

SAINT BENEDICT

1317 Eggert Road
Amherst, NY 14226
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14th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house." - Mk 6:4

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1986, 1970 CCD.

July 4, 2021

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 8:00am and 10:00am

WEEKDAY:

7:00am M-F

CONFESION:

Saturdays from 4:00 to 4:30pm

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:

Monday -Friday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.
Other times by appointment.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



Rev. Msgr. Robert E. Zapfel, S.T.D.

Parish Mission Statement:

Saint Benedict Parish: An environment for hearing God's word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, and celebration.

BAPTISMS: Are celebrated at most weekend Masses. Please contact Andrew Pitisi, 836-6444, to schedule an appointment, answer questions and preparations.

MARRIAGES: Registered parishioners who have been members of our Saturday / Sunday worshiping community for at least 3 months are asked to notify the rectory at least 6 months prior to planned wedding day. A marriage preparation course is required for all couples.

SICK CALLS: Anytime. Call the rectory as soon as possible.

NEW PARISHIONERS: We welcome all who wish to join our parish. Please speak with Andrew Pitisi before or after a weekend mass to register. If you have questions, please call the rectory.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: We gladly issue letters of recommendation for registered parishioners who have been asked to be sponsors at Baptism or Confirmation, provided they meet the following criteria:

- Attend Mass regularly.
- Have been confirmed.
- If married, have done so in conformity with the laws of the Church.
- Are sending their children to Catholic school or religious instructions.

Welcome!

You are a stranger but once. You are a child of God, redeemed by Our Savior, Jesus Christ. In God's name, we welcome you. May you find friendship, peace and serenity in our loving and worshipping community. If you are a visitor interested in joining our parish community or the Catholic Faith, please call the parish office (834-1041).

If you are returning after being away... welcome home!

SAINT BENEDICT DIRECTORY

Rectory:

Office **834-1041**
Parish Email.....rectory@saintbenedicts.com
Parish Fax 835-5949
Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Robert E. Zapfel, S.T.D. 834-1041
Business Manager: Dawn M. Cahill 834-1041 ext 301
Email dcahill@saintbenedicts.com
Administrative Asst.: Rachel Hoff 834-1041 ext 303
Email.....rhoff@saintbenedicts.com

School:

Office **835-2518**
Principal: Mary Alice Bagwell 835-2518 ext 201
Email.....mbagwell@saintbenedicts.com
Nurse: Mrs. Melinda Kraus 835-2518 ext 203
Tuition: Leanne Antonucci.....lantonucci@saintbenedicts.com
Extended Day Program: Shawn Kaznica 444-8248
Email.....skaznica@le3-inc.org

Lifelong Faith Formation:

Office **836-6444**
Faith Formation & Youth Ministry: Andrew Pitisi
Email: apitisi@saintbenedicts.com

Organizations:

Altar Servers: Dee Wood 710-7028
Email: ddkins@verizon.net
Bereavement Committee: Elaine Wendel 834-1041
Eucharistic Ministers: Dolores Byron 833-8030
Holy Name Society: Andrew Rotola 833-5644
Ladies of Charity: Mickey Delaney 832-9230
Lectors: Ruth Scheda 834-9149
Music Director: Maria Chomicka 218-3805
Email.....mchomicka@saintbenedicts.com
Nurse Ministry: Carol Mathner 633-1693
Home School Association: Beth Porterfield 835-2518
Christa Bebak 835-2518
Email: HSA@saintbenedicts.com
Respect Life Committee 834-1041
Rosary Altar Society: Kathy Sieracki 838-4792
Mary Long 837-8940
St. Vincent de Paul: Jim Byron 833-8030
Senior Citizens: Andrew Rotola 833-5644
School Board: Alice Russ 834-6207
Ushers: Leonard Swiat 835-4625

Pastoral Council and Officers:

President: James Maher 913-6784
Trustees: Amy Bradley, Christopher Flynn

MINISTRIES FOR THE SICK

If someone is having surgery and would like the Sacrament of the Sick, please contact the rectory to make arrangements with one of the priests. **In an emergency please do not hesitate to call the rectory day or night.**

OUR CALL TO HOLINESS

If anything has been made clear to us over the past year, and even more recently this past week, is how life is so fragile. The recent tragedy in Surfside, FL reminds us that nothing can be taken for granted, especially when it comes to the loss of loved ones taken from us so unexpectedly. As I watched the breaking news, and listened to the words of pain and disbelief from the countless individuals waiting with hope to hear any news of their loved ones, I found myself wiping away tears. Even though I knew none of the people lost, they were my brothers and sisters. It awakened within me the real meaning of the "Body of Christ." They were our brothers and sisters - young and old, male and female, Jewish, Christian, Haitian, Canadian, Cuban, Floridian. If one part of the body is broken or lost, we are all affected and diminished by their passing.

Most of us remember 9/11. Such experiences of life touch us in the most profound ways, not only to the tragedy of loss but, to the dignity and beauty of each person. At times like these, we join our hearts and prayers to those who have lost their lives, confident that they now know the full loving embrace of our God. We stand side by side with those who have lost their loved ones. We can never fill in the holes created by those who have passed. We can, however, awaken within ourselves a promise to join them in prayer, as well as commitment and service to celebrate the dignity of life and build up all our brothers and sisters as they struggle to cope with their grief.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen! May their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Our Lady of Consolation, pray for us.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Ever feel like you needed to talk to someone about something going on in your life? Feel like no one is there, has time, or understands? Perhaps a Stephen Minister could be that person. St. Benedict has five wonderful, fully trained Stephen ministers who are ready to lend a listening ear and offer prayers for you. Call 716-836-6444 if you are interested in using this awesome new ministry.

MEMORIAL MASS

There will be a Memorial Mass for Marjorie J. Ahrens on Monday, July 5th at 9:00am. Margie, who was a parishioner for more than 60 years, died in January during the pandemic. All those who knew her are welcome to come and celebrate her life.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Our yearly tradition will continue once again this summer. August 9th through the 13th. The theme is Cathletics: Training to be Champions for Christ. Every child from kindergarten through 5th grade is welcome to participate and all other grades are welcome to help lead VBS. \$30 per child. Multiple child discount available. Space will fill up quick. Please email Andrew at apitisi@saintbenedicts.com for more information.

EVENING OF PRAYER AND EDUCATION FOR ALL LITURGICAL MINISTERS

We would like to thank all our Liturgical Ministers for all you do for our parish community, especially given the challenging times we have experienced this past year. Volunteers like you are the reason we are able to fully minister to God's people. Now that we have returned to full participation at our Sunday celebration of the Eucharist, we are inviting all our ministers to come together for a time of prayer and updating. Everyone who has been active in these ministries will be expected to attend one of the scheduled meetings in order to continue in their ministry.

These sessions for all ministers will include a time for prayer, training, and re-dedication to our ministerial roles. We ask that you take some time to pray about your ministry and discern if you wish to continue or discern another way to serve our community. This is an important time for all of us as we welcome back many who have been absent from Mass for numerous reasons. Our Sunday celebration is the center of our parish life. We want to help you discern your particular ministry and provide a prayerful experience for those who attend Eucharist each Sunday.

Please plan on attending one of two sessions that will be held at: **St. Leo the Great—Wednesday July 7 at 6:30pm, or St. Benedict—Thursday July 8 at 6:30pm.** You can attend either session regardless of your parish.

All parishioners are welcome to consider attending either of the sessions if they are interested in serving as a new Lector, Usher, Eucharistic Minister, Cantor, or member of the choir. Your service will be a blessing for our celebrations.

Contact the parish office at 834-1041 if you are planning on attending, so we can make appropriate preparations. With your help and dedication, we will continue to celebrate Word and Sacrament with great dignity, nourishing our people with gifts of grace that will build up the Body of Christ here in our parish. If you have any questions, please call Andrew Pitisi at 836-6444.

We are living in a time of great change and opportunity, but all things are possible because the Lord is with us.

- Msgr. Robert E. Zapfel

ALTAR SERVERS

Anyone who is interested in becoming an Altar Server should contact Andrew Pitisi, at 836-6444. Training will take place on July 13th at 6:30pm in the church. Anyone who has received the sacrament of First Eucharist is eligible to be trained as a server.

FIAT

St. Gregory the Great Parish invites you to "FIAT," our monthly Eucharistic Conference. Come and rest with the Lord during Adoration. Enjoy lively praise and worship music, and listen to a faith-filled talk. Prayer Team Ministry follows at the end of the evening. Our special guest for July is Deacon Ken Monaco, former Federal Investigator and current Chaplain at Kenmore Mercy Hospital. He will share his thoughts on the cardinal virtue of justice. FIAT is open to everyone, young and old alike. Our next night will be Saturday, July 10 at 7:00pm in the church.

WEIDNER'S CHICKEN BBQ

On July 17 from 4-7pm at St. Leo Parish Center of St. Vincent de Paul Parish, 2748 Military Road., Niagara Falls. Dine-in or take-out. For further information or to pre-order, call Caroline at 716-283-2715, ext. 200.

BOTTLE & CAN RECYCLING DRIVE

On Saturday, July 24 from 10am-1pm at Our Lady of Pompeii, 129 Laverack Ave., Lancaster. Volunteers will be on site in the parking lot to remove your redeemable cans and bottles from your auto. Proceeds to benefit Our Lady of Pompeii parish.

SAMUEL P. CAPEN GARDEN WALK



The 20th annual Capen Garden Walk will be Saturday and Sunday, July 17-18, 2021, from 10:00am to 4:00pm, rain or shine. This is a free self-guided tour of about 60 private gardens and carefully nurtured public spaces in the neighborhoods surrounding the University at Buffalo South Campus. In addition, some of the private gardens will be open for Capen by Night on Saturday, July 17 from 8:00—10:00pm.

The Capen Garden Walk is designed to encourage neighborhood beautification and collaboration, as well as to build strong communities. It is named for Samuel P. Capen, the first full-time, salaried Chancellor at the University at Buffalo. The Samuel P. Capen Garden Walk began in 2002 with 24 gardens, in an effort to showcase the neighborhoods near the University at Buffalo, including University Heights, Eggertsville, Amherst, and the Town of Tonawanda.

Maps for the walk will be available at the UB Anderson Gallery - 1 Martha Jackson Place, Buffalo (between Montrose and Englewood Avenues) until 4:00pm both days. Free parking is available at the gallery. Maps will also be available to download on our webpage after July 14.

For more information, or to download the maps, visit:
<http://ourheights.org/GardenWalk/>.

WEEKLY PRAYER INTENTIONS

Sunday

For Couples Preparing for Marriage

Let us pray for couples about to be married. May their time of preparation draw them ever closer to each other and to the Lord by a deepening of their faith.

Monday

For Fathers

Let us pray for all fathers and those who have shown God's love to us. May God make them beacons of light, sources of encouragement, and grant them health and peace.

Tuesday

For Those Who Minister in our Parishes

Let us pray for all those who minister in our parishes. May they bring the joy and love of the Lord to those whom they are called to serve.

Wednesday

For Graduates

Let us pray that the Lord will bless all those who are graduating, that they will use their education and gifts for the good of others, bringing about a deeper awareness of God's love.

Thursday

For Blessings as our Churches Reopen

Let us pray for a joyful return for all those who have been separated from our parish this past year, that they will find a welcoming, Christ-like community open their return.

Friday

For an Increase of Vocations

Let us pray that the Lord will open the hearts of men and women to respond to the call to priesthood and religious life. May they dedicate themselves to lives of service for the Gospel.

Saturday

For the Unemployed

Let us pray that the Lord will help the unemployed find work and the means to sustain a full life that brings dignity through meaningful work.

ALUMNI MASS

Cardinal O'Hara Alumni Mass will be on August 1 at 10:30am at the school - 39 O'Hara Road, Tonawanda. Celebrant will be Fr. Charles Jagodzinski, OFM Conv., who taught at O'Hara for 13 years. For more information, visit www.cardinalohara.com or email rorr@cardinalohara.com.

HEALTH & WELLNESS CORNER

Diabetic Education Classes will be offered by Catholic Health virtually. It is a three part series to learn how to manage your diabetes successfully. The series will be held July 19th, 20th, and 21st from 9:00am to 11:30am.

You can register online at chsbuffalo.org or by calling Health Connections at 716-447-6205.

HARVEST HOUSE

I want to pass along a great big thank you and God bless to all the parishioners of St. Benedict for their extremely generous support of our Bottles for Babies program. The last group of bottles brought over by Alan Long contained \$214.52!



Last year, 5,551 children were provided clothing, furnishings, and other basic items free of charge because of caring, compassionate people like you. With our current economy, we are overwhelmed by requests for our services and it is your gift that is making a difference and is truly appreciated. Your donation brings hope and comfort to the children we serve by allowing Harvest House to purchase everything from crib mattresses to car seats and coats to socks and underwear.

Thank you again for your faith in the Baby & Children's Ministry and for your continuing support of the Bottles for Babies campaign. May God bless you as you have so abundantly blessed us.

- Linda Tatu, CEO

CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

Congratulations to the following parishioners who achieved the honor roll in the fourth quarter:

Ryan Lawley
Mark MacDonald
John Scalisi
Luke Lalli
T. Finnegan Bluemle
Peter Cheney
Connor Lawley
John Perry

CARDINAL O'HARA HIGH SCHOOL 60TH YEAR CELEBRATION

Cardinal O'Hara High School will kick off its 60th year celebration at the O'Hara Fest All Year Reunion on Friday, July 30 at 7:00pm at the Cardinal O'Hara Sports Complex. Cardinal O'Hara opened on September 8, 1961 and all classes are welcome to celebrate along with all former teachers and staff who are invited back for the event. Ticket includes beer, wine, soda, and food. In addition, the classes of 1970 and 1971 will also celebrate their 50th and 51st reunions that evening at a special location on the campus. For more information, visit www.cardinalohara.com or email rorr@cardinalohara.com.

MINI-FESTIVAL

Our Lady of Czestochowa Parish will host a mini-festival on Sunday, August 29 at 57 Center Avenue, North Tonawanda. Outdoor Mass at 10:30am, followed by a bake sale, basket raffle, along with kids' games and food trucks. The day ends at 2:00pm with our Megabucks Drawing. Plan on joining us as we celebrate with faith, family, and friends.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

SATURDAY July 3

4:00pm Confession
5:00pm Mass

SUNDAY July 4

8:00am Mass
10:00am Mass

MONDAY July 5

7:00am Mass

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

TUESDAY July 6

7:00am Mass
7:00pm Book Club, *St. Leo the Great*

WEDNESDAY July 7

7:00am Mass
6:30pm Ministry Training, *St. Leo the Great*

THURSDAY July 8

7:00am Mass
6:30pm Ministry Training, *Church*

FRIDAY July 9

7:00am Mass

SATURDAY July 10

4:00pm Confession
5:00pm Mass

SUNDAY July 11

8:00am Mass
10:00am Mass

OFFICE CLOSED JULY 5TH

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on Monday, July 5th in observance of Independence Day weekend. Have a safe and fun holiday!

BOOK CLUB

The book club will meet on Tuesday, July 6 at 7:00pm at St. Leo the Great to finish up discussions on Matthew Kelly's book, *I Heard God Laugh*.

TIGER'S DEN FOOD PANTRY

Thank you for your generous donations every month.

Highlighted items for July are: hand soap, shampoo, paper towels, and tissue.



Donations of any kind are welcome. Boxes are placed at the entries to the church and donations can be placed there or dropped off at the rectory. The staff at the pantry are most grateful, and have said, "We are appreciative for anything we receive."

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 3

**St. Thomas,
Apostle**

5:00pm Lila C. Marshall req.: Ellen Marshall & Susan Marshall Dowd
Living & Deceased Fathers

Sunday, July 4

**Fourteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

8:00am Robert Seitz req.: Daughter, Suzanne

10:00am Paul Ortolano

req.: Nancy Ortolano
Living & Deceased Mothers

Monday, July 5

Weekday

7:00am For the People of St. Benedict

Tuesday, July 6

Weekday

7:00am All Souls Day Intentions

Wednesday, July 7

Weekday

7:00am Shirley Carocci

req.: Jim & Dolores Byron

Thursday, July 8

Weekday

7:00am Joan F. Cuddihy

req.: Debbie & Mark Piscitello

Friday, July 9

Weekday

7:00am Janet Anderson

req.: Debbie & Mark Piscitello

Saturday, July 10

Weekday

5:00pm Dick & Jane Matty

req.: Loving Family
Living & Deceased Fathers

Sunday, July 11

**Fifteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

8:00am Catherine M. Soeder

req.: The Soeder &

Rinaldo Families

10:00am Cynthia Golden

req.: Family
Living & Deceased Mothers

MASS INTENTION REQUESTS

Mass intentions are a wonderful way for us to remember our beloved deceased and keep them in our prayers. We have Masses available throughout the year. Each Mass is \$15 and they are available at the rectory during normal business hours. Mass cards are available as well.

FINANCIAL FACTS

Weekend of June 27

Weekly Offertory: \$5,938.90

Thank you for your generosity!

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The Sanctuary Candle is lit this week:

In Thanksgiving of 50 Years of Marriage

Req.: Carol Kostyniak

Parishioners can request that the Sanctuary Candle be lit for the deceased *"in memory of"* or for the living *"for the intentions of."* The donation is \$15.00. Please stop in to the parish office or call 834-1041.



ST BENEDICT SCHOOL

A Message from Mrs. Bagwell, Principal

Dear Saint Benedict Families,

When I think back to September and the challenges our school faced; huge COVID numbers, masks, no vaccine, and no end in sight, I shudder. The faculty followed my lead combined in-person teaching alongside virtual instruction in every single classroom. They risked their personal health for the good of the students. Parents entrusted us to take care of their students. Through the support of Msgr. Zapfel and the parish, we were able to continue our mission. We endured testing in our loft, quarantines, teachers being absent with illnesses, and all the challenges that were thrown at us - WE TRIUMPHED. Not only did we survive WE THRIVED. The students grew academically, spiritually, and emotionally. Students went to mass, had classroom parties, and went on about our school year as normally as possible. We could not have been so successful without the support of our families, parish, and community. We are proud to be Tiger Strong and are looking forward to next year.

Sincerely,
MaryAlice Bagwell

*Thank
You!*





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