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**Historic St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church**  
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**February 14, 2021**  
**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**

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**Rev. Romanus Obiora Ezeugwu, MSP, Pastor**  
**Shirley West, Admin Secretary**  
**Bea Betworth, Accounts Secretary**  
**Sharon Carson, Supt. of Religious Education**  
**Dianne Williams, Parish Council Chairperson**  
**Carl Hayes, Finance Chairperson**  
**Jerome Grayson, Bldg/Maintenance**

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**Please remember to follow our Parish Covid-19 safety guidelines:**

- 1. Please read carefully the Covid-19 information provided at the entrance of the church.**
- 2. For your protection and for the safety of others, masks are highly recommended at Mass.**
- 3. Sanitizer is available for use at the entrance of the church. Please use it before coming into the church. There is also a sanitizer bottle in each pew.**
- 4. There is social distancing seating arrangement. Please it is critical that you follow the directions of the Ushers.**
- 5. Please observe social distancing also when leaving the church. Please do not socialize outside the church. Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people. Do not gather in groups.**

## **Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day**

We gather together today, as we do each Sunday, as the body of Christ. Jesus called us to love God with all our heart, all our soul, all our mind, and all our strength and to love our neighbor as ourselves. This Valentine's Day, we commit ourselves to nurturing that love for God and love for our neighbor. Let the Body and Blood of Christ we receive in the Eucharist bring us the strength and courage to truly become the body of Christ in the world today.

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### **Mass Intentions:**

#### **ALL MASSES:**

In loving memory & the repose of the souls of Mr. Frederick D. Bazemore, Sr. (02/19) and Mrs. Frances A. Bazemore (02/09) on the anniversaries of their passing.

\*offered by Frances Bazemore Calvert, Frederick D. Bazemore, Jr., and Felicia Foster Barnett.

In loving memory & the repose of the soul of Ismay Bain on the anniversary of her passing.

\*offered by Pearl Persad & Family; June Naidoo & Family.

#### **5:30pm:**

For the repose of the soul of Marilyn Jackson on the anniversary of her passing.

\*offered by Prince A. Jackson, III.

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### **(Prelude, Intro, Hymn, Penitential Act)**

#### **Gloria**

Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you; we bless you; we adore you; we glorify you; we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; You are seated at the right hand of the father, have mercy on us. For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, With the Holy Spirit, In the glory of God the Father, Amen.

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### **First Reading: A reading from the Book of Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46.**

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "If someone has on his skin a scab or pustule or blotch which appears to be the

sore of leprosy, he shall be brought to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests among his descendants. If the man is leprous and unclean, the priest shall declare him unclean by reason of the sore on his head. "The one who bears the sore of leprosy shall keep his garments rent and his head bare and shall muffle his beard; he shall cry out, 'Unclean, unclean!' As long as the sore is on him he shall declare himself unclean, since he is in fact unclean. He shall dwell apart, making his abode outside the camp".

### **The Word of the Lord.**

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#### **Responsorial Psalm:**

[Psalm 43:1-2, 5, 11.]

**Response: I turn to you Lord, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.**

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### **Second Reading: A reading from the 1<sup>st</sup> letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 10:31 – 11:1.**

Brothers and sisters,  
Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God. Avoid giving offense, whether to the Jews or Greeks or the church of God, just as I try to please everyone in every way, not seeking my own benefit but that of the many, that they may be saved. Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

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### **The Word of the Lord.**

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#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ALL STAND**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

A great prophet has arisen in our midst,  
God has visited His people.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**GOSPEL:**

**✠ A reading from the gospel of St. Mark 1:40-45.**

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean". Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean". The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean. Then, warning him sternly, he dismissed him at once. He said to him, "See that you tell no one anything, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them". The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

**I believe** in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, **of all things visible and invisible.**

**I believe** in one Lord Jesus Christ, **the only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages,** God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, **consubstantial with the Father;** through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven: **(At the words that follow, all bow)** and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. **(end bow).**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, **he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day, in accordance with the Scriptures.** He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

**I believe** in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. **who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets. I believe** in one, holy, catholic, and

apostolic Church. **I confess** one baptism for the forgiveness of sins, **and I look forward to** the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

**Prayer for Vocations:**

O God hear our prayer and let our cry come unto You. Bless our Diocese of Savannah with many vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate, and Religious Life. Give the men and women You Call the light to understand Your gift and the love to follow always In the footsteps of Your Priestly Son. **Amen.**

**LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**



DIocese of Savannah  
**STEADFAST  
IN FAITH**

This is Commitment Weekend. We will be giving those who have not yet made their pledge to the Annual

Catholic Appeal an opportunity to do so today. If you are not able to make a pledge, please consider a one-time gift. Each one of us is Christ to all we meet.

*Parish Giving*  
**February 7, 2021**

<b>Offertory</b>	<b>\$ 6247.00</b>
<b>Deanery Schools</b>	<b>\$ 175.00</b>
<b>Parish Bus</b>	<b>\$ 120.00</b>
<b>Church in Central Europe</b>	<b>\$ 20.00</b>

*"Thank You for Your Generosity"*



*Please Pray for our Sick & Homebound*

Michael Allen, Joe Battle, Henry Blount, M. Marie Blue, Carmen Broussard, William & Odessa Bryant, James Cain, Shawn Chaney, Anne Chappell, Josefa Citizen, Lillian Dilworth, Morris Elliott, Juanita Fields, Anthony Hall, Laura Harris, Jessica Jackson, Charlotte Jenkins, Clevon Johnson, Margaret Jones, Bobby Locke, Michelle Lovewine, Margie McNeal, Dawud Patterson, Adriene Perry, Sr., Adriene Perry, Jr., Janice Quinn, Marilee Short, Lucille Singleton, Inez Walthour, Frankie Washington, Jeanette Westley Margaret Weston, Deveira Wiggins, Louise Wiggins, Nathaniel Wiggins, Arlene Wiley, Ellen Williams, Tandra Williams, Yvonne Williams, Crystal Williams, Narvia Williams, Julie Porter-Winfrey.

## **ASH WENESDAY**

+ Ash Wednesday is Wednesday February 17, 2021 and marks the beginning of Lent. Services will be held at 8am and 6pm on Wednesday in the Church.

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### **2021 STATIONS of the CROSS**

Stations of the Cross will be held every

**Friday at 6:00pm**

Make this service a part of your Lenten journey!

**February 19** – Knights of Columbus

and Ladies Auxiliary

**February 26** – Parish Council and Finance Council

**March 5** – Extraordinary Ministers

of the Holy Eucharist and  
CCD teachers

**March 12** – AMSP, Lectors

**March 19** – New Horizons and Traveling Moors

**March 26** – CCW and Friends of SBM

**April 2** – Legion of Mary and Choirs

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### **Our Lenten Station of the Cross begins**

**Friday, February 19.**

**Please take note of the following:**

- Unlike before, we are not going to walk around from Station to Station; we shall remain at our social distancing seating arrangement position while we turn towards each Station.
- Only the Cross bearer will walk from Station to Station.
- Only two people will lead us at the Stations of the Cross: one person at the Pulpit and the other at the Announcers' stand.
- We have photocopied the Stations of the Cross pamphlet for everyone to have a personal copy. Please leave your own copy in your car so that you don't forget it at home when coming for the Stations of the Cross.

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### **PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS**

#### **Jesus touched the untouchable:**

In the whole of the New Testament, during Jesus early ministry, there was no one who sought Jesus out that was refused his help. Even the untouchables and the outcasts of

Jewish society found help in him. Unlike the people of Jesus' time who fled at the sight of a

leper, Jesus touched the leper who approached him, and he made him whole and clean. Why was this so remarkable? Lepers were outcasts of society. They were driven from their homes and communities and left to fend for themselves. Their physical condition was terrible as they slowly lost the use of their limbs and withered away. They were not only shunned but regarded as "already dead" even by their relatives. The Jewish law forbade anyone from touching or approaching a leper, lest ritual defilement occur.

This leper did something quite remarkable. He approached Jesus confidently and humbly, expecting that Jesus could and would heal him. Normally a leper would be stoned or at least warded off if he tried to come near a rabbi (Jewish religious teacher). Jesus not only grants the man his request, but he demonstrates the personal love, compassion, and tenderness of God in his physical touch. The medical knowledge of his day would have regarded such contact as grave risk for incurring infection. Jesus met the man's misery with compassion and tender kindness. He communicated the love and mercy of God in a sign that spoke more eloquently than words. He touched the man and made him clean - not only physically but spiritually as well.

How do you approach those who are difficult to love, or who are shunned by others because they are deformed or have some defect? Do you show them kindness and offer them mercy and help as Jesus did? The Lord is always ready to show us his mercy and to free us from whatever makes us unclean, unapproachable, or unloving towards others.

#### **Your Pineapple for the week:**

"Be compassionate just as your heavenly Father is compassionate" (Luke 6:36).