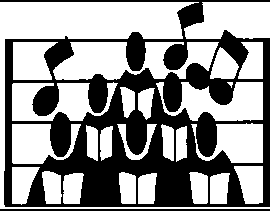


Benediction Weekly

December 15, 2019

St. Benedict's 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 - today at 3pm

A Los Osos Holiday Tradition! Christmas music from throughout the ages sung by the St. Benedict Singers with some inspiring poetry and sing-along favorites. Followed by refreshments. Everyone is welcome and there is no charge for admission. *Don't miss it!*

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 Eucharist with music
- 3:00 pm – Christmas Carol Concert

Monday, Dec 16 RECTOR'S SABBATH

Tuesday, Dec 17

- 5:30 pm – Vespers, followed by potluck

Wednesday, Dec 18

- 2:30 pm – *Earthcare* meeting
- 4:15 pm – *EfM* meeting
- 5:00 pm – *Laundry Love* at Osos Clean Laundry
- 7:00 pm – Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, Dec 19

- 6:30 pm – *Parish Council Meeting*

Sunday, Dec 22

- 8:00 am – Contemplative Communion Service
- 9:20 am – Bible study
- 9:30 am – Messy Church family worship
- 10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with music
- 5:30 pm – Blue Christmas service



Poinsettias Dedications

There is still time to honor a loved one by contributing for Christmas poinsettias. Use the envelopes on the signup board to indicate the wording of your dedication (as in memory, thanksgiving, or honor). Place in offertory plate. \$10 suggested donation.

Blue Christmas next Sunday at 5:30 pm

It's not an easy time of year for everyone. If the holiday season brings up memories of the past, of loved ones lost, or if there are reasons why this year is not especially bright, please join us for a short simple service which acknowledges that Christmas can be a difficult time.



Christmastide Services



Christmas Eve Services – *Tues, Dec 24*

4:15 pm — Carols Around the Crèche: A service for all the family with well-known carols, a short homily and communion. (Note time change to 4:15.)

8:00 pm — Festival Christmas Eucharist: Enjoy the magic of Christmas carols, readings and the mystery of Holy Communion. (Carol singing starts at 7:45)

Christmas Day Celebration – *Wed, Dec 25, 10am*

A Quiet Communion service with maybe some acapella carols and a conversation instead of a sermon. Followed by brunch for those who can stay.

Vespers of the New Year - *Tues, Dec 31, 5:30 pm*

Our last vespers service of 2019 will be looking ahead to the new year. Come and see the old year out with hope-filled prayer and reflections. Followed by potluck supper.

Epiphany Star Party! - *Mon, Jan 6, 6pm*

We'll welcome the Magi to the crèche, crown the Epiphany Kings or Queens, and also take down the Christmas decorations. Bring your favorite dish to share and a twig from your Christmas decorations to burn in our 12th Night fire.

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

Celebrant: The Rev. Dr. Caroline Hall; Deacon: The Rev. Sharon Dalrymple; Eucharistic Minister: Lisa Gonzalez; Chalice Bearer: John Horsley; Lector: Bob Pelfrey; Ushers: Esta Kandarian & Ron Thompson; Altar Guild: Pat Stoneman; Greeters: Joan Hayes, *pre* & Stef Shuman, *post*; Flowers: Laura Thompson; Coffee Hour Hosts: Pat Henry & Suzan Vaughn and Laura Thompson; Children's Bible Time: Dianne Long; Tellers: Steve Cake & Lorraine Schwenk; Intercessory Prayer Team: Lisa Gonzalez; Music: Ann Lucas **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

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL – Sundays during the 10:30 service.

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

EARTHCARE – 3rd 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.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER CIRCLE Prayers for the community and the world. 1st & 3rd **Tuesdays**, 2pm.

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

MEN'S BREAKFAST – Morning social gathering, 2nd Saturdays 9am at Budget Café, 3121 S. Higuera SLO

MESSY CHURCH - Sunday morning family worship geared towards young children and busy families. 2nd & 4th Sundays in the Great Room at 9:30.

PEOPLE'S KITCHEN – Providing and serving lunch at 40 Prado, 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,
Lorienne Schwenk, Deb Garza,
Susan Miller, Steve Hirahara, Jane Wu



Hollister Institute 2020

St. Benedict's Hollister Institute is a series of classes, book studies, and programs on a variety of topics which offer opportunities for stimulating discussion and thoughtful exploration for everyone, whether or not they are members of a church.

New programs for 2020 begin with a book discussion on the climate crisis:

Climate Church / Climate World

Thursdays, January 9 through February 6. 10:00am – 12:00pm
(starting date subject to change)

EarthCare, St. Benedict's environmental advocacy group, presents a study based on Jim Antal's book [Climate Church, Climate World -- How People of Faith Must Work for Change](#). Each session offers a short summary of Antal's ideas, together with questions and activities to help us grapple with the climate crisis in a new way.

Environmental leader Rev. Jim Antal from the United Church of Christ calls climate change " the greatest moral challenge humanity has ever faced. " He presents a compelling case that it's time for the church to meet this challenge, just as the church addressed previous challenges such as slavery and civil rights.

Antal calls for the church to embrace a new vocation so that future generations might live in harmony with God's creation. He suggests practical ways that Christians can reorient what they prize through new approaches to worship, preaching, witnessing and other spiritual practices that honor creation and cultivate hope.

Facilitator: John Horsley



Other Hollister Institute programs coming up in 2020 include:

"Sacred Lighted Spaces"

3 pm Saturdays March 7th and March 14th
Facilitator: Michael Lucas

"12 Steps of Spirituality"

7 pm Thursdays, April 23rd and April 30th
Facilitator: Rev. Susan Plucker

"Interfaith Spiritual Care Panel"

7 pm Thursday, May 7th
Facilitator: Berkeley Johnson



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

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; or

The Rev. Susan Plucker (530)263-8540 Call Celeste Pennington with pastoral care needs: (805)771-8974

Contact Stef Shuman with content for the Ben Weekly stefshuman@sbcglobal.net

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