



[John said,] "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming.... He will baptize you with the holy Spirit and fire.

LUKE 3:16

Spirit-Trained

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

The Spirit that descended upon Jesus is the same Spirit with which we have been baptized. In one way or another, it calls us out into the world, into the lives of others. At times, that call is a passionate desire that burns like fire "eager to do what is good," as Paul wrote to Titus (Titus 2:14). It shows itself as a call to the work we do in life—perhaps parenting, teaching, medical work, or creating jobs through business. The Spirit beckons us into making the world a better place in which to live.

Sometimes, however, the Spirit's voice echoes with calls made to us by others. Teachers are urged to become principals. Employees are recognized as potential managers and supervisors. People receive requests to volunteer in community or school projects. At other times, the Spirit calls us through the needs of life. A child may need to care for an aged parent. A family may have a child with special needs. One-sided relationships may call for a listening ear that saps our patience.

Saint Paul wrote to Titus that, in all of this, we are being trained by God's Spirit to live life as follows: temperately, with a sense of balance, perhaps between giving and receiving; justly, because life is not all about us; and devoutly, for there is a power greater than ourselves (Titus 2:12). It may help to realize that those in training do not always perform their work perfectly. It is the nature of being trained. Trust the Spirit to train you well. ●

Reflect

How is the Spirit training you to make the world a better place?

Saint Benedict Catholic Church

336-272-0303

Website: stbenedictgreensboro.net

Email: Stbenedictgreensboro@rcdoc.org

Parish Office Hours: 9:00am-2:00pm on Wednesday and Friday

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT: As the Roman Catholic Mother Church of Greensboro, St. Benedict's Parish mission, responding faithfully to Christ's call, is to bring all people closer to God through liturgy, fellowship, service, outreach, and works of charity.

Rev. James Duong, Pastor

Lynne McGrath, Secretary & Faith Formation Coordinator

Weekend Mass

Sat. Miraculous Medal

Novena at 4:45pm

Mass at 5:00pm

Sun. Mass at 8am & 11am

Chaplet of Divine

Mercy after 11am

Mass

Confessions

Weekdays before 12:15

Mass

Saturday 4 - 4:30pm

Weekday Mass

Rosary at 11:45am

Mass Monday - Friday

12:15pm

Chaplet of Divine Mercy

after Mass

NO MASS on Thursday

Bulletin requests must be in the Parish Office by noon

Wednesday, ten (10) days in advance of the weekend of publication.

PARISH REGISTRATION: Welcome all new families and individuals. Membership is a condition for the reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion at St. Benedict, and for the parish to issue a sponsorship certificate for those asked to be sacramental sponsors. You must be a registered, contributing member for at least three (3) months before a certificate will be given. Registration forms are available in the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK: If you are seriously ill, going in for surgery or weak from old age, you may receive the sacrament of the anointing of the sick. Please contact Fr. Duong if you desire to receive this sacrament.

HOSPITAL & NURSING HOME & SHUT-IN VISITS: If you or any members of your family are sick and, in the hospital, or a nursing home, and you'd like Communion brought to them, please call the parish office.

FAITH FORMATION: All classes from pre-K to high school are on Sundays from **9:15-10:30am** in the parish hall. For more information call Lynne McGrath.

RCIA: Please call the parish office for more information.

MARRIAGES: Arrangements must be made with a priest/deacon at least six (6) months in advance. Call the parish office for more information.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 12, 2025

For all Christians:

May we live out our baptismal call to proclaim the Gospel
and be messengers of God's love for every human life.

MASS SCHEDULE

INTENTIONS

1/11	Saturday	5:00pm		For the Parishioners
1/12	Sunday	8:00am	+	George & Josephine Masini
		11:00am		The McGrath Family
1/13	Monday	12:15pm		Intention of Father Duc
1/14	Tuesday	12:15pm	+	Luis Masson
1/15	Wednesday	12:15pm		Room at the Inn
1/16	Thursday	NO MASS		
1/17	Friday	12:15pm	+	Jerome Varnum
1/18	Saturday	5:00pm	+	Luis Masson
1/19	Sunday	8:00am		Victor Bliden - birthday
		11:00am		For the Parishioners

Keeping Our Military in Our Prayers

Kharll Skycer Villarin
Sgt. W.R. Williams III
Maj. Russel Henderson
Sgt. Bryanna Spade
Sgt. Kyle Spade
April Ducote
Aaron Gaither
Phillip Kinery
Christopher Simmons
Kris Guffey
Jennifer Kmiecinski

Sick and Shut-In

Please remember our brothers and sisters
in your prayers and at Mass: Carol Camp,
Lynn Clay, Richard Collings, Virgil
Dotson, Martha Eakes, Tracy Edwards,
Bonnie McIntyre, Barbara Parsons,
George Pickett, Dan Popik, Cam Reitzel,
Luke & Heather Robinson, Manny &
Laura Rodrigues, Kim Snyder, Vivian
Speetjens, Marvin Tomlin Jr., Teresa Thu
Tran, Frank Williams, Beth Wilson,
Brian Wilson, Deborah Wilson, Jean
Wilson

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Weekly Offertory	\$ 6,302.00
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God	\$ 838.00

THANK YOU!

MINISTER SCHEDULE: JANUARY 18 and 19

<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>E.M.</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>	<u>CANTOR</u>
5 pm	Bob Nutt	Brendan Hodges	Emily, Gloria	Christine Gnaster
8 am	Trudy Menzzentto	David Kolosieki	Raul, Mary, Jose	
11 am	Bunny Stuart	Laura Rosic	Ava	Choir

REFLECTION



Jesus, whom God called "my beloved Son," is also the "servant" of whom which Isiah speaks in the first reading. We who are baptized in Christ must follow His example and use our time and resources in service to God and neighbor.

LEAVE A LEGACY

Want your heirs to have an estate, not a tax bill? If you are interested in providing for your family *and* your faith family at St. Benedict's, list the church as a beneficiary of your IRA account and leave your other assets to your heirs. Retirement funds inherited by your children and heirs can be subject to heavy income tax. However, those tax consequences are avoided when the funds go directly to a charity like St. Benedict's. It's as simple as contacting your IRA plan administrator to add St. Benedict's to your beneficiary form. You can change this at any time, should your circumstances change.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

How can setting even five or ten minutes aside for prayer each day help me live out my baptismal calling? Can I resolve to do that each day during this jubilee year?



PARISH NEWS



ORDINARY TIME 2025: The season of CHRISTMAS ends today with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Ordinary time begins on Monday, January 13, and continues through Tuesday, March 4, the day before Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the Lenten season. Ordinary Time, the celebration of Sunday, is the identifying mark of the Christian community which comes together, remembering that on

this first day of the week, the Lord of Life was raised up and creation came at last to completion. Sunday as a day of play and worship is a sacrament of redeemed time. How we live Sunday proclaims to the world what we believe about redeemed time now and forever.

INFORMATION FOR YOUR 2024 TAX RETURN: St. Benedict's will mail out individual giving statements to all registered parishioners and regular visitors who have contributed over \$250.00. These statements will serve as the documentation required by the IRS. If you find any mistakes in your statement, please let us know at 336-272-0303. For stock gifts and DSA, the diocese will provide those documentations. Please contact the Diocese of Charlotte at 704-370-3320 if needed. **Be sure we have your current contact information – address, email and phone – in order to ensure your statement(s) are received on time.**

SECOND COLLECTION next weekend, January, 18 & 19, is for the Combined Missions (Churches in Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe, and Africa), U.S. Mission Appeal (Black and Indian Missions), and Catholic Home Missions. Thank you for your generous support of these multiple charities.



MARCH FOR LIFE The National March for Life Bus Trip Pilgrimage is January 23-25.

Join a pro-life pilgrimage to Washington, DC for the nation's biggest pro-life witness! Includes the vigil Mass at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Life Fest with the Sisters of Life, the National March for Life, and more! Tickets are \$200-\$300 and

include lodging and transportation. Student discounts available. Sponsored by the Family Life Office of the Diocese of Charlotte. Questions? respectlife@rcdoc.org.

LADIES GROUP will meet for dinner at 6 p.m. this Tuesday, January 14, at Tripps Restaurant, 4402 W. Wendover Ave., Greensboro. We will be making plans for Father Duc's upcoming anniversary celebration. All women of the parish are welcome!



TIS THE SEASON It is Covid/flu/cold season again. If you have had it, or been exposed to someone who has been sick, please share your act of charity and kindness by remaining at home while you have symptoms and keeping your distance from others. Thank you for understanding.



2025 WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY will be January 18-25. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) has a history of over 100 years, in which Christians around the world have taken part in an octave of prayer for visible Christian unity. By annually observing the WPCU, Christians move toward the fulfillment of Jesus' prayer at the Last Supper "that they all may be one." (cf. John 17:21)

NEW BEGINNINGS January is a time for renewal and new beginnings. We make commitments to live better, healthier, more faith-filled.

Here are 5 recommendations for a more peace-filled year:

- 1. Choose Quiet** - Noise can distract us, drowning out the voice of the Holy Spirit. Find a quiet place to reflect each day.
- 2. Choose Prayer** - Whether you read daily from the Lives of the Saints, pick up a rosary, or meditate on the Gospel, find a way to strengthen your relationship with Christ. How are you working towards a Christ-centered life?
- 3. Choose Joy** - In times of difficulty, choose to share joy. Serve others, do random acts of kindness, bring hope to those around you. Go to confession more often, so you are unburdened by sin.
- 4. Choose Sainthood** - Becoming a saint is not easy. Much like love and the cross, sainthood must be chosen, every day, multiple times a day. When you choose sainthood in the little things, you begin to form healthy habits that guide you through choosing Him in the BIG decisions.
- 5. Choose Peace** - It may seem selfish, but putting your peace first, on occasion, is necessary. Setting healthy boundaries for the people that bring drama into your life can be difficult to do, but will provide peace, and help you protect yourself from unnecessary pain and disruption

This week we say **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to:

Delilah Michel (1/11), Christian Garcia (1/13), Hubert Fiery (1/14),
Allison Victory (1/15), John Macner (1/15), Tim Whelan (1/17)



Faith Formation



*Sunday School 2025 for those age 3 through high school
is from 9:15 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. every Sunday in the parish hall.*



January 12, 2025

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

The Baptism of the Lord

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 | Acts 10:34-38 | Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

In many renditions of the Baptism of Jesus, artists connect the scene at the Jordan River with Jesus' death. A withered tree, for example, reminds us of the cross, or a mountain points to Mount Calvary. These connections show a real relationship between Jesus' baptism and his passion: his baptism marks the acceptance and beginning of his mission, which would ultimately lead to his crucifixion. For us, too, baptism is a decisive moment which destines us for – you guessed it – death! Not physical death (which will happen regardless), but a death to everything that is not of God. By making us part of God's family as his adopted children, our baptism summons us to "die" to our old life of sin and take on new life in Christ. This means turning away each day from sin so we can become increasingly fit to spend eternity with God. Like Jesus who rose both from the baptismal waters and from the tomb, we are meant, by our daily efforts to be faithful – to "rise" with him in the new life he won for us.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

After Jesus is baptized, two important events occur immediately: the Holy Spirit descends upon him while God the Father proclaims his delight in his Son: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." Here we see the profound meaning of our own baptism and its effects. In addition to cleansing us from the stain of original sin, baptism: 1) gives us the gift of the Holy Spirit; and 2) welcomes us into God's family as his adopted children. Armed with the Holy Spirit and the assurance of God's fatherly care, we are equipped to engage in the daily struggle of dying-and-rising in Christ. We can always call on the Holy Spirit for strength when we face temptations or difficult decisions. Likewise, when we are discouraged or we confront our own weaknesses, we can look to the Father for help. Recall the words which the Father spoke to Jesus, and which he says to us in our baptism (and he doesn't take them back): *You are my beloved son. You are my beloved daughter. With you I am well pleased.*

CELEBRATE

Find the date (or approximate date) of your baptism and the baptismal dates of your immediate family members. Make a list of the dates and spend time thanking God for his fatherly care for you. Then, when someone's baptismal anniversary comes around, make sure to celebrate!

Dear Padre,

We are told that we are baptized into Jesus' death and resurrection, and that baptism is necessary for our salvation. But why was Jesus baptized?

Jesus was baptized, not because he needed saving, but so that others might be saved. By accepting baptism, he established this act as the normative path for salvation. Saint John Chrysostom addressed this question: "Though [Christ] needed not baptism for his own sake, yet carnal nature in others had need thereof." Or as St. Gregory Nazianzen said more poetically: "Christ was baptized that he might plunge the old Adam entirely in the water."

Another reason Jesus accepted baptism is suggested by St. Augustine. He said our Lord was baptized "because he wished to do what he had commanded all to do." This is true servant leadership—not asking of others what one is not willing to do oneself. Or as St. Ambrose said, "This is justice, to do first thyself that which thou wishest another to do, and so encourage others by thy example."

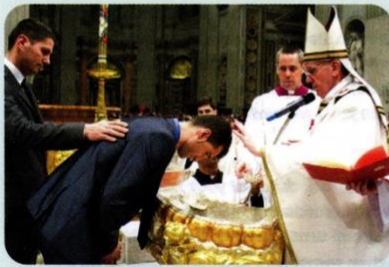
Perhaps as we launch into a new year, we might try to remember our baptismal promise to "put on Christ" and imitate Jesus in this way: to not ask of anyone—our children or parents; employers or employees; teachers or students; principals or pastors; or even presidents—what we do not ask of ourselves, especially when it comes to honesty, dedication, civility, and charity.

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
January 13	January 14	January 15	January 16	January 17	January 18	January 19
<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>St. Anthony, Abbot</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
Heb 1:1–6 Mk 1:14–20	Heb 2:5–12 Mk 1:21–28	Heb 2:14–18 Mk 1:29–39	Heb 3:7–14 Mk 1:40–45	Heb 4:1–5, 11 Mk 2:1–12	Heb 4:12–16 Mk 2:13–17	Is 62:1–5 1 Cor 12:4–11 Jn 2:1–11



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A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Let us thank the Lord for baptism. Let us also thank him for the parents who brought us to the font, for those who administered the sacrament...for the community in which we received him.... Do I acknowledge, in my life, the light of the presence of God, who sees me as his beloved son, his beloved daughter?

ANGELUS, ROME, JANUARY 7, 2024