



## MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 5:30 pm  
 SUNDAY 9 am & 11:30 am

Weekday Mass @ 8:00 am  
 Wednesday-Friday in the Church

### FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

UNITY MASS @ 10AM

### 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](http://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!

## 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

Phone: 912-232-7147 Fax: 912-238-0184

Website: [www.stbenedictmcc.org](http://www.stbenedictmcc.org)

Email: [stbenedict@bellsouth.net](mailto:stbenedict@bellsouth.net)



*September 11, 2022*

*Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Year C*

Rev. Romanus Obiora Ezeugwu, MSP, Pastor  
 Sharon Carson, Supt. of Religious Education  
 Audrey Moultrie, Interim Parish Council Chairperson  
 Sharon Carson, 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



[www.stbenedictmcc.org](http://www.stbenedictmcc.org)

Visit our website to sign up and to begin contributing automatically to your parish. Sign up for Online Giving by visiting our parish website at [www.stbenedictmcc.org](http://www.stbenedictmcc.org) and selecting the **Online Giving** link to get started!

## *Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day*

In today's Gospel we hear the Pharisees disparage Jesus for welcoming sinners and eating with them. Jesus turns their criticism on its head by telling them three parables that show how much joy God finds in one repentant sinner. We sinners are welcomed to this banquet today where Jesus provides himself as the meal to share. Let us approach the altar with repentant hearts, thankful for God's constant mercy.

---

**Today's Readings are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book - Page 703**

---

### *Parish Giving September 4, 2022*

Offertory	\$5327.00
School Support	\$ 170.00
Bus	\$ 185.00
Mission Cooperative Appeal	\$ 25.00

*"Thank You for Your Generosity"*

---

### **MASS INTENTIONS**

**11:30am: For Torrance and Theresa Garvin in thanksgiving as they celebrate their 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. \*The Garvin Family**

---

### **SECOND COLLECTION**

The second collection for the month of September is for the Mission Cooperative Appeal on September 25<sup>th</sup>. Envelopes are available at the entrance of the church if you did not receive one in your mailed packets. Thank you for helping others.

### **THANK YOU!**

We would like to thank Fr. Romanus and the St. Benedict the Moor Church Family for your prayers, condolences, cards and acts of kindness during the loss of my brother, McArthur Dixon. May God bless each of you for your thoughtfulness.

\*William and Sandra Wright

---

### **2022 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**

Just a reminder! If you haven't yet made your pledge to the Annual Catholic Appeal, please consider doing it this week. As good stewards, each of us has a responsibility to share our great gifts that come from God. Please be generous in your sharing.

### **THE DEFINITION OF "ACTIVE CATHOLIC"**

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., Mariah Bailey, Markeshia Bailey, Joe Battle, Henry Blount, M. Marie Blue, William & Odessa Bryant, Alethea Chaney, Lillie Charlton, Josefa Citizen, Lillian Dilworth, Morris Elliott, Juanita Fields, Laquita Bailey Hazzard, Jessica Jackson, Vera Jennings, Clevon Johnson, Bobby Locke, Mackenzie Jenkins, Dawud Patterson, Evelyn Porter, Delores Robinson, Elizabeth Robinson, Janice Quinn, Marilee Short, Cornelius St. Mark, Inez Walthour, Frankie Washington, Margaret Weston, Louise Wiggins, Nathaniel Wiggins, Arlene Wiley, Ellen Williams, Tambra Williams, Crystal Williams, Narvia Williams, Willetta Williams, Julie Porter-Winfrey.

---

### **LECTORS' SCHEDULE**

#### **September 10/11**

5:30pm	Taylor Walden	Dominique Jackson*
9:00am	Joe Carter	Alicia Carter
11:30am	Donald Perry	Adrian Broxton

#### **September 17/18**

5:30pm	Edna Mason*	Shirley West
9:00am	Melanie White	Barbara McGhee
11:30am	Faith Formation	Faith Formation

### **ANNOUNCERS SCHEDULE \*LECTOR ALSO**

#### **September 10/11**

5:30pm	Dominique Jackson*
9:00am	Emily Williams
11:30am	Atzmayah Bailey

#### **September 17/18**

5:30pm	Edna Mason
9:00am	Gregory Milton
11:30am	Faith Formation

### **September Calendar**

11 Sun. Patriot Day; Grandparents Day  
12 Mon. Optional Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Mary  
13 Tue. Memorial of St. John Chrysostom  
14 Wed. Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross  
15 Thu. Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows  
16 Fri. Memorial of Ss. Cornelius and Cyprian;  
Independence Day (Mexico)  
17 Sat. Optional Memorial of St. Robert Bellarmine;  
Optional Memorial of St. Hildegard of Bingen;  
Optional Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary

### **THANK YOU!**

The family of the late Robert Lloyd Waters is deeply grateful for the many expressions of sympathy from friends and church members. Every prayer, visit, text message, card, call, gift, and offer to assist is highly appreciated during our time of bereavement. Thank you all!

\*Waters and Lipsey Family

### **THANK YOU!**

Thank you to the Traveling Moors for their generous donation of \$2000 to the parish. We appreciate you for all that you do and pray for God's continuous blessings upon each of you. \*Father Romanus and your parish family

### **HOME FURNISHINGS AVAILABLE**

Contact the parish office if you are in need of the following items to spruce up your home: double bathroom vanity; gas fireplace (2); and heating units. All are in good condition.

### **NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC CONGRESS XIII**

The New Horizons of Women and Men is offering an opportunity to travel to the National Black Catholic Congress XIII, July 20 – 23, 2023 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in Maryland. Transportation and Conference Registration for adults is \$545.00 and \$500.00 for youth (13- 18 years). Anyone planning to attend should indicate their name and contact number on the sign-up sheet at the church entrance and make your non-refundable deposit of \$100.00 per person before **September 12, 2022**. This is a first come, first serve opportunity. For additional information and payment plan, please contact Vergie Williams or Torrance Garvin of New Horizons. Thank You!

### **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.**

### **The 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,

[At the words that follow, up to and including and became man, bow your head.]

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.

**HAPPY GRANDPARENTS DAY!**

## WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

### **The Lost Son Who "Came to His Senses" And The Father's Extravagant Love And Mercy:**

Why did the younger son decide to return to his father's home? Jesus said "he came to his senses" when disaster followed his reversal of fortune and loose living (Luke 15:17). He had lost all of his inheritance on wasted spending and was barely surviving on what would have been a most shameful job for Jews - feeding swine which Jewish law regarded as unclean and unfit for eating. And to make matters worse, the younger son was now on the point of starving to death since famine had struck the land. He was desperate to stay alive and avoid a painful slow death. His only hope was that his father might take pity on him and let him return home, no longer as a worthy son, but as a hired servant instead.

The foolish son who had shamefully disinherited his father, knew he no longer deserved to be treated like a son. But he also knew that his father was merciful and kind. The son who was now a poor beggar wanted to return home to beg his father's forgiveness. Before the son could reach home, the father who had been searching daily for him, ran to meet him as soon as he recognized his presence on the road leading to his home. And then the father does the unthinkable - he treats his rebellious son, not with cold reserve, hot anger, or just condemnation, but with warm tender affection and tears of joy - and then restores him beyond his wildest dreams.

What is the main point or focus of the parable of the lost (prodigal) son? Is it the contrast between an obedient and a disobedient son? Or is it a contrast between the warm reception given by a generous and forgiving father or the cold and aloof reception given by the eldest son who wanted to have nothing to do with his rebellious brother? Jesus contrasts the father's merciful love with the eldest son's harsh rejection of his errant brother and his refusal to join his father in welcoming his brother back home.

While the errant son had wasted his father's money, his father, nonetheless, maintained unbroken love for his son. The son, while he was away, learned a lot about himself. And he realized that his father had given him love which he had not returned. He had yet to learn about the depth of his father's love for him. His deep humiliation at finding himself obliged to feed on the husks of pigs and his reflection on all

he had lost, led to his repentance and decision to declare himself guilty before his father. While he hoped for reconciliation with his father, he could not have imagined a full restoration of relationship. The father did not need to speak words of forgiveness to his son - his actions spoke more loudly and clearly! The beautiful robe, the ring, and the festive banquet symbolize the new life - pure, worthy, and joyful - of each and every person who returns to the merciful embrace of the waiting Father in heaven.

The prodigal could not return to the garden of innocence, but he was welcomed and reinstated as a beloved son. The errant son's dramatic change from grief and guilt to forgiveness and restoration express in picture-language the resurrection from the dead and a rebirth to new abundant life with God the Father through his beloved Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

The parable of the prodigal son also contrasts mercy and forgiveness with their opposites - an unwillingness to forgive and to be reconciled. The father who had been wronged, was forgiving and merciful towards the younger son who recognized his need for forgiveness. But the eldest son, who had not been wronged, was unforgiving and refused to be reconciled with his brother. His refusal to forgive turns into contempt and pride. And his resentment leads to his isolation and estrangement from the community of forgiven sinners.

In this parable Jesus gives us a vivid picture of God the Father and what his character and attitude towards us is like. God is truly generous, kind, and forgiving towards us. He does not lose hope or give up when we stray from him and his commandments. He searches our hearts to show us where true love and mercy can be found and he leads us back to the way of everlasting joy and happiness (Psalm 139:1, 23-24). God the Father always rejoices in searching out those who have strayed and he welcomes them home with open arms. Do you know the joy of your heavenly Father who welcomes you home to his kingdom of everlasting righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit?

*(Daily Scripture Readings and Meditations)*

### **Your Pineapple For The Week:**

*"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you" (Luke 6:36-38).*