



They left everything
and followed him.

LUKE 5:11

Unsolicited Calls

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

Sometimes life calls us to a place that feels just right, as if it's where we're meant to be. I know a person who has always wanted to be a dad, and so he is—a stay-at-home dad of three, and he loves it. On the other hand, sometimes life's calls unfold in directions beyond our plans and seem to flow from a wisdom greater than our own. Author John Grisham studied to be a lawyer, something that unfolded into his becoming a writer of mysteries and thrillers instead. Calls seem to be written upon our spirits. How else would God call us?

Isaiah, Paul, and Peter found themselves called by God into lives they never wanted, baffled by God's whys and wherefores. Their calls pushed them into lives they initially resisted.

Such calls can happen to us as well. A man finds himself caring for his aged mother after his father's death. His siblings seem unwilling or unable to help, so there is no one else. Grandparents find themselves raising their grandchildren because their son's or daughter's life is frayed beyond repair, and there is no one else to nurture and love the children. The calls of God at times are calls into lives not of our own choosing. They arise from greater needs when there seems to be no one else but us to say "yes." Our reluctance and anxiety may attest that these calls come from God. They then become paths to ever-deepening faith and trust in God. ●

Reflect

**Do you experience God calling you?
What is your answer?**

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 FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 9, 2025

For all who are imprisoned, especially those sentenced to death:
That they may have the ears to hear the Lord's ceaseless
call and know of His endless mercy and love.

MASS SCHEDULE

INTENTIONS

2/8	Saturday	5:00pm	+	Van and Betty Nutt
2/9	Sunday	8:00am		For the Parishioners
		11:00am	+	Marlene C. Nolan
2/10	Monday	12:15pm		Charlee Mumphrey family & all intentions
2/11	Tuesday	12:15pm		In honor of Our Lady of Lourdes
2/12	Wednesday	12:15pm	+	L.C Scheidelman
2/13	Thursday	NO MASS		
2/14	Friday	12:15pm		Room at the Inn
2/15	Saturday	5:00pm	+	Frank & Mary Otherski
2/16	Sunday	8:00am		For the Parishioners
		11:00am	+	Tina Fantigrossi

Keeping Our Military in Our Prayers

Kharl Skycer Villarin
Sgt. W.R. Williams III
Maj. Russel Henderson
Sgt. Bryanna Spade
Sgt. Kyle Spade
April Ducote
Aaron Gaither
Phillip Kiniery
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	\$ 4,532.00
Maintenance Fund	\$ 1,103.00

THANK YOU!

MINISTER SCHEDULE: FEBRUARY 15 AND 16

<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>E.M.</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>	<u>CANTOR</u>
5 pm	John Foley	Gloria Foley	Emily, Gloria	Christina Nutt
8 am	Julia Ray	David Kolosieke	Raul, Mary, Jose	
11 am	Myra Vazquez	Laura Rosic	Ava	Choir

REFLECTION



In today's readings, both Isaiah and Peter hear the call of God and feel themselves unworthy. But, reassured by the Lord, both answer and follow. Do I hear the Lord asking, "Whom shall I send?" Am I prepared to answer: "Here I am. Send me!"

LEAVE A LEGACY We extend our heartfelt appreciation to those of you who have informed us that you are including St. Benedict's in your estate plan, and the others who are considering blessing our parish in this way. Your gift will benefit future generations of parishioners for years to come by providing or enhancing the same experiences we have enjoyed. Thank you for leaving your legacy of faith at St. Benedict's.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

When have I felt like I was in deep water, in over my head, when doing something I felt called by God to do? Did I overcome my fear or discomfort and how?



PARISH NEWS

**DIOCESAN
SUPPORT
APPEAL** 2025

Reflecting God's Light

THE DIOCESAN SUPPORT APPEAL (DSA) 2025 has officially begun. This year's theme is "Reflecting God's Light". We are all called to respond to the needs of our brothers and sisters both here in our parish and in the diocese. Yet most of us are not able to drop everything and work for the Church. Also, most of us are not qualified to provide such services as counseling, refugee resettlement, adoption, natural family planning, prison ministry, sacramental preparation, and many more. But we can do it through financial contributions which support the work of the Church in areas such as these. The DSA provides funding for more than 50 ministries and programs in the Piedmont and Western North Carolina. **The target for St. Benedict's is \$31,234.**

ANNIVERSARY UPDATE The Ladies Group is inviting fellow parishioner to celebrate Father Duc's 20th anniversary as our priest and pastor on Sunday, February 23, at 12:30 p.m. in the parish hall. The main menu is Italian-themed with Chicken Rigatoni and Baked Ziti. Sign-up sheets are in both vestibules. Please add the number of attendees so we will have enough food, and also whether you would like to bring a salad or dessert.



SPECIAL COLLECTION As you've seen in the news, the wildfires in Los Angeles have devastated many communities. The fires have left hundreds homeless or stranded. Tragically, many lives have been lost. In this time of crisis, our faith compels us to help. As Jesus reminds us in Matthew 25:40, "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me". We invite you to participate in a special second collection.

All funds raised help individuals and families in these communities. Your financial support will provide life-giving essentials like water, food, diapers, baby formula and more. Your support will also help with the long-term recovery efforts as individuals and families work to rebuild their lives. Please prayerfully consider what you can give, knowing your support will offer comfort and hope to those facing unimaginable loss. Every gift, no matter the size, is an act of love and mercy. Checks should be made payable to St. Benedict's and marked "CA Fire Relief". Thank you for your generosity and may God bless you for your kindness.

CONGRATULATIONS! to Sonya Beeler and Richard Gordon Davis who were married January 31 at St. Benedict's. May you be blessed with many happy, healthy, loving years together.





LIFE AND LOVE The observances of National Marriage Week (Feb. 7-14) and World Marriage Day (Sunday, Feb. 9) are an opportunity to focus on building a culture of life and love that begins with supporting and promoting marriage and the family. This year's theme is "**Marriage: Source of Hope, Spring of Renewal. Pursue a Lasting Love!**"

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS are needed at the 11 a.m. Mass. What better way to serve St. Benedict's than to distribute Our Lord's most precious Body to your fellow parishioners. Please give thoughtful prayer to this ministry. If you are interested, or have any questions, call the parish office at 336-272-0303. Thank you.

CAN YOU HELP? One of our long-time parishioners, Richard Collings, has recently been hospitalized but is expected to return home shortly. In the meantime, his wife, Karen, has been dividing her time between home and Chapel Hill, where their daughter, Kimberly Oliver, is being treated for cancer. When home, Richard needs someone to stay with him from time to time when other family members or help is not available. If any parishioners are able to visit with Richard for an hour or two (or more) to keep him company, it would be greatly appreciated. No medical experience is necessary. If you'd like to have your name added to a "call list" please contact Trudy Menzzento at 336-339-5557 (call or text) or Trudy.Menzzento@gmail.com.

ALTAR FLOWERS were donated by Roslyn Peterson this week. Thank you!

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.

***** During inclement weather, check our website for any cancellations *****

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

Jerome Mensah (2/8), Donald Cook (2/8), Denise Cook (2/8),
Asa Robinson (2/10)





February 9, 2025

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 6:1-2a, 3-8 | 1 Cor 15:1-11 | Lk 5:1-11

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

“Woe is me, I am doomed!” “I am the least of the apostles, not fit to be called an apostle.” “Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.” Do you notice a theme today? Each of these lines – taken from our readings – reveals the humbling reality that when humans stand in the glorious presence of God, we must confront the Truth, look at ourselves honestly, and recognize our sin. We are reminded of the Garden, when original sin disfigured human nature and Adam and Eve, realizing their nakedness, hid themselves from God. The story would be tragic if that had been the end. But in today’s readings and in our own lives, the crippling effects of our sin are *not* the end. By becoming aware of our sin – agonizing though this may be – we invite the Lord in. It’s the crack in the door that he will enter, bringing mercy and freedom found only in him.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Each of today’s readings shows how God’s presence leads us to acknowledge our lack; however, that’s only “step one.” Notice what happens next in each instance. “Your wickedness is removed, your sin purged.” “But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me has not been ineffective.” “Jesus said to Simon, ‘Do not be afraid.’” See how, in each example, hearts are transformed from shame and guilt to courage and confidence. The readings explain how as each person is freed, they are compelled to act boldly. So, what changed? The same thing that can happen in our own lives: as we acknowledge our sin, we open ourselves to the flow of grace. We allow the Lord to heal and free us, making us radiant and setting our hearts on fire with love.

PLAN

Choose one virtue you’d like to cultivate in order to root out a sinful habit. Then make a plan to practice that virtue. It can be as simple as “I will always pray to the Holy Spirit before I talk to that person at work who bothers me.” Make sure your plan is: (1) specific [“I will never sin again” doesn’t count], and (2) doable [“I will pray every day for six hours to grow in patience” is not possible for most people]. Finally, offer your plan to God and ask him for whatever strength, grace, and healing you need to grow in that virtue.

Dear Padre,

Who was St. Valentine? Do our Valentine's Day traditions of love and romance have anything to do with the actual St. Valentine?

There were actually three St. Valentines. One was a priest who was beheaded in Rome on February 14 in the year 269. Another was a bishop, who was also martyred in the third century. Both are buried on the Appian Way in Rome. The third St. Valentine is a lesser-known saint who died in Africa with a number of companions during the early centuries of the Church. The tomb of this St. Valentine became a center of popular devotion in the early Middle Ages. In 496, Pope Gelasius set aside February 14 to honor this particular St. Valentine.

The popular romantic customs that surround our present Valentine's Day trace their origins back to the Middle Ages. The English writer Geoffrey Chaucer noted that halfway through the second month of the year, February 14, the birds begin to choose their mates. For this reason, the day was looked upon as specially consecrated to lovers and as a proper occasion for writing love letters and sending lovers' tokens. People who gave or received these tokens or letters were referred to as "valentines." In the Middle Ages, a legend also developed that St. Valentine the priest left a farewell note for his jailer's daughter, who had become his friend, and that he signed that note "From Your Valentine." ●



SOKOR SPACE / SHUTTERSTOCK

[The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org](http://TheRedemptorists/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
February 10 <i>St. Scholastica, Virgin</i> Gn 1:1-19 Mk 6:53-56	February 11 <i>Weekday</i> Gn 1:20-2:4a Mk 7:1-13	February 12 <i>Weekday</i> Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17 Mk 7:14-23	February 13 <i>Weekday</i> Gn 2:18-25 Mk 7:24-30	February 14 <i>Sts. Cyril, Monk and Methodius, Bishop</i> Gn 3:1-8 Mk 7:31-37	February 15 <i>Weekday</i> Gn 3:9-24 Mk 8:1-10	February 16 <i>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Jer 17:5-8 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20 Lk 6:17, 20-26



ANTOINE Y. MEKARY / SHUTTERSTOCK

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

With Jesus, we sail the sea of life without fear...without giving up and saying, "there is nothing more that can be done." Always...there is something beautiful and courageous that can be done, always. We can always start over.... So let us accept the invitation: let us...put out to sea with Jesus!

ANGELUS, ROME, FEBRUARY 6, 2022