

ST. BENEDICT PARISH AND PREPARATORY SCHOOL

THE STEWARD

2nd Sunday of Lent

SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023



GOSPEL – LUKE 9:28B-36

CLIMB EVERY MOUNTAIN

BY DEACON BILL FRERE

VIEW OF TOBACCO ROW MOUNTAIN, VIRGINIA



Back in high school, the seminary where we lived, studied and prayed was essentially in the middle of nowhere, nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Virginia. And right behind the seminary, about a mile away, was one particular mountain, Tobacco Row Mountain. For all of us, it represented a rite of passage, a coming of age event that tested your physical endurance and patience. On a work-free Saturday morning, you would leave right

after breakfast, hike to the mountain base, climb it, come back down and hike back to the seminary. And do it all without being late for 6pm dinner. It was not easy and many never met the challenge. For those of us who did, there was a sense of accomplishment and pride, not to mention that exhilarating view you got when you reached the summit – breathtaking! But you couldn't stay long; you didn't want to risk detention by being tardy

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

to dinner.

Mountains! They are a familiar image throughout the Bible. In the Old Testament alone, mountains are mentioned over 500 times. They were considered places where you encountered the divine, where you were able to draw close to God

There was Mt. Ararat where Noah's ark came to rest and where God made His first covenant. Mt. Hebron where God makes His covenant with Abraham and where Moses encountered the Lord in the burning bush! Mt. Sinai where Moses met God, received Ten Commandments and his face shone white! Mt. Zion where Solomon built the Temple! The Mount of the Beatitudes on the shores of the Sea of Galilee where Jesus gave us the New Law! The Mount of Olives where Jesus often went to pray! And Mt. Tabor where today's Gospel takes place!

Even today Mt. Tabor is a very high, extremely steep mountain. It makes for a commanding presence for miles around! Climbing to the top is not a leisurely hike; at times you would be using hands and feet to scale to the top. Even if you took a car, the drive is treacherous, windy, a switch-back road with no guard rails and barely enough room for 1 vehicle much less 2-way traffic. Speaking from experience, you are better off riding to the top with your eyes firmly shut! But the view from top – utterly breathtaking. And the church at the summit beautifully takes advantage of the vistas and you really do feel that much closer to the divine!

Peter, James and John certainly had to struggle to reach the top of Mt. Tabor; it was definitely not a walk in the park! And yet what they found at the summit brought such wonder and joy that they wanted to pitch tents and remain there with Jesus, Elijah and Moses.

And then the cloud descended upon them. And God speaks: This is My beloved Son! Listen to Him! Clouds – again another common theme in the Old Testament. Moses encountered God in the cloud on Mt. Sinai. The Israelites encountered the Lord when He led them through the desert as a pillar of fire at night and a pillar of cloud during the day! A cloud surrounded the Ark of the Covenant during those 40 years in the desert! At the dedication of the Temple, a cloud filled the House of the Lord.

And Jesus Himself promises that, when He returns at the Second Coming, we will see Him coming down on a bright cloud! Clouds always symbolized the presence of the divine. So it is no wonder that the 3 apostles should become frightened and fall silent! They were in the presence of God! An experience we all look forward to in the Kingdom!

But the Transfiguration lasted only a little while and then Jesus led them back down the mountain, back to the real world. It serves as a foreshadowing of Jesus' Resurrection but also a reminder of His suffering and death that awaits Him in Jerusalem. And it's a wake-up call to the Apostles that the future will be difficult and painful but the reward awaits them in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Like the Apostles, we all have mountains to climb..... we all struggle at times in life. Certainly these past 3 years have challenged us, tested us in unimaginable ways. We have all had storm clouds that caused us to doubt and despair, even raise our voices in anger, as we struggle to find a purpose for all that we are going through. It's hard to see and appreciate the heavenly view at the top of the mountain when our minds are so consumed with earthly concerns and worries.

But Scriptures remind us that our citizenship is in heaven, that these frail human bodies will be transformed into glorified bodies, like what Peter, James and John saw on the mountain top. And that even in the midst of storm clouds, even when we can't see Him and think God has abandoned us, He is still there beside us! Those 3 Apostles got a taste of heaven, a glimpse of what awaits us all. The Kingdom of Heaven! And so will we, if we only have the courage, the patience and the faith to climb the mountain!



The Disciple Maker Index Survey is Open! Please Read and Help!

IT'S OFFICIAL!

Please help us, participate by completing a 10-15 minute survey, as soon as possible.

The survey will only be available beginning today and will end March 19. We ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to provide feedback on our parish's efforts to help you grow. All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as whole.

We are trying to get the highest response rate possible. This information will be invaluable to Father Steve and our various ministries as we plan for the future and strive to be the best disciples we can be. We will receive the results this spring/summer at which time we will share what we have learned with the entire parish.

Thank you for helping with this important project!

GO TO THE SURVEY >>>



This week of Lent we are praying for St. Juan Diego Center in El Paso, Texas



Support Centro San Juan Diego. This is an after-school arts, culture and religious education center for children. Dr. Veronica Rayas runs the center and the programs that nurture children's faith. The center is in El Paso, Texas, a growing city located along the southern U.S. border. The center provides religious education classes by developing and expanding their knowledge of Mexican American culture and the Catholic faith.

Veronica created the center because her Catholic faith was taught to her through cooking with her grandmothers, doing chores around the house and sharing stories with her family. She said, "Our Mothers, our fathers, neighbors, taught us our Catholic faith through the culture and through the arts." The center helps young people find their place in the Church and in the world.

Many of the children that attend the religious education center are from low-income families and face personal and academic challenges, but Veronica and the teachers at the center try to be the light to the children. **The Centro San Juan Diego is a place where the teachers treat students as children of God, working side-by-side with them so that they might learn that they have gifts and skills to develop.**



On an average day at the center, teachers work with groups of kids on silkscreen, video production, cooking and other activities. Teachers tell stories about cultural and religious symbols, feast days, and the importance of family and community through art. The center invites and trains young people for service by sharing their God given gifts and talents of art, music, dance, culinary, short video and filmmaking with their parishes and community. The children feel connected to their parish community by sharing their voice, gifts, and talents. They are given opportunities to use their

"sparks" for the church.

Thank you for your support and generosity!

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

Weary Asylum Seekers Find God's Love and Care at the St. Juan Diego Center in El Paso, Texas

A mother and her three young children were living in Guatemala when their lives were shattered by violence. Her husband, a mechanic, spent years paying weekly "safety" fees to the gangs. When he could no longer afford it, they killed him. She took her children and fled. After journeying for weeks, three children in tow, she finally made it to the United States border. She applied for asylum, and was released by U.S. authorities. Hungry, cold and tired, she found the first sign of love and care in a Catholic hospitality center in the Diocese of El Paso.

Her story is just like the thousands of other families escaping extreme violence in Central America and Mexico. They are fleeing death threats, extortion and the recruitment of their own children into gangs. Along the border, Catholic shelters have been established to provide for basic needs of these families after they have applied for legal protection in the United States. Several are supported by Catholic Extension.

One of these shelters is Centro San Juan Diego in the Diocese of El Paso. Originally created as a youth and culture center, it has transformed into a hospitality center for migrants to meet this urgent need. Veronica Rayas, the director of religious education in the Diocese of El Paso, oversees the shelter. In her time serving the asylum-seekers, their harrowing stories have become familiar. "Everyone who shows up here on our border has a story of violence, of extortion," she said. "They are making this journey into the U.S. merely to survive." On top of this trauma, families have endured hunger, exposure to the elements and exhaustion. The shelter is an unexpected and welcome relief.

She said, "Our guests often arrive feeling broken and rejected. ... After 5 minutes of caldito (broth), welcoming, smiling faces grounded in our Catholic faith, their faces and attitude changed—knowing that we all walk together on the journey and God was present."

The center provides the warmth and care that refugees have gone without for months on end. They are greeted with smiles and love by the center's staff and volunteers. Most families leave after a short stay, after they have arranged travel plans to meet up with other relatives in the U.S. They have very little money or supplies, so they leave with a travel bag that has water, juice, snacks, sandwiches, fruit, a blanket, coloring book, crayons, and a toy.

So far, the staff at Centro San Juan Diego have served about 5,000 refugees. The center is a lifeline for people living through trauma and uncertainty – like the mother and her children who fled Guatemala. All across the border, these Catholic Extension-supported shelters are offering vital hospitality to these tired families. By giving to Catholic Extension Society you can help these border ministries that live out Catholic values: welcoming the stranger, clothing the naked, and feeding the hungry.



March 5, 2023

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Second Sunday of Lent

Gn 12:1-4a | 2 Tm 1:8b-10 | Mt 17:1-9

“

This is my beloved
Son, with whom
I am well pleased;
listen to him.”

(Mt 17: 5)

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

As we enter the second week of Lent, today's readings encourage us to place our trust in God when we are dealing with hardship or uncertainty. Last week, we heard about how Jesus resisted the devil's temptations in the desert, trusting in the Father. This week, we follow Peter, James and John up the mountain, where Jesus "was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light." Jesus had told his followers he would suffer and die. The Transfiguration gave them a foretaste of Christ's glorious coming (CCC 554-56). As we continue on our Lenten journeys, we, too, can place our trust in the Lord. Though we may experience hardships and perhaps even doubts, the Transfiguration reminds us that Jesus has gone before us and prepared a place for us. As Pope Francis reminds us, "by his Transfiguration [Jesus] invites us to gaze at him. And looking at Jesus purifies our eyes and prepares them for eternal life, for the vision of heaven" (Homily, March 2014).

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

We Catholics like to pray out loud. Whether we're singing the "Holy, Holy" with gusto or quietly reciting the rosary, most of us can say with confidence, "we have a prayer for that." And, of course, prayer is one of the three pillars of Lent (along with fasting and almsgiving). Today's account of the Transfiguration instructs us pretty clearly to listen. As Jesus is transfigured, the disciples hear a voice from the cloud: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; *listen to him.*" As we enter the second week of Lent, many of us have chosen something to "give up" or done something more proactive. Either way, today's readings remind us to enter this penitential season with open hearts – and open ears. We can listen to Jesus by studying Scripture, being especially attentive to the Sunday homily, or quietly soaking in his presence through eucharistic adoration.

PRAY Try driving with the radio off this week. Use the time to pray and "listen" to Jesus.

Images/D-Keine

Sunday, Mar 05, 2023

Honor the unnamed

The Bible is full of unnamed actors. Many are women: identified simply as mothers, wives, and daughters. While seven blessings promote the name of Abraham, it's the rare woman like Mary who's called blessed "for generations" in her canticle. Today we recall the unnamed wife of Chief Patricio de Hinachuba, an Apalachee laywoman among 57 martyrs in the Florida territory missions between 1549-1715, all currently up for sanctification. These martyrs included priests and catechists, native peoples, soldiers, and children. For all faithful, nameless women, we give thanks.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 12:1-4a; 2 Timothy 1:8b-10; Matthew 17:1-9 (25). "I will make your name great, so that you will be a blessing."

Monday, Mar 06, 2023

Read up!

Could your Catholic school library need some new picks? How about your book club for the adults? This Women's History Month, learn more about a remarkable Catholic black woman writer, Ellen Tarry (1906-2008). She attended Catholic school as a girl and converted to Catholicism and later became a journalist and author who was part of the Harlem Renaissance. Her writing included producing the first African-American picture book, writing a newspaper column on racial injustice and racial pride, and penning her memoir *The Third Door: The Autobiography of an American Negro Woman*. She also wrote biographies for youth and adult readers of Catholic saints Katherine Drexel and Martin de Porres and the Venerable Pierre Toussaint. You might be reading Tarry beyond March!

LENTEN WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Daniel 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38 (230). "Give and gifts will be given to you."

Tuesday, Mar 07, 2023

Beyond distinctions

Devotion to Jesus seriously conflicted with Roman rule in the second century, with citizens expected to worship the emperor instead. Thus, the fate of two young mothers, Perpetua and Felicity: forced into a public amphitheater to be killed by wild beasts, just because they wouldn't renounce Jesus. But Christian faith challenged social convention in other ways, too. Normally, Felicity—as Perpetua's slave—wouldn't be seen as her equal. But belief in Jesus, as Saint Paul writes, makes brothers and sisters of all. Take Perpetua's final words to heart: "Stand fast in the faith, and love one another, all of you."

MEMORIAL OF PERPETUA AND FELICITY, MARTYRS

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23:1-12 (231). "Do not be called 'Master'; you have but one master, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant."

Wednesday, Mar 08, 2023

A brother called to heal

On this day, the church commemorates Saint John of God, a Portuguese religious brother who—like Saint Ignatius of Loyola—was a military man who experienced a sudden conversion. In fact, the two men (along with Saint Teresa) shared a spiritual mentor in Saint John of Ávila. A sermon from the priest moved John of God to repent of his former excesses, so much so that it was mistaken for a mental health crisis; he was quickly institutionalized. Later

engaging in work with the poor, he founded the Brothers Hospitallers in 1572, who continue to care for the sick around the world—including as official caretakers of the pope. In an age of increased mental health awareness, may we always remember John's holy life and recognize our call to serve those in need.

MEMORIAL OF JOHN OF GOD, RELIGIOUS

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28 (232).

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me."

Thursday, Mar 09, 2023

Priceless service

It's entirely appropriate that the Memorial of Frances of Rome coincides with a gospel that tells us in no uncertain terms to care for the poor. Frances of Rome was a wealthy Italian married woman in the early 1400s, a time of great instability and poverty in Italy. She poured her family treasure into efforts to feed and heal the poor. She was recognized for her piety and compassion and founded a religious order dedicated to serving suffering people, now known as the Oblates of St. Frances of Rome. Upon her husband's death, she became superior of the order. What can you do for the poor or sick in your corner of the world?

MEMORIAL OF FRANCES OF ROME, RELIGIOUS

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31 (233). "Lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores."

Friday, Mar 10, 2023

Celebrate sisters

During Catholic Sisters Week, we celebrate the good works of Catholic sisters collectively and individually; tell stories of Catholic sisters we love, respect, admire; and share information about becoming a Catholic sister, including directing people to VISION VocationNetwork.org. But, most of all, we focus on the truth that a religious vocation reveals: God is all we need. As Catholic nun and Doctor of the Church Saint Teresa of Ávila observed: "Whoever has God lacks nothing; God alone suffices."

LENTEN WEEKDAY; DAY OF ABSTINENCE

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46 (234). "The Kingdom of God will be . . . given to a people that will produce its fruit."

Saturday, Mar 11, 2023

Confession heals the soul

Catholics are encouraged to partake of the sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) as much as possible, but especially during Lent, because confession is good for the soul. None of us is perfect, and all of us carry burdens that could be lightened through honest reflection and repentance. Other religions include a confessional practice as well, attesting to the universal need: Jews confess "We have sinned" in the Yom Kippur service. Confession is part of the Hindu *Prāyaścitta*. In Islam, the act of seeking forgiveness from God for sins is called *Istighfar*. Buddhist monks confess their sins to other monks. Check the bulletin, and find time for Confession. You'll feel better for it.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 (235). "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you."

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



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Education

CHILDREN'S AUTHOR VISITS ST. BENEDICT PREP

St. Benedict Prep Lower School students were excited to welcome author and illustrator Matthew Cordell recently. Mr. Cordell read *Evergreen*, his new picture book about a timid squirrel who makes a courageous journey to help a relative who is ill. He also guided students in drawing *Evergreen*, the main character of the book. Students were captivated by this tale of bravery and love.



SBPS BEGINS LENT

St. Benedict Prep students and staff received ashes on Ash Wednesday to mark the beginning of Lent. Other school-wide activities will include almsgiving through Catholic Extension, praying the Act of Contrition and The Confiteor during morning and afternoon prayer, and the display of special Lenten symbols in classroom prayer spaces.



Education



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 jjgallagher@stbenedict.com or 773-509-3814.

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

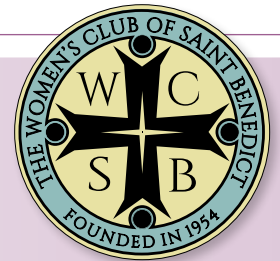
ON FRIDAYS:
March 10th and March 31st

>>>
**SCAN TO
REGISTER**



Parish Events

THE ST BENEDICT'S WOMEN'S CLUB will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 9:30 in Heidenreich Hall. Please park in the church parking lot and enter Heidenreich Hall through Door #3, under the bridge. Heidenreich Hall is elevator-accessible. Someone will be at the door to let you in. If there are questions please contact Caroline at carolinepadmanabhan@gmail.com. We will be doing a service project this month. All women of the parish are invited.



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

St. Benedict Parish
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 Cuples, Kat Neehan, and Becky Schick at gala@stbenedict.com.



A Healthy Relationship Checklist

- From The Domestic Violence Outreach Team at Saint Benedict Parish

It's always good to examine a relationship and make sure it's still working for you, whether it's a few weeks or a few years into it. A healthy relationship can look like different things for different people, depending on what your likes and dislikes are and what types of boundaries you want to set. Relationship needs can also change over time—who you were at 20 is likely not the same version of you at 40. That's why it's important that a relationship can change as people change.

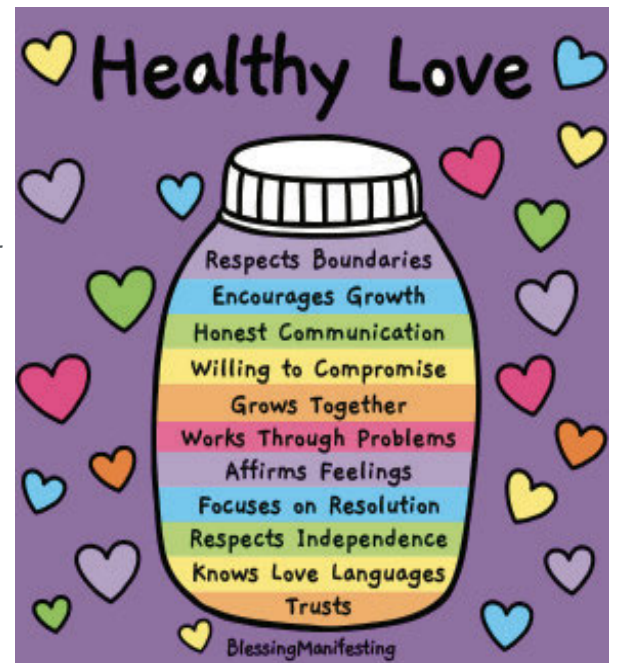
It may be helpful to ask yourself the following questions. If you come across any you answer no to, it doesn't necessarily mean the relationship is toxic or the partner is abusive, but it should be something you keep an eye on or discuss with your partner. Remember, abusers typically follow a pattern—they repeat abusive tactics over time—and abuse almost always escalates.

A healthy relationship typically involves....

- Trust.** Do you feel like your partner is being open and honest with you and not keeping secrets? Does this person trust you to have friendships and family relationships without jealousy or suspicion?
- Respect.** Does your partner respect your boundaries, listen to you when you say no to something, and doesn't sulk, get angry or guilt-trip you as a result? Does your partner respect your opinion on things even if it differs from theirs without degrading or putting you down?
- Communication.** Can you talk to your partner about your feelings without fear of judgment or backlash?
- Dependability.** Do you feel like you can rely on your partner to be there for you when you need them? Do they show up at the place they say they're going to be at the time they said they'd be there?
- Happiness.** It may sound obvious, but do you feel happier after spending time with this person and not drained? Does this person raise and not lower your self-esteem?
- Patience.** Does your partner let things in the relationship evolve at a comfortable pace rather than rushing you to get serious quickly or move in together or get married right away?
- Space.** Does your partner allow for you to have personal space when needed without following you, calling or texting your relentlessly or making you feel guilty for doing something without them.
- Kindness.** Is your partner kind, even if you're in a disagreement? Do they show remorse if they say something they regret? (Yes, there is a healthy way to argue.) Also, is your partner kind to others—your friends, family members, people in the service industry?
- Honesty.** Do you trust that your partner is being truthful? Do they speak honestly about their past, any previous relationships and own up to their part in past break-ups?
- Growth.** Is your partner willing to evolve the relationship and themselves as time goes on, to change and adapt as life changes occur (children, health issues, a move)?
- Comfortable Intimacy.** Do you feel safe talking to your partner about your intimacy boundaries, things you like and don't like, even if those things change over time? Is your partner comfortable talking about sexual safety and protection?
- Equality.** Do you feel like an equal to your partner? Do you feel like your roles in the relationship are not defined by your gender identity?

Teaching Kids Early On

The first romantic relationship many of us have, often comes before we graduate high school. Even if the relationship only lasts a few weeks or days, it's the first time we're trying to figure out things like boundaries, mutual respect and how we want a partner to treat us.



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 | March 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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
12 3rd Sunday of Lent Masses at 8am, 10am, and 12pm Church Knights of Columbus 11am Sewing Room Ravenswood Orchestra March Concert 3pm Ackerman Center	13 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church	14 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church	15 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church Women's Club Meeting 9:30am Heidenreich Hall	16 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church	17 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church  Stations of the Cross 7pm Church	18 Daily Morning Mass 8:30am Church Reconciliation 11am Church Welcoming Weekend Mass at 5pm Church

Stewardship



Sunday & Holy Day Offertory Week of February 19

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: \$9,554
 Envelope: \$1,458
 Loose: \$2,183
 Total: \$13,195 (102% of goal)
 Weekly Goal: \$12,990

Fiscal YTD: \$433,345 (98% of goal)
 Fiscal YTD Goal: \$441,660
 Above/(Below) YTD Goal: (\$8,315)

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

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

Monday, March 6 - Lenten Weekday

- 8:30AM Leonardo M. Baylon
- Jorge and Aurora Cortes
Romeo Ramos - The Ramos Family

Tuesday, March 7 - Saints Perpetua and Felicity, Martyrs

- 8:30AM Special Intention for Nilda Ramos
- The Ramos Family
Irene Quinn and the Gryzik Family
- Nancy Hoffmann

Wednesday, March 8 - Saint John of God, Religious

- 8:30AM Special Intention for Corazon Pizarro

Thursday, March 9 - Saint Frances of Rome, Religious

- 8:30AM Special Intention for
Jackson James Limburg

Friday, March 10 - Lenten Weekday

- 8:30AM Special Intention for Amy Joy Goldie
- Joan Garber
Special 50th Anniversary Blessing
for Rafael and Ellen Seguban - Family

Saturday, March 11 - Lenten Weekday

- 8:30AM Special Intention for Leda Wildner
- 5PM Richard Wood - Family
Bud and Chuck Jerger - Family

Special Intention for Robert Quattrocchi
- Chris Michihara and Family

Sunday, March 12 - Third Sunday of Lent

- 8AM Helene Lorraine Wolfe - Melissa Mulhern
- 10AM John A. Hauser - The Suh-Hauser Families
Susano Sanchez Paez
- Ceferina Sanchez Paez
Linda Jouzaitis - Mom and Family
Karen Mocarski - The St. Benedict
Parish Community

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	Erlын Publico
Vincent Castellano	Julie Raheja-Perera
Carmen M. Clarin	Marla Rizzutti
Mayden H. Eichendorf	Alex Sandoval
Amy Joy Goldie	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

Elias Theodore, son of Jose and Leah Estrada
Lydia Raquel, daughter of Jose and Leah Estrada

Heavenly Father, as we enter another week of our Lenten journey, guide us to the path that leads us to you. Fill our hearts with gratitude, patience, strength, and peace as we strive to become the-best-version-of-ourselves, honestly admitting our shortcomings and sins. Let us hear your voice in the deepest reaches of our hearts. Stay with us through the busy days this week and help us develop discipline and generosity through fasting and almsgiving, and come closer to you through prayer this Lent. In your name we pray, Amen.

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
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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
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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 Deletiolgu, Head of Upper School,
ext. 1253, mdeletiolgu@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 Deletiolgu
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?

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