



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*

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March 19, 2023

Fourth 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



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

Today, having reached the halfway point of Lent, we celebrate Laetare Sunday. This Latin word, pronounced lay-TAR-ray, means "rejoice." We rejoice in the knowledge that the cross does not end in death, that Jesus' story does not end in the tomb. The Church also celebrates the second scrutiny today, a significant step for catechumens but also an opportunity for all of us to look into our hearts for the sinful habits and tendencies we may not even see. In today's Gospel, Jesus heals a blind man. More significantly, he can heal our blindness to sin as well. Let us rejoice!

Readings for this weekend are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on Page 216.

*Parish Giving
March 12, 2023*

Offertory (includes School Support and Bus)	\$6756.00
Catholic Relief Services (Special Collection)	\$40.00

"Thank You for Your Generosity"

MASS INTENTIONS

5:30pm: For the peaceful repose of the souls of Prince A. Jackson, Sr. on the anniversary of his passing; Deacon Prince A. Jackson, Jr. on the anniversary of his birthday; Mattie Glover on the anniversary of her birthday. *Prince A. Jackson, III

9:00am: For the peaceful repose of the soul of Leroy W. Simmons on the anniversary of his birthday (3/17). *Ruth Simmons and family

9:00am and 11:30am: For the peaceful repose of the soul of Nancy Gordillo on the anniversary of her birthday. *Robert Wright

For the peaceful repose of the soul of John Migliore who recently passed away. *John and Faye Chaplin

11:30am: For the peaceful repose of the soul of Deacon Willie V. Coleman on the anniversary of his passing. *Sharon Carson and family

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Please Pray for our Sick & Homebound:

Louise Allen, Willie Allen, Jr., Mariah Bailey, Joe Battle, Margaret Betz, 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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March Calendar

19 Sun. Laetare Sunday; Second Scrutiny of the Elect
 20 Mon. Solemnity of St. Joseph; Spring begins
 23 Thu. Optional Memorial of St. Turibius of Mogrovejo*
 24 Fri. International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims
 25 Sat. Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

LECTORS' SCHEDULE (*ANNOUNCER ALSO)

March 18/19, 2023

5:30pm	Taylor Walden	Shirley West
9:00am	Torrance Garvin	Barbara McGhee
11:30am	Faith Formation	Faith Formation

March 25/26, 2023

5:30pm	Rachel Hooper	Sharon Carson*
9:00am	Joe Carter	Alicia Carter
11:30am	Monesha Gallishaw*	Adrian Broxton

ANNOUNCERS' SCHEDULE (*LECTOR ALSO)

March 18/19, 2023

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

March 25/26

5:30pm	Sharon Carson*
9:00am	Ruth Simmons
11:30am	Monesha Gallishaw*

***During this Lent,
Let us all ask the Lord:
Make our hearts like yours.
-Pope Francis***

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 sell fish dinners on 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 coleslaw. Come out and enjoy!

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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SPECIAL COLLECTION

This week we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to reveal Christ's love to our brothers and sisters in need. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support for struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

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ALTAR SERVERS ARE NEEDED!

Altar servers are needed for all Masses. Anyone who has received their First Holy Eucharist and want to serve in this ministry is eligible. There will be an important meeting for past, current, and future altar servers on Saturday, March 25th at 10am in the church. Please make every effort to attend. Thank you. *William Wright.

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LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

Our Communal Penance will take place on Wednesday, March 22nd at 6pm in the church. All are encouraged to take this opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament as a part of your Lenten spiritual journey.

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Youth Easter Program 2023 Practice Schedule		
Sunday	March 12 th	Immediately following 11:30am Mass
	March 19 th	
Tuesday	March 28 th	5:00pm
	April 4 th	4:00pm
*Practices will take place in the church.		
If you have any questions or concerns please contact: Shameka Broadnax-(912) 713-8178 or Monesha Gallishaw-(912) 398-0591		

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EASTER MASS CHOIR REHEARSALS

Rehearsals for Easter Mass will take place on March 21st, March 23rd, and March 28th at 6pm in the church. All members are asked to be present. Thank you – Areatha Scott.

WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

Freedom From Spiritual Blindness:

When the disciples saw a man who had been blind from birth, they asked Jesus what kind of sin had caused this blindness. The Jews had understood that many infirmities were the result of human folly and sin. While sin can lead to physical, mental, and spiritual infirmities, not all sickness is the direct result of sin. Sickness can befall us for a variety of reasons. Jesus answered that God had allowed this infirmity for a greater purpose which God wanted to demonstrate as a sign of his presence and power. Jesus then made a claim which only God could rightfully make. Jesus stated unequivocally, *I am the light of the world* (John 9:5). In so many words Jesus was saying that he is the one true source of power and light which sustains life and overcomes the darkness of sin, confusion, and spiritual blindness. Jesus' mighty works - his miraculous signs - confirmed the truth of his message and claim to divine authority and equality with his Father in heaven. One of his greatest signs was the healing of a man who had been blind from birth.

When Jesus approached the blind man, he first awakened hope in him - the hope which God offers those who seek his help. Jesus then did something quite remarkable for the blind man, both to identify with this man's misery and to draw expectant faith in him as well. Jesus touched the man's eyes with his own spittle mixed with dirt and bid him to wash in the Pool of Siloam which was close to the Temple. This pool of fresh flowing water was one of the landmarks of the city of Jerusalem. Its source came from the Gihon spring located in the valley outside the walls of Jerusalem. This pool was likely used as a

ceremonial bath of purification for people who were going up to the Temple to worship. On the yearly feast of Tabernacles, one of the priests brought a golden pitcher of water from this pool and poured it out over the altar in the temple while reciting from the verse, "You will draw water from the wells of salvation" (Isaiah 12:3). What is the significance of the healing of the blind man at the Pool of Siloam? It is certainly more than just a miraculous event. It is a "sign" that points to the source of the miraculous life-giving water which Jesus offers through the gift and work of the Holy Spirit (John 7:38). Do you want the Holy Spirit to pour out on you his renewing power of faith, vision, and healing love? (Daily Scripture Readings and Meditations).

Your Pineapple for the Week:

“I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” (John 8:12).

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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 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

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Your spare change can make a difference for our youth! Please place your donation in the jug at the back of the church. We greatly appreciate your support!! *Youth Ministry