



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

The mission of St. Benedict's Church is to "know Christ's love and to make it known"

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year B – Revised Common Lectionary / Daily Office Year Two
December 16 and 17, 2017

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

(With Sunday school for Children and Youth of all ages)

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

If you wish to follow along, please use the Book of Common Prayer (Red Book) in your pews...

Order of Service: 6:00 pm and 10:00 am Rite II (BCP 355) – 8:00 am Rite I (BCP 323)

The Collect

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion— to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I The LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom

the LORD has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. The Word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

Psalm 126 *In convertendo*

1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.
2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
3 Then they said among the nations, *
"The LORD has done great things for them."
4 The LORD has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.
5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.
6 Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy
7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

The Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

The Word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

+The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to John (1:6-8, 19-28))

All: GLORY TO YOU, LORD CHRIST

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing. The Gospel of the Lord. **ALL: PRAISE TO YOU, LORD CHRIST**

Sermon/Homily: Saturday 6:00 pm, The Very Reverend Albert R. Cutié, Rector

Sunday 8:00 am and 10:00 am: The Reverend Robert Deshaies

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)

Sending out the Lay Eucharistic Visitors

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

People: May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

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.

Who are You?

Priests and Levites ask John that same question in today's gospel. I recall a teacher once asking that question of me. I responded, "I am Norm!". She critiqued, "No, that's your name". Then I answered, "I am a deacon" to which she said, "No, that's your calling; who are you?" Similarly, John admitted honestly that he was not the Christ, nor Elijah, nor a prophet: he was merely the voice of one crying in the desert: "Make straight the way of the Lord". Jesus is calling us to the same witness. Our voice must express our values: to make straight the way of the Lord by our living "in Christ". We surely reside today in a spiritual desert; his words are in desperate need; and we echo John's voice.

- Norm Carroll www.spiritualsummit.net

COMING UP @ ST. BENEDICT'S

SPECIAL ADVENT ACTIVITIES

AS WE "PREPARE THE WAY" FOR THE LORD...

Sunday, December 17th at 10:00 AM "Greening of the Church": *A St. Benedict's Tradition*

Wednesday, December 20th at 7:30 PM Parish Advent Retreat: *A Night of Song, Prayer and Meditation as we "Prepare for the Lord" (Deacon Debra and Father Albert)*

ADVENT IS HERE! Make that Call that only YOU can make... Often we lose contact with parishioners when they are gone for several weeks and often we do not really know where they went. As we begin a new Church Year, why not pick up the phone and call that person you have not seen in a while and say, "Hey, we miss you at church"? Sometimes we have no way of knowing what is really happening in people's lives. Many times, people do not call the church when there has been an illness, a struggle or a family problem... Let's all try to reach out to each other with love and express our sincere concern. Peace, Fr. Albert.

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!

Please pray for Father Reggie Simmons who is being installed as Rector of St. Alban's in Alpharetta, Georgia this weekend.

Brotherhood of St. Andrew: The December meeting is scheduled for Sunday the 17th, promptly after the 10:00am Mass in the St. Elizabeth Room.

New Weekday Service! Join us for Evening Prayer from Monday-Friday at 6:30 pm in Our Lady's Chapel. Evening Prayer allows us to develop the daily habit of "praying in community" and it is one of the most ancient Christian customs.

Understanding Christmas: Christmas is not just about the birth and the crib. Christ addresses with a loud clear voice the questions of the ages regarding God, humanity, and all creation. Come, listen and participate in our discussion Monday at 7:00 pm in the chapel.

Don't Miss: We meet between services Sunday at 9:30 am in the chapel to reflect on the gospel and the readings of the day.

Faith in Music Ministry: We will be listening and studying sacred classical music this Tuesday at 9:30 am.

Bible Study: Fridays from 9:30 am-11:00 am. Paul's letters to the Corinthians mirror the problems and issues that we encounter in the church today simply because Corinth was a city that mirrors the world we live in today. Paul gives us answers to the questions we have living in a world dominated by secularism. Join us in the study of 1 Corinthians. Call 954-530-0901.

Youth Group: Our middle and high school youth meet each Wednesday evening in the Teen Room from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. We invite all youth to attend youth group.

Saint Benedict's Parish, Plantation Florida presents "A Collection of Christmas Carols and Anthems" performed by the Saint Benedict's Chancel Choir and accompanied by the "Tradewind Brass" Quartet, to be presented on Sunday, December 24 at 10:00 pm in the Church sanctuary. The concert will be followed by the 10:30 pm Christmas Mass of Midnight. The 26 voice Chancel Choir and Tradewind Brass are joined by Jonathan Sydel playing Mallet Percussion Orchestral bells. The guest organist/harpist Ruth H. Pavlow will accompany the Choir. The Tradewind Brass is under the direction of Dr. Kenneth L Strattan. The choral portion of the concert will be repeated on Monday, Christmas Day at 9:30 am, followed by the Mass of Christmas Day at 10:00 am.

Sunday School takes place every Sunday during the 10:00 am Service. Spread the word in our community that we have the best Sunday School around.

Nursery Volunteers needed for one Sunday a month. Please see Cheryl Burley or email ckburley@bellsouth.net for more information.

Cursillo Prayer Breakfast: January 13, 2018 at 9:30 am all are welcome and tickets are on sale. Our Contacts are Hazel Mitchell, Candy Mixsell, Barbara McKenzie and Donna Carty.

UTO 2017 Corner: Please continue to return your boxes and envelopes until the week end of December 16 and 17, 2017

The Mission of the month for December is St. Laurence chapel: St. Lawrence Chapel is a Homeless Day Shelter where the less fortunate in our community may seek food, medical assistance, showers, clothing, spiritual encouragement, computer access, and a place to rest. They may also use the Shelter as an address and obtain an ID. Please support St. Lawrence Chapel in their valued effort to provide daily sustenance to our sisters and brothers in need.

Advent Thought for the Week: *"It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope"* - Pope Benedict XVI

Our offerings to God for December 9 and 10, 2017 - Thank you for your generosity!

Operating:	6,858.44
Building Fund:	1,695.00
Total:	8,553.44
Operational Costs:	9,900.00
Shortfall for the week:	1,346.56

Please do what you can to complete your 2017 Pledge... We need your full pledge to finish the year!



Saturday, December 23rd Holy Eucharist at 6:00 pm

Sunday, December 24th Holy Eucharist at 8:00 am and 10:00 am

Christmas Eve, December 24th Children's Mass and Pageant at 6:00 pm

Christmas Eve Choral Concert at 10:00 pm and our Traditional Midnight Mass begins at 10:30 pm

Monday, December 25th Christmas Day Choral Concert at 9:30 am and Mass at 10:00 am

Saturday, December 30th Saturday Vigil 6:00 pm

Sunday, December 31st we will have our regular service times 8:00 am and 10:00 am

(There will be no evening service on the 31st this year, because it lands on a Sunday.)