



Father Sam's Forum

November is the month of All Saints and All Souls. While we might think we are remembering saints like our own Benedict and his sister, Scholastica, the point of the celebration today is about the countless saints without names. Eucharistic Prayer IV contains the phrase, "and all the dead whose faith is known to you alone." So, today we are reminded that all of us are called to be saints and that heaven is filled with those who may not be officially listed in the Church's rolls, but nonetheless have fought the good fight.

The book of Revelation can be a little scary for some people because of the images it portrays. We don't hear much from it liturgically, but it does appear today as the source of our first Scripture reading. A vivid picture is painted for us of the heavenly worship. Gathered there before the throne of God is assembled a diverse group, who come from "every nation, race, people, and tongue." They wear white robes and hold branches of palm. In Christian iconography, the palm branch is held by a martyr. Giving their lives for Christ, the martyrs are those who have "washed their robes...in the Blood of the Lamb."

The Beatitudes appear to challenge us to live like them. In eight great statements, Jesus declares blessed those who do not embrace the ways of the world but the ways of the Gospel. Poverty of spirit and mercy, humility and mildness, are not exactly what we think of when we hear about go-getters, movers and shakers. But these are the way to holiness; these are the way to heaven. Remaining faithful, the saints trusted God and understood that what really matters is how they lived, not what they had.

When we speak of all the faithful departed, we call to mind our loved ones who have gone before us in death. November's association with the dead is ancient, and we can bring them to our minds by praying for them this month. Names inscribed in our Book of Remembrance, the lifting up of these loved ones at Mass, a visit to the place of their interment, all these connect us to them still.

The month of November is truly a solemn, somber month in the life of the Church. It is not a coincidence that the Church remembers those who have gone before us marked with faith during these final weeks of fall. Even nature itself beckons us to contemplate death in creation as autumn leads way

to winter. However, just as the silence of winter reminds us of the void left in this world by the faithful departed, we must never forget the bright Spring that is waiting beneath the bitter ice and snow. Our faith commands us to trust in the promise of Jesus Christ. "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, even though they die, will live and whoever lives and believes in me, will never die." May we always commend to almighty God our loved ones who have died in Christ. *Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. May their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Mass Intentions: Nov. 1—Nov. 8

Sunday, November 1—All Saints

- 7:45a **Frances Resignalo** (St. Vincent de Paul)
 9:30a **Vanessa Dulak** (M/M Lowery Stoops)
 11:30a **Norman Doerschner** (Janet & Lee)

Monday, November 2 —All Souls

- 8:30a **Guzzo Family** (M/M Lorenzo Cicala)
 7:00p **Mass of Remembrance**

Tuesday, November 3—Weekday

- 6:30a **JoAnn Bork**
 (Columbiettes of Monongahela, PA)
 8:30a **Ray Danko** (Mary Beth Bokelberg)

Wednesday, Nov. 4—Charles Borromeo, bishop

- 6:30a **John Clunk, Sr** (Lillian & Bob Chester)
 8:30a **Thomas Richtar** (Family)

Thursday, November 5—Weekday

- 6:30a **Sgt. Ryan Lane** (Frizzell Family)
 8:30a **Andrew & Frances Massack**
 (Joseph Massack)

Friday, November 6—Weekday

- 8:30a **JoAnne Yoney** (Mother, Emma Diamond)
 1:45p **Manor Care: Elizabeth Huffner**
 (Mary J. Stewart)

Saturday, November 7—Weekday

- 8:30a **Joseph Fisher** (Loretta Walk)
 1:00p **Confirmation**
 5:00p **Joanne Isaac** (The Mack Family)

Sunday, Nov. 8—32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:45a **For the People of the Parish**
 9:30a **James C. Rocco** (The Klinar Family)
 11:30a **Elizabeth Huffner** (Stoessel Family)

***The Sanctuary Candle burns this week
 in memory of the Scarton & Zuccolotto
 Families, requested by the Diamond Family,
 and the Bread and Wine is in memory of Nick
 Vitale, requested by M.L. Vitale.***



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: November 7—November 8

Sat. 5:00pm— Fr. Esposito

Lectors: Smore, Gordon **Greeters:** McCloskey, Grego
EMHC: Milavec, P & G Adams, C & R Satler, Getto,
 Baumgartner, B & R Jordan **Servers:** Curry, A Weaver,
 LaRosa, Curran, Getto

7:45am— Fr. Esposito

Lectors: DiBartola, Hornack **Greeters:** R & J Jackson
EMHC: Klinar, Berger, Petricca, R & E McMillan, Gavran,
 Barton **Servers:** Shaw, W & D DiBartola

9:30am— Fr. Ruffalo

Lectors: Wells, Dembiczak **Greeters:** Becker, Stewart
EMHC: Schultz, Kail, Herald, Capozza, Stein, A & L Kelly,
 Gaudy, J Smith **Servers:** Waigand, Quinn, A & D Wells,
 Dembiczak

11:30pm— Fr. Ruffalo, Deacon Layton

Lectors: Gehrlein, Zuk **Greeters:** Ragan, Fisher **EMHC:**
 Boyd, P Newmaster, B Smith, Huffner, Slomiany, Fisher, Eckels
Servers: Luzier, Rauscher, Wallach

Eucharistic Adoration

This week is our monthly 24-hour adoration which begins Thursday at 4:00pm and concludes Friday at 4:00pm in the Chapel. All are welcome to come and spend some time in prayer before the presence of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

Rest In Peace

Please remember in your prayers our parishioner **Anna Mayer**; **Mary E. Busch**, sister of our parishioner Claire Meredith; and **George Scheuring**, brother of our parishioner Jim Scheuring, who died recently. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.

The Parish Office is no longer collecting old glasses. They can be dropped off at the Washington Federal Office on Valleybrook Road or Advanced Vision Care on McMurray Road. Please do not leave them in the office.

Readings for the Week of November 1

Sunday: Rv 7:2-4,9-14/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a
 Monday: Wis 3:1-9/Rom 5:5-11 or 6:3-9/Jn 6:37-40
 Tuesday: Rom 12:5-16a/Lk 14:15-24
 Wednesday: Rom 13:8-10/Lk 14:25-33
 Thursday: Rom 14:7-12/Lk 15:1-10
 Friday: Rom 15:14-21/Lk 16:1-8
 Saturday: Rom 16:3-9,16,22-27/Lk 16:9-15
 Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 17:10-16/Heb 9:24-28/Mk 12:38-44

Newly Baptized

Please welcome to our faith family these newly baptized: **Owen Francis**, son of Brian & Erin Fallon; **William Jacob**, son of (Frank) John & Anne Pastor; **Owen West**, son of Zachary & Maigan VanAckeren; **Michael Dominic**, son of James & Alaina Amorose; **Gracelyn Hope**, daughter of Scott & Denise Blasey; **Andrew Jacob**, son of Ken & Theresa Ross; **Sydney Marie**, daughter of Tim & Melissa Sobieralski; **Julia Kate**, daughter of Brian & Beth Larouere; **Nina**, daughter of Marcel & Donna Mazzoni; **Anna Marguerite**, daughter of Steven & Melissa Porter; and **Claire Ann**, daughter of Vincent & Kathleen Reyes, Jr. May they grow in wisdom age and grace.

Parish Family Dinner

You are invited to the first Parish Dinner in O'Brien Hall on November 14 from 4:30pm until 7:30pm. We are serving a delicious homemade spaghetti and meatball dinner including a salad, dinner roll, beverage and homemade dessert. The cost is \$8.50 for adults and \$4.50 for children 12 and under. Wine, beer, and coffee will be available. Parishioners are needed to donate a "homemade" dessert; pies, cakes and cheesecakes are welcome. Please bring them to room 206 on November 14 from 10:00am until 12:00pm. Tickets will be sold after Masses on November 1 and November 8 in O'Brien Hall and at the door.



Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Workshop

There will be workshops for all Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist on November 1 at 2:00pm and November 11 at 7:30pm in the church. Please plan to attend one of these workshops so we can discuss the history, the importance, and the role of this ministry, along with the liturgical changes. It is necessary for all ministers to attend. Contact Jay Specca at ext. 114 with any questions.

Parish Directory Update

Our parish directory pages were completed and sent to Busson for publication this past June. Unfortunately, after that time Busson Directories was sold to Lifetouch Church Directories and Portraits, Inc., and all of our materials were turned over to them. They have just begun to process our materials, and we are working with them to try to complete the directories as soon as possible. At this time, they have not given us any indication as to when the directories will be complete. We will keep you updated on their progress. Please watch the bulletin for any further updates.

Introduction to “Centering Prayer” Workshop

Do you seek the small, still voice of God? Are you interested in discovering a more intimate prayer life? Then come to a workshop here at St. Benedict's on Saturday, December 5 from 9:00am—3:00pm that will help you find the God within and hear with the “ear of the heart.” At this introduction to Centering Prayer, you will learn about “prayer as relationship,” the simple method of Centering Prayer, how to deal with thoughts and distractions, and how the fruits of prayer are manifest in your life. This workshop is being presented by the Contemplative Outreach of Pittsburgh. Suggested donation is \$20, which includes the workshop and six follow-up sessions that will be held on Monday evenings. Refreshments will be provided, but please bring along a bag lunch. For more information, contact our pastoral associate Dennis Gehrlein at 724-941-9406, ext. 109.

Blood Drive

St. Benedict will be hosting their bi-annual blood drive on November 22 in O'Brien Hall. Hours of donation will be from 8:00am until 1:00pm. Please call Blaise at 724-942-0748 if you have any questions.

Youth Ministry News

Volunteers Needed

Teen volunteers are needed to help create scenery for the Fall Retreat during after school hours and also to help serve at the Confirmation Reception on November 7 from 12:00pm until 4:00pm. Call Janet at 724-941-9587, ext. 112 if you can help.

Leftover Halloween Candy

If you have any leftover Halloween candy sitting around at home, we could put it to good use in the Youth Ministry Office. We're always trying to keep our candy stash in good supply, so all donations would be most appreciated.

WORD Steeler Party

Join us November 15 in Pope Benedict Center as we check out our favorite football team. All teens are encouraged to come to this Steeler bash after the 11:30 Mass and bring your favorite tailgate snack.

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!”

Family Skating Party

St. Benedict Youth Council is sponsoring a Family Skating Party on November 6 (Peters Township in-service day) from 12:30pm to 2:20pm at Bladerunners in Bethel Park. The cost is \$5 and includes admission and skate rental. Tell them at the door you are with the St. Benedict group. Contact Sheila Arcuri at 724-942-6431 with any questions.

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

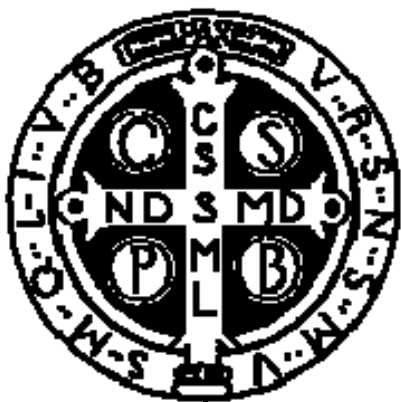
Ask Father Sam

What do we mean by the Communion of Saints?

Lesson of the Week

What is the meaning of the logo in the floor at the church entrance?

In case you never noticed, we have a large insignia right in the middle of the floor of the narthex, the entry space between outside and the worship space. That symbol looks like the one at the top of this page, and it represents one side of the medal of our patron, Saint Benedict.



Pictured above is a much more detailed copy of the back of this medal, but it can serve as a reference for the explanation of our parish symbol. The four circles that flank the cross have initials C, S, P, and B. These stand for the Latin words, *crux sancti patris Benedicti*, the cross of our holy Father Benedict.

Above the cross is the word *pax*, Latin for peace, a motto of the Benedictines for centuries. The arms of the cross have the letters C S S M L, and N D S M D. These stand for the Latin prayer, *Crux sacra sit mihi lux! Nunquam draco sit mihi dux!* meaning “May the holy cross be my light! May the dragon never be my guide”!

Finally, around the margin of the medal, but not shown in our symbol in the narthex, one finds more letters that stand for another Latin invocation of the monks, V R S N S M V—S M Q L I V B. Translated into English the prayer is “Be gone Satan! Never tempt me with your vanities! What you offer me is evil. Drink the poison yourself!” This refers to the incident in Benedict’s life where it is said that he was given a cup of poisoned wine by some monks who wanted him gone. But a raven came and prevented him from drinking the wine. If you look at the statue of our saint in the Chapel, you will see the raven and the cup of wine with a serpent coming out of it.



Faith Formation News

eConnect Workshop

Parents and catechists are invited to attend an “eConnect Workshop” to be held on Tuesday, December 1 at 7:30pm in O’Brien Hall. Lee Miles, our Harcourt Sales Representative, will demonstrate this network system that enhances and expands our textbooks series, “Call to Faith.”

eConnect offers a state of the art Catholic network for families that is easily accessed and provides games, activities, conversation starters, podcasts, etc. If you would like more information, or to register, contact Colette Specia in the Faith Formation Office at 724-941-9587, ext 113.

Seton-La Salle Placement Test

The Scholarship/High School Placement Test for current 8th grade students planning to attend Seton-LaSalle Catholic High School will be given on November 21 at 10:00am. Registration forms are available on the school website at www.slshs.org, or by contacting Nancy Rizza at 412-561-3583, ext. 129.

Canevin High School Open House

Sixth, Seventh and Eighth grade students are invited to visit Bishop Canevin High School on November 8 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. Administrators, teachers, guidance counselors, coaches, club moderators and students will be available to answer any questions and guided tours will be offered. For more information please visit www.bishopcanevin.org or e-mail any questions to mainoffice@bishopcanevin.org.

Good Neighbor Support Group

If you are unemployed or underemployed, Catholic Charities’ Washington County Office invites you to participate in the “Good Neighbor Support Group.” The group will meet November 3, 10, and 17 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm at Catholic Charities. Participants in the group will provide support to one another, enjoy networking, and hear from speakers on various resources available to them. Call 724-228-7722 to register since seating is limited.



Marriage Encounter Weekend

Fall is a beautiful season, full of color and crisp fresh air. A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is like autumn because it's a weekend full of fresh air, new beginnings and a time to rejoice in the beauty of your marriage and family. It's a great time to rekindle communication and enjoy a weekend away. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held November 20-22 at the Bishop William G. Connare Center in Greensburg. For more information or to register, contact Mary and Lou Locante at 412-635-7775 or check us out on the web at wwwme-pittsburgh.org.

Howard Hanna Fundraising Event

Howard Hanna Peters Township cordially invites you to attend our Annual Chow Chow Dinner event on November 5 from 4:00pm to 7:00pm in O'Brien Hall. Donation is \$7, children under 6 years of age is \$3. The evening will also include silent and Chinese auctions, autographed sports memorabilia, 50/50 raffle, Lottery tree, chances to win a 2010 Jeep Liberty and a Children's Corner. Proceeds benefit Children's Hospital Free Care Fund. For more information contact Chris Kaczyk or Donna Hollander at 724-941-8800

Musical Theatre Classes

Calling all kids K-6th grade in the South Hills and surrounding areas. Creative Experiences, a unique non-competitive musical theatre class, is now accepting students for every other Sunday classes at St. Benedict the Abbot Church starting November 8.

K-3 "The Wizard of Oz" 2:00-3:15pm
3-6 "Camp Rock" musical revue 3:15pm-4:30pm

Call Marcia Lenzi for registration information at 724-941-5501. Part of the registration fee benefits St. Benedict the Abbot student stage renovation project.

Volunteers Needed

Canonsburg General Hospital is in need of volunteers for the **Senior Volunteer Group**. Duties are mostly clerical. If you can help, please contact Acacia Svonavec, Director of Volunteer Services at 724-873-5835.

This Week In Our Parish

Sunday, November 1

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

9:00a	Faith Formation Session	
10:30a	WORD	(YM)
11:00a	Faith Formation Session	
12:00p	Celebrating the Saints	(PBAC)
3:30p	Abbey Players	(PBAC)

Monday, November 2

8:30a	Special Needs Children	(210)
10:00a	WOSB Yoga	(OBH)
6:30p	Aerobics	(PBAC)
7:00p	Catholic Scripture Study	(208)
7:00p	Cub Scouts Den 5	(Rm.A)

Tuesday, November 3

8:30a	Special Needs Children	(210)
9:15a	Catholic Scripture Study	(204/206)
7:00p	Contemporary Choir	(Choir)

No Faith Formation Classes

Wednesday, November 4

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

Thursday, November 5

9:30a	WOSB Bridge Group	(OBH)
9:30a	Light Weigh	(210)
12:00p	NA	(206)
4:00p	Eucharistic Adoration Begins	(Chapel)
6:00p	Aerobics	(PBAC)
7:00p	RCIA	(204)
7:00p	Baptism Preparation	(210)
7:30p	Boy Scout Troop 1313	(PBAC)
7:30p	Adult Choir	(Choir)

Friday, November 6

10:00a	Prayer & Share	(ChNur & Br. Rm)
4:00p	Closing of Adoration	(Chapel)

Saturday, November 7

7:30a	CMF	(206)
9:00a	Aerobics	(PBAC)
11:00a	Confessions	(Church)
1:00p	Confirmation	(Church)

Sunday, November 8

**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.



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