



Father Sam's Forum

The Suffering Servant, depicted in the writings of Isaiah, was seen by early Christians as a symbol of Christ. Jesus, the innocent one, took on our human frailty, our sin, and went to the cross in our place. "...through his suffering, my servant shall justify many."

As the Letter to the Hebrews continues, we hear that Jesus is the great high priest, the one who *passed through the heavens...able to sympathize with our weaknesses*. This places us before the holy Gospel where the disciples ask Jesus about places of honor in the kingdom and are reprimanded because they don't understand what the kingdom is about.

Whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant. The words of Jesus connect to the entire mystery of our faith. Without some form of suffering, without the cross in our lives, we cannot expect to be a part of the glory to come. What we call the Paschal Mystery, the suffering, death and Resurrection of Christ, stands at the center of Christian faith.

We live out the mystery through service. That's a part of our Mission Statement here in the parish. Benedict and his monks understood service to others. They welcomed the stranger to their monasteries; they tended the sick; they taught the ignorant. Think about the service in your life. What drives it? How is it done? What do you hope to gain from it?

Swine flu and church: Watching the spread of the flu virus, we want to uphold those practices which are common sense so that coming to church is not a means of spreading the infection. Here's what you can do if you want to avoid spreading germs.

- If you are sick, stay home! That's the most sensible thing to do. No one who is sick is expected to be at Mass.
- Wash your hands often and after contact with another person.
- At the Sign of Peace, you do not have to shake someone's hand, you can also bow toward that person, wave, nod, etc.
- Don't touch your face with your hands.
- Communion ministers should not touch the tongues of those who receive that way—and it might be the time to consider receiving Holy Communion in the hand if you want to contain any chance of spreading the infection.

- You have the option to receive the Precious Blood or not. Ministers should wipe the inside and outside of the cup after someone drinks and turn it before offering it to the next person.
- Don't use the holy water to bless yourself.
- Greet people after Mass or before without shaking hands if you fear you or they are coming down with a cold, or the flu.
- Look for the hand sanitizer in the narthex and use it before coming into church for Mass. Communion ministers are to use the sanitizer before approaching the altar at Communion.

We hope these precautions and use of common sense will help us all avoid getting sick.

Mass Intentions: Oct. 18—Oct. 25

Sunday, October 18—29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:45a **Lydia Campbell**
(Ann Mayer & Patricia Stanfill)
9:30a **For the People of the Parish**
11:30a **M/M Anthony Carlino** (Susan Airey)

Monday, October 19—The North American Martyrs

- 8:30a **John W. Sterling**
(Erin Sterling Golec & Family)

Tuesday, October 20—Weekday

- 6:30a **Armando & Emilia Pasquarelli**
(M/M Frank Pasquarelli)
8:30a **Mitzi Bricmont** (Bob Honse)

Wednesday, October 21—Weekday

- 6:30a **John Hagan** (Hagan Family)
8:30a **Geraldine Ehland**
(Moore-Boehm Enterprises)

Thursday, October 22—Weekday

- 6:30a **George Rieger** (M/M Ted Turchick)
8:30a **Lucille McGurk** (M/M Charles Kramer)

Friday, October 23—Weekday

- 8:30a **Edward Bak** (Bak Family)

Saturday, October 24—Weekday

- 8:30a **Special Intention of M/M Joseph Smith**
(M/M Joseph Smith)
3:00p **Wedding: Jeffrey Snyder**
Melissa Borgfeldt
5:00p **Dorothy Rago** (Tony)

Sunday, Oct. 25—30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:45a **Living & Deceased of the Schweibinz & Busch Families** (Claire Meredith)
9:30a **Living & Deceased Members** (Ben's Men)
11:30a **For the People of the Parish**

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in honor of Cameron Reisz, requested by Carla Reisz; the Bread and Wine is given by Joe & Mary Ann Smith.



Pastoral Staff

To reach a staff member, dial 724-941-9406, and then the extension number listed.

Pastoral Life & Worship

Rachelle Buynak, Formation Office Coordinator— 107
 Gregory Fincham, Director of Music Ministries— 108
 Dennis Gehrlein, Pastoral Associate— 109
 Cathy Malencia, Middle School Minister— 110
 Elaine Motyl, Young Adult Coordinator— 111
 Janet Roberto, Young Adult Minister— 112
 Marcia Snowden, Catechetical Assistant—107
 Colette Specca, Director of Faith Formation— 113
 Jay Specca, Coordinator Adult Formation & Liturgy—114

Pastoral Administration

Michael Benya, Parish Campus Manager— 105
 Mary Ann Bitters, Parish Secretary— 100
 Justin Cumer, Maintenance— 100
 Shirley Jacobs, Bookkeeper— 100
 Jan Martin, Rectory Housekeeper— 131
 Dave Murtaugh, Maintenance— 100
 Kathy Pfeifer, Parish Life Manager— 106
 John Risher, Weekend Maintenance— 100
 Kevin Wolford, Maintenance Supervisor— 100

- Formation Offices: Religious Education/Youth Ministry— 724-941-9587

St. Benedict Preschool

Beverly Jurcic, Director— 724-731-0222

Serving the Parish Next Weekend: October 24—October 25

Sat. 5:00pm— Fr. Chortos
Lectors: Brugger, Hruby **Greeters:** Reed, Patnesky **EMHC:** Klinar, G & P Adams, Milavec, Vandewater, Greenwald, Sarra, Scheuering, Pfeifer **Servers:** Nobers, Byrne, Peterson, Hillen, Brugger

7:45am— Fr. Ruffalo, Deacon Layton
Lectors: Jung, Trapanotto **Greeters:** Barker, Turchick **EMHC:** Glod, Walnoha, Gavran, E & R McMillan, Petricca, Berger **Servers:** J, M, A & B Lyle

9:30am— Fr. Ruffalo
Lectors: McKenzie, Ott **Greeters:** Becker, Stewart **EMHC:** Bayer, Torres, Schultz, E & T Mauro, L & A Kelly, Stein, Cushma **Servers:** Cushma, Hilzendeger, Wisniewski, C & A Mavrich

11:30pm— Fr. Chortos
Lectors: Zuk, Hajzus **Greeters:** Bartoli, Ragan **EMHC:** Slomiany, Huffner, Capozza, B Smith, P Newmaster, Boyd, Herald **Servers:** F & M Meola, Chaplin

Readings for the Week of October 18

Sunday: Is 53:10-11/Heb 4:14-16/Mk 10:35-45
 Monday: Rom 4:20-25/Lk 12:13-21
 Tuesday: Rom 5:12,15b,17-19,20b-21/Lk 12:35-38
 Wednesday: Rom 6:12-18/Lk 12:39-48
 Thursday: Rom 6:19-23/Lk 12:49-53
 Friday: Rom 7:18-25a/Lk 12:54-59
 Saturday: Rom 8:1-11/Lk 13:1-9
 Next Sunday: Jer 31:7-9/Heb 5:1-6/Mk 10:46-52

Children's Liturgy of the Word

We've once again started our Liturgy of the Word for our preschool children at the 9:30am Mass. We would like to expand this program to include ministry at the 11:30 Mass as well, but are in need of more people to help. We will train you and provide the necessary resources you need. If you would like to help, please contact Colette or Marcia in the Faith Formation Office, Teresa Buzard at 724-941-6051, or Dennis, our pastoral associate, at 724-941-9406.

Building Fund Donations

In Memory of Jack Manion

Ron & Marian Selva Dolores Cheverine
 United Way of Bradford Area, Inc.

In Memory of Josephine Wisniewski

Ken & Sally McCaslin Velma McCaslin
 Daniel & Nancy Medich, Jr. Julia Rusciolelli
 Nancy Jean Medich Judi & Jerry Croce
 Mary Jane & Chip Menz Elmer & Jean Hook
 Phillip & Barbara Rusciolelli

In Memory of Frances Schultz

Alpha Chi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma

2010 Mass Requests

The 2010 Mass Book opens today to take your intentions. We can only accommodate the intentions we can fulfill in the coming year according to Church and diocesan law, so we must limit the number we accept. The remaining unfulfilled intentions that were not able to be accommodated in the 2009 Mass book will be scheduled first. With three intentions per weekend (one Mass has to be scheduled "for the people of the parish"), and nine intentions during the week, that gives us about 600 intentions we can accept in one year. Subtract the unfulfilled intentions, and we have about 500 open spaces for your requests. In scheduling, we want to be fair to everyone. So, **only registered parishioners may request intentions, and we will only take two Mass intentions per household.** The form is included in the bulletin, and requests will be handled in the order they are received. Because of volume, expect to have your requested dates confirmed as we are able over the following five weeks. In addition to Mass intentions, parishioners may request one candle (the sanctuary candle that burns weekly before the Blessed Sacrament). You may also memorialize the bread and wine used for Mass, and the flowers. If space remains, we will announce it.



Family Faith Night

Join us for "Celebrating the Saints" on October 16, from 6:00-8:30pm in O'Brien Hall. Pizza and salad will be provided, please bring a dessert to share. Children are invited to dress as their favorite saint and activities will include a saint parade, "find your saint," games, prizes and, of course, snacks. Please RSVP the Faith Formation Office at 724-941-9587.

All Souls Mass

Our annual parish Mass of Remembrance to pray for those who have died in the past year will be celebrated on All Souls Day, November 2 at 7:00pm. For anyone in the parish who may have experienced the death of a family member this year, your loved one's name will be read and a candle will be lighted in their memory. We will once again feature a photo display in the church during the month of November, a time when we traditionally pray for and remember the dead. If you have lost a loved one during the past 12 months and want to include them in this display, please bring any size photo (color or black/white) to the church office before October 28. Be sure to include the name of the deceased on the back of the photo and a contact person to whom we can return the photo. Look for the candle reservation form in next week's bulletin.

Candle Reservation for Mass for the Deceased
Monday, November 2, 7:00pm
Please reserve a candle in memory of

(Name of Deceased)

Your name _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____

Will you be attending the Mass? yes no

WOSB General Meeting

Need to simplify your life? Got too much clutter? The Women of St. Benedict have invited Patty Kreamer to speak at their meeting on October 22, at 9:30am in O'Brien Hall. Patty is President of Kreamer Connect, Inc., a Pittsburgh-based company that works with corporate and individual clients to become more productive and perform better while at the same time simplifying their work and lives. Visit her website at www.bybyeclutter.com to learn more about this dynamic speaker and author. Refreshments will be served by our wonderful hostesses.

Youth Ministry News

World Youth Day Cruise

Get your tickets now for the "Fun Boat" on November 1 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. We will leave from St. Benedicts at 4:45pm to head down to Station Square where we will board the Gateway Clipper for an evening of dinner, dancing, and hanging out with over 800 teens from throughout the Diocese. The cost is \$30 and includes transportation. We will be returning to St. Benedicts at 11:00pm.

Fall Retreat

"The Ride of Your Life" at Camp Allegheny on November 20-22 will take you on an exciting ride through the Mass on the Thunderbolt, the Paratrooper, the Pittsburgh Plunge, and more! Your old favorites become new again as we journey through time into the beauty and relevance of the Mass. If you've never been on retreat, it's a great time to be with friends while being renewed with terrific speakers, music, food and fun. Get your friends and register before November 1 as space is limited. The cost is \$85. Hold onto the bar, this is "The Ride of Your Life!"

Ben's Men Meeting

Ben's Men will meet this month on October 19, at the Teutonia Mannerchor German Restaurant on the North Side. We will travel by motor coach while enjoying libations, snacks and conversation. Upon arrival we will be treated to a tour of this fascinating establishment followed by a buffet dinner including baked chicken, bratwurst, wienerschnitzel, German potato salad, green beans, applesauce, pumpernickel bread, and cherry or apple strudel. The cost is \$25 and space is limited to 47. Call George Frost.

Halloween Howl

Ben's Men invite you to come enjoy the autumn season at their Halloween Howl on October 24, following the 5:00pm Mass in the Pope Benedict Activity Center. The evening activities will be both inside and outside the PBAC and will include a roaring bonfire, scary stories, hayrides, face painting, marshmallow toasting, mummy wrapping, pumpkin painting, and prizes for the best costumes. Refreshments will be provided. It's free and fun for the entire family! For more information call Kevin Dolinar at 724-942-0388 or Gene Pitowski at 724-941-1833.



Ask Father Sam

In Vitro Fertilization, Part II

Lesson of the Week

What is the Church's view of in vitro fertilization?

Thirty years ago the world was surprised by the birth of Louise Brown, the world's first in vitro fertilization (IVF) baby. Over the years since, a number of creative baby-making techniques have been tried, which has resulted in a tendency to see children as *commodity*. Designer babies, wombs for rent, manufacturing children in vitro from multiple parents, lawsuits over frozen embryos, all make for a real mess when it comes to our moral fabric and regard for human life as sacred, and resting in God's hands.

But wait. What about those truly dedicated couples who want to be parents because they want children? They don't care about eye color or gender or a super-baby. They want a child or children to love and nourish. If the Catholic Church teaches that IVF is morally illicit for these couples what does that say about respect for human life. These are loving couples who are unable to conceive on their own.

In 1987, the instruction, *Donum vitae*, (*The Gift of Life*) contained the reasoning behind the teaching of the Church. Commenting on the instruction, Dr. William E. May summarized them. The first is connected to the principle of Pope Paul VI's encyclical, *Humane vitae* (*On Human Life*). The principle of this papal teaching offers an absolute moral norm that there is an unbreakable connection between the two dimensions of the conjugal act. A married couple comes together both for the strengthening of the unity of their relationship as well as for their openness to procreation. Because the generation of life takes place in a Petri dish, apart from the conjugal act, the procreative and unitive dimensions of the act are severed.

A second argument comes from the consideration of the dignity of the child conceived by artificial means. The 1987 instruction argues that bringing a child into existence as the product of a technique, and even the desire to do so, makes the child an object. In this line of reasoning, children are not generated, but manufactured. While the man and the woman provide the materials (ovum and sperm) for the creation of the child, it is a laboratory technician who brings about a new human life in a laboratory dish.

Next week's Lesson will conclude the reasons the Church argues against IVF, but also comment on how couples who struggle with infertility can be helped.

Sharing Our Treasure

<u>Date</u>	<u>Offertory</u>	<u>Debt</u>	<u>Parish Share</u>
Sept. 6	\$19,815	\$4,224	\$844
Sept. 13	\$18,643	\$2,288	\$3,602
Sept. 20	\$21,862	\$6,855	\$1,655
Sept. 27	\$20,501	\$5,777	\$941
On-Line Giving	\$5,570	\$675	\$440
Monthly Totals	\$86,391	\$19,819	\$7,482
Weekly Average	\$21,598		
Weekly Budgeted	\$22,000		

September's numbers were just a little under our projected budget. While not that much below the budget, if we continue to show a deficit, the effect will mean we end up with less than we have planned, and that means re-examining spending and programs. Insurance costs and utilities remain a big part of our expenses so we have to continually keep those in mind when it comes to parish finances.

Finance Council approved requesting a loan from the Deposit & Loan arm of the Financial Office of the diocese. This money will be used to pay for the improvements we had to make in the offices and buildings of the parish, mentioned in the September insert, and resulting in an expense of about \$70,000. Because our cash flow is slow as the new fiscal year begins, we need the help of the loan to cover the cost of these improvements.

If you recall, the improvements include:

- *Our Data and Telephone Network—the data network wiring was expanded to include all our buildings and a new phone system was installed to allow for enhanced voice mail and interoffice communication*
- *New computers were purchased for staff who had out of date equipment*
- *The classrooms were painted, carpet repaired or replaced, and rooms insulated for soundproofing*
- *External doors in the Education & Family Life Center were refurbished with new hinges, door closers and locking mechanisms for security*
- *The Rectory deck is being replaced for safety and deterioration over time*
- *Rental of a special lift enabled us to replace burned out lights in the church*



St. Benedict Library

Did you know St. Benedict had a sister? Did you know she was also a saint? Her name was St. Scholastica and they are buried in the same grave. In honor of All Saints Day, the St. Benedict Library will be featuring books on the lives of the saints. Please stop by and learn about your favorites. We have selections for children and adults. The Library is located through the doors at the far end of O'Brien Hall (the old Church vestibule).

Calling All Decorators



Advent and Christmas will be here before you know it. Fr. Sam would like to meet with anyone who wants to help in decorating the church for these two seasons. An open meeting will be held on Sunday, October 18, after the 9:30am Mass. Come to the Chapel, and let's hear your ideas and suggestions.

Middle School Ministry

The annual Faith Rally for middle school students is set for November 6, beginning at 7:00pm at Bishop Canevin High School, Crafton. The event is designed for young people in Grades 6—8 and their parents. Come and join others from across the diocese in this fun and exciting evening of music, laughter, and dancing. The event features Anna Scally, president of Cornerstone Media, Inc., with music our young people listen to every day promoting Catholic values and healthy relationships. All this for \$10, and parents are free! Registration deadline is October 30. Contact Cathy Malencia, 724-941-9587.

Health Ministry at St. Benedict

Many of our older parishioners face a variety of health issues and concerns. Bishop Zubik has asked pastors of the Diocese to look at ways we can be proactive to meet their needs. Mercy Hospital is sponsoring a Parish Nurse & Health Ministry Symposium on November 7, from 9:00 am—3:00 pm. If you are an active or retired health professional and would be interested in attending the symposium, please contact our pastoral associate Dennis Gehrlein at 724-941-9406 or the Parish Nurse Office at Mercy at 412-232-5815 for more information. If you can't attend the symposium, but are willing to help form a more active ministry at St. Benedict's, call Dennis.

This Week In Our Parish

Sunday, October 18

**Abbey Coffee House Open after
7:45 & 9:30 Mass**

**Little Bethlehem Christians
after all Masses in O'Brien Hall**

9:00a	Faith Formation Session	
10:30a	WORD	(YM)
10:30a	Knights of Columbus	(PBAC)
10:30a	Advent & Christmas Decorators	(Chapel)
11:00a	Faith Formation Session	

Monday, October 19

8:30a	Special Needs Children	(210)
10:00a	WOSB Yoga	(OBH)
6:30p	Aerobics	(PBAC)
7:00p	Catholic Scripture Study	(208)

Tuesday, October 20

8:30a	Special Needs Children	(210)
9:30a	WOSB Shoe Box packing	(PBAC)
9:15a	Catholic Scripture Study	(204/206)
6:00p	Faith Formation Session	
7:00p	Contemporary Choir	(Choir)

Wednesday, October 21

12:00p	AA	(208)
6:00p	Faith Formation Session	
6:30p	Confessions	(Church)
7:45p	Tae Kwon Do	(OBH)

Thursday, October 22

9:30a	WOSB General Meeting	(OBH)
12:00p	NA	(206)
6:00p	Aerobics	(PBAC)
7:00p	RCIA	(204)
7:30p	Boy Scout Troop 1313	(PBAC)
7:30p	Adult Choir	(Choir)

Saturday, October 24

7:30a	CMF	(206)
9:00a	Aerobics	(PBAC)
11:00a	Confessions	(Church)
6:00p	Ben's Men Halloween Howl	(PBAC)

Sunday, October 25

**Abbey Coffee House Open after
7:45 & 9:30 Mass**

9:00a	Faith Formation Session	
10:30a	WORD	(YM)
11:00a	Faith Formation Session	

Need confidential assistance? Companionship and understanding for a difficult time? Stephen Ministers are here to help you. Call 724-941-5026.

**Hotline for Victims of Sexual Abuse
412-456-3060 or 1-888-808-1235**



TO GET INVOLVED, CALL...

Abbey Coffee House

Ellie Puskarich
724-941-4686

Altar Servers

Kathleen Bench
724-942-0338

Ben's Men

Jeff Mertens
724-941-6484

Bowling League

Blaise Hollot
724-942-0748

Boy Scouts

Kevin Dolinar
724-942-0388

Cantors, Choirs,

Bell Ringers

Greg Fincham
724-941-9406

Catholic Men's Fellowship

Ed Corbett
724-942-6429

Catholic Scripture Study

Tara Curry
724-942-7539

Cub Scouts

Steve Ridge
724-941-9816

Elijah Cup

Carlotta Zuback
724-941-5758

Engaged Couples' Program

Ed & Mary Lou Fraticelli
724-941-4230

Eucharistic Adoration

Mary Ann Campbell
724-941-4297

Extraordinary Ministers

Jack McGinnis
724-941-4213

Finance Council

Fred Abrew
724-941-4696

Food Bank

Susan Brooks
724-942-4287

Funeral Repast

Mary Kay Schaner
724-941-5147

Funeral Server

Dick Gawronski
724-873-7911

Greeters

Erma Grego
724-941-6956

IHN

Mary Spinabelli
724-942-2478

Lectors

Dawn Pustay
724-942-2451

Library

Ellen Mavrich
724-941-2446

Liturgical Environment

Emma Diamond
724-941-8315

Military Support

Jamie Christopher
724-747-9396

Ministry to the Sick

Barb Scheuering
724-941-9104

MOMS

Kathleen Chaudhari
724-941-8546

Pastoral Council

Aimee Schmidt
724-941-7046

Respect Life Committee

Beth Quinn
724-942-1057

Stephen Ministry

Jay Jarrell
724-941-5026

St. Benedict Gardeners

Linda Maydak
724-941-3123

St. Vincent de Paul

Please call parish office
724-941-9406

Ushers

Don Ligman
724-941-5938

Wedding Coordinators

Lois McCloskey
724-941-6879

Women of St. Benedict

Nancy Huffner
724-941-6805

Youth Council

Sheila Arcuri
724-942-6431