

St. Benedict's Episcopal Church

We welcome you in the name of the Lord!

The Reverend Albert R. Cutié, Rector
The Reverend Debra McLaughlin, Deacon
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"

THE VIGIL OF EPIPHANY

Year A – Revised Common Lectionary / Daily Office Year Two
JANUARY 4 AND 5, 2020

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

Book of Common Prayer

Order of Service

Holy Eucharist Rite II: 6:00 pm and 10:00 am (BCP 355)

Holy Eucharist Rite I: 8:00 am (BCP 323)

The Collect

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson: Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord. The Word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

Psalm 72:1-7,10-14 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.
10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall pay tribute, *
and the kings of Arabia and Saba offer gifts.
11 All kings shall bow down before him, *
and all the nations do him service.
12 For he shall deliver the poor who cries out in distress, *
and the oppressed who has no helper.
13 He shall have pity on the lowly and poor; *
he shall preserve the lives of the needy.
14 He shall redeem their lives from oppression and violence, *
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.

The Epistle: Ephesians 3:1-12

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles-- for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him. The Word of the Lord. **THANKS BE TO GOD**

+The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (2:1-12)

All: GLORY TO YOU, LORD CHRIST

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judaea; for so it has been written by the prophet: `And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

Sermon/Homily: 6:00 pm Saturday, 8:00 and 10:00 am Sunday:

The 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).

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.**

Are We Really Baptized?

We have been baptized with water, but what of baptism of the spirit? Today's gospel portrays Jesus disdaining wealthy temple priests to find John, the desert solitary, for his baptism. This marks Jesus' public commitment to his impassioned message of unconditional love. Matthew writes the heavens were opened, and God's Spirit descended on him like a dove. Finally, God speaks: "This is my son, the beloved, with whom I am well pleased". God utters these same words to us, but are we willing to commit to Christ's message? This means no more discrimination, insult, or power-seeking. It means today we renew our own baptism of dedication to everyone we touch: that today signals a new beginning of commitment to Christ and all for whom he lived and died. - Norm Carroll spiritualsummit.net

Coming Up @ St. Benedict's

Pledge Envelopes for 2020 are available on a table in the Narthex arranged in alphabetical order. Please remember that **separate checks** need to be written for the Operating and Maintenance/Improvement Funds as these are **two different bank accounts**. You can also sign-up ONLINE and never have to write another check again. www.saintbenedicts.org

REPORTS FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING: The Annual Parish Meeting is scheduled for January 19th, 2020 at 12:00 pm (Noon). All Heads of Ministries please start preparing your report for the booklet. All reports should be emailed to Wendy at parishoffice@saintbenedicts.org no later than January 13th.

Our Nursery is open every Sunday during the 10:00 am service for infants and toddlers ages 6 months to 3 years. Please see Cheryl Burley or Yvette Dawson for more information, or to volunteer.

The Sunday School is in need of volunteers for teachers. Please contact Keisha Goodison if you are called to share the word of God with children.

Sunday Eucharist: Join us Sunday at 9:30 am in the chapel to wrestle with God's word in today's lessons. God's message is charged with spiritual power and wisdom, and we are energized.

Religion In Trouble: We renew St. Benedict's adult formation Monday January 6 in the chapel at 7:00 pm. We will discuss Church in Decline But with Hope.

Faith in Music Ministry: Will be a combination of Spiritual Music with Spiritual text on Wednesdays at 6:15 pm until 6:45 pm.

The next Mothers' Union Meeting will be on Sunday, January 5th following the 10:00 am service in St. Luke's Room.

The winner of the Mothers' Union Quilt is Sherry Kiefhaber. Congratulations Sherry.

ECW Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 12th immediately following the 10:00 am service. We encourage all women to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Abandoned Dogs Rescue Home: Peter Furzer is collecting old but gently used towels for the Abandoned Dogs Rescue Home. Please see Peter if you can help.

Are you a cancer survivor, undergoing treatment, or caregiver? Please come to our new cancer support prayer group - Circle of Hope - the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 4:00 pm in the Chapel. For more information, contact coordinator Jim Dunmire at dunmirej@bellsouth.net

The Mission of the Month of January is Jubilee Center. Jubilee Center is a daily soup kitchen and counselling center, located in Hollywood. Their goal is to provide meals to the hungry and social services to the neediest in the community, as well as clothing, food and emergency aid.

Spiritual Thought for the week: "Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness."
- Desmond Tutu

Give ONLINE
Take a few minutes to SIGN UP FOR SUBSPLASH GIVING at:
www.saintbenedicts.org
(Click on the tab marked "Giving")