



## 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)

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*August 20, 2023*

*Twentieth 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*

In today’s first reading, we hear God tell Isaiah, “my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.” We are gathered here today in a house of prayer, and so we welcome all people who have come here today to join together to pray to God in praise, in petition, and in thanksgiving. Let us lift up our voices in prayer to our God.

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**Readings for this weekend are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on Page 316.**

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*Parish Giving  
August 13, 2023*

Offertory (includes School Support and Bus)	\$5951.00
Special Collection: Church in Latin America	\$ 487.00

*“Thank You for Your Generosity”*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**5:30pm:** For the peaceful repose of the souls of Felix Walden, Jr., and Russell N. Taylor in their memory on the anniversary of their Birthdays (August 19<sup>th</sup>). \*Rosemary and Taylor Walden

**11:30am:** For the peaceful repose of the soul of Robert Lloyd Waters on the anniversary of his passing. \*Albert and Anne Lipsey

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**DISASTER RELIEF DONATIONS**

The Hawaii Catholic Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation established in 2008 to support parish and school communities in the Diocese of Honolulu. Those wishing to donate directly to their disaster relief efforts can do so online: <https://tinyurl.com/MauCatholic> or by mail:

Hawai‘i Catholic Community Foundation – Maui Wildfires Relief  
184 Bishop St, 3rd Fl  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Please make checks payable to “Hawai‘i Catholic Community Foundation”. Donors will receive a receipt for tax purposes.

**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, Clevon Johnson, Joyce Jones, 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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<p><b>PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
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**LECTORS' SCHEDULE (\*ANNOUNCER ALSO)**

**August 19/20, 2023**

**5:30pm** Rachel Hooper Adriene Perry  
**9:00am** Dianne Williams Melanie White  
**11:30am** Faith Formation Faith Formation

**August 26/27, 2023**

**5:30pm** Sharon Carson Shirley West  
**9:00am** Barbara McGhee Akio Brown  
**11:30am** Juliette Tolbert Donald Perry

**September 3, 2023 Unity Mass**

**10:00am** Juliette Tolbert Monesha Gallishaw

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

**August 19/20, 2023**

**5:30pm** Sharon Carson  
**9:00am** Greg Milton  
**11:30am** Faith Formation

**August 26/27, 2023**

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

**September 3, 2023 Unity Mass**

**10:00am** Torrance Garvin

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE HOLY  
EUCHARIST SCHEDULE**

**August 19/20, 2023**

**5:30pm** Dominique Jackson  
**9:30am** Milenthia Williams  
**11:30am** Sharon Carson

**August 26/27, 2023**

**5:30pm** Shirley West  
**9:00am** Torrance Garvin  
**11:30am** William Wright

**September 3, 2023 Unity Mass**

**10:00am** Gloria Stephens

**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.

**SEPTEMBER UNITY MASS RECEPTION**

The September Unity Mass Reception will be here soon. Please contact your birthday/anniversary coordinator: July - Sharon Carson (912-656-0286); August - Yolanda Kennedy (912-507-1435); September - Yvonne Williams (912-657-3841) to find out how you can help. 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.

**August Calendar**

- 21 Mon. Memorial of St. Pius X
- 22 Tue. Memorial of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 23 Wed. Optional Memorial of St. Rose of Lima
- 24 Thu. Feast of St. Bartholomew
- 25 Fri. Optional Memorial of St. Louis; Optional Memorial of St. Joseph Calasanz
- 26 Sat. Optional Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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**Faith Formation classes will begin September 10, 2023. Register your children beginning this weekend after each Mass. Let us help your children grow to know, love, and serve our God. Contact Theresa Garvin (912) 507-7553 Sharon Carson (912) 656-0286 for more information. Thank you.**

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**UNITY MASS CHOIR**

Rehearsals for the Unity Mass Choir will take place on Tuesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> and August 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in the church. All members are asked to attend. Thank you – Areatha Scott, Coordinator

## WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

### Jesus first tests the woman's faith:

This passage (Matthew 15:21) describes the only occasion in which Jesus ministered outside of Jewish territory. (Tyre and Sidon were fifty miles north of Israel and still exist today in modern Lebanon.) A Gentile woman, a foreigner who was not a member of the Jewish people, puts Jesus on the spot by pleading for his help. At first Jesus seemed to pay no attention to her, and this made his disciples feel embarrassed. Jesus does this to test the woman to awaken faith in her.

What did Jesus mean by the expression "throwing bread to the dogs"? The Jews often spoke of the Gentiles with arrogance and insolence as "unclean dogs" since the Gentiles did not follow God's law and were excluded from God's covenant and favor with the people of Israel. For the Greeks, the "dog" was a symbol of dishonor and was used to describe a shameless and audacious woman. There is another reference to "dogs" in Matthew's Gospel where Jesus says to his disciples, "*Do not give to dogs what is holy*" (Matthew 7:6). Jesus tests this woman's faith to see if she is earnest in receiving *holy things* from the hand of a holy God. Jesus, no doubt, spoke with a smile rather than with an insult because this woman immediately responds with wit and faith - "Even the dogs eat the crumbs".

Jesus praises a Gentile woman for her faith and for her love. She made the misery of her child her own and she was willing to suffer rebuff in order to obtain healing for her loved one. She also had indomitable persistence. Her faith grew in contact with the person of Jesus. She began with a request and she

ended on her knees in worshipful prayer to the living God. No one who ever sought Jesus with earnest faith - whether Jew or Gentile - was refused his help. Do you seek the Lord Jesus with expectant faith? (*Daily Scripture Reading and Meditation*).

### Your Pineapple for the Week:

"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you" (Matthew 7:7).

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### **"WE ARE ONE FAMILY, UNITED IN FAITH"** **PROGRAM**

Thank you for celebrating Commitment Sunday with us this weekend. Your commitment to our parish through our "We Are One Family United in Faith" Program will continue to bring life to our community. If completing your Commitment Card was not possible at Mass, you may visit our parish website at [www.stbenedictmcc.org](http://www.stbenedictmcc.org) and complete an electronic Commitment Card or you can mail your card to the church.

Our goal is 100% participation! Thank you for your generosity and support of St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church!

COMMITMENT CARD QR CODE

