



Saint Benedict's Episcopal Church  
**The Third Sunday of Advent**  
December 16 and 17, 2023 | 6 pm, 8 am, 10 am

*Welcome to Saint Benedict's: A church that feels like family! We are glad you are here! If you are a newcomer, please complete a "Welcome Card" and place it in the offering plate so we can extend our welcome beyond this service. Additional information about Saint Benedict's and our ministries may be found online at [www.saintbenedicts.org](http://www.saintbenedicts.org). The people's responses can be found in **BOLD**. The music for the service is taken from The Hymnal 1982 (H-1982) and Lift Every Voice and Sing (LEVAS). We welcome all the baptized, regardless of denomination, to receive Holy Communion.*

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST

*(Rite I of The Holy Eucharist begins on page 323 of the Book of Common Prayer - and Rite II begins on page 355.)*

Processional: Hymn 72

Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes

Richmond

Lighting and Blessing of the Advent Wreath *(Instrumental O come, O come, Emmanuel)*

## Opening Acclamation

+Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever.***

*Celebrant:* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Kyrie for Advent Season *(The Mass of Remembrance – M. Haugen)*

Priest:: Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison

***People: Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison***

Priest: Lord Jesus you came to gather the nations, into the peace of God's Kingdom

***People: Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison***

Priest: You come in Word and Sacrament to strengthen us in holiness

***People: Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison***

Priest: You will come in glory with salvation for your people

***People: Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison***

## THE WORD OF GOD

### The Collect for the Day

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

***\*(8 am) And with thy spirit.***

*Celebrant:* 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 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. *Lector:* The Word of the Lord. *People:* **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.

**A Reading from Paul's letter to the Thessalonians****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. *Lector:* The Word of the Lord. *People:* **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn 66****Come, thou long-expected Jesus**

Stuttgart

**+The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John****John 1:6-8,19-28*****People:* 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. *Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord. People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

## Sermon

The Reverend Albert Cutié, Rector

## The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Prayers of the People (Form III)

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
*That we all may be one.*

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
*That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
*That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
*That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
*That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
*That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Give to the departed eternal rest.  
*Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
***May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.***

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

*Silence*

Today, in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we remember the Church of Papua New Guinea.

We pray for those celebrating Birthdays and Anniversaries this week...

**Confession of Sin**     *Deacon:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

*Priest:* Almighty God have mercy on you, +forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

**The Peace**

The Peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you. \*(8 am): And with thy spirit.**

**Announcements**

*An offering is now taken for the work of the parish. Please be generous – We count on your support all year!  
Feel free to make a secure donation ONLINE [www.saintbenedicts.org](http://www.saintbenedicts.org) and go to “Online giving “or give by clicking on  
the QR CODE below... God bless you for your generous support!*



**Offertory Hymn: Hymn 57**

**Lo! He comes, with clouds descending**

Helmsley

**Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow**

Old Hundredth

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below:  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!***

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### The Great Thanksgiving

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

**All:** And also with you.

*Celebrant:* Lift up your hearts.

**All:** We lift them up to the Lord.

*Celebrant:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All:** It is right to give him thanks and praise.

**\*(8 am):** And with thy spirit.

**\*(8 am):** We lift them up unto the Lord.

**\*(8 am):** It is meet and right so to do.

### Preface

### Sanctus

### The Lord's Prayer

*Albert Hay Malotte (1895-1964)*

### Fraction Anthem at the Breaking of the Bread

*Douglas Major (b. 1953)*

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;  
there - fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

### Agnus Dei

*David Hurd*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us Thy peace.

**\*(8 am – optional at 6 pm and 10 am)** Prayer of Humble Access

**All:** We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

### Communion Hymn: Hymnal 325

Let us break bread together

**The Post Communion Prayer:** Let us pray. Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\*(8 am Rite I):**

Let us pray: Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist

us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

### Final Blessing

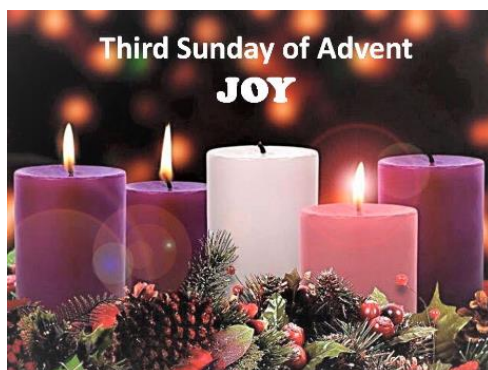
Recessional Hymn: LEVAS 14

Soon, and very soon

### The Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! Alleluia Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!



## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Attention all children, youth, and families!** This Sunday, December 17, will be the last day of Sunday School for 2023. Classes will resume on January 14, 2024. Until then, in addition to working on the Bible study curriculum, children are working on two projects during class time: 1) Making tree decorations for the greening of the church and 2) Making cards and decorations for shut ins.

**The Greening of the Church** is back! Today, we will celebrate the Greening of the Church at the 10 am service, complete with Christmas Carols, decorating the church with wreaths, garland, and our Christmas trees. There will also be a surprise guest so please make sure to bring the children! We are happy to bring back this tradition and hope many of you will join us.

**Christmas Flowers and Music:** Today is the final opportunity for you to honor a loved one or make a donation for the Christmas Flowers and Christmas Music. Please complete the information in the insert and place that along with your check in the Offering Plate.

**Bereavement Workshop:** Discover a safe space to be comforted and cope with the emotional, physical and spiritual feelings of **grief**. Join hearts and hands so that we can do together what we cannot do alone. Get some tools you need to **handle the loss** of a loved one, a pet, a job, a relationship, a move or major change in your life. **Journey towards Healing and Love** with Deacon Deb McLaughlin, a certified grief support group facilitator, **today, Sunday, December 17, after 10 am Service** in the Parish Hall.

**Attention all Men & Youth:** St. Benedict's **Brotherhood of St. Andrew's** chapter, invites you to be part of our next in-person gathering which will occur **today, Sunday, December 17**, after the 10:00 AM. service in the church Conference Room. Bring a friend or two. Through the disciplines of prayer, study, and service, the Brotherhood always aims to bring men and youth closer to Christ.

**Donate Blood:** Today, **One Blood** will be at St. Benedict's, from **9:30 am – 1:00 pm**. If you are able, please **donate and help others in need**. Donors will receive a \$20 Gift Card, OneBlood Blanket and a Wellness Screening.

## St. Benedict's December Mission of the Month

Parishioner In-Reach and Fellowship Through Caroling.

### Caroling Dates

**Sunday December 17, 2023 | 3 pm**

Life Care Center, 4300 Rock Island Rd. Lauderhill, FL 33319

**Tuesday - December 19, 2023 | 10 am - Meet at St. Benedict's to car pool**

Seafarers House Port Everglades 1800 SE 32nd St. Port Everglades, FL 33316

Bring your ID, Closed Toe Shoe Required.

**Saturday - December 23, 2023 | 10 am - Volunteer Park**

Volunteer Park 12050 W Sunrise Blvd. Plantation, FL 33324

**T-shirts \$15.00** each cash or Zelle: Unisex sizes XS-3X Youth and Children sizes also available. Blue Only  
Last day to order for 2023 is December 17, 2023

**In-Reach** will continue through Epiphany 1/6/2024. Please contact a member of the Missions Ministry of any need you may have. It will be put on the Angel Tree in the Narthex. We can't guarantee the need will be met but will do our best. Please see tree for parishioner needs. This can be as simple as specific prayer. This can be done confidentially by notifying one of the members below.

With our Sincere Gratitude : Alicia Kelley [alicia.kelley@bellsouth.net](mailto:alicia.kelley@bellsouth.net) 954-439-0666, Elaine Eachus, Kathleen Fanjul, Fay McKenzie-Chambers, Satnarine Ricketts-Weber, Karen Froniewski, Allan Dupois 954-682-4130, Ruhama Cutie and the rest of the Mission Team.

**ECW Church Periodical Club (CPC):** Thank you everyone for your support for the (CPC) worldwide ministry of the printed word. We raised \$700.10. Bless our gifts and those who will receive the grants.

**Choir rehearsals** take place on Thursdays at 7:00 pm in the church. If you are interested in joining the Choir please come to rehearsal or see Daniel, our Choirmaster and Organist, for more information.

**Please join us for the Healing Service on Wednesdays** in-person at 7:00 PM in the church.

### LAST WEEK'S OFFERING TO GOD – IN PERSON AND ONLINE:

Operating: \$11,696.28

Building - Maintenance: \$3,084.30

Total: \$14,780.58

Thank you for your dedication to your parish, and may God bless you for your generosity. To sign up for **ONLINE GIVING** please visit our website and select the "Giving" tab. [www.saintbenedicts.org](http://www.saintbenedicts.org)

## OUR CAMPAIGN PRAYER

*Oh God of Love, you have brought together from many nations the people of our parish family of Saint Benedict's. We thank you for the countless gifts which your Holy Spirit has bestowed upon this community of faith. We pray for the success of our Capital Campaign: May this be a time of generous and sacrificial giving, that we may all work together to build an enduring legacy of faith for future generations.*

*We ask this in the most Holy Name of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**Amen**



**JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS!**

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2023

***Regular Services for the Fourth Sunday of Advent:***

***December 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>***

**Saturday Evening: 6pm**

**Sunday Morning: Holy Eucharist at 8am, 10am and 12pm (*español*)**

**Christmas Eve and Midnight Mass, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

**6pm Christmas Eve Mass with Live Petting Zoo and Children's Pageant  
(Petting Zoo begins at 5pm - All children and families are welcome!)**

**10pm Traditional "Midnight Mass" begins with Christmas Music Concert**

**Christmas Day Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**

**10am Christmas Day Mass (English/Spanish)**

**SAINT BENEDICT'S EPISCOPAL (ANGLICAN) CHURCH**

**7801 NW 5<sup>TH</sup> STREET - PLANTATION, FL 33324**

**WWW.SAINTBENEDICTS.ORG**