



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

Website: www.stbenedictmcc.org

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February 26, 2023

First Sunday of Lent,

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 |



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

The Holy Spirit gathers us together today as we begin this forty-day season of Lent. Life is full of temptations, and we are especially aware of them during Lent. We are tempted to do things we find desirable, even when we know they're wrong. We are tempted to avoid things that are undesirable, even when we know they're the right thing to do. Today we hear the serpent successfully tempt Adam and Eve and the devil unsuccessfully tempt Jesus. May the Holy Spirit, who accompanied Jesus in the desert and accompanies us wherever we go, give us the strength to resist temptation.

Readings for this weekend are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on Page 208.

*Parish Giving
February 19, 2023*

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Offertory (includes School Support and Bus) | \$5386.00 |
|---|-----------|

"Thank You for Your Generosity"

MASS INTENTIONS:

9:00am: For the peaceful repose of the soul of Clarence R. Bailey on the anniversary of his birthday (February 27th). *Mariah Bailey and family

PARISH CONDOLENCES

Parish sympathy to Mr. Tyrone Bryant and family on the loss of his sister, Mrs. Barbara Martin-Golden who passed away on Monday, February 20, 2023. Funeral services will be held 11:00am, Monday February 27th at St. James Catholic Church 8412 Whitefield Ave. Visitation will be held 2:00pm – 4:00pm, Sunday, February 26th also at St. James Catholic Church. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

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CONGRATULATIONS

Parish congratulations to Chief Charlie Jefferson who was spotlighted in the Savannah Airport Commission's (SAC) newsletter for the month of February. He was recognized as the first black Chief of Police for the SAC Police Department. Chief Jefferson is the son of parishioner Charlie Jefferson, III. Congratulations on your accomplishments!

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, Julie Porter-Winfrey.

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February and March Calendar

27 Mon. Optional Memorial of St. Gregory of Narek*; Julian Calendar Lent begins

Mar. 3 Fri. Optional Memorial of St. Katharine Drexel*; World Day of Prayer; First Friday

4 Sat. Optional Memorial of St. Casimir*; First Saturday

LECTORS' SCHEDULE (*ANNOUNCER ALSO)

February 25/26, 2023

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 5:30pm | Taylor Walden | Shirley West |
| 9:00am | Barbara McGhee | Teresa Udowana |
| 11:30am | Donald Perry | Monesha Gallishaw* |

March 5, 2023 Unity Mass

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 10:00am | Juliette Tolbert | Matthew Jenkins |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|

March 11/12, 2023

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 5:30pm | Adriene Perry | Sharon Carson |
| 9:00am | Dianne Williams | Georgene Jones |
| 11:30am | Donald Perry | Joyce Jones* |

ANNOUNCERS' SCHEDULE (*LECTOR ALSO)

February 25/26, 2023

| | |
|----------------|--------------------|
| 5:30pm | Edna Mason |
| 9:00am | Ruth Simmons |
| 11:30am | Monesha Gallishaw* |

March 5, 2023 Unity Mass

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 10:00am | Emily Williams |
|----------------|----------------|

March 11/12, 2023

| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 5:30pm | Dominique Jackson |
| 9:00am | Theresa Garvin |
| 11:30am | Joyce Jones* |

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.

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.

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FISH FRY

The Knights of Columbus Council #10274 will have a fish fry Fridays during the Lenten season (except March 17th). For \$8.00, you can have a delicious meal of fried fish, red rice, hush puppies and cole slaw. Come out and enjoy!

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UNITY MASS CHOIR

Rehearsal for the upcoming Unity Mass will take place on Tuesday, February 28th at 6pm in the church. All members are asked to attend. Thank you. *Areatha Scott

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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.

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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.

UNITY MASS RECEPTION

Those who are celebrating their birthday or anniversary in the months of January, February or March are asked to contact their monthly representatives if they have not already done so regarding helping with the Unity Mass reception or to make donations: January – Wilma Brown (912) 659-8941 or Gigi Jones (912) 604-7394; February – Rosetta Brown (912) 232-8921 or Jacqueline Bailey Patterson (912) 660-3952; March – Edna Mason (912) 247-1671 or Brenda Kennedy – (912) 660-3464. Thank you.

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WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

Strength from God in resisting temptation:

Are you ready to follow the Lord Jesus and to go with him wherever he leads you? Jesus did not choose his own course or path in life, but followed the will of his Father in heaven. After Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist at the River Jordan, he was led by the Spirit of God to withdraw into the wilderness of Judea - a vast desert wilderness that was mostly uninhabitable and full of danger. Danger from scorching heat by day and extreme cold at night, danger from wild animals and scorpions, plus the deprivation of food and scarcity of water.

Why did Jesus choose such a barren, lonely place for a sustained period of prayer and fasting? Matthew, Mark, and Luke tell us in their Gospel accounts that Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness. Mark states it most emphatically: "The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness" (Mark 1:12).

What compelled Jesus to seek solitude, away from his family and friends, for such a lengthy period? Was it simply a test to prepare him for his mission? Or did Satan want to lure him into a trap? The word tempt in English usually means to entice someone to do what is wrong or forbidden. The scriptural word used here also means test in the sense of proving and assessing someone to see if they are prepared and ready for the task at hand. We test flight pilots to see if they are fit to fly under all conditions, including times of adverse turbulence, storms, and poor visibility. In like manner God tests his people to see if they are ready to follow and serve him without reservation or compromise.

Jesus was tempted like us and he overcame sin not by his own human effort but by the grace and strength which his Father gave to him. He had to renounce his will for the will of his Father. He succeeded because he wanted to please his Father and he trusted that his Father would give him the strength to overcome the obstacles that stood in the way. Luke says that Jesus was "full of the Holy Spirit" (Luke 4:1). When tempted by the devil Jesus did not try to fight his adversary on his own human strength. He relied on the power which the Spirit gave him. Jesus came to overthrow the evil one who

held us captive to sin and fear of death (Hebrews 2:14). His obedience to his Father's will and his willingness to embrace the cross reversed the curse of Adam's disobedience. His victory over sin and death won for us not only pardon for our sins but adoption as sons and daughters of God.

How can we overcome sin and gain freedom over our unruly desires and the lies of Satan and the world? The Lord Jesus gives us his Holy Spirit to help us in our weakness (Romans 8:26) and to be our guide and consoler in temptation and testing (1 Corinthians 10:13). The Lord gives grace to the humble who acknowledge their dependence on him (James 4:6) and he helps us to stand against the lies and attacks of our enemy, Satan, who seeks to destroy us (1 Peter 5:8-10; Ephesians 6:10-18). The Lord Jesus is ever ready to pour out his Spirit upon us that we may have the strength and courage we need to resist sin and to reject the lies and deceits of Satan. God wants us to "fight the good fight of the faith" (1 Timothy 6:12) with the power and strength which comes from the Holy Spirit. Do you rely on the Lord for your strength and help?

(Daily Scripture Readings and Meditations)

Your Pineapple for the Week:

Be calm but vigilant because your enemy the devil is prowling round like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Stand up to him strong in faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings (1 Peter 5:8-9).

2023 STATIONS of the CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be held every

Friday at 6:00pm

(Rosary begins at 5:30pm)

Make this service a part of your Lenten journey!

March 3 – Parish Council and Finance Council

March 10 – Extraordinary Ministers
of the Holy Eucharist and
CCD teachers

March 17 – AMSP, Lectors

March 24 – New Horizons and Traveling Moors

March 31 – CCW and Friends of SBM

April 7 (Rosary at 2:30pm; Stations at 3:00pm) –
Legion of Mary, Choirs, and Youth