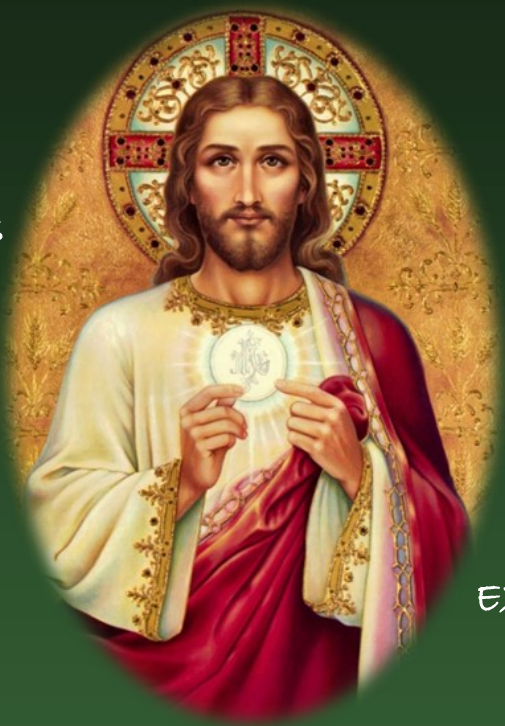


*Sunday, December 4, 2016*

*Second Sunday of Advent*

ORDINARY FAMILIES



EXTRAORDINARY FAITH

# ST. BENILDE

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

1901 Division Street • Metairie, Louisiana 70001

Church Office: (504) 834-4980 • Church Fax: (504) 834-4997 • Church Email: [stbenildechurch@cox.net](mailto:stbenildechurch@cox.net)

[www.stbenilde.org](http://www.stbenilde.org)

### CLERGY

Rev. Robert T. Cooper, *Pastor*  
Rev. H.L. Brignac, *Sacramental Asst.*  
Deacon Biaggio DiGiovanni  
Deacon Stephen Gordon  
Deacon Clifford Wright

### BAPTISMS

First and Third Sundays of the month  
at 12 Noon. Please call the Parish  
Office for more information.

### MATRIMONY

Please contact a priest/deacon  
8 months prior to your wedding.

### FUNERALS

Arrangements may be made at the  
Parish Office.

### MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil ... 4 p.m.  
Sunday ... 9:00, 11:00 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
Monday—Friday ... 7:00 a.m.  
Monday and Thursday ... 5:30 p.m.  
First Saturday ... 8:45 a.m.

### HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

See Inside the Bulletin for Schedule

### CONFESSION TIMES

Saturday ... 3:00—3:45 p.m.  
Sunday ... 5:00—5:45 p.m.  
Monday ... 6:00—6:45 p.m.  
and by appointment at the Parish Office

### DIVINE MERCY ADORATION CHAPEL

Eucharistic Adoration from 7:00 p.m. Sunday  
till 4:00 p.m. Saturday

### DEVOTIONS

Holy Hour in Church  
Monday, 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help  
Following 7 a.m. Mass on Tuesday

### NEWCOMERS

Call the Parish Office to receive a New  
Parishioner Registration Packet.

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

St. Benilde Conference  
(504) 233-3246

### ST. BENILDE SCHOOL

Mr. Matt Downey, Principal  
1801 Division Street • Metairie, LA  
(504) 833-9894



## Ministers of the Liturgy

December 3 & 4, 2016

### Saturday - 4 P.M.

*Intention:* Maizie Marks (L), Pete Fountain,  
Dorothy Van Hoven, Gerry Golemi, Mary Quaid,  
George Spaulding, Michael Bollinger, Joseph Segari,  
Madeline Ghores Grunewald, Flora Maria Be,  
Patrick C. McKinney, Rose Marie Greco Federico,  
Merle & Charles Dittmer, Hubert LaBorde  
*Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:*

C. Casente, K. Hartdegan

*Cantor:* Trish Foti

### Sunday - 9 A.M.

*Intention:* M. & C. Nolan (L)

*Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:*

M. Evola, P. Fleming, J. & G. Rojas

*Song Leaders:* Traditional Choir

### Sunday - 11 A.M.

*Intention:* Brenda Frey (L), Melvin & Mary Ducote,  
Kelvin Ducote, JoAnne Flettrich,  
Poor Souls, Marine Peters, Dianne Z. Harrison,  
Hilton F. Daigle, Jr., Joseph Donald Bernard,  
Marilyn Groetsch (L), Joseph Torres

*Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:*

J. Hutchinson, R. Oleksik, S. Gordon, L. Peters

*Song Leaders:* Contemporary Choir

### Sunday - 6 P.M.

*Intention:* Parishioners

*Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:*

A. Calongne, B. Henry

*Cantor:* Lauren Gisclair *Pianist:* Beth Kettenring

### Weekday Masses

Monday	7:00 a.m. Don Rowan, Sr. 5:30 p.m. Floyd C. Bangs, Sr.
Tuesday	7:00 a.m. JoAnne Flettrich
Wednesday	7:00 a.m. Brenda Frey (L) 5:30 p.m. Floyd C. Bangs, Sr.
Thursday	7:00 a.m. Don Rowan, Sr. 8:15 a.m. Grace Marchadie 12 Noon Thanksgiving to the Lord 6:00 p.m. June & Marvin Ackermann (L)
Friday	7:00 a.m. Thanksgiving to the Lord

**The Church Sanctuary Lamp  
burns in memory of  
The Souls in Purgatory**



**The Blessed Mother  
Votive Lamps burn  
in memory of  
Lillie Soupenne**

**The St. Joseph Votive Lamps  
burn in  
Thanksgiving for a Prayer  
Answered**



**Adoration Chapel  
Sanctuary Lamp burns  
in memory of  
Stuart and Gloria Fourroux**

**Adoration Chapel Candles  
burn for Members of  
The Rosary & Altar Society**



## Altar Ladies

**Week of December 4**

J. Dunn, C. Batt, L. Segari

### Linens

Large - M. Costanza

Small - E. Beyer



**The Altar Flowers are in  
memory of  
Daryl Paul Sanchez**



## Stewardship of Treasure

Weekend of November 26 & 27

Envelopes .....	\$2,521.00
Loose .....	3,173.00
Electronic Giving .....	410.00
Repairs & Maintenance .....	292.00
Msgr. Richaud Fund .....	95.00
<b>Totaling .....</b>	<b>\$6,566.00</b>
<b>Total from November 19 &amp; 20.....</b>	<b>\$5,872.00</b>
Campaign for Human Development Collection.....	\$784.00
Thanksgiving Day Collection.....	\$11,098.00

*"Let us focus on generosity, or returning God's gifts with increase, through the generous sharing of our time, talent and treasure."*

~ Fr. Cooper

## Christmas Memorial Greenery and Flowers



The beautiful poinsettias and greenery that adorn our altar and sanctuary are a special part of the celebration of Christmas at St. Benilde Catholic Church. We invite all parishioners to share in the experience through a memorial or thanksgiving gift by using the **Christmas Flowers Memorial Envelopes** found in the vestibule of Church. Donations toward the cost of Christmas decorations in the Church may be made in memory or honor of your family members and friends. This is a wonderful way to remember loved ones, honor friends, and offer thanksgiving to God for prayers answered and blessings received during this past year. *The suggested donation is \$10 per remembrance.*

**Please place your envelopes in the collection basket, the Poor Box or bring it to the Parish Office by December 26.**

Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Memorial Envelopes will be placed on the altar throughout the Christmas Season and names will be printed in the bulletin.

## Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Dec. 10/11

- 4 PM J. Rodosta, L. Segari  
9 AM J. Tusa, P. Cifreo, R. Meche, R. Theriot  
11 AM C. & T. Pitre, N. Bostick, L. Frey  
6 PM L. Daigle, B. David

## Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a **Holy Day of Obligation**. Vigil Mass will be celebrated at 5:30pm on Wednesday, December 7. Masses on Thursday, December 8 will be at 7am, 8:15am (School Mass), 12 Noon, and 6pm.



## Parish Office Closed

*The Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, December 8 in observance of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. We will reopen on Friday, December 9 at 9 am.*

## Advent Holy Hour and Confessions

The parish will have a Holy Hour from 6 pm till 7 pm on Monday, December 19 as we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of the Christ Child.

## Breakfast with the Baby Jesus

The CCD program is sponsoring **Breakfast with the Baby Jesus** on December 18, after the 11 AM Mass, in the cafeteria. We will serve a hot breakfast, perform a play, and have crafts. The cost will be \$5 per family. Pre-sale tickets will be sold at all the Masses next weekend. Tickets will also be sold at the door. Please join us.



## FR. COOPER'S CORNER

### *Forced to Wait*

Waiting! We are not very good at that anymore. Maybe we never were. But in this instant-everything modern age, we get frustrated if we have to wait for any length of time. Just the other day, I complained to my friend about a package I ordered from Amazon that had not arrived yet. After all, it had been three whole days. And, according to a recent *New York Times* article, "People will visit a Web site less often if it is slower than a close competitor by more than 250 milliseconds." That is .25 seconds. Way too long for any sane person to wait. Waiting feels like time wasted. And who can afford to waste time these days? We have too much to do. Every second counts.



But the Advent season is all about waiting. During Advent, we are reminded of all those centuries when God's people awaited the fulfillment of His promises, the years of uncertainty, the time of doubt. This side of Christmas, it is easy to think that this season is all about *arrival*, the birth of Jesus. And that is partly true. The story does find its fitting climax in the coming of the Messiah. But let's not forget the waiting that preceded Christ's advent, the waiting that marked the time before Christmas, the waiting that God forced His people to endure.

Maybe a little waiting is a good thing. I know that is a heretical thought for some of us, but bear with me. Here are five things that I think we can learn from waiting. They probably will not help much the next time that you are stuck in a traffic jam on your way to an important event, but I still think they are worth reflecting on.

#### **1. Waiting reminds us that we are not the center of the universe.**

It is so easy to get caught up in our own plans, convinced that everything we do is absolutely, crucially important. That is part of what makes waiting so frustrating, and so valuable. Being forced to wait gives us the opportunity to remember that other people have plans and priorities as well. We are not the focal point of the universe. That does not make our plans unimportant, but it does put them in perspective.

#### **2. Waiting reminds us that God is in control.**

At the very least, waiting forces us to realize that we are *not* in control! And that can be a valuable opportunity to reflect on the One who is in control of all things.

#### **3. Waiting reminds us that life is a gift.**

Forced to sit at a stop light for several precious minutes, I have a choice. I can choose to grumble and gripe about the loss of my precious time, or I can remember that those very minutes were a gift God gave me so that I might have the opportunity to live for His glory. Sure, this was not how I had planned to use them. But that does not change the gift.

#### **4. Waiting reminds us that the present matters.**

Sometimes I think waiting frustrates us because we are too future-oriented, always focused on what comes next. However, what about the here and now? Next is in God's hands. Now is what we have. Done well, being forced to wait can be like watching a particularly spectacular movie scene in slow motion. You know the movie will continue playing





at regular speed soon, but for now you are just enjoying what is on the screen.

### 5. Waiting reminds us that the future is bigger than we think.

Sometimes I think waiting frustrates us because we are not future-oriented enough. We try not to think about it much, but we all have a sense of our own mortality, and it seeps out when we are forced to wait. We have a finite amount of time, why waste any of it waiting for things to happen? But, of course, our time is not really finite. We are destined for eternity. That does not mean we can get complacent with the time we have now, but waiting can remind us that this life is part of something much larger. In the light of eternity, is a two-minute wait at the grocery store really that onerous?

### Advent Time

I think the Advent season is a great opportunity to think differently about time. God made His people wait for centuries before He fulfilled His promises to them in sending the Messiah. Moreover, we have waited many more centuries since for the final fulfillment of God's redemptive promises in the Second Advent of the Messiah and the full realization of His Kingdom.

Why all the waiting? I cannot answer that question entirely. (I tend to be very careful answering "Why?" questions when it comes to God.) At the very least, though, the waiting reminds us that this is God's story, His plan, and His promises. He is in control, and He will take this story wherever He pleases. And it reminds us, slaps us in the face at times, that we are not the center of the story. It is not about us, and things do not always (often!) go the way we would like them to go. Finally, all the waiting helps us think differently about both the present and the future: valuing the present as a gift, cherishing the future as our ultimate hope.

Will that change the way you feel as you burn through forty-five minutes waiting for the doctor to call you in for your appointment? I do not know. It might, or it might not. But maybe it will give you the chance to view that time differently.

### *Beginning Experience Family Life Apostolate*

Have you lost your spouse due to Divorce, Death or Separation? Having difficulty coping? Help is on the way.

Beginning Experience Ministry, a part of the Archdiocese of New Orleans Family Life Apostolate will begin a 10 week program "**Coping With Life Alone**" to help those struggling to cope with this loss. **The Coping Program will begin on Wednesday, December 7, 2016, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM in St. Angela Merici's Conference Hall**, adjacent to the Church, 835 Melody Street in Metairie.

The cost will be \$35. Call Bette Armentor at 504-339-7776 to register and for any questions.

### Bless the Baby Jesus

The Bless the Baby Jesus devotion will be held with Fr. Cooper on **Sunday, December 18 as part of the 11 a.m. Mass** for the Fourth Sunday of Advent. This is an excellent opportunity for families to grow in faith as the "domestic church." *All Children are invited to bring a figurine of the baby Jesus, particularly from their family Nativity Crèche to be blessed by Fr. Cooper during Mass.* Fr. Cooper will invite the children to sit at the foot of the step of the sanctuary for the homily and then to come forward to have their figurines blessed. Please come and enjoy this beautiful Advent Mass and devotion. Donuts and milk will be served after Mass.





# *St. Benilde Happenings*



DECEMBER 4, 2016

ST. BENILDE CATHOLIC CHURCH – ID # 113850  
1901 DIVISION ST.  
METAIRIE, LA 70001  
504-834-4980

NANCY CAROLLO  
504-834-4980  
MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAYS - 9 A.M. TO 3 P.M.  
FRIDAYS - 9 A.M. TO 12 NOON

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: