



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.



The *VIRTUS* Protecting God's Children training is required for all volunteers and employees in the Diocese of Savannah and must be completed before they begin their ministry.

Seating is limited, and pre-registration is required online. Registration instructions can be found at <https://diosav.org/how-do-i/register-for-virtus-training>. A LAPTOP or DESKTOP is recommended for registration.

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

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December 18, 2022

*Fourth Sunday of Advent
Year A*

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

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 and selecting the **Online Giving** link to get started!

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day

We are now only a week away from the day when we celebrate the Lord's coming in the Incarnation. In Jesus—Emmanuel—God is with us, as we are reminded in today's readings. For thousands of years, a waiting world yearned for this momentous event. Now we know that God's actual, physical presence in the world has been realized. Amid all the hustle and bustle of these final days before Christmas, let us not overlook the greatest gift of all.

Today's Readings are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book – Page 178

Parish Giving December 11, 2022

Offertory	\$8983.00
Second Collection – Religious Retirement	\$ 727.00
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	\$ 335.00

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL AS OF 12/8/22

Goal: \$32,796.00
Received to Date: \$33,099.75

"Thank You for Your Generosity"

MASS INTENTIONS:

5:30pm: For the repose of the soul of Mattie Glover on the anniversary of her passing.

For the repose of the soul of Hattilyn Slocum on the anniversary of her passing. *Prince A. Jackson, III

9:00am: For the repose of the soul of Dennis Clarence Bailey on the anniversary of his birthday (12/17). *Mariah Bailey.

For the peaceful repose of the soul of Leroy W. Simmons on the 15th anniversary of his passing (12/20). *Ruth Simmons and family

11:30pm: For the repose of the soul of Marilee Short. *Durdane Motlagh

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, Joe Battle, Henry Blount, Odessa Bryant, Alethea Chaney, Lillie Charlton, Josefa Citizen, Lillian Dilworth, Morris Elliott, Juanita Fields, Jessica Jackson, Vera Jennings, Clewon Johnson, Bobby Locke, Mackenzie Jenkins, Dawud Patterson, Evelyn Porter, Ellen Roberts, Delores Robinson, Elizabeth Robinson, Janice Quinn, Cornelius St. Mark, Inez Walthour, Frankie Washington, Margaret Weston, Nathaniel Wiggins, Arlene Wiley, Ellen Williams, Tandra Williams, Crystal Williams, Narvia Williams, Willetta Williams, Julie Porter-Winfrey.

LECTORS' SCHEDULE *ANNOUNCER ALSO

December 17/18

5:30pm	Adriene Perry	Shirley West
9:00am	Dianne Williams	Georgene Jones
11:30am	Faith Formation	Faith Formation

December 24/25

6:00pm	Faith Formation	Faith Formation
10:00pm	Sharon Carson*	Teresa Udowana
10:00am	Joe Carter	Alicia Carter

January 1, 2023 Unity Mass

10:00am	Edna Mason*	Georgene Jones
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10:00am	Joyce Jones

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December Calendar

19 Mon. Hanukkah begins
20 Tue. International Human Solidarity Day
21 Wed. Optional Memorial of St. Peter Canisius;
Winter begins
23 Fri. Optional Memorial of St. John of Kanty
24 Sat. Vigil of Christmas (Christmas Eve)

PARISH SYMPATHY

Parish condolences to Ms. Jennifer Short on the loss of her mother, Mrs. Marilee Short, who passed away on Wednesday, December 7, 2022. Marilee Short was a long-time parishioner here at St. Benedict the Moor and active in several ministries. Funeral service was held at Baker McCullough Funeral Home on Wednesday, December 14th. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

WINTER COAT DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus Council #10274 is holding a winter coat drive through the first week of January 2023. Coats and jackets of all sizes and in good condition are needed. Please place your donation in the bin at the front entrance of the church. Thank you for your generosity.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

The next special collection will be on December 24th and 25th for the Diocese of Savannah Catholic Schools. Please give generously to this fund.

OUR PARISH BIBLE STUDY/KNOW YOUR FAITH

Our Parish Bible Study is held on Wednesdays at 6:00pm in the Parish Hall. The teaching of our Catholic doctrines is blended into our bible study to enable us to have a better understanding of the faith that we profess. Please come, let us enrich ourselves with the Word of God at this Advent Season and thereafter. *Fr. Romanus

CHOIR REHEARSALS

Choir rehearsal for the youth will take place on Thursday, December 22nd at 6:00pm. All members are asked to be present. Thank you – Kathy Stewart

Rehearsal in preparation for the Christmas Eve Mass will take place on Monday, December 19th at 6:00pm. All choir members are asked to be present. Thank you – Areatha Scott

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.

WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

A model of faith for us:

Mary had to face an enormous challenge to her faith and trust in God and to the faith of her family and Joseph, the man she chose to marry. She was asked to assume a burden of tremendous responsibility. It had never been heard of before that a child could be born without a natural father. Mary was asked to accept this miraculous exception to the laws of nature. That required faith and trust in God and in his promises. Second, Mary was not yet married. Pregnancy outside of wedlock was not tolerated in those days. Mary was only espoused to Joseph, and such an engagement had to last for a whole year. She was asked to assume a great risk. She could have been rejected by Joseph, by her family, by all her own people. Mary knew that Joseph and her family would not understand without revelation from God. She nonetheless believed and trusted in God's promises.

Joseph, a just and God-fearing man, did not wish to embarrass or punish his espoused wife, Mary when he discovered that she was pregnant. To all appearances she had broken their solemn pledge to be faithful and chaste to one another. Joseph, no doubt took this troubling matter to God in prayer. He was not hasty to judge or to react with hurt and anger. God rewarded him not only with guidance and consolation, but with the divine assurance that he had indeed called Joseph to be the husband of Mary and to assume a mission that would require the utmost faith, confidence, and trust in Almighty God. Joseph believed in the divine message to take Mary as his wife and to accept the child in her womb as the promised Messiah.

Like Mary, Joseph is a model of faith for us. He is a faithful witness and servant of God's unfolding plan of redemption. Are you ready to believe in the promises of God, even when faced with perplexing circumstances and what seems like insurmountable problems? God has not left us alone, but has brought us his only begotten Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let us celebrate Christmas, the feast of the Incarnation, with joyful hearts and let us renew our faith and hope in God and in his redeeming work.

(Daily Scripture Readings and Meditations).

Your Pineapple for the Week:

“If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts” (Psalm 95:7b-8a).

PARISH EVENTS REMINDER

Sunday, December 18th: Youth Christmas Party, 5pm – 8pm. All youth of the parish are invited to come!

**Christmas Masses: Saturday, December 24th at 6pm;
Saturday, December 24th at 10pm (caroling begins at 9:30am);
Sunday, December 25th at 10am**

Sunday, January 1, 2023: Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God and Unity Mass

PARISH CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Travis (Tray) Williams, Sr. on receiving the 2022 Leadership Award from Port City Logistics where he is employed as General Manager, and also to Travis (T. J.) Williams, Jr. whose artwork was selected from students at Bloomingdale Elementary, to be placed on exhibit at the Jepson Museum. Tray and T. J. are the son and grandson of Dianne Williams.
