

ST. BENEDICT HOLY NAME SOCIETY



AUGUST 2015 Newsletter Calendar

Wednesday, August 5

Radio Rosary
5:50pm

Thursday August 13

Regular Meeting
7PM



**From Warner's
Desk
Warner Daniel
President**

At our July meeting there was an impromptu discussion of what the Holy Name Society purpose is, or put another way, what we are.

I decided to look at the National Holy Name Society web site to see what they had to offer. Enclosed is what I found. Obviously, these are only suggested activities and each society must make its own decisions. It made interesting reading and I hope you will take the time to look over carefully, "What we do". I was elated to see that much of what we do is a part of suggested activities. Many of our activities are included and some things we do are not. I think we are a good fit.

Many of the activities mentioned are done daily and weekly by our members. The downside is not enough of our members take an active roll in activities at St Benedict. Participation is an issue that is left only to you.

In any event I am proud of our Society and believe we make a difference. I also believe we are in line with the way other Holy Name Societies operate.

God Bless

Warner

Members of the Holy Name Society – both individually and collectively in parish Societies – are called to build the kingdom of God in their parishes and communities by completing Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. These works can be categorized into three main areas - Spiritual, Service, and Social.

SPIRITUAL

Promotes devotion to and respect for the most Holy Names of God and Jesus;

Encourages frequent reception of the Sacraments of Confession and Holy Eucharist;

Promotes daily Mass attendance, prayer and spiritual reading; Participates in Eucharistic Adoration;

Promotes memorial masses;

Participates and sponsors Eucharistic and Marian Processions and Vigils;

Sponsors, coordinates and participates in spiritual conferences, weekend retreats and days of recollection;

Holds prayer vigils for the canonization of Blessed John of Vercelli;

SERVICE

Visits the sick and the dying;

Visits and becomes a Pen Pal to the Incarcerated;

Helps the aged and handicapped;

Provides financial support for Seminarians and Catholic Education Students

Coordinates food and clothing drives;

Provides servers, lectors, cantors, ushers and choir members for the sacred liturgy;

Leads and attends bible study groups;

Teaches Catholic religion classes (CCD);

Drives meals to the home bound;

Sponsors converts to the Catholic faith (RCIA);

Fights against Pornography

Supports Catholic School Education;

Encourages Stewardship during parish and diocesan fund raising drives;

Fights for the respect and dignity of human life;

Assists pastors with parish initiatives;

Responds to requests from the Archbishop/Bishop;

Serves on parish councils and as parish trustees;

Coordinates and supports parish youth activities;

Cooperates with Holy Name Society initiatives at the Parish, Deanery, Diocesan and National level;

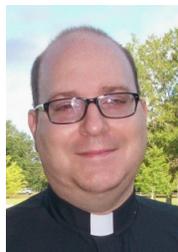
SOCIAL

Holds parish Communion breakfasts;

Coordinates and works at parish festivals and fundraisers;

Sponsors parish social events;

Blessed John of Vercelli, Pray for Us!



**Padre's Piece
Fr. Charles Benoit,
O.S.B.**

This October the Church will celebrate the 50th anniversary of *Perfectae Caritatis*, the Vatican II Decree On the *Adaptation and Renewal of Religious Life*. To honor this anniversary and promote religious life in the Church, Pope Francis proclaimed 2015 a Year of Consecrated Life, starting on the First Sunday of Advent, the weekend of November 29, 2014, and ending on February 2, 2016, the World Day of Consecrated life.

We have just passed the halfway point of this special year, and so now may be a good time for each of us to spend time in private prayer remembering all consecrated religious in the Church, and especially those religious priests, sisters, and/or brothers who each of us have known or encountered in our lives.

O God, throughout the ages you have called women and men to pursue lives of perfect charity through the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience. During this Year of Consecrated Life, we give you thanks for these courageous witnesses of Faith and models of inspiration. Their pursuit of holy lives teaches us to make a more perfect offering of ourselves to you. Continue to enrich your Church by calling

forth sons and daughters who, having found the pearl of great price, treasure the Kingdom of Heaven above all things. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen



July Meeting Highlights

St. Benedict Church
Holy Name Society
July 9, 2015

The Meeting was called to order by President Daniel at 7pm. Fr. Charles led the members present in the opening prayers and the Holy Name Pledge. President Daniel led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Warner introduced an application for new member, Ray Brouillette who was voted in by the members. Warner's comments were on the questionnaire he e-mailed members and that so far the response was poor.

Warner asked if there were and any additions or changes to the minutes for May or June... The minutes were adopted as written. Treasurer John Karpa reported income of \$11,610 for June and \$4,906 in expenses. The expenses were mainly gifts of appreciation and donations to various organizations. This left a balance of \$6,704. May income was \$0.00 and expenses \$1,298. This left a balance of \$10,710 in the checking account at the end of May.

Old Business:

Warner gave a brief report on the Officers Meeting in which he said we will make Committee appointments as needed. He stated that there was a need to increase membership. He appointed Wayne Gremillion as Chairman of a committee to try to accomplish this goal.

The complaints relating to the cost of the meal at the installation dinner was discussed. Members were asked to provide suggestions for next year's dinner. There was only two suggestions this year and the members present voted to return to Keith Young's.

New Business:

Questions concerning the Radio Rosary as to should it be a live broadcast or a tape presentation were posed. Attendance has been poor. Only 8 people were there last month. One problem is the inconsistent day each month. Warner said they will send out an e-mail in an attempt to increase attendance.

Warner read a thank you note from Fr. Jonathan and passed it around for the members to read.

John Goodwyne then made a presentation relating to the purpose of the Society and what can be done to increase membership. Suggestions were made by Gus, Dan, Jerry etc. as ways to accomplish that goal. The suggestions ranged from coffee and donut Sundays, monthly communions having a march carrying the Holy Name Banner while reciting the rosary and a meal before meetings. John was still unclear on the mission of the Society but he was also upset over the refusal to publish in the Bulletin his wording relating to abortion. There was a lengthy discussion on both topics. There was no resolution that I heard or recorded.

Don Mastio asked the Society to donate up to \$1,000 to purchase a new stove for the hall. The K of C has so agreed as has the Lunch Ministry. The current stove is in poor shape and needs to be replaced. The members present agreed and a motion was made by Mel, seconded by Gus. Motion carried.

Adjourn and Closing Prayers

Harry moved for adjournment and was seconded by Dan. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM. Fr. Charles led the members in the closing prayers.

Upcoming Events

The next HNS Meeting - August 8, 2015

Remember in Your Prayers

Please pray for our members and their loved ones and friends experiencing health problems:

(* Those needing special prayers this month.

*Jan Nordman (Vern & Gloria's daughter), Gloria Nordman, Jerry Luke (Deacon Nelvin and Joyce's son and Karen Tamporella, their granddaughter), Cortland Musgrave, Lynda & Jim Prattini, Marie Labat, *Celie Tanet, *Joyce and Deacon Nelvin Luke, *Don Ducote, *Warren Brechtel's daughter, Mary, *Bob and Peggy O'Hara, *Arthur Delaune, *Christian & Trev Clark, grandsons of Ione Clark, *Ed & Sheryl Pussegur, *Tom Norton, *Abe Hebert and *Gerald Boudoin. May God bless them and restore them to good health.

(If you know of any member or their families who are in need of our prayers, please call Dan Berlin at 892-4993.

Welcome Our Newest Member

We welcome our newest member, Raymond "Ray" Brouillette. Ray and his wife Peggy live at 2 Green Hills Dr., Covington, LA. Ray is a member of St. Ben's Ushers and attends daily Mass and also is an altar server every morning. He is a retired New Orleans Fire District Chief.

Blessed Be the Name of Jesus, Now and Forever!

(Editor's Note: Considering our parish church is named after St. Benedict and is staffed by the Benedictine monks of St. Joseph Abbey and Seminary College, it seems fitting that we know more about our patron Saint and the stained glass window that adorns the front of our church structure. Get to know more about the Abbey, it's history and the great importance it serves the church and the seminarians it instructs who hail from diocese throughout the Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi and other Gulf Coast states)

The Medal or Cross of Saint Benedict

Medals, crosses, rosaries, statues, paintings, and other religious articles have long been used as a means of fostering and expressing our religious devotion to God and the saints. Icons, or painted images of Christ and the saints, are especially popular among Eastern Christians as an aid to Christian piety and devotion. The use of any religious article is therefore intended as a means of reminding us of God and of stirring up in us a ready willingness and desire to serve God and our neighbor. With this understanding we reject any use of religious articles as if they were mere charms or had some magic power to bring us good luck or better health. Such is not the Christian attitude.

Origin of the Medal of Saint Benedict

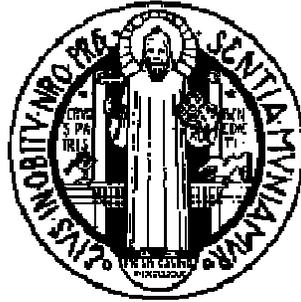
For the early Christians, the cross was a favorite symbol and badge of their faith in Christ. From the writings of St. Gregory the Great (540-604), we know that St. Benedict had a deep faith in the Cross and worked miracles with the sign of the cross. This faith in, and special devotion to, the Cross was passed on to succeeding generations of Benedictines. Devotion to the Cross of Christ also gave rise to the striking of medals that bore the image of St. Benedict holding a cross aloft in his right hand and his [Rule for Monasteries](#) in the other hand. Thus, the Cross has always been closely associated with the Medal of St. Benedict, which is often referred to as the Medal-Cross of St. Benedict.



In the course of time, other additions were made, such as the Latin petition on the margin of the medal, asking that by St. Benedict's presence we may be strengthened in the hour of death, as will be explained later. We do not know just when the first medal of St. Benedict was struck. At some point in history a series of capital letters was placed around the large figure of the cross on the reverse side of the medal. For a long time the meaning of these letters was unknown, but in 1647 a manuscript dating back to 1415 was found at the Abbey of Metten in Bavaria, giving an explanation of the letters. They are the initial letters of a Latin prayer of exorcism against Satan, as will be explained below.

The Jubilee Medal of Montecassino

The above features were finally incorporated in a newly designed medal struck in 1880 under the supervision of the monks of Montecassino, Italy, to mark the 1400th anniversary of the birth of St. Benedict. The design of this medal was produced at St. Martin's Archabbey, Beuron, Germany, at the request of the prior of



Montecassino, Very Rev. Boniface Krug OSB (1838-1909). Prior Boniface was a native of Baltimore and originally a monk of St. Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe, Pennsylvania, until he was chosen to become prior and latter archabbot of Montecassino. Since that time, the Jubilee Medal of 1880 has proven to be more popular throughout the Christian world than any other medal ever struck to honor St. Benedict. Description of the Jubilee Medal Because the Jubilee Medal of 1880 has all the important features ever associated with the Medal of St. Benedict, the following description of this medal can serve to make clear the nature and intent of any medal of St. Benedict, no matter what shape or design it may legitimately have.

The Cross of Eternal Salvation

On the [face](#) of the medal is the image of [Saint Benedict](#). In his right hand he holds the [cross](#), the Christian's symbol of salvation. The cross reminds us of the zealous work of evangelizing and civilizing England and Europe carried out mainly by the Benedictine monks and nuns, especially for the sixth to the ninth/tenth centuries.

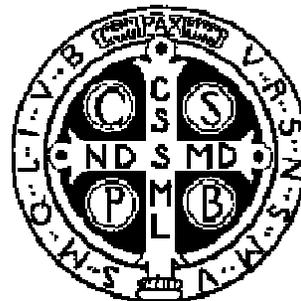
Rule and Raven

In St. Benedict's left hand is his [Rule for Monasteries](#) that could well be summed up in the words of the [Prolog](#) exhorting us to "walk in God's ways, with the Gospel as our guide." On a pedestal to the right of St. Benedict is the [poisoned cup](#), shattered when he made the sign of the cross over it. On a pedestal to the left is a raven about to carry away a loaf of poisoned bread that a jealous enemy had sent to St. Benedict.

C. S. P. B.

Above the cup and the raven are the Latin words: *Crux s. patris Benedicti* (The Cross of our holy father Benedict). On the margin of the medal, encircling the figure of Benedict, are the Latin words: *Eius in obitu nostro praesentia muniamur!* (May we be strengthened by his presence in the hour of our death!). Benedictines have always regarded St. Benedict as a special patron of a happy death. He himself died in the chapel at Montecassino while standing with his arms raised up to heaven, supported by the brothers of the monastery, shortly after St. Benedict had received Holy Communion. Monte Cassino Below Benedict we read: *ex SM Casino MDCCLXXX* (from holy [Monte Cassino](#), 1880). This is the medal struck to commemorate the [1400th anniversary](#) of the birth of [Saint Benedict](#).

Reverse Side of the Medal



[Crux mihi lux](#) On the [back](#) of the medal, the cross is dominant. On the arms of the cross are the initial letters of a rhythmic

Latin prayer: *Crux sacra sit mihi lux! Nunquam draco sit mihi dux!* (May the holy cross be my light! May the dragon never be my guide!).

In the angles of the cross, the letters C S P B stand for *Crux Sancti Patris Benedicti* (The cross of our holy father Benedict).

Peace

Above the cross is the word *pax* (peace), that has been a Benedictine motto for centuries. Around the margin of the back of the medal, the letters *V R S N S M V - S M Q L I V B* are the initial letters, as mentioned above, of a Latin prayer of exorcism against Satan: *Vade retro Satana! Nunquam suade mihi vana! Sunt mala quae libas. Ipse venena bibas!* (Begone Satan! Never tempt me with your vanities! What you offer me is evil. Drink the poison yourself!).

Use of the Medal

There is no special way prescribed for carrying or wearing the Medal of St. Benedict. It can be worn on a chain around the neck, attached to one's rosary, kept in one's pocket or purse, or placed in one's car or home. The medal is often put into the foundations of houses and buildings, on the walls of barns and sheds, or in one's place of business.

The purpose of using the medal in any of the above ways is to call down God's blessing and protection upon us, wherever we are, and upon our homes and possessions, especially through the intercession of St. Benedict. By the conscious and devout use of the medal, it becomes, as it were, a constant silent prayer and reminder to us of our dignity as followers of Christ.

The medal is a prayer of exorcism against Satan, a prayer for strength in time of temptation, a prayer for peace among ourselves and among the nations of the world, a prayer that the Cross of Christ be our light and guide, a prayer of firm rejection of all that is evil, a prayer of petition that we may with Christian courage "walk in God's ways, with the Gospel as our guide," as St. Benedict urges us.

A profitable spiritual experience can be ours if we but take the time to study the array of inscriptions and representations found on the two sides of the medal. The lessons found there can be pondered over and over to bring true peace of mind and heart into our lives as we struggle to overcome the weaknesses of our human nature and realize that our human condition is not perfect, but that with the help of God and the intercession of the saints our condition can become better.

The Medal of St. Benedict can serve as a constant reminder of the need for us to take up our cross daily and "follow the true King, Christ our Lord," and thus learn "to share in his heavenly kingdom," as St. Benedict urges us in the Prolog of his Rule.

Two Special Uses of the Medal

By a rescript of the Sacred Congregation of Religious (4 May 1965) lay Oblates of St. Benedict are permitted to wear the Medal of St. Benedict instead of the small black cloth scapular formerly worn.

By a decree of the Sacred Congregation of Rites (6 March 1959), the Blessing of St. Maur over the sick is permitted to be given with a Medal of St. Benedict instead of with a relic of the True Cross, since the latter is difficult to obtain.

Approved Blessing of the Medal of St. Benedict

Medals of Saint Benedict are sacramentals that may be blessed legitimately by any priest or deacon -- not necessarily a Benedictine (Instr., 26 Sept. 1964; Can. 1168). The following English form may be used.

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord. R. Who made heaven and earth.

In the name of God the Father + almighty, who made heaven and earth, the seas and all that is in them, I exorcise these medals against the power and attacks of the evil one. May all who use these medals devoutly be blessed with health of soul and body. In the name of the Father + almighty, of the Son + Jesus Christ our Lord, and of the Holy + Spirit the Paraclete, and in the love of the same Lord Jesus Christ who will come on the last day to judge the living and the dead, and the world by fire. Amen.

Let us pray, Almighty God, the boundless source of all good things, we humbly ask that, through the intercession of [Saint Benedict](#), you pour out your blessings + upon these medals. May those who use them devoutly and earnestly strive to perform good works be blessed by you with health of soul and body, the grace of a holy life, and remission of the temporal punishment due to sin.

May they also with the help of your merciful love, resist the temptation of the evil one and strive to exercise true charity and justice toward all, so that one day they may appear sinless and holy in your sight. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The medals are then sprinkled with holy water.

ST. BENEDICT HOLY NAME SOCIETY



AUGUST 2015 Newsletter Calendar

Wednesday, August 5

Radio Rosary
5:50pm

Thursday August 13

Regular Meeting
7PM



**From Warner's
Desk
Warner Daniel
President**

At our July meeting there was an impromptu discussion of what the Holy Name Society purpose is, or put another way, what we are.

I decided to look at the National Holy Name Society web site to see what they had to offer. Enclosed is what I found. Obviously, these are only suggested activities and each society must make its own decisions. It made interesting reading and I hope you will take the time to look over carefully, "What we do". I was elated to see that much of what we do is a part of suggested activities. Many of our activities are included and some things we do are not. I think we are a good fit.

Many of the activities mentioned are done daily and weekly by our members. The downside is not enough of our members take an active roll in activities at St Benedict. Participation is an issue that is left only to you.

In any event I am proud of our Society and believe we make a difference. I also believe we are in line with the way other Holy Name Societies operate.

God Bless

Warner

Members of the Holy Name Society – both individually and collectively in parish Societies – are called to build the kingdom of God in their parishes and communities by completing Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. These works can be categorized into three main areas - Spiritual, Service, and Social.

SPIRITUAL

Promotes devotion to and respect for the most Holy Names of God and Jesus;

Encourages frequent reception of the Sacraments of Confession and Holy Eucharist;

Promotes daily Mass attendance, prayer and spiritual reading; Participates in Eucharistic Adoration;

Promotes memorial masses;

Participates and sponsors Eucharistic and Marian Processions and Vigils;

Sponsors, coordinates and participates in spiritual conferences, weekend retreats and days of recollection;

Holds prayer vigils for the canonization of Blessed John of Vercelli;

SERVICE

Visits the sick and the dying;

Visits and becomes a Pen Pal to the Incarcerated;

Helps the aged and handicapped;

Provides financial support for Seminarians and Catholic Education Students

Coordinates food and clothing drives;

Provides servers, lectors, cantors, ushers and choir members for the sacred liturgy;

Leads and attends bible study groups;

Teaches Catholic religion classes (CCD);

Drives meals to the home bound;

Sponsors converts to the Catholic faith (RCIA);

Fights against Pornography

Supports Catholic School Education;

Encourages Stewardship during parish and diocesan fund raising drives;

Fights for the respect and dignity of human life;

Assists pastors with parish initiatives;

Responds to requests from the Archbishop/Bishop;

Serves on parish councils and as parish trustees;

Coordinates and supports parish youth activities;

Cooperates with Holy Name Society initiatives at the Parish, Deanery, Diocesan and National level;

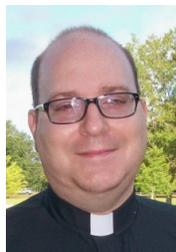
SOCIAL

Holds parish Communion breakfasts;

Coordinates and works at parish festivals and fundraisers;

Sponsors parish social events;

Blessed John of Vercelli, Pray for Us!



**Padre's Piece
Fr. Charles Benoit,
O.S.B.**

This October the Church will celebrate the 50th anniversary of *Perfectae Caritatis*, the Vatican II Decree On the *Adaptation and Renewal of Religious Life*. To honor this anniversary and promote religious life in the Church, Pope Francis proclaimed 2015 a Year of Consecrated Life, starting on the First Sunday of Advent, the weekend of November 29, 2014, and ending on February 2, 2016, the World Day of Consecrated life.

We have just passed the halfway point of this special year, and so now may be a good time for each of us to spend time in private prayer remembering all consecrated religious in the Church, and especially those religious priests, sisters, and/or brothers who each of us have known or encountered in our lives.

O God, throughout the ages you have called women and men to pursue lives of perfect charity through the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience. During this Year of Consecrated Life, we give you thanks for these courageous witnesses of Faith and models of inspiration. Their pursuit of holy lives teaches us to make a more perfect offering of ourselves to you. Continue to enrich your Church by calling

forth sons and daughters who, having found the pearl of great price, treasure the Kingdom of Heaven above all things. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen



July Meeting Highlights

St. Benedict Church
Holy Name Society
July 9, 2015

The Meeting was called to order by President Daniel at 7pm. Fr. Charles led the members present in the opening prayers and the Holy Name Pledge. President Daniel led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Warner introduced an application for new member, Ray Brouillette who was voted in by the members. Warner's comments were on the questionnaire he e-mailed members and that so far the response was poor.

Warner asked if there were and any additions or changes to the minutes for May or June... The minutes were adopted as written. Treasurer John Karpa reported income of \$11,610 for June and \$4,906 in expenses. The expenses were mainly gifts of appreciation and donations to various organizations. This left a balance of \$6,704. May income was \$0.00 and expenses \$1,298. This left a balance of \$10,710 in the checking account at the end of May.

Old Business:

Warner gave a brief report on the Officers Meeting in which he said we will make Committee appointments as needed. He stated that there was a need to increase membership. He appointed Wayne Gremillion as Chairman of a committee to try to accomplish this goal.

The complaints relating to the cost of the meal at the installation dinner was discussed. Members were asked to provide suggestions for next year's dinner. There was only two suggestions this year and the members present voted to return to Keith Young's.

New Business:

Questions concerning the Radio Rosary as to should it be a live broadcast or a tape presentation were posed. Attendance has been poor. Only 8 people were there last month. One problem is the inconsistent day each month. Warner said they will send out an e-mail in an attempt to increase attendance.

Warner read a thank you note from Fr. Jonathan and passed it around for the members to read.

John Goodwyne then made a presentation relating to the purpose of the Society and what can be done to increase membership. Suggestions were made by Gus, Dan, Jerry etc. as ways to accomplish that goal. The suggestions ranged from coffee and donut Sundays, monthly communions having a march carrying the Holy Name Banner while reciting the rosary and a meal before meetings. John was still unclear on the mission of the Society but he was also upset over the refusal to publish in the Bulletin his wording relating to abortion. There was a lengthy discussion on both topics. There was no resolution that I heard or recorded.

Don Mastio asked the Society to donate up to \$1,000 to purchase a new stove for the hall. The K of C has so agreed as has the Lunch Ministry. The current stove is in poor shape and needs to be replaced. The members present agreed and a motion was made by Mel, seconded by Gus. Motion carried.

Adjourn and Closing Prayers

Harry moved for adjournment and was seconded by Dan.

Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM. Fr. Charles led the members in the closing prayers.

Upcoming Events

The next HNS Meeting - August 8, 2015

Remember in Your Prayers

Please pray for our members and their loved ones and friends experiencing health problems:

(* Those needing special prayers this month.

*Jan Nordman (Vern & Gloria's daughter), Gloria Nordman, Jerry Luke (Deacon Nelvin and Joyce's son and Karen Tamporella, their granddaughter), Cortland Musgrave, Lynda & Jim Prattini, Marie Labat, *Celine Tanet, *Joyce and Deacon Nelvin Luke, *Don Ducote, *Warren Brechtel's daughter, Mary, Bob and Peggy O'Hara, *Arthur Delaune, *Christian & Trev Clark, grandsons of Ione Clark, *Ed & Sheryl Pussegur, *Tom Norton, *Abe Hebert and *Gerald Boudoin. May God bless them and restore them to good health.

(If you know of any member or their families who are in need of our prayers, please call Dan Berlin at 892-4993.

Welcome Our Newest Member

We welcome our newest member, Raymond "Ray" Brouillette. Ray and his wife Peggy live at 2 Green Hills Dr., Covington, LA. Ray is a member of St. Ben's Ushers and attends daily Mass and also is an altar server every morning. He is a retired New Orleans Fire District Chief.

ST. BENEDICT HOLY NAME SOCIETY



AUGUST 2015 Newsletter Calendar

Wednesday, August 5

Radio Rosary
5:50pm

Thursday August 13

Regular Meeting
7PM



**From Warner's
Desk
Warner Daniel
President**

At our July meeting there was an impromptu discussion of what the Holy Name Society purpose is, or put another way, what we are.

I decided to look at the National Holy Name Society web site to see what they had to offer. Enclosed is what I found. Obviously, these are only suggested activities and each society must make its own decisions. It made interesting reading and I hope you will take the time to look over carefully, "What we do". I was elated to see that much of what we do is a part of suggested activities. Many of our activities are included and some things we do are not. I think we are a good fit.

Many of the activities mentioned are done daily and weekly by our members. The downside is not enough of our members take an active roll in activities at St Benedict. Participation is an issue that is left only to you.

In any event I am proud of our Society and believe we make a difference. I also believe we are in line with the way other Holy Name Societies operate.

God Bless

Warner

Members of the Holy Name Society – both individually and collectively in parish Societies – are called to build the kingdom of God in their parishes and communities by completing Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. These works can be categorized into three main areas - Spiritual, Service, and Social.

SPIRITUAL

Promotes devotion to and respect for the most Holy Names of God and Jesus;

Encourages frequent reception of the Sacraments of Confession and Holy Eucharist;

Promotes daily Mass attendance, prayer and spiritual reading; Participates in Eucharistic Adoration;

Promotes memorial masses;

Participates and sponsors Eucharistic and Marian Processions and Vigils;

Sponsors, coordinates and participates in spiritual conferences, weekend retreats and days of recollection;

Holds prayer vigils for the canonization of Blessed John of Vercelli;

SERVICE

Visits the sick and the dying;

Visits and becomes a Pen Pal to the Incarcerated;

Helps the aged and handicapped;

Provides financial support for Seminarians and Catholic Education Students

Coordinates food and clothing drives;

Provides servers, lectors, cantors, ushers and choir members for the sacred liturgy;

Leads and attends bible study groups;

Teaches Catholic religion classes (CCD);

Drives meals to the home bound;

Sponsors converts to the Catholic faith (RCIA);

Fights against Pornography

Supports Catholic School Education;

Encourages Stewardship during parish and diocesan fund raising drives;

Fights for the respect and dignity of human life;

Assists pastors with parish initiatives;

Responds to requests from the Archbishop/Bishop;

Serves on parish councils and as parish trustees;

Coordinates and supports parish youth activities;

Cooperates with Holy Name Society initiatives at the Parish, Deanery, Diocesan and National level;

SOCIAL

Holds parish Communion breakfasts;

Coordinates and works at parish festivals and fundraisers;

Sponsors parish social events;

Blessed John of Vercelli, Pray for Us!



**Padre's Piece
Fr. Charles Benoit,
O.S.B.**

This October the Church will celebrate the 50th anniversary of *Perfectae Caritatis*, the Vatican II Decree On the *Adaptation and Renewal of Religious Life*. To honor this anniversary and promote religious life in the Church, Pope Francis proclaimed 2015 a Year of Consecrated Life, starting on the First Sunday of Advent, the weekend of November 29, 2014, and ending on February 2, 2016, the World Day of Consecrated life.

We have just passed the halfway point of this special year, and so now may be a good time for each of us to spend time in private prayer remembering all consecrated religious in the Church, and especially those religious priests, sisters, and/or brothers who each of us have known or encountered in our lives.

O God, throughout the ages you have called women and men to pursue lives of perfect charity through the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience. During this Year of Consecrated Life, we give you thanks for these courageous witnesses of Faith and models of inspiration. Their pursuit of holy lives teaches us to make a more perfect offering of ourselves to you. Continue to enrich your Church by calling

forth sons and daughters who, having found the pearl of great price, treasure the Kingdom of Heaven above all things. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen



July Meeting Highlights

St. Benedict Church
Holy Name Society
July 9, 2015

The Meeting was called to order by President Daniel at 7pm. Fr. Charles led the members present in the opening prayers and the Holy Name Pledge. President Daniel led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Warner introduced an application for new member, Ray Brouillette who was voted in by the members. Warner's comments were on the questionnaire he e-mailed members and that so far the response was poor.

Warner asked if there were and any additions or changes to the minutes for May or June... The minutes were adopted as written. Treasurer John Karpa reported income of \$11,610 for June and \$4,906 in expenses. The expenses were mainly gifts of appreciation and donations to various organizations. This left a balance of \$6,704. May income was \$0.00 and expenses \$1,298. This left a balance of \$10,710 in the checking account at the end of May.

Old Business:

Warner gave a brief report on the Officers Meeting in which he said we will make Committee appointments as needed. He stated that there was a need to increase membership. He appointed Wayne Gremillion as Chairman of a committee to try to accomplish this goal.

The complaints relating to the cost of the meal at the installation dinner was discussed. Members were asked to provide suggestions for next year's dinner. There was only two suggestions this year and the members present voted to return to Keith Young's.

New Business:

Questions concerning the Radio Rosary as to should it be a live broadcast or a tape presentation were posed. Attendance has been poor. Only 8 people were there last month. One problem is the inconsistent day each month. Warner said they will send out an e-mail in an attempt to increase attendance.

Warner read a thank you note from Fr. Jonathan and passed it around for the members to read.

John Goodwyne then made a presentation relating to the purpose of the Society and what can be done to increase membership. Suggestions were made by Gus, Dan, Jerry etc. as ways to accomplish that goal. The suggestions ranged from coffee and donut Sundays, monthly communions having a march carrying the Holy Name Banner while reciting the rosary and a meal before meetings. John was still unclear on the mission of the Society but he was also upset over the refusal to publish in the Bulletin his wording relating to abortion. There was a lengthy discussion on both topics. There was no resolution that I heard or recorded.

Don Mastio asked the Society to donate up to \$1,000 to purchase a new stove for the hall. The K of C has so agreed as has the Lunch Ministry. The current stove is in poor shape and needs to be replaced. The members present agreed and a motion was made by Mel, seconded by Gus. Motion carried.

Adjourn and Closing Prayers

Harry moved for adjournment and was seconded by Dan. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM. Fr. Charles led the members in the closing prayers.

Upcoming Events

The next HNS Meeting - August 8, 2015

Remember in Your Prayers

Please pray for our members and their loved ones and friends experiencing health problems:

(* Those needing special prayers this month.

***Jan Nordman** (Vern & Gloria's daughter), Gloria Nordman, Jerry Luke (Deacon Nelvin and Joyce's son and Karen Tamporella, their granddaughter), Cortland Musgrave, Lynda & Jim Prattini, Marie Labat, ***Celine Tanet**, ***Joyce and Deacon Nelvin Luke**, ***Don Ducote**, ***Warren Brechtel's daughter, Mary**, ***Bob and Peggy O'Hara**, ***Arthur Delaune**, ***Christian & Trev Clark, grandsons of Ione Clark**, ***Ed & Sheryl Pussegur**, ***Tom Norton**, ***Abe Hebert** and ***Gerald Boudoin**. May God bless them and restore them to good health.

(If you know of any member or their families who are in need of our prayers, please call Dan Berlin at 892-4993.

Welcome Our Newest Member

We welcome our newest member, Raymond "Ray" Brouillette. Ray and his wife Peggy live at 2 Green Hills Dr., Covington, LA. Ray is a member of St. Ben's Ushers and attends daily Mass and also is an altar server every morning. He is a retired New Orleans Fire District Chief.

Blessed Be the Name of Jesus, Now and Forever!

(Editor's Note: Considering our parish church is named after St. Benedict and is staffed by the Benedictine monks of St. Joseph Abbey and Seminary College, it seems fitting that we know more about our patron Saint and the stained glass window that adorns the front of our church structure. Get to know more about the Abbey, it's history and the great importance it serves the church and the seminarians it instructs who hail from diocese throughout the Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi and other Gulf Coast states)

The Medal or Cross of Saint Benedict

Medals, crosses, rosaries, statues, paintings, and other religious articles have long been used as a means of fostering and expressing our religious devotion to God and the saints. Icons, or painted images of Christ and the saints, are especially popular among Eastern Christians as an aid to Christian piety and devotion. The use of any religious article is therefore intended as a means of reminding us of God and of stirring up in us a ready willingness and desire to serve God and our neighbor. With this understanding we reject any use of religious articles as if they were mere charms or had some magic power to bring us good luck or better health. Such is not the Christian attitude.

Origin of the Medal of Saint Benedict

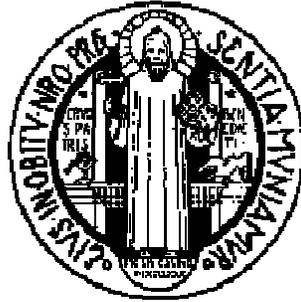
For the early Christians, the cross was a favorite symbol and badge of their faith in Christ. From the writings of St. Gregory the Great (540-604), we know that St. Benedict had a deep faith in the Cross and worked miracles with the sign of the cross. This faith in, and special devotion to, the Cross was passed on to succeeding generations of Benedictines. Devotion to the Cross of Christ also gave rise to the striking of medals that bore the image of St. Benedict holding a cross aloft in his right hand and his [Rule for Monasteries](#) in the other hand. Thus, the Cross has always been closely associated with the Medal of St. Benedict, which is often referred to as the Medal-Cross of St. Benedict.



In the course of time, other additions were made, such as the Latin petition on the margin of the medal, asking that by St. Benedict's presence we may be strengthened in the hour of death, as will be explained later. We do not know just when the first medal of St. Benedict was struck. At some point in history a series of capital letters was placed around the large figure of the cross on the reverse side of the medal. For a long time the meaning of these letters was unknown, but in 1647 a manuscript dating back to 1415 was found at the Abbey of Metten in Bavaria, giving an explanation of the letters. They are the initial letters of a Latin prayer of exorcism against Satan, as will be explained below.

The Jubilee Medal of Montecassino

The above features were finally incorporated in a newly designed medal struck in 1880 under the supervision of the monks of Montecassino, Italy, to mark the 1400th anniversary of the birth of St. Benedict. The design of this medal was produced at St. Martin's Archabbey, Beuron, Germany, at the request of the prior of



Montecassino, Very Rev. Boniface Krug OSB (1838-1909). Prior Boniface was a native of Baltimore and originally a monk of St. Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe, Pennsylvania, until he was chosen to become prior and latter archabbot of Montecassino. Since that time, the Jubilee Medal of 1880 has proven to be more popular throughout the Christian world than any other medal ever struck to honor St. Benedict. Description of the Jubilee Medal Because the Jubilee Medal of 1880 has all the important features ever associated with the Medal of St. Benedict, the following description of this medal can serve to make clear the nature and intent of any medal of St. Benedict, no matter what shape or design it may legitimately have.

The Cross of Eternal Salvation

On the [face](#) of the medal is the image of [Saint Benedict](#). In his right hand he holds the [cross](#), the Christian's symbol of salvation. The cross reminds us of the zealous work of evangelizing and civilizing England and Europe carried out mainly by the Benedictine monks and nuns, especially for the sixth to the ninth/tenth centuries.

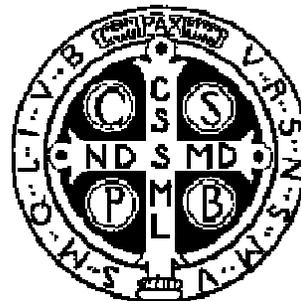
Rule and Raven

In St. Benedict's left hand is his [Rule for Monasteries](#) that could well be summed up in the words of the [Prolog](#) exhorting us to "walk in God's ways, with the Gospel as our guide." On a pedestal to the right of St. Benedict is the [poisoned cup](#), shattered when he made the sign of the cross over it. On a pedestal to the left is a raven about to carry away a loaf of poisoned bread that a jealous enemy had sent to St. Benedict.

C. S. P. B.

Above the cup and the raven are the Latin words: *Crux s. patris Benedicti* (The Cross of our holy father Benedict). On the margin of the medal, encircling the figure of Benedict, are the Latin words: *Eius in obitu nostro praesentia muniamur!* (May we be strengthened by his presence in the hour of our death!). Benedictines have always regarded St. Benedict as a special patron of a happy death. He himself died in the chapel at Montecassino while standing with his arms raised up to heaven, supported by the brothers of the monastery, shortly after St. Benedict had received Holy Communion. Monte Cassino Below Benedict we read: *ex SM Casino MDCCLXXX* (from holy [Monte Cassino](#), 1880). This is the medal struck to commemorate the [1400th anniversary](#) of the birth of [Saint Benedict](#).

Reverse Side of the Medal



Crux mihi lux

On the [back](#) of the medal, the cross is dominant. On the arms of the cross are the initial letters of a rhythmic

Latin prayer: *Crux sacra sit mihi lux! Nunquam draco sit mihi dux!* (May the holy cross be my light! May the dragon never be my guide!).

In the angles of the cross, the letters C S P B stand for *Crux Sancti Patris Benedicti* (The cross of our holy father Benedict).

Peace

Above the cross is the word *pax* (peace), that has been a Benedictine motto for centuries. Around the margin of the back of the medal, the letters *V R S N S M V - S M Q L I V B* are the initial letters, as mentioned above, of a Latin prayer of exorcism against Satan: *Vade retro Satana! Nunquam suade mihi vana! Sunt mala quae libas. Ipse venena bibas!* (Begone Satan! Never tempt me with your vanities! What you offer me is evil. Drink the poison yourself!).

Use of the Medal

There is no special way prescribed for carrying or wearing the Medal of St. Benedict. It can be worn on a chain around the neck, attached to one's rosary, kept in one's pocket or purse, or placed in one's car or home. The medal is often put into the foundations of houses and buildings, on the walls of barns and sheds, or in one's place of business.

The purpose of using the medal in any of the above ways is to call down God's blessing and protection upon us, wherever we are, and upon our homes and possessions, especially through the intercession of St. Benedict. By the conscious and devout use of the medal, it becomes, as it were, a constant silent prayer and reminder to us of our dignity as followers of Christ.

The medal is a prayer of exorcism against Satan, a prayer for strength in time of temptation, a prayer for peace among ourselves and among the nations of the world, a prayer that the Cross of Christ be our light and guide, a prayer of firm rejection of all that is evil, a prayer of petition that we may with Christian courage "walk in God's ways, with the Gospel as our guide," as St. Benedict urges us.

A profitable spiritual experience can be ours if we but take the time to study the array of inscriptions and representations found on the two sides of the medal. The lessons found there can be pondered over and over to bring true peace of mind and heart into our lives as we struggle to overcome the weaknesses of our human nature and realize that our human condition is not perfect, but that with the help of God and the intercession of the saints our condition can become better.

The Medal of St. Benedict can serve as a constant reminder of the need for us to take up our cross daily and "follow the true King, Christ our Lord," and thus learn "to share in his heavenly kingdom," as St. Benedict urges us in the Prolog of his Rule.

Two Special Uses of the Medal

By a rescript of the Sacred Congregation of Religious (4 May 1965) lay Oblates of St. Benedict are permitted to wear the Medal of St. Benedict instead of the small black cloth scapular formerly worn.

By a decree of the Sacred Congregation of Rites (6 March 1959), the Blessing of St. Maur over the sick is permitted to be given with a Medal of St. Benedict instead of with a relic of the True Cross, since the latter is difficult to obtain.

Approved Blessing of the Medal of St. Benedict

Medals of Saint Benedict are sacramentals that may be blessed legitimately by any priest or deacon -- not necessarily a Benedictine (Instr., 26 Sept. 1964; Can. 1168). The following English form may be used.

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord.
R. Who made heaven and earth.

In the name of God the Father + almighty, who made heaven and earth, the seas and all that is in them, I exorcise these medals against the power and attacks of the evil one. May all who use these medals devoutly be blessed with health of soul and body. In the name of the Father + almighty, of the Son + Jesus Christ our Lord, and of the Holy + Spirit the Paraclete, and in the love of the same Lord Jesus Christ who will come on the last day to judge the living and the dead, and the world by fire.
Amen.

Let us pray, Almighty God, the boundless source of all good things, we humbly ask that, through the intercession of [Saint Benedict](#), you pour out your blessings + upon these medals. May those who use them devoutly and earnestly strive to perform good works be blessed by you with health of soul and body, the grace of a holy life, and remission of the temporal punishment due to sin.

May they also with the help of your merciful love, resist the temptation of the evil one and strive to exercise true charity and justice toward all, so that one day they may appear sinless and holy in your sight. This we ask through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The medals are then sprinkled with holy water.

ST. BENEDICT HOLY NAME SOCIETY



AUGUST 2015 Newsletter Calendar

Wednesday, August 5

Radio Rosary
5:50pm

Thursday August 13

Regular Meeting
7PM



**From Warner's
Desk
Warner Daniel
President**

At our July meeting there was an impromptu discussion of what the Holy Name Society purpose is, or put another way, what we are.

I decided to look at the National Holy Name Society web site to see what they had to offer. Enclosed is what I found. Obviously, these are only suggested activities and each society must make its own decisions. It made interesting reading and I hope you will take the time to look over carefully, "What we do". I was elated to see that much of what we do is a part of suggested activities. Many of our activities are included and some things we do are not. I think we are a good fit.

Many of the activities mentioned are done daily and weekly by our members. The downside is not enough of our members take an active roll in activities at St Benedict. Participation is an issue that is left only to you.

In any event I am proud of our Society and believe we make a difference. I also believe we are in line with the way other Holy Name Societies operate.

God Bless

Warner

Members of the Holy Name Society – both individually and collectively in parish Societies – are called to build the kingdom of God in their parishes and communities by completing Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. These works can be categorized into three main areas - Spiritual, Service, and Social.

SPIRITUAL

Promotes devotion to and respect for the most Holy Names of God and Jesus;

Encourages frequent reception of the Sacraments of Confession and Holy Eucharist;

Promotes daily Mass attendance, prayer and spiritual reading; Participates in Eucharistic Adoration;

Promotes memorial masses;

Participates and sponsors Eucharistic and Marian Processions and Vigils;

Sponsors, coordinates and participates in spiritual conferences, weekend retreats and days of recollection;

Holds prayer vigils for the canonization of Blessed John of Vercelli;

SERVICE

Visits the sick and the dying;

Visits and becomes a Pen Pal to the Incarcerated;

Helps the aged and handicapped;

Provides financial support for Seminarians and Catholic Education Students

Coordinates food and clothing drives;

Provides servers, lectors, cantors, ushers and choir members for the sacred liturgy;

Leads and attends bible study groups;

Teaches Catholic religion classes (CCD);

Drives meals to the home bound;

Sponsors converts to the Catholic faith (RCIA);

Fights against Pornography

Supports Catholic School Education;

Encourages Stewardship during parish and diocesan fund raising drives;

Fights for the respect and dignity of human life;

Assists pastors with parish initiatives;

Responds to requests from the Archbishop/Bishop;

Serves on parish councils and as parish trustees;

Coordinates and supports parish youth activities;

Cooperates with Holy Name Society initiatives at the Parish, Deanery, Diocesan and National level;

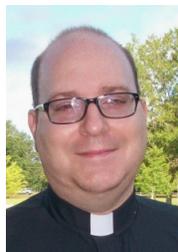
SOCIAL

Holds parish Communion breakfasts;

Coordinates and works at parish festivals and fundraisers;

Sponsors parish social events;

Blessed John of Vercelli, Pray for Us!



**Padre's Piece
Fr. Charles Benoit,
O.S.B.**

This October the Church will celebrate the 50th anniversary of *Perfectae Caritatis*, the Vatican II Decree On the *Adaptation and Renewal of Religious Life*. To honor this anniversary and promote religious life in the Church, Pope Francis proclaimed 2015 a Year of Consecrated Life, starting on the First Sunday of Advent, the weekend of November 29, 2014, and ending on February 2, 2016, the World Day of Consecrated life.

We have just passed the halfway point of this special year, and so now may be a good time for each of us to spend time in private prayer remembering all consecrated religious in the Church, and especially those religious priests, sisters, and/or brothers who each of us have known or encountered in our lives.

O God, throughout the ages you have called women and men to pursue lives of perfect charity through the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience. During this Year of Consecrated Life, we give you thanks for these courageous witnesses of Faith and models of inspiration. Their pursuit of holy lives teaches us to make a more perfect offering of ourselves to you. Continue to enrich your Church by calling

forth sons and daughters who, having found the pearl of great price, treasure the Kingdom of Heaven above all things. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen



July Meeting Highlights

St. Benedict Church
Holy Name Society
July 9, 2015

The Meeting was called to order by President Daniel at 7pm. Fr. Charles led the members present in the opening prayers and the Holy Name Pledge. President Daniel led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Warner introduced an application for new member, Ray Brouillette who was voted in by the members. Warner's comments were on the questionnaire he e-mailed members and that so far the response was poor.

Warner asked if there were and any additions or changes to the minutes for May or June... The minutes were adopted as written. Treasurer John Karpa reported income of \$11,610 for June and \$4,906 in expenses. The expenses were mainly gifts of appreciation and donations to various organizations. This left a balance of \$6,704. May income was \$0.00 and expenses \$1,298. This left a balance of \$10,710 in the checking account at the end of May.

Old Business:

Warner gave a brief report on the Officers Meeting in which he said we will make Committee appointments as needed. He stated that there was a need to increase membership. He appointed Wayne Gremillion as Chairman of a committee to try to accomplish this goal.

The complaints relating to the cost of the meal at the installation dinner was discussed. Members were asked to provide suggestions for next year's dinner. There was only two suggestions this year and the members present voted to return to Keith Young's.

New Business:

Questions concerning the Radio Rosary as to should it be a live broadcast or a tape presentation were posed. Attendance has been poor. Only 8 people were there last month. One problem is the inconsistent day each month. Warner said they will send out an e-mail in an attempt to increase attendance.

Warner read a thank you note from Fr. Jonathan and passed it around for the members to read.

John Goodwyne then made a presentation relating to the purpose of the Society and what can be done to increase membership. Suggestions were made by Gus, Dan, Jerry etc. as ways to accomplish that goal. The suggestions ranged from coffee and donut Sundays, monthly communions having a march carrying the Holy Name Banner while reciting the rosary and a meal before meetings. John was still unclear on the mission of the Society but he was also upset over the refusal to publish in the Bulletin his wording relating to abortion. There was a lengthy discussion on both topics. There was no resolution that I heard or recorded.

Don Mastio asked the Society to donate up to \$1,000 to purchase a new stove for the hall. The K of C has so agreed as has the Lunch Ministry. The current stove is in poor shape and needs to be replaced. The members present agreed and a motion was made by Mel, seconded by Gus. Motion carried.

Adjourn and Closing Prayers

Harry moved for adjournment and was seconded by Dan.

Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM. Fr. Charles led the members in the closing prayers.

Upcoming Events

The next HNS Meeting - August 8, 2015

Remember in Your Prayers

Please pray for our members and their loved ones and friends experiencing health problems:

(* Those needing special prayers this month.

*Jan Nordman (Vern & Gloria's daughter), Gloria Nordman, Jerry Luke (Deacon Nelvin and Joyce's son and Karen Tamporella, their granddaughter), Cortland Musgrave, Lynda & Jim Prattini, Marie Labat, *Celie Tanet, *Joyce and Deacon Nelvin Luke, *Don Ducote, *Warren Brechtel's daughter, Mary, Bob and Peggy O'Hara, *Arthur Delaune, *Christian & Trev Clark, grandsons of Ione Clark, *Ed & Sheryl Pussegur, *Tom Norton, *Abe Hebert and *Gerald Boudoin. May God bless them and restore them to good health.

(If you know of any member or their families who are in need of our prayers, please call Dan Berlin at 892-4993.

Welcome Our Newest Member

We welcome our newest member, Raymond "Ray" Brouillette. Ray and his wife Peggy live at 2 Green Hills Dr., Covington, LA. Ray is a member of St. Ben's Ushers and attends daily Mass and also is an altar server every morning. He is a retired New Orleans Fire District Chief.

Blessed Be the Name of Jesus, Now and Forever!

(Editor's Note: Considering our parish church is named after St. Benedict and is staffed by the Benedictine monks of St. Joseph Abbey and Seminary College, it seems fitting that we know more about our patron Saint and the stained glass window that adorns the front of our church structure. Get to know more about the Abbey, it's history and the great importance it serves the church and the seminarians it instructs who hail from diocese throughout the Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi and other Gulf Coast states)

The Medal or Cross of Saint Benedict

Medals, crosses, rosaries, statues, paintings, and other religious articles have long been used as a means of fostering and expressing our religious devotion to God and the saints. Icons, or painted images of Christ and the saints, are especially popular among Eastern Christians as an aid to Christian piety and devotion. The use of any religious article is therefore intended as a means of reminding us of God and of stirring up in us a ready willingness and desire to serve God and our neighbor. With this understanding we reject any use of religious articles as if they were mere charms or had some magic power to bring us good luck or better health. Such is not the Christian attitude.

Origin of the Medal of Saint Benedict

For the early Christians, the cross was a favorite symbol and badge of their faith in Christ. From the writings of St. Gregory the Great (540-604), we know that St. Benedict had a deep faith in the Cross and worked miracles with the sign of the cross. This faith in, and special devotion to, the Cross was passed on to succeeding generations of Benedictines. Devotion to the Cross of Christ also gave rise to the striking of medals that bore the image of St. Benedict holding a cross aloft in his right hand and his [Rule for Monasteries](#) in the other hand. Thus, the Cross has always been closely associated with the Medal of St. Benedict, which is often referred to as the Medal-Cross of St. Benedict.



In the course of time, other additions were made, such as the Latin petition on the margin of the medal, asking that by St. Benedict's presence we may be strengthened in the hour of death, as will be explained later. We do not know just when the first medal of St. Benedict was struck. At some point in history a series of capital letters was placed around the large figure of the cross on the reverse side of the medal. For a long time the meaning of these letters was unknown, but in 1647 a manuscript dating back to 1415 was found at the Abbey of Metten in Bavaria, giving an explanation of the letters. They are the initial letters of a Latin prayer of exorcism against Satan, as will be explained below.

The Jubilee Medal of Montecassino

The above features were finally incorporated in a newly designed medal struck in 1880 under the supervision of the monks of Montecassino, Italy, to mark the 1400th anniversary of the birth of St. Benedict. The design of this medal was produced at St. Martin's Archabbey, Beuron, Germany, at the request of the prior of



Montecassino, Very Rev. Boniface Krug OSB (1838-1909). Prior Boniface was a native of Baltimore and originally a monk of St. Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe, Pennsylvania, until he was chosen to become prior and latter archabbot of Montecassino. Since that time, the Jubilee Medal of 1880 has proven to be more popular throughout the Christian world than any other medal ever struck to honor St. Benedict. Description of the Jubilee Medal Because the Jubilee Medal of 1880 has all the important features ever associated with the Medal of St. Benedict, the following description of this medal can serve to make clear the nature and intent of any medal of St. Benedict, no matter what shape or design it may legitimately have.

The Cross of Eternal Salvation

On the [face](#) of the medal is the image of [Saint Benedict](#). In his right hand he holds the [cross](#), the Christian's symbol of salvation. The cross reminds us of the zealous work of evangelizing and civilizing England and Europe carried out mainly by the Benedictine monks and nuns, especially for the sixth to the ninth/tenth centuries.

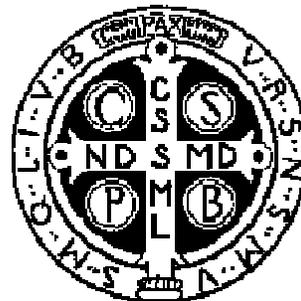
Rule and Raven

In St. Benedict's left hand is his [Rule for Monasteries](#) that could well be summed up in the words of the [Prolog](#) exhorting us to "walk in God's ways, with the Gospel as our guide." On a pedestal to the right of St. Benedict is the [poisoned cup](#), shattered when he made the sign of the cross over it. On a pedestal to the left is a raven about to carry away a loaf of poisoned bread that a jealous enemy had sent to St. Benedict.

C. S. P. B.

Above the cup and the raven are the Latin words: *Crux s. patris Benedicti* (The Cross of our holy father Benedict). On the margin of the medal, encircling the figure of Benedict, are the Latin words: *Eius in obitu nostro praesentia muniamur!* (May we be strengthened by his presence in the hour of our death!). Benedictines have always regarded St. Benedict as a special patron of a happy death. He himself died in the chapel at Montecassino while standing with his arms raised up to heaven, supported by the brothers of the monastery, shortly after St. Benedict had received Holy Communion. Monte Cassino Below Benedict we read: *ex SM Casino MDCCLXXX* (from holy [Monte Cassino](#), 1880). This is the medal struck to commemorate the [1400th anniversary](#) of the birth of [Saint Benedict](#).

Reverse Side of the Medal



[Crux mihi lux](#) On the [back](#) of the medal, the cross is dominant. On the arms of the cross are the initial letters of a rhythmic

Latin prayer: *Crux sacra sit mihi lux! Nunquam draco sit mihi dux!* (May the holy cross be my light! May the dragon never be my guide!).

In the angles of the cross, the letters C S P B stand for *Crux Sancti Patris Benedicti* (The cross of our holy father Benedict).

Peace

Above the cross is the word *pax* (peace), that has been a Benedictine motto for centuries. Around the margin of the back of the medal, the letters *V R S N S M V - S M Q L I V B* are the initial letters, as mentioned above, of a Latin prayer of exorcism against Satan: *Vade retro Satana! Nunquam suade mihi vana! Sunt mala quae libas. Ipse venena bibas!* (Begone Satan! Never tempt me with your vanities! What you offer me is evil. Drink the poison yourself!).

Use of the Medal

There is no special way prescribed for carrying or wearing the Medal of St. Benedict. It can be worn on a chain around the neck, attached to one's rosary, kept in one's pocket or purse, or placed in one's car or home. The medal is often put into the foundations of houses and buildings, on the walls of barns and sheds, or in one's place of business.

The purpose of using the medal in any of the above ways is to call down God's blessing and protection upon us, wherever we are, and upon our homes and possessions, especially through the intercession of St. Benedict. By the conscious and devout use of the medal, it becomes, as it were, a constant silent prayer and reminder to us of our dignity as followers of Christ.

The medal is a prayer of exorcism against Satan, a prayer for strength in time of temptation, a prayer for peace among ourselves and among the nations of the world, a prayer that the Cross of Christ be our light and guide, a prayer of firm rejection of all that is evil, a prayer of petition that we may with Christian courage "walk in God's ways, with the Gospel as our guide," as St. Benedict urges us.

A profitable spiritual experience can be ours if we but take the time to study the array of inscriptions and representations found on the two sides of the medal. The lessons found there can be pondered over and over to bring true peace of mind and heart into our lives as we struggle to overcome the weaknesses of our human nature and realize that our human condition is not perfect, but that with the help of God and the intercession of the saints our condition can become better.

The Medal of St. Benedict can serve as a constant reminder of the need for us to take up our cross daily and "follow the true King, Christ our Lord," and thus learn "to share in his heavenly kingdom," as St. Benedict urges us in the Prolog of his Rule.

Two Special Uses of the Medal

By a rescript of the Sacred Congregation of Religious (4 May 1965) lay Oblates of St. Benedict are permitted to wear the Medal of St. Benedict instead of the small black cloth scapular formerly worn.

By a decree of the Sacred Congregation of Rites (6 March 1959), the Blessing of St. Maur over the sick is permitted to be given with a Medal of St. Benedict instead of with a relic of the True Cross, since the latter is difficult to obtain.

Approved Blessing of the Medal of St. Benedict

Medals of Saint Benedict are sacramentals that may be blessed legitimately by any priest or deacon -- not necessarily a Benedictine (Instr., 26 Sept. 1964; Can. 1168). The following English form may be used.

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord. R. Who made heaven and earth.

In the name of God the Father + almighty, who made heaven and earth, the seas and all that is in them, I exorcise these medals against the power and attacks of the evil one. May all who use these medals devoutly be blessed with health of soul and body. In the name of the Father + almighty, of the Son + Jesus Christ our Lord, and of the Holy + Spirit the Paraclete, and in the love of the same Lord Jesus Christ who will come on the last day to judge the living and the dead, and the world by fire. Amen.

Let us pray, Almighty God, the boundless source of all good things, we humbly ask that, through the intercession of [Saint Benedict](#), you pour out your blessings + upon these medals. May those who use them devoutly and earnestly strive to perform good works be blessed by you with health of soul and body, the grace of a holy life, and remission of the temporal punishment due to sin.

May they also with the help of your merciful love, resist the temptation of the evil one and strive to exercise true charity and justice toward all, so that one day they may appear sinless and holy in your sight. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The medals are then sprinkled with holy water.

ST. BENEDICT HOLY NAME SOCIETY



AUGUST 2015 Newsletter Calendar

Wednesday, August 5

Radio Rosary
5:50pm

Thursday August 13

Regular Meeting
7PM



**From Warner's
Desk
Warner Daniel
President**

At our July meeting there was an impromptu discussion of what the Holy Name Society purpose is, or put another way, what we are.

I decided to look at the National Holy Name Society web site to see what they had to offer. Enclosed is what I found. Obviously, these are only suggested activities and each society must make its own decisions. It made interesting reading and I hope you will take the time to look over carefully, "What we do". I was elated to see that much of what we do is a part of suggested activities. Many of our activities are included and some things we do are not. I think we are a good fit.

Many of the activities mentioned are done daily and weekly by our members. The downside is not enough of our members take an active roll in activities at St Benedict. Participation is an issue that is left only to you.

In any event I am proud of our Society and believe we make a difference. I also believe we are in line with the way other Holy Name Societies operate.

God Bless

Warner

Members of the Holy Name Society – both individually and collectively in parish Societies – are called to build the kingdom of God in their parishes and communities by completing Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. These works can be categorized into three main areas - Spiritual, Service, and Social.

SPIRITUAL

Promotes devotion to and respect for the most Holy Names of God and Jesus;

Encourages frequent reception of the Sacraments of Confession and Holy Eucharist;

Promotes daily Mass attendance, prayer and spiritual reading; Participates in Eucharistic Adoration;

Promotes memorial masses;

Participates and sponsors Eucharistic and Marian Processions and Vigils;

Sponsors, coordinates and participates in spiritual conferences, weekend retreats and days of recollection;

Holds prayer vigils for the canonization of Blessed John of Vercelli;

SERVICE

Visits the sick and the dying;

Visits and becomes a Pen Pal to the Incarcerated;

Helps the aged and handicapped;

Provides financial support for Seminarians and Catholic Education Students

Coordinates food and clothing drives;

Provides servers, lectors, cantors, ushers and choir members for the sacred liturgy;

Leads and attends bible study groups;

Teaches Catholic religion classes (CCD);

Drives meals to the home bound;

Sponsors converts to the Catholic faith (RCIA);

Fights against Pornography

Supports Catholic School Education;

Encourages Stewardship during parish and diocesan fund raising drives;

Fights for the respect and dignity of human life;

Assists pastors with parish initiatives;

Responds to requests from the Archbishop/Bishop;

Serves on parish councils and as parish trustees;

Coordinates and supports parish youth activities;

Cooperates with Holy Name Society initiatives at the Parish, Deanery, Diocesan and National level;

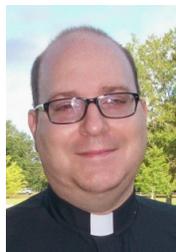
SOCIAL

Holds parish Communion breakfasts;

Coordinates and works at parish festivals and fundraisers;

Sponsors parish social events;

Blessed John of Vercelli, Pray for Us!



**Padre's Piece
Fr. Charles Benoit,
O.S.B.**

This October the Church will celebrate the 50th anniversary of *Perfectae Caritatis*, the Vatican II Decree On the *Adaptation and Renewal of Religious Life*. To honor this anniversary and promote religious life in the Church, Pope Francis proclaimed 2015 a Year of Consecrated Life, starting on the First Sunday of Advent, the weekend of November 29, 2014, and ending on February 2, 2016, the World Day of Consecrated life.

We have just passed the halfway point of this special year, and so now may be a good time for each of us to spend time in private prayer remembering all consecrated religious in the Church, and especially those religious priests, sisters, and/or brothers who each of us have known or encountered in our lives.

O God, throughout the ages you have called women and men to pursue lives of perfect charity through the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience. During this Year of Consecrated Life, we give you thanks for these courageous witnesses of Faith and models of inspiration. Their pursuit of holy lives teaches us to make a more perfect offering of ourselves to you. Continue to enrich your Church by calling

forth sons and daughters who, having found the pearl of great price, treasure the Kingdom of Heaven above all things. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen



July Meeting Highlights

St. Benedict Church
Holy Name Society
July 9, 2015

The Meeting was called to order by President Daniel at 7pm. Fr. Charles led the members present in the opening prayers and the Holy Name Pledge. President Daniel led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Warner introduced an application for new member, Ray Brouillette who was voted in by the members. Warner's comments were on the questionnaire he e-mailed members and that so far the response was poor.

Warner asked if there were and any additions or changes to the minutes for May or June... The minutes were adopted as written. Treasurer John Karpa reported income of \$11,610 for June and \$4,906 in expenses. The expenses were mainly gifts of appreciation and donations to various organizations. This left a balance of \$6,704. May income was \$0.00 and expenses \$1,298. This left a balance of \$10,710 in the checking account at the end of May.

Old Business:

Warner gave a brief report on the Officers Meeting in which he said we will make Committee appointments as needed. He stated that there was a need to increase membership. He appointed Wayne Gremillion as Chairman of a committee to try to accomplish this goal.

The complaints relating to the cost of the meal at the installation dinner was discussed. Members were asked to provide suggestions for next year's dinner. There was only two suggestions this year and the members present voted to return to Keith Young's.

New Business:

Questions concerning the Radio Rosary as to should it be a live broadcast or a tape presentation were posed. Attendance has been poor. Only 8 people were there last month. One problem is the inconsistent day each month. Warner said they will send out an e-mail in an attempt to increase attendance.

Warner read a thank you note from Fr. Jonathan and passed it around for the members to read.

John Goodwyne then made a presentation relating to the purpose of the Society and what can be done to increase membership. Suggestions were made by Gus, Dan, Jerry etc. as ways to accomplish that goal. The suggestions ranged from coffee and donut Sundays, monthly communions having a march carrying the Holy Name Banner while reciting the rosary and a meal before meetings. John was still unclear on the mission of the Society but he was also upset over the refusal to publish in the Bulletin his wording relating to abortion. There was a lengthy discussion on both topics. There was no resolution that I heard or recorded.

Don Mastio asked the Society to donate up to \$1,000 to purchase a new stove for the hall. The K of C has so agreed as has the Lunch Ministry. The current stove is in poor shape and needs to be replaced. The members present agreed and a motion was made by Mel, seconded by Gus. Motion carried.

Adjourn and Closing Prayers

Harry moved for adjournment and was seconded by Dan. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM. Fr. Charles led the members in the closing prayers.

Upcoming Events

The next HNS Meeting - August 8, 2015

Remember in Your Prayers

Please pray for our members and their loved ones and friends experiencing health problems:

(* Those needing special prayers this month.

*Jan Nordman (Vern & Gloria's daughter), Gloria Nordman, Jerry Luke (Deacon Nelvin and Joyce's son and Karen Tamporella, their granddaughter), Cortland Musgrave, Lynda & Jim Prattini, Marie Labat, *Celie Tanet, *Joyce and Deacon Nelvin Luke, *Don Ducote, *Warren Brechtel's daughter, Mary, Bob and Peggy O'Hara, *Arthur Delaune, *Christian & Trev Clark, grandsons of Ione Clark, *Ed & Sheryl Pussegur, *Tom Norton, *Abe Hebert and *Gerald Boudoin. May God bless them and restore them to good health.

(If you know of any member or their families who are in need of our prayers, please call Dan Berlin at 892-4993.

Welcome Our Newest Member

We welcome our newest member, Raymond "Ray" Brouillette. Ray and his wife Peggy live at 2 Green Hills Dr., Covington, LA Ray is a member of St. Ben's Ushers and attends daily Mass and also is an altar server every morning. He is a retired New Orleans Fire District Chief.

Blessed Be the Name of Jesus, Now and Forever!

(Editor's Note: Considering our parish church is named after St. Benedict and is staffed by the Benedictine monks of St. Joseph Abbey and Seminary College, it seems fitting that we know more about our patron Saint and the stained glass window that adorns the front of our church structure. Get to know more about the Abbey, it's history and the great importance it serves the church and the seminarians it instructs who hail from diocese throughout the Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi and other Gulf Coast states)

The Medal or Cross of Saint Benedict

Medals, crosses, rosaries, statues, paintings, and other religious articles have long been used as a means of fostering and expressing our religious devotion to God and the saints. Icons, or painted images of Christ and the saints, are especially popular among Eastern Christians as an aid to Christian piety and devotion. The use of any religious article is therefore intended as a means of reminding us of God and of stirring up in us a ready willingness and desire to serve God and our neighbor. With this understanding we reject any use of religious articles as if they were mere charms or had some magic power to bring us good luck or better health. Such is not the Christian attitude.

Origin of the Medal of Saint Benedict

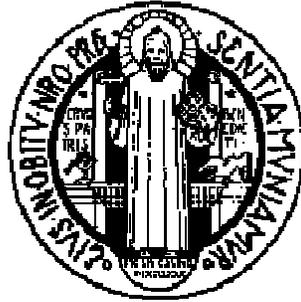
For the early Christians, the cross was a favorite symbol and badge of their faith in Christ. From the writings of St. Gregory the Great (540-604), we know that St. Benedict had a deep faith in the Cross and worked miracles with the sign of the cross. This faith in, and special devotion to, the Cross was passed on to succeeding generations of Benedictines. Devotion to the Cross of Christ also gave rise to the striking of medals that bore the image of St. Benedict holding a cross aloft in his right hand and his [Rule for Monasteries](#) in the other hand. Thus, the Cross has always been closely associated with the Medal of St. Benedict, which is often referred to as the Medal-Cross of St. Benedict.



In the course of time, other additions were made, such as the Latin petition on the margin of the medal, asking that by St. Benedict's presence we may be strengthened in the hour of death, as will be explained later. We do not know just when the first medal of St. Benedict was struck. At some point in history a series of capital letters was placed around the large figure of the cross on the reverse side of the medal. For a long time the meaning of these letters was unknown, but in 1647 a manuscript dating back to 1415 was found at the Abbey of Metten in Bavaria, giving an explanation of the letters. They are the initial letters of a Latin prayer of exorcism against Satan, as will be explained below.

The Jubilee Medal of Montecassino

The above features were finally incorporated in a newly designed medal struck in 1880 under the supervision of the monks of Montecassino, Italy, to mark the 1400th anniversary of the birth of St. Benedict. The design of this medal was produced at St. Martin's Archabbey, Beuron, Germany, at the request of the prior of



Montecassino, Very Rev. Boniface Krug OSB (1838-1909). Prior Boniface was a native of Baltimore and originally a monk of St. Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe, Pennsylvania, until he was chosen to become prior and latter archabbot of Montecassino. Since that time, the Jubilee Medal of 1880 has proven to be more popular throughout the Christian world than any other medal ever struck to honor St. Benedict. Description of the Jubilee Medal Because the Jubilee Medal of 1880 has all the important features ever associated with the Medal of St. Benedict, the following description of this medal can serve to make clear the nature and intent of any medal of St. Benedict, no matter what shape or design it may legitimately have.

The Cross of Eternal Salvation

On the [face](#) of the medal is the image of [Saint Benedict](#). In his right hand he holds the [cross](#), the Christian's symbol of salvation. The cross reminds us of the zealous work of evangelizing and civilizing England and Europe carried out mainly by the Benedictine monks and nuns, especially for the sixth to the ninth/tenth centuries.

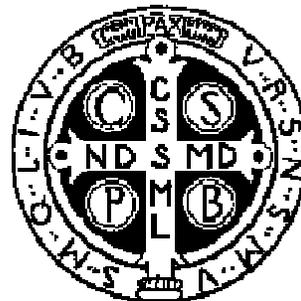
Rule and Raven

In St. Benedict's left hand is his [Rule for Monasteries](#) that could well be summed up in the words of the [Prolog](#) exhorting us to "walk in God's ways, with the Gospel as our guide." On a pedestal to the right of St. Benedict is the [poisoned cup](#), shattered when he made the sign of the cross over it. On a pedestal to the left is a raven about to carry away a loaf of poisoned bread that a jealous enemy had sent to St. Benedict.

C. S. P. B.

Above the cup and the raven are the Latin words: *Crux s. patris Benedicti* (The Cross of our holy father Benedict). On the margin of the medal, encircling the figure of Benedict, are the Latin words: *Eius in obitu nostro praesentia muniamur!* (May we be strengthened by his presence in the hour of our death!). Benedictines have always regarded St. Benedict as a special patron of a happy death. He himself died in the chapel at Montecassino while standing with his arms raised up to heaven, supported by the brothers of the monastery, shortly after St. Benedict had received Holy Communion. Monte Cassino Below Benedict we read: *ex SM Casino MDCCLXXX* (from holy [Monte Cassino](#), 1880). This is the medal struck to commemorate the [1400th anniversary](#) of the birth of [Saint Benedict](#).

Reverse Side of the Medal



[Crux mihi lux](#) On the [back](#) of the medal, the cross is dominant. On the arms of the cross are the initial letters of a rhythmic

Latin prayer: *Crux sacra sit mihi lux! Nunquam draco sit mihi dux!* (May the holy cross be my light! May the dragon never be my guide!).

In the angles of the cross, the letters C S P B stand for *Crux Sancti Patris Benedicti* (The cross of our holy father Benedict).

Peace

Above the cross is the word *pax* (peace), that has been a Benedictine motto for centuries. Around the margin of the back of the medal, the letters *V R S N S M V - S M Q L I V B* are the initial letters, as mentioned above, of a Latin prayer of exorcism against Satan: *Vade retro Satana! Nunquam suade mihi vana! Sunt mala quae libas. Ipse venena bibas!* (Begone Satan! Never tempt me with your vanities! What you offer me is evil. Drink the poison yourself!).

Use of the Medal

There is no special way prescribed for carrying or wearing the Medal of St. Benedict. It can be worn on a chain around the neck, attached to one's rosary, kept in one's pocket or purse, or placed in one's car or home. The medal is often put into the foundations of houses and buildings, on the walls of barns and sheds, or in one's place of business.

The purpose of using the medal in any of the above ways is to call down God's blessing and protection upon us, wherever we are, and upon our homes and possessions, especially through the intercession of St. Benedict. By the conscious and devout use of the medal, it becomes, as it were, a constant silent prayer and reminder to us of our dignity as followers of Christ.

The medal is a prayer of exorcism against Satan, a prayer for strength in time of temptation, a prayer for peace among ourselves and among the nations of the world, a prayer that the Cross of Christ be our light and guide, a prayer of firm rejection of all that is evil, a prayer of petition that we may with Christian courage "walk in God's ways, with the Gospel as our guide," as St. Benedict urges us.

A profitable spiritual experience can be ours if we but take the time to study the array of inscriptions and representations found on the two sides of the medal. The lessons found there can be pondered over and over to bring true peace of mind and heart into our lives as we struggle to overcome the weaknesses of our human nature and realize that our human condition is not perfect, but that with the help of God and the intercession of the saints our condition can become better.

The Medal of St. Benedict can serve as a constant reminder of the need for us to take up our cross daily and "follow the true King, Christ our Lord," and thus learn "to share in his heavenly kingdom," as St. Benedict urges us in the Prolog of his Rule.

Two Special Uses of the Medal

By a rescript of the Sacred Congregation of Religious (4 May 1965) lay Oblates of St. Benedict are permitted to wear the Medal of St. Benedict instead of the small black cloth scapular formerly worn.

By a decree of the Sacred Congregation of Rites (6 March 1959), the Blessing of St. Maur over the sick is permitted to be given with a Medal of St. Benedict instead of with a relic of the True Cross, since the latter is difficult to obtain.

Approved Blessing of the Medal of St. Benedict

Medals of Saint Benedict are sacramentals that may be blessed legitimately by any priest or deacon -- not necessarily a Benedictine (Instr., 26 Sept. 1964; Can. 1168). The following English form may be used.

V. Our help is in the name of the Lord. R. Who made heaven and earth.

In the name of God the Father + almighty, who made heaven and earth, the seas and all that is in them, I exorcise these medals against the power and attacks of the evil one. May all who use these medals devoutly be blessed with health of soul and body. In the name of the Father + almighty, of the Son + Jesus Christ our Lord, and of the Holy + Spirit the Paraclete, and in the love of the same Lord Jesus Christ who will come on the last day to judge the living and the dead, and the world by fire. Amen.

Let us pray, Almighty God, the boundless source of all good things, we humbly ask that, through the intercession of [Saint Benedict](#), you pour out your blessings + upon these medals. May those who use them devoutly and earnestly strive to perform good works be blessed by you with health of soul and body, the grace of a holy life, and remission of the temporal punishment due to sin.

May they also with the help of your merciful love, resist the temptation of the evil one and strive to exercise true charity and justice toward all, so that one day they may appear sinless and holy in your sight. This we ask through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The medals are then sprinkled with holy water.