



Historic St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church

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February 28, 2021 Second Sunday of Lent, Year B

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

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

“Listen to him”. In today’s Gospel, we hear God’s voice from the heavens directing Peter, James, and John, Jesus’ closest disciples, to listen to Jesus. We can use this reminder as well. Are we listening to him? How is Jesus speaking to us today as we pray, as we hear God’s word, as we celebrate this liturgy in memory of what he has done for us? Let us listen to him.

Mass Intentions:

ALL MASSES :

In memory of Robert Valentine Schmitz on the anniversary of his passing. *offered by Jean Schmitz.

In memory of Mary Persad on the anniversary of her passing.

*offered by Dr. Suresh & Pearl Persad & Family.

(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.

First Reading: A reading from the Book of Genesis 22:1-2, 9-18.

God put Abraham to the test. He called to him, “Abraham!” “Here I am!” he replied. Then God said: “Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him up as a holocaust on a height that I will point out to you”. When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the LORD’s messenger called to him from heaven, “Abraham, Abraham!” “Here I am!” he answered. “Do not lay your hand on the boy”, said the messenger. “Do not do the least thing to him. I know now how devoted you are to God, since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son.”

As Abraham looked about, he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket. So he went and took the ram and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son. Again the LORD’s messenger called to Abraham from heaven and said: “I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you acted as you did in not withholding from me your beloved son, I will bless you abundantly and make your descendants as countless as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore; your descendants shall take possession of the gates of their enemies, and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find blessing— all this because you obeyed my command.”

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm:

[Psalm 116:10, 15-19]

**I will walk before the Lord
in the land of the living.**

Second Reading: A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans 8:31b-34.

Brothers and sisters: If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God’s chosen ones? It is God who acquits us, who will condemn? Christ Jesus it is who dies – or, rather, was raised – who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ALL STAND

From the shining cloud the Father’s voice is heard: This is my beloved Son, listen to him.

**Response: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
King of endless glory.**

GOSPEL:

✠ A reading from the gospel of St. Mark 1:12-15.

Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them. Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, “Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one

for Moses, and one for Elijah". He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified. Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him". Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them. As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what rising from the dead meant.

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.**

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE
Penance services will be held on Wednesday
March 17, 2021 at 6:00pm.

Parish Giving February 21, 2021

Offertory	\$ 3754.00
Ash Wed. Coll.	\$ 593.00
Deanery Schools	\$ 25.00
Parish Bus	\$ 10.00

"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, Clewon 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.

Fasting and Abstinence During Lent

1. Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.
2. Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 years of age is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
3. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices, are allowed.
4. To disregard completely the law of fast and abstinence is seriously sinful.
5. Lent is the principal season of penance in the Christian year. All of the faithful are strongly urged to develop and follow a program of voluntary self-denial, serious prayer, and a performance of works of charity and mercy.

Holy Hour for Vocations

The St. John Vianney Vocations Ministry of Savannah will be celebrating a special Holy Hour on Sunday March 7, 2021 from 3:00 – 4:00 PM at Resurrection of Our Lord Church at 112 Fell St, Savannah. Deacon Hosea Bennett will be the presider. You are welcome to join us.

KOC FISH FRY

The Knights of Columbus will hold a drive-through fish fry on the evening of Friday March 5th from 5:00 - 5:45 and 6:30 - 7:15 in front of the St Benedict the Moor Parish Hall. No need to get out of your car. Just drive up to the entrance on Gordon Street and we will bring your dinners to your car. Dinners are \$5 each.

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!

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

**For our Lenten Station of the Cross,
please take note of the following:**

- 1) 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.
- 2) Only the Cross bearer will walk from Station to Station.
- 3) Only two people will lead us at the Stations of the Cross: one person at the Pulpit and the other at the Announcers' stand.
- 4) 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.

RECONCILIATION WEDNESDAYS

Throughout the Savannah Deanery, many of the parishes in the Deanery will be having extra time for Confessions and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Priests of the Savannah Deanery have decided to do this so as to add extra emphasis to the importance of receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the Season of Lent. Beginning February 24th, the schedule is as follows:

The Cathedral of St. John the Baptist – 4:00-5:00 PM

Resurrection of Our Lord – 5:00 – 6:00 PM

Sacred Heart – 4:30 – 5:30 PM

St. Anne, Richmond Hill – 6:00-6:45 PM

St. Benedict the Moor – 5:00-6:00 PM

St. Boniface, Springfield – 5:30-6:30 PM

St. James – 6:00 – 7:00 PM

St. Michael's, Tybee Island – 4:30 – 5:30 PM

Blessed Sacrament 4:00-5:00 PM.

PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

The Lord wants to share his glory with us:

In today's gospel reading, Peter, James and John are taken up a high mountain by Jesus, and there they have an experience of Jesus which took their breath away. It was an experience that was so precious that Peter could not let it go. He wanted to prolong it indefinitely and so he says to Jesus, 'Rabbi, it is

wonderful for us to be here, so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah'. They tasted the glimpse of heaven and did not want to let go of it. Beauty always attracts; it calls out to us. Yet, Peter and the others had to let go of this precious experience; it was only ever intended to be momentary.

They would receive it back in the next life as a gift when they pass the test of life – when they overcome the trials and tribulations of this world. The main purpose of Jesus' Transfiguration was for him to consult his Heavenly Father and find out the Father's plan for His suffering, death and Resurrection. God the Father, Moses and Elijah approved the plan regarding Jesus' suffering, death and Resurrection, which authorized Jesus to make his way to Jerusalem to meet his destiny, the cross, and his victory. Another reason for the transfiguration was to make Jesus' disciples cognizant of Jesus' Divine glory, so that they might abandon their worldly ambitions and might be strengthened in their time of trial. At the Transfiguration, God the Father also introduced Jesus – His beloved Son to his disciples as He did during His baptism and commanded them to listen to Him.

The glory of heaven which we shall share in Christ was revealed at the Transfiguration. It was an indescribable beauty which has nothing in this life to compare. It is the glory of the kingdom which Jesus promised us, "I am going to prepare a place for you, and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again to take you to myself, so that where I am, you also may be" (John 14:3). It is the glory that will come to us if we listen to Jesus and follow His ways. It is the glory that we shall share in Christ if we overcome the tests and the tribulations of this life. It is the glory that we should strive, even to lose everything in this life to gain, as St. Paul rightly put it, "I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18). The glory of Christ is there for us, but we must carry our cross first!

Your pineapple for the week:

"No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him" (1 Corinthians 2:9).
