

Food in the Desert

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

oday, Sue lives in a retirement community. She no longer drives, so she walks the few blocks to the grocery store for her simple needs. One day, she took her checkbook to pay for some groceries because she had lost her credit card and had not yet received a new one. The store, however, would not accept personal checks without some identification, and, without a driver's license to show, she found herself in a swirl of distraught frustration. That was when the person behind her in line offered to pay her \$11 bill. She was overwhelmed and called to tell me about the stranger's kindness to her.

Throughout the Scriptures, deserts were always places of chaos and abandon, but they were also places where people were fed by God. In the desert, the wandering Hebrews were fed manna; in the desert, Jonah was fed when he wanted to give up; in the desert, Jesus was sustained by God; and in today's Gospel, Jesus fed the crowd in that "deserted" place with five loaves and two fish. In so many ways, it is when we find ourselves in the deserts

of life, feeling abandoned and hungering for solutions to our needs, that we recognize God feeding us. Sometimes, it occurs in simple, unexpected ways, as it did for Sue. At other times, we are fed with the strength to endure and make our way through a difficult time to the other side of life's storms.

Doffort

Reflect on your experiences of loss and abundance, loneliness and acts of kindness, and struggles and grace.

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

<u>PARISH MISSION STATEMENT</u>: 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 or in the hospital or a nursing home, and you'd like Communion brought to you/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 MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI)

JUNE 22, 2025

For all who are persecuted because of their faith:

May they be freed from persecution and violence, and find safety, refuge, and peace.

MASS SCHEDULE

<u>INTENTIONS</u>

6/21	Saturday	5:00pm	+	Elvira Salmoni
6/22	Sunday	8:00am	+	Msgr. Joseph Showfety
		11:00am		For the Parishioners
6/23	Monday	12:15pm	+	Alma Scheidelman
6/24	Tuesday	12:15pm		Room at the Inn
6/25	Wednesday	12:15pm	+	Marta Locatetti
6/26	Thursday	NO MASS		
6/27	Friday	12:15pm		In Honor of the Most Sacred Heart of
	•	•		Jesus & the Immaculate Heart of Mary
6/28	Saturday	5:00pm	+	Msgr. Joseph Showfety
6/29	Sunday	8:00am		For the Parishioners
		11:00am	+	Petar Rosic

⁺ denotes deceased

Keeping Our Military in Our Prayers

Khiem Villarin
Kharll 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: Lynn Clay, Richard Collings, Virgil Dotson, Janice Drasler, Martha Eakes, Tracy Edwards, Kimberly Oliver, Barbara Parsons, George Pickett, Dan Popik, Cam Reitzel, Luke & Heather Robinson, Manny & Laura Rodrigues, Stefano Rosic, Kim Snyder, Vivian Speetjens, Marvin Tomlin Jr., Teresa Thu Tran, Roberta VanPelt, Frank Williams, Susan Wilson, Brian Wilson, Jean Wilson

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Weekly Offertory

\$ 3,490.00

THANK YOU!

MINISTER SCHEDULE: JUNE 28 AND 29

<u>MASS</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>E.M.</u>	<u>ALTAR SERVERS</u>	<u>CANTOR</u>
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5 pm Christine Nutt Geoff Stephany Emily, Jelyssa Amy Nutt

8 am Linda McClendon David Kolosieke Raul, Mary, Jose

11 am Bunny Stuart Bill McCutcheon Ava Choir

REFLECTION



In today's Gospel, the disciples suggest that Jesus disperse the crowd so that they might individually seek food and lodging. The miracle of the feeding of the five thousand is Jesus' powerful reminder that when we *share* our gifts in His name there is always more than enough!

LEAVE A LEGACY

Name Us Last! Have you included St. Benedict's in your will or trust? In your will or trust, after all your family and friends have been taken care of, name our parish as a recipient of the residuary (the amount that is left). Thank you to those of you who have already included St. Benedict's in your estate plans.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

During the week ahead, how will I offer myself in imitation of Jesus to nourish or sustain someone else?



PARISH NEWS



Reflecting God's Light

<u>THE DIOCESAN SUPPORT APPEAL (DSA) 2025</u> is underway. We are all called to respond to the needs of our brothers and sisters both here in our parish and in the diocese. **The target for St. Benedict's is \$31,234.** To date, 29 families have donated or pledged. Thank you!

<u>IT'S NOT TOO LATE</u> to sign up for Vacation Bible School, which will take place this week. Please contact Lynne McGrath, Director of Faith Formation, at 336-690-9558. Don't miss out on this week of games, snacks and fun with others while learning more about our faith.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WEEK will take place this week, June 22 to 29. Through prayer, education, and action resources provided by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, USCCB promotes the importance of preserving the essential right of religious freedom for Catholics and for those of all faiths. Daily prayer and reflection resources for each day of Religious Freedom Week are available at: www.usccb.org/ReligiousFreedomWeek.



NEXT STEPS: Over the last two years St. Benedict parishioners have been very generous in donating household goods and in helping set up homes for new refugee families. Thank you! Despite the curtailment of new refugee arrivals, our parish is still partnering with World Relief Triad (our 'Welcome the Stranger' partner) by focusing on helping existing refugee families become self-sufficient. While many refugee families in the Greensboro/High Point area have found jobs, there are still many others who need help with learning English, transportation, getting their driver's license, finding work and general support. If anyone would be willing to be on a 'call list' for transportation, has ESL skills or would be willing to be an ESL teacher's helper, or knows of an employment opportunity, please contact Steve Finger at 864-247-8815 (call or text).

ENJOY YOUR SUMMER VACATION! Many parishioners are traveling out of town this summer. If you need to locate a Catholic church prior to traveling, or while you're away, this link will help: **Masstimes.org**. We hope to see you again soon.



WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST PARISHIONERS/FAMILIES:

Jim & Susie Zatolokin Alex Zatolokin Carol Lynn Anderson







Vacation Bible School 2025 will take place this week for youth in grades pre-school through seventh grade. (Registration is still open!)
Please remember these, and all our young parishioners, in your prayers for a safe and enjoyable summer.

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

Margaret Busch (6/21), James Zatolokin (6/22), Cindy Sullivan (6/23), Robert Hunt (6/25)





A JUBILEE PILGRIMAGE 2025

Fr. James Duong at St. Benedict Parish in Greensboro,

Fr. Tien Duong at St. Francis Assisi in Franklin,

Fr. Tri Duong at St. John University in New York, invite you to join them on a 12-day pilgrimage to ITALY...

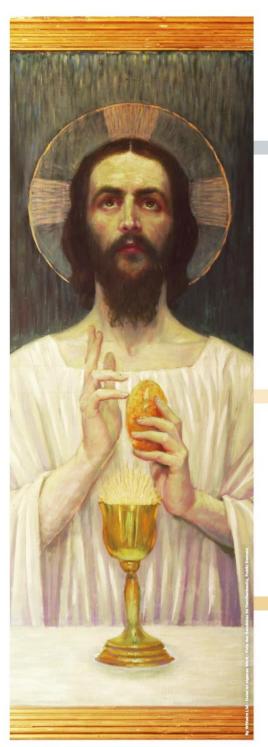
... to visit PADRE PIO, St. FRANCIS, St. CLARE, St. BENEDICT

... to have a Papal audience with Pope Leo...

... to visit JUBILEE DOORS at 4 major basilicas...

... and Our Lady of Medjugorje.

For further information, please call Fr. James Duong at 336-272-0303 or djduong@rcdoc.org or check here for details: trip.nativitypilgrimage.com/np4256



June 22, 2025

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

Gen 14:18-20 | 1 Cor 11:23-26 | Lk 9:11b-17

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

Today's feast is set apart to reverence the gift of Jesus in the Eucharist. In our limited human capacity, this concept can feel abstract, and we may struggle to understand it. In these moments, I find that pondering the person of Jesus Christ in the Gospels illuminates my mind and heart. Hearing the familiar story of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes in today's Gospel, I'm particularly struck by the first line of the passage: "Jesus spoke to the crowds about the kingdom of God, and he healed those who needed to be cured." Notice that Luke doesn't say that Jesus heals everyone, rather, he heals those who need to be cured. This is not an act of favoritism, but a revelation of his perfect divine wisdom and a glimpse into the true person of Jesus Christ. In his great mercy and perfect love, Jesus knew instantly what each person needed. And this Jesus, who came to heal and cure, is the one we receive in the Eucharist today.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today's feast is a reminder of the staggering truth that 2,000 years later, at every Eucharistic celebration in Catholic churches around the world, Christ becomes truly present. The same Jesus of the Gospels who taught the crowds, multiplied the loaves, and gave himself completely on the cross, gives himself to us *today:* body, blood, soul, and divinity. We are not unlike the crowds in today's Gospel — we have come with our hopes and needs to encounter Jesus. Today, at this table, no one goes hungry; Jesus meets our needs by giving us his unconditional love while nourishing us both physically and spiritually. We can be reassured that God is always present in our lives.

REFLECT

In a special way today, reflect on the Eucharist, the "source and summit of the Christian life." The word Eucharist comes from Greek and Latin words for "thanksgiving." Pray with a grateful heart today that Jesus, the Bread of Life, makes himself truly present to us.

"I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst." (Jn 6:35)

Dear Padre,

Some of my non-Catholic friends say the bread and wine are just symbols of the Body and Blood of Jesus. Is there documented proof that we receive the Body and Blood at Communion?

Your non-Catholic friends are accurately representing their understanding of the Eucharist within their Christian denomination, but it is not the Catholic understanding. Catholics believe that, "in the most blessed sacrament of the Eucharist, the 'body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ, and therefore, the whole Christ, is truly, really, and substantially contained" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1374). Therefore, Catholics do not believe that the Eucharist is a symbol of Jesus but rather, "This presence is called 'real'" (CCC 1374).

JEMASTOCK / SHUTTERSTOCK

To answer your question regarding "documented proof," this can be offered only by the consistent and unchanging witness of the Christian community, found in the Catholic Church, that has never wavered in belief or practice of this understanding. At the same time, we understand that it is a mystery. It is not something that can be placed under a microscope or dissected. As a mystery, it is not subject to the laws of science and biology. Such laws are not applied to theological mystery, which goes beyond what can be physically seen but is "seen" through the eyes of faith. As the hymn proclaims: "Look beyond the bread you eat, see your Savior and your Lord" ("Look Beyond," Darryl Ducote).

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

There is hunger for food around us, but also for companionship; there is hunger for consolation... there is hunger to be evangelized. We find this in the eucharistic bread—Christ's attention to our needs and the invitation to do the same toward those who are beside us. We need to eat and to feed others.

ANGELUS, ROME, JUNE 19, 2022

Monday June 23

Weekday Gn 12:1-9 Mt 7:1-5

Tuesday

June 24 The Nativity of St. John the Baptist Is 49:1–6 Acts 13:22–26 Lk 1:57–66, 80

Wednesday

June 25 Weekday Gn 15:1-12, 17-18

Mt 7:15-20

Thursday

June 26 Weekday Gn 16:1–12, 15– 16 or 16:6b–12, 15–16

Mt 7:21-29

Lk 15:3-7

Friday
June 27
The Most Sacred
Heart of Jesus
Ez 34:11-16
Rom 5:5b-11

Saturday

June 28 Weekday Gn 18:1-15 Mt 8:5-17

Sunday

June 29 Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles Acts 12:1–11 2 Tm 4:6–8, 17–18 Mt 16:13–19

Do you have a question for the Padre?

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

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