OCTOBER 2017

BENE DICTUS

PHOTO: JOHN RAE

MINISTRY P4
CELEBRATING MILESTONE WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES
BILL SCOLLARD P7
NEW BEGINNINGS

SAINT BENEDICT PARISH

45 Radcliffe Drive
Halifax, Nova Scotia
Canada B3M 0E1
902-443-0725

PASTOR
Fr. Simon Lobo, CC

SUNDAY MASS
Saturday: 4pm
Sunday: 9am, 11:15am, 6pm

WEEKDAY MASS
Monday to Friday 9am

CONFESSIONS
Saturday: 3 - 3:45pm
Wednesday: 9:45 - 10:30am

BENE DICTUS IS YOUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE IN PRINT OR IN YOUR EMAIL INBOX.

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

Please stop by the Welcome Booth and Introduce yourself.

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On the cover:
Congratulations to Jack and Theresa Goodhew celebrating a milestone wedding anniversary this year. Read more about them on pages 4 and 5.

Next issue of Bene Dictus: November 11th

Saint Benedict Parish Clergy

Pastor, Fr. Simon Lobo, CC

Permanent Deacon, Dcn. David Viscount

Associate Pastor, Fr. Jim O'Connor

Intern Priest, Fr. Matthew Keshwah

Episcopal Vicar for Parish Renewal, Fr. James Mallon

Father Simon Says...

Turkey Makes Me Sleepy... and Thankful

Before you slip into a turkey-induced slumber, I encourage everyone to take time with loved ones to give thanks, first and foremost, to God. I am so thankful for this parish. I never imagined that I would be able to serve and lead a parish like Saint Benedict. To be perfectly honest, there have been a couple of moments over these last few months when I've felt tired, stressed, and humbled – because I haven't always been the best version of myself. However, the blessings far outweigh the struggles. I know that I am surrounded by people who love me. Thank you God for the gift of this parish, the staff, all the parishioners, the many people who visit us... And all the people You will send our way in the future. Thank you God for the harvest that we are already experiencing – our biggest Alpha yet, with 200 people!

Investing in Pastoral Leaders

Speaking of God's many blessings, it is wonderful to have more brother priests around here. Fr. Jim and Fr. Matthew, not to mention Fr. James and Deacon David, are huge supports for me. With that said, I think some might look at Saint Benedict and think that we have too many priests. There are two things that I would say to that:

a) Fr. Jim and Fr. Matthew are not just 'regular' priests. While they are serving in some traditional ways here, like helping with sacraments, a huge portion of their time is dedicated to learning about leadership and parish renewal. They sit in on meetings, are involved with ministries, and read and write reflections.

b) We are trying to be generous throughout the Archdiocese.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Fr. Jim, and Fr. Matthew (and Fr. James) have been helping out at other parishes. With my primary focus at Saint Benedict, I will also make myself available to help at other parishes when needed.

We are richly blessed, and so we must share. Please read on in this issue of Bene Dictus for more on our new priests

Forming › Storming › Norming › Performing › Adjourning (FSNPA)

Ron Huntley often brings us back to this basic psychology of teams. Without getting into a long, drawn out explanation of FSNPA, it is fair to say that at Saint Benedict – as we work through this season of transition – we are very much in the forming stage.

In an effort to be intentional about forming well, we gathered for our first combined All Staff meeting a few weeks ago with the Saint Benedict and the Divine Renovation teams. It made sense to follow the example of Holy Trinity Brompton which gathers regularly for a joint All Staff with the Alpha team (a global movement).

Ron led a 'Health vs. Toxicity' exercise in which we brainstormed the attitudes and behaviours of the best and the worst teams we've been a part of. Together, we committed to choosing health (e.g.: avoiding gossip, working through conflicts quickly and directly, affirming each other, etc.). He reminded us that if we can have a healthy culture – with the power of the Holy Spirit – we will be unstoppable!

We also form and develop people through our Leadership Summits. There were just over 100 people in attendance at our first of the year on September 23rd. We had fun, heard exciting updates, and spent time in praise and prayer. I shared about a book I just read, The Ideal Team Player by Patrick Lencioni. Essentially, the ideal person on a ministry team (or any team) has a good combination of these three virtues: Humility, Hunger (passion, drive), and Smarts (people smarts or emotional intelligence). If you'd like to learn more and find free resources, visit www.tablegroup.com/books/ideal-team-player.

Coming to a Pulpit Near You

In September, we launched our ministry year with a preaching series, New Beginnings. As we continue through the fall, there will be a six-week preaching series called Getting Rooted, which will help us grow more deeply as disciples. We all need to go through that initial encounter with Jesus, and this experience can and should be renewed. Our story is far from over.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Fr. Bryan Sabourin, CC and I will lead a pilgrimmage to the Holy Land in October next year. For updates and information, please contact Bob Sime, bsime@privatelabeltravel.ca.

Celebrating Milestones

Peter Mallette
Bene Dictus Team

On October 21st, Jack and Theresa Goodhew (See the cover photo) will be among several couples renewing their marriage vows at our annual Milestone Wedding Anniversary Celebration.

We sat down with the Goodhews to learn the secret of their matrimonial success.

Jack Goodhew and Theresa Pettipas met at a Catholic Youth Organization dance at the Horseshoe Club in Halifax. It was December of 1952. Theresa was 16. Jack was 17. When he asked her if he could walk her home after the dance, she said yes. Little did Theresa know that within minutes, she was about to make a complete fool of herself, which they still laugh about decades later. It was snowing that night, and in an attempt to impress the handsome young man from the West End, Theresa tried to jump the snow bank on their way to her North End home on Young Street. What Theresa didn't realize was the snowbank was frozen solid and she ended up falling and hurting herself. Her injury wasn't serious, unlike their attraction to each other.

Despite her epic fail at showing off, Jack thought Theresa was beautiful the moment he saw her. As for Theresa's feelings for Jack, she says she quickly realized there was something special about him, especially the way he treated elderly people. That, and his good looks, really struck a chord with her.

Jack and Theresa dated for five years. They were married at St. Catherine's Church on June 22nd, 1957. Jack was 22. Theresa was 21.

Three years later they welcomed their first child, a daughter, Colleen. Three years after that, their son John was born. When John was three, their daughter Carolyn was born but it was a difficult delivery. The baby was too big and she came too fast. There were major complications and the Goodhews were unable to have more children.

After a brief stint in the Air Force, Jack spent 34 years working behind the scenes at CBC TV. Theresa was an accountant and worked for the Federal Government, and then at Sears.

They were always active in their parish, especially with marriage prep courses, and speak fondly of the 42 years they attended St. Pius X, and the positive impact Fr. Basil Carew had on their family, especially Jack.

For the past six years, Saint Benedict Parish has been their spiritual home – something Theresa calls another blessing in their lives. Every Tuesday, she volunteers in the office. When her shift is done, she says she always leaves with a smile on her face.

The Goodhews faith in God was cultivated when they were kids. Theresa's father died unexpectedly when he was 45, leaving her mother to raise five children on a widow's pension. Her dad passed days before Christmas and was buried on Christmas Eve. She fondly recalls waking up Christmas morning to presents under the tree, from the people in the parish. "You wouldn't have believed what was there," she said.

That faith has buoyed them through the years, most recently during Jack's diagnosis and successful treatment for bladder cancer.

continued on the next page

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

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At the thought of renewing their marriage vows, Theresa gets emotional. "The older you get, the more those words mean because you don't know how much time you have left. We have always enjoyed each other's company. A lot of our friends have to have another couple around. Not us. Jack and I can still go anywhere together and have a wonderful time."

Theresa is now 82. Jack is 83. Later this year they will take a trip to Italy (a gift from their son) and visit the Vatican, where they will attend a mass with Pope-Emeritus Benedict.

The Goodhews admit they have had challenges in their 60 year marriage, but nothing has ever been that bad that it has stopped them from loving each other, or saying they were sorry when an apology was warranted.
According to Theresa, the secret to their matrimonial success is good communication, not holding a grudge, and never going to sleep without saying, "I love you."

Jack says the secret to the success of their marriage has been, and still is, Theresa.
Every day since they were married 60 years ago, Jack says he makes a point of telling Theresa that he loves her, and that she is beautiful.

After all these years, Theresa says some nights she lies in bed and looks over at Jack sleeping and silently thanks God for him. She says that Jack, their three children and four grandchildren are the best thing that's ever happened to her. "Sure there have been challenges and sadness like every couple has in their marriage, but we've been blessed."

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL COUPLES CELEBRATING MILESTONE WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES THIS YEAR!
JOIN US AT 4PM MASS ON OCTOBER 21ST WHEN SEVERAL COUPLES FROM THE PARISH WILL RENEW THEIR VOWS.

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MEET FR. MATTHEW

Fr. Matthew Keshwah is here from the Archdiocese of Ottawa for a year-long internship.

What was your faith like growing up?

I was raised Catholic, always going to Mass on the weekends with my parents. The church was a big part of our family's life. I was an altar server from the ages of 8 – 23 years old. My mother was the parish secretary for 20+ years. And my father converted to Catholicism after my First Communion. He sang in the church choir for years after being welcomed into the church in 1989. We prayed together as a family every day. Would have priests over to our home often for meals – almost weekly, and we were very involved in our parish community.

Prayer, going to church, and nurturing a relationship with God was normal in my family's life. My grandfather was a very joyful and charismatic Presbyterian Minister. Every time I would visit him he would tell me about Jesus. Today, he's 96 years old, and he inspires me so much because he still prays on his knees by his bedside every morning and evening. I have been blessed with many great role models in my family – my parents, and both sets of grandparents were all very devout and prayerful people.

How did God call you to be a priest?

My calling was not based on one experience or event in my life. God invited me to the priesthood over many years. Through many difference life experiences, in the good faith-based role models and friends in my life, time in prayer, at Mass, and in reading the New Testament – I knew what God had made me for, and I said "YES." Father Simon was a great help during my years of discernment. We would meet up and talk about priesthood over breakfast in our 20s. It is a dream come true to serve together with him now both as priests here at Saint Benedict Parish.

What was your life like before priesthood?

Before ordination to the priesthood, I spent 6 years studying to be a priest at Saint Augustine's Seminary. Before entering the seminary in September 2007, I worked for IBM Canada – for a number of years in Toronto.

What are you most excited about SBP?

What is there not to be excited about here? I'm participating in Alpha this fall, and it's the first time I have ever done it. I have heard so much about Alpha, including the personal testimonies over two weekends in September that I had to try it out for myself. So far, the talks are inspiring, I have met interesting people who have real questions about the faith, and the food is outstanding!

What was the last book you read?

Prayer for Beginners by Peter Kreeft. What an absolute gem of a find! I stumbled upon this book in the church lobby in the little glass display case near the Welcome Booth when I was exploring my new home. This book is full of tremendous insights on prayer that should really be entitled "Prayer for EVERYBODY." It has simple and practical tips on overcoming common struggles like: distractions during prayer and not knowing what to say or do when we sit down to pray. This book also goes into deeper themes like praying through suffering, developing patience, working through forgiveness, and persevering in prayer. If there is one book you should read this year it's this one! Spoil yourself and read this little gem.

New Beginnings

Peter Mallette
Bene Dictus Team

On September 1st, Bill Scollard succeeded Ron Huntley as Director of Pastoral Ministries at Saint Benedict Parish. We sat down with Bill to find out a little bit about him and his new duties.

Where is home for you?

I am originally from Burlington, Ontario. I grew up in a household that went to church every Sunday. My mother was hugely loyal and faithful. 49 years in the CWL. If she wasn't at home, she was at church serving in some capacity; my dad, not so much. Sundays were always a battle for me and my four siblings. My father's rule was that if you lived in the house, you went to church on Sunday. If you didn't go to church, you didn't have supper that night. So I went to church, but I didn't think about Jesus. I didn't pray. I didn't own a bible. I believed in heaven. I believed in God, but I didn't have faith.

I moved to Halifax in 1985 to attend St. Mary's University and enjoyed more success on the football field than I did in the classroom. I was captain of the team for four years, and played on three AUS championship teams. I was drafted by the Hamilton Tiger Cats and recognized as a CIS All-Canadian in 1989. I was inducted in the St. Mary's Sports Hall of Fame in 2012.

I graduated with a degree in commerce and spent 26 years at Oland's/Labatt's/Anheuser-Busch in sales and marketing. It's the biggest beer company in the world with 275,000 employees. There were lots of opportunities for growth and I had a wonderful career.

Let's talk about your faith journey. How did that start?

That transition began five years ago when I turned 50. Something was wrong – an emptiness inside of me. I had a perfect life, a wife I didn't deserve, and three wonderful kids. I was respected, I was a decorated football player, but right after I was inducted into the Hall of Fame I realized something was very wrong. So, with no logic whatsoever, one Sunday morning I decided to go to church. I walked into St. Ignatius Church in Bedford, where I didn't know anyone, and strategically sat behind a pillar so that the priest couldn't see me. Fr. Pat Cosgrove began his homily that morning by asking if there was anyone in attendance who appeared to have it all, but was empty inside. I bawled like a baby for the remainder of the mass, but it was that simple question that started my spiritual journey.

Bill recently shared h

Alpha was the game changer. At the Weekend Away, I encountered the Holy Spirit for the first time in my life and I've been growing my faith ever since.

Fast forward to the spring of this year. Fr. James calls me out of the blue, invites me to breakfast and offers me the position of Director of Pastoral Ministries. There were a hundred reasons why I wasn't going to take the job, but every bit of resistance that I put up, came down.

It was God's plan for me.

What does the Director of Pastoral Ministries do?

That's a good question, because it is still evolving. I have a number of church ministries under me. Alpha is by far the biggest. There are 66 ministries at Saint Benedict Parish with 1200 volunteers. My job is to bring people into relationship with Christ

What qualifies you for the role of Director of Pastoral Ministries?

I am NOT qualified for this role, but the Holy Spirit is! What I have realized in the last 4 years is that I have a valuable skill for ministry, and that is my ability to surrender. When I have done so, the Holy Spirit has used me to help broken people and introduce them to Jesus. My daily goal is to surrender deeper and then open up my eyes, ears and heart for opportunities to be Jesus' light to people who search for him.

his Alpha testimony.

So you've gone from beer to bibles (pardon the pun). Do your friends get it?

I'll admit that for me to be working for the church is a complete right turn, but the people who are really close to me know that I have found "something" and understand the depth of my faith journey. So they're not surprised. Some people in my peer group have asked me to tell them more about it in a way for them to understand my decision, but I also think they want to understand their faith a little more. The conversation may open doors for them.

What's your greatest strength in this new role?

I'd say cultivating relationships is my biggest strength. I am successful in my life and career because of my empathy. I can talk to people with faith. I can talk to people who have no faith. I can talk to people who have lost their faith and tell them about my journey. I have a great story and I can draw on that. The most powerful part of my story is that I went from empty to purposeful in my relationship with Christ. When he offered me this job, Father James told me that if I surrender, God will use me to change lives.

A woman who heard my story in church one day was particularly moved. She waited around for me after mass. She was crying. She told me she grew up Catholic but she wasn't worthy of God's love for several reasons. She really identified with the part about feeling "empty" inside, but said she now realized what she needed to do to fix the broken relationships in her life and knew she was going to be ok with God again. I didn't say much and at the end of our conversation, I asked her if I could give her a hug. Through her tears she told me that she hadn't had a hug in ten years. So I hugged her. She thanked me, walked out the door and I've never seen her since.
After she left, I sat down in the very last pew, looked up at the altar of Jesus on the cross and with Father James words echoing in my mind I said, "I get it now".

Prayer Ministry

Susan LeRue
Bene Dictus Team

Having been blessed to experience Prayer Ministry as a member on a prayer team, and as one who has been prayed for, I spent time chatting with 2 parishioners, one from each perspective.

Liz Venezuela shared that serving in Prayer Ministry is her way of evangelizing. She says when someone comes forward for prayer, sometimes the words just come. "It must be the Holy Spirit leading me." said Liz. "When people come back to tell us that their prayers have been answered, that's very faith-building for me too."

The Prayer Team asks for God's guidance as they pray for those who come forward. During prayers, they call upon the Holy Spirit to come over the people they are praying for.

Liz shared that sometimes when a person requests prayers for a specific need, she may also feel led to pray for something else too. Some people are very surprised by this, and ask, "How did you know?" It's not through Liz's knowledge, but the working of the Holy Spirit. "There are so many powerful things that happen." Liz said humbly.

Dolores D'Entremont feels confident that Jesus is working through the people serving in prayer ministry at SaintBP. She goes forward with a hope that her prayers will be answered. "I never miss a chance to be prayed for."

Recently Dolores had a profound experience. A person on Prayer Team whom she had never met before, gave her a Word of Knowledge, a gift of the Holy Spirit, regarding a Ministry she had started 8 years ago. That was astounding for Dolores, but the real gift was what came next. She received much more than that...

"What I prayed for was something that was definitely a stumbling block in my faith, because I was holding unforgiveness for somebody, and THAT was broken. I had basically a heart transplant for a certain person that had a big impact on my life, where all of a sudden, I was ready to let go and forgive this person."

Dolores encourages everyone to receive prayer. Even if it's for the smallest thing, she leaves Prayer Ministry feeling better than before. "Whether you feel your prayers were answered or not, in some way, you were healed. If the Holy Spirit prompts you to go, YOU GO!"

I love how the Holy Spirit builds up faith & blesses everyone, the Prayer Ministers and the person being prayed for. God's graces are greater than anything we could ever imagine.

Prayer Ministry is available after each weekend mass. Come and be prayed with.

If you feel you may be called to serve in this ministry, please contact Liz Venezuela, liz.venezuela@gmail.com.

Preaching Series:

GETTING ROOTED

October 15 - November 19

The Encounter

(Grades 5 & 6)

Second Tuesday of Every Month!

6:30 - 8PM

Contact Laura or Ronnie

TEENS ARE INVITED

The Experience

MONDAYS | 7-9 PM | AUDITORIUM

- grades 7-12 welcome (non-church members welcome- bring a friend!)
- no fees or pre-registration
- *not happening on Thanksgiving Monday*

If you're interested in joining the team, or need more information, please contact Ronnie Lunn, ronniel@saintbenedict.ca, 902- 443-0725 (37).

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Discipleship Groups

Tanya Noye
Bene Dictus Team

I have been privileged to be part of some pretty amazing Discipleship Groups over the past few years, even hosted some of them. What I've learned from the content, and from the people in those groups, has been invaluable. The more I learn, the more I realize how much more there is to know! At this parish we encourage everyone to experience a Discipleship Group at least once a year. Imagine the growth we would experience as a parish if this were to happen!

If this idea is sparking some interest in you, here is some information to consider.

What is a Discipleship Group?
Discipleship Groups are intentional gatherings of 4-12 people meeting in homes for a fixed number of weeks to grow together as disciples of Jesus. The word 'disciple' means a follower or student of a teacher or leader.

Why are Discipleship Groups important?
In Matthew 28:19, Jesus says "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations." This is not just a nice idea but it is actually part of God's plan for us all.

Another important reason is that Discipleship Groups are part of the Saint Benedict Parish Game Plan (the way our parish forms disciples who joyfully live out the mission of Jesus Christ). Discipleship is not only about how we learn and grow as individuals, but how we learn and grow together. We are not meant to be in this alone. How do you host a Discipleship Group?

It could not be easier! Here are 5 simple steps to begin:

1) Choose the learning content (speak with Catherine). Maybe it will be a book; maybe a video series. (There will be more information coming soon about materials.)
2) Pick a day and time to meet each week. Consistency is important so pick a certain day of the week and time and commit to it.
3) Invite 3-11 people to join you. Invite people who would also enjoy it. Friends, family, coworkers, invite!
4) Be hospitable. Be a great host and keep it simple. Maybe offer coffee, tea, and a light snack. The most important thing is to be welcoming.
5) Have fun! Discipleship groups are meant to be a fun learning experience, so enjoy it!

Who can start a Discipleship Group?
Anyone! If you have a place to meet, a couple of hours a week, people to invite, and a desire to learn than you are well on your way!

If you're thinking of hosting a Discipleship Group, or would like more more information, please contact Catherine Gould: 902-443-0725 ex 29; catherineg@saintbenedict.ca.

Connect Groups

Jenna LeBlanc
Bene Dictus Team

Why Connect Group?

I've been a member of Saint Benedict Parish for two years, and a member of a Connect Group for one. It's been such a blessing! Our group meets regularly, about 25 of us – just big enough to keep things interesting and just small enough that everyone knows everyone. Over the past year, my faith has been greatly strengthened. I've shared my struggles, offered help and advice, learned about all kinds of ways to pray and love, and developed great relationships with a great group of friends.

What do we do?

The format is pretty simple. We meet every two weeks and we always start by gathering for a meal. Ours is potluck format, which sometimes means creative dinners – once we ended up with three roast chickens! Then we play a fun icebreaker – a short game that helps us get to know each other better. Someone from the group gives a talk on an aspect of their faith, and then we spend time in small groups to break open and discuss what we just heard. We come back as a single group to enjoy some praise and worship. We close by praying together. Officially, that's it, though we often end up hanging around for a quite a bit longer, chatting and catching up.

Who's involved?

Connect Groups are typically organized by age or stage of life. We're a Young Adults Connect Group and members' ages range from mid-twenties to mid-thirties. Most of us are finishing up post-secondary education or getting started in our careers. We have single, dating, engaged, and married couples (and one priest!).

Our group grows and changes regularly. New members join us, often after they've finished Alpha or served on an Alpha Team and want to belong to a community of faith. Current members' partners and spouses are a good source of new people. So are babies! There are some family-friendly Connect Groups that include toddlers to teens – ours doesn't, but we love having little ones around, and there are usually many people eager to hold babies and give mom and dad a well-deserved break.

Growing in Faith - and Family

Belonging to a Connect Group is like belonging to a big, loving family. This includes family responsibilities! We meet in the homes of our members, and rotate often. As young people, we're mostly living in apartments and condos, so things can get cozy, but it's always fun and we manage to find space for everyone who shows up. Everyone brings something to eat. There are several roles to fill every time we get together – we need an emcee for the evening, someone to say grace, someone to give a talk, musicians, and someone to lead us in prayer. I find myself pitching in more often than not.

Get Involved

The first step to belonging to a Connect Group is usually completing Alpha or serving on an Alpha Team! It's a great first place to explore life's big questions. Once you've done Alpha, consider what your next step might be, and perhaps ask your table leader about joining a Connect Group. We'd love to have you!

Please note that unlike Discipleship Groups, Connect Group Leaders are invited into leadership and attend regular training sessions. We hope to prepare more leaders and grow the number of Connect Groups as many of our existing groups are currently at capacity.

Meet Fr. Jim

Fr. Jim O'Connor is a priest of the Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth and is here until next summer as Associate Pastor.

What was your faith like growing up?

Raised in a Catholic family, I experienced a positive church and family life from an early age. My participation was not questioned so weekend Mass and night prayer became habits. Even before my teens I wouldn't want to miss either. These commitments carried on with me and expanded over the years.

How did God call you to be a priest?

In my later teens I recall attending a retreat with my father. It was quietly suggested I consider priesthood. My internal response, 'I had no such impulse' and I recall thinking 'I could never be a homilist anyway'. A conscious call to priesthood came later in life; my late 40's. By this time I had experienced a family with three daughters, an engineering career and, about ten years earlier, a martial breakdown. This was painful and profound for me as it led to divorce and annulment. Single through my 40's, friends from my parish encouraged me to consider priesthood. Only after my opening to investigate the idea did I start to feel more joy than normal. Approximately nine years later, in 2015, I was ordained a priest amid much joy and hope for serving God.

What are you most excited about SBP?

I arrived at SBP to formalize the possibility of guiding myself and at some point, a parish into a more intentional mission for Christ. This excites me! I had already been following and learning much from the many resources produced by this parish and Fr. James Mallon in particular. I continue to learn much.

What was the last book you read?

The last book I read is Rebuilt. It's a story of another Catholic parish which has experienced unprecedented growth.

Eucharistic Adoration Every Wednesday immediately following 9am Mass until 10pm. Please join us!

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CALENDAR OF IMPORTANT DATES OCTOBER 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
8 SBP Kids	9 Thanksgiving	10 The Encounter! (Grades 5 & 6)	11 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament JR Choir Begins	12	13 Men's Leadership Gym ALPHA	14
15 SBP Kids Preaching Series: Getting Rooted	16	17 SBP Podcast Coffee Social Grief Support Group Alpha Team Training	18 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	19 Liturgy of the Word	20 Liturgy of the Word Office Closed at Noon	21 Milestone Wedding Anniversaries
22 SBP Kids Getting Rooted Name Tag Sunday	23	24	25 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	26	27	28 CWL Morning of Reflection
29 SBP Kids Getting Rooted	30	31 SBP Podcast Released Coffee Social	1 November *Gym to Knight	2 All Souls' Day Mass at 7pm	3 Archdiocesan Assembly	4

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Seeking Him in Everything

Sunday Mornings
← 9am →
&
← 11:15am

WOW
Wee Ones' Word

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Parish Staff Team (Office: 902-443-0725; Email: @saintbenedict.ca)

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CherylB@

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Financial Update - August 2017

Parish Debt Reduction	Rec'd	Total	Avg/
Envelopes	145	$3,345	$23
PAR (pre-authorized remittance)	66	$3,472	see note
Mortgage Balance (as of month end)			$657,373
Interest Paid (on mortgage)			$1,966
Principal Paid (on mortgage)			$15,471

Principal payments include principal portion of monthly mortgage payment plus additional principal payments made from Parish Debt funds recieved.

Sunday Collections	Rec'd	Total	Avg/
Envelopes	1,251	$33,201	$27
PAR (pre-authorized remittance)	387	$52,430	see note

Note: PAR options include weekly, bi-weekly and monthly withdrawals; therefore a 'weekly' average is unavailable.

If you're interested in the sacraments of baptism or matrimony at Saint Benedict Parish, please note that in addition to preparation, we require that you get in touch with us a minimum of 3 months in advance of your hoped-for date for baptism and one year prior to your desired wedding date.

For more information on baptisms, please contact Carol: baptisms@saintbenedict.ca. For more information on weddings, please contact Deacon David: weddings@saintbenedict.ca.

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For funerals, please call the parish office (and listen to the prompts) to be connected with our funeral ministry team.