

# St. Benedict Parish

## St. John the Baptist Mission Church

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

08/24/2025



### The Challenge to Enter through the “Narrow Gate”

Modern psychology gives great importance to “feeling good” and “loving oneself” as a precondition to love others. But in today’s Gospel passage, Jesus warns us that there is no easy way to be his disciples as He declares that the Kingdom of God can be “accessed” only through a “narrow gate.”

Discipleship is never meant to be the equivalent of

“looking out for number one.” Obviously, Jesus is not speaking of a material gate but of the “narrow gate” of daily faithfulness to one’s duties and the loyal observance of God’s law in all circumstances of life. That is what makes life challenging, but that is also the only way that leads to eternal happiness in heaven. In this Eucharist, let us ask for the grace to have the moral strength to choose the “narrow gate” of keeping God’s commandments in preference to the wide gate of self-entitlement, self-indulgence and other forms of self-gratification.

### First Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah 66:18-21

Through the prophet Isaiah, today the Lord reminds us that His plan encompasses all human beings and cultures. We, too, are part of that wonderful plan conceived by God’s immense love for all.

### Second Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews 12:5-7.11-13

The author of the Letter to the Hebrews reminds us that the difficulties and sufferings we have to endure in life are ways through which God disciplines us as His children, for our greater good.

### Gospel Luke 13:22-30

The possibility of belonging to the Kingdom of heaven is open to all, but subject to a basic condition: to live a life according to the teaching of Jesus. That is the “narrow gate” that leads to everlasting life.

# Becoming Holy Disciples

**Today's** readings show us that it is not enough to be Christ's disciples in name only. To be a real disciple, we must live for Christ every day and in every aspect of life. This kind of life takes strength and discipline.

**Intentionally** and consistently offering the Lord the best of our Time, Talent, and Treasure through a stewardship way of life is a form of spiritual discipline. These spiritual disciplines teach us to become ever more aware of God's constant provision for us and they keep us on the narrow path towards the Kingdom of Heaven. The more we embrace this way of life, the more we can be "trained" by the Lord in the ways of true discipleship. Though difficult, these disciplines become a source of spiritual strength.

**Our** Lord Himself speaks of the difficult path to the Kingdom of Heaven in today's Gospel passage from Luke. He is asked, "Lord, will only a few be saved?" Jesus responds, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." Showing up for Mass on Sunday while living as if Christ is an afterthought the rest of the week does not make us disciples. What's more, this approach to our faith is an unjust and unloving response to our good God who has given us all that we have and are.

**Jesus** does not want us to merely go through the motions of faith. He wants much more from us and for us. He wants to know us deeply and for us to get to know Him so that we become His holy disciples. This is not a burden; it is a privilege. But it does take discipline, the discipline of a stewardship way of life.

©Catholic Stewardship Consultants  
[www.CatholicSteward.com](http://www.CatholicSteward.com)

August 16-17, 2025

## Mass intentions

**SAT. 6:00 +Doreen Gomes**

**SUN. 8:00 +Jim Heudex**

**10:00 Sangalang family, for living & deceased members**

**WEEKDAYS (no daily mass)**

**TUES> +Cathy Misch**

**WED > +Bernard Haena**

**THURS> Tom, Mary & Chris-  
Anniversary and birthday**

**FRI> Misa Pro Populo**

## Stewardship of Treasure

**Thank you  
for your generosity!**

**Week of July 20 2025**

**\$ 1,947.25 Collection**

**330.00 Maintenance**

**95.00 Food Pantry**

**435.00 Assumption**

**2,752.25 Total**

### Attendance

St. Benedict	22	3
St. John	<u>91</u>	<u>10</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>13</b>

**PayPal continues to be the option for donations and Mass Intentions. If you are making a donation for the Parking Lot or Mass Intention, you must say that on the PayPal form, so that the donation is recorded correctly.**

**NEW QR CODE FOR PARKING LOT. THE DONATION OPTION, WHICH IS NOT PAYPAL, IT WILL LOOK DIFFERENT THAN PAYPAL. FUNDS ARE SENT DIRECTLY TO CHURCH BANK ACCOUNT. There are 2 options shown on our website, One option continues to be PayPal.**

**[thepaintedchurchwail.org](http://thepaintedchurchwail.org)**

**FOR STRENGTH AND HEALING , GRACIOUS LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYERS...**

*Paul Ruskey	*Carla Vonderahe	*Mahina Kaupiko
*John Sanchis	Susan Keen	*Kamala Galletes
*Drew Sanbei	*Keiki San Filippo	*Hank Silva
*Marguerite Naito	*Miriam Janczak	*Joevelyn Delas Reyes
*Kathy Wood	*Gwen Menchaca	*Deb Reed,
*William Anderson	*Elizabeth Aw	*Johnny Koene



MON August 25  
Weekday  
1 Thes 1:1–5,  
8b–10 Mt 23:13–  
22 TUES Au-  
gust 26 Weekday  
1 Thes 2:1–8  
Mt 23:23–26

WED August 27  
St. Monica  
1 Thes 2:9–13  
Mt 23:27–32  
THURSDAY 28  
St. Augustine,  
Bishop and Doc-  
tor of the Church  
1 Thes 3:7–13  
M 24:42–51 FRI  
August 29 The  
Passion of St.  
John the Baptist  
1 Thes 4:1–8 Mk  
6:17–29  
SAT August 30  
Weekday  
1 Thes 4:9–11  
Mt 25:14–30  
SUN August 31  
Twenty-second  
Sunday in  
Ordinary Time  
Sir 3:17–18, 20,  
28–29 Heb  
12:18–19, 22–  
24a Lk 114:1, 7–  
14



## Dear Padre,

*My wife mentioned that neither the Book of Mormon nor the Catholic Bible mentions purgatory. Please comment.*

A not-uncommon frustration is when a person searches the Bible for a particular word or phrasing. Frankly, it is expecting too much from the religious text to be able to faithfully record a particular word or phrase that originated hundreds of years after the ancient text was composed. Purgatory is one such example of this frustration. The concept of purgatory is referenced in the biblical text, particularly in 2 Corinthians 5:10 and 7:1, Hebrews 9:27 and 12:14, and 2 Maccabees 12:46, but the word is never used. This should come as no real surprise because it was not until the writings of St. Thomas Aquinas (1225–1274) that the concept was expanded and formed into a theological statement of belief that has become central to Roman Catholicism.

And what is that belief? The Catechism of the Catholic Church is clear: “All who die in God’s grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven. The Church gives the name purgatory to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned” (CCC, 1030, 1031a). The Book of Mormon never references purgatory, but it does speak about the afterlife and the experience of “waiting” in the spirit world for the completion of earthly time. • Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org

With permission by Liguori Press

Processional: #458 Alleluia Sing to Jesus

Responsorial Psalm: # 990 Go out to all the world and tell the Good News

Presentation of Gifts: #678 O God You Search Me

Communion: #836 Panis Angelicus 1.Latin,1English, 2 Latin, 2 English

Recessional:#753 In the Day of the Lord



## Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Treasure Hunt



[*Luke 13:22-30, Isaiah 66:18-21,  
& Hebrews 12:5-7 & 11-13*]

1. In this week's Gospel, Jesus said, "Strive to enter the n \_\_\_\_\_ gate, for many will a \_\_\_\_\_ to enter, but will not be s \_\_\_\_\_ enough."
2. **Which** of these three prophets was **not** named in the Gospel as present in the Kingdom of God?  
A) Abraham    B) Moses    C) Jacob
3. Jesus concludes this week's Gospel with this important message: "Some are l \_\_\_\_\_ who will be first, and some are f \_\_\_\_\_ who will be last."
4. In the *First Reading*, Isaiah recalls the words of Jesus: "...I come to gather n \_\_\_\_\_ of every l \_\_\_\_\_; they shall come and see my g \_\_\_\_\_."
5. In St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews, he offers a perspective to Jesus' reprovals (scolding) in the Gospel. Paul compares Jesus' rebukes to d \_\_\_\_\_ a f \_\_\_\_\_ gives to his s \_\_\_\_\_.

### Answers to Last Week's Treasure Hunt

#### Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

-**1** Jesus' coming will greatly affect the world; -**2**- the symbolic baptism of His suffering and death; -**3**- division (not peace); -**4**- believers vs. non-believers; -**5**- to demoralize the soldiers and the people; -**6**- burden & sin; -**7**- Jesus.

DEAR VISITOR TO ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC CHURCH,  
ALOHA! THANK YOU FOR VISITING US TODAY!

WE WISH YOU A BEAUTIFUL EXPERIENCE AND THAT YOU LEAVE ST. BENEDICT'S, TODAY, REFRESHED IN SPIRIT AND WITH PEACE IN YOUR HEART! SINCE THE EARLY DAYS OF THE CHURCH, IT HAS BEEN A CATHOLIC TRADITION TO OFFER A "MASS INTENTION". THIS IS A WAY OF REMEMBERING A PERSON AND LIFTING THEM UP IN PRAYER. YOU MAY ASK THE GREETER FOR A FORM AND ENVELOPE.



© Jean Denton flock.pastoralcenter.com

"Whom the Lord loves, he disciplines."

### Sheepish Question:

What recent setback do I now recognize as a moment of spiritual growth?



St. Benedict Catholic Church