

Benediction Weekly

December 27, 2015

St. Benedict's Church is an inclusive Christian community that celebrates the divine in all beings, and inspires spiritual growth through joyful sacramental worship, loving service, creative expression, thoughtful inquiry and commitment to social justice.



People's Kitchen this Saturday – sign up to serve or provide food.
Potluck & Prado next Sunday – bring a dish to share for lunch and donations of non-perishable food items to contribute to Prado Center.

CALENDAR – This week at St. Benedict's:
 (at the church unless otherwise specified)

TODAY

8:00 am – Contemplative Communion Service
 10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with music

Tuesday, Dec 29

5:30 pm – Vespers & Potluck

Saturday, Jan 2

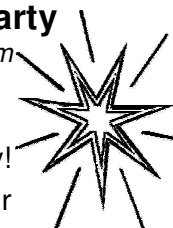
12 noon – People's Kitchen at Prado Day Center

Sunday, Jan 3

No 8 am Service
 10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with music
 Followed by Potluck Lunch
A-H Main dish; I-R Dessert; S-Z Salad & bread

St. Ben's Epiphany Star Party

Wednesday January 6th - 6:30 pm



It's Epiphany, Twelfth Day of Christmas, Old Christmas and an excuse for a party! Bring a dish to share and twigs from your Christmas decorations to burn in the fire. We'll take down all the church's decorations, bless the church's door with the mark of Melchior, Caspar and Balthazar, and crown the Kings or Queens of Epiphany. Take home your "star word" to bring a special focus to the New Year.

Things Hidden: Scripture as Spirituality, by Richard Rohr *Thursday mornings at 10 am, starting January 14*

Our discussion of the themes in *Things Hidden* will be held at St. Benedict's Church at 10 o'clock on Thursday mornings in January, and online at <http://faithmatters.us/>. Discussions begin January 14 and conclude March 17.

The author of *Things Hidden*, Franciscan priest Richard Rohr, is the founder of the Center for Action and Contemplation in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He is the author of numerous books, including *Falling Upward: Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life* and *The Naked Now: Learning to See as the Mystics See*. Rohr writes,

"The development of consciousness is a gradual, lifelong process; it's not typically a straightforward journey. We may catch a glimpse of Divine Reality, but often it's too much for our small self, and so we recoil until great love, suffering, or contemplative practice help us surrender a bit more.

"We see this dance – three steps forward, two steps back – mirrored in sacred texts. Human authors at different levels of consciousness portray God in different ways. At times in most religious histories God has been described as violent, exclusive, and judgmental. It's easy to point the finger at other religions and forget our own religion's lower levels. For example, despite recent criticism, the Quran is not more violent than the Bible; our scriptures also hold many punitive, dualistic, and exclusionary passages. But also running throughout the world's sacred texts is the thread of God's desire for union, inclusivity, non-violence, forgiveness, mercy, and healing.

"At their most mature level, religions cultivate in their followers a deeper union with God, with each other, and with reality—or *what is*. The work of religion is to *re-ligio*—re-ligament or reunite what our egos and survival instincts have put asunder, namely a fundamental wholeness at the heart of everything

"My calling has been to retrieve and re-teach the wisdom that has been lost, ignored, or misunderstood within the Judeo Christian Tradition. Any truth that keeps recurring and gathers humanity's positive energy is called wisdom and most assuredly has to be from the One Holy Spirit."

Email donnaross@charter.net to register for the Thursday discussion group and/or to receive notification when new posts go up at <http://faithmatters.us/>

Serving God and the People of St. Benedict's this Week:

Celebrant: The Rev. Barry Turner; Deacon: The Rev. Sharon Dalrymple; Eucharistic Minister: Judy Schloss;
 Chalice: Stef Shuman; Lectors: Tom Pickering & Bob Pelfrey; Ushers: Steve Hirahara & Lisa Gonzalez;
 Greeter: Rob Ross; Altar Guild: Stef Shuman; Flowers: Lisa Gonzalez;
 Coffee Hour Hosts: Gigi Rivinus and Bill & Joan Hayes; Tellers: Francis Rivinus & Bryson McKelvey;
 Cantor: Alec Speck; Music: Ann Lucas; **Thank you all for your service!**



On-Going Activities at St. Ben's

DREAMS & SPIRITUALITY GROUP—
First and third Thursdays, 7-8:30 pm.

HEALING SERVICE – a time for
prayers for healing at the 10:30
service on 5th Sundays.

HOLLISTER INSTITUTE –
Opportunities for stimulating
discussion and thoughtful exploration
for everyone, whether or not they are
members of a church. See website.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER CIRCLE—
Prayers for the community and the
world. 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 10am.

LITLOVERS' BOOK CLUB –
Discussion and fellowship. 4th
Saturdays 1pm in members' homes.

LUNCH BUNCH – lunchtime social
gathering following church, 2nd
Sundays at Celia's Garden Café.

MEET ME IN MORRO – lunchtime
social gathering, 3rd Tuesdays
at varying restaurants in Morro Bay.

MEN'S BREAKFAST – morning
social gathering, 2nd Saturdays 9am at
Sea Pines Golf Resort Grill.

NATURE ACADEMY – Alternative
Middle and High School program
through Outside Now, a nonprofit
educational organization dedicated to
reconnecting people to the wonders of
the natural world. Mon & Fri 830-330

PEOPLE'S KITCHEN – Providing and
serving food at Prado Day Center, 1st
Saturday of odd-numbered months.

POTLUCK AND PRADO on the 1st
Sunday of each month donations to
Prado Day Center are collected, and
potluck lunch follows 10:30 service.

RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND
On the last Sunday of each month, the
loose plate offering is designated to this
fund to help those in need.

VESPERS AND CONVERSATION
5:30 pm Tuesdays. Vespers service
using varying liturgies, followed by
potluck supper.

VESTRY / PARISH COUNCIL:

Maria Kelly, Sr. Warden
Pam Bleisch, Jr. Warden
John Cribb, Francis Rivinus,
Lisa Gonzalez, Michael Lucas,
Celeste Pennington, Anne Kanter,
Elaine Goodman, Kathie West

The Rector is on Vacation until January 2

During her absence, please contact Celeste Pennington with pastoral care & prayer chain requests, 771-8974; for small building issues please contact Danna at the church office 528-0654; call Senior Warden Maria Kelly with all other church business, 423-5331. For counsel & spiritual care call any of the assisting clergy: Mary Elizabeth, 528-7497; Donna Ross, 235-5117; Barry Turner, 784-0670; or Sharon Dalrymple, (210) 422-8284.



Lit Lovers' Book Club non-fiction selection for January:

Tinseltown: Murder, Morphine, and Madness at the Dawn of Hollywood,
by William J. Mann [Edgar Award winner for Best Fact Crime]

A true story recreated with the suspense of a novel, **Tinseltown** is the work of a storyteller at the peak of his powers—and the solution to a crime that has stumped detectives and historians for nearly a century.

By 1920, the movies had suddenly become America's new favorite pastime, and one of the nation's largest industries. Never before had a medium possessed such power to influence. Yet Hollywood's glittering ascendancy was threatened by a string of headline-grabbing tragedies—including the murder of William Desmond Taylor, the popular president of the Motion Picture Directors Association, a legendary crime that has remained unsolved until now.

In a fiendishly involving narrative, bestselling Hollywood chronicler William J. Mann draws on a rich host of sources, including recently released FBI files, to unpack the story of the enigmatic Taylor and the diverse cast that surrounded him—including three beautiful, ambitious actresses; a grasping stage mother; a devoted valet; and a gang of two-bit thugs, any of whom might have fired the fatal bullet. And the brilliant and ruthless moguls, Adolph Zukor and Marcus Loew, locked in a struggle for control of the industry and desperate to conceal the truth about the crime. Along the way, Mann brings to life a fascinating depiction of Los Angeles in the Roaring Twenties.

| January 2016 | | | | | | | Highlights |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 | |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 2 - People's Kitchen @ Prado Day Center |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 3 - "Potluck and Prado" at 1030 service |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 6 - 12 th Night: Epiphany Star Party, 6:30p |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 7 - Drop-in Dream Group, 7p |
| 31 | | | | | | | 9 - Men's Breakfast @ Sea Pines Grill, 9a |
| Weekly Events: | | | | | | | 9 - Saturday Evening Eucharist, 530p |
| Mondays + Fridays, Nature Acad 830a-330p | | | | | | | 10 - Lunch Bunch @ Celia's Garden Café, 1230p |
| Tuesdays: Vespers 530p, Potluck 615p | | | | | | | 13 - Intercessory Prayer Circle, 10a |
| Wednesdays: Choir Rehearsal 7p | | | | | | | 13 - Green Group, 230p |
| Thursdays: "Things Hidden" 10a, begins Jan 14 | | | | | | | 14 - Hollister Inst: "Things Hidden," 10a |
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| | | | | | | | 21 - Drop-in Dream Group, 7p |
| | | | | | | | 23 - Lit Lovers' Book Club, 1p @ Stef's |
| | | | | | | | 23 - Ledward Kaapana Hawaiian Concert, 630p |
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| | | | | | | | 31 - Annual Parish Meeting |

Giving in November - St. Ben's General Operating Fund - Thank you!!

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|------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Nov Income: \$ 13,319 | Monthly Income Budgeted: \$ 11,128 | Difference: \$ 2,191 surplus |
| YTD Income: \$ 131,350 | YTD Income Budgeted: \$ 122,403 | Difference: \$ 8,947 surplus |

Keeping in Touch during the Week. For counsel & spiritual care, please contact any of the clergy: The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall, 704-5826; The Rev. Mary Elizabeth Pratt-Horsley, 528-7497; The Rev. Donna Ross, 235-5117; The Rev. Barry Turner, 784-0670; or The Rev. Sharon Dalrymple, (210) 422-8284. Call Celeste Pennington with pastoral care & prayer chain requests, 771-8974.

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