



## 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.stbenedictmcc.org](http://www.stbenedictmcc.org)

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



*July 30, 2023*

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

*Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day*

God draws us together today to be nourished by the word and the Eucharist. We may take our faith and our rituals for granted, but today's Gospel reminds us of what a gift we have been given by God. Our faith, like the kingdom of heaven, is a treasure. Jesus' gift of his body, broken and shared for us all, is a treasure. His command to continue to celebrate the Eucharist in his memory is a treasure. Let us give thanks to God for these gifts we treasure.  
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**Readings for this weekend are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on Page 310.**  
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*Parish Giving  
July 23, 2023*

Offertory (includes School Support and Bus)	\$2810.00
Special Collection: Church in Africa	\$ 45.00

*"Thank You for Your Generosity"*

**PARISH CONDOLENCES**

Parish sympathy to Mrs. Michelle Mincey-Gwyn on the loss of her mother, Mrs. Marva Williams, who passed away Tuesday, July 25, 2023. Funeral service will take place 11:00am on Saturday, August 5, 2023 at St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

**"WE ARE ONE FAMILY. UNITED IN FAITH" PROGRAM**

Over the next few weeks, you will be hearing about the upcoming "We are One Family, United in Faith" Program at St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church. This effort is very important as we move forward with the mission and vision of St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church. We, as a parish family, have changed so many lives in our community! In order to continue our mission and ministries, we encourage all parishioners to spend time in prayer and discussion with your family reflecting on the work we do. Our special Commitment Weekend will be celebrated on August 19 & 20. If you have any questions regarding the "We Are One Family, United

in Faith" Program, please feel free to contact the parish office.

**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**

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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**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 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 Dianne Williams

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

**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  
EUCARIST SCHEDULE**

**July 29/30, 2023**

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

**August 6, 2023**

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

**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.

**SPECIAL COLLECTION**

The next special collection will be August 13, 2023 for the Church in Latin America. Please be generous with this collection.

**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.

**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.

**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 rehearsal will be on Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> at 6pm in the church. All members are asked to be present. Thank you – Areatha Scott.

**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!

## WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

### Obtaining the greatest possible treasure:

What do you treasure the most and how do you keep it from being lost or stolen? In a peasant community the safest was often the earth. The man in the parable (Matthew 13:44) "went in his joy" to sell everything. Why? Because he found a treasure worth possessing above all else, he had. He did not, however, have enough to buy the treasure. Fortunately, he only needed enough to buy the field. In a similar fashion, God offers his kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy (Romans 14:17) as incomparable treasure at a price we can afford! We can't pay the full price for the life which God gives us; but when we exchange our life for the life which God offers, we receive a treasure beyond compare.

The pearl of great price also tells us a similar lesson. Pearls in the ancient world came to represent the supremely valuable. Jesus remarked that one should not cast pearls before swine (Matthew 7:6). Why would a merchant sell everything for a peerless pearl? No doubt because he was attracted to what he thought was the greatest treasure he could possess. Discovering God's kingdom is like stumbling across hidden treasure or finding the one pearl of great price.

When we discover the kingdom of God we receive the greatest possible treasure - the Lord himself. Selling all that we have to obtain this incomparable treasure could mean many things - our friends, job, our "style of life", what we do with our free time. Treasure has a special connection to the heart, the place of desire and longing, the place of will

and focus. The thing we most set our heart on is our highest treasure. In this parable what does the treasure of the kingdom refer to? It certainly refers to the kingdom of God in all its aspects. But in a special way, the Lord himself is the treasure we seek for. If the Almighty is your gold and your precious silver, then you will delight yourself in the Almighty (Job 22:22- 23). Is the Lord the treasure and delight of your heart? (*Daily Scripture Readings and Meditations*).

### Your Pineapple for the Week:

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and insects destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:19-21)

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### HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION MASS

Mass for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be held on Tuesday, August 15, 2023 at 6pm in the church. Let us all come out in joyful celebration of our Blessed Mother Mary. Thank you.

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### July/August Calendar

30 Sun. International Day of Friendship  
31 Mon. Memorial of St. Ignatius of Loyola  
Aug. 1 Tue. Memorial of St. Alphonsus Liguori  
2 Wed. Memorial of St. Eusebius of Vercelli;  
Memorial of St. Peter Julian Eymard  
4 Fri. Memorial of St. John Vianney; First Friday  
5 Sat. Memorial of the Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major; Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary; First Saturday

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