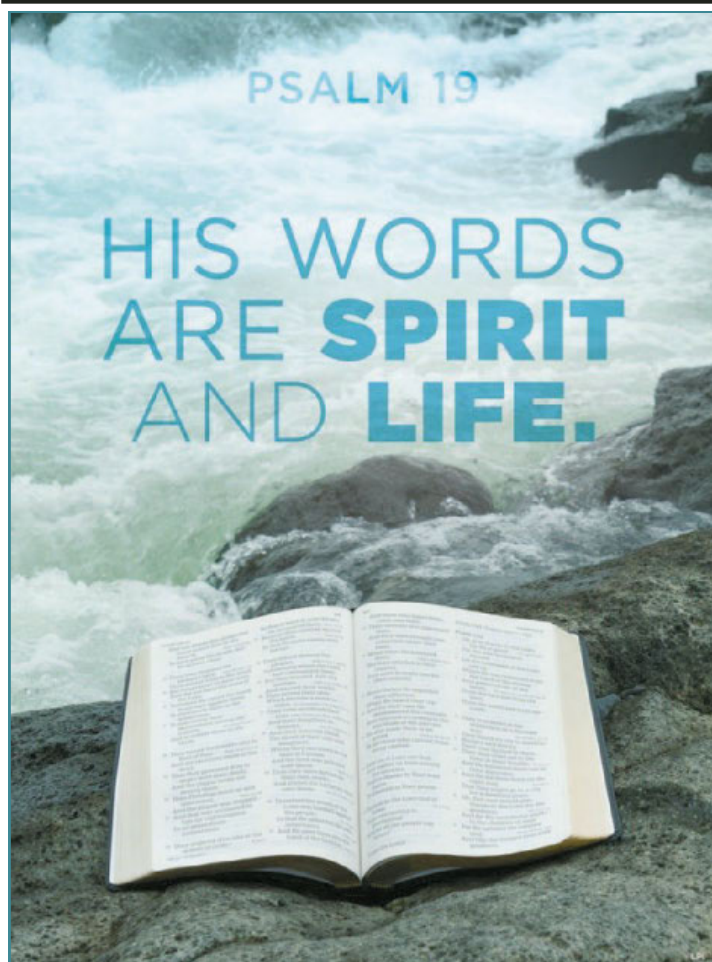


SAINT BENEDICT

1317 Eggert Road
Amherst, NY 14226
716-834-1041
www.saintbenedicts.com



January 23, 2022

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 8:00am and 10:00am

WEEKDAY:

7:00am M-F

CONFESSION:

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. Pastor

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 worshipping 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:

Office834-1041
Parish Email.....rectory@saintbenedicts.com
Parish Fax835-5949
Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Robert E. Zapfel, S.T.D.834-1041
Business Manager: Dawn M. Cahill834-1041 ext 301
Emaildcahill@saintbenedicts.com
Administrative Asst.: Laura Matulich834-1041 ext 303
Email.....lmatulich@saintbenedicts.com

School:

Office835-2518
Principal: Mary Alice Bagwell835-2518 ext 201
Email.....mbagwell@saintbenedicts.com
Nurse: MaryKay Izzo835-2518 ext 203
Tuition: Leanne Antonucci.....lantonacci@saintbenedicts.com
Extended Day Program: Shawn Kaznica444-8248
Email.....skaznica@le3-inc.org

Lifelong Faith Formation:

Office836-6444
Faith Formation & Youth Ministry: Andrew Pitisi
Email:apitisi@saintbenedicts.com

Organizations:

Altar Servers: Andrew Pitisi836-6444
Email:ddkins@verizon.net
Bereavement Committee: Elaine Wendel834-1041
Eucharistic Ministers: Dolores Byron833-8030
Holy Name Society: Andrew Rotola833-5644
Ladies of Charity: Mickey Delaney832-9230
Lectors: Ruth Scheda834-9149
Music Director: Maria Chomicka218-3805
Email.....mchomicka@saintbenedicts.com
Nurse Ministry: Carol Mathner633-1693
Home School Association: Melissa Storfer835-2518
Ellen Spencer835-2518
Email:HSA@saintbenedicts.com
Respect Life Committee834-1041
Rosary Altar Society: Kathy Sieracki838-4792
Mary Long837-8940
St. Vincent de Paul: Jim Byron833-8030
Senior Citizens: Andrew Rotola833-5644
School Board: Alice Russ834-6207
Ushers: Leonard Swiat835-4625

Pastoral Council and Officers:

President: James Maher913-6784
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 FEED MY LAMBS

When they had eaten the meal, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, Son of John, do you love me more than these?" "Yes Lord," he said, "You know I love you." At which Jesus said, "Feed my lambs."

John 21:15

Each time we approach the altar and pronounce our "Amen", we, along with Simon Peter, are responding to Jesus' question: "Do you love me?" "Of course we love you." "Then feed my sheep!"

Why is our Sunday celebration of the Eucharist so paramount to our spiritual lives?... Because it is the **Source and Summit of everything we are and do in His Name.** He has loved us to the fullest, giving His Body and Blood for our salvation - inviting us to do the same for His people - become Eucharist for others. In order to feed the lambs of Christ's flock, you and I have to come to the Eucharistic table to allow the Lord to *feed us, heal us and send us* forth.

"Amen! Yes Lord, You know we love you." He is our nourishment; He is the Bread of Life; He is the one who asks all of us: "Do you love me more than these?" Regardless of which altar, size of the parish, good music, friendly welcome or numerous ministries a church may have, He invites us to feed His sheep - all of them! From the altar of the Eucharist, where the Body of Christ summons us, we hear very clearly - "Feed my lambs!" Why?... "We love you Lord!"

FIRST RECONCILIATION UPDATE:

Our first learning session will be held on January 30, 2022, please attend 10am Mass and we will gather in the Church right after to learn and share together until 12:20pm. If you have a child or children in 2nd grade, they are eligible to begin working towards this Sacrament. If you have not gotten the material for this sacrament, please come to the first meeting and stay after, Andrew will get you set up.

FIRST COMMUNION:

Our first Parent meeting will be held on February 13, 2022 @ 10:00am Mass until 12:15pm in the Church. If your Child is in 3rd grade, has received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and would like to continue the process of receiving First Eucharist, you should attend.

GENERATIONS OF FAITH:

Our next session is on Sun., January 23, please attend 10am Mass and receive your assignment. We will then meet February 6, 2022 @ 9am. Please pay attention to the bulletin and your emails for updated information, as we may have to adjust our schedule, due to Covid.

CONFIRMATION:

Our next meeting will be held on January 30, 2022 starting with 10am Mass and then our regular session until 12:30pm in the cafeteria.

RCIA UPDATE:

We are excited to have six candidates for Sacraments for this upcoming Easter Vigil! Our team is always looking to add new members; so, if you are interested in being a part of this awesome process, please contact me, Andrew, at apitisi@saintbenedicts.com. Our next meeting will be held on Tues., February 1, 2022 @ St. Benedict, 6:30pm. If you have not received any of the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Holy Eucharist or Confirmation, or if you are returning to the Church after an absence, or if you want to just learn and talk about the Catholic Faith you are welcome to join us!

MEN'S GROUP UPDATE:

We will meet on February 10, 2022 @ 7pm in the Cafeteria of the School. All Men 21 years or older are welcome to join us. This month we will have a guest speaker.

PRE CANA

Married couples interested in helping or learning more about our Pre Cana program, please contact Andrew.

Any questions regarding the religious ed programs, please email Andrew at apitisi@saintbenedicts.com.



YOUNG ADULT PROFESSIONALS (YAP)

Skate & Sip—Friday, January 28

All young adults (21-40) welcome to join us! We will meet at 7 PM at the Classic Rink in East Aurora, skate for a bit and then head down the street to 42 North Brewing Company.

TAX TIME

If you would like a copy of your 2021 Church Contribution Statement, please contact St. Benedict's Rectory at 716-834-1014 or rectory@saintbenedicts.com. We will be glad to provide it for you via email, mail or in person pick up at the rectory. Advanced notice is appreciated.

ANNULMENT WORKSHOP

Saturday, February 5 from 9-11am at UB Newman Center in Amherst. The session will include recent changes in the process & help getting started. A small fee will cover cost of materials. Contact Barbara at 716-633-7786 or BJWTR@aol.com. Walk-ins are also welcome.

TIGER'S DEN FOOD PANTRY

Help ease the burden for many. Highlighted items for February: Sugary cereal, canned beans (all kinds), juice crackers, canned fruit and toilet paper. Donation boxes are at the entries to the church or can be dropped off at the rectory, during regular business hours.



Happy New Year!

There is no meeting in January. Our next meeting is Wednesday, February 16 at 1:00 pm in the Parish Center at St. Leo the Great, 885 Sweet Home Road, Amherst. Questions? Please contact our president Giovanna Ferraina 716.912.0874. We hope to see you there!



ST. BENEDICT SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 30 from 10:30am—12:30pm
Grades PreK3—8th. Zoom and private tours are available as well. Please see insert.

2022 DARE TO DREAM DRAWING

Help support St. Benedict School! Tickets are now on sale. The drawing will be held on March 12. Tickets can be purchased at the school or online at <https://stbens.cbo.io>. A \$25.00 donation enters you into a chance to win \$10,000.00. Other prizes include a second prize for \$2,500, the third prize of \$500, 4th -5th prizes of \$250 and lastly, 6th - 10th prizes of \$100.

BISON FUND

Tuition Assistance for Private Elementary School Students for 2022-23 school year: <http://bisonfund.com/our-scholarships>. The deadline to apply is February 28. Average amount awarded is \$1500 and the max is \$2500. Call Cindy 716-854-0869 ext.1.

STEUBENVILLE YOUTH CONFERENCE

Our high school youth group plans to participate in the Steubenville Catholic Youth Conference July 8-10, 2022, at Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio. Anyone who will be in Gr. 9-12 in 2022-23 are welcome to attend. The cost per youth is \$245 plus travel expenses; however, we are anticipating lowering the cost greatly through fundraising. **A \$50 deposit is due by January 24th.** This is a transformational experience in a total Catholic setting. Donations are very much appreciated! Please contact Michael at St. Leo the Great's parish office for more information 716-835-8905.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

We offer assistance to those who need help due to a loss of job, illness, or some other situation. Please contact Jim Byron at 833-8030. If you are interested in volunteering, to sort clothes, please call Jan and Bob Halt at 834-9968. Our St. Vincent de Paul conference meets on the third Tuesday of the month. Next meeting is January 18, at 6:30pm in the school cafeteria. All are welcome!

IT'S HERE!

\$1,510.54

THANK YOU

WITH MUCH MORE TO COME
AS PLEDGES ARE PAID



795 MAIN ST., BUFFALO NY | 716.847.8740

PARISH FACEBOOK PAGE

Www.facebook.com/StBenedictsAmherst. Take a tour of St. Benedict Parish. Visit behind the scenes with the adventurous duo: Maria and Andrew; catch up on current church events, check out the Sanctuary or join in prayer with friends who visit our page. Be sure to “LIKE” us.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Parables of Jesus will be held from Tues, Feb 22nd to Thurs, Feb 24th at the Event Center at St. Leo the Great. Spots are very limited due to social distancing! 9:00-10:30am, cost is free; donations accepted. Register: www.stleothegreatamherst.com/religious-education .

HEALTH & WELLNESS CORNER Q & A: COVID 19 BOOSTER SHOTS

If I had COVID19 do I need to get vaccinated?

Yes. You will have some antibodies to COVID but levels are lower than what the vaccine provides. Same with getting the booster, if you had COVID – it will give you more antibodies to help fight the disease.

How long should I wait to get the booster, if I have/had COVID19?
Please, check with your doctor.

If I get a booster now, will I need another one in the future?
It is too early to tell. Many factors may influence the need for additional shots; for instance, new strains.

STAY INFORMED; STAY HEALTHY!



ROSARY APOSTOLATE

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Hall, 4125 Union Road, Cheektowaga. We provide training & supplies and meet the 1st Sunday of each month, (Feb. 6) attendance is not always necessary. Our finished rosaries are distributed to local parishes, surrounding groups, hospitals and all over the world! benard.sansone@gmail.com

PROJECT RACHEL

A ministry of the Catholic Church in the U.S. for men & women who have been involved in abortion. It offers hope and healing. It is a diocesan-based network of specially trained priests, religious, counselors, & laypersons who provide a team response of care for those suffering in the aftermath of abortion...the ministry provides an integrated network of services i.e. pastoral counseling, support groups, retreats & referrals to licensed mental health professionals. (USCCB website)

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

SATURDAY January 22

3:30pm *Respect Life Youth Rally & Mass - St. Gregory the Great Church*

4:00pm Confession

5:00pm Mass

SUNDAY January 23

8:00am Mass

10:00am Mass

10:00am *Generations of Faith meet at Mass—receive take home assignment..*

MONDAY January 24

7:00am Mass

Steubenville Youth Conference reservation money due.

TUESDAY January 25

7:00am Mass

WEDNESDAY January 26

7:00am Mass

THURSDAY January 27

7:00am Mass

8:00am School Mass

FRIDAY January 28

7:00am Mass

7:00pm *YAP "Skate & Sip"*

Bison fund application deadline

SATURDAY January 29

4:00pm Confession

5:00pm Mass

SUNDAY January 30

8:00am Mass

10:00am Mass

10:00am-12:15pm *First Reconciliation & Confirmation classes meet at St. Benedict, starting with Mass.*

10:30am-12:30pm *Open House for St. Benedict School*

SANCTUARY CANDLE

In Memory of: Helen Kozdroj

Req.: Patty & Bob Dobmeier

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. Stop in the parish office or call 834-1041 to check date availability. We are only able to take donations via mail or hand delivery.

FINANCIAL FACTS

Week of January 16—Weekly Collection - \$12,260

Thank you for your continued generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 22

5:00pm John J. MacDonald

Musarra Family

Day of Prayer for Legal Protection of the Unborn

req.: Mr. & Mrs. Tony Krupski

req.: Family

Sunday, January 23

8:00am Norman Durawa

10:00am Gail Ventresca
Marlene & Lisa Spacone
Mary, Kenneth & Kenneth Jr.
Hughes, & Joe Bianco

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

req.: 10:00AM Ushers

req.: Emilio & Sharon Bianco

Monday, January 24

7:00am Dorothy Quatraro

St. Francis de Sales, Bishop & Doctor of Church

req.: Dolores and Jim Byron

Tuesday, January 25

7:00am Silvano Magnanimiti

Conversion of St. Paul

req.: Tom & Shelly Reidy

Wednesday, January 26

7:00am Paul Gianelli

Sts. Timothy & Titus

req.: Roger & Kathy Sieracki

Thursday, January 27

7:00am Margaret Scalise
(Birthday)

St. Angela Merici

req.: Lois Tocco

8:00am Ed Haynes

req.: Sullivan Family

Friday, January 28

7:00am Robert Zilliox

St. Thomas Aquinas

req.: Tom & Shelly Reidy

Saturday, January 29

5:00pm Teresa & Catherine
DiVizio

Brother Juniper, Servant of God

req.: Mr. & Mrs. Charles Privitera

Living & Deceased Fathers

Sunday, January 30

8:00am Jean Cummings

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

req.: Leonard Maurer & Family

10:00am Mark Rivard

req.: Sharon Henel

Living & Deceased Mothers

MASS INTENTION REQUESTS

Mass intentions are a wonderful way to remember our beloved deceased and keep them in our prayers. Masses are available throughout the year. Each Mass/Mass card is a donation of \$15. Stop by the rectory, 9:00am-3:00pm, to schedule a Mass. (In person scheduling of a Mass is preferred.) The new Mass book is filling up quickly!

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the sick & homebound in your prayers; you're also welcome to call the rectory with special requests 716-834-1041.

ST BENEDICT SCHOOL



2022 DARE TO DREAM DRAWING

Dare to Dream tickets are on sale, please consider supporting the school and taking a chance on winning the Grand Prize...

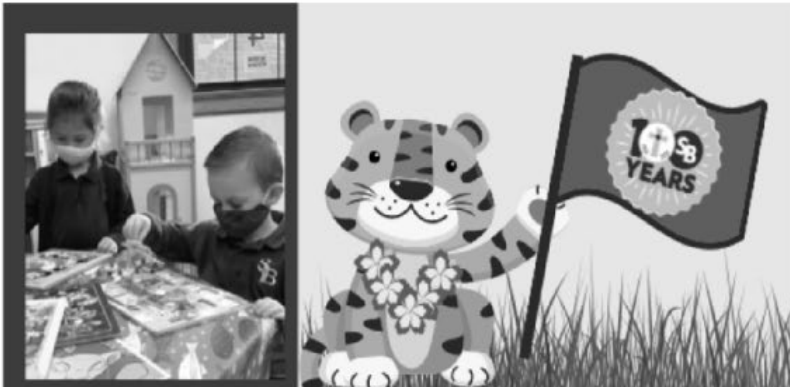
Grand Prize	\$10,000
Second Prize	\$2,500
Third Prize	\$500
Fourth and Fifth Prize	\$250
Sixth through Tenth Prize	\$100



Saturday, March 12, 2022

Winner Need Not Be Present to Win

To purchase tickets visit <https://stbens.cbo.io>
Checks made payable to: St. Benedict Dare to Dream



Open House Sunday, January, 30th 10:30-12:30

Accepting Applications for PK3 - Grade 8

Register for a grade level Zoom or schedule a private tour during Catholic Schools Week
Register Online
www.stbenschool.org



FOOTBALL FINALE RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

\$20.00 per square*

- Each sheet will have 100 squares
- Squares will be filled from left to right
- If more than 100 squares are sold, each sheet of squares will run separately.
- Numbers will be drawn by February 12th for the boards.

Winners will be contacted by Wednesday February 16th, prizes must be picked up from the school

\$125-1st | \$250-Half | \$125-3rd | \$500-Final

Available by cash/check to the school office. Please send an envelope to the school with the number of squares and include name, address, email, and phone number. Purchases through the school must be received in the school office by 2/10 or online at

www.stbens.cbo.io

All proceeds benefit the Dare to Dream finale event



Dare to Dream Shopping Night

at Spruce on Main

Thursday, February 17th from 3 pm-7 pm
a portion of sales will benefit Dare to Dream

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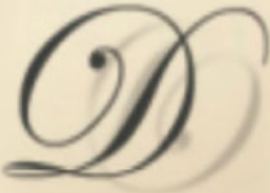
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