



St. Benedict Catholic Church



Parish House:
11625 Falcon Highway, Falcon, Colorado 80831
719/495-1426 www.stbenedictfalcon.org

D e c e m b e r 1 1 , 2 0 1 1
Third Sunday of Advent

Our Parish Mission

To be a welcoming Catholic parish reaching out to those who are searching for a Community of faith.

To strengthen the spiritual life of all by witnessing the gospel, passing on our Catholic beliefs, and serving those in need.

Welcome Newcomers/Visitors

We invite you to register by completing the blue Registration form, found on the information table just outside of the worship area.

Sacramental preparation

Baptisms: Contact Deacon Lynn at 495-1426 to schedule a Preparation Seminar.
marriages: Please call the Parish House at least 12 months before the wedding date to begin preparation.

Anointing the Sick: Contact Parish House, or in case of emergency call Holy Apostles Parish, 597-4249.

Office Hours

Regular business hours at the Parish House are Tuesday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Deacon Lynn is on call at any time at 237-6677. The Blessed Sacrament Chapel, in the Parish House is available during business hours for prayer and reflection. Meeting rooms are also available for parish use.

Mass Cancellations

To find out if Mass is cancelled due to severe weather, please call the parish phone number, 495-1426, or visit our parish web site, www.stbenedictfalcon.org

One you do not recognize

In today's Gospel we are told about John the Baptist being questioned by the Jewish religious leaders. They wanted to know who did John say he was. The Baptizer told them who he was not. More importantly he told them there was one among them that they did not recognize who was greater than him – the prophesized Lord for whom we should make straight the path.

We know that the one prophesized is Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God. We also know that Jesus came into the world to dwell with us, fully human and fully divine, so that we might have eternal life. The path to salvation is made straight by complete love of God and love of our neighbor.

As we approach the celebration of Christ's birth, we are called to serve, love, and forgive as necessary, the one we do not yet recognize as Jesus among us. They may be a total stranger or our closest friend. They could be the one we care for the most or our worst enemy. In them, with God's grace, we just might see the Light.

-Deacon Lynn

Mass Schedule

Mass is celebrated at 8:30 a.m. Sunday at the Patriot Learning Cntr (the old "Falcon Middle School") 11990 Swingline Road

Reconciliation

Available every Sunday at 8 a.m. Parish Rosary, Each Wednesday, 10 a.m. at the Parish House

Mass Intention

This Mass is being offered for the intentions of Robert Furr (Grandfather of Nicole Meier)

Offertory/Attendance

December 4 \$2353.50 /178
Offertory Validators
December:
Pedro Gonzalez, Phil Hoyle

Today's Readings

December 11, 2011
Is 61:1-2a, 10-11
1 Thes 5:16-24
Gospel Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Next Sunday's Readings

December 18, 2011
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Rom 16:25-27
Lk 1:26-38

Readings for the Week:

Mon: Zec 2:14-17, Lk 1:26-38
Tues: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13, Mt 21:28-32
Wed: Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25, Lk 7:18b-23
Thurs: Is 54:1-1, Lk 7:24-30
Fri: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8, Jn 5:33-36
Sat: Gn 49:2, 8-10, Mt 1:1-17

Parish News and Events

December 2011, Offertory

1st Sunday 2nd Sunday 3rd Sunday 4th Sunday 5th Sunday
\$2353.50

For detailed information on our parish financials, go to the Finance Council page on the St. Benedict web site.

The Parish Development Steering Committee is hosting our second of three Town Hall Meetings for after Mass this morning. This meeting, in the cafeteria, will be to present and discuss our proposal to the Bishop to purchase property in the immediate Falcon area. This session is a continuation of last week's PowerPoint presentation, and will give everybody an opportunity for questions and answers about the plan.

The handout from the first Town Hall meeting is enclosed in today's bulletin.

Next Sunday, Dec. 18th, we will continue our parish dialogue about the proposal, and answer questions and concerns raised by everyone. We don't want to leave anyone out; especially our R. E. Catechist who almost every week spend their time teaching our children after Mass. You don't want to miss it. Your input is needed and important!

Christmas Sunday

This is the first time St. Benedict Parish will celebrate Christmas on a Sunday. Mass on Dec. 25th will be at 8:30 am. (Unfortunately, due to a lack of an available priest, we will not be able to have a Christmas eve Mass.)

Everyone is invited to bring their Poinsettias and place them around the altar to add to our Christmas decorations. They will be blessed during Mass so that they can be taken home afterwards to bring God's blessing to your family celebration of Christ's birth.

The new Translation of the Mass prayers

To assist everyone with the new translation of the prayers used during Mass, a Prayers and Responses "pew card" will be placed on every seat in our worship space. The actual word changes in the prayers are in bold print. At the end of Mass, everyone is asked to pass the cards to the center isle so that they can be more easily pickup for use next Sunday.

"Our Resolution, Our Marriage" Seminar

Here's a great New Year resolution for married Catholic couples seeking a stronger, learner, more attractive relationship – the Our Resolution, Our Marriage Seminar. This mildly interactive program is all about what makes a Catholic marriage unique, fulfilling and possible. Topics include the parent center home, Christ and his bride, and living life with meaning.

Limited to ten couples, the O.R.O.M. Seminar will take place Saturday, January 14th, 10:00 am to 2:00pm, at the St. Benedict Parish House. For more information, or to sign up, contact Deacon Lynn at 495-1426. (It's a first come, first served kind-of-thing.)

From the pages of the **Catechism of the Catholic Church** can be found each week at the bottom of the back page of this Bulletin. This week's topic is:
Human Solidarity

Advent Penance 2011

OLP, Dec 14 at 7 pm
Divine Redeemer, Dec 15 at 7 pm
(Parish)
St. Peter's, Dec 20 at 6 pm
St. Gabriel's, Dec 21 at 7 pm

Parish Calendar

December 11
Third Sunday of Advent
Parish Town Hall Meeting following
Mass, PLC Cafeteria

December 13
Pastoral Council Meeting, 7p, PH

December 14
Wednesday Rosary, 10a, PH
Knights of Columbus Monthly
Meeting, 7p, Parish House

December 17
Eucharistic Adoration, 12—4p,
Parish House

December 18
Fourth Sunday of Advent
No RE Classes—Christmas Break
Parish Town Hall Meeting following
Mass, PLC Cafeteria

December 21
Wednesday Rosary, 10a, PH

December 22
Choir Practice, 7p, Parish House.

Parish News and Events

House Blessing

If you would like to have your home blessed, call Deacon Lynn at the Parish House, 495-1426

A Transition from Gathering/Welcoming to a Time of Quiet Preparation

Five to ten minutes before the beginning of Mass, the Altar Servers will be asked to light the candles on the altar. We are invited to use this symbol as a call to settle ourselves in the worship space and join in a few minutes of quiet just before we begin the celebration of the Eucharist.

Pastoral Council Meetings

All parishioners are invited to attend these meetings and participate in the discussions. These meetings are scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month at 7 pm.



Faith Conversations

Several couples in the parish have recently been meeting to listen to audio recordings by some of the best Catholic speakers in the country. They use their time together to deepen their understanding of the faith by discussing what they learn. These couples would like to invite all the adults in the parish to join in the Faith Conversation sessions.

To make it possible for moms and dads to attend without the need for a sitter for the kids, they have been alternating their gatherings – one Tuesday the guys meet, the next Tuesday the ladies meet. Right now the gatherings are in a room at the Falcon Library, Highway 24 and Meridian.

If you might be interested in hearing the best in current Catholic teachings (the Sacraments, apologetics, and faith questions you have always wanted to know about) contact Kim Dolan at 495-8233.

R.C.I.A. (The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

Would you like to become Catholic? Would you just like to understand the Catholic Church a little better. As a baptized Catholic, would you like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation? Then RCIA is for you.

In January, St. Benedict will host a series of information sessions for those interested in going through the RCIA process. No obligation, no commitment necessary. Come with your questions and concerns. Catholic answers provided free of charge.

The St. Benedict Parish Job Line

Are you looking for work? Are you, or your employer, looking for dedicated employees to fill positions at your business? If so, call the St. Benedict Job Line – (719) 495-1426.

Our parish tries to link those in need of a job with those hiring. Call and simply give your contact information and what you are looking for. In turn, we will provide that information to those who might be able to fill your need.

If you are not in either of these categories, please share the St. Benedict Job Line number with somebody you know who is.

Saturday Al-Anon Meetings

Are you troubled by someone's drinking? Is your life affected by someone else's drinking? Find strength and hope by attending an Al-Anon meeting for friends and family of drinkers. Meeting each Saturday at 9AM - St Benedict Parish House – 11625 Falcon Hwy, Falcon CO 80831 Or call Michelle at 499-3427 or Mike at 229-6304

The Use of Kneelers: Use/Return

When we have Mass in the gym, it is optional to stand during the Eucharistic prayers because we don't have pews with kneelers. Realizing that some would like to kneel in reverence during this part of the Mass, the Champlin family has made up a bunch of cloth covered foam kneelers for everyone's use. The kneelers will be near the corner by the holy water table before Mass. Please use and return as you need.

Father Paul's Ponderings

Third Sunday of Advent

REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS; AGAIN I SAY, REJOICE. THE LORD IS NEAR!

Today is “rejoice” Sunday, in Latin: “Gaudete Sunday”. We rejoice because the “the Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me! “

Each of us can say this with faith! In our mother’s womb we were anointed! At our baptism the Holy Trinity confirmed our anointing “in the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit!” And as we grew in our faith, we received the Sacraments of Christ’s love in the power of the Holy Spirit: Reconciliation, Confirmation, Communion and then the Sacraments of Service: Matrimony, Deaconate or Priesthood.

Each of us, no matter in which stage of life we find ourselves, can say “I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation and wrapped in in a mantle of justice, like a bridegroom adorned with a diadem, like a bride bedecked with her jewels,....”(Isaiah 61:1-11).

We who believe in Christ are called to bring this Joy into our world! We are called to accept our calling, to believe that we are the Christmas gift in Christ and to give our joy, our light, our hope to all around us!

Can you believe that there are merchants, chains of stores in our nation who are not allowing their employees to say: “Merry Christmas” to customers? And some chains are even renaming their decorations without “Christmas” appearing on the merchandise!

May we announce with joy the joy of Christmas! And allow the Spirit to shine from within!

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! Indeed the Lord is near!”

The festive color of the priest’s chasuble is ROSE...A FESTIVE SIGN OF JOY AND HOPE... Remember the Christmas Carol “Lo How a Rose e’er Blooming!” May Christ bloom in us!

May we in honor of our Blessed Mother’s feast day, Our Lady of Guadalupe, bring many Roses of Joy to all who doubt the presence of Her Son, Jesus!!

Yes, with our Joy we can bring Him near to anyone in darkness!

A blessed, merry, happy Christmas to you all!!

Religious Education (RE) / Youth

K-2nd Grade: Patriot Learning Center, will take place 10 minutes after the end of Mass for 1 hour.

3rd-7th grade: Parish House, will start 20 minutes after the end of mass for 1 hour.

Confirmation: Parish House, will start 20 minutes after the end of mass for 1 hour.

Once again, in addition to religious holidays, we will parallel the District 49 schedule of school breaks. Tuition for these classes is \$40.00 per child, with a maximum of \$100.00 per family.

Dec. 4: Childrens Participatory Mass

Dec. 18: No Class, Christmas Break

Dec. 25: No Class, Christmas Break

Jan. 1: No Class



On-Going Diocesan Events

Young Adult Sunday Night Mass

Young adults are welcome to come and celebrate Mass at St. Dominic Catholic Church, in Security, every 4th Sunday of the month at 7 pm. Come meet other Young Adults from around the diocese. For more information, contact Kathy Bull at 866-6448, bull@diocs.org.

Theology on Tap

Theology on Tap meets the second Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at TGI Friday's, in Colorado Springs. For more information, contact Kathy Bull at 719-866-6448 or kbull@diocs.org.



Colorado's Catholic Radio Station

KFEL – 970AM

Authentic Catholic teachings and inspirational radio programming.

News from the Diocese

Today's Second Collection – Retirement Fund for Religious

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The Bishops of the United States are appealing to Catholics across the nation to contribute to a special collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious on December 10/11, 2011. In 2010, while visiting a senior-care facility, our Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI noted, "Indeed, the provision of care for the elderly should be considered not so much an act of generosity as the repayment of a debt of gratitude." This collection gives us an opportunity to honor and thank thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests for their faithful service.

Today, many religious communities struggle to care for their elderly members. Sky-rocketing health-care costs and decreased income make it increasingly difficult to provide necessary medications, nursing care, and basic services.

I recognize this is but one of numerous worthy causes in need of support and that many in our own community face financial difficulties. I ask you simply to give what you can. In thanksgiving for all that senior religious have done, please join me in supporting the Retirement Fund for Religious and in praying for God's continued blessing on our nation's elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

Sincerely yours in Christ

Most Reverend Michael J. Sheridan
Bishop of Colorado Springs

Working to promote vocations....

The Serra Club is a group of men and women who pray and work for vocations to the priesthood and the consecrated life. Our local club is very active. They are looking for more members to assist in their good work. If you are interested in being a part of this important apostolate, please call Dave O'Keeffe at 447.1999 for more information.

Catholic Singles (age 35-60)

We will be going to the Le Fuselier Winery in Canon City on Saturday, Dec. 17th. Enjoy stories about the wines and winery while sampling different wines, cheese and snacks. We will carpool from Colorado Springs. Want to help others over the Holiday Season? Come join us in serving breakfast at the Marian House on Sunday, Dec. 18th. For more information call Mary Jean at 719-291-2053

Do You Have a Special Place in Your Heart for Babies?

Catholic Charities of Central Colorado has an opening for an individual/family to provide temporary, volunteer Cradle Care for babies when parents have yet to choose an adoptive family or need time to make their decision. Licensing is required and training is provided. Call 866-6535 to learn more about the requirements of this special ministry.

Courage Support Group

Courage is a support group for persons with same-sex attractions who wish to live the natural-law value of chastity as the Catholic Church understands it. This support includes prayer, networking, chaste friendship, and good role modeling. Anyone who is interested in joining may contact Fr. Larry Brennan, St. Peter Church, 719-481-3511, or Fr. Mark Zacker, Corpus Christi Church, 719-633-1457.

Parish Contacts

Parish Director:

Deacon Lynn C. Sherman
495-1426 or 237-6677
DeaconLynn@qwestoffice.net

Canonical Pastor:

Father Paul Wicker
597-4249 x15
frpaul@holypostles.org

Pastoral Council Members**Chairperson:**

Joe Gustofson
jcgustofson@hotmail.com

Vice-Chair:

Bill Champlin
wchampli@gmail.com

Recording Secretary:

Jeff Klimek
JKlimek@pbsj.com

Members:

Dee & Kevin Klein
deeklein@q.com

Peggy Thies
Peggy.thies.ctr@peterson.af.mil

Jan Pizzi
Jan111vac@aol.com

Aurora Sebestyen
aurorasebestyen@yahoo.com

Ron & Roberta Comfort
camsparents@technologyassure.com

Tammy & Jeff Specht
jtspecht@elpasotel.net

Altar Servers:

- 1) Steve Kilma 494-1307
srttdsj@q.com
- 2) Angelo Pinterpe 494-8099
pinterpeka@msn.com

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

Ron Stark 683-9167
starkgrandpa@elpasotel.net

Elementary R. E. (K-2):

Karen Pinterpe 494-8099
pinterpeka@msn.com

Eucharistic Adoration

Louise Silvas 683-5035

Religious Education (3-8):

Julie Dalton 260-7599
jldalton@falconbroadband.net

Facilities:

Joe Gustofson 440-5801
jcgustofson@hotmail.com

Faith Formation:

Dr. Harriet Bauer 262-9222
hebauer13@msn.com

Finance Council:

Doug Burrer 495-8271
huntedakota@yahoo.com

Health Ministry:

OPEN

Hospitality:

Patti and Norm Lefebvre 495-8255
mom4101@aol.com

Knights of Columbus:

Pedro Gonzalez 719-641-5631s
pedro80919@yahoo.com

Music Ministry

Ron Comfort 303-877-9914
comfortr@technologyassure.com

Outreach:

Shelley Paur 238-7737
sdpaur@elpasotel.net

Parish Registrar:

Marge Vaga 495-6956
mvaga@msn.com

Proclaimers:

Maria Force 683-2393
rosebud47@pcisys.net

Respect for Life:

Nicole Meier 445-2334
christophermeier@live.com

Sacristan/Liturgy:

Mary Preston 683-2178
MadeinCo1@aol.com

St. Ben Teen:

David Dalton 260-7599
dwdaltongang@gmail.com

Ushers:

Steve Klima 494-1307
srttdsj@q.com

Web Master:

Ron Comfort 303-877-9914
comfortr@technologyassure.com

Women's Group:

Diane Jakus 640-8936

Bulletin Submission Requests:

nonaclarke@gmail.com
Due Wednesday 10am prior to Sun.

From the pages of the Catechism of the Catholic Church

Human Solidarity

Art. 1939 The principle of solidarity, also articulated in terms of “friendship” or “social charity”, is a direct demand of human Christian brotherhood.

Art. 1940 Solidarity is manifested in the first place by the distribution of goods and remuneration for work. It also presupposes the effort for a more just social order where tensions are better able to be reduced and conflicts more readily settled by negotiation.

Art. 1942 The virtue of solidarity goes beyond material goods. In spreading the spiritual goods of faith, the Church has promoted, and often opened new paths for, the development of temporal goods as well. And so throughout the centuries has the Lord's saying been verified: “Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours a well.”

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Protect us against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host—by the Divine Power of God—cast into hell, Satan and all the evil spirits, who roam throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

