St. Benedict Oktoberfest

2026 OKTOBERFEST SCHOLARSHIP

** All scholarship applicants must submit the materials listed below
in a single packet to the Parish Office no later than 3:00 pm on February 27, 2026.
***Partial or late submissions will not be accepted, and no exceptions will be made.** ***

The Oktoberfest Scholarship is open to qualified parishioners who are rising 9th through 12th graders who will be attending a Catholic High School recognized by the Diocese of Richmond. In order to qualify for a scholarship, each applicant and Catholic members of their immediate families must be active members of Saint Benedict Catholic Church. An active member is registered, attending Mass regularly, and contributing to the life and the spiritual community at the parish.

Materials Required (see reverse for Application and details):

1. Completed Application. Entire Application must be ***completed by the student*** applying for the scholarship.

2. Official transcripts

3. Applicant's activities in the church, school, and community

4. Positions and hours worked in support of the most recent St. Benedict Oktoberfest by Applicant **and** family

5. Essay

6. Letter(s) of recommendation

**** Notifications of awards will be made as soon as the Scholarship Committee has had an opportunity to review and consider all submissions.

**** Do **NOT** contact the Parish Office, Pastor, or members of the Oktoberfest Scholarship Committee, for updates.

**** Oktoberfest Scholarship Committee and Parish Staff members will not reply to requests for updates or provide explanations or rationale for awards.

**** Note that the Oktoberfest Committee and the Oktoberfest Scholarship Committee are two separate committees, and that the Oktoberfest Committee is **not** involved in the scholarship process.

**** All scholarship decisions are final and not subject to reconsideration.

2026 OKTOBERFEST SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Full Name of Applicant: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parent(s) Name(s): _____

Parent Email: _____

School you are currently attending: _____

School you expect to attend in Fall: _____

Your expected Grade in Fall: (check one)   **9**   **10**   **11**   **12**

Please indicate if your official transcripts are being mailed or are included in this

packet. (check one)   **mailed**   **included**

- Are you an active member of Saint Benedict Parish (see definition above)?   **Y**   **N**

- Are all members of your immediate family who are Catholic active members of Saint Benedict Parish (see definition above)? (check one)   **Y**   **N**
  If you checked N, please explain: _____

- Official transcripts
    - May be submitted directly from the school or included in the application package (please make sure to request transcripts well in advance of the Application deadline)
    - Transcripts submitted by the student with the application package ***must be sealed***
    - Rising 9th Graders should submit transcript(s) covering all middle school years
    - Rising 10th, 11th, and 12th Graders must submit transcript(s) for each year of high school.

- A brief description, including dates, of the applicant's activities at Saint Benedict Catholic Church, school, and community. Do NOT include Oktoberfest activities in this Answer.

- A brief description of the volunteer positions the applicant and members of their family worked in support of the most recent St. Benedict Oktoberfest hosted by the parish. *(It should be noted that since the funds raised at St. Benedict Oktoberfest fund these scholarships, great emphasis is placed on you and your family's involvement in this event)*

- Letter(s) of recommendation: Submit one to three letters of Recommendation. Letters may be requested from school, church, or community leaders that detail the ethics, character, and values of the applicant. Any letter of recommendation should explain the author's relationship with the applicant.

- Typewritten essay authored by the applicant of 350 words or less.
  Topic: **As the availability and use of artificial intelligence continues to grow, how should a Catholic view its impact on life and faith?**