**Application and Approval Process**

- Contact parish office (732) 462-7429. All calls are strictly confidential. A ministry member will contact the applicant and arrange a personal interview.

- Provide necessary documentation for requested funding, i.e. utility shut off notice, medical bills, etc.

- Committee recommendations are sent to the Pastor for action

- Approved funding sent directly to billing company not to individual applicant
Fr. Benedict Ministry

History

The Fund was established in 1972 by our first Pastor, Father Thomas Dentici.

Initially, the Pastor managed the Father Benedict Fund. In 2004, Father Thomas O’Connor established the Father Benedict Fund Ministry to help screen and interview the increasing number of applicants requesting assistance.

From 2004 until the present, the Father Benedict Ministry has helped over eighty families with expenditures of nearly $30,000. The Fund has helped in the payment of gas and electric bills, water and sewer bills, health insurance premiums, homeowner’s insurance, rent, mortgages, taxes, condo fees, security deposits, food supplements and food cards. The Fund is supported solely through the generosity of the Parish Family’s designated Sunday collections.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide temporary, emergency assistance to those less fortunate, regardless of race or religion. Applicants must be trying to help themselves and must be a parishioner and/or reside within the physical boundaries of The Parish Family of St. Robert Bellarmine as established by the Trenton diocese in 1971.

Meetings

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:15 p.m.

Membership

Parishioners are welcome and encouraged to join the Father Benedict Ministry.

Contact

Call the Parish Office 732-462-7429 for more information.

Father Benedict Lindner

Father Benedict Lindner was born in Germany in 1902. He was ordained to the priesthood there in 1928, Order of St. Augustine. After further study in Germany, in which he received a PhD. in philosophy, he came to the United States in 1935. Through the years he served the Church in many capacities. He was Chaplain at St. Vincent’s Orphanage in Philadelphia. While in New York City, he was a professor at Cathedral College for 20 years. Father Benedict served as Rector of Good Counsel Academy, a monastery in Nova Scotia, which was followed by 2 years as Assistant Pastor of a Parish in Wisconsin.

From 1965 to 1971, he took on several assignments in the New York area – among them, professor of German at St. Joseph’s Seminary, Dunwoodie, NY. In 1971, at the invitation of Father Thomas Dentici, Father Benedict became Assistant Pastor at the newly formed Parish Family of St. Robert Bellarmine. Father Benedict was a very humble servant of God who spent much time visiting the sick and assisting those in need, both materially and spiritually. In 1972, after a brief illness, Father Benedict died. In his memory, Father Dentici established the Father Benedict Fund to help those in need in the area.