

Second Sunday of Advent



Peace

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 8:00am,
10:30am, 12:15pm

Weekday Masses

Monday-Friday 9:00am

Adoration

Monday-Friday 10am-10pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Wednesdays, 6pm-7pm
Sat. 3:45pm-4:45pm or by appointment



Parish Office

8110 Jewel Lake Rd
Anchorage, AK 99502

Phone: (907) 243-2195

Fax: (907) 243-0088

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday
10:00am - 5:00pm

Web: www.stbenedictsak.com

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/stbenedictsak>

Email: parishsecretary@stbenedictsak.com



Lumen Christi Catholic School

Grades 7-12

8110 Jewel Lake Rd Bldg. D
Anchorage, AK 99502

Phone: (907) 245-9231

Office Hours: Monday-Friday
7:00am-3:00pm

Web: www.lumenchristiak.org

- Our Community at a Glance -

Prayer Chain: email Shirley Arnold at s_arnoldak@outlook.com

Outreach: Emergency food for those in need call **907-273-1596**

Clare House: 4th Tuesday each month; contact **Beth Waetjen @ 907-242-2384**

Archangel Attic: Open Tues.-Thurs. 12pm-3pm, and Fri. 10am-3pm, Sat. 10am-4pm,
call **907-215-7079**. To volunteer call **Colleen: 354-4372** or **Mary: 868-3453**

Youth & Young adult Catechesis: call **Gabe O'Lena 907-215-7058**

Choir: See **Steve Ring** after Mass or email sring1316@outlook.com

Samoan Mass: 12:15 Mass, 1st Sunday of the Month

Filipino Mass: 12:15 Mass, 3rd Sunday of the Month

Hospitality Sundays: Coffee /donuts, after **8am-10:30am** Masses

Pancake Breakfast: Served **8am to 12:15pm** the 2nd Sunday of the month, **Oct - Apr**

Knights of Columbus: Meets 1st Wednesday at 7pm

Legion of Mary: Meets Mon. at **5:30pm**; call **Ursula @ 907-570-2163**

**December 7,
2025**

Mission and Core Values

Saint Benedict Parish
is a community of
Catholic, Christian
stewards,
working to live and
preach the Word of
God in thought,
word and deed.

As a ministry of Saint
Benedict Parish,
Lumen Christi High
School provides a
rigorous Catholic
education in a Christ-like
environment. We are
called to proclaim the
Gospel of Jesus Christ, to
build community, and to
serve our brothers
and sisters.

We are united in our core
values of living **Faith**,
Celebrating **Family**
and Achieving
Excellence!



THOUGHTS FROM OUR PASTOR



“Repent, for the Kingdom of God is close at hand.”

The central message of today's Gospel and that of Advent is *repentance*. St John the Baptist preached this message. The Greek word, *metanoia*, means a commitment to live a new way of life. Conversion is a human response to the initiative of God. It is God Who first acts. Repentance is when we respond to His will over our own. It means turning to Christ. To putting on Christ and becoming Christ. Repentance means letting go of our own will, in order to follow the things that God wills for us. It means turning away from sin and all rebellion against God in order to be obedient to Him and to follow Him in all that He wants from us. Repentance means owning up to our sin, our human frailties, our fears, and entrusting all these to God's mercy and compassion. In turning our lives around, we come to recognize that our self-sufficiency is inadequate and that we need to cooperate with God in our own salvation. Repentance is not a one-time thing. It is a process that goes on for a lifetime. Prepare the way of the Lord! -- Fr. Tom

Welcome to Joshua Danis and “Hallow”!

We extend a warm Alaska welcome to our Mission Speaker from “Hallow”, Josh Danis! Come and learn how you may deepen your prayer life this Advent through using some of the time-honored prayer traditions of our Church. See page five for more details. Welcome, Josh!

Welcome to Saint Benedict Parish

Monday 12/08 <i>Immaculate Conception</i>	Tuesday 12/09	Wednesday 12/10	Thursday 12/11	Friday 12/12	Saturday 12/13	Sunday 12/14 <i>Gaudete Sunday!</i>
Mass 9am: Harold McMorro 1pm: School 7pm: Isaac O'Lena SI <i>Parish Office Closed</i> <i>Adoration 10am - 10pm</i> Legion of Mary 6-7pm OCIA 6:30	Mass 9am: Carolann Weir SI <i>Adoration 10am-10pm</i> Video Series The Search & Discussion 9:30am	Mass 9am: Janel Ryan ROS <i>Adoration 10am-10pm</i> Confessions 6pm <i>Samoan Choir 6:30pm</i> <i>High School Night 7pm</i> <i>Bible Study 7pm</i> Parish Reconciliation Service 7pm	Mass 9am: Megan O'Lena SI <i>Parish Office Closed</i> <i>Adoration 10am-10pm</i> 10:30 Choir Practice 7pm	Mass 9am: All Souls SI <i>Parish Office Closed</i> <i>Adoration 10am-10pm</i> Frozen Chozen 5:30am Jr. Legion 10am Kid Play 1pm Samoan Choir 6:30pm Youth Intermural Basketball 8pm	Vigil Mass 5pm: Police & Firefighters SI <i>Confessions 3:45-4:45</i> Pinochle 6pm	Masses 8:00am: Chuck Biernard ROS 10:30am: Shirley Piaskowski ROS 12:15pm: People of the Parish SI Super Sunday Today! Practice for Play 3pm-4:30pm Check out our page at: https://www.stbenedictsak.com/65 FB: St. Ben's Youth Ministry Insta: @stbensyouthanc

Mass Intentions: SI= Special Intentions

RTH= Return to Health

ROS= Repose of Soul

Saint Benedict Staff

Pastor

Fr. Tom Lilly
tlilly@stbenedictsak.com
 907-243-2195

Deacon

Deacon Daniel Winters

Pastoral Assistant/ Business Manager

Marcy Adkins
madkins@stbenedictsak.com
 907-243-2195

Administrative Assistant

Katherine Mitchell
parishsecretary@stbenedictsak.com
 907-243-2195

Director of Music

Steve Ring
sring@stbenedictsak.com

Church Housekeeper

Elaine Potter

Evangelization and Catechesis

Youth and Young Adult Minister

Gabe O'Lena
golena@stbenedictsak.com
 907-215-7058

Super Sunday Faith Formation

John and Shelby Burger
burger@stbenedictsak.com

Lumen Christi School

Principal

Brian Ross
brross@lumenchristiak.com
 907-245-9231

Director of Advancement

Anne Gore
agore@lumenchristiak.com
 907-245-9231

Administrative Assistant

Kimberly Guzman
khs@lumenchristiak.com
 907-245-9231

Sacramental Information

Parish Office 243-2195

- OCIA:** contact Marcy Adkins 273-1554
- Baptism of infants:** celebrated either during Mass, after the 12:15 Mass on Sundays or at any other time approved by the Pastor. Parents are required to attend a baptismal preparation class prior to the baptism of the child.
- Weddings:** scheduled by meeting with the Pastor at least six months prior to the wedding date. Please call the office for more details.
- Funerals:** contact the parish office following a death and we will be pleased to assist you.
- Anointing of the Sick, or Communion to the Homebound:** Please call the parish office to request a visit.

Thank to all those who come and put together meals for **Hope Soup Kitchen!**

Next date is **Saturday January 1st!**

Call Andy Flores @ 907-887-4917

Thank you to all who provide meals for **Clare House**

Next dinner date is **December 23rd!**

The Traveling Madonna

The new traveling Mary sign up for January thru December 2024 is now posted.
 Please say a rosary each day she is in your home.
 Thank you for welcoming the Lord's mother.
 Questions call **the office 907-243-2195**

⇒ Readings:

Sunday 12/07

Isaiah 11:1-10
 Romans 15:4-9
 Matthew 3:1-12

Sunday 12/14

Isaiah 35:1-6
 James 5:7-10
 Matthew 11:2-11

⇒ Celebrations:

December Anniversaries

Once Upon
A Time...

Ian and Judy Fulp	12/20/69
John and Trisha Mitchell	12/16/72
Danizl and Janice Kitz	12/07/74
Bill and Shirley Arnold	12/30/77
Elmer and Lois Salontai	12/22/79
Bolesio and Elena Perko	12/03/91
Ken and Joy Wynne	12/20/91
Peter and Vaioalii Potasi-Mariota	12/24/99
Carl and Gloria Spencer	12/19/01
Dan and Kate Johnston	12/31/05
Zach and Rachael Stohr	12/21/06
Chuck and Juliet Knecht	12/18/09
Pete and Donna Guerra	12/19/09
Joan and Krissaundra Felise	12/02/18
Brian and Mareza Tjaden	12/20/24

May your marriage always bring glory to God, joy to one another and blessings to your family for many generations to come.

May love and laughter fill your hearts and your home for all at the days of your lives.

May you face every challenge hand-in-hand and side-by-side

knowing that with God's grace, you'll conquer all obstacles together. May the world be forever a better place because the two of you fell in love. In Jesus' name, Amen

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh." -Eph. 5:31

⇒ Parish Financial Update:

⇒ Stewardship of Treasure:

	Week 22	YTD
Offertory Income	\$ 10,678.75	\$ 269,494.85
Other Income	\$ 935.00	\$ 47,025.00
	\$ 11,613.75	\$ 316,519.85

Expenses: (avg. wk. \$17,162.20)

YTD Expenses: \$ 302,036.77

Combined Parish and School

Total Income \$949,630.16

Total Expense \$966,676.99

- \$ 17,046.83

Our new fiscal year began 1 July

*Online Donation Income:

- * There were 50 gifts made online
- * There were 0 Families new to online giving
- * There were 3 Maintenance Fund donations
- * There were 0 Parish Outreach donations
- * There were 1 Flowers Collection donations
- * There were 1 World Youth Day donations

Dear Lord,

Thank you for teaching me to be generous as you have been generous with me.

Thank you for showing me that all I am and have are gifts from you.

And that these gifts from you, Lord, are meant to be shared. Show me the joys of generosity.

Help me to understand others, perhaps unknown to me, depend on me for help.

Remind me that my world, my parish, needs "Good Samaritans" to heal the wounds of our times.

Make me a gift to others in your name.

Amen.

Please Pray for:

Diane Peterson
Christina Del Rosario
Ann Curro
Bea Freeman
Waetjen Family
Alicia Warren
Fr. Tim Saur
Rosemary Dunn
Connie Budahl
Danny Lee
Franklin Ellenson

Terry Tutor
Marty Goblowski
Jim Seeley
Sam Waetjen
Chloe Hernandez
Damon Carey
Gerry Rapp
Alicia Datuin
Mike & Betty Smith
Pat Scott
Julie Allard
Bernie & Marian Simon

Kim Randolph
Lagi Fi-Zwetsk
Will Davenport
Nicole Johnson
Crescencia Molina
Jessica Randolph
Geneva Colon
Michele Waetjen
Vannessa Mors
Denise Trefry
Richard Campbell
James Mitchell & sons

Fontaine Wilhelm
Theresa Dolan
Ofelia Domingo
Maipelle Burns
Mike Keenan
Kevin Pfeiffer
Steve Taylor
Lara Krill
Joseph Mitchell
Dan Rollins
John Branham
Jeff Harris Family

Ted & Agnes Mayac
Doris Clausen
Ellison Williamson
Jackie & Greg Kern
Paul Larson
Mary Dubois
Glen Allen
Virginia Aberle
Elizabeth Bastiani
Solita Balones
Mark Blumenthal
Deneen B. Bozeman

Al Honeywell
Wally Johnston

(To add or remove please call 243-2195).



Lumen Christi School

Living Faith, Celebrating Family, and Achieving Excellence



⇒ Principal's Update:

What a busy week it has been! We started off the week with a stomach bug illness (most likely norovirus) working its way through about 10-15% of our student body. Our absent numbers spiked on Tuesday, but each day since has brought students back to school. We have been working closely with the Municipal public health department to determine the cause (if we can) and, more importantly, review our health and hygiene protocols. It appears that norovirus numbers are spiking all over the city, so this isn't limited to just our school community. This was coupled with another illness—a persistent head and chest congestion—in other students. Thank you to everyone who kept/is keeping their students at home if they feel ill. Please continue to pray for good health in our community.

The Virtue of the Week is APPRECIATION. The Vice is ENTITLEMENT. I used this week as an opportunity to take a speaking tour around Houses during 7th period to encourage all students to Be Appreciative, not Entitled. I think this is a particularly important message as we go into the THANKSGIVING holiday. In my 6–8-minute talk, I emphasized two main points: 1) appreciation and respect for our teachers and 2) appreciation and respect for our school—our common home. I wasn't accusing anyone, or any group in particular but rather reiterate our high expectations of behavior here at Lumen Christi. We've had an uptick in student disrespect—arguing, talking back, and speaking condescendingly—towards teachers. In addition, some students are not abiding by classroom rules and expectations of behavior—most notably in the abuse of computer privileges (playing games during class, for example) or leaving trash/garbage all over the classroom. I asked all students to show appreciation for our hardworking and dedicated teachers going forward and avoid having a sense of entitlement. We've also had an uptick in a general lack of respect for our common home and school property. Students often rock back in chairs, put feet up on tables and desks, draw/write on school property, and leave trash all over locker rooms, rest rooms, classrooms, the hallway, etc. I reiterated that not all students are doing these things but asked everyone—staff and students—to rise to the challenge to pick up after ourselves and respect our school property to show our appreciation as good stewards of our “home away from home.” To do otherwise shows a sense of entitlement (e.g. a mentality that “someone else will just clean or pick it up”). I related to our students that my dream is that one day, our school janitor, Romy, and his wife Nora, would tell me “we didn't need to clean the school this evening because your students cleaned it themselves during the day! We headed home early!” I realize that this may not happen, but it is certainly a worthy goal ALL OF US can work towards! Lumen is a very special place and all of us make it so. Thanks for your help while on break in reinforcing this important message.

We wish our girls' volleyball team good luck in the Borealis Conference Tournament held at Lumen Christi this weekend. I encourage you to come out, support, and cheer our ladies on to victory! May you have a blessed and safe extended Thanksgiving break. See you, Dec 1st!

Blessings... Brian

Archangel Attic

The holiday season is upon us! Our selection of Christmas décor, lights, candles, and gifts offers something for all your needs. Each week, we are given more holiday items to share with you. Come often and find just the perfect gadget, embellishment, or finishing touch to complete your decorating, shopping list, or a special item just for you. Thank you for shopping with us

KNIGHTS TABLE

Congratulations: November

Knight of the month

Larry Clement

Family of the Month

Nick and Oriele Kinder



Patriotic Rosary– 12/01 and 12/15 at 6:00 pm

K of C Council meeting - 12/03 at 7:00 pm

4th Degree meeting – 12/01 at 7:00 pm

Officer's meeting - 12/18 6pm

The Knight of the Month We chose Larry Clement - Larry has been leading our council's pro-Life efforts. Larry has organized the 40 days for life campaigns for St Benedicts (Tuesday was our day), Also organizing the baby bottle and diaper drives and throughout the year.

Family of the Month We chose Nick and Oriele Kinder - Nick and Oriele have been members of the parish for many years. From helping in years past with youth groups and events. Now we would like to help recognize them for their help in many little ways, helping with some parish office duties, assisting with OCIA. They both help model to us many of the aspects of being a good catholic family.

WHAT IS GOING ON?



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 22nd ANNUAL THANKSGIVING GLOVE DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus is holding our 22nd annual Thanksgiving glove Drive and all the gloves collected will be brought to Catholic Social Services and then given to those in need. All new or like new gloves can be placed in the basket located in the vestibule (the back of church). You may also bring socks, hats, and scarves.

Please help those less fortunate. Think of how you would feel if you didn't have these items to keep you warm this winter.

“When I was naked you clothed Me”

This drive will run through November until the first Sunday in December. Thank you



Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Have you been wondering who The Catholic Daughters of the Americas are? Would you like to know more about us?

CDA is one of the largest Catholic women's organizations established in 1903 by the Knights of Columbus. Our local court was chartered in at Holy Family parish in 1961. We are a spiritual, charitable, social and service group. We invite all Catholic women to join us as we plan this year's events. **Our meeting is Monday Dec 8th, 2025, 6:30pm.** in the Lunney Center at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish. Please join us for prayer, planning, and food and fellowship. Visitors are always welcomed.

For more information contact cecistanley2013@icloud.com

ADVENT PARISH MISSION

Friday, December 5th 7:00 PM

“Prayer - How to do it!”

Saturday, December 6th 7:00 PM

“Building a Culture of Prayer”

Sunday, December 7th 5:00 PM

“A Night of Prayer and Meditation”

Deepen your prayer this Advent season with Joshua Danis from Hallow. Confession and Adoration will be the hour before each presentation and following each mission talk will be a light reception in the Parish Hall.



Hallow
Catholic Prayer & Meditation App

Children's Christmas Pageant 2025

This pageant is a lovely symbol of our children's gift to Jesus this Christmas. Please help us bring it to life! The pageant will be presented during the **4 pm Mass on Christmas Eve** in the Lumen Christi Gym.

Important Dates and Times!

-Sunday Dec 7, Casting Call via [Google Form sign up!](#) QR code below!

-Sunday, Dec 14: 3-4:30: Required Practice

**this will be right after Super Sunday*

-Sunday, Dec 21: 1:30-3:30 Required Practice

**this will be in the same time slot as Super Sunday (no Faith Formation this week)*

-Wednesday, Dec 24: 2 pm

We will meet well ahead of the Mass to have a dress rehearsal, take group pictures, and be quietly backstage before the Mass begins.

After the pageant, we will remove costumes quietly and quickly backstage. Children will then quietly reenter to sit with their parents for the remainder of Mass.

In between rehearsals, PLEASE PRACTICE THE SONGS WITH YOUR CHILDREN!!

(All songs are on the reverse and are the traditional arrangements)

Volunteers Needed!

**below are the minimum requirements, extras make for a lighter load!*

-Group Leads and assistants (5) - help costume, corral, prepare, and oversee the following groups: angels, shepherds, wise men, Holy Family, Innkeeper and extras. Parents and teenagers can work in this role (must have Safe and Sacred complete).

-Backstage managers - work backstage to organize props and costumes, fill in as needed

-Photographer (1) - take photographs of the cast on December 24, email pictures to Lea for dispersal to parents

-Music director (1) - help lead song practice during pageant rehearsals

-Snack coordinator (3) - provide small snacks for the 3 practices - minding is easier on a slightly full tummy (water, oranges, goldfish, etc)

Parent and Teen Volunteers:

-All adult volunteers must have a current Safe and Sacred certificate and Background Check filed with Marcy or your Catholic School community - this must be completed by 12/15. Teen volunteers must have a current "Standards of Conduct for Youth" contract on file. If you need to do this, please let Lea/Mrs. Bouton know.

-With very few exceptions (please speak to me in advance), ALL volunteers must be present for the 3 bolded times above.

Pageant Director - please contact me with questions or concerns!

Lea Bouton, leabouton06@gmail.com

907-306-5331



Events across the Archdiocese – December–January, Advent and Christmas

By Levi Livengood

Across the Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau, Advent and Christmas see a variety of activities, from Simbang Gabi to food drives, and much more.

Simbang Gabi in Anchorage is:

- December 15: Holy Family 6:00 p.m.
- December 16: Holy Cross 6:00 p.m.
- December 17: St. Benedict's 6:00 p.m.
- December 18: St. Andrew 6:30 p.m.
- December 19: St. Patrick 5:30 p.m.
- December 20: Holy Spirit Center 6:00 p.m.
- December 21: St. Anthony 5:30 p.m.
- December 22: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton 6:00 p.m.
- December 23: Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe 6:00 p.m.

Glory Bound 2025 at Saint Therese's Camp grades 6–8, Dec 28–30; grades 9–12, Dec 30–Jan 1. young men and young women's retreats.

Our Lady of the Snows in Girdwood will serve a hot meal at the Methodist Church on January 4th, where the food bank is, and will continue to collect and donate food.

St. John the Baptist will have a giving tree throughout Advent.

St. Andrew: St. Nick market Dec 5 5-8, blue Christmas prayer service Dec 19 6:30pm for those who have trouble around Christmas due to loss.

Holy Cross will have a youth night on Dec 22 from 6–8pm.

Our Lady of the Lake will have a Christmas program and potluck following Sunday Mass on December 21.

Holy Family in Anchorage will have:

- An Advent playlist from Fr. James on Spotify (see Letha's email or the website)
- Daily Advent Reflection by Br. Anthony Martin
- Confessions every Sunday Mass and on Tuesday from 7–8pm during adoration
- St. Nick party at 9:30am Dec 6
- Dec 8 Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation
- Dec 10 Dominican forum
- Las Mañanitas 7am dec 12 followed by Mass for OLOG

We are all

Called to

Serve

In-kind Needs for CSS Programs

Complex Care is in desperate need of hygiene items: shampoo, conditioner and body wash. Travel size are ideal but will take any. Drop them off at Complex Care, 303 W. Fireweed Lane from 9 am to 6 pm, 7 days a week.

Clare House has a great need for

- deodorants,
- combs,
- hair brushes,
- and hair ties right now.

Donations can be dropped off at 4110 Spenard Rd, Anchorage 7 days a week from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Brother Francis Shelter Warm Gear Donations for As temperatures drop, warm clothing is needed for those in the shelters. BFS is requesting the following donations. Any can help!

- * Men's sweatpants M-L, XL, especially 32-34 sizes. Sweatpants with drawstrings are suggested . * Coats, Men's L, XL
- * Women's sweatpants S-L (3-16) * Coats, Women M-XL
- * NEW ONLY Underwear, Men L-XL
- * NEW ONLY Underwear, Women, All Sizes
- * NEW ONLY Bras (A-DD) and all sizes
- * Men's Boots, 8-13 * Women's Boots 7-8-9
- * Winter gloves, All Sizes * Winter hats
- * Men's hoodies and Sweatshirts M-XL
- * Women's Hoodies and Sweatshirts M-XL
- * Request for Ice Cleats and reflective tape
- * Any hygienic items, including women's hygiene donations would help bolster supplies.
- * Bed pads to help folks who are sometimes incontinent.

Through Helping Holidays, you can help ensure those in need have a Christmas gift this year by sponsoring a client family. You can sign up as an individual, family, or group. We suggest a gift of \$50 for an individual, \$150 for a family and \$200 for a family of five or more.

To help us have time to deliver gifts to families, items will need to be dropped off at our office between Monday, Dec. 8 to Thursday, Dec. 11 from 9 am to 5:30 pm.

Note: Many of our refugee families live across the state. To reduce shipping costs for families in the RAIS program, we can only accept gift cards and one small gift per family.

[Helping Holidays link](#)

Winter Gear Needs -- All our shelters have an ongoing need for winter gloves, hats, hand and foot warmers, winter jackets, socks, and boots. We can never have too many. They can be dropped off at specific shelters, or at Saint Francis House Food Pantry (at times they reach capacity and cannot accept donations temporarily). SFH drop-offs are from donations can be dropped off at 3710 E. 20 th Ave. 1-4 pm Monday through Thursday and 9-4 Friday.

Pet Food Drive Many families rely on the comfort and companionship of their pets, and lately our St. Francis House Food Pantry has had a growing need for dog and cat food. If you feel called to give, we welcome donations of unopened or gently used bags of pet food.

Your generosity helps families keep their beloved pets fed, supported, and close — a small act of compassion that brings great joy. Drop off donations at Saint Francis House Food Pantry at 3710 E. 20 th Ave. 1-4 pm Monday through Thursday and 9-4 Friday.

Many **refugee clients** do not have snowpants and have articulated that they would like some. Seeking snowpants and snow boots drive in time for an event which will be the evening of the 24th.

Drop off 9 am to 3 pm at 4135 San Roberto Ave. at the Welcome Center.

Donations for the 3rd Avenue Resource & Navigation Center are accepted Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM at the 3RNC, 1131 E. 3rd Ave.

When dropping off items, please ask for Brian Andrews to ensure your donation is properly received.

Hats
Belts
Gloves
Hot Hands
Reading Glasses



Bible Study

Meets the **2nd –4th or 5th.**
Wednesday's of each month at 7pm

Our next Bible Study will be on
Wednesday November 19th.

We meet in the school library at 7 PM.

Book Club

December 4th @ 7:00PM

in the Rectory.

Conclude discussion on "A Song for Nagasaki".

We've invited Fr. Toshio Sato, from Guadalupe as a special guest. He was the voice of Takashi Nagai on the Hallow app's Lenten challenge earlier this year.

Our next book will be a novel, "Death Comes for the Archbishop" by Willa Cather, which we will discuss in January.

Contact Lynn Stuhr @ lstuhr18@gmail.com or 907-830-1627.

Women's ministry

Blessed Among Women

Our next gathering will be on Thursday evening
at 7pm, **December 18th** in the Rectory .

See you then!



This is a monthly gathering to seek a more profound understanding of what it means to be a woman of God through quarterly presentations by local speakers and spiritual teachings from Pope St John Paul II and female Saints (while sharing food and fellowship with other women).

Men's Ministry

As we continue to celebrate Blessed Michael J. McGivney's Beatification, please enter the Promo Code **BLESSEDMCGIVNEY** to join online for free. Ask A Knight for more information or follow the QR code to join online - Please Enter St Benedict's Council #12290.



Parish pilgrimage

News on the next Parish
Pilgrimage in the South East USA.

Stay tuned.

Check the shelf in the back of Church

Second week of Advent

This Second week of Advent's theme is John the Baptist, whom we focus on every Advent. Picture John: a strange man, dressed in loincloth—a hippie—doing his own thing down by the river, willing to let go of everything, stating his is water baptism but what really matters is the baptism of "Spirit and Fire." John's single part in life is to proclaim Jesus' greatness, which he does in no uncertain words.

Jesus trusts him and accepts his non-temple, offbeat nature ritual saying of him: "There is no man greater than John the Baptist, yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

(Matt 11:11)

John emptied himself of his ego so he could proclaim the greatness of Jesus. This wasn't John's one-time humble sharing of his Lord. His life was always about the coming of Jesus and the greatness He would proclaim. John knew through constant letting go, acts of devotions, and perpetual emptying of his ego, he could display his spirituality of descent, allowing Jesus to be shown to others as the true Son of God.

However, here are significant difference between John the Baptist and Jesus:

- * John had people come out to him in the wilderness. Jesus went to people in their towns, villages, and homes.
- * John's message was a fiery one, threatening dire consequences for those who didn't take it to heart. Jesus' message was a more joyful announcement of good news.
- * Unlike John, Jesus went out of his way to reach out to sinners, even to eat and drink with them. Jesus took the initiative to reach out to those in need, including the marginalized.
- * No miracles are reported of John, but the ministry of Jesus was filled with miracles, especially healings.

But the biggest difference is this: Although both John and Jesus preached repentance, a change of heart, and reform, Jesus was more than a reformer. He was a transformer. He changed the condition of the world by his entry into history.

John the Baptist recognized this difference: "I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I . . . He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

If you want to transform your life, turn to Jesus. (Adapted from The Little Blue Book page 33)

Question:

With so much anxiety in our lives, how do you reach deep enough to really let go?

Challenge:

Spend quiet time with the Lord.

Quote:

"Advent increases our hope, a hope which does not disappoint. The Lord never lets us down. Hope allows us to enter into the darkness of an uncertain future to journey in the light."

~ Pope Francis

OCIA

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults



What is Catholicism? Are you curious?
Are you interested in joining the Catholic Church?
Do you feel you are on the outside looking in?
Would you like to know more about the Catholic Faith?
Maybe you were raised Catholic and have strayed?
Have you ever wondered, 'Why am I even doing this?'
Do you remember all the reasons of your faith,
the beauty of our faith?

**We meet, Monday evenings at 6:30pm
in the parish rectory!**

We would love to have you join us. Everyone is welcome!
Contact the office at the office 243-2195

Adult Ed

TUESDAY MORNINGS

We are watching season 5 of The Chosen.
Join us for coffee, pastries, an episode,
and discussion after Mass.

Ascension Presents has awesome material and
shorter videos on various Catholic Topics
through YouTube and Facebook!

Evangelization Ministry

Don't miss our next Epic Evangelization event!

Have ever wanted better formation in how to evangelize in an
ever-changing world?
Have you met someone from another Mass time and wondered how
you did not know them?
Have you ever found out about an event after it occurred and
wondered why you did not know about it?
If you answered yes to any of the above, then I think you will be
excited to know about our next event.

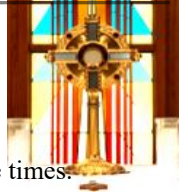
**All ministry leaders, catechists, staff, and parishioners are
invited! Please forward to anyone you think might be
interested. TBA**

Men Needed!!

Men wanted for Prison Ministry in Anchorage to visit the im-
prisoned and bring them the Dismas Ministry Catholic Bible
Study at the Anchorage Correctional Complex. Wed. eve-
nings, 7pm, at Cook Inlet Pre Trial, and/or 12pm on Fri. at An-
chorage Jail. About 1.5 hours per visit on a routine basis. No
experience needed, just the desire to help these men come to
Christ. An application and an evening Dept. of Corrections
Chaplain's Office training would be required. Interested? Con-
tact Herman Ellemberger at: hre814@gmail.com

Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration

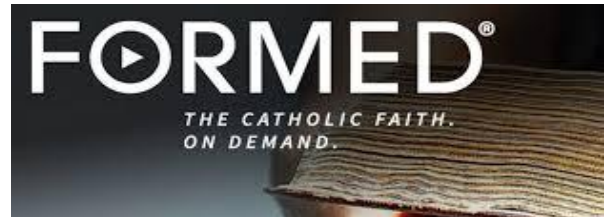


Adoration is offered:
Monday—Friday 10:00AM-10:00PM

You are welcome to come in to pray during these times.

~ Call the office to get the code to the adoration door.
Call the office to sign up*

"Could you not watch one hour with me?" (Mt. 6:21; 26:40)



Visit Formed.org for great material on
sacraments, Devotions, saint movies and more!

- 1) go to www.formed.org.
- 2) click Sign Up
- 3) click I belong to a parish/organization
- 4) type in St. Benedict and look for our address
(8110 Jewel Lake Rd. Anchorage, AK) and then
enter your name and email!



Pre-K thru Jr. High

12:00-1:30 Family free time in the gym & lunch!!
1:30-2:00 Super Sunday presentation for families
2:00-3:00 Class time for students and adults

**All families who attend the family formation time
are eligible for great door prizes!!
New games, new prizes!!!
Same great family faith formation!!!**

High School grades 9-11

**We meet in the room above the
gym from 4:00-5:45 PM.**

Lower 48

Pilgrimage

2026

JAN. 30-
Feb. 6

Join Bob and Fr. Robert Whitney on a pilgrimage through the earliest sites of the Catholic Church in the Americas. And lots more...



DETAILS...

Highlights of Itinerary:

Jan. 30- Anchorage to Orlando
Jan. 31- Tallahassee- Venerable Florida Martyrs and missions
Feb. 1- Birmingham- Cathedral and EWTN
Feb. 2- Retreat day at Blessed Sacrament Shrine
Feb. 3- Atlanta- Shrine and Cistercian monastery
Feb. 4- Savannah- Cathedral and Flannery O'Connor Museum
Feb. 5- St Augustine- Oldest Mass, Cathedral, and La Leche Shrine
Feb. 6- Back to Orlando for flight Home or ???



Total Cost:
Triple: 1436
Double: 1576
Single: 1996

Includes:
Airfare
Lodging
Transportation
2 meals a day

REGISTER BY
NOV. 15 TO
LOCK IN PRICE.

Contact Bob McMorrow for more information

907-308-9382
rmmorrow@stbenedictssak.com



Upcoming Events

12/03 High School Night 7pm extended night!
12/04 Jr. High Night 6pm



St. Andrew Bobola, S.J.
Patron of our E/C Team,
Pray for us.

UPCOMING *Youth Nights*



Wednesday 7-9 pm

Prosperity?

Tonight we are talking about the prosperity Gospel. What does that mean? How do we get the money? Spoiler alert: We don't. Come find out more!

Dec
3
2025



Wednesday 7-9 pm

Reconciliation Service

Tonight is our parish Reconciliation Service at 7 pm. We will start over in the Church for this service. Then we will head over (after Confession) for games and fun!

Dec
10
2025



Wednesday 7-9 pm

Decorate the Rectory!

Tonight we will meet in the Rectory to help Fr. Tom decorate for Christmas. We will also decorate cookies and have other snacks.

Dec
17
2025

@stbensyouthanc

Pray for us!

#Youth Corner

12/03 Youth Night

7-9pm

12/04 Jr. High Night!!

We Need Adult Volunteers!! 6-8pm



Check out our page at:

<https://www.stbenedictsak.com/65>

FB: St. Ben's Youth Ministry

Insta: @stbensyouthanc

