

# Benediction Weekly

## September 20, 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.*

Welcome! We welcome our new Brother and Sister in Christ, Everett James McMaines and Samantha Jean Hascall who are being baptized this morning, and we are glad to be worshipping with their loved ones. We also welcome new members of St. Benedict's. It's been a while since we've done this and not everyone can be here today so we'll do it again in a few weeks.

### **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 w/ Baptism

#### **Monday, Sep 21**

8:30am-3:30pm – Nature Academy

#### **Tuesday, Sep 22**

5:30 pm – Vespers

6:15 pm – Potluck

#### **Wednesday, Sep 23**

10:00 am – Intercessory Prayer Circle

7:00 pm – Choir Rehearsal

#### **Thursday, Sep 24**

10:00 am – Hollister Institute Symposium --

“*Laudato Si: Spirituality & the Environmental Crisis*”

#### **Friday, Sep 25**

8:30am-3:30pm – Nature Academy

#### **Saturday, Sep 26**

10:00 am – Quilting Bee

1:00 pm – Lit Lovers' Book Club

#### **Sunday, Sep 27**

8:00 am – Contemplative Communion Service

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist w/ music

### **Fall Quilting Bee, September 26**

The Fall Quilting Bee will be Saturday September 26th, 10 am to 3pm, at St. Benedict's church.

St. Benedict's parish, family, and friends, are coming together to sew as many comforters as we can in one fun day. Thanks to the Abundance Shop and our team of fabric-squirrels, we have gathered piles of beautiful fabrics, gently-used sheets, blankets and mattress pads.

Five beautiful quilts were produced at the June Quilting Bee. These have already been mailed to Lutheran World Relief; soon, they will be sorted and shipped to refugees all over the world. How much comfort can we send this fall? We are mindful especially of the Syrian refugees. On July 9, 2015, the UN refugee agency reported that the number of Syrian refugees has surged over 4,000,000 people in tent camps in Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraqi Kurdistan. October is their rainy season, with high temperatures in the low 40's.

To donate or participate, please contact Pamela Bleisch Strawn: [pr.bleisch@gmail.com](mailto:pr.bleisch@gmail.com), or call 805-602-1240

### **SLO Faith Communities Respond to the Pope's Message**

**October 1, 6:30**

As you know, the Pope will be in the US next week and will be addressing Congress as well as the United Nations. This People of Faith for Justice meeting will be an opportunity to reflect together on his message.

Meeting will be at SLO UCC, 11245 LOVR Road



**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. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays, 10am.

**LITLOVERS' BOOK CLUB** –  
Discussion and fellowship. 4<sup>th</sup>  
Saturdays 1pm in members' homes.

**LUNCH BUNCH** – lunchtime social  
gathering following church, 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Sundays at Celia's Garden Café.

**MEET ME IN MORRO** – lunchtime  
social gathering, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays  
at varying restaurants in Morro Bay.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** – morning  
social gathering, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. Mondays & Fridays  
9am-3pm Returning September 11

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

**POTLUCK AND PRADO** on the 1<sup>st</sup>  
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

*Proper 20: Sunday closest to September 21—Year B*

Welcome to our parish. In today's Gospel reading Jesus again predicts his death and resurrection. The disciples fail to understand and dispute among themselves which of them is the most important. Jesus tells them that the highest status in his kingdom is reserved for those who serve. This is a call to pattern our lives on his life in self-giving love.

Again we read from the Epistle of James. After describing the characteristics of those who are at peace with God, the author states that strife, jealousy, and estrangement are the products of allying ourselves with the world rather than with God.

When the Church gathers to worship, it acts out its allegiance to God and its service to the world. In the action of the liturgy we express our service to each other. That liturgical action is the pattern for our daily living as God's friends and as fellow servants with Christ to all people. The liturgy, then, is extended beyond the doors of the church building into all of life.

*From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year.  
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## St. Ben's Harvest Dinner Fundraisers

### October 2 and 3

On October 2 and 3, we will be having two Harvest Dinner fundraisers. In addition to the good food and beverage St. Benedict's is known for, these dinners will provide an intimate private home setting for great conversation and fun as each evening will be limited to eight participants. The October 2 dinner will be at John Cribb's home in SLO. The Los Osos home of Kevin and Judith Cadigan will be the location for October 3. John Cribb and Maria Kelly will prepare and host an experience not to be missed. The \$60 per person five course meal will feature Mushroom Bruschetta, Prosciutto and Sage Wrapped Sweet Potato Wedges, Butternut Squash and Green Apple Soup, Brussels Sprout Salad, Marinated Pork Tenderloin over Garlic Mashed Red Potatoes and Candied Pumpkin and Gingerbread Trifle. Wine pairings accompany each course. Don't delay in contacting Maria Kelly at 805.423.5331 or mmkelly66@gmail.com to hold your reservation.

## St. Ben's Annual Gratitude Dinner

### October 16

Once a year the Parish Council provides dinner for the whole parish. You don't have to do anything, just show up. This is our way of saying thank you for each other and for all that being part of St. Ben's means to us. Please put it on your calendar and plan to be there. We also extend a welcome to all the Abundance Shop volunteers who help us to provide excellent service and a face of God in the town!

The Memorial Service for Joann Rusch will be held on October 3 at 11am.

**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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