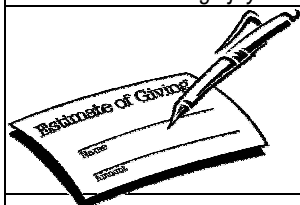


Benediction Weekly

November 8, 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.



Today is **In-gathering Sunday** when we turn in our financial pledges for 2016. Cards were mailed to your home this week, and will also be available at the church. If you cannot be at church today, please mail in your card or return it as soon as possible.

Thank you!

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
12:30 pm – Lunch Bunch at Celia's Garden Café

Monday, Nov 9

8:30am-3:30pm – Nature Academy

Tuesday, Nov 10

5:30 pm – Vespers
6:15 pm – Potluck

Wednesday, Nov 11

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

Thursday, Nov 12

11:00 1m – Green Group

Friday, Nov 13

8:30am-3:30pm – Nature Academy

Saturday, Nov 14

9:00 am – Men's Breakfast at Sea Pines Grill
5:30 pm – Evening Eucharist

Sunday, Nov 15

8:00 am – Contemplative Communion Service
10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with music
12:00 pm – *Special Parish Meeting*
3:00 pm – Noach Tangeras Concert – PFJ

Special Parish Meeting Next Sunday

As you have heard in the Benediction newsletter and the letter Caro+ sent this week, there will be a special Parish Meeting next Sunday, on November 15. so that we can listen together for God's guidance about the generous gift we have been given and think about how we will best use it in our mission and ministry. Please plan to attend. Lunch will be provided. The meeting will be over by 1:30pm. Caro+ will be joining us.

Practice Lectio Divina this Advent

Advent speaks to us about living in God's Kingdom with a different story about time. It's a story larger than our own lives, beyond optimism or pessimism. It's been called a future or an "eschatology of eventfulness." It is a way of being attentive to our inner lives and at the same time seeing all creation alive, in the rhythm of reality and promise. Reality is anything that happens at any moment. The change which comes to us moment to moment is a gift. We are invited to receive these moments as events worthy of our loving and a challenge for our living. Accept the moment with thanksgiving and trust the promise that it is a gift from God. It points and carries us into God's future. Advent reminds us to pray for strength to do what is necessary to fill the present with faithfulness and with genuine waiting for God. An opportunity for contemplative reflection upon several of the scripture texts appointed for Advent will be offered again this year at St. Benedict's on Thursday mornings, Dec. 3, 10 and 17 following the first three Sundays of Advent, at 10 am. We will follow the practice of Lectio Divina, the contemplative reading of scripture. The sessions will be jointly led by the Rev. Donna Ross and the Rev. Barry Turner.

The second meeting of the **Green Group** will take place on Thursday November 12 at 11am. Everyone is welcome to join this group which will be helping members to tackle the burning issue of climate change on many levels - personal, practical and political. For more information talk to Joe Morris, Bob Pelfrey or Alice Welchert.

"Noach Tangeras: A Voice For Climate"

Fundraising Concert for People of Faith for Justice - 3pm Sunday, November 15th at St Ben's

Noach Tangeras is a singer/songwriter acoustic guitar player. Her Americana-style band has strong roots in folk, country, blues, and rock. Her power-house vocals might leave you thinking of some names like Janis Joplin, Patsy Cline, or Joss Stone as she sings out about the issue of Climate Change. Tickets \$15 <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2370901>

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

Celebrant: The Rev. Barry Turner; Preacher: The Rev. Donna Ross; Deacon: The Rev. Sharon Dalrymple;
Eucharistic Ministers: Bob Pelfrey & John Horsley; Lectors: Joan Hayes & Ann Lucas; Ushers: Michael Lucas & Bill Hayes;
Greeter: Joan Hayes; Altar Guild: Sarah Chesebro; Flowers: Bryson McKelvey;
Coffee Hour Hosts: Elaine Goodman and Rod & Charlene Morse;
Tellers: Bryson McKelvey & June Wright; 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.

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. Mon & Fri 830-330

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

Proper 27: Sunday closest to November 9—Year B

Welcome to our parish. As we approach the end of the church year, our readings from the Gospel of Mark deal with the final days of Jesus' ministry. In that period, Jesus was in direct conflict with the religious leaders in Jerusalem. In today's passage Jesus contrasts the simple faith of a poor widow, expressed by her generous giving, with the show of religiosity put on by the scribes and the rich.

The first reading today is one of the stories of the prophet Elijah. In a time of famine, the generosity of a poor widow who shared with Elijah the tiny bit of food she had left is rewarded by God.

The passage from Hebrews, which we are reading through at this time, deals with the eternal nature of Jesus' priesthood. Unlike the symbolic sacrifices of the old priesthood, Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and his resurrection and ascension has made him uniquely able to take away the sin of the world for all time.

The people of God in every age have gathered in the Eucharist to respond to salvation in generous and loving ministry to each other and the world. Made part of Jesus' own sacrifice in baptism, we are joined with his sacrifice in the Eucharist. Thus, our own sacrifices, like those of the two poor widows, are given the eternal significance of Jesus' own dying and rising. What is lacking in us through our own imperfection is made perfect in Christ.

*From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year.
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THANKSGIVING DINNER at St. Ben's

Please consider joining us for our Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday November 26th at 1pm. This is always a fun occasion with friends and family. Please look for a sign-up sheet to let us know what you will bring. If you have questions please ask Deacon Sharon.



JAZZ CONCERT at St. James'

The 7th annual Music For The Soul fundraiser at St. James Episcopal Church in Paso Robles is coming up: Sunday, November 15, 5 to 7 P.M. Renowned jazz performer **Dawn Lambeth** will perform a benefit concert supporting Loaves and Fishes, The Food Bank, and St. James' at Studios On the Park, 1130 Pine Street, Paso Robles, CA . There are two options for tickets, the \$50 ticket includes wine and appetizers during the evening. The \$125 ticket price includes the concert, followed by a multi-course dinner with wine (and tax but not tip) at one of our three sponsor restaurants: *Il Cortile* 608 12th Street -- *Chico's Seafood Cafe* 834 11th Street -- or *Paso Terra* 1032 Pine Street.
For tickets, call St. James' office: (805) 238-0819.

Caro+ will be on furlough from November 2 through December 3

During her absence, please contact Celeste Pennington with pastoral care & prayer chain requests, 771-8974; for small building issues please contact Danna at the church office 528-0654; call Senior Warden Maria Kelly with all other church business, 423-5331. For counsel & spiritual care call any of the assisting clergy: Mary Elizabeth, 528-7497; Donna Ross, 235-5117; Barry Turner, 784-0670; or Sharon Dalrymple, (210) 422-8284.