



## 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

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

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

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



*July 23, 2023*

*Sixteenth 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



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.stbenedicttmc.org](http://www.stbenedicttmc.org) and selecting the **Online Giving** link to get started!

*Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day*

Two years ago, Pope Francis established the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, to be celebrated every year on the fourth Sunday of July. The pope spoke of grandparents providing a younger generation a link to generations who have passed away. We are called to value and heed the wisdom and experience of our elderly. In today's Gospel, Jesus compares the kingdom of heaven to a tiny mustard seed that over time grows to be a huge bush. Today's elderly were all once tiny mustard seeds themselves. With the Lord's blessings, they have persevered and thrived and continue to help realize the kingdom of heaven in this world.

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**Readings for this weekend are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on Page 307**

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*Parish Giving  
July 16, 2023*

Offertory (includes School Support and Bus)	\$5645.00
Special Collection: Church in Africa	\$554.00

*"Thank You for Your Generosity"*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**All Masses:** For the peaceful repose of the soul of Mrs. Allie Bell Jones on the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of her passing (July 14<sup>th</sup>). \*The Johnson and Garvin Family

**5:30pm:** For the peaceful repose of the soul of James David Carson on the anniversary of his passing. \*Sharon Carson and Family

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**THANK YOU**

The family of the late Bobby Locke extends its heartfelt thank you to Fr. Romanus and the parishioners of St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church for all of the cards, calls, visits, and other acts of kindness shown during the illness and loss of our love one. You have made a very difficult time easier and we deeply appreciate each of you. May you be blessed as you have blessed others. \*Robert Locke and family.

**Please Pray for our Sick & Homebound:**

Louise Allen, Willie Allen, Jr., Mariah Bailey, Joe Battle, Henry Blount, Odessa Bryant, Alethea Chaney, Otis & Lillie Charlton, Josefa Citizen, Lillian Dilworth, Morris Elliott, Juanita Fields, Jessica Jackson, Christine James, Mackenzie Jenkins, Vera Jennings, Clewon Johnson, Lillie Middleton, Dawud Patterson, Evelyn Porter, Ellen Roberts, Delores Robinson, Elizabeth Robinson, Janice Quinn, Cornelius St. Mark, Inez Walthour, Margaret Weston, Nathaniel Wiggins, Arlene Wiley, Crystal Williams, Ellen Williams, Tambra Williams, Narvia Williams, Julie Porter-Winfrey (out-of-town).

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**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

<p>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.</p>
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**PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

**LECTORS' SCHEDULE (\*ANNOUNCER ALSO)**

**July 22/23, 2023**

**5:30pm** Rachel Hooper Adriene Perry  
**9:00am** Melanie White Joyce Jones  
**11:30am** Donald Perry Juliette Tolbert

**July 29/30, 2023**

**5:30pm** Dominique Jackson Edna Mason\*  
**9:00am** Torrance Garvin Barbara McGhee  
**11:30am** Monesha Gallishaw\* Adrian Broxton

**August 6, 2023 Unity Mass**

**10:00am** Barbara McGhee Teresa Udowana

**PARISH BIBLE STUDY**

Think you know your Bible?

“... *lean not on your own understanding ..*” (Proverbs 3:5). You can never stop learning or growing in 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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**July Calendar**

23 Sun. World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly  
24 Mon. Optional Memorial of St. Sharbel Makhluf  
25 Tue. Feast of St. James  
26 Wed. Memorial of Ss. Joachim and Anne  
29 Sat. Memorial of Ss. Martha, Mary, and Lazarus

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**BUS MINISTRY**

Anyone wishing for transportation to the 9:00am or 10:00am Unity Mass should call either Dr. Earl Berksteiner at (912) 713-0414 or Mr. James Warren at (912) 655-8717 on or before Friday to schedule pickup. Thank you.

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**SEPTEMBER UNITY MASS RECEPTION**

There will be an important meeting of the committee to plan for the September Unity Mass reception on Monday, July 31<sup>st</sup> at 6pm in the parish hall. If you are celebrating your birthday or anniversary during the months of July, August or September, this meeting is for you. Contact persons are: July - Sharon Carson (912-656-0286); August (need a volunteer); September - Yvonne Williams (912-657-3841). Please make every effort to attend. Thank you.

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**BBQ RIB DINNERS**

Come out and enjoy a delicious BBQ rib dinner sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council #10274 on Sunday, July 30, 2023, 10am – 2pm. Rib dinners with all the fixings are a bargain at **\$15.00** each and you know that the Knights can throw down when it comes to the grill. So don't worry about cooking during the hot summer – pick up and enjoy a great rib dinner from the Knights of Columbus #10274. You won't regret it!

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**ANNOUNCERS' SCHEDULE (\*LECTOR ALSO)**

**July 22/23, 2023**

**5:30pm** Edna Mason  
**9:00pm** Emily Williams  
**11:30pm** Atzmayah Bailey

**July 29/30, 2023**

**5:30pm** Edna Mason\*  
**9:30am** Theresa Garvin  
**11:30am** Monesha Gallishaw

**August 6, 2023 Unity Mass**

**10:00am** Emily Williams

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST SCHEDULE**

**July 22/23, 2023**

**5:30pm** Shirley West  
**9:00pm** Jabria Wesley  
**11:30pm** Juliette Tolbert

**July 29/30, 2023**

**5:30pm** Dominique Jackson  
**9:30am** William Wright  
**11:30am** Torrance Garvin

**August 6, 2023**

**10:00am** Marvin Manning, Jr.

**WEEKLY REFLECTIONS**

**Letting God's Word Take Deep Root In The Heart:**

The image Jesus uses in this parable is a common everyday example of planting, harvesting, and sorting the good fruit from the bad. Weeds can spoil and even kill a good harvest if they are not separated and destroyed at the proper time. Uprooting them too early, though, can destroy the good plants in the process. Just as nature teaches us patience, so God's patience also teaches us to guard the seed of his word which he has planted in our hearts and to beware of the destructive force of sin and evil that can destroy it.

God's word brings life, but Satan seeks to destroy the good seed which has been planted in the hearts of those who have heard God's word. God's judgment is not hasty, but it does come. And in the end, God will reward each according to what they have sown and reaped in this life. In that day God will separate the evil from the good. Do you allow God's word to take deep root in your heart?

Good and evil are sown in our hearts like tiny seeds which germinate, and in due time yield a harvest of good or bad fruit. Charles Read said: "Sow an act and you reap a habit. Sow a habit and you reap a character. Sow a character and you reap a destiny." In the day of judgment each will reap what he or she has sown in this life. Those who sow good will shine in the kingdom of their Father. They will radiate with the beauty, joy, and fullness of God's love. Do you allow the love of Christ to rule in your heart and in your actions?

The kingdom of God produces a transformation in those who receive the new

life which Jesus Christ offers. When we yield to Jesus Christ, our lives are transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit who dwells in us. Paul the Apostle says, "we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us" (2 Corinthians 4:7). Do you believe in the transforming power of the Holy Spirit? *(Daily Scripture Readings and Meditations).*

**Your Pineapple For The Week:**

"The Son of man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, 42 and throw them into the furnace of fire; there men will weep and gnash their teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear" (Matthew 13:41-43).

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**INFANT BAPTISM**

The next infant baptism will take place on Sunday, August 20, 2023. Parents who wish to have their child baptized should contact Theresa Garvin (912-507-7553) or Sharon Carson (912-656-0286) for information or to register. Thank you.

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**FAREWELL RECEPTION**

Come join us at the reception to wish a fond farewell to Father Sean Toole. The reception will take place after the August 6<sup>th</sup> Unity Mass in the parish hall. Envelopes are provided in the bulletin and pews to place gifts in for Father Sean. Let us give him a great St. Benedict the Moor send-off! Thank you!

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**CHOIR REHEARSAL**

The Unity Mass Choir will hold its rehearsals on Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup> and August 1<sup>st</sup> at 6pm in the church. All members are asked to be present. Thank you – Areatha Scott.

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