

# Benediction Weekly

## October 23, 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.*



### *Healing Service Next Sunday*

There will be a time for special prayers for healing and for the laying-on of hands and anointing during the 10:30 service next week, St. Benedict's regularly has such a service on 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays. On other Sundays a member of the Intercessory Prayer Team is available for private prayers after the service.

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

##### **TODAY**

- 8:00 am – Contemplative Communion Service
- 9:20 am – Bible Study
- 10:30 am – Holy Eucharist w/music
- 4:00 pm – Sunday Session: *Amaris Laurette Taylor*

##### **Tuesday, Oct 25**

- 5:30 pm – Vespers, followed by potluck at 6:15
- 7:15 pm – Hollister Institute: Dietrich Bonhoeffer

##### **Wednesday, Oct 26**

- 10:00 am – Intercessory Prayer Circle

##### **Thursday, Oct 27**

- 10:00 am – Hollister Institute: Dietrich Bonhoeffer
- 7:00 pm – Choir Rehearsal

##### **Sunday, Oct 30**

- 8:00 am – Contemplative Communion Service
- 9:20 am – Bible Study
- 10:30 am – Holy Eucharist w/ Healing Service
- 4:00 pm – Sunday Session: *Talia Ortega*

#### Lit Lovers' Book Club's Next Selection:

The novel, **The Book of Salt**, by Monique Truong, serves up a wholly original take on Paris in the 1930s through the eyes of Binh, the Vietnamese cook employed by Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas. Viewing his famous mesdames and their entourage from the kitchen of their rue de Fleurus home, Binh observes their domestic entanglements while seeking his own place in the world. In a mesmerizing tale of yearning and betrayal, Monique Truong explores Paris from the salons of its artists to the dark nightlife of its outsiders and exiles. She takes us back to Binh's youthful servitude in Saigon under colonial rule, to his life as a galley hand at sea, to his brief, fateful encounters in Paris with Paul Robeson and the young Ho Chi Minh. Our discussion group meets December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1-3pm at the Cadigans' Join us!

#### **Hollister Institute – The Life and Writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

This DVD-based class on the major themes of the writings of the theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer continues on Tuesday evenings at 7:15 or Thursday mornings at 10. The conversations are being led by Caroline Hall+. Everyone is welcome, and participants can expect to be challenged with some new ideas about Christian community and our response to the Gospel. October 25 & 27: "Religionless Christianity"; November 1 & 3: "Come and Die"

#### **Bishops Support Proposition 62**

Episcopal bishops from all six dioceses in California have issued a statement supporting Proposition 62, which, if passed, would repeal the death penalty in the state. You can read their statement on the [Episcopal Digital Network](#) website. There is also a link to it on our own website, under "news."

*Amaris Laurette Taylor* will be featured today at 4pm in our ongoing series of "Sunday Sessions", a service of music and spiritual connection and reflection. Local singer-songwriter Amaris sings, fiddles and writes songs with the nomadic San Luis Obispo band, Zen Mountain Poets. She also has a successful solo career providing jazzy, bluesy music for fine dining establishments and wine bars.

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

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall; Eucharistic Minister: Diana Hammerlund; Chalice: Ann Edwards; Lectors: Michael Lucas & Tom Pickering; Ushers: Rob Ross & Esta Kandarian; Greeter: Margaret Fegan; Altar Guild: Sarah Chesebro; Flowers: Alice Welchert; Coffee Hour Hosts: Laura Thompson & Barbara Schippers; Tellers: Bryson McKelvey & June Wright; Intercessor: Louise Beeler; Music Director: John Cribb.



**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. 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.

**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.

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

**VESTRY / PARISH COUNCIL**  
3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

## STEWARDSHIP

Living as if the God in all things really matters and is a God of love is challenging. It's challenging because it's not the way most people around us live, and it's probably not the way we were brought up to live. In fact, it's so challenging that it requires constant awareness or mindfulness.

One of the big challenges is that we live in a world that believes we have to compete for goods and services; a world where everything is potentially a scarce resource, particularly love. We grew up with powerful messages that we need to look after ourselves and our families first, because if we didn't who will? And if we don't make sure we have enough, then other people will take more than their share.

The reign of God is quite different. The reign of God recognizes no scarcity. God's love fills all. In the reign of God, what we have is what we have already given. Generous, open hearted giving is what brings blessing, not hoarding things for ourselves. But it goes against the grain.

This is where tithing comes in. Having a conscious and regular practice of tithing our income - giving away 10% - sends a powerful message to our subconscious minds; the message that there is enough. We share God's love with others by sharing our time, our talents and our money. We proclaim God's love by sharing ourselves and all that we have.

10% is in some ways an arbitrary figure. It is the Biblical percentage, but we need not be bound by it. The practice of giving proportionally means that you have a simple way to see how much you have to give away. If you are tithing, when you get a payment of \$200, you give away \$20 and when you receive \$2000 you give away \$200. But you may want to put your toe in the water first and give away half of that - 5%. In which case, when you get \$200 you give away \$10. For some of us the 10% may be a minimum gift and we find that we want to give more than that.

There are a zillion non-profits competing for our tithes. It's up to you to decide where your money will best be used to address social injustices and to help those in need, as well as to support the organizations and faith communities of which you are part. Please consider St Benedict's as you decide how to use your money to bless the world and further the reign of God. Thank you.



El Camino Real's 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Diocesan Convention will be held Friday and Saturday, November 4 & 5 in Salinas. This year's theme will be "*Learning Together*." Please keep our delegation in your prayers. In addition to our clergy, our elected lay delegates are Rob Ross, Pamela Bleisch, and Diana Hammerlund. Our alternates are Bryson McKelvey & Lisa Gonzalez. Donna Ross has made quilted convention banners, which are being used for the first time this year.

### All Saints' Day Necrology

St. Benedict's will be observing All Saints' Day on Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. It is the tradition of the church that each year the names of parishioners and loved ones who have died are read as part of the Eucharist that day. If you would like a friend or loved one remembered, please give their names to Stef Shuman for inclusion in the bulletin by Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you would like their photos included in the remembrance please send digital files to [office@stbenslososos.org](mailto:office@stbenslososos.org) or leave a photo in an addressed envelope in Danna's box.

**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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