



ST. BENEDICT'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

DIÖCESE OF SOUTHEAST FLORIDA - ANGLICAN COMMUNION

7801 N.W. 5TH STREET • PLANTATION, FL 33324

PHONE: 954-473-6578 • WWW.SAINTBENEDICTS.ORG

We welcome you in the name of the Lord!

The Very Reverend Albert R. Cutié, Rector
Parish Office e-mail - parishoffice@saintbenedicts.org

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year A – Revised Common Lectionary / Daily Office Year One
December 3 AND 4, 2016

Weekend Schedule

Saturday: Holy Eucharist Rite II – 6:00 pm

Sunday: Morning Prayer - 7:45 am

Holy Eucharist Rite I – 8:00 am

Eucharist Rite II – 10:00 am

Weekday Eucharist/Prayer in Community

Tuesday: Intercessory Prayer Group – 8:00 am

Tuesday: Holy Eucharist - 8:30 am

Wednesday: Holy Eucharist/Healing Service – 7:00 pm

Thursday: Holy Eucharist – 8:30 am

Order of Service - Holy Eucharist: 6:00 pm and 10:00 am (BCP 355) – 8:00 am (BCP 323)

The Collect

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

The First Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fating together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious. The Word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 *Deus, iudicium*

1 Give the King your justice, O God, *and your righteousness to the King's Son;
2 That he may rule your people righteously *and the poor with justice;
3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *from one generation to another.
6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *like showers that water the earth.
7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
18 Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, *who alone does wondrous deeds!
19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen.

The Epistle: Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. The Word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

+The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (3:1-12)

ALL: GLORY TO YOU, LORD CHRIST

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

The Gospel of the Lord. **ALL: PRAISE TO YOU, LORD CHRIST**

Sermon/Homily: 6:00 pm Saturday, 8:00 am and 10:00 am Sunday:
The Very Reverend Albert R. Cutié, Rector
Prayers of the People: 6:00 pm & 10:00 am: Form I; 8:00 am (BCP 328)
Blessings for anniversaries and birthdays and the laying on of hands for healing
The Great Thanksgiving: 6:00 pm and 10:00 am (BCP 361); 8:00 am (BCP 333)
Post Communion Prayer: BCP, 365 (8:00 am BCP, 339)

Sending out the Lay Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant: N. (and N.) we send you out to share Communion this week with (names).

Celebrant: May those who receive it from you be strengthened and encouraged in the community we have together in our Lord Jesus Christ. **People: Amen.**

REPENT!

"Repent", exclaims John the Baptist to the Judeans. John is not referring to mere sorrow for sin. The New Testament Greek word is metanoia which means becoming a whole new person. John continues, "The kingdom of heaven is at hand". He realizes the messiah, the one who is to come, approaches. For us, it's the first call that our savior's coming (advent) is imminent. John quotes Isaiah 40: "A voice of one crying in the desert". Shhhh; listen! Through the centuries, one can still hear this clarion call from and through the mindless cacophony of the ages: "Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight his paths." We make ready for incarnation, by resisting pitfalls of bias, avarice, and injustice: by smoothing our inner spiritual landscape for his birth in us. Advent is preparation time not only for the remembered coming of Christ in a stable but in the folds of our own hearts. Surely, we of St. Benedict's can make this Christmas our greatest, by metanoia, becoming a whole new person. - *Norm Carroll*

COMING UP @ ST. BENEDICT'S

JOIN US THIS WEDNESDAY! Advent Retreat/Concert: On Wednesday, December 7th at 7:00 PM, Mrs. Kate Beatty will be conducting a singing on the roof of the church. **Admission is free and a priority reservation will be made for you. It will be a night of blessing for our entire community!**

Don't forget to fill out your Pledge Cards for your annual PLEDGE to the parish. Everyone is being asked to "step up in faith" and increase their generous giving... Nothing is impossible with God and we are certain all will respond with faith and love to this appeal. Your church needs you!

JOIN US FOR WINTER WONDERLAND 2016 on Sunday, December 11, 2016 immediately following the 10:00 am Greening of the Church service. We will have a spectacular winter event complete with activities for the children, activities for the adults, a DUNK TANK and much more! The cost is \$5.00 for all activities and a snow-cone. Additional cost for food such as curried and baked chicken, hot dogs, etc. will be available. Please come out and join us. The proceeds for this will go toward scholarships for our graduating Seniors.

Attention adult & teen acolytes interested in becoming a Thurifer. Training sessions will be Sunday December 4, after service & Saturday December 10 from 10:30am - 12:30pm. Please contact Hazel at 954-594-6281.

Faith in Music Ministry: *Tuesdays 9:30 AM. We will be studying Bach's Cantatas 116-118.*

Adult Ed and Theological Reflection: The Christian Keynote - Christmas is drawing near! Time to take in the real message of Christ's birth! Let's all gather Monday night at 7 PM in the chapel for meaningful discussion on the birth of our Lord.

It's time to register for the Diocesan Youth Christmas Ball on December 17th! The Broward Deanery is planning to have transportation as we did last year. Once you have registered, please let me know if you/your group will need transportation. I need to know by December 10th so we can determine whether we need a bus or a cargo van. Also, please note the information about adults attending. Any adult at the dance must have completed Safeguarding. Contact Pam Sahdev.

St. Benedict's Luncheon Group will be holding our 14th Annual Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, Dec. 8, 2016 at 11:30 a.m. All parishioners and their guests are welcome. Call Connie Desko for your reservation at 954-370-9778.

If you are interested in serving as a Chalice Bearer or wish to know more about what we do, there will be a meeting on Sunday January the 8th after the 10 am service for 1 hour. Chalice Bearers help serve the holy sacraments at communion. They also help with the service. You must be 16 and confirmed to be a Chalice Bearer. Acolytes can come if they are 15, but cannot serve until they are 16 and confirmed. If you have any other questions about serving, you can ask Jon Farley; as well as, Dennis Kelly at 6 pm, Christine Clifford at 8 am, Winston Plummer at 10 am, and Hazel Mitchell at 10 am. They are the MCs of each service. Also, if you have any questions about acolytes, you can ask, Hazel Mitchell or me. If you have any questions about the Chalice Bearer workshop, please call or email me at Joncandy@comcast.net or 954-474-4730. Jon Farley, Head of Altar Ministries.

DECEMBER'S MISSION IS FRIENDS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD. This mission is located in Western Jamaica, providing financial, physical, and moral support for their Clients. They also attempt to meet the educational and healthcare needs of the disadvantaged. In the future, we will be honoring this mission in the month of July in order to be able to participate timely in their annual toy drive.

UTO Corner 2016: Today is Ingathering Sunday, December 4, 2016. Giving Thanks to God for Everything--Life, Health, Family and Friends and especially for your donations to the UTO Ministry. Father Albert will bless all donations at each service. Thank you for your prayers and your Acts of Kindness!

Blood Drive: This holiday season please share your lifesaving gift with patients in need. The Blood Mobile will be at St. Benedict's on Sunday, December 4th from 8:30 am – 1:30 pm.

Church Directories will be available for pickup and for sale after all three services this weekend.

2017 Calendars are available from the table in the narthex.

Spiritual Thought for the Week: "Thousands of people who have been intellectually converted to Christ, but they have never been real. They have been Him." — Reverend Billy Graham

Our offerings to God for November 26 and 27, 2016 - Thank you for your generosity!

Operating Fund: \$8,463.74
Building Fund: \$1,277.00
Total: \$9,740.74

A Special Message from your priest: YEAR-END GIVING 2016

Dear parish family:

Christmas is the season of giving. I really need this December to be a month of spontaneous, big gifts. *On December 14th at 7:00 PM we will have a special financial meeting to address our ongoing and very significant short-fall in pledging.* Yet, even if our pledging was perfect – 100% - Year-end gifts are still part of almost every church's life. And they make a huge difference and most churches and other non-profit entities rely on these gifts to carry out their work.

Faith Direct www.faithdirect.net shares these figures:

Over half of year-end donations are made in the last week of the year.

20% of these year-end gifts made on December 31.

The average year-end donation amount was \$286.

If every pledging member makes a special ONE-TIME Christmas gift to the Lord, we will be in much better shape as we end the year. The truth is that we are behind in giving and pledging. Please take it to prayer and do what you can to make a YEAR-END gift to the Lord Jesus and the ministry of St. Benedict's. Thank you!

Wishing all of you a holy Advent and blessed Christmas,

Father Albert