

Welcome to

St. Benedict Catholic Church

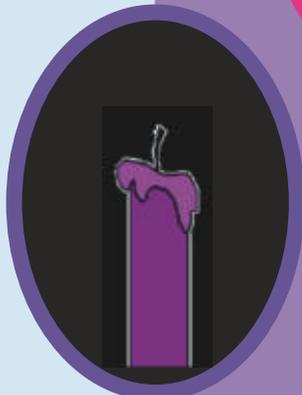
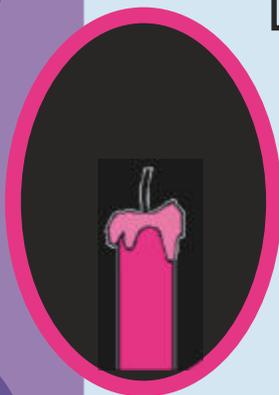
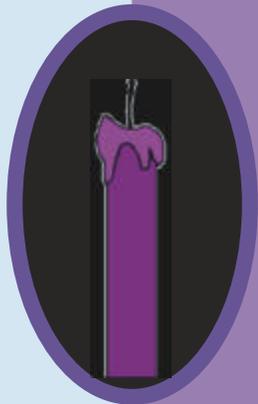


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www.stbenedictcrystalriver.org • www.facebook.com/stbenscr/

Mass Schedule: M-F 8:00am • Saturday 5:00pm • Sunday 8:30am & 10:30am

Office hours: M—T 9:00am—2:30pm *Closed Friday's*



1st Candle

The Prophecy Candle or Candle of Hope

The first candle, which is purple, symbolizes hope. It is sometimes called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

Parish Staff

Priest

Fr. Ryszard Stradomski (Fr. Richard)

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Accompanist

Jason Joseph

R.C.I.A.

George Dluhy

Sacristan

A.J. Gogan

Mission Statement

We, the parish family of St. Benedict, are called through our Baptism to share the mission of Jesus. Enabled by the Holy Spirit, we strive to proclaim Christ's good news by living His message of love, peace and hope. We welcome everyone to our parish community and encourage all to reach out to one another in faith, prayer and service.

Mass Intentions

For The First Week in Advent
November 27 — December 5, 2021

Saturday, November 27 Weekday

5:00pm Parishioners of St. Benedict

Sunday, November 28 First Sunday of Advent

8:30am †James Sweety by Loving Wife Joan
10:30am †Louis Ricardo by Loving Family

Monday, November 29 Advent Weekday

8:00am †Christy Galmish by Noreen

Tuesday, November 30 St. Andrew, Apostle

8:00am †Juanita Downum by John Conroy

Wednesday, December 1 Advent Weekday

8:00am †Ed and Cathryn Heitzman
by Son Herb

Thursday, December 2 Advent Weekday

8:00am †Earl Packer by John Conroy

Friday, December 3 St. Francis Xavier, Priest

8:00am Parishioners of St. Benedict

Saturday, December 4 St. John Damascene

5:00pm ♥Joey and Clare DeLuca
by Bill and Terri Obermeier

Sunday, December 5 Second Sunday of Advent

8:30am †Woldemar Horn
by Dick and Cheri Byrnes
10:30am †Edlin Torralba by The Torralba Family

The Right Answer

During his children's sermon, the assistant pastor asked the kids, "What is gray, has a bushy tail, and gathers nuts in the fall?"

One five-year-old raised his hand, "I know the answer should be Jesus," he began, "but it sounds like a squirrel to me.



Pray for our People...

Our Sick...

Clarence Redd, Michael Bottichio, Gordon Gould, Irene Cmar, Michael Grivois, Julia Covert, Maria Canale, Steven Doyle, Don Miller, Ann Darling, Dan Clymer, Marvin Long, Kevin Terrell, Linda Fusco, Chris Grivois, Annetta Wieczorek, Ralph Esposito, Doug Sheppard, Agnes and Michael Ross, George Williams, Frank Polash, Barbara and Fred Born, Eugene Janusz, Una Lewis, Ron and Mary Guadagnini, Joan Turcotte, Randy Sailor, Dayden Floyd, Tiffany Nickel, Diane Clemmer, Cole Eskay, Michael Celentano, Bill Obermeier, Roman Jakubowski, JoAnn Dunton, Vincent Smith, Smirna and Ed Velez, Doug Raney, Luella Eggenberger, Barbara Brackin, Sigmund Sobiesiak, Elliana Deane, Angelina Jesselli, Michael Hembree, Alma Stephens, Matthew McCown, Lindsay Longo, Mary Jane Eggleston, John Kilduff, Jimmy Smith, Ann Boakes, Isaac Black, Josh Rodgers, Elizabeth Trepanier, Fr. Mike Lydon, Lorraine Fricke, Paul Fulton, Carolyn Darling-Sullivan, Louise Williams, Judy and Atlas Pierce, Fawn Aungst, Sadie Jay Hall, Kenneth Saunders, Lydia Ehrman,* Joel Scime, Robert and Theresa Costello

Active Duty...

Those protecting us at home and afar..

Anna Bily, Chandra Walton, Steve Sunstrom, Sean Ross, Ian Ross, Christopher Dergosits, Kevin Knudsen, Billy Keating, Cody Albritton, Lucas Zobel, Dadrian Ruiz, Michael Turcotte, Matthew and Michael Zarek, John Kelley, Ron Casasanta Jr., Butch Tonnessen, Boyer Kornfeind, Matthew Baker, Chris Grillo, Dakota Giles, Tim Dottillis, Todd Vanderbogart, Garrett Gibson, Gage Gibson, Richard J. Surowiec, Robert J. Milan Jr., and Blake Leibach

Our Deceased...

Into your hands, O Lord we commend the souls of our dearly departed. Grant unto them eternal rest and may perpetual light shine upon them.

Send your prayer request to our prayer warriors through Anne at aschukne@tampabay.rr.com



Reading 1 — [JER 33:14-16](#)

The days are coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and Judah. In those days, in that time, I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the land. In those days Judah shall be safe and Jerusalem shall dwell secure; this is what they shall call her: "The LORD our justice."

READING 2 — [1 THES 3:12-4:2](#)

Brothers and sisters: May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we have for you, so as to strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones. Amen. Finally, brothers and sisters, we earnestly ask and exhort you in the Lord Jesus that, as you received from us how you should conduct yourselves to please God and as you are conducting yourselves you do so even more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus

ALLELUIA — R. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

GOSPEL — [LK 21:25-28, 34-36](#)

Jesus said to his disciples: "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on earth nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand. "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap. For that day will assault everyone who lives on the face of the earth. Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man."

RECEIVING COMMUNION

Until local health conditions improve significantly, our preferred method of distributing and receiving the Eucharist remains *in the hand*. At communion time you are asked to sanitize your hands.

1st Sunday of Advent

Staying awake can often be a challenge, especially when we are exhausted. Life's demands have a way of zapping every last bit of energy out of us. When we are tired it affects us not only physically, but psychologically and spiritually as well. All of our senses are dulled and diminished. We can overlook details, become disinterested, lethargic and apathetic, and detached. Getting sufficient physical rest only helps so much. We need to be rejuvenated, refreshed, and reenergized in other ways. If we are psychologically exhausted, we need to understand what is draining our emotions and taxing our relationships. If we are spiritually tired, we need to find the necessary "shot in the arm" to put us back in touch with God. Unfortunately, exhaustion is seldom limited to just one part of who we are. When we lack energy and zeal it is usually the case that everything suffers. We not only are affected physically, but psychologically and spiritually as well. In short, when we run out of gas the engine stops.

And yet, our Lord's directive is clear, "Be vigilant at all times." Even Jesus knew what "the anxieties of daily life" can do to us. One day pours into another and time quickly flies by. Any one of us can take a moment and reflect on how many wonderful, creative opportunities we miss because there is always so much "stuff" to do and so little time to do it. Usually these are missed moments of love, and if we are missing love encounters we are also missing God. Sleepwalking through life, we check the boxes next to our list of "must and have to dos" and justify it all by convincing ourselves that tomorrow is another day and there'll be more time. It may surprise us, but tomorrow is here, and time is running out. While we may like to believe that we have an "eternity" of time to do all those things that require the focus, energy, and desire we do not currently have, we don't. We're on a limited ride and time is short.

Jesus is also clear on another point. "That day [will] catch you by surprise like a trap." If we are going to be judged on love and so easily justify not having all that much time to do so, then it seems we must shift focus a bit. St. Teresa of Calcutta tells us, "We desire to be able to welcome Jesus at Christmas-time, not in a cold manger of our heart, but in a heart full of love and humility, a heart so pure, so immaculate, so warm with love for one another." Getting to this place doesn't "just happen." It requires vigilance and discipline both with a knowledge of what is really of importance and what really needs to be the focus of our energy and time. Pray, starting now and not tomorrow, that we can stay alert, be strengthened in our faith, and prepared for whatever will come. Don't miss another opportunity to love





Spaghetti Dinner

St. Benedict Men's Club is hosting their famous spaghetti dinner on **December 4th** following the 5:00pm Mass in Hilgert Hall. It's the same great food you've always enjoyed! Mark your calendars and come join your friends for a good time!

MENU:
 Coffee
 Wine
 Ice Tea
 Spaghetti
 Garlic Bread
 Salad Bar
 Desserts

All are welcome!

Ticket Prices:
 Adult and Children
 \$7.00 a person

Stay and enjoy or take it to-go!

Giving Tree Tis the Season of Giving

Here at St. Benedict, we believe that no one should go without a gift on Christmas Day. As we're all aware by now, the Covid-19 pandemic continues to bring many changes into all aspects of our lives, including our Giving Tree.

The Giving Tree is set up, decorated with gift tags that indicate a name and a gift suggestion. St. Benedict's Giving Tree gives a happy Christmas to families in the parish who are having difficulties making ends meet. Please take a tag and purchase the gift item on it.

Wrapped gifts must be returned to the parish office no later than Thursday, December 16th

Distribution is on the 23rd



HELLO

Name Tag Sunday

How long have you been sitting in the same pew with the same people? You may know their faces but do you know their names? How many new faces are there?

On **December 11/12**, we will have a name tag weekend. If you have a name tag wear it, if not we will provide one for you; they will be available as you are walking into the Church. Then when greeting your neighbor you will know their face and their name.

A Christmas Spiritual Bouquet for you

Christmas Spiritual Bouquet Cards

We are offering the opportunity for you to remember your loved ones at the Christmas Masses. The cards are available at the main entrance of the church. Please write the names of your loved ones and lace your donation in the envelope and put it in the collection basket or drop it off to the parish office no later than **Thursday, December 16th**.

Christmas Flowers



Christmas flowers that will adorn our altar may be donated as memorials for deceased or living family members or friends. Please use the form below to give us your information. If writing a check please make payable to St. Benedict Church and specify "Christmas Flowers". Donations may be placed in the collection basket or you can drop it off at the parish office. Please have donations to the parish office by **Dec. 16th**.

In memory of: _____

Or for living: _____

Given by: _____

Amount: _____



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Are you looking to make new friends?
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We need volunteers for the following:

♥ Food Pantry ♥ Thrift Store ♥ Social Services

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at (352)794-3714.

A Special Thank You!

We would like to wish all the CCW ladies,
the Men's Club, and the Knights of
Columbus who helped make the funeral
reception for Mike Clemmer so special.
May God bless you!

♥ *Marilyn Chisholm*
& *Gail Granger*

President and Vice President
of CCW.

*Thank
You*

Stewardship

NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PRINT



COME JOIN US!

Please consider joining the CCW for a year filled with promise, spiritual growth, fellowship, and good works. Our Community of Catholic Women have meetings the second Tuesday of each month in Hilgert Hall. All ladies are welcome to join us, praying the Rosary begins at 10:30, followed by a general meeting. Next meeting is Thursday, December 9th.



Dear Parishioner,

Online Giving is available for you to make contributions to the church. This option makes use of current technology and security standards, and allows you to easily setup recurring contributions. It also enables our church to take advantage of new tools to become more efficient.

Online Giving Parishioner Benefits

- Secure and confidential. No need to share payment information with the church office.
- Efficient. Set up direct withdrawals from your checking, savings account or a credit card.
- Simple. Start, stop and change your contributions at any time.
- Convenient. No need to write a check or have cash available.

Online Giving is intended to be a convenient tool for you to use, and we strongly support both Online Giving and Offering Envelopes for contributions to the parish. Online Giving is the electronic way to participate in weekly offertory.

Start giving online today!

1. Visit our church website at <http://stbenedictcrystalriver.org/> and click on the online giving link.
2. Create an account.
3. Schedule your recurring gifts. Please prayerfully consider giving online. Questions? Contact the church office. (352)795-4479.



Christmas



Confessions

Saturday's December 4th, 11th, and 18th
3:30—4:30pm

Tuesday, December 14th
9:00 — 11:00am

Christmas Eve Masses

5:00pm Vigil

Christmas Day Masses

8:30am & 10:30am

Sunday December 26th, 2021

Saturday NO 5pm Vigil Mass

Sunday Masses

8:30am and 10:30am

January 1, 2022

Mary Mother of God

Not a Holy Day of Obligation

www.stbenedictcrystalriver.org



December



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>December Choir Mass 10:30am</p> 			<p>1 <u>6:00pm</u> Choir</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 <u>6:00pm</u> Men's Spaghetti Dinner</p> 
<p>5 SJPII Collection  8:00am Coffee & Donuts <u>10:30am</u> CCW Corporate Communion</p>	<p>6 <u>10:00am</u> Rosary Making</p> 	<p>7 <u>6:30pm</u> Men's Club <u>7:00pm</u> Al-anon</p>	<p>8 <u>6:00pm</u> Choir</p>	<p>9 <u>10:30am</u> CCW Meeting</p> 	<p>10</p>	<p>11 <u>9:00am</u> KofC Craft and Car show Name Tag Weekend</p> 
<p>12 Maintenance Fund Collection <u>8:00am</u> Coffee & Donuts Name Tag Weekend</p>	<p>13 <u>10:00am</u> Rosary Making</p>	<p>14 <u>9:00- 11:00</u> Advent Confessions <u>7:00pm</u> Al-anon</p>	<p>15 <u>6:00pm</u> Choir <u>7:00pm</u> Knights of Columbus Meeting</p> 	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 NO Religious Ed 8:00am Coffee & Donuts</p> 	<p>20 <u>10:00am</u> Rosary Making</p>	<p>21 <u>7:00pm</u> Al-anon</p>	<p>22 6:00pm Choir</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 NO Morning Mass 5:00pm Vigil Mass</p> 	<p>25 8:30 & 10:30am Christmas Mass NO Vigil Mass</p>
<p>26 NO Religious Ed 8:00am Coffee & Donuts</p>	<p>27 <u>10:00am</u> Rosary Making</p>	<p>28 <u>7:00pm</u> Al-anon</p>	<p>29 NO Choir</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	

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