

# THE STEWARD

AUGUST 16, 2020 | TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Observe what is right, do what is just; for my salvation is about to come, my justice, about to be revealed.” - ISAIAH 56:1

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## THE LORD IS GOOD TO THOSE WHO WAIT FOR HIM



RCIA Candidates from left: Hugo Perez, Noemi Morales, David Berlant, James Capone, Caroline Donlin, James Lumene



By Daniel Hughes, *Director of Catechesis*

One of the ministries at St. Ben's that I am blessed to help support, organize, and guide is the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. The RCIA process guides Catechumens (the un-baptized) towards their

Baptism and reception of First Communion and Confirmation, and helps guide Candidates (those who have been Baptized) towards the completion of their Sacraments of initiation and full Communion with the Roman Catholic Church. In September of 2019, a group of 8

Catechumens and Candidates began their journey of faith here at St. Ben's. As the year progressed they grew in faith, continued to build a personal relationship with Christ, learned about the theology and spirituality of the Church, prayed, and formed relationships with other members of the group, volunteers, staff, and parishioners. They looked with eager anticipation towards the Easter Vigil when they would be Baptized, receive the Eucharist, and receive Confirmation. We all know what happened next.

As the reception of the Sacraments were postponed during the quarantine, we immediately began to meet as a group via zoom. We continued with some review and lessons, we prayed together, we even had guest speakers on to do a presentation on icons. However, most of the time we just talked. We discussed the struggles people were having, whether it be with illness, the loss of loved ones and family, challenges of faith, or the psychological toll that remaining at home and feeling isolated was taking on us all. After anxiously and eagerly anticipating the reception of the Sacraments for so many months, some must have felt the time would never come. The candidates and catechumens waited, hoping to be able to gather as a community again.

This past Saturday, August 8th, we were finally able to hold a special Mass for our RCIA group with all of our social distancing guidelines and directives in place. Now, this was not the ideal situation. However, in these days and times we have all had to adapt and sacrifice for the safety of others and the greater good of all. Our hope was to finally get together so that those in the group could receive the Sacraments bringing the preparation part of their journey to a close and opening up a whole new wide world of life as a Confirmed Catholic.

James Capone and David Berlant received Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation here at St. Ben's and Audrey Farber received the same in Ohio with her sister and family. James Lumene and Caroline Donlin received their First Communion and Confirmation entering into full Communion with the Church, and Noemi Morales and Hugo Perez completed their

Sacraments of initiation with First Communion and Confirmation. Patrick Phan will continue his preparation journey with us in the coming year.

I look forward to the time when we can all gather as a community without restrictions. Until that time, it is important that we stay connected as a faith community and continue to grow and learn from each other.

If you know anyone who might be interested in the RCIA process, or perhaps you are interested yourself, please contact me: Daniel Hughes at [dhughes@stbenedict.com](mailto:dhughes@stbenedict.com) for more information.



James Capone putting on white garment after Baptism



David Berlant receiving Baptism from Fr. Steve

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View the RCIA mass on our website at:  
<https://parish.stbenedict.com/rcia-mass-2020>



## EDUCATION



### WELCOME BACK BENGALS!

St. Benedict Preparatory School is busy getting everything ready to welcome back our Bengals for the 2020-2021 school year. Work includes waxing floors, installation of a new phone system, student laptop updates, and more. In addition, this school year presents a few additional challenges installing safety measures because of Covid-19. St. Benedict will be open for in person instruction beginning August 24th. Check out the SBPS Reopening Plan at [www.stbenedict.com](http://www.stbenedict.com).

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## HUMAN CONCERNS

Last week I talked about the effects of being plugged in 24/7/365. It is hard to unplug, but we must do it from time to time, to refocus, calm ourselves, and pray. It can be challenging now because of the events that have been on the news. People are angry and taking it to the street. This is nothing new. Over two hundred years ago, the Sons of Liberty protested the Tea Act by destroying all of the tea. The 1960s saw marches and protests against the Vietnam War and for civil and gender rights. Now we are seeing marches against police brutality and for structural economic equality. Getting there must be done by peaceful protests, constructive communication, and pragmatic legislation. I am against brutality, police and otherwise. But I know that the majority of officers are decent public servants who want to protect and serve. How many of us can say that we never know if we will live or die at work? I have friends and family members who are officers, and I worked with many when I worked at the City. But now I am angry because the protests have been hijacked by looters and criminals. They do not respect anyone. These actions not only hurt local businesses, but have long term consequences for Chicago. We must use Christ as our guide to channel our anger into positive outcomes, without the destruction of the city and the attack on law enforcement.



# STEWARDSHIP

## SUNDAY GIVING

### Sunday Offertory (Mailed-in and GiveCentral)

Amount received for Sunday, August 9:	\$12,496.00 (94% of goal)
Weekly goal:	\$13,250.00
Average amount received per Sunday since COVID-19 "shelter-in-place"	\$10,222.40 (77% of Sunday Offertory goal)

### Forward in Our Faith

Gifts received through August 9:	\$1,561.33
Total:	\$4,217,171.09

Our parish is very grateful for the many parishioners and friends of our parish who have continued and increased their generosity over the past few months. So many faithful parishioners continue to turn in their envelopes to the rectory office or have made donations using GiveCentral. Your generosity has allowed the parish to continue paying its employees, maintain our facilities and provide outreach opportunities during this historic time. Thank you to all those who have made sacrifices to make this possible.

The parish has been very strategic in lowering our overhead expenses in an effort to be good stewards of the gifts that we receive. Again, thank you for your generosity to St. Benedict Parish. You and your loved ones continue to be in our daily prayers.

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WITH 

Sign-up today for secure automated giving to St. Benedict Parish and Preparatory School. Simply go to [www.GiveCentral.org](http://www.GiveCentral.org) to start giving by selecting St. Benedict Church - Chicago, or you may also donate by visiting the link on our parish and school website. If you need assistance signing up or have questions about the program, contact our Parish Database Manager, Christine Clardy, at (773) 588-6484 x5113 or [cclardy@stbenedict.com](mailto:cclardy@stbenedict.com) or our Director of Finance, Geoff Pautsch, at x5109 or at [gpautsch@stbenedict.com](mailto:gpautsch@stbenedict.com). Thank you for your remarkable generosity to the parish.

## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

Today's Gospel from the Book of Matthew describes what occurred in Tyre and Sidon when Jesus cured the daughter of a Gentile woman. Tyre and Sidon were Gentile cities. The Apostles faithfully followed the Lord wherever He went, just as we are called to do.

There was only one reason that the Lord made this trip (on foot, of course, as that was the only alternative at that time), and that was to cure the daughter of the Gentile woman. Making an effort like that is a sign of Christ's love, and His understanding of a need. He was also trying to teach His followers, which includes us, how important each individual and her or his faith is.

Jesus' Apostles found this situation, and perhaps even this entire trip, to be a fruitless and empty gesture, more of a bother than it was worth. They even plead with Jesus to ignore the woman and send her away. They said, "Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us." However, Jesus is teaching a lesson to each of us, actually two lessons. He does not "send her away" but finally responds, saying "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish."

The two lessons (messages) Jesus provides to us are easily summarized. First, we need to know and understand that Jesus loves us and He is aware of our needs. The second is that when we pray and appeal for help (all the woman finally said was "Lord, help me!") a key to answered prayers is persistence. She had it, and we need to have it.





# IN OUR PRAYERS

## Masses for the Week

### Saturday, August 15 – The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Special Intention for Emily Evangelista  
- *Lucy Consing*

Special Intention for Fr. Stephen Kanonik  
- *The Schmookler and Siao Families*

Sarah and William Gilger - *Family*

5PM Xavier D'Silva - *Ana Rebello*

### Sunday, August 16 – Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

10AM Frank Voss – *Family*

Daniel Steppan, Sr. (HS Class of '55)  
- *The St. Benedict Alumni Office*

Consuelo Buenvenida -

*Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hinola and Family*

### Monday, August 17 – Weekday

### Tuesday, August 18 – Weekday

Tony Kwilas – *Margaret Lawlor*

### Wednesday, August 19 – Weekday; St. John Eudes, Priest

Pablo and Emma Consing - *Lucy Consing*

Mr. and Mrs. Dambrowski - *The Gecijo Family*

### Thursday, August 20 - St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

Cecelia Consing - *Lucy Consing*

### Friday, August 21 – St. Pius X, Pope

### Saturday, August 22 – The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

5PM Ronald Egan - *The Egan Family*

Sarah and William Gilger - *Family*

### Sunday, August 23 – Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

8AM Consuelo Buenvenida -

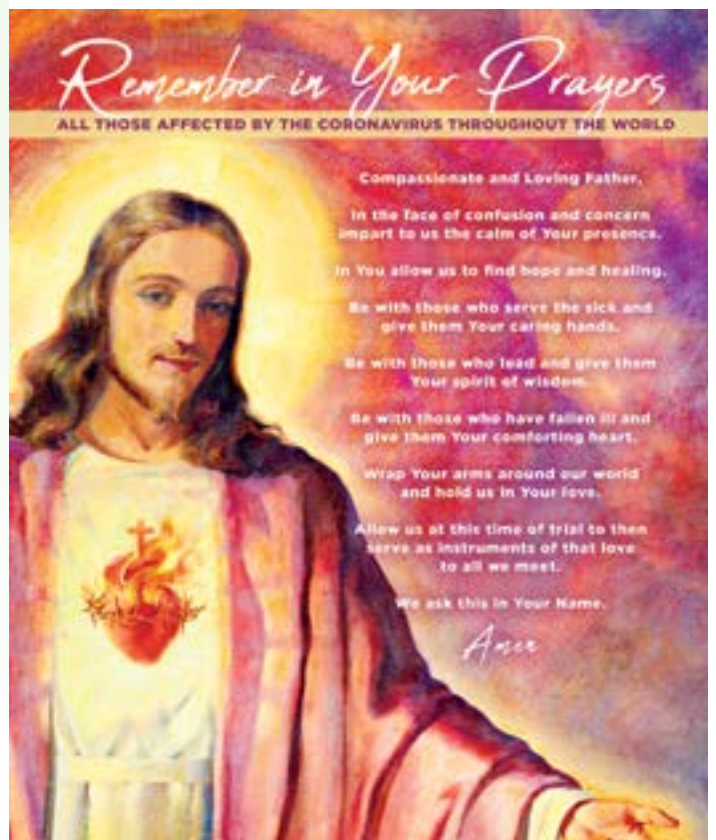
*Mr. and Mrs. Alex Linton and Family*



Please call Elaine Lindia at (773) 509-3806 to add your name or the name of an immediate family member for whom you would like the parish to pray for healing. The name of the person will appear for 2 months unless otherwise instructed at the time the request is made.

Susan Breunig  
Ricardo Cataylo  
Dradyne Robyne  
Eudeikis  
Michael Gollehon  
Kelley Halper  
Gladys Hunter  
Esteban Ibanez  
Emma Irizarry  
Judie Magsayo

Phil May  
Fermina Pereja  
Christine Pietschmann  
Kathleen Pietschmann  
Christopher Randell  
Gloria Recede  
Ellen Roberts  
Larry Sajdak  
Toni Tortorella  
Leda Wildner



# PARISH INFORMATION

## COME HOME TO ST. BEN'S!

If you are visiting, we hope you enjoy your stay. We're glad you decided to join us in this celebration. If you are new to the St. Ben's community, welcome home! To become a registered parishioner, complete a Registration Form online at <http://parish.stbenedict.com/becoming-a-parishioner/>. One of our Ministers of Hospitality will be glad to assist you. If you are a former parishioner or a graduate of our schools, we are glad to see you back home. We hope you will return often. Contact Joe Accardi, Director of Alumni Relations at [jaccardi@stbenedict.com](mailto:jaccardi@stbenedict.com).

Our weekly bulletin, *The Steward*, tells you about parish life. Submissions for the bulletin are generally due by Friday at 9 am of the week previous to publication. Electronic submissions are preferred via e-mail to [bulletin@stbenedict.com](mailto:bulletin@stbenedict.com). Flyers should be submitted in camera-ready format and will be used if space permits.

If you would like to receive our online weekly newsletter-"The Block", please contact the rectory to be placed on our emailing list. If you have any questions, please call the rectory at (773) 588-6484. We look forward to hearing from you.



## ST. BENEDICT PARISH AND PREPARATORY SCHOOL

### ST. BENEDICT PARISH

Rectory: 2215 W. Irving Park Road,  
Chicago, IL 60618  
**Phone:** (773) 588-6484  
**Fax:** (773) 588-4927  
**Email:** [www.stbenedict.com](http://www.stbenedict.com)  
**Rectory hours:** 8:30 AM – 8:00 PM  
(Monday-Thursday),  
9:30 AM – 6:00 PM (Friday),  
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM (Saturday),  
9:00 AM – 1:30 PM (Sunday)

### PASTORAL STAFF

**Rev. Stephen Kanonik**, Pastor,  
ext. 5106, [skanonik@stbenedict.com](mailto:skanonik@stbenedict.com)  
**Rev. Robert Beaven**, Pastor Emeritus  
**Rev. Thomas Refermat**, Assoc. Pastor,  
ext. 5205, [trefermat@stbenedict.com](mailto:trefermat@stbenedict.com)  
**Elaine Lindia**, Pastoral Associate, ext. 5101  
[elindia@stbenedict.com](mailto:elindia@stbenedict.com)  
**David Reyes**, Deacon, ext. 5105,  
[dreyes@stbenedict.com](mailto:dreyes@stbenedict.com)  
**Jeremy Kiolbassa**, Director of Music  
and Liturgy, ext. 5107,  
[jkiolbassa@stbenedict.com](mailto:jkiolbassa@stbenedict.com)  
**Daniel Hughes**, Director of Catechesis,  
ext. 1271, [dhughes@stbenedict.com](mailto:dhughes@stbenedict.com)  
**Kim McMillan**, Director of Youth Ministry,  
ext. 5108, [kmcmillan@stbenedict.com](mailto:kmcmillan@stbenedict.com)  
**Jody Roy**, Coordinator of the Kateri Center,  
ext. 7000, [jroy@stbenedict.com](mailto:jroy@stbenedict.com)

### PARISH SUPPORT STAFF

**Geoff Pautsch**, Director of Finance,  
ext. 5109, [gpautsch@stbenedict.com](mailto:gpautsch@stbenedict.com)  
**Ellen Roberts**, Parish Manager,  
ext. 5104, [eroberts@stbenedict.com](mailto:eroberts@stbenedict.com)  
**Maria Tubay**, Director of Communications  
ext. 2351, [mtubay@stbenedict.com](mailto:mtubay@stbenedict.com)  
**Christine Clardy**, Parish Database and  
Compliance Manager ext. 5113,  
[cclardy@stbenedict.com](mailto:cclardy@stbenedict.com)

### ST. BENEDICT PREPARATORY SCHOOL

**Early Childhood (Preschool)**  
**Phone:** (773) 588-7851  
3901 N. Bell Ave, Chicago, IL 60618  
**Lower School(K-3)**  
**Phone:** (773) 463-6797  
3920 N. Leavitt, Chicago, IL 60618  
**Upper School (4-8)**  
**Phone:** (773) 539-0066  
3900 N. Leavitt, Chicago, IL 60618

**Rachel Gemo**, Head of Parish School  
(PK-8), ext. 1220, [rgemo@stbenedict.com](mailto:rgemo@stbenedict.com)

**Rachel Waldron**, Head of Lower School,  
ext. 1101, [rwaldron@stbenedict.com](mailto:rwaldron@stbenedict.com)

**Mary Deletioglu**, Head of Upper School,  
ext. 1253, [mdeletioglu@stbenedict.com](mailto:mdeletioglu@stbenedict.com)

### THE COMMISSIONS OF ST. BENEDICT PARISH

If you are interested in learning more about or joining one of the many ministries at St. Benedict Parish or would like to volunteer time or talent, please call the rectory or contact the following person(s):

**Parish Council Chair:** Karen Cholipski  
**Finance Council Chair:** Chris Graff  
**School Board Co-Chairs:** Megan Biggam  
and Elizabeth Zakaras

**Catechetical Commission:**  
Daniel Hughes and Kim McMillan  
**Education Commission:** Rachel Gemo,  
Rachel Waldron, or Mary Deletioglu  
**Human Concerns Commission:**  
Elaine Lindia  
**Parish Life Commission:**  
TBD  
**Spiritual Life Commission:**  
Fr. Stephen Kanonik and Jeremy Kiolbassa

### MASSES AND SERVICES

**Sunday Eucharist:** 5PM Saturday  
7:30AM, 9AM(Choral Mass),  
10:30AM (Family-Centered), 12 NOON,  
and 6:30PM Sunday  
**Weekday Eucharist:** 8:30AM  
Monday – Saturday  
**Holy Day Eucharist:** 6:30AM, 8:30AM  
and 7PM  
**Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help:**  
Tuesdays 9AM  
**Exposition and Benediction of the  
Blessed Sacrament:** First Friday of each  
month, 9AM – 12PM, in church.  
**Baptisms:** Scheduled on all Sundays at  
1:30PM; on the fourth Sunday at one of the  
Masses. Baptism preparation class is required.  
**Reconciliation:** Saturdays, 11AM -  
12 NOON; seasonal celebrations, as posted;  
by appointment in the rectory.  
**Weddings:** Arrange with a priest at least  
four months in advance. Participation in  
marriage preparation is essential. Please call  
the rectory.  
**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults  
(RCIA):** For unbaptized persons or baptized  
persons interested in learning more about the  
Catholic faith and the process of becoming a  
Catholic. Call the rectory.  
**Religious Education:** Arrangements  
should be made for the religious education  
of children attending public schools with the  
Director of Catechesis.  
**Handicapped Accessibility:** An elevator  
is available for all Sunday Masses. Enter the  
church through the East door. Please call  
the rectory for weekday availability.  
**Homebound:** Call the rectory to arrange  
communion in home for those unable to  
attend Mass.  
**Mass Intentions:** Mass intentions may  
be requested for someone who is living or  
deceased, or to commemorate a birthday,  
special anniversary, or the anniversary of a  
loved one's death. Please call the rectory.





## HAVING DIFFICULTY DEALING WITH OUR STRESSFUL WORLD?

The Holbrook Counseling Center of Catholic Charities provides counseling services at St. Matthias Parish. Cheryl Joseph-Lukz, MA, LCPC is the therapist at St. Matthias. Cheryl is a Licensed Clinical Counselor, and she has worked with individuals, couples and families for over 20 years. Whether you're having problems with personal relationships, work situations or are just feeling unhappy, "stuck", or unfulfilled, we're here for you. We are in network with BC/BS PPO. Please call (312) 655-7725.

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