

March 29, 2020 - Fifth Sunday of Lent

Saint Benedict Roman Catholic Church



2310 Bedford Street • Johnstown, Pennsylvania, 15904-1127

DIRECTORY

Rectory Office (814)266-9718 ext. 501
Rectory Fax (814)269-4220
Parish Website stbenedictchurch.org
School Office (814)266-3837
School Fax (814)266-7718
School Website
<http://www.divinemeracy.academy>

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday:
7:30am-12:00pm & 1:00pm-4:00pm
Friday: 7:30 am – 12:00 pm
Closed Saturday, Sunday & Holidays

MASS SCHEDULE

Churches and other public places of worship in the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese are to remain open for private prayer. However, effective immediately, there will be no public liturgies of any sort. That is, there will be no public daily Masses or weekend Masses, no public novenas, communal stations of the cross, ecumenical services, or other public worship until the current COVID-19 crisis has passed.

CONFESSIONS

Here at St. Benedict Church we offering OUTDOOR Confessions on Tuesday at 8:00 am, Thursday at Noon and Saturday at 3:00 pm.

Saint Benedict Parish Mission Statement:

“To proclaim and live the message of Jesus Christ; through the power of the Holy Spirit, pray and work to build up His Church; and to do the will of the Father always and everywhere.”

Parish Motto:

“Ora et Labora” - Latin for “Pray and Work” - comes from the Benedictines who were the first to staff our Parish.

PARISH STAFF

Rev. David S. Peles, Pastor SBpastor@atlanticbb.net, Ext. 502
Rev. Antony Sudherson HGN, Parochial Vicar..... Ext. 507
..... frantony@stbenedictchurch.org
Deacon Michael Russo 288-3036
Mrs. Mary Jo Podratsky, Assoc. Principal Ext. 201
Sr. Cindy Burns, CCW srcindy@stbenedictchurch.org
High School CCD, Confirmation, RCIA Ext. 301
Mrs. Michelle Robatin, Elementary CCD Ext. 302
..... elemccd@floodcity.net
Mr. Joseph Gaunt, Office of Music & Liturgy 241-1923
..... jgaunt@atlanticbb.net

BAPTISM: Parents are to be examples to their children by being registered, active members of the Parish. First time parents are required to attend a Baptismal Preparation Class. Please call the Rectory Office to make arrangements.

MARRIAGE: Couples planning to marry are to make arrangements at least nine months prior to their wedding date. Diocesan Guidelines regarding Marriage Preparation must be followed. The Catholic party/parties is/are to be registered, active members in the parish.

CARE OF THE SICK: Those confined to their homes by sickness or age may arrange to receive Holy Communion by calling the rectory office at 266-9718. Our priests and deacons visit all St. Benedict parishioners once a week at Memorial Medical Center or other hospitals as requested.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP: New members are always welcome! If you are moving into, within, or out of the Parish please call the rectory Office and let us know.

BULLETIN ARTICLE DEADLINE: Wednesday of the week prior to publication.

Mass Intentions For This Week

No School Mass

Mon	8:00am	Charles Turner (Rudy & Evelyn Mrsnik)
	12:05pm	Jack Drummer (Terry & Kathy Murray)
Tues	8:00am	Deceased Members of Torok & Homola Families (Pat Mikulsky)
	12:05pm	Janet Hornick (Thelma Billetdeaux)
Wed	8:00am	Aunt Janet Fisher (Ed Scholly)
	12:05pm	Bob Roth (Ed & Betsy Bender)
Thurs	9:00am	Charles & Louise Gavin (Will Request)
	12:05pm	Edna Klimeck (Family)
Fri	8:00am	Helen Klonicki (Anthony & Mary Rita Piro)
	12:05pm	Christopher Miller (Joe & Kim Kail)
Sat	5:00pm	B-day 4/11 Larry Lear (Becky Lear)
	7:00pm	Anniv. Frances Rowe (Ron & Kathy Chuklochak)
Sun	7:30pm	Anniv. Christopher O'Connor (Daughter: Debbie & Family)
	9:30am	Anna Marie Voytko (Nori McGowan & Family)
	11:00am	Mass for the Parishioners

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 [41c-62]; Ps 23:1-6; Jn 8:1-11
Tuesday:	Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30
Wednesday:	Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42
Thursday:	Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59
Friday:	Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42
Saturday:	Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56
Sunday:	Mt 21:1-11 (procession); Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14 — 27:66 [27:11-54]

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD; LORD, hear my voice!

— Psalm 130:1



Pray For...

... **the repose** of the soul of Bob (Butch) Sankovitch (cousin of Joanne Knapp) who has entered eternal life. May Butch rest in God's peace and may the comfort of the Lord be with his family.

... **remember in your charity** the homebound, elderly, sick and hospitalized members of our Parish Family, especially Daniel Curik, Noah Latronica, Averis, Mary Ann, Diane, Betty, Susanne Kuerner, Aggie & John Schultz, Robbie Wright, Ernest, Lois Gaunt, Cathy, Fr. Walter Moll, Jr., Doug Hrabosky, Nancy Russo, Pat Croyle, Nancy Tipton, Don Stull, Dorothy Katcher, Adam, David Grigg, Linda Bettle, Becky Lear, Ian McCue, Evelyn Yost, Mary Jo, Alan Klaum, Baby Ryder, Paul Yeager, Linda Urban, Rob Ambrose, Lori Sturek, Stephens, Judy Furfari, Chris Smith, Jordan, Baby Charlotte Trabold, Joye Stephens, Betty Walter, Eric Tipton, Becky Staley, Tom Skrout, Michelle Kuruzovich, Nina Debias, Patti Sliko, Lincoln Ashcom, Michelle Smith, Kathleen Miller, Margaret, Richard, Frederick, Theresa C. Culkar, Steve Knowlton, Frank Meyers, William Eggert, Robin Sorch, Nancy, Bob, Margaret Pynkala, Joel Rivera, Madeline Esposito, Mary Ann Hrabosky, Carolyn and Donna Markum, Mercedes, Robert C., Jewel Jordan, Mary Ann Barnes, Dan Delp, Danielle Gleason, Bob, Jimmy Brothers, Norma Jean Simmons, Dana Wilson, Maurene Romano, Ben Berkebile, Sylvia Latchney, Mary Ann Edsall, Suzie Gredesky, Patricia Hillegas, Jackson Kneib, Kathy Betts, Ben, Don Irwin, Irene Zanke, Christopher Norton, Mary & Bob Goas, Jillian, Jeffrey, Penelope Sopich, Jerry, Angie Naskali, Lynn Lubinsky, Austin Birus, Sarah, Mark Williams, Dave Deitle, Kathryn, Jim Stiffler, Bob Jeschonek, Bobby Cates, Deanna, Rose Cale, Bryson Miller, Sandy, Stella Neuder, Rosemary Stump, Jeremy Minor, Russ Bobkoskie, Jillian, Joe, Helene Barron, Jack Slezak, Ray, Elizabeth Wilson, Margarete Riederer, Eileen Leuser, Robert Kormanik, Margaret Brown, Deanna Henderson, Ruth Boes, Gary Single, Nancy, Brett Greenhill, Jeffrey Hope, Baby Ashlyn, Chad, Sylvia Drozdik, Joan Parks, Doris Pepple, Cindy Rummel, Ashley Bassette, June Shaw, George Lulos, Frank Fratrach, Jan Seitz - Molchany, Harry Cox, Barry Vill, Nina Roman, Lee Herdman, Noah, Pat McClafferty, Doug Osborne, Kay Gorczycki, Basil Constantino, Ron Rayman, Kathleen Hennessey, Jill, Rosemary, Ann, Zack, Andrew, Patricia Renaud, Jan, Rose Marie, Ann, Zack, Ken Julian, Chris Howie, Krista Walker, Josh, Rudy Lapid, Justine, Allison Krischer, Darin Roles, Amy, Vincent Spinelli, Jim Stem, Dorothy Markovich, Charles Donald Jacobs, Kathy Kohan, Mary Susan, Lissa Gindlesperger, Ken Blasko, Helen Rizzo, Pat Smith, Mary Louise Pollock, Maurice Herdman, Jr., Sue Williams, Joe Walbeck, Jill, Harry Gorman, Jonathan W., Mark, Braden Schofeld, David Dabbs, Jacob Sutton, Danielle Sopich, Sharon Wilson, Betty Horner, Gia Bucci, Bob Bark, Derek Brozowski, Maria Zubak, Antonia Ramirez, Jessi, Lance Hupkovich, Janet S., Atlas, Ashley Maciejewski, George, Regina Hoover, John Orlosky, Rebecca Boring, Brayden Yorchak, Evelyn Velen-ski, Louann Clites, Cheryl Bailey, Sean Aveni, Andi, Carol, Judy, John Glenn, Theresa Balon, Rudy, Nicholas, Bryan Mahon, Bob Liddell, Nicole Mickolick, Ted Bischof, John William, Douglas Shaffer, Jacqueline Beltz and their courageous families who are caring for them. May they be united in a special way with the suffering Christ.

... **also, Lord, please watch over** the men and women serving in our armed forces, and also those civilians whose work puts them in harms way.

... **and also, for more vocations** to the priesthood, Permanent Deacons, and Religious Life, all our volunteers and all the ministries.

NEWS FOR OUR PARISH FAMILY

Please know of our prayers for you and your loved ones in this time of crisis. The actions taken by both Church and state are proactive and will, by God's grace, result in a quick resolution to the current calamity. Our office hours are 8:00 am – Noon for now and we encourage all business be conducted by phone or e-mail please.

We will be offering to our Parishioners daily and weekend Masses on our St. Benedict Web site at stbenedictchurch.org.

And **OUTDOOR Confessions will now be offered** under the canopy and between the white windbrakers. So please be sure and dress warm and be respectful to others by leaving plenty of privacy distance for each penitent. **CONFESSIONS are offered** Tuesday at 8:00 am, Thursday at Noon and Saturday at 3:00 pm.

We, as St. Benedict Faith Community, since we cannot physically gather in the Church, we will begin spiritually gathering united as a Parish Family to celebrate these devotions in this most trying of times will be prayed. **Each Wednesday** the **Divine Mercy Chaplet** at 6:30 pm. A new plenary indulgence has been granted for praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet. This is the link: <https://www.thedivinemercy.org/articles/vatican-grants-emergency-plenary-indulgence-divine-mercy-chaplet>.

Each Friday we will pray the **Stations of the Cross** offered at 6:30 pm and **each Sunday** at 6:30 pm we plan to say the **Rosary**. These devotions will be available on our parish web site very soon. stbenedictchurch.org.

We hope you are able to participate!

For your convenience

Rectory Office mail slots that are currently being installed at the main office door and at the handicap entrance next to the rectory garages. We hope this will make your drop of business easier.

Our beautiful Church is open for private prayer from 6:00 am - 5:00 pm each day.

Notes from MUSIC MINISTRY

Choirs will not participate in any rehearsal or liturgies until further notice.

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Jn 11:1 - 45

Our families can become wrapped up chasing things we perceive will make us happy. Jesus' word to Lazarus, He says to us: "Come out" from what entombs you. In this fifth week of Lent "untie" yourself and be free from unnecessary possession.

Hospital Protocols

Covid 19 restrictions, Bishop Mark said, "Those who are hospitalized should continue to receive visitation and sacraments as permitted by hospital policy. Thus priests and deacons who serve as hospital chaplains and in emergent coverage should continue these functions."

The Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center has determined that **1) Pastoral care visits will be limited to sacramental ministry to patients in immediate danger of death** and **2) only the hospital chaplains will perform that service.**

If you are requesting last rites for a patient, please contact the hospital switchboard at 534-9000, and request the chaplain on call.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart . . . I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from you.

Can our parish family be of assistance to you?

The corona virus crisis has caused a great deal of concern, uncertainty and unexpected needs for many of us. If we can assist you and your family in any way, please call or email us. Be assured of our continuing thoughts and prayers. God bless you.

Sharing your financial gifts

Many people have been asking us how they can get their collection envelopes to us. There are several options.

First - you may send them through the mail.

Second - you may drop them at the rectory office mail slots that are currently being installed at the main office door and at the handicap entrance next to the rectory garages.

Third - you may utilize "Faith Direct" our online parish offertory service at faith.direct/PA799 and finally you may use the diocesan online parish offertory service at <https://aidiocese.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities/YourParishOffertory/donate>.

Thank you in advance for sharing your financial gifts with us. As I have said so many times before, you are very generous in supporting our parish especially in times of need.

May God Bless you ALL,

Fr. Dave

Faith Direct

During Lent, we focus our daily activities on growing closer to Christ through an increase in prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It is a wonderful goal to try and extend some of the changes we make in our lives beyond the liturgical season. Signing up with *Faith Direct* is a great way to focus on almsgiving throughout the year. It is a secure and convenient way to make a conscious decision about your financial support of our many wonderful ministries. You can find paper enrollment forms in the parish office, or you can sign up online at **faith.direct/PA799**.

Making your donations automatically means relief from the hassle of locating your offertory envelopes as you run out the door on Sunday morning, and guarantees that the church will receive your gifts even if you are unable to attend Mass. Here on the weekend or are on vacation. There is no fee to you, the parishioner, associated with use of the *Faith Direct* program. Automatic contributions greatly benefit St. Benedict by providing a predictable cash flow as well as decreasing the money the church expends purchasing the envelopes. *Faith Direct* will provide you with personalized offertory cards that you may place in the collection basket, and a year-end tax statement.

We find *Faith Direct* a "win-win" for both parishioners and our parish. Please enroll in this program by picking up an enrollment form from the church office, church widowsills or by visiting **faith.direct/PA799** to enroll securely on line.

Please do not hesitate to contact us for any additional information

In **This weekend, March 29th - 30th is our Helping Hands Collection.** Your donations will help with our groups charitable efforts. We only solicit donations four times a year on the fifth Sunday of the month. Any contribution large or small will certainly be appreciated. You can drop your donations in the mail to us or drop them off at the Parish Office. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



Just a reminder that you may **drop off old palm** from last year in the box located in the vestibule. Thank you!



Just a reminder that all Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence.

FASTING refers to only one full meal, with two small meals and no eating otherwise for the day.

ABSTINENCE refers to not eating meat at all throughout the day. All those who have reached their 14th year are obliged to ABSTAIN. The Church directs the holy FAST to all those in their 18th year until their 60th year (Canon 1252).

Lenten Folders and Mite Boxes

Please return your Lenten Folder and / or Mite Box as part of your personal sacrifices during Lenten Season. We are appealing to every family to share in this special Lenten denial practice. If you did not receive a Mite Box, they are available on the windowsills of the Church. **When returning Lenten Folders and / or Mite Boxes, please put your name and envelope number on them so that you get credit. Thanking you in advance for your cooperation.**

Thank you for participating in the **“Children’s Lenten Reunion Tree”**. If you participated in this program, please return your gift cards to the Parish Office by Sunday, April 19th.

Our 2020 Bonanza Ticket Program has started. If you are not purchasing your ticket, please return the ticket to us at your earliest convenience. If you are purchasing the ticket, and have not yet returned it to the Parish Office with a payment (along with the ticket stub with your name, address and phone number) it should be returned as soon as possible. Please mail your ticket in along with payment. Thank you for participating in this program again this year! All winners will be notified by the Rectory Office.

Summer Vacation Bible School will be held the week of June 15th - 19th from 9:00 am - 11:30 am. Save the date to blast off on a fun intergalactic Bible School adventure, “Miraculous Mission - Jesus Saves the World.” Please mark your calendar now to join in the great space experience.

There will be **NO Golden Bingo** for the month of April. Our next bingo is scheduled for Saturday, May 2nd.

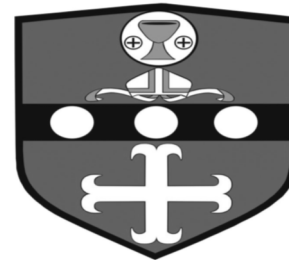
Mark your Calendars!

Our 87th Annual Reunion is scheduled for July 10th, 11th and 12th

Thank you!

TO ALL OUR Bulletin Advertisers for sponsoring our Parish Bulletin. We appreciate our advertisers and appreciate their support of this important channel of communication to our Parishioners.

The following directives were communicated to the clergy of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown on March 17, 2020. The directives remain in effect until further notice. If questions arise concerning the impact of these directives, please contact your pastor for further assistance.



BISHOP SUSPENDS THE CELEBRATION OF ALL PUBLIC MASSES

Churches and other public places of worship in the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese are to remain open for private prayer. However, effective immediately, there will be no public liturgies of any sort. That is, there will be no public daily Masses or weekend Masses, no public novenas, communal stations of the cross, ecumenical services, or other public worship until the current COVID-19 crisis has passed. The purpose of this is to retard the spread of the coronavirus. The Bishop will be reviewing the situation daily and will alert priests and deacons immediately when Masses and other public worship can be resumed.

The Bishop authorizes and expects priests to celebrate a private Mass each day during this crisis. All Mass Intentions currently requested / scheduled will be fulfilled. Priests should celebrate a single Mass in place of Saturday evening and Sunday Masses. The Bishop directs that, in light of the unprecedented situation in which we find ourselves, multiple Mass intentions should be coalesced in the one Sunday Mass. The Mass will continue to be broadcast at 11:00 am on Sundays. The Bishop will be the presider at this liturgy and these broadcasts will be available on the Diocesan website and social Media.

Christian Initiation of Adults

Because this crisis is coming at the very time when the Christian Initiation of Adults would reach its apex, the rites regarding the reception of adults into the Church will be suspended until after the crisis has passed. These rites may then be celebrated at parish weekend liturgies once weekend Masses have been restored.

Easter Triduum

Because it seems unlikely that public Masses will be permitted until after Easter, priests should begin making arrangements for the private celebration of the liturgies associated with the Easter Triduum.

Baptisms

Baptisms of children may be held during the restricted period, but they should be limited to members of the immediate family only.

Confirmations

All currently scheduled confirmation Masses have been postponed. The Bishop plans to reschedule confirmations after the crisis has passed.

First Holy Communion

First communion liturgies should be postponed until after the crisis has ended.

The Sacrament of Penance

In terms of the celebration of penance, the Bishop requires that all penance services be canceled until after current restrictions on crowd size have been lifted. The bishop encourages priests to offer specific times when the faithful can come for individual confessions.

Here at St. Benedict Church we are offering individual Outdoor Confessions every Tuesday at 8:00 am, Thursday at Noon and Saturday at 3:00 pm.

Directives continued...

Weddings

Priests will contact couples who are planning weddings in the next several months to determine if these plans have been altered. It is possible, and even likely, that venue changes and cancelations may already have affected couples with scheduled weddings. Because most weddings are not scheduled earlier than mid-April, it should be possible to give more accurate guidance in the next couple of weeks.

Funerals

Funerals may continue to be celebrated but only for immediate family members. The time of the Mass should not be published. It is acceptable for families to have a funeral liturgy outside of Mass celebrated at the funeral home. Vigils should be conducted at the discretion of the families and funeral directors in keeping with the requirements of public safety.

Pastoral Care of the Sick

The Bishop directs that priests and deacons follow these protocols with regard to the visitation and pastoral care of the sick. Those who are hospitalized should continue to receive visitation and sacraments as permitted by hospital policy. Thus priests and deacons who serve as hospital chaplains and in emergent coverage should continue these functions. Priests and deacons should visit parishioners in nursing facilities and rehab units only in danger of death. Similarly, priests and deacons should visit parishioners in their private homes only in danger of death.

Home Communion Visitations are temporarily suspended until this crises has passed.

Pastoral Care in General

Priests and deacons should continue to meet on a one-to-one basis with parishioners for appointments and pastoral counseling. The Diocesan Pastoral Center will be closed for two weeks or until the current situation abates. Email and phone calls will be answered remotely. Similarly, Catholic Charities will be closed but it is possible to leave messages for Catholic Charities staff.

Graduations

Until the Diocesan Education Office receives instruction from the Pennsylvania Department of Education, all graduations are temporarily postponed.

Fundraisers

By direct order of the Bishop, all social gatherings are prohibited until further notice. This includes parish gatherings, meetings of parish groups, fish fries, and other fundraisers. These measures are required in order to avoid person-to-person contact and the spread of COVID-19. furthermore, because it is impossible to observe the necessary sterile procedures and because of the possibility of gatherings of people in excess of what is required for public safety, all take-out meals for fundraising must also be suspended immediately.

We would like to please request a decreased in our bulletins this weekend to 750 total.

102850

Saint Benedict Church
2310 Bedford Street

Johnstown, Pennsylvania 15904-1127

Contact: Mary Beth Pudliner
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