



ST. BENEDICT PARISH

80 S. LYNN, WATERFORD, MI | 248.681.1534 | STBENZ80@GMAIL.COM

SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2021

EASTER SUNDAY



He bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. - Jn 20:5-7



REMEMBER
in your prayers



PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS...

Judy DeKeyser, Marge Flanigan, Phil Hanson, James Hildebrand, Alben Lipar, Michael Jozwik, Stan Slavsky, Mike Somerville, Norma Swift, Linda Tongko.

...Loved ones who are ill and in need of prayer:

Kate Banaszek, Paul Bonfiglio, Sandi Bonfiglio, Jennifer DuChene, Geoffrey Frethem, Robyn Hamilton, Ethel Jaruzel, Dennis Jaruzel, John Kleinschmidt Jr., Fr. Tim Mazur, Janel Nadeau, Mark Nieslichowski, Suzie Skidmore, Diane Ventlline. **Names run four weeks. To re-list, please call 248-681-1534.**

24 HOUR PRAYER LINE...

Nuns of the Monastery of the Blessed Sacrament have a twenty-four hour prayer line. Even if your call goes to voicemail, the Sisters are attentive to begin the requested prayers promptly. The prayer line phone number is 248-626-8253.



A JOURNEY IN FAITH...

Thinking about becoming Catholic? Want to know more about Catholicism? We would love to talk with you about beginning a new journey.

If you wish to celebrate Baptism in the Catholic Church, we invite you to participate in the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults).

Perhaps you are already baptized in another faith tradition, but wish to enter full communion with the Catholic Church. We invite you to join us in the RCIA journey, so that you can learn about the rich teachings and traditions of Catholicism.

If you have been baptized Catholic but have not received the Sacraments of the Eucharist and/or Confirmation, this process would deepen your understanding as an adult and is highly recommended.

For further information contact **Gloria Armstrong**, Adult Formation/RCIA Coordinator at **248-681-1534 ext. 204**.

Monday, April 5

Monday within the Octave of Easter

12:15 p.m. - Ilean Wrobel (15th Anniv.) req family
Deceased members of the Winters, Keith & Sheridan families req family

Tuesday, April 6

Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

12:15 p.m. - Tom Stevenson req family

Wednesday, April 7

Wednesday within the Octave of Easter

12:15 p.m. - Jim Kirk req Rose DeAnda

Thursday, April 8

Thursday within the Octave of Easter

12:15 p.m. - Gene Swaintek req family

Friday, April 9

Friday within the Octave of Easter

12:15 p.m. - Esther Rhoades req friend

Saturday, April 10

Saturday within the Octave of Easter

4:00 p.m. - Sharon Hall req Pat Santana

Pete Polk req Florence Felice

Joelle Saffron req Leh family

Charles, Natalie & Paul Thomson req Thomson family

Sunday, April 11

Divine Mercy Sunday

9:00 a.m. - Albert Miracle req family

Roger Barron req family

Ed Floyd & Mark Kell req family

11:00 a.m. - Mort Flanigan req Swiecicki family

Reverend John Byrne req Bruce & Mary Shepline

Fred Lauinger req Sexton family

Pham family req Roman family

FUNERAL NOTIFICATION...

We developed a notification system to alert parishioners of funeral Masses to be held at the church for our St. Benedict parishioners.

If you would like to be added to a notification list, please complete the information below. You may drop it in the collection basket, bring it to the parish center or mail it to us.

NAME: _____

List your email address (one email per household):

PH: _____



GOSPEL MEDITATION...

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

Who are you? This question was most assuredly asked of Jesus on the day of resurrection and it is a question asked of each of us. Our identities can be described in so many ways. We can start with our gifts and our talents, expertise and unique personality expressions. We can describe things we like and things we prefer to set aside. As descriptive and captivating as these can be, none come close to our essence, our real and true self. While accurate in their own right, the self who lives and interacts with the world is the self we want others to see, the one we project. But there is much more to us just as there is much more to Jesus.

Jesus could describe himself based on all of the same criteria we use for ourselves. After all, Jesus is totally human. With all that people witnessed and all that Jesus knew about his physical human self, his divinity also shined forth. There was so much more to know about him. Whereas once Jesus was transfigured on top of a mountain before his disciples' eyes, so today he is transfigured before our eyes as he reveals his resurrected self as the Christ. Alleluia, Christ is risen! His glorified presence stands before us showing us that we are all much more than we see ourselves to be and show to others. We have a depth, purpose, and essence that go way beyond the superficial treasures of our existence to the very core of who we are.

Within each one of us is a spark of Divine Love where creature and Creator meet, and we are known uniquely by the name God whispers to us. It is not the earthly name that was given to us but the one that flows from Divine Power and claims us as one who is special and chosen in God's eyes. This is the self that will rise one day with the eternal Christ of God and live eternally as God provides. This is the self that when free from all superficial constraints layered upon it in this life can discover and know freedom in a way never possible before. This is love lifting us up and transforming us into who we really are, not who we want or need ourselves to be. Who are you? A special, unique child of God who has been fashioned in God's image, sustained by the power of God's love and kept eternally with the Blessed Trinity in heaven. Get to know this deeper, truer self as it is who you really are.

©LPi

St. Benedict Church
80 S. Lynn St., Waterford, MI 48328

Pastor - Rev. James Mayworm

(248) 681-1534; Fax (248) 681-4501

Daytime Office Hours: Mon. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Tues., Wed., Thurs.- 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Fri. 9 a.m. - 12 noon.

Closed for lunch from 12 noon - 1 p.m.

Website - stbenc.org

Face book: St. Benedict's Catholic Church

Deacon Tom Mohan - 248-761-7016

Office Manager - Joyce Miracle

Liturgical Minister - Connie Cunningham

Minister of Music - Pam Tucker

RCIA/Faith Formation Director- Gloria Armstrong

Faith Formation Coordinator - Vicki Krier

Youth Ministers - Deacon Tom Mohan, Julie Mohan, Mary Allan

Business Manager - Larry Edwards

Administrative Assistant - Rose DeAnda

Building Manager - Greg McInally

Maintenance - Dale McCleery, Eileen Kell

Weekday Mass Schedule

Mon - Fri. 12:15 p.m.

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday - 4 p.m.; Sunday - 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Holy Day Mass Schedule

12:15 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3:00 p.m. or by appointment

Sacraments

In order to get married or to have your child baptized, you must be a registered member of the parish. This means that you are participating in the life of the parish, regularly attending Mass and using your envelopes.

Baptisms

Arrangements must be made at least three months prior to desired date. Parents must be a registered member of the parish for 6 months.

Marriages

Arrangements must be made at least six months prior to desired date. You must be a registered member of the parish for 6 months.

Sick Calls and Communion for the Homebound

Please call the Parish Office 248-681-1534.

Faith Formation

Grades 1-8 - Wednesdays - 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. (Oct.-May)

R.C.I.A

Mondays - 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Parish Center (Sept.-Easter Vigil)

St. Vincent de Paul—St. Benedict Conference

248-681-1534, ext. 206

Bulletin Copy Deadline

Friday at noon

Suicide Hotline (Common Ground)

1-800-231-1127

Project Rachel Post Abortion Ministry

1-888-722-4355

National Domestic Violence Hotline

1-800-799-7233

Report Sexual Abuse Hotline

1-855-444-3911

LITURGICAL LIFE

RESPONDING *to the Call*

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP Recognize God In Your Ordinary Moments *"Is there a happy ending?"*

When my kids were young, we never made it past the first whiff of any narrative tension before I got this question. As soon as whatever princess or furry woodland animal who was the hero of the story got into any small scrape, they wanted that reassurance, "Is there a happy ending?"

I can't say I blame them. Don't we all feel that way sometimes? We enter into a relationship with someone or some situation, and we just want to protect ourselves. We want to know it's not going to go badly — or, if it does, that we will be able to come back from it. It's a human instinct, a reflex. Our inclination to protect ourselves makes it so that we sometimes want to press fast-forward on the bad stuff and skip straight ahead to the happily-ever-after.

Easter is the ultimate happy ending. It's the day of miracles. The day when all the stones roll away and all the sins are forgiven. It's the day that puts everything right.

But if we learned anything from this week — from the Passion and death of the Lord — it's that we can't press fast-forward on the hardships of life. That tension, that loss, that fear — it's crucial, isn't it? As Catholics, we are who we are because of Easter. But Easter doesn't happen without Good Friday.

So, does the story of salvation have a happy ending? We know it does. But we also remember that the ending isn't all that matters.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

PLEASE CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!



WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Question:

Do we need to fast for one hour before Mass, or one hour before communion?

Answer:

The practice of fasting before receiving the Eucharist is a centuries-old act of devotion that was once very different than it is today. In the 1917 Code of Canon Law, for example, anyone who wanted to receive the Eucharist had to fast from midnight until the time of communion (even water and medications were forbidden). Over the following decades, the rules for the eucharistic fast were relaxed, first by Pope Pius XII and, later, by Pope Saint Paul VI.

The current Code of Canon Law (1983) states very clearly: "A person who is to receive the Most Holy Eucharist is to abstain for at least one hour before holy communion from any food and drink, except for only water and medicine" (Canon 919, §1). And, in the case of those who are ill and the elderly, the rules are even more accommodating, "The elderly, the infirm, and those who care for them can receive the Most Holy Eucharist even if they have eaten something within the preceding hour" (Canon 919, §3).

So, if we strictly follow the "letter of the law," the fast is calculated from the time of Holy Communion and not the start of Mass. However, when we remember why we fast — it is a reminder of the deeper hungers of the spirit that our physical thirst or hunger symbolize — we see that the issue is much bigger than simply fulfilling what is called for by Church Law and tradition. Joining fasting to our prayers and reflection before Mass is an opportunity to really center ourselves and to prepare our minds, hearts, and bodies to welcome the One we receive in the Eucharist.

JIM'S GEMS...

Coaching Catholics through ethical dilemmas

by Edward J. Furton

Legatus.org

March 2020

The National Catholic Bioethics Center has an active consultation line. The vast majority of calls taken by the ethicists concern end-of-life decision-making. The principal analytical tool used in these cases is the distinction between ordinary and extraordinary means of treatment.

The Catholic Church holds that we have an obligation to use *ordinary* means of treatment, but that we may forgo those that are *extraordinary*. Typically what is meant by ordinary is any procedure that is easy to carry out, not painful, and whose benefits clearly outweigh the burdens. The extraordinary include procedures that are very difficult, very painful, too expensive, or cause some measure of deep psychological distress. Some of these criteria are more objective than others.

We often receive questions about medical treatments for those who are elderly. On analysis, many qualify as extraordinary and may be forgone. The line between ordinary and extraordinary is not a stable one but rather varies according to the age and condition of the patient. A procedure that might easily be performed on a young person, and that would be clearly beneficial, may turn out to be much more difficult for someone who is in a fragile state of health. Burdensome treatments are not necessary, though we are always free to try extraordinary measures if we wish.

We also receive many calls from concerned loved ones who are upset by decisions made by others that do not conform to Catholic teaching. If one is not the designated proxy, and does not have the authority to make decisions, it can be very difficult to watch others make errors, but there is little that can be done about it. The only power one has in these cases is that of moral persuasion.

Thus it may be that an elderly person has requested in writing that he or she be provided with no food and water if unconscious for any prolonged period of time. Generally, we should die from some underlying condition, not from dehydration or starvation, though there are some unavoidable exceptions. Ideally, one would override this bad decision. At the other extreme, no one should be placed on a feeding tube when still able to swallow, even if he or she is unable to meet his or her full daily nutritional requirements.

We have begun to receive calls on gender dysphoria. A father recently recounted how his autistic son had been convinced by a psychologist to undergo sex-reassignment surgery. The young man was living at home, had no job, and was over 21. The father had no legal authority to prevent him from following through on this decision. Obviously, this was not the right course of action. All he and his wife could do was to try to dissuade their son and express their strong objections to the psychologist.

In another call, a wife described the decision of her husband to transition to a female. She and their adult children were devastated. In words that I will never forget, she said that he had lied to her at the altar when he had promised that he would love her until death. He said he had made this promise as a man, she rightly insisted. The NCBC opposes all gender transitioning and holds that psychological counseling is the best course of action for those suffering gender dysphoria.

Then there are the calls from physicians or family members concerning problem pregnancies. These are the most difficult of all, coming at any time of the day or night and often requiring a moral judgment under a time constraint. These are the decisions that keep an ethicist awake at night.

JIM'S JOKES...

And on the Seventh Day...There are some days where we really feel we're on our game. We're sharp. We feel comfortable and relaxed. We feel good about how we look, or we feel comfortable about the day. And then there are the other six days of the week.
~Paul Rudd

As I watched the dog chasing his tail, I thought "Dogs are easily amused." Then I realized I was watching the dog chasing his tail.

People who think that time heals everything haven't sat it out in a doctors waiting room.

A Boy Scout was trying to raise funds for his troop by collecting bottles and cans. He went to one house and asked an old woman if she had any old beer bottles.

"Do I look like the kind of person who would drink beer?" she retorted.

"Sorry. Do you have any old vinegar bottles?"

~In Alleluia Love,
Fr. Jim

Riverside Chapel



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