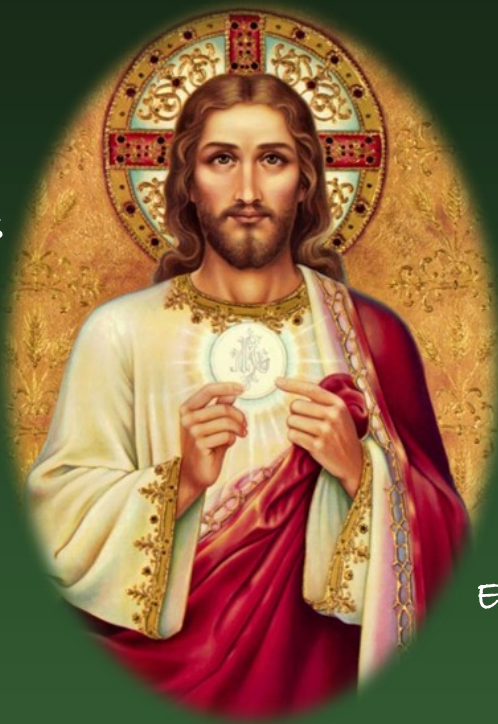


March 31, 2019

Fourth Sunday of Lent

ORDINARY FAMILIES



EXTRAORDINARY FAITH

ST. BENILDE

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

1901 Division Street • Metairie, Louisiana 70001

Church Office: (504) 834-4980 • Church Fax: (504) 831-5810 • Church Email: stbenildechurch@cox.net

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

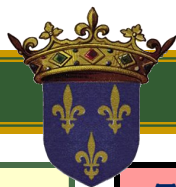
Call the Parish Office to receive a New
Parishioner Registration Packet.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

St. Benilde Conference
(504) 233-3246

ST. BENILDE SCHOOL

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



Ministers of the Liturgy

March 30 & 31, 2019

Saturday - 4 P.M.

Intention: George Spaulding, Hubert LaBorde,
Austin Burroughs, Melissa Mendel Zimmerman,
Joseph Segari, Flora Maria Be,
Pete Muscarello, Jr., Patrick C. McKinney,
Joseph Scoria, Merle & Charles Dittmer,
David Hebert (L), Judith Theisges

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
A. & P. Delaup

Cantor: Kevin Rouchell *Organist:* Jared Croal

Sunday - 9 A.M.

Intention: Parishioners

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
J. Zeringue, C. Rispoli, J. Tusa, P. Cifreo
Song Leaders: Traditional Choir

Sunday - 11 A.M.

Intention: Paul Hymel, Jr., Joseph Donald Bernard,
O'Sullivan & Zito Families, Paulette Lazare,
Gladys Gsell, Stephen, Janice & Alyssa Couvillion (L),
Theodore Tirride, Robert Maas, Sr., Joel Borrello (L)
Michelle Blanchard (L), Harold O'Donnell, Poor Souls

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
R. Oleksik, K. Archer, A. Duersel, S. Gordon

Song Leaders: Contemporary Choir

Sunday - 6 P.M.

Intention: June & Marvin Ackermann (L)

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
D. Childers, D. Powers

Cantor: Lauren Gisclair *Pianist:* Beth Kettenring

Weekday Masses

Monday	7:00 a.m. Don Rowan 5:30 p.m. June & Marvin Ackermann (L)
Tuesday	7:00 a.m. Floyd Bangs, Sr. 5:30 p.m. Julie Couvillion
Wednesday	7:00 a.m. Mercedes Cabrera 8:15 a.m. Harold J. O'Donnell, Jr. 5:30 p.m. Judith Theisges
Thursday	7:00 a.m. Shirley Lutz (L) 5:30 p.m. Charles Montgomery, Sr.
Friday	7:00 a.m. Noel Durkes 5:30 p.m. Theresa Montgomery

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



**The Blessed Mother
Votive Lamps burn
for Reparations for Sins**

**The St. Joseph Votive Lamps
burn in Thanksgiving
for our Deacons**



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



**Adoration Chapel Candles
burn for the
Pro-Life Movement**

Altar Ladies

Week of March 31

M. Curry, G. Bolig

Linens

Large - K Birrcher

Small - A. Duersel

(M. Meece)



**The Altar Flowers are in
memory of
Deceased Parishioners**



Stewardship of Treasure

Weekend of March 23 & 24

Envelopes.....	\$3,593.00
Loose	1,916.00
Electronic Giving.....	621.00
Repairs & Maintenance.....	286.00
Msgr. Richaud Fund.....	233.00
Totaling	\$6,649.00

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

~ Fr. Cooper



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

April 6/7

- 4 PM C. Casente, L. Segari
 9 AM M. Evola, P. Fleming, R. Meche, B. O'Hara
 11 AM J. Hutchison, J. Hutchison, C. & T. Pitre
 6 PM A. Calongne, M. Plaidieu



Out Of Reverence For The Lord Jesus

who so generously shares with us His Body and Blood in the Eucharist, worshipers are earnestly invited to remain with the congregation until Mass is concluded.



Priest Mass Schedule	4pm	9am	11am	6pm
April 6 & 7	Fr. HL	Fr. HL	Fr. Cooper	Fr. Cooper
April 13 & 14	Fr. Cooper	Fr. Cooper	Fr. Cooper	Fr. HL
April 20 & 21	8 PM Fr. Cooper	Fr. Cooper	Fr. Cooper	—
April 27 & 28	Fr. HL	Fr. Cooper	Fr. Cooper	Fr. HL

Walk of Nine Churches

CYO members, their families, and parishioners are invited to participate in the traditional "Walk of Nine Churches" on Good Friday, April 19. **CYO will meet at St. Stephen's Church, 1025 Napoleon Ave., NOLA for 8:30 AM.**

Parishioners should meet in the St. Benilde Church parking lot at 7:45 AM to depart via cars by 8 AM. The first stop will be St. Stephen's Church, 1025 Napoleon Ave., New Orleans. You may also meet the group at St. Stephen's at 8:30 AM if you prefer. If you are planning to attend, and for more information, please call John Stiegman at 838-0405 or Janie Wright at 834-9706.

BORN TO RUN

Join us for a 5K and 1/2-mile Fun Run/Walk.

Saturday, April 13, 2019

New Location!

**New Orleans Lakefront,
Across from Landry's**

Form a team and help us meet our fundraising goal! All proceeds will support Woman's New Life Center, providing service to women in unplanned pregnancies.

www.womansnewlife.com/borntorun

Questions? Contact csholl@womansnewlife.com



FR. COOPER'S CORNER

Why do Catholics Fast?

Why do Catholics fast? Our reasons find firm grounding in the Bible.

When we fast, we follow holy example. Moses and Elijah fasted forty days before going into God's presence (Ex 34:28, 1 Kgs 19:8). Anna the Prophetess fasted to prepare herself for the coming of the Messiah (Lk 2:37). They all wanted to see God, and they considered fasting a basic prerequisite. We, too, wish to enter God's presence, so we fast.

Jesus fasted (Mt 4:2). Moreover, since He needed no purification, He surely did this only to set an example for us. In fact, He assumed that all Christians would follow His example. "When you fast," he said, "do not look gloomy like the hypocrites. They neglect their appearance, so that they may appear to others to be fasting" (Mt 6:16). Note that He did not say, "If you fast," but "when."

And WHEN is now. In Lent, the Church extends the idea of fasting, beyond the minimal skipping of meals, to a more far-reaching program of self-denial. Jesus said: "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself...daily" (Lk 9:23). Therefore, we "give up" something that we would ordinarily enjoy: sweets, soda pop, a favorite TV show, or the snooze alarm.

Fasting has its health benefits, but it is not the same as dieting. Fasting is something spiritual and far more positive. Fasting is a spiritual feast. It does for the soul what food does for the body.

The Bible spells out specific spiritual benefits of fasting. It produces humility (Ps 69:10). It shows our sorrow for our sins (1 Sam 7:6). It clears a path to God (Dan 9:3). It is a means of discerning God's will (Ezr 8:21) and a powerful method of prayer (8:23). It is a mark of true conversion (Joel 2:12).

Fasting helps us to be detached from the things of this world. We fast, not because earthly things are evil, but precisely because they are good. They are God's gifts to us. But they are so good that we sometimes prefer the gifts to the Giver. We practice self-indulgence rather than self-denial. We tend to eat and drink to the point where we forget God. Such indulgence is really a form of idolatry. It is what St. Paul meant when he said, "their god is the belly...with minds set on earthly things" (Phi 3:19).

How can we enjoy God's gifts without forgetting the Giver? Fasting is a good way to start. The body wants more than it needs, so we should give it less than it wants. St. John of the Cross said that we cannot rise up to God if we are bound to the things of this world. So we give up good things, and gradually we grow less dependent on them, less needy.

All of this is part of our preparation for heaven, for we are destined to lose our earthly goods anyway. Time, age, illness and "doctor's orders" can take away our taste for chocolate, our ability to enjoy a cold beer, and even the intimate embrace of a loved one. If we have no discipline over our desires, then these losses will leave us bitter and estranged from God. However, if we follow Jesus in self-denial, we will find a more habitual consolation in the ultimate good—God Himself.

How is it that some people are able to remain serene and cheerful amid extreme suffering and even when facing imminent death? It is not just a matter of temperament. They have prepared themselves for the moment by giving up the things of this world, one small thing at a time. They have grown so accustomed to small sacrifice that the big one is not such a stretch.





No one says that fasting is easy. In fact, says Benedictine Father Thomas Acklin, author of *The Passion of the Lamb: God's Love Poured Out in Jesus*, "Fasting can seem very hard, and it can seem that if I do not eat I will become weak and will not be able to work, or pray, or do anything."

"Yet there is that marvelous moment," he adds, "when, after some hours have passed, my stomach has stopped growling and I've even forgotten what I've given up, when there is a lightness, a freedom, a clarity of the senses and a brightness of attitude and feeling, an incomparable closeness to the Lord."

Many will say, "Lent is over, so I am finished with my fasting till next year!" However, God wants the forty days of Lent to have a lasting effect on our lives. So, in a sense, fasting is for always. Father Rene Schatteman, an Opus Dei chaplain in Pittsburgh, says that he received this lesson directly from a canonized saint. "I learned from St. Josemaria Escriva, whom I had the privilege of knowing personally, that a person should make some small sacrifice at each meal, always, and not just during Lent."

Fr. Schatteman emphasizes the importance of little things, and the big effect they can have: "We should all feel the need to help Christ redeem the world by practicing self-denial in everyday, ordinary eating, and drinking...to take a bit less, or a bit less of what we like most, to avoid eating between meals, to skip a snack or dessert, etc., without making a big deal of it."

A Metairie businessman (who asked for anonymity) told me of his longtime practice of fasting on Fridays, "a 12-15 hour fast from food, water-only." He said, however, that this can be difficult to carry out, not because of the hunger, but because it can disrupt family life. "It's very hard to sit at the family table and not eat. It's not so much a question of resisting the temptation of the food. I always felt like I was breaking fellowship. My fasting actually felt selfish, like I was taking something away from our time together as a family." He has since modified his fast, "to be broken at the family dinner in the evening."

Why do Catholics fast? Our anonymous businessman put it well: "It is medicine for my biggest problem—selfishness and lack of self-control. To force myself to curb my appetites, to not satisfy my desires—even for a short period of time—this is a good thing. To offer up the little sacrifice to God, for my family, for people who are hungry through no choice of their own, this I think is also good."

Altar Server of the Year

Congratulations to **Nicholas "Nick" David Flynn** for being selected as the representative from *St. Benilde Catholic Church* to receive the 2019 *Altar Server Award* from Archbishop Aymond. Because of his faithfulness to this important ministry in the Church, our parish community is proud to nominate him for this honor. We extend our personal congratulations to Nick. We also extend our thankfulness to all the boys who are dedicated to serving at the Altar of the Lord.



Fish Fry This Friday

Mark your calendar! The Men's Club will be serving up the last **Lenten Fish Fry** on **Friday, April 12, beginning at 5 PM for pre-sale and 5:45 PM for general public, until 8 PM.** The menu includes soft shell crab plate, fish taco, Thai shrimp taco, fish plate, grilled redfish with shrimp cream sauce, and more. Eat-in or take-out.

Lenten Masses, Confession Times, & Devotionals

For our complete Lenten Schedule visit:
www.stbenilde.org/lent

Easter Memorial Flowers and Lilies

The beautiful Easter lilies and spring flowers that adorn our altar and sanctuary are a special part of the celebration of Easter at St. Benilde Catholic Church. We invite all parishioners to share in the experience through a memorial or thanksgiving gift by using the **Easter Flowers Memorial Envelopes**. Donations toward the cost of Easter flowers 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. **The suggested donation is \$10 per remembrance.** Please place your envelopes in the collection basket, the Poor Box or bring them to the Parish Office. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Memorial Envelopes will be placed on the altar throughout the Easter Season. Printed copies of the names of all those for whom our Easter flowers are in memory of will be available in the vestibule of Church in the weeks following Easter Sunday.



Eucharistic Adorers Needed

For the past 10 years, we have been blessed to have Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration here at St. Benilde Parish. Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration is the adoration of Jesus Christ present in the Holy Eucharist. The Eucharist is displayed in a special holder called a monstrance, and people come to pray and worship Jesus continually throughout the day and the night.

Come to our Perpetual Adoration Chapel and spend some time with our Lord. He is waiting there to embrace you, lovingly and mercifully!

If you would like to become a committed adorer, please contact George Rojas at (504) 834-5525 or visit the parish website:

www.stbenilde.org/eucharistic-adoration

April Calendar

- April 1 RCIA—7:30 PM—Library
- April 2 Pastoral Council—7 PM—Library
Seven Deadly Sins Series—7 PM—TC
- April 4 Radio Rosary—5:45 PM—Library
Pro-Life Committee—6:15 PM—TC
CALM—7 PM—Church
- April 6 Rosary & Altar Society Mass and Meeting
Day with Jesus—9 AM—School Building
Legion of Mary—TBD—Parish Office
SBS 50th Anniversary Gala—7 PM—Café
- April 8 RCIA—7:30 PM—Library
- April 9 Chers Amis—7 PM—Cafeteria
Seven Deadly Sins Series—7 PM—TC
- April 10 Grandparents' Club—7 PM—Cafeteria
- April 11 *Divine Mercy Cenacle Group*—7 PM—PO
- April 12 Fish Fry—5 PM/5:30 PM—Cafeteria
- April 13 Legion of Mary—TBD—Parish Office
- April 14 Holy Name/Men's Club Mass & Breakfast
- April 15 RCIA Retreat—5:30 PM—Church
Men's Club—7:30 PM—Cafeteria
- April 16 SVDP—6:30 PM—Parish Office
Seven Deadly Sins Series—7 PM—TC
- April 22 RCIA—7:30 PM—Library
- April 23 School Advisory Board—7:30 PM—FL
Consoling the Heart of Jesus—7 PM—TC
- April 25 *Divine Mercy Cenacle Group*—7 PM—PO
Block Rosary—7 PM—Home of H. Be
- April 26 Blue Knights—4:30 PM—Teen Center
Little Flowers—4:30 PM—Library
Movie Night—7 PM—Teen Center
- April 27/28 Hospitality Weekend
- April 27 Night at the Races—7 PM—Cafeteria
- April 28 Divine Mercy Devotions—3 PM—Church
- April 29 RCIA—7:30 PM—Library
- April 30 *Consoling the Heart of Jesus*—7 PM—TC

Let's Stay Connected!!

Facebook: **Robert Cooper**

Twitter: **@FrRobertCooper**

Instagram: **frrobertcooper**



Parish Motto—Building the Kingdom of God

MARCH 31, 2019

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: