

Benediction Weekly

December 25, 2016

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.



Merry Christmas!

Welcome to St. Benedict's.

Please join us today for a Christmas Brunch after the service.

CALENDAR – This week at St. Benedict's:

(at the church unless otherwise specified)

TODAY

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist w/ music,
followed by Christmas Brunch.

Tuesday, Dec 27

5:30 pm – Vespers, followed by potluck at 6:15

Wednesday, Dec 28

10:00 am – Intercessory Prayer Circle

Sunday, Jan 1

NO 8am service or Bible Study

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist w/ music
followed by potluck lunch

~ NEWS SNIPPETS ~

The video of the December 17th Choir concert is now available on the church website by clicking on the Christmas picture. <http://www.stbenslososos.org/>

The Parish Office will be closed until Jan 2nd. In case of emergency, Caro+ will be checking her voicemail at 704-5826.

People being confirmed at the Bishop's Visit on January 15: JW and Michael Lucas. People being received: Joan Ghilotti and Margaret Fegan. If your name is not on this list and should be please let Danna know by email, office@stbenslososos.org.

New Hollister Institute Class : A Rabbi Looks at God

God of Becoming and Relationship, by Rabbi Bradley Artson

Thursday mornings, 10 am - January 12, 19, 26 and February 2

Hollister discussions: For several years, people from many faith traditions have been meeting weekly at St. Benedict's to discuss topics of common interest. All points of view are welcome, expected, and encouraged in these discussions.

Starting January 12, we'll be discussing a pioneering book on process theology, *God of Becoming and Relationship*, by Rabbi Bradley Artson. In past Hollister discussions we have touched on ideas from process theology; now we welcome Rabbi Artson's clear perspective, which adds so much to our understanding. To focus on the nature of God – instead of the differences between Jews and Christians – we're going to consider Jesus as a rabbi and teacher, along with other rabbis through the ages.

Each week, we'll prepare for the discussion by reading a few short chapters in Artson's book. When we meet, we'll share our own thoughts, reactions, and/or insights from the reading. Again, all points of view are welcome, expected, and encouraged in these Hollister discussions.

To register for the discussions, contact Donna Ross at donnaross@charter.net When you register, you'll receive information on how to purchase the book, and a copy of the Introduction to get you started on your reading.

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

Celebrant: The Rev. Barry Turner; Preacher: Dr. Caroline Hall; Deacon: The Rev. Sharon Dalrymple;

Eucharistic Minister: Lisa Gonzalez; Lectors: Janelle LaFond & Margaret Fegan;

Usher: Ron Thompson; Greeter: Laura Thompson; Altar Guild: Stef Shuman;

Brunch Hosts: Shelley Watanabe & Sharon Dalrymple; Tellers: Steve Cake & Stef Shuman; Music: Anne Kanter.

Thank you all for your service!



**On-Going
Activities
at St. Ben's**

BIBLE STUDY - Come join us for Bible Study at 9:20 a.m. every Sunday except first Sundays.

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

EARTHCARE - A discussion/action group to formulate local solutions to environmental concerns. Second Wednesdays at 2:30 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.

PEOPLE'S KITCHEN - Providing and serving food at Prado Day Center, 1st Saturday of even-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.

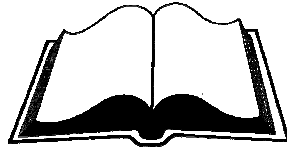
VESPERS AND CONVERSATION 5:30 pm Tuesdays. Vespers service using varying liturgies, followed by potluck supper.

VESTRY / PARISH COUNCIL

3rd Thursdays at 6:30pm
Maria Kelly, Sr. Warden
Anne Kanter, Jr. Warden
John Cribb, Francis Rivinus,
Lisa Gonzalez, Barbara Schippers,
Kathie West, Esta Kandarian
Rod Morse and Ken Kenyon.

Lectio Divina with Isaiah

*Lectio is not Bible study, but a kind of prayer .
Lectio is not learning what the words means,
but listening for the Word that gives meaning.*



Lectio for December 19 – 23

Monday	Isaiah 9:1-2
Tuesday	Isaiah 9:3
Wednesday	Isaiah 9:4-5
Thursday	Isaiah 9:6
Friday	Isaiah 9:7

Read the passage slowly, silently or aloud. Take a few minutes for silent reflection, and identify the words that speak to you.

Read the passage a second time, and listen to the text again. Ask yourself, "How does this speak to my life today?"

Read the passage a third time, and ask yourself, "What do I believe God wants me to be...or do? Is God inviting me to change in any way?"

Conclude with prayer (not a prayer of words, but a time of remaining open to the Spirit who speaks through the *lectio*).

Make a record of the thoughts, images, and insights that came in your time of prayer.

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS AT ST. BENEDICT'S

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Weekly Events:

Tuesdays: Vespers 530p, Potluck 615p, and

Wednesdays: Choir Rehearsal 7p

Thursdays: Hollister Inst 10a (beginning Jan 12)

Sundays:

Contemplative Communion 8a (except 1st Sun)

Bible study 920a (except 1st Sunday)

Holy Eucharist with Music 1030a

1 - Potluck and Prado, 1030a

5 - Drop In Dream Group, 7p

6 - Epiphany Star Party, 630p

7 - Presiding Bishop Visit at Salinas

8 - Lunch Bunch @ Celia's Garden Café, 1230p

11 - Intercessory Prayer Circle, 10a

11 - EarthCare Meeting, 230p

13 - Healing Ministry Meeting, 330p

14 - Men's Breakfast @ Celia's Garden Café, 9a

14 - Saturday Evening Eucharist, 530p

15 - Bishop Mary's Visit, 1030a

17 - Meet Me in Morro @ Bayside Café, 12p

19 - Parish Council Meeting, 6p

19 - Drop-in Dream Group, 7p

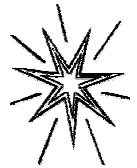
21 - SLD Women's March @ SLD Courthouse, 10a

25 - Intercessory Prayer Circle, 10a

28 - Lit Lovers' Book Club, 1p

29 - Healing Service, 1030a

29 - Annual Parish Meeting, 1230p



Epiphany Star Party Friday, 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.

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. Faye Hogan, 541-4595. Call Celeste Pennington with pastoral care & prayer chain requests, 771-8974.

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