



MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY	5:30 pm
SUNDAY	9 am & 11:30 am
Weekday Mass @ 8:00 am	
Wednesday-Friday in the Church	

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
Most Sacred Heart Devotion
@ 6:00pm

Christian Initiation:
Sacraments of Baptism,
Confirmation and Holy Communion
Preparation of each Sacrament is required. Baptisms are celebrated quarterly usually at 11:30 am Mass. Adults seeking to receive the sacraments for the first time should contact the Pastor for further information.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE
Registration and participation prior to your wedding date is required. Arrangements should be made with the Priest before the wedding date is set; Instructions to begin at least four months before the wedding.

Parish Covid-19 safety guidelines:

1. For your protection and for the safety of others, masks are highly recommended at Mass.
2. Sanitizer is available for use at the entrance of the church. There is also a sanitizer bottle in each pew.
3. There is social distancing seating arrangement. Please it is critical that you follow the directions of the Ushers.

WELCOME TO HISTORIC
ST BENEDICT THE MOOR CATHOLIC CHURCH—*Since 1874*
441 E. Broad St – Savannah, GA 31401-5106
Mailing Address: 556 E. Gordon St – Savannah, GA 31401
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August 22, 2021
Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time,
Year B



WE ARE CHURCH

We take great pride in the quality and spirit of our liturgy, which is achieved through careful planning as well as a high level of active and enthusiastic participation on the part of each and every person. While acknowledging our individual and communal needs, we are primarily here to give thanks and praise to God, who continues to accomplish great things in our lives!

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

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day

Today we hear Joshua ask the tribes of Israel which god they will serve. They had other options, for their neighbors worshiped other gods. We have other options as well. We could choose to serve wealth or status or power or pleasure, allowing something else to lead us and drive us in another direction. But we come here today, along with our families, our friends, our neighbors, as a sign of our commitment to serve the Lord. Let us recommit ourselves to serve God, to follow Christ on our journey through this life to the life promised to us in baptism.

Today's Readings are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on Page 505.

FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE WEEK

August Calendar

23 Mon. Memorial of St. Rose of Lima
 24 Tue. Feast of St. Bartholomew
 25 Wed. Memorial of St. Louis; Memorial of St. Joseph Calasanz
 27 Fri. Memorial of St. Monica
 28 Sat. Memorial of St. Augustine

Parish Giving

August 15, 2021

Offertory	\$ 5660.00
Assumption	\$ 475.00

"Thank You for Your Generosity"

MASS INTENTIONS:

9:00am: For the repose of the soul of Edward Stephens, Sr.
 *A family friend.

For the repose of the soul of Mildred Loman.
 *A family friend.

ANNOUNCERS' SCHEDULE

AUGUST 2021

21/22	Emily Williams	Joyce Jones	Monesha Gallishaw
28/29	Sharon Carson	Gregory Milton	Theresa Garvin
September 4/5	Edna Mason	Gregory Milton	Theresa Garvin

THE DEFINITION OF "ACTIVE CATHOLIC" for parish verification, required for Baptisms, Marriages, Catholic School attendance, etc., requires that a person must be registered, attend Mass regularly and involved in Time, Talent & Treasure (Stewardship.) Participation through parish offertory envelopes is one means of verification. To be considered an active, participating member of the parish, St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church takes into account a family's or individual's Mass attendance and ministry involvement. Attendance at Mass is the most meaningful way we model and live our Catholic faith. We will then be aware of your continued participation and you will not be moved to inactive status.



Please Pray for our Sick & Homebound

Michael Allen, Joe Battle, Henry Blount, M. Marie Blue, Carmen Broussard, William & Odessa Bryant, James Cain, Anne Chappell, Josefa Citizen, Lillian Dilworth, Morris Elliott, Juanita Fields, Anthony Hall, Laura Harris, Jessica Jackson, Charlotte Jenkins, Vera Jennings, Clevon Johnson, Bobby Locke, Michelle Lovewine, Dawud Patterson, Evelyn Porter, Elizabeth Robinson, Janice Quinn, Marilee Short, Cornelius St. Mark, Inez Walthour, Frankie Washington, Jeanette Westley, Margaret Weston,, Louise Wiggins, Nathaniel Wiggins, Arlene Wiley, Ellen Williams, Tamba Williams, Crystal Williams, Narvia Williams, Julie Porter-Winfrey.

LECTORS' SCHEDULE

August 21/22

5:30pm Edna Mason Taylor Walden
 9:00am Teresa Udowana Joyce Jones
 11:30am "Faith Formation"

August 28/29

5:30pm Sharon Carson Georgene Jones
 9:00am Torrance Garvin Alicia Carter
 11:30am Donald Perry Juliette Tolbert

September 4/5

5:30pm Adriene Perry Yvonne Williams
 9:00am Melanie White Teresa Udowana
 11:30am Joyce Jones Adrian Broxton

PARISH SYMPATHY

Parish condolences to Mrs. Gloria F. Stephens and family on the loss of her husband, Mr. Edward "Mickey" Stephens, Sr. who passed away on Saturday, August 14, 2021. Public viewing will be held from 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Tuesday, August 24, 2021, in The Adams Chapel. Honoring the Life of State Representative Edward "Mickey" Stephens will begin at 6:00 PM, Tuesday, August 24, 2021, at Savannah State University's Tiger Arena with a formal program. The Mass of Christian Burial will be held 2:00 PM, Wednesday, August 25, 2021, at The Cathedral Basilica of St. John the Baptist. The family requests in lieu of flowers to please make donations or contributions to the Restoration project of St. Benedict The Moor Catholic Church of Savannah mailed to 556 E. Gordon St. Savannah, GA 31401.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.



"A **VIRTUS** class training is required for Safe Environment Compliance for any adult who will come into contact with youth as part of their ministry (a listing of those ministries can be found at <http://bit.ly/1yU4Yk6>) and must be completed before they begin ministry.

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.

DIocese OF SAVANNAH— Reflect, Renew and Rejoice Bishop Parkes issued a pastoral letter on Pentecost Sunday introducing the planning process designed to help the Diocese. Reflect, Renew and Rejoice can be found by going to the Diocesan website: www.diosav.org/reflect-renew-rejoice

WITH SINCERE APPRECIATION

My Dear Parishioners,

I cannot express my heartfelt gratitude to you for the love you lavished upon me last weekend for my Birthday. Your prayers, Birthday wishes, and gifts from individuals, some organizations, and ministries are deeply appreciated. I have repeatedly told you that I truly feel your love and care for me. You are so special and indeed my family! Thank you so much for all you do for me. I am eternally grateful.

With much love and prayers,

Fr. Romanus.

WEEKDAY MASSES

During the week of August 22, 2021 (Wednesday, August 25th through Friday August 27th), there will be no morning masses due to renovations taking place in the church. Weekday Masses will resume the following week. -Thank you.

YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

The Diocese of Savannah invites you to commemorate the Year of St. Joseph by participating in nine weeks of prayer and pilgrimage from August 15 to October 9, 2021. A special Mass that will be celebrated by Bishop, Most Reverend Stephen Parkes, on October 9, 2021, at 10am at the Cathedral Basilica of St. John the Baptist.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father 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, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. 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.

Today, we can observe that God wants us to let it be our own decision to choose Him as our God. Joshua asked the people “choose you this day whom you will service” (Joshua 24:15). Jesus too, in today’s gospel wanted everyone who would be His follower to let it be their own decision. In the first case, Joshua gave the people of Israel a brief history of what God did for their fathers. In the second instance, after what seemed hard a teaching about eating the body and drinking the blood of Jesus, many left. It was then for the disciples to decide either to leave too, or to stay.

We too have come to a point where we must serve God with conviction. It is one thing to be born a Christian; it is another to choose to remain truly a Christian. It is one thing to be born a Catholic; it is another to choose to remain a true Catholic. To be born a Christian, could be an accident, but to decide to remain Christian is a decision. Are you just a follower of Christ because you were born into it? Decisions are made after due consideration of important factors.

For Peter and the others there is “no one else to go to; Jesus has the message of eternal life”. Jesus has everything good we may desire. Peter and his companions had tasted the goodness of the Lord as the Psalmist tells us in today’s responsorial. They could not but trust Him and decided to belong to Him. Have you decided to be His own? Have you decided, not only to follow Him but to worship Him in truth and in spirit?

Your Pineapple for the week:
 “Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God” (John 1:12).

STEADFAST IN FAITH – ACA APPEAL

Annual Catholic Appeal Update Just a reminder! If you haven't yet made your pledge to the Annual Catholic Appeal, please consider doing it this week. Our support of diocesan agencies and ministries is one way that we respond to God for all we have received. As good stewards, each of us has a responsibility to share our great gifts that come from God.

PASTOR’S REFLECTIONS

Choose you today whom you will serve:

Undeniably, choice is one of the most important things in human life. God created man a free being. Freedom, a free gift of God, is what makes us special among other created things. We all crave to exercise this gift of freedom thereby always longing to choose for ourselves. Unfortunately, the very first-time human beings made use of this freedom to choose, he made a very wrong choice. Genesis chapter 3 tells us how God gave order to man and man chose to do otherwise. It was such a painful one that we were told God regretted ever creating man (Gen 6:5-6). It suffices to say that God regretted leaving man free. Yet, He never went back on what he has made to be so. Man remained free. Thus in many things we do, including our worship of God, our day-to-day activities, choice must be involved.