

Benediction Weekly

May 14, 2017

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.



Happy Mothers' Day!

We give thanks for all mothers, and for all those who nurture others, as with a mother's love.

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

Tuesday, May 16

5:30 pm – Vespers, followed by potluck supper

Wednesday, May 17

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

Thursday, May 18

10:00 am – Hollister Institute: Centering Prayer
4:00 pm – Dog Walkers meet at Baywood Pier
7:00 pm – Drop-in Dream Group

Saturday, May 20

Diocesan Spring Conference, Salinas

Sunday, May 21

8:00 am – Contemplative Communion Service
9:20 am – Bible Study
10:30 am – Holy Eucharist w/music
12:30 pm – Parish Council Meeting

Diocesan Spring Conference 10am – 3pm this Saturday in Salinas

Space is still available at the May 20 Diocesan Spring Conference at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Salinas. We're excited to welcome The Rev. Thomas Brackett, Manager for Church Planting & Mission Development for The Episcopal Church. Pay \$25 fee online, by mail, or at the door. Register now at:

<http://www.realepiscopal.org/event/spring-conference-2017-with-tom-brackett/>

Stephen Ministry

Judy Gilbert from St Barnabas visited us last month to talk about the Stephen Ministry. Stephen Ministers assist in pastoral care by walking alongside people who are experiencing challenging life situations such as bereavement or illness, usually meeting with them weekly. They are not only well trained but carefully supervised. The training which is 50 hours long will be starting soon. If the Holy Spirit is interesting you in this opportunity, please contact Caro+

Call for Mentors!

Some of you will remember that Sister Theresa of Restorative Partners spoke at St Ben's a couple of years ago about the work they are doing helping people in County Jail and Juvenile Hall to create new lives so that they can become fully functioning members of the community. Recently Restorative Partners opened two sober living houses (one for men, one for women) in Los Osos. These are primarily for people returning to the outside after a period in jail. It can be difficult to readjust to normal life, especially when being clean and sober means not being in touch with your old friends. Restorative Partners is looking for people who would be willing to create a friendship with one of these people, helping them integrate back into society in a whole new way. I am hopeful that if several members of St Ben's were to get involved in this way we might be able to develop an ongoing relationship with the two houses, perhaps sharing some social events, inviting them to church etc. If you think that God might be prompting you to get involved and you want more information, please let me know. Caro+

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

Celebrant: The Rev. Donna Ross; Preacher: Brian Spolarich; Eucharistic Ministers: Diana Hammerlund & Alan Kiste;
Lectors: John Horsley & Judy Schloss; Ushers: Margaret Fegan & Rob Ross;
Greeter: Marie Moore; Altar Guild: Stef Shuman; Flowers: Elaine Goodman;
Coffee Hour Hosts: Lisa Gonzalez & Connie Weldon; Tellers: June Wright & Alice Welchert;
Intercessor: Judy Schloss; Cantor: Anne Kanter; 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.

DOG WALKERS - Congregants & canine companions' constitutional - 4pm Thursdays at Baywood Pier.

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. 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 10am.

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

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

MEN'S BREAKFAST - morning social gathering, 2nd Saturdays 9am at Celia's Garden Café.

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
The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall, *Rector*
Anne Kanter, *Sr. Warden*
Rod Morse, *Jr. Warden*
Pamela Bleisch, Lisa Gonzalez,
Esta Kandarian, Barbara Schippers,
Francis Rivinus, and Kathie West.

An Introduction to Ken Wilbur: Thought As Passion

Saturday, June 3rd ~ 10am - 2pm

{Ken Wilbur will not be at this workshop; a discussion of his work will be led by Fr. Barry Turner.}

Ken Wilbur is the originator of the first truly comprehensive or integrative philosophy, aptly named Integral Theory. Seeking an encyclopedic integral perspective, he draws together myriad diverse and often competing strands of the natural and social sciences, philosophy, religion and spirituality into a visionary worldview.

His work is important to us at St Benedict's as we work to create a language for our faith which is true to the tradition but incorporates contemporary understandings of spirituality and symbolism and honors the divine in Creation.

Please RSVP to carltonba@gmail.com if you plan to attend. There is no charge but we'll share a potluck lunch. If you would like to read one of Ken Wilber's books in preparation, a good first read is his popular volume, *A Brief History of Everything*, Shambhala, 1996

A Thinking Person's Guide to the Bible

7pm Thursdays, starting June 1st

This five week class will cover the background and context of all the major books of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. The first three classes will focus on the Old Testament and the last two on the New. No reading is required but you may enjoy "Reading the Bible Again for the First Time" by Marcus Borg. Led by Caro+

2017 St. Barnabas' Lecture Series Theme: Biblical Spirituality

May 18

*Searching for the Divine in Writing:
The Biblical Spirituality of the Early Church*
Presented by Stephen Lloyd-Moffett

May 25

Ruth, the Moabitess: A Remarkable Woman
Presented by Robert Taylor

The St. Barnabas' Lecture Series features presentations by academics who use their expertise to offer informative, thought-provoking talks on issues and problems that are of interest to reflective Christians but which are usually not addressed in typical church services.

6:30 - 8:00 p.m. at St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church 301 Trinity Avenue, Arroyo Grande

For more information, see our bulletin board or contact rob.stbarnabas@gmail.com



Please support Canterbury Club with your tax-deductible donation. You may send checks made payable to "SLO Canterbury" to 1344 Nipomo Street, SLO CA 93401 or you may contribute via PayPal at www.paypal.me/CanterburySLO. Thank you!

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

April Income: \$ 10,801	Monthly Income Budgeted: \$ 12,989	Difference: (\$ 2,188) shortfall
YTD Income: \$ 58,610	YTD Income Budgeted: \$ 51,957	Difference: \$ 6,653 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. 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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