



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
Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament
@ 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.



This training is required for Safe Environment Compliance for any adult who will come into contact with youth as part of their ministry and must be completed before they begin ministry. Seating is limited, and you must pre-registration online to save your seat. To register, go to www.diosav.org, and find the training listed on the Upcoming Events Calendar.

Welcome to St. Benedict the Moor
Catholic Church
Our hope is that your presence here in the celebration of the Mass with us will remind you of the wonder that is God's sustaining grace; that it

encourages you in your walk and will motivate you to pass on His amazing grace to others.

WELCOME TO HISTORIC

ST BENEDICT THE MOOR CATHOLIC CHURCH—*Since 1874*

441 E. Broad St – Savannah, GA 31401-5106

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December 12, 2021 Third Sunday of Advent, Year C

Third Sunday of Advent...encourage us to rejoice at the new life being offered to us through Jesus Christ. In the first reading we hear that the Messiah is a mighty savior who will bring joy and love. In the second reading Paul tells us to rejoice for the Lord is near. And in the gospel, John the Baptist tells his followers that a great savior is coming.

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

Finance Council Members:

Carl Hayes	Chairman	912-655-7153
Melanie White	Secretary	912-439-1488
Clarence Davis	Member	912-308-4677

Frank Williams Member
912-233-2817

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day

We rejoice as we begin the second half of this season of preparation, for we realize that the Lord is already in our midst. While remembering our Lord's birth over two thousand years ago and looking forward to his coming again in glory at the end of time, we prepare our hearts for his presence here today, praying that every day we can express his good news in what we say and do. May our words and actions witness to the world the true meaning of Christ's birth.

Today's Readings are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on Page 543.

Parish Giving
December 5, 2021

Offertory	\$ 6493.00
Parish Bus	\$ 347.00
Deanery Schools	\$ 172.00
Rel. Retirement	\$ 30.00
Christmas Offer'g	\$ 30.00
Christmas Flowers	\$ 80.00
Immac. Conception	\$ 70.00

"Thank You for Your Generosity"

Mass Intentions:

5:30pm: For the repose of the souls of Mattie Glover and Hattilyn Slocum on the anniversary of their passing. * Prince A. Jackson, III.

For the repose of the soul of Clarence H. Williams on the anniversary of his passing.
 *Yvonne & Christopher Williams.

9:00am: For Fr. Romanus and all the MSP Priests as they continue their work in the Lord's vineyard. *The AMSP.

For the repose of the soul of Dennis Clarence Bailey on the anniversary of his birthday (12/15).
 * Mariah Bailey.

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

Willie Allen, Jr., Markeshia Bailey, Joe Battle, Henry Blount, M. Marie Blue, Carmen Broussard, William & Odessa Bryant, Anne Chappell, Josefa Citizen, Lillian Dilworth, Morris Elliott, Juanita Fields, Laura Harris, Jessica Jackson, Vera Jennings, Clevon Johnson, Bobby Locke, Michelle Lovewine, Mackenzie Jenkins, 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, Tandra Williams, Crystal Williams, Narvia Williams, Julie Porter-Winfrey.

FEASTS & SAINTS OF THE WEEK

December Calendar

13 Mon. Memorial of St. Lucy

14 Tue. Memorial of St. John of the Cross

LECTORS' SCHEDULE

December 11/12

5:30pm	Rachael Hooper	Sharon Carson
9:00am	Joe Carter	Alicia Carter
11:30am	Donald Perry	Joyce Jones

December 18/19

5:30p	Edna Mason	Shirley West
9:00am	Teresa Udowana	Joyce Jones
11:30am	"Faith Formation"	

December 25/26

5:30pm	Sharon Carson	Taylor Walden
9:00am	Melanie White	Akio Brown
11:30am	Juliette Tolbert	Donald Perry

ANNOUNCERS SCHEDULE *LECTOR ALSO

December 11/12

5:30pm – Sharon Carson*
9:00am – Gregory Milton
11:30am – Theresa Garvin

December 18/19

5:30pm – Edna Mason*
9:00am – Joyce Jones*
11:30am – "Faith Formation"

December 25/26

5:30pm – Edna Mason

9:00am – Theresa Garvin
11:30am – Emily Williams

CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL

The Associate Missionary Society of St. Paul (AMSP) would like to invite all parishioners and friends to attend the Conversion of St. Paul Feast Day. A Mass Celebration will take place on Tuesday January 25, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. followed by light refreshments. We look forward to seeing you there to share with us as we celebrate our 12th year anniversary.

- St. Benedict the Moor Associate Missionaries of St Paul (AMSP).

YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSAL

Parents: All members of the Youth Choir are asked to attend rehearsal on Saturday December 18th at 12 noon. New songs will be taught and rehearsed especially for our upcoming Christmas liturgical masses. Looking forward to a great rehearsal. -Kathy Stewart.

CHRISTMAS CHOIR REHEARSAL

A combined choir rehearsal is scheduled for Thursday, December 16th at 4:30pm in the church. All choir members are asked to attend. – Areatha Scott, Coordinator.

WINTER COAT DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus Council 10274 is restarting our winter coat drive in memory of Georgetta Blair who started the St. Benedict coat drive. We will be collecting coats for children as well as adults and you will find a box in the back of the church for your donations. Thank you, KOC.

In the footsteps of Your Priestly Son.
Amen.

St. Benedict the Moor Mass Schedules for Christmas Season:

Wednesday, December 8:

Immaculate Conception – Mass at 6:00pm

Wednesday, December 15:

Advent Penance Service – at 6:00pm

Friday, December 24:

Christmas Eve – Masses at 6:00pm & 10:00pm
(Note: Christmas Carols begins at 9:30pm)

Saturday, December 25:

Christmas Day – Mass at 10:00am

No Vigil Mass on Saturday, December 25

Sunday, December 26

Masses at 9:00am & 11:30am

December 31:

No New Year Eve Mass

Saturday, January 1:

New Year's Day – Mass at 10:00am
Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:30pm

Sunday, January 2

Epiphany – Masses at 9:00am & 11:30am

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

2021 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Thank you for your pledge to the Annual Catholic Appeal. As we prepare ourselves to embark on the liturgical season of Advent, we ask that you please take time to fulfill your pledge in support of our parish goal. Thank you for your generosity and faith! Annual Catholic Appeal Committee.

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Amen.

Gold and Silver Wedding Jubilee Anniversary Mass

**All couples celebrating their Silver or Gold
(25th or 50th) Wedding Anniversary in 2022
are invited to join**

The Most Reverend Stephen D. Parkes,

Bishop of Savannah for a special Mass and light reception on Sunday, February 20, 2022, at 3:30pm at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist.

Those wishing to attend should register online at www.diosavorg/gold-and-silver by December 31, 2021, in order to receive the formal invitation with Please call the Diocesan Office at Marriage, Family, and Respect Life at 912-201-4068 with questions.

FR. ROMANUS' REFLECTIONS:

Preparations and Joyful Expectation for the Coming of the Lord:

The third Sunday of Advent is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is a Latin word that means "rejoice". That is why the second reading taken from Paul's letter to the Philippians tells us to rejoice. We mark this Sunday by lighting a pink candle instead of a purple one on our Advent wreath. It is a reminder that the Advent season is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand.

The people recognized that John was an extraordinary man of God and a true prophet who spoke in God's name. They came out to hear the "good news" (Luke 3:18) which he preached to them. And they willingly submitted to his baptism of repentance at the River Jordan where he preached. John's task was to wake people up from spiritual sleep and indifference, and to turn them back to hear God's voice and obey his commandments. John wanted the people to be in a good place to receive the Messiah and follow him.

The Gospel mentions two groups in particular who came to John for spiritual renewal - tax collectors and Jewish soldiers. Both groups were regarded as

being spiritually unfit and unclean by the Jewish authorities and were treated as outcasts. John welcomed them with open arms along with all the multitude of people who came to hear the Good News and be baptized.

John's message of renewal and repentance was very practical. He told the people three things: First, every follower of God must share what they possess (their personal goods and resources) with their neighbors, especially with those who lacked the basic necessities of life. John recognized that this was a key duty for every individual and an outward expression of the great commandment to love one's neighbor as oneself (Leviticus 19:18).

Second, John pointed out the sacred duty to give each and every person what is their due and to not take from them what rightfully belongs to them. God commands that each person be treated with respect and that honor be given where honor is due. John told the tax collectors that they must not coerce people to pay more tax money than what was rightfully due. (Tax collectors often made handsome profits for themselves by overcharging other people.) John instructed soldiers to not abuse their authority or power to compel people to give or do things for them beyond what was rightful and their due. (It was not uncommon for soldiers to abuse their position to force people to carry their heavy equipment for them or to rob them of their goods.) John did not tell them to leave their profession, but to be good, honest, and respectful soldiers.

And thirdly, John encouraged his listeners to be content with what they had and to avoid coveting (wrongfully desiring or acquiring) what belonged to others. John basically called the people to turn back to God and to walk in his way of love and righteousness.

These are the practical things we are called to do at this advent season as we prepare our minds and hearts for the coming of the Lord. As we can see, John the Baptist encouraged each group to do the right thing where they were. He did not tell the soldiers to stop being soldiers, or the tax collectors to stop collecting taxes, rather he told them to act justly in their different fields. We do not need to go far to serve the Lord; we serve the Lord in any area of life that we find ourselves! We are called to blossom where we are planted.

Your Pineapple for the Week:

“If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things are passed away; behold, new things have come” (2 Corinthians 5:17).