



Father Sam's Forum

“You are my inheritance, O Lord!” This refrain from Psalm 16 is among my favorite pieces of Scripture. What do you think about when you hear the word inheritance? What comes to your mind? Most of us tend to think about what someone leaves us in a will. Maybe you inherited your family's home or some stocks from them. Perhaps you were left a piece of jewelry or furniture you treasure like a necklace, dining room set, or chest of drawers.

As Christians, we have an inheritance. That's what the Scriptures tell us. We have inherited a treasure from God through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. This month of November always includes readings from the bible centered on the end of time. Death is the end for all of us—from the perspective that our mortal selves cease to be. What about our immortal souls, though? What happens when we die? These are the questions posed in November as our Church year comes to an end, and we think about judgment and Jesus' return in glory at the end of time.

Because of the Resurrection, the salvation won for us through Christ's passion and death, the money is in the bank, so to speak. But we can only withdraw it if we have lived justly and in anticipation of being united with God in heaven, if our life's focus has been on our ultimate destiny. “Learn a lesson from the fig tree,” we hear in today's Gospel. Pay attention, in other words, to the signs of the times. What signs are around us? Do we take the time to read them?

Parish news: Next weekend the liturgical year comes to an end as we honor Our Lord Jesus Christ the King. Here in our parish at the Saturday evening Mass, there will be a Eucharistic procession ending with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Plan to stick around for the entire ritual if you are a 5:00pm Mass regular, or come and join in this act of divine worship.

Kate Fletcher, a South Hills native and member of St. Thomas More Parish, will be present on the weekend of December 13 to speak about the mission she founded in Kenya, Africa. She hopes to bring with her some of the girls who benefit from this ministry. Hekima Place is a boarding school that provides a beacon of hope for girls orphaned because of HIV/AIDS. The mission of Hekima Place is to offer a stable home environment to these children as they further their education.

Advent Family Day

Don't forget to plan on being a part of our Advent Family Day next Sunday, November 22, beginning with lunch at 12:30pm in O'Brien Hall. Join members of the Faith Formation Staff to learn about our Catholic customs that are part of keeping this sacred season. Making a home Advent Wreath, as well as helping in the preparation of our parish's wreath that is featured prominently in the narthex throughout Advent, this event for the whole parish is meant to help us focus on what Advent means and how we can use this time to prepare for the celebration of Christmas.

*Get your copy of **five minutes with the Word**, for Advent next weekend in the baskets located in the narthex of the church. These prayer booklets are another way to keep Advent's focus in the busyness of the season.*

Mass Intentions: Nov. 15—Nov. 22

Sunday, Nov. 15—33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:45a **Patricia Pastor** (JoAnn Kiefer)
9:30a **For the People of the Parish**
11:30a **Gene Farney** (Women of St. Benedict)

Monday, November 16—Weekday

8:30a **Victoria Hucko** (Don & Patricia Fink)

Tuesday, November 17—Elizabeth of Hungry

6:30a **Dolores Mozzoni** (Kuhn Family)
8:30a **Nathan Zadrosny** (The Ehrenberger Family)

Wednesday, November 18—Weekday

6:30a **Cletus & Clara Wine** (Marks Family)
8:30a **Mrs. Martha Lauze** (John & Ann Haines)

Thursday, November 19—Weekday

6:30a **Dale Linder** (Therese Linder)
8:30a **Michael Costello** (Barbara Costello)

Friday, November 20—Weekday

8:30a **Francis McCaffrey** (wife, Pat)

Saturday, November 21—Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30a **Ann Wojtkowski** (Racko Family)
5:00p **Joyce Swart**
(Rosemary & Christopher Catalano)

Sunday, Nov. 22—Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

7:45a **Craig Sipp** (Don & Sherre, Parents)
9:30a **Barbara Matthews** (Beth & Brad Ruth)
11:30a **For the People of the Parish**

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of Fred Owsiany, requested by his wife, Susan, and the Altar Flowers are in memory of George DiNardo, requested by Jeanne, and the Kluglein & Schwerman Families, requested by Carolyn Kluglein.



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

Readings for the Week of November 15

Sunday: Dn 12:1-3/Heb 10:11-14,18/Mk 13:24-32
 Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15,41-43,54-57,62-63/Lk 18:35-43
 Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31/Lk 19:1-10
 Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1,20-31/Lk 19:11-28
 Thursday: 1 Mc 2:15-29/Lk 19:41-44
 Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37,52-59/Lk 19:45-48
 Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13/Lk 20:27-40
 Next Sunday: Dn 7:13-14/Rv 1:5-8/Jn 18:33b-37

Retirement Fund for Religious

The Retirement Fund collection each year helps senior religious men and women. "As expenses continue to increase and economic difficulties tighten our income, we appreciate more and more the help of the Retirement Fund," notes a Sister. Your tax-deductible donation supports the care of elderly and frail Sisters and Brothers as well as priests who are members of religious orders. Please give generously to next week's second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious.

Online giving is in full operation! Visit the parish website and click on the link to sign up to begin donating to the parish automatically today. It's easy and convenient!

Serving the Parish Next Weekend: November 21—November 22

Sat. 5:00pm— Fr. Esposito

Lectors: Norton, Tallon **Greeters:** Reed, Schardt **EMHC:** R & B Jordan, Baumgartner, G & P Adams, Milavec, McGinnis, Mertens, Norton **Servers:** LaRosa, A Weaver, Curry, Hillen, Tallon

7:45am— Fr. Esposito, Deacon Layton

Lectors: Trapanotto, Brugger **Greeters:** Henger, Turchick **EMHC:** Glod, Walnoha, Boston, Basile, Puskarich, Joseph, Prado **Servers:** Rauscher, Shaw, Bowlin

9:30am— Fr. Esposito

Lectors: Ruggieri, Ross **Greeters:** Becker, Stewart **EMHC:** Orient, T & E Mauro, Klinar, J Smith, L & A Kelly, Stein, Schultz **Servers:** D & M DeRienzo, Maher, Kelly, Mackay

11:30pm— Fr. Keenan

Lectors: Auer, Hajzus **Greeters:** Bartoli, Ragan **EMHC:** Capozza, Boyd, Slomiany, Huffner, B Smith, P Newmaster, Bench **Servers:** K & C Bench, Taylor

Winter Ministers' Schedule

It is time to schedule ministers for Masses in January, February and March. All Greeters, Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, and Altar Servers should submit any "away" dates and Mass schedule changes to Jay Specca at jspeca@hotmail.com. . . put "Minister Schedule" in the subject line. . . or call 724-941-9587, Ext. 114. The schedule is made at the beginning of December, so please have your information to Jay before Monday, November 30.

Centering Prayer Workshop

"Be still and know that I am God." Let your heart discover what this phrase from Psalm 46 might mean in your life with a Centering Prayer Workshop that takes place at St. Benedicts on December 5 from 9:00am until 3:00pm. Sponsored by Contemplative Outreach Pittsburgh, this workshop will feature four speakers and conferences that will help you work on a deeper relationship with God. Suggested donation is \$20 which includes all materials as well as six optional follow-up sessions that take place Monday evenings in December and January. Refreshments will be provided on December 5, but please bring along a bag lunch. For registration or more information, please contact our pastoral associate Dennis at 724-941-9406, ext. 109.

IHN will be hosting Thanksgiving week. They need volunteers! If you can help drive, cook a meal, stay overnight, etc. please email pchefmary@hotmail.com or call 724-942-2478



Advent at SBA



Our liturgical year comes to a close next weekend as we honor Christ the King. The new Church year begins at the Vigil Mass on November 28 as we mark the First Sunday of Advent. A group of interested parishioners met in October to discuss our focus for the Advent and Christmas seasons this year.

At the *Advent Family Day* on Sunday, November 22, all those present will be invited to create a star with a prayer petition on it to use in decorating the church for Advent. If you aren't planning to attend the day, you may also make a star with your prayer and drop it at the office so we can use it as part of our prayer intentions in Advent. Advent is a time when we proclaim that light will overcome the darkness. Prayers and songs of the season announce that Christ is the light we await. The Advent Wreath, our large circle representing the continuity of life, adorned with candles for each of the four weeks of Advent, as well as the prayer stars, will stand in the entry of the church welcoming all who come to worship to pass under it and be caught up in the mystery of Jesus' coming among us. Once again we will have the prayer booklets, **five minutes with the Word**, to help us along our Advent journey. You can pick up your copy next weekend.

To make a prayer star use any design you like and create a five-pointed, six-pointed, or multi-pointed star. It may even be three dimensional. Write your prayer request for Advent on the star and cover it with foil or paint it with metallic paint. The colors for the stars can be silver, gold, copper, platinum, bronze, etc.

Stars may be submitted to the parish office but must be dropped off before the First Sunday of Advent. With the offices closed for Thanksgiving, this means we need them before Noon on Wednesday, November 25. This is a great project for the whole family or a way to include those who are sick in our Advent prayer intentions. You might even have a "star party" at home some evening to think about your Advent prayer intentions. Varying sizes will make the display even better.



Youth Ministry News

WORD Steeler Party

Join us today 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.

There will be no Sunday morning WORD today because of the Steeler Party and on November 22 because of retreat.

Poinsettia and Wreath Sale

The Youth Group will once again be selling Poinsettias and wreaths this Christmas season. Watch for the insert in next week's bulletin. All proceeds help support Youth Ministry activities.

Pre-Thanksgiving Eve Bash for Young Adults

Get the word out now for all college students and young adults (ages 21-27) that we're getting together at Al's Café on Wednesday, November 25 from 6:30pm until 8:30pm. Watch the bulletin for more information.

Advent Calendar Sale

The Youth Council will be selling Advent Calendars in O'Brien Hall after the Sunday morning Masses on November 22 and November 29. Nativity, Magi, and Santa scenes are available at \$6 each. They are a great gift for children and grandchildren to follow the Advent Season. Call Beth Quinn with any questions at 724-942-1057. Thank you for your support!

Parish Dinner Meeting

Attention anyone who has supported St. Benedict Church as a cook or worker in the kitchen, has coordinated events like the Fish Fry's and Parish Picnic, or if you are interested in doing this type of activity. As part of our efforts to establish ongoing Parish Dinners at St. Benedict Church, we would like to review with you how we planned our Parish Dinner on November 14 and solicit your feedback for future dinners. We will have an informational meeting on November 16, at 7:00pm in room 204.



Ask Father Sam

**Who is Bishop Zubik's boss?
What is the chain of authority and leadership
from St. Benedict's to the Holy See?**

Lesson of the Week

**Since there are so many requests for Masses, why
can't there be two intentions
for the same Mass?**

The Code of Canon Law tells us in Book IV, *The Sanctifying Office of the Church*, under Part I, *The Sacraments*, Chapter III, *The Offering Made for the Celebration of Mass*, that “any priest who celebrates or concelebrates a Mass may accept an offering to apply the Mass for a specific intention.” These Mass stipends, as they are known, are set by the local bishop, and here in our diocese the offering for years now has remained at \$10.00. Each offering of \$10 is to be applied to one Mass intention.

When a parish has a large number of intentions, more than can be fulfilled within the year’s time that is stated in the Law, canon 953, “no one may accept more offerings for Masses to be celebrated by himself than he can discharge within a year,” what keeps the priest or the parish from accepting multiple intentions for the same Mass? If we look to an earlier canon in this chapter, canon 948 says, “separate Masses must be applied for the intentions of those for whom an individual offering, even if small, has been made and accepted.”

The reasoning behind this legislation is because we cannot “sell” or “buy” holy things. You don’t “buy” a Mass. You don’t “pay” for a sacrament. A person may make an offering to the parish for a baptism, for example, but there cannot be a fee charged for a sacrament. If we had multiple offerings for one Mass, it becomes less about the intention and more about the offering. Parishes that tried this in the past were reprimanded, and they had to fulfill the intentions at other times to be within the boundaries of the Law.

Some people may be thinking that if we are not allowed to charge a fee for a sacrament, why are there fees associated with weddings? These are, like Mass stipends, an offering to the parish. Most parishes set an amount simply because couples want to know what is a reasonable offering to the church on the day of their wedding. In our diocese these offerings vary from \$100 to \$500, which, given the five and six figure weddings people have, is not much at all. But one who could not make the offering would not be refused the sacrament because, again, we cannot “sell” holy things.

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 Specca in the Faith Formation Office at 724-941-9587, ext 113.

Sharing Our Treasure

<u>Date</u>	<u>Offertory</u>	<u>Debt</u>	<u>Parish Share</u>
Oct. 5	\$21,387	\$9,047	\$1,672
Oct. 11	\$21,451	\$3,257	\$4,030
Oct. 18	\$17,682	\$5,677	\$981
Oct. 25	\$22,316	\$1,410	\$603
On-Line Giving	\$6,612	\$855	\$595
Monthly Totals	\$89,448	\$20,246	\$7,881
Weekly Average	\$22,362		
Weekly Budgeted	\$22,000		

Thanks to everyone whose generous support continues to help us meet our budgeted weekly operating expense. We have requested a loan from the diocese to fund the renovation expenses we have from the improvements made to our buildings this summer and continuing even now. We have 18 months to repay the \$60,000, which will be added to our debt. **Please remember** that our assessment from the diocese (Parish Share) is a set amount we have to pay, either from our donations or from our operating budget. We depend on the help of parishioners to make the goal. Any funds above our assessed amount we get to keep here for our needs, and these funds are not taxed like other income. So, consider splitting your donations between regular offertory and Parish Share.



WOSB Welcomes Rose Hart

Ever wonder why the Women of St. Benedict collect travel sized items from the parish during the busy vacation season? Why we collect and wrap shoe boxes throughout the month of October? Join us on Thursday, November 19, at 7:00pm in O'Brien Hall, to learn more about Appalachian Outreach, Inc. of West Virginia. Executive Director, Rose Hart, will discuss the programs and project of AOI, a non-profit organization that provides relief to the many poverty stricken people who live in this area of West Virginia (www.appalachianoutreaching.org). Call Maria Streno at 724-942-5570 with any questions.

Feast of Christ the King

All members of *Ben's Men* are invited to celebrate the Feast of Christ the King by joining the Eucharistic procession at the 5:00pm Mass on Saturday, November 21. The club will sit as a group in church. Please dress for the occasion with a jacket and tie and meet 15 minutes prior to the start of Mass in the narthex of the Church. At the conclusion of Mass, the Blessed Sacrament will be carried in procession, and when the procession returns to the sanctuary, there will be Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Let us give praise to Jesus Christ our King and Savior with our attendance and participation at this Mass.

Military Christmas Packages

The Parish Military Support Committee would like to send Christmas packages to military personnel who are stationed overseas and are family members of our parishioners. Please contact Jami Christopher at jamilynn4@comcast.net or 724-942-0264 with the name and address, and we will be sure that they know they are in our thoughts and prayers. We will also add their name to the prayer list posted in the narthex of the church.

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 at www.wwme-pittsburgh.org.

This Week In Our Parish

Sunday, November 15

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

9:00a Faith Formation Session
11:00a Faith Formation Session

Monday, November 16

8:30a Special Needs Children (210)
10:00a WOSB Yoga (OBH)
6:30p Aerobics (PBAC)
7:00p Catholic Scripture Study (208)
7:00p Parish Dinner Meeting (204)

Tuesday, November 17

8:30a Special Needs Children (210)
9:15a Catholic Scripture Study (204/206)
6:00p Faith Formation Session
7:00p Contemporary Choir (Choir)
7:45p Bible as Theology (204/206)
7:45p Cub Scouts (OBH)

Wednesday, November 18

12:00p AA (208)
6:00p Faith Formation Session
6:30p Confessions (Church)
7:45p Pastoral Council (204)
7:45p Tae Kwon Do (OBH)

Thursday, November 19

9:30a Light Weigh (210)
12:00p NA (206)
6:00p Aerobics (PBAC)
7:00p WOSB General Meeting (OBH)
7:00p RCIA (204)
7:30p Boy Scout Troop 1313 (PBAC)
7:30p Adult Choir (Choir)

Friday, November 20

10:00a Prayer & Share (ChNur & Br. Rm)

Saturday, November 21

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

Sunday, November 22

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

8:00a Blood Drive (OBH)
9:00a Faith Formation Session
11:00a Faith Formation Session
12:30p Family Advent Day (PBAC)

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

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
724-941-0338

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

Mike Silvestri
724-941-5238

Wedding Coordinators

Lois McCloskey
724-941-6879

Women of St. Benedict

Nancy Huffner
724-941-6805

Youth Council

Sheila Arcuri
724-942-6431