beautiful illuminations accompanying the various parts of the text. These illustrations on the “Exsultet Rolls” were painted upside down in relation to the text and musical notation, so that onlookers would see the figures right side up as the long scroll unfurled.

Despite its antiquity, this text still serves splendidly as a present-day expression of Easter joy and exuberant thanksgiving. Rich with patristic allusions, the Exsultet also provides a preview of the scriptural and theological themes that will ground the rest of the Easter Vigil liturgy. Salvation history, especially God’s deliverance of his Chosen People from Egyptian slavery and exile are prominent both in the Exsultet, and the extended Liturgy of the Word that will follow it. The text poetically recalls the Passover Feast; the candle present before the assembly is likened to the pillar of fire which guided Israel in its desert journey; their miraculous passage through the Red Sea serves as both a sign of deliverance and as a prefiguring of the waters of Baptism, another prominent element of Easter Vigils both ancient and modern. Having recalled key moments of the Old Covenant, the New Covenant between God and humanity is proclaimed eloquently in terms of the brilliant Light of Christ dispelling the darkness of sin and death for all time.



THE EXSULTET: CHRIST OUR LIGHT

As is fitting for a text of this importance and solemnity, the Exsultet should always be sung—unless singing it worthily would be truly impossible. The chant notation in the Missal is not difficult to sing, but the Easter Proclamation is lengthy, so preparation and practice well in advance is essential. It is also important to take note of the rubrical instructions concerning the Exsultet which are contained in the Missal. Deciding which of the various options best suits a given community and the capabilities of its ministers will go a long way to ensuring a rendition of the Exsultet which is both dignified and evocative of joy. As the rubrics indicate, intoning the Exsultet is primarily the responsibility of the deacon. In the absence of a deacon, it may also be sung either by the priest who is presiding, or by a concelebrant. However, if local circumstances suggest it, the instructions also permit the intoning of the Exsultet by a lay cantor, with certain indicated portions of the text being omitted. Finally, if the length of text proves daunting, the Missal also contains an abbreviated form of the Exsultet. These various options, together with the determination of which ministers will execute them, should be discussed early in the planning stages, and never left to chance at the last minute.

For centuries the Exsultet has served as a liturgical jewel of unsurpassed beauty on this, the “mother of all holy vigils”, as St. Augustine aptly described the Easter Vigil. As the Exsultet exhorts us, “Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King, let all corners of the earth be glad, knowing an end to gloom and darkness.” May this venerable Easter Proclamation serve us and our assemblies as a genuine expression of Easter hope and joy.

“Be glad, let earth be glad, as glory floods her, ablaze with light from her eternal King, let all corners of the earth be glad, knowing an end to gloom and darkness.”
-THE EXSULTET

**St. Benedict Church Bulletin
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**St. Benedict Catholic Church
Memorial Mass Society**



For a suggested donation of \$20 those who are enrolled in the Memorial Mass Society will benefit from Masses to be celebrated on Twelve First Saturday’s. A book with the names of all those enrolled will be placed near the altar for the Memorial Mass. The names of first time enrollees will be read at the first Mass in which they are remembered. When requesting enrollment in the Memorial Mass Society a blue padded Mass Card will be provided for presentation to the family of the deceased.

MEMORIAL OPPORTUNITIES



If you would like to memorialize the Altar Bread and Wine, Altar Flowers or Sanctuary candle in honor/memory of a loved one for one week, please contact the parish office.
If you would like to memorialize the candle in Our Lady of Victory Adoration Chapel in honor/memory of a loved one for one week, please contact the parish office. All intentions will be listed in the bulletin.

Cremation and Proper Handling of Cremated Remains

While you may have chosen to be cremated, remember to choose your final resting place. Although the Church earnestly recommends the pious custom of burying the bodies of the dead be observed, it does not however, forbid cremation unless it has been chosen for reasons which are contrary to Christian teaching. Cremated remains are the body of the deceased in a changed form. We should honor them as we honor the body. They must be reverently buried or entombed in a place reserved for the burial of the dead.



Father Garry is pleased to announce St. Benedict has received over \$49,109 in pledges. Our Parish goal is \$90,000. Once our goal has been reached 50% of all subsequent donations will be returned to St. Benedict in a parish rebate.

If you have yet to make your gift, pledge forms are available at the doors of the Church.

PARISH COUNSELING SERVICES

Through a joint effort of the Diocese of Trenton and Catholic Charities, licensed professional counselors are available to help parishioners with difficult issues that interfere with day-to-day functioning. This service can be accessed by contacting your pastor or parish priest who will provide additional information and a referral. The fee is \$90.00 per session. If needed, financial assistance for short term counseling (up to 6 sessions) is available through the Diocese of Trenton Parish Counseling Services.

Our Promise to Protect



The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan Abuse Hotline: **1/888-296-2965** or abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Please contact Margaret Roddy at 732/264-4712 ext. 17 or roddy@stbenedictnj.org to make arrangements for your child's baptism.

The Sacrament of Holy Matrimony

Catholics have the duty to receive the Sacrament of Matrimony in a church. Please make contact with the parish office at least one year prior to your intended marriage date to begin the preparation process. This includes attendance at a Pre-Cana Conference and several sessions with our Marriage Minister.

If you are presently in a civil marriage and desire to receive the Sacrament and enter into a valid Catholic marriage, please make contact with the parish office. We offer direction and assistance on receiving an annulment for those who are divorced and re-married. Please do not hesitate to call – the process is generally less difficult or cumbersome than imagined. Please call Lori McCahill, Director of Marriage Ministry at 732/264-4712 ext. 27 or mccahill@stbenedictnj.org

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

Parishioners who are ill or unable to get about are often the most neglected and in need. Please make contact with the parish office for any of the following ministries or services:

Anointing of the Sick – the priests will visit the persistently homebound at least twice per year but are available to come to your home anytime that there is a health crisis or a deteriorating condition. Please do not wait until the person is in the final stages of life – except for an emergency – to call for a priest.

Reception of Holy Communion – if a homebound parishioner would like to receive Holy Communion, please make contact with the parish office.

Hospital Nursing Homes – please call the office if a parishioner or a loved one is at Bayshore Community Hospital or has been moved into a local nursing home so that we can tend to the pastoral needs. For family members hospitalized outside of the area the in-house chaplaincy services can tend to the immediate needs. One of the priests will pay a visit as requested.

Community Outreach

Help for People with Medicare (SHIP) - SHIP is a State Health Insurance Program that provides FREE, objective, confidential help to Medicare beneficiaries who have problems or questions with Medicare, Medigap, Medicare Advantage Plans, Part D and Long-Term Care. Please call Lorrie McGee, Pastoral Minister for Community Outreach at 732/264-4712 ext. 37 or mcgee@stbenedictnj.org.

Parish Choir

The Adult Choir sings for the 11:00 Mass and rehearses Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. in the church. For more information contact Adult Choir Director Tom O'Brien thomasobrienjr1@gmail.com. The Youth Choir sings on the second and fourth Sundays at the 9:30 a.m. Mass and rehearses 4:00-5:00 on Friday. The Praise Choir sings at the 5:00 p.m. Sunday Mass once a month and rehearses at 4:00 p.m. on Mass days. For more information on Youth Choir or Praise Choir or for general questions contact Music Director Ellen Remick remick@stbenedictnj.org. All singers and instrumentalists are welcome!

Parish Office
The Parish office will be closed
on Easter Monday, April 10th



We celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday on the 2nd Sunday of Easter, the last day of the Easter Octave.

Sunday, April 16th at 3pm
Recitation of the Divine Mercy Prayers & Chaplet

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Presentation by Matthew Butler
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 5pm Mass.

Please join us in this powerful prayer invoking the mercy of God for ourselves and for a world so desperately in need.

During the course of Jesus' revelations to Saint Faustina on the Divine Mercy He asked that a feast day be dedicated to the Divine Mercy on the Sunday after Easter. The liturgical texts of that day concern the institution of the Sacrament of Penance, and are already suited to such a celebration. Pope John Paul II designated this feast day on the occasion of the canonization of Sr. Faustina on April 30, 2000.



An update on:
"THE CHOSEN"

If you've watched the first two seasons of The Chosen, you don't want to miss Season 3!

The story of Jesus' ministry continues to unfold through this unprecedented series on the life of Christ. You're invited to gather weekly to view and discuss the episodes of Season 3 at 7pm Weds. - April 26- June 14. If you missed earlier episodes, now's your opportunity to "binge-watch" before Easter so that you're all caught up and can join the discussion. Just download the Chosen app, or access all episodes at:

<https://www.angel.com/watch/the-chosen>

We look forward to continuing this Gospel journey together soon!



THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
 ON DEMAND.

Discover the best Catholic content in one place. **FORMED** is a wonderful website that has been called a "Catholic Netflix". Go to **FORMED.org** and register with our parish code **HHNG3M**.



“On the Proper Disposition of Bodily Remains” based upon the Holy See’s 2016 “Instruction Regarding the Burial of the Deceased and Conservation of Ashes in the Case of Cremation.” To summarize the most recent USCCB policy statement:

1. “Every man and woman is a unity of body and soul; respect for the person necessarily includes respect for the body.”
2. The Church considers burial to be “the most appropriate way of manifesting reverence and respect for the body of the deceased” as it “clearly expresses our faith and hope in the resurrection of the body.”
3. Cremation is permitted unless it is chosen for reasons contrary to the faith.
4. Ashes from cremation are “to be laid in a sacred place” and NOT kept permanently at home, divided among family members, scattered, or encased in jewelry or other mementos.”
5. Disposition of the body or cremated ashes through burial in a sacred place preserves their memory in the Church and encourages prayer for them.
6. Two newer alternative methods for disposition of bodily remains more recently introduced fail to satisfy requirements for proper respect for the bodies of the dead:
 - a. alkaline hydrolysis: although some bone remnants that could be buried may remain, the liquids used to dissolve the greater part of the body are usually treated as wastewater.
 - b. human composting: the body is completely decomposed with accompanying plant matter to yield a single mass of compost, leaving nothing distinguishably left of the body to be laid to rest in a sacred place.
7. Neither alkaline hydrolysis nor human composting are permitted by the Catholic Church for the bodies of deceased Catholics.
8. Catholics “are obliged to respect our bodily existence throughout our lives and to respect the bodies of the deceased when their earthly lives have come to an end” ... as “witness to our faith in and hope for what God has promised us.”

“On the Moral Limits to Technological Manipulation of the Human Body.” US Bishops: Catholic Health-Care Providers Shouldn’t Perform ‘Gender-Transition’ Procedures

Such interventions are not to be performed because they do not respect the fact that God has created each person as a unity of body and soul or work toward the authentic good of the human person, the USCCB explained. ‘God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them’ (Genesis 1:27).

Jonah McKeown
National Catholic Register

March 20, 2023

The U.S. Catholic bishops released a statement Monday offering moral guidance for Catholic health-care institutions, reiterating that “gender-transition” interventions are not to be performed because they do not respect the fact that God has created each person as a unity of body and soul.

“The body is not an object, a mere tool at the disposal of the soul, one that each person may dispose of according to his or her own will, but it is a constitutive part of the human subject, a gift to be received, respected, and cared for as something intrinsic to the person,” the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Doctrine wrote.

“As the range of what we can do expands, we must ask what we should or should not do. An indispensable criterion in making such determinations is the fundamental order of the created world. Our use of technology must respect that order.”

To that end, the bishops wrote, “Catholic health care services must not perform interventions, whether surgical or chemical, that aim to transform the sexual characteristics of a human body into those of the opposite sex or take part in the development of such procedures.”

“They must employ all appropriate resources to mitigate the suffering of those who struggle with gender incongruence, but the means used must respect the fundamental order of the human body. Only by using morally appropriate means do health care providers show full respect for the dignity of each human person.”

The March 20 statement, titled “Doctrinal Note on the Moral Limits to Technological Manipulation of the Human Body,” is intended, the bishops say, to provide moral criteria for Catholic health-care institutions for discerning which medical interventions promote the authentic good of the human person and which are injurious. The bishops said they developed the statement in consultation with medical ethicists, physicians, psychologists and moral theologians.

The bishops note that modern technology offers chemical, surgical and genetic interventions for the functioning of the human body as well as for modifying its appearance. There are two scenarios, they said, whereby “technological interventions” can be morally justified: when they are aimed at repairing a defect in the body or sacrificing a part of the body for the sake of the whole, such as with amputation. These kinds of interventions “respect the fundamental order and finality inherent in the human person.”

However, gender-transition surgery “regards this order as unsatisfactory in some way and proposes a more desirable order, a redesigned order,” and thus is not morally permissible.

“These technological interventions are not morally justified either as attempts to repair a defect in the body or as attempts to sacrifice a part of the body for the sake of the whole,” the bishops asserted.

The bishops said one of the reasons for this moral calculus is that the “transitioning” person’s organs, which undergo mutilation and reconstruction during the gender-transition process, are not disordered but are healthy. Moreover, “when a part of the body is legitimately sacrificed for the sake of the whole body, whether by the entire removal or substantial reconfiguration of a bodily organ, the removal or reconfiguring of the bodily organ is reluctantly tolerated as the only way to address a serious threat to the body. Here, by contrast, the removal or reconfiguring is itself the desired result.”

Discussing the proliferation of “gender-transition” medical interventions, the bishops noted that Catholic health institutions are not to take part in these interventions because they do not respect the “fundamental order of the human body” as being “sexually differentiated.”

“Such interventions, thus, do not respect the fundamental order of the human person as an intrinsic unity of body and soul, with a body that is sexually differentiated,” the bishops continued.

“The soul does not come into existence on its own and somehow happen to be in this body, as if it could just as well be in a different body. A soul can never be in another body, much less be in the wrong body,” the bishops wrote.


“Because of this order and finality, neither patients nor physicians nor researchers nor any other persons have unlimited rights over the body, they must respect the order and finality inscribed in the embodied person.”

The bishops quoted Pope Francis, who wrote in his encyclical *Laudato Si*: “The acceptance of our bodies as God’s gift is vital for welcoming and accepting the entire world as a gift from the Father and our common home, whereas thinking that we enjoy absolute power over our own bodies turns, often subtly, into thinking that we enjoy absolute power over creation.”

Relying on medical interventions that do not respect the body-soul unity is a “mistake,” they wrote.

“An approach that does not respect the fundamental order will never truly solve the problem in view; in the end, it will only create further problems. The Hippocratic tradition in medicine calls upon all health care providers first and foremost to ‘do no harm.’ Any technological intervention that does not accord with the fundamental order of the human person as a unity of body and soul, including the sexual difference inscribed in the body, ultimately does not help but, rather, harms the human person.”

Respect yours in the Lord,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David M. O'Connell, C.M." The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

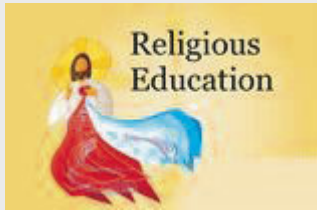
Most Reverend David M. O’Connell, C.M., J.C.D.
Bishop of Trenton

Faith Formation

Mrs. Nancy Arkin
Director of Faith Formation
732-264-4712 ext. 26
email: arkin@stbenedictnj.org

Mrs. Loretta Assini
Administrative Assistant
732-264-4712 ext. 24
email: assini@stbenedictnj.org

Mr. Ciro Saverino
Coordinator of the 7/8 Confirmation Program
Coordinator of Youth (Middle and High School)
and Young Adult Ministries
732-264-4712 ext. 12
email: saverino@stbenedictnj.org



ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER ACADEMY IS SUSPENDED!

All registration requests must be made directly to the Faith Formation Office.

If you plan to attend, please register as soon as possible by contacting Ms. Loretta Assini at our office at 732-264-4712 ext. 24

Week 1 openings are extremely limited.
Grades 1, 3 & 5 are full.

Grades 3 & 7 are closed Week 2.

There is no class for 7 Grade offered Week One or Week 2; only Week 3 is left.

Catechists & Volunteers are still needed for all weeks of Summer Academy -

(June 26-30, July 10-14 & July 17-21).
8:45am-2:45pm (arrival time - 8:15am)

Incoming 8th Graders can register on their x2Vol account.
Teens and Adults can register on

<https://parish.stbenedictholmdel.org/teaching-aides-volunteers>

- We work with an adaptive curriculum for a summer intensive program; lessons plans and ideas are provided.
- Teacher positions are paid, grades 1-7 are available, with commitment of at least one week. Contact Nancy Arkin at arkin@stbenedictnj.org for more information. Please fill out Catechist Form by using the above link.
- Background check and fingerprinting required for participation
- Volunteer help is also needed as aides, door and hall monitors, etc. Come and be a part of the vital ministry of Catechesis, helping to hand on faith in Jesus Christ to the next generation of the Church!



This Sunday's reading for children
Catholic Brain St. Benedict code: **STB19535**



Middle School Youth Group

The St. Benedict Middle School Youth Group is a faith-based group for children who are in grades 6, 7, & 8. This group strives to show the students that our faith is alive and that our God is fun, exciting, dynamic, and loving. As a youth group community, we focus on loving our brothers and sisters, our community, and our God. Please email Ciro Saverino for additional information Saverino@stbenedictnj.org.



Children who need to be caught up on faith formation and sacraments may attend a 6-8 week class depending on the circumstance. For additional information please contact Nancy Arkin in the Faith Formation office 732-264-4712 ext. 26



Are you a baptized Roman Catholic, have made your First Communion, are over the age of 18 and have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation? If you would like additional information please email Nancy Arkin at arkin@stbenedictnj.org or by calling 732/264-4712 ext.26

RCIA might just be for you!



RCIA is for someone who:

- Is interested in becoming Catholic
- Was never baptized
- Was baptized in another Christian denomination
- Is married to a Catholic and is interested in sharing their spouses faith.

RCIA is time of exploration. We gather to discuss the truths, teachings, and practices of the Catholic Faith in an open forum, with sound presentations and lively discussions.

Maybe you are baptized Catholic but have not received the Sacrament of Eucharist and Confirmation? This is the place for you to grow in faith. Remember, it is never too late to receive the sacraments. Please call Nancy Arkin at 732-264-4712 ext. 26 if you have any questions.

God Bless Our Confirmandi
MARCH 23, 2023



Mason Michael Armstrong
Jason Joseph Arvin Jr.
Holly Josephine Bellofatto
Ava Marie Bielan
Danielle Stephanie Brady
Elliot Sebastian Bronowich
Joseph Vincent Brookfing
Madison Cecilia Burgos
Michael Jeremiah Butler
Brian Nicholas Cannizzaro
Jenna Claire Cannizzaro
Justin Anthony Carlson
Grace Angela Caruncho
Eva Theresa Cioffi
Michael James Colini
Stephen Richard Cook
Vivian Gemma Costanzo
Mia Elizabeth Cuccurullo
Brendan Philip Cullen
Joseph Peter D'Angelo
Taylor Irene DeLeonibus
Giada Maria DeMaio
Noah Carlo Acutis DeMasi
Carmine Michael Dente
Christian Michael Donnelly
Liam Ehgus Dorr
Emily Antoinette Dragotti
Christopher Anthony Drew
Jadan Elizabeth Ann Duffy
Noah Thomas Eckert
Cooper Antonio Estok
Mark John Faneli
April Katharine Dixel Febo
Charlotte Elizabeth Ferranti
Luke Michael Fidalgo-Simon
Kayla Angela Fitzpatrick
Lily Joan Fitzpatrick
Sean Damien Gaffney
Jody Angela Gan
Jonathan Anthony Gardell
Julianna Alexandra Gelato
Charles Bernard Geoghan
Kayla Teresa Giacona
Lucas Peter Giermanski
Josie Joan Gillingham
Cecilia Luke Granatelli
Zach Joseph Green
Alexis Teresa Guadagno

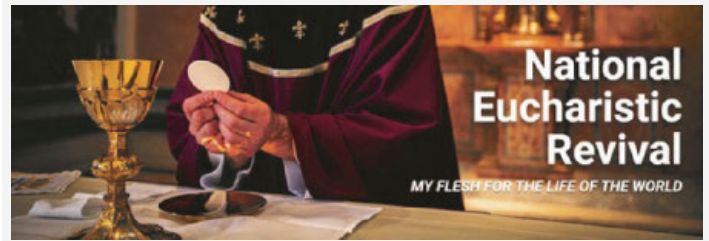
Kevin Joseph Haluska
Tyler Edward Stephen Hopkins
Nolan Hyacinth Hughes
Matthew Thomas Jankowsky
Gian-Carlo Michael Jean-Bart
Maggie Lucy Kauffman
Alexander Edward Kay
Madison Therese Koncewicz
Elizabeth Rita Kyroslos
Nicholas Oscar Lancia
Hannah Bernadette Lane
Daniel John Lavan
Wyatt Michael Lewis
Lia Maria LoCicero
Ava Marie Lombardo
Keira Gall Luizzi
Katelyn Rose Marano
Elizabeth Philomena Markarian
John Francis Mascarella
Ryan Francis Mazzella
Ashley Joan McDonald
James Gabriel McGrath
Logan Bartholomew Merrifield
Vincent Michael Miano
Alyanna Cecilia Miravalles
Christina Carmen Moreira
Aidan Peter Mullan
Noralee Rose Mullins
Averie Josephine O'Brien
Paul J. Paul Pape
Isabela Rose Polinger
Sofia Cecilia Primiano
Christian Benjamin Ramirez
Abigail Elizabeth Rehfeld
Joel John Rehfeld
Amanda Anastasia Rentas
Johnathan Thomas Rescate
Kaitlyn Elizabeth Retig
Raymond John Reyes
Philip Christopher Roche
Nicolette Teresa Rogowski
Lilby Christine Roser
Lucy Alena Sakowski
Maxim Jude Sakowski
Michael Anthony Sanzone
Anthony Joseph Scarfone
Brayden Carmen Schroetter
Taylor Gemma Schiffner

Ava Grace Sciandra
Mia Josephine Sciandra
Matthew Bartholomew Scotto
Jack James Sorrenti
Hunter Francis Smith
Gianna Adelina Straniero
Colleen Mary Magdalene Sullivan
Alexa Bianca Tantillo
Kayla Agatha Tarniowy
James Leo Thorn
Elizabeth Chiara Tishler
Sienna Catherine Ulrich
Sean John Vallely
Sophia Faith Vanario
Anderson Matthew Vanderham
Matthew Antonio Vassallo
Althea Rose Vespia Kerwin
Joseph Sebastian Weber
Mason Joseph Weckherlen





Lori McCahill: Director of Marriage Ministry
mccahill@stbenedictnj.org or 732-264-4712 ext. 27



What is the Goal of the National Eucharistic Revival?

The National Eucharistic Revival and National Eucharistic Congress are a direct response to the Holy Father’s call for a “pastoral and missionary conversion which cannot leave things as they presently are” so that the Church in the United States might be “permanently in a state of mission” (Evangelii Gaudium, n. 25). Grounded in prayer and seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the National Eucharistic Revival has four primary goals:

- To provide a more profound encounter with Jesus Christ in the Sunday liturgy as a point of unity among all Catholics, and through this powerful encounter, find personal healing and courage to take the Gospel to a world in need of authentic love – the love of Christ found in the Eucharist.
- To spark personal conversions through the joyful discovery of a relationship with Christ by encountering the love of God present in Jesus in the Eucharist.
- To elevate the truth and practices of our Catholic faith through the rediscovery of the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist – the Source and Summit of our Church and of who we are as a people of God.
- To form, inspire, and launch missionary disciples, filled with love of God and neighbor that comes from an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist, to the margins of the Church and the world.

Additional information can be found at
<https://dioceseoftrenton.org/eucharistic-revival>



Marriage Ministry presents
Conks & Canvas
April 21, 2023

Friday, April 21
6:30-8:30 pm
Father Anderson
Library
Couples & Singles Welcome!

Enjoy an evening of painting a beautiful spring canvas of cherry blossoms and love birds (as pictured above) paired with a sip of wine. Have a complimentary glass of wine on us. Feel free to bring your own additional wine and snacks of your choice! No painting experience necessary, class will be taught by Mrs. Sue Misch. Space is limited. Please register by Sunday, April 16, 2023!

Friday, April 21 6:30-8:30pm in the FAL
Cost: \$25 a person, \$40 a couple

Participant Name(s): _____

Single(s) Attending: _____ x \$25
Couple(s) Attending: _____ x \$40
Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____
(Cash or check made payable to "St. Benedict Church")

Please contact Lori McCahill, Director of Marriage Ministry, with any questions at
mccahill@stbenedictnj.org or 732-264-4712 ext. 27.



Please ask Our Lord for more dedicated, holy priests, deacons, and consecrated men and women. May they be inspired by Jesus Christ, supported by our faith community, and respond generously to God's gift of vocation."

Please continue to pray for our Seminarians



Lord Jesus, Son of the Eternal Father and Mary Immaculate, give to our young people the generosity necessary to follow your call, and the courage required to overcome all obstacles to their vocation.

Give to parents that faith, love, and spirit of sacrifice which will inspire them to offer their children to God's service, and to rejoice whenever one of their children is called to the priesthood or religious life. May your example and that of your Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph, encourage both young people and parents to let your grace sustain them.

Amen.

Living

- Fr. Francis DiSpigno, O.F.M.
- Fr. Brennan Joseph Farleo, O.F.M.Conv.
- Fr. John Frambes, O.F.M.
- Fr. Anthony Kall, O.F.M.Conv.
- Fr. Stephen Kluge, O.F.M.

Seminarians of the Diocese

- Brian Leonard, Kyle Holler, Jesse Kundrat
- Dominic Amilcare

Discerning

- Daniel, David, Joseph, Andrew, Jake, David
- Kieran and Clarence

Deceased

- Fr. James J. Duffy
- Msgr. James T. Connell
- Fr. Michael E. Kane
- Fr. Cornelius McGonigle
- Fr. Vincent Lenyi
- Fr. Charles A. Dusten
- Fr. Michael A. O'Reilly
- Fr. William P. Treacy
- Msgr. Joseph V. Kozak
- Msgr. Robert T. Bulman

**Why Not You?
Why Not Now?**

Wondering who to talk to? Did you know Father Garry serves on our Diocesan Vocation team? Call or make an appointment and he would be happy to answer any questions.

Contact: Father Garry Koch-frgarry@stbenedictnj.org or
Father Christopher Dayton-frchris@strosebelmar.com



Our Blessed Mother models a profound witness to love and life in the Gospel account of the Visitation. Luke's Gospel tells us that, when Mary learns that her cousin Elizabeth is pregnant, she travels to the hill country "in haste" (Lk 1:39). Despite being unexpectedly pregnant herself, Mary responds to this news with urgency.

She embarks on a long and perhaps difficult journey to be with her cousin during her time of need, bearing Christ to her as He lay quietly hidden in Mary's womb. And, although Jesus is veiled from view, when Mary first arrives John the Baptist leaps for joy in Elizabeth's womb, recognizing the presence of Christ (Lk 1:44). Mary, with Jesus, spends the next three months at Elizabeth's side.

The witness of our Blessed Mother invites us to become more aware of the needs of pregnant and parenting moms in our own parishes and communities. A woman with an unexpected pregnancy may have any number of fears and challenges: facing judgment from her friends and family, losing her job or housing, or being abandoned by the father of her child.

Following Mary's example, we can ask ourselves how to better know these mothers, listen to them, seek understanding, and help them obtain the necessities of life for themselves and their children. How can we, like the Blessed Mother, lovingly support mothers in welcoming and caring for God's gift of life?

Throughout the whole of Scripture, Mary's words are few. Yet, in her sacred encounter with Elizabeth, a powerful declaration pours from her lips. Mary proclaims to all generations that the Lord *lifts up the lowly, fills the hungry with good things, and remembers his promise of mercy from age to age* (Lk 1:46-56). In both word and deed, Mary speaks a message of *hope*—not only to Elizabeth, but also to every mother in need and to each of us.

Mary's witness is an invitation to step out in love and compassion. It is a summons to *make haste* to help vulnerable women who may be isolated and alone. By doing so, we too can bear Christ within us and help others experience His presence.

Inspired by the Blessed Mother's example and guided by the Holy Spirit, may we offer Christ's presence and love to mothers in their time of need through our faithful service and support.

Healing the Wounds of Abortion

Rachel's Vineyard's Retreat is a chance to focus on this painful time in your life through a supportive non-judgmental process, in an atmosphere of confidentiality, understanding, and compassion. It is designed to help both women and men experience the mercy and compassion of God. If you have suffered through an abortion and have isolated yourself from healing and forgiveness, you might consider attending one our retreat weekends. For more information, contact Judy Warkeniewicz at 732/536-6871. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

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For assistance, please call 732/264-4712 ext. 33, and leave a message. Your call will be returned.

Please do not leave a message for financial assistance on the Emergency line.

For questions or to volunteer please contact
Mary Mykityshyn-marymyk23@gmail.com



FOOD PANTRY HOURS

The St. Benedict Food Pantry is open on
Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Saturdays by appointment

With the difficult economic times we are all experiencing the St. Benedict Food Pantry is seeing an increase in the number of new clients seeking assistance. The Pantry is also witnessing a decrease in products being provided by our local food bank. Your donations are greatly needed and are always appreciated. Please help!

FOOD PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED:

Below is a suggested list of items needed for our Food Pantry, however all donations are welcome.

- Diapers (all sizes)
- Baby Food (stages 2/3)
- Baby Wipes
- Children's cereal and snacks
- Coffee/Tea
- Juice (for adults and children)
- Soup
- Bar Soap
- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Toothpaste, Toothbrushes and Mouthwash
- Laundry Detergent
- Dish Detergent
- Toilet Tissue, Paper Towels, etc.

When donating please check expiration dates as we cannot accept expired items.

Thank you for your generosity.



He Is Risen

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Rejoicing with you in God's marvelous gift of life.

Have a Blessed and Happy Easter



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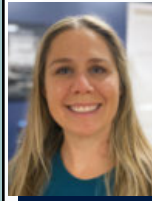
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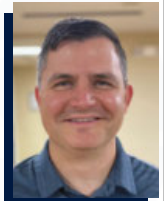
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