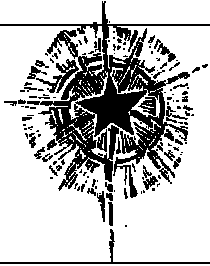


Benediction Weekly

December 30, 2018

The people of St. Benedict's are called to share God's love as we minister with and to all persons in Los Osos and beyond, providing worship, education, nurture, fellowship and service.



Epiphany Star Party - Saturday, January 5th, 6:30 pm

It's Epiphany, Twelfth Day of Christmas, Old Christmas, and ... a good excuse for a party! Bring a dish to share and a twig from your Christmas tree to burn in our 12th Night fire. We'll take down all the church's decorations, bless the doorways with the mark of Melchior, Caspar and Balthazar, and crown the Kings or Queens of Epiphany. Take home a "Star Word" for a special focus to inspire you in 2019!

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 Communion with Healing Service

Monday, Dec 31 RECTOR'S SABBATH

Tuesday, Jan 1

5:30 pm – Vespers of the New Year,
 followed by potluck supper
 7:00 pm – Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, Jan 2

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

Saturday, Jan 5

6:30 pm – ★ Star Party ★

Sunday, Jan 6 FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

No 8 am Service
 9:20 am – Bible Study
 10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with music,
 followed by potluck lunch:
A-G Main dish; **H-R** Dessert; **S-Z** Salad & bread

St. Benedict's Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 27, following the 10:30 service

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. It's actually quite fun and you are all encouraged to participate... lunch is provided!

Ministry Reports - If you are involved with one of the many parish ministry areas at St. Ben's, please submit a written synopsis of activities for the past year to Danna for inclusion in the Annual Report to be distributed at the meeting.

Parish Elections - We will once again be electing people to serve as Vestry members, Parish Council members, and delegates to deanery and diocese. If you think God is calling you to serve in one of these ways, or you would just like more information, please contact one of the Nominations Committee members: Esta Kandarian or Barbara Schippers, or speak with the Rector.

Expect to receive a mutual ministry review questionnaire in January, in preparation for the Parish Meeting

A Quiet Morning of Art and Meditation

Saturday, February 2nd 9:30—12:30

During this time of quiet reflection we will use the words of a poem to draw us deeper into contemplative connection with our inner selves and then continue the journey with paint and crayon. No artistic experience or ability is needed. Everyone is welcome. Led by Bob Pelfrey and the Rev. Caroline Hall

Los Osos Community Dinner

Monday, January 7th, at 5 pm at TUMC

Food and servers are still needed for the Community Dinner program at Trinity United Methodist Church on Jan 7. These free dinners bless guests who need help putting food on the table and all those who hunger for community. Look for the sign-up sheets on the clipboard.

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

Officiant: The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall; Deacon: The Rev. Sharon Dalrymple; Eucharistic Minister: Lorianne Schwenk; Chalice Bearer: Esta Kandarian; Lectors: Bryson McKelvey & Diana Hammerlund; Ushers: Michael Lucas & Connie Weldon; Greeters: Ann Edwards (*pre*) & Lorianne Schwenk (*post*); Altar Guild: Michelle Frazier (*8am*) Judy Schloss (*1030*); Flowers: Lynn Wise; Coffee Hour Hosts: Barbara Schippers, Suzan Vaughn & Pat Henry; Tellers: Steve Cake & Alice Welchert; Piano: Brian Stein-Webber; Flute: Ann Kanter; Violin: Lorianne Schwenk; Music Director: John Cribb **Thank you for your service!**



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

ABUNDANCE SHOP– Thrift shop at 2025 9th St. Tues- Sat 10am-4pm.

BIBLE STUDY – Sundays at 9:20 am

COMMUNITY DINNER – Providing and serving food at Trinity UMC, on 1st Monday of odd-numbered months in conjunction with Los Osos Cares.

EARTHCARE – 2nd Weds 2:30 pm. Discussion/action group seeking local solutions to environmental concerns.

HEALING SERVICE – a time for prayers for healing at the 10:30 service on 5th Sundays.

HOLLISTER INSTITUTE –Varying programs of stimulating discussion and thoughtful exploration for everyone. See website.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER CIRCLE Prayers for the community and the world. 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 10am.

LAUNDRY LOVE - 5-9pm on 4th Wednesdays at Osos Clean Laundry, helping low-income families with funds, soap, and friendly assistance.

MEN'S BREAKFAST – morning social gathering, 2nd Saturdays 9am at Sea Pines Grill.

MESSY CHURCH - Sunday morning worship geared towards young children and busy families. 2nd & 4th Sundays in the Great Room

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.

SATURDAY EUCHARIST - Evening Eucharist on 2nd Saturdays at 5:30pm, followed by potluck supper.

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

VESTRY / PARISH COUNCIL
3rd Sundays at 12:30pm
The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall, *Rector*
Pamela Bleisch Strawn, *Sr. Warden*,
Michael Lucas, *Jr. Warden*,
Lisa Gonzalez, *Treasurer*,
Diana Hammerlund, Alan Kiste,
Esta Kandarian, Barbara Schippers,
Lorienne Schwenk, Lynn Wise

The Presiding Bishop's Christmas Message - 2018

In the third chapter of John's Gospel, Jesus says at one point, "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that all who believe in him should not perish but have everlasting life."

For years, I've often thought that that passage only referred to Jesus giving his life as a sacrifice on the cross. And to be sure, that is part of what it means. But some years ago I was reading a commentary by Raymond Brown, on the Gospel of John, and Professor Brown said that that passage not only speaks of Jesus willingly giving his life on the cross, but it actually speaks of Christmas, of God giving his very self, his very son to the world, not for anything God could get out of it, but for the good and the welfare and the well-being of the world. Of us.

Someone once said, in a Christmas poem, "Love came down at Christmas." That's what love is. To give, and not to count the cost. To give, not for what one can get, but for what the other can receive. That's what love is. God so loved the world, that he gave.

I realized recently how powerful that passage really is, when I saw an old poster from 1938. A poster produced by the Episcopal Church at that time, to encourage Episcopalians and other Christians, and other people of faith and good will, to do whatever they could to help Jewish refugees fleeing tyranny in Europe. To help people from all over Europe seeking refuge in America, this land of freedom. The poster depicts Mary, Joseph, and the baby Jesus. They're fleeing persecution in Palestine, as Matthew's Gospel says. And the poster depicting Mary, Joseph, and Jesus says in the tag line, "In the name of these refugees, help all refugees."

God so loved the world, that he gave, even to the point of risking his own son. And in the name of those refugees, in the name of that Jesus, help all refugees, all people who suffer, anyone who's alone, everyone who is in need. That's what love does. Love came down at Christmas, because God so loved the world, that he gave.

Have a blessed Christmas. Have a merry Christmas. Have a joyful Christmas. God love you, God bless you, and may God hold us all in those almighty hands of love.

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry Presiding Bishop and Primate The Episcopal Church

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Sundays:
Contemplative Communion 8a (except 1st Sun)
Bible study 920a
Holy Eucharist with Music 1030a

Weekly Events:

Mondays: Rector's Sabbath
Tuesdays: Vespers 530p + Potluck 615p
Wednesdays: Choir Rehearsal 7p

JANUARY 2019 HIGHLIGHTS AT ST. BENEDICT'S

- 1 -Vespers of the New Year, 530p
- 2 -Intercessory Prayer Circle, 10a
- 5 -Epiphany Star Party, 630p
- 6 -Potluck Lunch, 12p
- 7 -Community Dinner at TUMC, 5p
- 7 -Active Hope discussion group, 630p
- 9 -EarthCare Meeting, 230p
- 12 -Men's Breakfast at Budget Café, SLO, 9a
- 12 -Saturday Evening Eucharist, 530p
- 13 -Messy Church family worship, 930a
- 13 -Parish Council Mtg, 1215p
- 16 -Intercessory Prayer Circle, 10a
- 21 -Active Hope discussion group, 630p
- 23 -Laundry Love at Osos Clean Laundry, 5p
- 27 -Messy Church family worship, 930a
- 29 -Healing Ministry Meeting, 3p



Keeping in Touch during the Week. Contact any of the clergy for counsel & spiritual care:

The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall (805)704-5826; The Rev. Barry Turner (805)784-0670; The Rev. Faye Hogan (805)541-4595

Call Celeste Pennington with pastoral care & prayer chain requests: (805)771-8974

St. Benedict's Episcopal Church - 2220 Snowy Egret Lane – PO Box 6877, Los Osos, CA 93412

Church Office Hours Tues through Thurs 9:30am to 12:30pm ~ Parish Administrator Danna Dykstra-Coy:

office@stbenslososos.org Telephone: (805)528-0654 www.stbenslososos.org