

Benediction Weekly

December 10, 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.



A Celebration of Carols – Holiday Concert

Saturday, December 16, 3:00 pm

Join the St Benedict Singers and musicians, directed by John Cribb, in a special afternoon celebration of carols. Everyone is welcome and there is no charge for admission.

This week at St. Benedict's

(at the church unless otherwise specified)

TODAY

8:00 am – Contemporary Communion Service
9:20 am – Bible Study
10:30 am – Holy Eucharist w/ music

Tuesday, Dec 12

5:30 pm – Vespers, followed by potluck
7:00 pm – Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, Dec 13

2:30 pm – Earthcare Meeting
7:00 pm – Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Dec 14

6:30 pm – Parish Council Meeting

Saturday, Dec 16

3:00 pm – Celebration of Carols Holiday Concert

Sunday, Dec 17

8:00 am – Contemporary Communion Service
9:20 am – Bible Study
10:30 am – Holy Eucharist w/ music
6:30 pm – Blue Christmas service

People of Faith for Justice invites you to...

Opening Doors of Interfaith Understanding

Monday, December 11th at 7:30 p.m.

We will meet for the first time at Nativity of Our Lady Parish, 221 Daly Avenue, San Luis Obispo. Rabbi Linda Bertenthal of Congregation Beth David will lead a discussion of *Moral Grandeur and Spiritual Audacity* by Abraham Joshua Giroux. She will focus on the following essays: "To Be a Jew: What is it?"; "No Time for Neutrality"; "The Reasons for My Involvement in the Peace Movement"; "No Religion is an Island." In addition, Dr. Hisham Assal of the Mosque of Nasreen will discuss the meaning and significance of the Muslim New Year celebration.

Poinsettias for Christmas

If you would like to honor a loved one by contributing for Christmas poinsettias, you may use the envelopes on the Sign-up board to indicate the wording of your dedication (as in memory, thanksgiving, or honor.) Please print clearly. Suggested contribution \$10 ea. Please place envelope in offering plate. Donors may take home poinsettias after Christmas Season.



Volunteers are still needed for some areas of ministry at the services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Please see the Sign-up board.

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

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall; Preacher: The Rev. Donna Ross; Eucharistic Minister: Bryson McKelvey;
Chalice Bearer: Judy Schloss; Lectors: Tom Pickering & Judy Schloss;
Ushers: Rob Ross & Lisa Gonzalez; Greeter: Joan Hayes; Altar Guild: Sarah Chesebro & Michelle Frazier;
Coffee Hour Hosts: Karin Cake & Diana Hammerlund; Tellers: Alice Welchert & Steve Cake; Intercessor: Judy Schloss;
Music Director: John Cribb **Thank you all for your service!**



**On-Going
Activities
at St. Ben's**

BIBLE STUDY – Sundays at 9:20 am

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.


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 Sundays at 12:30pm
The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall, Rector
Anne Kanter, Sr. Warden,
Pamela Bleisch, Lisa Gonzalez,
Esta Kandarian, Barbara Schippers,
Francis Rivinus, Kathie West

December Prado special requests: 
Hot instant cereal, paper bowls & spoons. For gift cards and donations, see Alice Welchert.

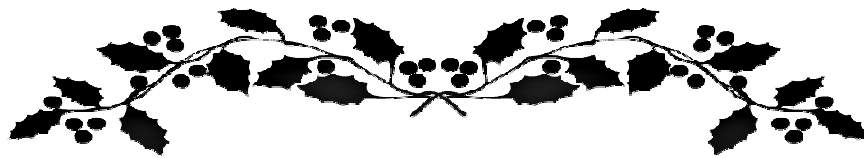
Office Workspace

Please remember that the front office is Danna's work area and do not leave things there with no explanation. If you want to leave something for another member to pick up please tape a note to it, leave it on top of the mail slots, and let the other person know. Things left in Danna's office with no information will go into the Lost and Found and from there to the Abundance Shop.

Thank you for your understanding.

Rector's Discretionary Fund

The Rector's Discretionary Fund (RDF) is used to help people in need (think rent, utilities, gas money, food) and occasionally to cover expenses that are not in the Operating Fund. Cash put in the collection plate on the 4th Sunday of the month goes into the RDF but that's usually about \$150 and requests each month exceed that amount. Please consider making an extra gift to boost the fund which is now down to a minimum. *Thank you!*



Christmastide at St. Benedict's

6:30 pm Sunday, December 17: Blue Christmas Service

“Blue Christmas” is a simple non-denominational service providing an opportunity to hear the Christmas story focused on the hope and the comfort it brings to those in sorrow and difficulty. Participants are invited to stay for refreshment and conversation after the service.

8:00 am Sunday, December 24: Contemplative Communion [4th Sunday of Advent]

This quiet, informal service includes time for silent reflection on the Bible Readings. We share together our questions and insights about the readings. There are no hymns and the prayers use contemporary language.

10:30 am Sunday, December 24: Service of Lessons and Carols [4th Sunday of Advent]

Based on the traditional service from Kings' College, Cambridge, a succession of Bible lessons leading up to the birth of Jesus are read, interspersed with choir anthems and congregational singing.

4:30 pm Sunday, December 24: Carols Around the Crèche [Christmas Eve]

A communion service with crèche and carols, suitable for all the family.

8:00 pm Sunday, December 24: Festival Christmas Eucharist [Christmas Eve]

It's our most popular service of the year. Come and celebrate the birth of the Christ child in a beautifully decorated church among friends. Enjoy the magic of Christmas carols, readings and the mystery of Holy Communion. *(Carol singing starts at 7:45)*

10:00 am Monday, December 25: Christmas Day Celebration

A Quiet Communion service, followed by Brunch.

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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