



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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January 29, 2023

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 gather each Sunday to give praise and thanks to God, to greet the Lord in each other, to hear the Lord through God's word, and to receive the Lord in the Eucharist. We humbly ask God for forgiveness and for the grace to forgive our neighbor and ourselves for the wrongs we do to each other, trusting that the Lord looks with favor on the humble and merciful.

Readings for this weekend are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on Page 277

Parish Giving January 22, 2023

Offertory (includes School Support and Bus)	\$6255.00
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"Thank You for Your Generosity"

MASS INTENTIONS:

All Masses: In special honor of Miss Bernice Rivers and for the peaceful repose of the souls of Lillian Clarke Gilbert, Gail Clarke Johnson, Kim Rivers Chaney, and Gertrude Rivers Williams. *Kenneth Clarke

For the peaceful repose of the soul of Marilee Short.
*Kathy Looper

5:30pm: For the peaceful repose of the soul of Ernestine Rountree on the anniversary of her passing. *Sharon Carson and Family

For God's blessing on Tisha Johnson on her birthday, January 27th. *Mom – Vivian Johnson

For God's blessing on Gloria Jean Johnson on her birthday, January 26th. *Mom – Vivian Johnson



Altar flowers in special honor of Miss Bernice Rivers and in memory of Lillian Clarke Gilbert, Gail Clarke Johnson, Kim Rivers Chaney, and Gertrude Rivers Williams

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, Lillian 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, Julie Porter-Winfrey.

LECTORS' SCHEDULE (*ANNOUNCER ALSO)

January 28/29, 2023

5:30pm	Taylor Walden	Adrienne Perry
9:00am	Torrance Garvin	Dianne Williams
11:30am	Matthew Jenkins	Adrian Broxton

February 5, 2023 Unity Mass

10:00am	Joe Carter	Alicia Carter
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ANNOUNCERS' SCHEDULE (*LECTOR ALSO)

January 28/29, 2023

5:30pm	Dominique Jackson
9:00am	Theresa Garvin
11:30am	Atzmayah Bailey

February 5, 2023 Unity Mass

10:00am	Gregory Milton
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January/February Calendar

29 Sun. Catholic Schools Week begins (Jan. 29–Feb. 4)

31 Tue. Memorial of St. John Bosco

Feb. 1 Wed. National Freedom Day

2 Thu. Feast of the Presentation of the Lord; World Day for Consecrated Life; Groundhog Day

3 Fri. Optional Memorial of St. Blaise; Optional Memorial of St. Ansgar; First Friday

4 Sat. Optional Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary; First Saturday

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL (ACA)

The ACA 2023 Commitment Weekend will take place at St. Benedict the Moor next Sunday, February 5, 2023. Our parish target is \$29,454. We can do this if, after thoughtful consideration, everyone participates according to our ability. Our requested family offering of \$325 has not changed from last year. We are blessed with much; let us be a blessing to others.

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. *Fr. Romanus

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Rehearsal for the Unity Mass Choir will take place on Tuesday, January 31st in the church at 6:00pm. All members are asked to attend. *Areatha Scott

MASS FOR ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

The Council of Catholic Women invites you to attend a Mass in memory of St. Josephine Bakhita on Wednesday, February 8th at 9:00am at St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church. There will be light refreshments afterwards. Come and celebrate this courageous woman of faith.

INFANT BAPTISM

The next infant baptism will take place on Sunday, February 19, 2023 at the 11:30am Mass. Please contact Theresa Garvin (912) 507-7553 or Sharon Carson (912) 656-0286 for more information or to register your child. Thank you!

FIRST QUARTER CELEBRATION

Immediately following Unity Mass on February 5th, there will be a brief planning meeting for those celebrating birthdays and/or anniversaries in the months of January, February, and March in preparation for our March 5th gathering.

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

The Beatitudes Are a Sign of Contradiction to The World's Way of Happiness:

The heart of Jesus' message is that we can live a very happy life. The call to holiness, to be saints who joyfully pursue God's will for their lives, can be found in these eight beatitudes. Jesus' beatitudes sum up our calling or vocation - to live a life of the beatitudes. The word *beatitude* literally means "happiness" or "blessedness". The beatitudes respond to the natural desire for happiness that God has placed in every heart. They teach us the final end to which God calls us, namely the coming of God's kingdom (Matthew 4:17), the vision of God (Matthew 5:8; 1 John 2:1), entering into the joy of the Lord (Matthew 25:21-23) and into his rest (Hebrews 4:7-11). Jesus' beatitudes also confront us with decisive choices concerning the life we pursue here on earth and the use we make of the goods he puts at our disposal. Jesus tells us that God alone can satisfy the deepest need and longing of our heart. Teresa of Avila's (1515-1582) prayer book contained a bookmark on which she wrote: Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you. All things pass - God never changes. Patience achieves all it strives for. Whoever has God lacks nothing -God alone suffices.

The beatitudes which Jesus offers us are a sign of contradiction to the world's understanding of happiness and joy. How can one possibly find happiness in poverty, hunger, mourning, and persecution? Poverty of spirit finds ample room and joy in possessing God as the greatest treasure possible. Hunger of the spirit seeks nourishment and strength in God's word and Spirit. Sorrow and mourning over wasted life and sin leads to joyful freedom from the burden of guilt and spiritual oppression.

God reveals to the humble of heart the true source of abundant life and happiness. Jesus promises his disciples that the joys of heaven will more than compensate for the troubles and hardships they can expect in this world. Thomas Aquinas said: "No one can live without joy. That is why a person deprived of spiritual joy goes after carnal pleasures."

(Daily Scripture Reading and Meditations).

Your Pineapple for the Week:

"The one who stands firm to the end will be saved" (Matthew 24:13).

Holy Hour for Vocations

The St. John Vianney Vocations Ministry of Savannah will be celebrating a special Holy Hour on Sunday, February 5, 2023 from 3:00 – 4:00 PM in the BC chapel at 6502 Seawright Drive. Fr. Frank Ziemkiewicz, OSB will be the presider. The purpose of the Holy Hour is to commemorate the *World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life*. Please join the Vocations Ministry to ask the Lord of the Harvest to send us many good and holy priests, deacons, and religious to serve the people of God and the life of the Church.

SOCIAL APOSTOLATE

St. Benedict the Moor Parish is responsible to help the Social Apostolate with groceries during the month of February.

Suggested items are: Packaged or canned meat (tuna, chicken, beef stew), or hearty chunky soup. Canned pork & beans, canned vegetables & fruits, canned spaghetti with tomato or meat sauce. Breakfast cereal, granola bars, individually packaged oatmeal or grits, evaporated milk. Peanut butter & jelly, breakfast bars, and healthy snacks including nuts. The Social Apostolate is our Catholic outreach to the poor! Thank you so much! Please place all items in the container provided. Thank you for your participation and sharing in this ministry.



THE SEASON OF LENT

It seems like we just rang in the new year, but Lent is fast approaching and now is the time to start preparing for it. Ash Wednesday is **February 22, 2023**. Mass will be celebrated at **8:00am** and **6:00pm**. The Lenten season provides the opportunity for fasting, prayer, and reflection. People are seeking ways to connect with Jesus more deeply through encounter and learning more about God and our faith. With just a bit of planning ahead anyone can have a successful and fruitful Lent filled with many graces.

UPCOMING SPECIAL COLLECTION

The next Special Collection is for *Aid to Central and Eastern Europe* and will be taken up on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd. Please be generous in giving to this fund.