

THE STEWARD

1st Sunday of Lent

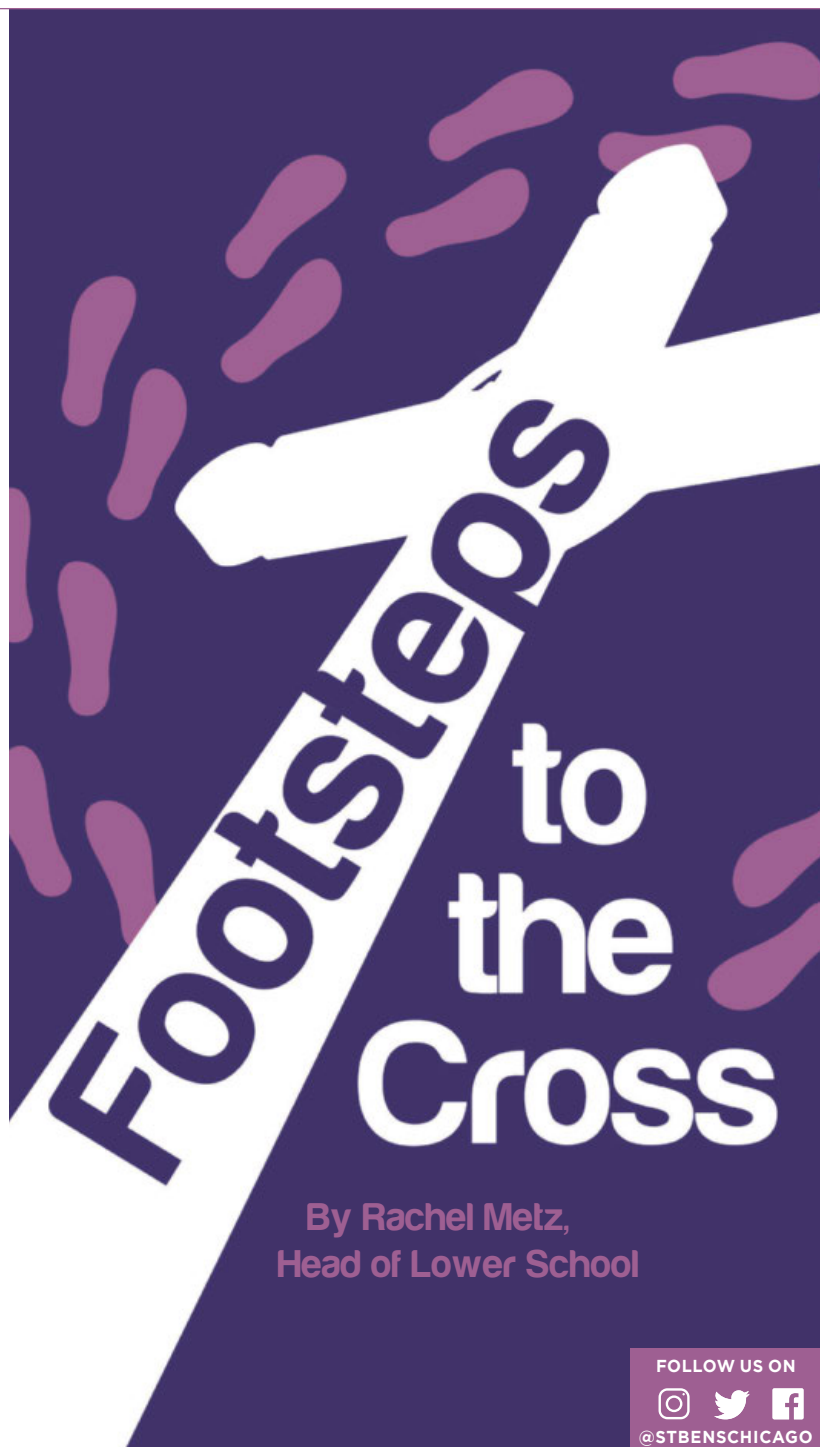
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2023



This weekend finds us at the beginning of Lent, which we entered just a few days ago on Ash Wednesday. At St. Benedict Prep, we take the time to signify the change in liturgical seasons with our students, faculty and staff. Each Lenten Season, we identify a school-wide theme that we'll all spend time focusing on, activities for our students to do at their grade levels and themes that unite us as a school. In addition to changing our morning and afternoon prayer routines to include the Act of Contrition and the Confiteor Prayer. Teachers transform their prayer spaces in their classrooms to include the color purple. Violet is a color that is somber, it symbolizes mourning, suffering, humility, regret and the willingness to do penance, particularly fasting. It is also a color associated with royalty, which we see when the soldiers mock Jesus and call him the King of the Jews.

This year our school-wide theme for Lent is *Footsteps to the Cross*. We, as a school community, will journey with Jesus through the Lenten Season. Through prayer, abstinence, penance, and almsgiving we will prepare ourselves for Easter and the Resurrection. We commit to acts of prayer, abstinence, penance and almsgiving for the intentional purpose of God to change us to be people of love. The love we focus on is the kind of love that Jesus is referring to when he mentions that we need to love God with all our heart, mind and soul, and that we are to love our neighbors, whether they are friends or enemies. Each week, our classes will have a focus on prayer or abstinence/fasting, as well as almsgiving and penance.

Our Middle School Service Committee members, through the Middle School House System, have worked hard to choose five almsgiving and prayer focuses, through Catholic Extension. A few weeks ago, five middle school



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MASS SCHEDULE: Saturday 5 PM | Sunday 8AM, 10AM, and 12PM | RECONCILIATION: Saturdays 11AM



student leaders presented to the entire SBPS faculty and staff during a Tuesday professional development session (can you imagine being in middle school and presenting to a room full of teachers – including your own teachers!?!?! They were incredibly brave and well-prepared and did an amazing job of articulating the places they had selected for our school to support).



Each week, our students throughout the school will have a reflection to work on or a prayer to write on a footprint. Each week, these collective footprints will be hung in the hallway, creating a visual for our Footsteps to the Cross. Along with that, the students will learn about the various ministries of Catholic

Extension that we'll be supporting – Sacred Heart School in Uvalde, TX, St. Juan Diego Center in El Paso, TX, St. Therese of the Child of Jesus Children's Home in Arecibo, PR, and St. Anthony Mission and School in the Zuni Pueblo of New Mexico. The students will offer prayers for those involved in the ministries, as well as collecting funds to send to those locations to support various initiatives. We will also challenge the students to fast from/feast on things such as: fast from complaining, and feast on compliments for others; fast from negative self-talk and feast on positive self-talk. Fast from gossiping/tattling and feast on problem-solving; fast from using single use plastic/littering, feast on using reusable items/cleaning up.

At some point through the 40 days of the Lenten Season, our students will be invited to participate in Reconciliation, as well. As Lent comes to an end, our 8th graders will put on the Living Stations of the Cross on March 31st for both the school and parish community. Then, as Holy Week comes, our 5th graders will put on a beautiful Holy Thursday Prayer Service for the Kindergarten through 8th grade students. With these activities and more, we hope that Lent will be a time for prayer, abstinence, penance and almsgiving for those in our school and parish community and beyond.



We are very excited to announce that we will be participating in a parish-wide survey about discipleship. We will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide feedback on what our parish is doing to help you grow.

We need your help.

We want as many parishioners as possible to complete a 10-15 minute survey. **The survey is now available.** We will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide feedback on what our parish is doing to help you grow. It will be available online and in paper format with more instructions to follow. All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as a whole.

The survey results will be invaluable to us, the staff, and our many volunteers as we seek ways to best support everyone in their discipleship journey. Additional details are coming in the bulletin.

We look forward to sharing the findings with you when the project is complete!

Thank you for helping with this important project!

This week of Lent we are praying for Sacred Heart Catholic School in Uvalde, TX

Support Sacred Heart Catholic School in Uvalde, TX. On May 24th at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, TX nineteen fourth graders and two teachers lost their lives.

Sr. Dolores Aviles, an Uvalde native, who lost three family members in the shooting said, **“there are no words to express what has happened to us. We never thought something like this could happen in Uvalde. So peaceful, so quiet and God fearing.”**

The Catholic parish in Uvalde, Sacred Heart, was among the first ever to be built with Extension funds in 1906, followed by its Catholic school in 1912. Today, Catholic Extension is working with these Catholic institutions to



promote healing among children and families in Uvalde, TX after the unspeakable violence they witnessed.

Among the most pressing needs at this moment is support for scholarships to Sacred Heart Catholic school in Uvalde, TX. 80 children from Robb Elementary transferred to the local Catholic School, to help begin their healing and overcome their trauma. Among those seeking scholarships are 11 children who were shot and survived the May 24th massacre.

80% of families with school age children are classified as low income. You can help provide a safe and loving



environment to children who are suffering from the physical and emotional wounds of violence.

“My heart is full of gratefulness to Catholic Extension, and to all the donors and everyone out there supporting the mission. Because of what you do, you’re able to empower us to be able to touch the lives of families that at this moment need Christ in their lives, peace in their lives, joy and security,” said Sr. Dolores Aviles.

Thank you for your support and generosity!



Uvalde-based Teresian Sisters with a young boy, Noah, from Robb Elementary School, who now attends Sacred Heart.

St. Benedict parish and school community is partnering with Catholic Extension this Lenten season to support their work throughout the country.



A REFLECTION ON SACRED HEART'S FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FROM CATHOLIC EXTENSION SOCIETY

Catholics take sorrow seriously. We know sorrow cannot be rushed. There are 14 stations of the cross—they take a long time to pray. Jesus' passion starts on a Thursday night and stretches into early Friday evening. Easter is a long way off. Sorrow will not be rushed. We cannot avert our eyes from sorrow. We cannot wish it away, or hope to quickly forget it. Take it in without blinking. This is why there is a cross in each of our 221,000 churches around the globe. We must never look away. We cannot dilute sorrow with a hasty, happy ending or facile resolution. Sorrow and consolation will always wrestle and we must make room for both. Truth be told, in the grip of real grief, we are sometimes not sure who the winner will be. This is what makes real consolation so holy. Uvalde, Texas is a sorrowful mystery. It cannot be rushed, ignored, nor diluted.

It is an agony. It scourges the most innocent. It is a crown of thorns worn by parents, siblings, best friends, teachers and counselors. It is a cross that so many will carry for a lifetime. It is crucifixion and death on the South Texas plains. It is a mystery that breaks us down as it consecrates.

On Monday August 15th, the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, Sacred Heart Catholic School in Uvalde gathered for an opening school Mass like no other. Catholic Extension built both the original Sacred Heart school and church in the early 1900s, and the ongoing impact of that century-old investment in Uvalde was powerfully evident that day.

And the parents and grandparents? They were scared. Many close to tears, so grateful that their church was there for them. So grateful that they were part of Sacred Heart. This was the first day since the shooting on May 24, 2022, that any school community in Uvalde had gathered. That last day of school at Sacred Heart, the students and faculty huddled in a cinder block room on lockdown for 1 ½ hours.

And everywhere one looked there was a story about May 24th, especially among the recent transfers from Robb Elementary. There was the boy whose teacher shielded him from the attack. The fatal bullet that went through her head passed into the student she was trying to protect, wounding him in the shoulder. One can only guess what other wounds he carries. There were students who endured over 70 minutes of slow-motion terror, hiding under desks, calling for help on their cell phones, hearing their classmates struggle to breathe, crying out in pain, choking, a cacophony of horror and then the terrible silence.

But the community cannot look away, so they began the first day of school with the sign of the cross and sought comfort in the Eucharist. This school of 50 was going to possibly triple in size with more and more students transferring from Robb Elementary.

Principal Olan lead the students in their school cheer, "Sacred Heart – All for Jesus!" and everyone prayed the Guardian Angel prayer, "...ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide." When the students went to their classrooms, every desk had a name tag and every seat had a new book bag crammed with every school supply known to Office Depot. The book bags and supplies were donated and packed by high school students in San Antonio.

In the fifth-grade classroom (the very students who were closest to last May's violent attack), five desks were empty. Some students just were not able to come to school yet. Sacred Heart would wait. The name tags and book bags would be there to welcome them back whenever they returned.

More than 80 children in Uvalde are seeking to transfer to the Sacred Heart to help begin their healing and overcome trauma. Eleven of these children were shot and survived. Most families cannot afford tuition—80 percent of families with school-age children in Uvalde are classified as low-income. Catholic Extension offered full scholarships to 30 Robb students who were closest to the tragedy, and continues to raise funds for those likely to transfer in the coming weeks—a welcomed relief for families with so much already on their burdened minds.

Please consider a contribution to Sacred Heart School in Uvalde, TX as part of your Lenten Almsgiving. Thank you!

February 26, 2023

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

First Sunday of Lent

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 | Rom 5:12-19 | Mt 4:1-11

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Superbowl Sunday was two weeks ago, and many of us were more likely interested in the commercials than the actual game. After all, companies pay a ton of money to have their products paraded in front of us, and - in theory at least - take the time to make these particular ads memorable and funny. If we can be convinced that we will be better people, or our social outings greater and filled with more laughter, we will buy what they are selling. It's the modern version of the words of the serpent in today's first reading: if you eat this, "you will be like gods"! Today's readings are a reminder that we are all sinners and burdened by being vulnerable to false promises - but also that we are relieved of this burden through one man: Jesus Christ. If we tend to forget that the most important part of our salvation story is that it is full of more grace and forgiveness than we can comprehend, this first Sunday of Lent is a good time to prayerfully ponder this. If God seems far away or distant, let us recall that he loved us so much that he breathed our very life into us, and then gave his only begotten Son to us that we might have life eternally. All he asks in return is for us to accept this gift and follow in his footsteps. Lent is the time to be mindful of grace-filled opportunities that draw us closer to God.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Let's think about these 40 days. In addition to allowing us to grow in understanding of God, this time is also an opportunity to grow in our understanding of how we can be the hands and feet of Jesus in the world and help to build the kingdom right here and now. How can we keep God at the center of our lives and resist worldly temptations to push him aside? Perhaps today's psalm can help us here: Ask for God's mercy, acknowledge our offenses, seek a "clean heart," renew a "steadfast spirit" within us, and ask God to grant us a "willing spirit" to give him praise. And remember Christ's words from the Gospel: Depend on "every word that comes forth from the mouth of God," which is love and mercy.

PRAY Pray today's psalm: "Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise."

Images/Jennifer Mirancho

Sunday, Feb 26, 2023

God's messengers

Have you thought much about your guardian angel since you prayed at bedtime when you were a kid? If not, maybe it's time to catch up with the one that's been assigned to help you. The word *angelos* means "messenger" in Greek, and since angels "always behold the face" of God in heaven (Matthew 18:10), they're well-positioned to intercede for you. Appreciate the watchful care that surrounds you and protects you from spiritual and perhaps physical dangers. Their constant attention indicates how precious you are to God and how active God wishes to be in your life.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11 (22). *"He will command his angels concerning you and with their hands they will support you."*

Monday, Feb 27, 2023

A book for your nightstand, next to your Bible

Grigor Narekatsi, born near the turn of the first millennium, was an Armenian mystical and lyrical poet, monk, and theologian. He has the distinction of being venerated as a saint in the Armenian Apostolic and Catholic Churches and was declared a doctor of the church by Pope Francis in 2015. The prayer book of Gregory of Narek is a fixture in religious Armenian homes, second only to the Bible, and is considered a masterpiece of Christian spiritual literature. It has been translated into 30 languages, including English. Given the rave reviews, consider this writer-saint for your next read!

MEMORIAL OF GREGORY OF NAREK, ABBOT, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

TODAY'S READINGS: Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Matthew 25:31-46 (224). *"Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."*

Tuesday, Feb 28, 2023

United in prayer

Pope Benedict XVI, may he rest in peace, wrote beautifully on prayer and the Our Father: "In praying our heart is opened. Not only do we enter into communion with God but actually with all the children of God, because we are one body. When we address the Father in our inner room in silence and in recollection we are never alone. Those who speak to God are not alone. We are within the great prayer of the Church, we are part of a great symphony that the Christian community in all the parts of the earth and in all epochs, raises to God." Pray the Our Father slowly and consciously today, with everyone.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15 (225). *"This is how you are to pray: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name."*

Wednesday, Mar 01, 2023

Get on board for justice

Today marks the 98th death anniversary of Homer Plessy, the man who attempted to end segregation with his legendary ride on a whites-only streetcar in New Orleans in 1892. His efforts were unsuccessful, and the following seven decades of U.S. jurisprudence included segregation as a bedrock feature. Plessy, however, is much less heralded for the fact that he was a man of faith, a black Catholic whose famous ride was organized by an interracial activist group known as the Comité des Citoyens (Citizens' Committee). Their holy disobedience was one of the first Catholic-led efforts against the

developing hierarchy of racism in the formerly French and Spanish regions of the Deep South. May the courage of Plessy and his allies be of use to us today as we continue the march toward justice.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32 (226). *"Man and beast shall be covered with sackcloth and call loudly to God; every man shall turn from his evil way and from the violence he has in hand."*

Thursday, Mar 02, 2023

Read it and reap

Welcome to Read Across America Day, established in 1998 by the National Education Association to encourage this most central, enjoyable, and enriching of activities. Popular among teachers, students, and librarians, today can also be a day for Catholics to explore and support organizations such as the Catholic Media Association, whose members inform, inspire, and educate readers, keeping them connected to their faith, and telling the story of the church. Check a list of Catholic newspapers and magazines to find one you can support with a subscription. You in turn will be supported in your faith.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Matthew 7:7-12 (227). *"Everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."*

Friday, Mar 03, 2023

Store up treasure in heaven

Saint Katharine Drexel was born in Philadelphia in 1858 to a wealthy family. The Drexels had a reputation for generosity, reportedly opening their home several days a week to feed and care for people in need. They also made time every day to pray together. During a trip to Europe as a young woman, Katharine was able to have an audience with Pope Leo XIII. She asked the Holy Father to send missionaries to Wyoming. He answered, "Why don't you go?" Not long after, Katharine stunned society by leaving behind her privileged life to dedicate herself to religious life. She worked to improve living conditions and educational opportunities for African Americans and Native Americans. She left a legacy far greater than her family fortune.

MEMORIAL OF KATHARINE DREXEL, RELIGIOUS FOUNDER

TODAY'S READINGS: Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26 (228). *"Go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift."*

Saturday, Mar 04, 2023

Short but sweet sainthood

Lenten inspiration can come from anywhere—from scripture to Instagram, from saints to young people. While not a Bible figure or social media influencer, 15th-century Casimir of Poland happens to fit the categories of both saint and young person. Saint Casimir was a prince who was under intense pressure from his family and country to take a leading role in government and politics. But Casimir felt called to focus on prayer, study, and care for people in need. Although he had to contend with some very disappointed people, he stood firm in his decision to follow his calling. Disease cut short his life at the tender age of 25, but his example can inspire us to live out our calling and thus help fulfill his.

MEMORIAL OF CASIMIR, PRINCE

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48 (229). *"This day the LORD, your God, commands you to observe these statutes and decrees. . . with all your heart and with all your soul."*

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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LIL' BENGALS PLAY & PRAY

Play & Pray with your young cub (6 months – 2 years old) at St. Benedict Preparatory School. Play & Pray provides you the opportunity to socialize, build community, and connect with members of our parish and school. Sessions are held in the Preschool Gross Motor Room with padded floors and age-appropriate play equipment. **Parents and children only please.** Questions? Contact Janet Gallagher, Director of Enrollment & Marketing at jgallagher@stbenedict.com or 773-509-3814.

St. Benedict Preparatory Preschool
3901 N Bell (corner of Byron and Bell)
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

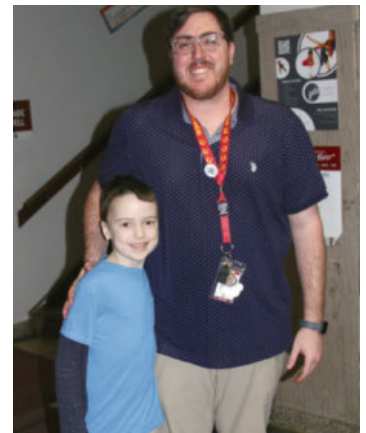
ON FRIDAYS:
March 3, March 10, and March 31

>>>
**SCAN TO
REGISTER**



SBPS SPIRIT WEEK FUN - DRESS LIKE A TEACHER!

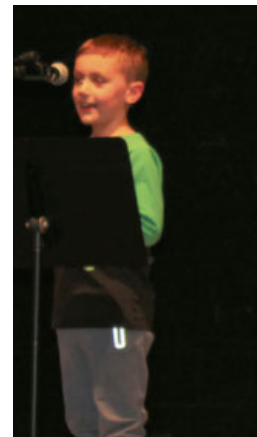
St. Benedict Prep students wrapped up Spirit Week celebrations with Dress Like a Teacher Day. Students showed their love for their teachers by dressing like them.



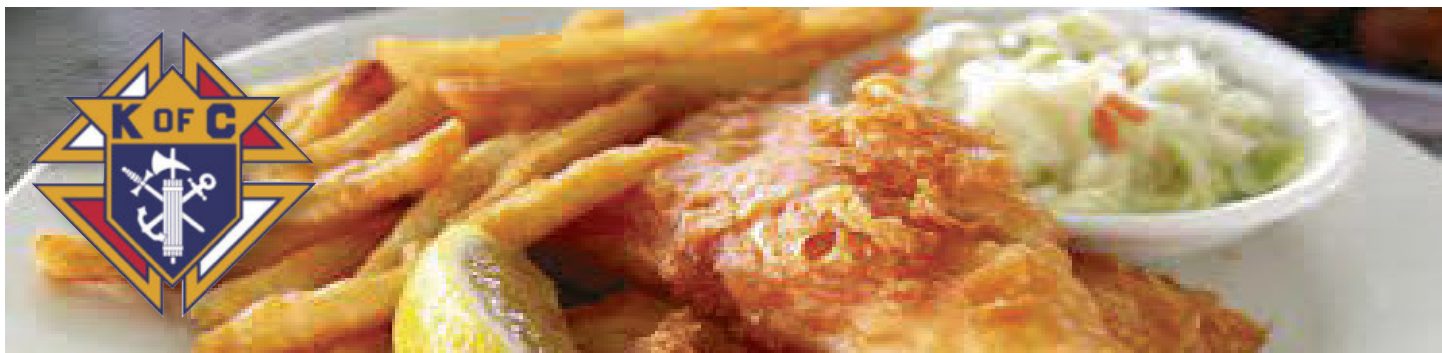
Education

SBPS SPIRIT WEEK FUN - TALENT SHOW!

The week ended with students in grades 1-5 displaying their God-given talents in the annual Talent Show. It was a spirited way for students to show their Bengal Pride!



Parish Events



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LENTEN ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FISH FRY IS BACK FOR LENT!

Friday, March 10 and Friday, March 31 @ 5-8pm

DONATIONS:

Adults \$15.00 Children \$5.00

Dinner includes fish, French fries, coleslaw, mac 'n cheese, dessert and a drink

SCAN CODE TO DONATE ITEMS OR VOLUNTEER >>>



Parish Events

The 22nd Annual Gala "Under The Big Top"

to be held at Rockwell on the River on April 15th! You will be hearing a lot in the coming weeks about this event fundraiser – our largest of the year!

Did you know?

This is our 22nd annual Gala and it used to be called Ball and Auction. Join us for our church and school's largest fundraiser.

Lookback at Gala 2022:

Last year's Gala was a record breaking success bringing in over \$350,000 profit to the school which roughly broke down to: \$110,000 to the Fund-A-Need Tuition Assistance, \$24,000 to Facility Improvements, and \$218,000 to Operating Expenditures.

Under the BIG TOP Gala

SATURDAY,
APRIL 15, 2023
AT ROCKWELL ON
THE RIVER

It will be a night to remember!

This year's Under the Big Top will be a fun night for everyone to dress up (black tie optional) and enjoy circus performers, live music, incredibly unique auction items, and great food. It's sure to be a night to remember while supporting St. Ben's mission and programs.

February 13:

Invitations and tickets go on sale

Collection items

Committee collects school & church donations

Feb.-April:

Gala Pre-Parties and Committee work*

April 10-15:

Kick-Off Week Silent Auction Preview

April 15:

Come one, come all to the Big Top!

Ways your generous donation can make a difference!

TEACHER TICKETS

As a thank you to our faculty, parish and school staff, and volunteer catechists, we collect contributions so they can attend the event at no charge. We raise over \$15,000 each year so they can attend. Teachers in turn provide "teacher treats" experiences that are auctioned at the event so our students can have a special time with their favorite teachers (Over \$25,000 raised in 2022). Forms to come home the week of February 6th. Thank you for your consideration.

WINE PULL/BOURBON PULL

A fun part of the evening is our Wine Pull which has over 100 bottles of select red, white, and sparkling wines valued at \$30 minimum, and bourbon valued at a \$40 minimum. Each year the wine pull alone raises \$2,500 for our school. We are excited to also offer a bourbon pull this year! Consider donating a bottle or two in the weeks ahead.

SCHOOL PROJECTS

We are changing things up this year and offering School Projects available to everyone instead of the class projects specific to grades. This year we will be selling a hard cover/coffee table style cookbook features recipes and photos from our very own families. Please submit your recipe at the link provided in the St. Ben's Gala Weekly Email. We will also be selling 2023-2024 calendars featuring pictures of the students and all the dates you need to know for the upcoming school year. Another project will be one of a kind puzzle pieces to purchase and have your student paint during a workshop with Mrs. Stancin, our Art Teacher. These puzzle pieces will be a permanent installation in our school hallways. Stay tuned for these amazing projects the night of the Gala.

POST PARTIES (formally known as After Parties)

Post Parties are another fun part of our Gala fundraising. In fact, in 2022, Post Parties brought in over \$30,000 for the school. Post parties are held after the Gala on a future date. These parties happen through spring, summer and fall and they are hosted by generous families at school. You may have heard people talking this year about the Clam Bake, the Ladies Golf Outing, Trivia night, or the Gingerbread Decorating Contest to name a few... These were all Post Parties.

Here is how they work: The hosts decide on the theme, location, and number of guests that can attend. Then tickets go on sale the day of the Gala. So if you are looking forward to attending a Post Party this year, keep your eye out on the day of the Gala, some go fast!

*Interested in joining a great group of volunteers planning the event? Committees include venue and entertainment planning, solicitation of sponsorships and auction items, school project creation and silent & live auction packaging.

Contact Amy Cupples, Kat Neehan, and Becky Schick at gala@stbenedict.com.



What Does a Healthy Relationship Look Like?

- From The Domestic Violence Outreach Team at Saint Benedict Parish

Just as important as being able to recognize the harmful patterns in a relationship is learning to identify when a relationship is going well. Many people are unsure of what to look for, or worse yet, they don't know all the positives that they truly deserve to have within a relationship. If someone grew up watching their parents or other family members act out chronically toxic patterns, then that person may very well come to define those patterns as "normal" and have difficulty understanding the baseline of what a good relationship looks like.

With that in mind, here is a place to start. Healthy, functional relationships have these characteristics — which apply especially to committed romantic relationships. They shouldn't be optional. And when they are missing, it's important to address the problem. This week, let's look at 3 such characteristics.

1. Trust

Trust is arguably among the most important relationship characteristics. Without trust, there is the lack of a solid foundation on which to build emotional intimacy, and your potential for hurt — over and over again — grows ever bigger. Without trust, you will be left constantly unsure of whether you can count on your partner to come through for you, and whether or not they really mean what they are saying. There are many ways to build and rebuild trust within a relationship, but if you are not on the path to doing so, your relationship is quite vulnerable to stress and uncertainty.

2. Communication

Communicating honestly and respectfully, especially about things that are difficult, is something that does not come automatically to everyone. We may have learned to keep uncomfortable things under the surface for the sake of harmony or the appearance of perfection, or we also may have never even learned how to acknowledge difficult feelings to ourselves. Other challenges involve escalating a conflict into a full-out war: lacking the ability to not take things over-personally or lashing out when we feel threatened. It's okay if you have these tendencies; what's important is that you work on them, as strong and healthy communication is the lifeblood that nourishes good relationships.

3. Patience

No one can be perfectly patient all the time, and factors like lack of sleep, stress, or physical health problems will make you more easily agitated at various points in your life — that's part of being human. But partners in a healthy, loving relationship extend each other a basic common denominator of patience that allows for peace, flexibility, and support when one person is having a bad day or is not at their best. When partners are chronically impatient with each other, they often create a dynamic of bean-counting and resentment, where they are mentally racking up the "offenses" that the other partner has committed. Being able to adjust to the ebbs and flows of a partner's moods in day-to-day life — within reason — can instead allow a feeling of being unconditionally loved.

Going forward, we will look at Empathy, Affection and Interest, Flexibility, Appreciation, Room for Growth, Reciprocity, Healthy Conflict Resolution and finally, Openness and Honesty.

With Thanks to Dr. Andrea Bonior at PsychologyToday.com



Domestic Violence Victim Services:



Catholic Charities Domestic Violence Services:

Various Locations:
Please call
1.312.655.7725

Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline:
1.877.863.6338
(Toll-Free, 24-hour, Confidential, Multilingual.)

Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline:
1-800-4-A-CHILD
(1-800-422-4453)

Coming Up at St. Ben's | February and March 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26 1st Sunday of Lent Masses at 8am, 10am, and 12pm Church Welles Park Registration 10am-2pm SS Library Knights of Columbus 11am Sewing Room Cub Scout Pack 3865 Blue-Gold Pack Meeting 3pm Beaven Hall	27 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church St. Vincent de Paul Society Monthly Mtg 6pm Sewing Room Troop 865 Meeting 7pm Heidenreich Hall Knights of Columbus Assembly Meeting 7pm Beaven Hall Ravenswood Orchestra Practice 7pm SS Library	28 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church Tiger Scouts Den Meetings 5:30pm Beaven Hall	1 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church Cub Scout Pack 3865 4th Grade Meetings 5:30pm Beaven Hall AA Group Meeting 8pm Beaven Hall	2 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church	3 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction 9am-12pm Church  Stations of the Cross 7pm Church	4 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church Reconciliation 11am Church Cub Scout Pack 3865 Derby Workshops 12pm Beaven Hall Mass at 5pm Church
5 2nd Sunday of Lent Masses at 8am, 10am, and 12pm Church Mass at St. Kateri Center 11am Convent Chapel Cub Scout Pack 3865 Derby Workshops 12pm Beaven Hall	6 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church Webelos II Meeting 7pm Cafeteria Troop 865 Meeting 7pm Beaven Hall Ravenswood Orchestra Practice 7pm SS Library	7 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church	8 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church 3rd Grade St. Ben's Girl Scouts 3pm Beaven Hall Cub scout Bears 5pm Beaven Hall Gala Meeting 7:30pm SS Library AA Group Meeting 8pm Beaven Hall	9 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church Cub Scout Pack 3865 Wolves Den Meetings 6:30pm Beaven Hall	10 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church Fish Fry 5pm - 8pm Beaven Hall  Stations of the Cross 7pm Church	11 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church Reconciliation 11am Church Mass at 5pm Church

Stewardship



Sunday & Holy Day Offertory Week of February 12

GiveCentral is our partner for secure electronic giving. Here are three easy ways to get started:

- > Visit GiveCentral.org and search for St. Benedict – Chicago under My Charity
- > Follow the DONATE links on our parish and school website: stbenedict.com
- > Text the keyword DONATE to our text-to-give number : 773.918.2366
- > Scan the QR code (below) with your phone or tablet

Electronic Giving: \$8,513
 Envelope: \$2,388
 Loose: \$3,365
 Total: \$14,266 (110% of goal)
 Weekly Goal: \$12,990

Fiscal YTD: \$420,150 (98% of goal)
 Fiscal YTD Goal: \$428,670
 Above/(Below) YTD Goal: (\$8,520)

QUESTIONS? Contact our Director of Operations and Finance, Jeanne Anderson, at 773.588.6484 x5109 or janderson@stbenedict.com. Thank you for your remarkable generosity to the parish.

SCAN TO DONATE >>>



Masses for the Week

Saturday, February 25 - Saturday after Ash Wednesday

- 8:30AM Special Intention for Dianne Kathleen Ty
- Family
5PM Barbara Ott - Marilyn Jerger

Sunday, February 26 - First Sunday of Lent

- 8AM Living and Deceased Members/Benefactors
of St. Vincent de Paul Society
Ilona Weber - Jan McNeill
10AM Mark J. Jerger - The St. Benedict Parish
and School Community
Marina Barrientos - The Barrientos and
Kramer Families
John A. Hauser - The Suh-Hauser Families
Jolanta Konik - The St. Benedict
Parish and School Community
12PM Adelaida Limcaoco - Family
Craig Wisner - Friends

Monday, February 27 - Saint Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

- 8:30AM Mark J. Jerger - The St. Benedict Parish
and School Community
Abundia P. Cortes - Jorge and Aurora Cortes

Tuesday, February 28 - Lenten Weekday

- 8:30AM Bud and Chuck Jerger - Family
Avelina Cruz - Adelina Vergara

Wednesday, March 1 - Lenten Weekday

- 8:30AM James J. Dinchak - Friends

Thursday, March 2 - Lenten Weekday

- 8:30AM Jerry Johnson - The St. Benedict Parish
Community

First Friday, March 3 - Saint Katharine Drexel, Virgin

- 8:30AM Rita Gumler - The Gumler Family

First Saturday, March 4 - Saint Casimir

- 8:30AM Special Blessing for Gabriel Barron
- Diana Barron
Marina Sobrepena and Danielo Belicena
- Sally Sobrepena-Belicena
5PM Tom Reynolds - Joe and Kathy Minneci

Sunday, March 5 - Second Sunday of Lent

- 8AM Gloria C. Recede - Family
George Plesko - Ben Mazzone
10AM John A. Hauser - The Suh-Hauser Families
Mary Kelly - B. Kelly
Ilona Weber - The St. Benedict
Parish and School Community
Al Schoen - Friends
12PM Celia M. Baylon - Jorge and Aurora Cortes

Please Pray for Healing

Please call the Rectory at (773) 588-6484 to add your name or the name of an immediate family member for whom you would like the parish to pray for healing. The name of the person will appear quarterly unless otherwise instructed at the time the request is made.

Gloria Arsenia	Ken McFadden
Beverly Berganos Johnson	Ronald O'Keefe Jr.
Suzanne Brewer	Corazon Pizarro
Isabella Sofia Casillas	Erlyn Publico
Vincent Castellano	Julie Raheja-Perera
Carmen M. Clarin	Marla Rizzutti
Mayden H. Eichendorf	Alex Sandoval
Frank Flesch	Cecilia Fell Schott (Class of 72)
Anne Hoellich	Bill Shaver
Marilyn Jerger	Eden Sobrepena
Charlene Johnson	Jim Strzalka
Patricia Ann King	Audrey Venkatesh
Jackson James Limburg	Leda Wildner
Giorgio Marconi	

Baptisms

Genevieve Rizalina Rualo, daughter of Gary Rualo
and Christina Dellaria

Knoll Marco, son of David and Mary Wawrzyniak



Parish Information



If you are visiting, we hope you enjoy your stay. We're glad you decided to join us in this celebration. If you are new to the St. Ben's community, welcome home! **To become a registered parishioner, complete a Registration Form on our website: parish.stbenedict.com.** One of our Ministers of Hospitality will be glad to assist you. If you are a former parishioner or a graduate of our schools, we are glad to see you back home. We hope you will return often. Contact Joe Accardi, Director of Alumni Relations at jaccardi@stbenedict.com. Our weekly bulletin, The Steward, tells you about parish life. Submissions for the bulletin are generally due by Friday at 9 am of the week previous to publication. Electronic submissions are preferred via e-mail to bulletin@stbenedict.com. Flyers should be submitted in camera-ready format and will be used if space permits. If you would like to receive our online weekly newsletter-"The Block", please contact the rectory to be placed on our emailing list. If you have any questions, please call the rectory at (773) 588-6484. We look forward to hearing from you.

ST. BENEDICT PARISH AND PREPARATORY SCHOOL

ST. BENEDICT PARISH

Rectory: 2215 W. Irving Park Road,
Chicago, IL 60618
Phone: (773) 588-6484
Fax: (773) 588-4927
Email: www.stbenedict.com
Rectory hours: 9AM - 5 PM
(Monday-Friday),
NO SATURDAY OR SUNDAY HOURS

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Stephen Kanonik, Pastor,
ext. 5106, skanonik@stbenedict.com
Rev. Robert Beaven, Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Thomas Refermat, Assoc. Pastor,
ext 5103, trefermat@stbenedict.com
David Reyes, Deacon, ext. 5105,
dreyes@stbenedict.com
Scott Arkenberg, Director of
Music Ministry, ext. 5107,
sarkenberg@stbenedict.com
Elaine Lindia, Director of Catechesis,
ext. 1271, elindia@stbenedict.com
Kim McMillan, Director of Youth Ministry,
ext. 5108, kmcmillan@stbenedict.com
Jody Roy, Director of St. Kateri Center,
ext. 7000, jroy@stbenedict.com
Bill Frere, Deacon, St. Kateri Center
wfrere@archchicago.org

PARISH SUPPORT STAFF

Jeanne Anderson, Director of
Operations, ext. 5109,
janderson@stbenedict.com
Ellen Roberts, Parish Manager,
ext. 5104, eroberts@stbenedict.com
Maria Tubay, Director of Communications
ext. 2351, mtubay@stbenedict.com

ST. BENEDICT PREPARATORY SCHOOL Early Childhood (Preschool)

Phone: (773) 588-7851
3901 N. Bell Ave, Chicago, IL 60618

Lower School(K-3)

Phone: (773) 463-6797
3920 N. Leavitt, Chicago, IL 60618

Upper School (4-8)

Phone: (773) 539-0066
3900 N. Leavitt, Chicago, IL 60618
Rachel Gemo, Head of Parish School
(PK-8), ext. 1220,
rgemo@stbenedict.com
Rachel Metz, Head of Lower School,
ext. 1101, rmetz@stbenedict.com
Mary Deletioğlu, Head of Upper School,
ext. 1253, mdeletioğlu@stbenedict.com

THE COMMISSIONS OF ST. BENEDICT PARISH

If you are interested in learning more
about or joining one of the many
ministries at St. Benedict Parish or
would like to volunteer time or talent,
please call the rectory or contact the
following person(s):

Parish Council Chair: Karen Cholipski
Finance Council Chair: Chris Graff
School Board Co-Chairs: Michael Gerlach
and Lindsay Milanowski
Catechetical Commission:
Elaine Lindia and Kim McMillan
Education Commission: Rachel Gemo,
Rachel Metz, or Mary Deletioğlu
Human Concerns Commission: TBD
Parish Life Commission: TBD
Spiritual Life Commission:
Fr. Stephen Kanonik

MASSES AND SERVICES

Sunday Eucharist: Saturday 5PM,
Sunday 8AM, 10AM, AND 12PM
Live Stream as well, Sunday
Weekday Eucharist: 8:30AM Mon-Sat
Holy Day Eucharist: 6:30AM, 8:30AM
and 7PM
Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help:
Tuesdays 9AM
**Exposition and Benediction of the
Blessed Sacrament:** First Friday of each
month, 9AM-12PM, in church
Baptisms: Scheduled on all Sundays at
1:30PM; on the fourth Sunday at one of
the Masses. Baptism preparation class is
required.
Reconciliation: Saturdays, 11AM - 12
NOON; seasonal celebrations, as posted;
by appointment in the rectory.
Weddings: Arrange with a priest at least
four months in advance. Participation in
marriage preparation is required.*
**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
(RCIA):** For unbaptized persons or
baptized persons interested in learning
more about the Catholic faith and the
process of becoming a Catholic.*
Religious Education: For the religious
education of children attending public
schools please call the Director of
Catechesis.
Homebound: Call the rectory to arrange
communion in home for those unable to
attend Mass.
Mass Intentions: Mass intentions may be
requested for someone who is living or
deceased, to commemorate a birthday,
special anniversary, or the anniversary
of a loved one's death.*

** Please call the Rectory*

VOCATIONS EVENTS

Do you think you might have a calling?

Fr. Tim Monahan, Vocations Director, wants to connect with you.

College men are invited:
Seminary Sprint in Mundelein, Mar. 10-11

High school men are invited:
Quigley Discerners event, Apr. 29

Scan for details and sign up!



HAVING DIFFICULTY DEALING WITH OUR STRESSFUL WORLD?

The Holbrook Counseling Center of Catholic Charities provides counseling services at St. Matthias Parish.

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