

Benediction Weekly

January 24, 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.



Annual Parish Meeting Next Sunday

At our Annual Parish Meeting we will hear reports from ministry areas, pass a budget for the year, elect parish council and vestry members and delegates to deanery and convention, and discuss plans for the year ahead. The meeting will be held immediately following the 10:30 service. It's actually quite fun and you are all encouraged to participate. Lunch is provided!

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, Jan 26

5:30 pm – Vespers & Potluck

Wednesday, Jan 27

10:00 am – Intercessory Prayer Circle
7:00 pm – Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Jan 28

10:00 am – Hollister Institute: *"Things Hidden"*

Saturday, Jan 30

9am-12pm – Great Room clear-out day

Sunday, Jan 31

8:00 am – Contemplative Communion Service
10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with music
12:00 noon – Annual Parish Meeting



*Today's Altar Flowers
have been given
in Memory of Susan Lucas,
beloved sister of Michael
and Ann Lucas.*



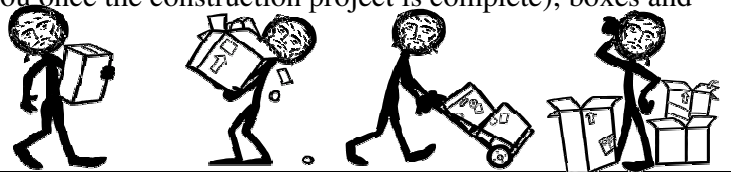
Today is Ministry Appreciation Day!

This is an opportunity for us to thank each and every person who contributes to the life of the part of the Body of Christ which we call St. Benedict's. Please take a moment today to thank those whose ministry, whether in cleaning, cooking, praying or serving in the Eucharist, touches your life.

It's time to clear out the Great Room!

All are welcome to the St. Ben's container loading party Saturday, January 30 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Please bring work gloves if you have them. You may work the entire three hours or any time that you can spare. Coffee and snacks will be provided and lunch will be provided at noon. Also, please bring if you have these items: shelving for stacking boxes in the container (to be returned to you once the construction project is complete); boxes and packing tape, hand trolleys and a pleasant disposition!

Contact Maria Kelly: mmkelly66@gmail.com
or call (805) 423-5331 for more information.



Lit Lovers' Book Club upcoming selections:

Feb – **Americanah** by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
Mar – **The Nightingale** by Kristin Hannah
Apr – **The Wright Brothers** by David McCullough

Don't forget to sign up for Ralph's community support program! At www.Ralphs.com you need to Log In (or Sign up if you haven't before.) Then go to My Account and at the bottom of the page you can enroll your card to support a particular charity. We are #83646 ST.BENEDICTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

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

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall; Preacher: The Rev. Barry Turner; Deacon: The Rev. Sharon Dalrymple;
Eucharistic Minister: Brian Spolarich; Chalice Bearer: Rob Ross; Lectors: Michael Lucas & Ann Lucas;
Ushers: Alan Kiste & Bill Hayes; Greeter: Joan Hayes; Altar Guild: Diana Hammerlund; Flowers: Pamela & Reva Strawn;
Coffee Hour Hosts: Judy Schloss & Connie Weldon; Tellers: Francis Rivinus & Bryson McKelvey;
Cantor: Steve Cake; Music Director: John Cribb **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.

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 Third Sunday after the Epiphany—Year C

Welcome to our parish. The season of Epiphany celebrates the manifesting of Christ in his ministry. Today we focus on his preaching the Good News of the Kingdom of God. Jesus did not simply tell about the Kingdom. He was and is the Kingdom, embodied. When he preached in his home synagogue for the first time, this was the theme. He reads Isaiah's passage foretelling the role of Messiah in bringing about the reign of God. Then he tells the people, "This day this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The first reading recounts that period in the fifth century B.C. when, as the central event in the reconstituting of Israel as God's Kingdom, Ezra the priest and others read the Word of God to all the people. Some scholars believe that this came about because of the final formulation of the Torah as the definitive written Word of God. That event established Judaism as the religion of the Book. It is in this event that the foundations were laid for the ministry of Jesus as the preacher and teacher of the Kingdom.

Christianity is not simply a message about what once happened. In baptism, we are empowered to join Christ in proclaiming the Good News to the whole world. That ministry of ours is Paul's concern as he uses the image of the human body with all its parts and organs—all of which are essential for it to function. In the same way, Paul tells us, each of us has an essential role in the Body of Christ. Each of us is baptized in order that each may be the fulfillment of the Kingdom now. In our celebration of Eucharist, we are built into that Body, so that God's salvation may be made manifest in us.

*From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year.
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LENT IS COMING. It's very early this year so make a note on your calendar now that St. Ben's annual Pizza Party will be after Vespers on February 9, and Ash Wednesday is February 10 with services at 12noon and 7pm.

Prepare for Lent with an Ecumenical Day of Retreat, Saturday, Feb 6th, at St. Timothy's Catholic Church in Morro Bay. "**Live Into Your Calling**" is open to all, and will be facilitated by Holly and Doug Culhane, whose initiative, Presence Point helps discover how shepherding others can transform our relationships at home, at work and in our communities. The retreat will run from 9a.m. to 3p.m, and the \$25 cost includes a light breakfast and lunch. To register, send your check to: Women's Guild, St. Timothy's Church, 962 Piney Way 93442. Or call Mary Romero (805) 772-7388 for info.



Quilting Bee at St. Benedict's ~ Saturday February 6th 10am to 4pm

Join the St. Ben's No Guilt Quilters for a fun day of sewing, knotting, and camaraderie at St. Ben's. Supplies and lunch provided. All are welcome. The quilts we make go to refugees worldwide, distributed by Lutheran World Relief <http://lwr.org/quilts> For more info, contact Pamela Bleisch Strawn: 805-602-1240 or pr.bleisch@gmail.com

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

Dec Income: \$ 15,066	Monthly Income Budgeted: \$ 11,128	Difference: \$ 3,938 surplus
YTD Income: \$ 146,540	YTD Income Budgeted: \$133,530	Difference: \$13,010 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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