



## 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**

**EVERY FRIDAY OF THE MONTH**  
**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**  
**@ 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.stbenedict-sav.org](http://www.stbenedict-sav.org)  
Email: [stbenedict@bellsouth.net](mailto:stbenedict@bellsouth.net)



*January 7, 2024*  
*Epiphany of the Lord*  
*Year B*  
*Unity Mass*

Rev. Romanus Obiora Ezeugwu, MSP, Pastor  
Sharon Carson, Supt. of Religious Education  
Audrey Moultrie, Parish Council Chairperson  
Sharon Carson, Administrative Secretary  
Bea Betworth, Accounts Secretary  
Jerome Grayson, Bldg/Maintenance

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Finance Council Members:

Carl Hayes Chairman	912-655-7153
Melanie White Secretary	912-439-1488
Frank Williams Member	912-233-2817

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

*Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day*

Today we recall the magi, who, drawn by the star, journeyed from distant lands to find the newborn king of the Jews and present him with their finest gifts. We each make our own journey to the Lord, and when we come to celebrate the Eucharist we offer our finest gifts—our prayers, our lives, our future—to him whose birth we have just marked. Let us in turn welcome all those who are making their journeys from near and far to worship the Lord.

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**Readings for this weekend are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on Page 383.**

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*Parish Giving  
December 31, 2023*

Offertory (includes School Support and Bus)	\$4461.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$576.00

*“Thank You for Your Generosity”*

**PARISH CONDOLENCES**

Parish sympathy to Mrs. Ann Davis and family on the loss of her husband, parishioner Mr. Clarence A. Davis, who passed away on Tuesday, December 26, 2023. Mass of Christian Burial will be held 11:00am, Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church. A public viewing will be held from 4pm – 6pm Tuesday, January 9, 2024 in the Adams Chapel followed by a visitation with the family from 6pm – 7pm. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

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**THANK YOU**

Michael Chaney and family gives thanks to the St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church family for the many calls, visits, cards, and other acts of kindness expressed during the loss of their loved one – Mr. Ronald Chaney. We appreciate each of you and a special thank you to Fr. Romanus. God bless you all!

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**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, Robert Locke, 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)**

**January 7, 2024      Unity Mass**  
**10:00am** Sharon Carson Edna Mason\*

**January 13 – 14, 2024**  
**5:30pm** Taylor Walden Shirley West  
**9:00am** Dianne Williams Melanie White  
**11:30am** Donald Perry Joyce Jones

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

**January 7, 2024      Unity Mass**  
**10:00am** Edna Mason\*

**January 13 – 14, 2024**  
**5:30pm** Sharon Carson  
**9:00am** Ruth Simmons  
**11:30am** Joyce Jones

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST SCHEDULE**

**January 7, 2024      Unity Mass**  
**10:00am** William Wright

**January 13 – 14, 2024**  
**5:30pm** Dominique Jackson  
**9:00am** Gloria Stephens  
**11:30am** Juliette Tolbert

**USHER'S SCHEDULE**

**January 7, 2024      Unity Mass**  
**10:00am** Rosetta Brown Brenda Kennedy  
Karen Polk

**January 13 – 14, 2024**  
**5:30pm** Robert Kennedy Thomas Dickerson  
**9:00am** George Moultrie Rickard Baker  
**11:30am** Sylvester Brown Tyrone Bryant

**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.

**PARISH WEBSITE**

Our Parish Website URL address is no longer [www.stbenedictmcc.org](http://www.stbenedictmcc.org)

The new URL address is "[www.stbenedict-sav.org](http://www.stbenedict-sav.org)

Our new Website Manager is Elizabeth Hickman in Houston, Texas.

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**REMINDER!**

**All parishioners are strongly encouraged to attend the weekly Eucharistic Adoration on Fridays at 6pm.**

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**SWADDLING ANGELS BLANKET SERVICE.**

The Savannah Deanery Council of Catholic Women (CCW) is proud to introduce a volunteer project that will provide beautiful handmade blankets in our local community. The Swaddling Angels blanket service will distribute these blankets to our local NICU Units in our local hospitals and Care Centers for newborns and their moms. CCW members Audrey Moultrie and Josie Lee are volunteer coordinators for this project. We open doors for all makers in our local parish that can crochet, knit, cut, tie, or sew. If you are interested in volunteering your time, please contact Audrey Moultrie at (912) 398-5301.

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**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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**Mass for the Baptism of the Lord will be held on Monday, January 8, 2024 at 6:00pm. Please make every effort to attend.**

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**SPECIAL COLLECTION**

The next special collection will be for Black and Indian Missions on January 14<sup>th</sup>. Please give generously to this fund.

**WEEKLY REFLECTIONS**

**EPIPHANY OF THE LORD:**

In their thirst for knowledge of God, the wise men from the East willingly left everything, their home and country, in pursuit of that quest. In their diligent search, they were led to the source of true knowledge - Jesus Christ, the Light and Wisdom of God. When they found the newborn King, they humbly worshiped him and gave him gifts fitting for a king.

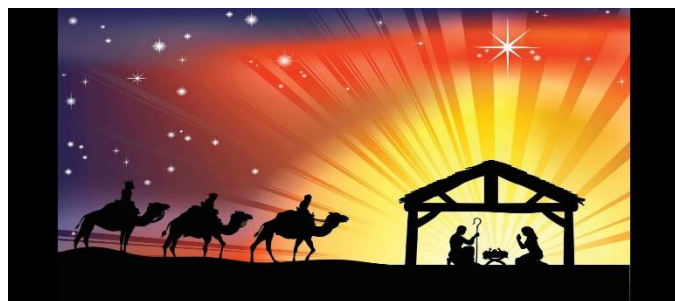
The Lord of the universe who revealed the star of Bethlehem to the Gentiles of the East so they could come and worship Jesus, the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6) and King of Kings (Revelations 19:16), gives each one of us the same light of revelation to recognize and accept Jesus as our Lord and Savior. Faith is an entirely gift that God makes to us. It is through the help of the Holy Spirit, who moves the heart and opens the eyes of the mind, that we can understand, accept, and believe the truth which God has revealed to us through his Son, Jesus Christ. In faith, the human will and intellect cooperate with grace. *"Believing is an act of the intellect assenting to the divine truth by command of the will moved by God through grace"* (Thomas Aquinas). To know and to encounter Jesus Christ is to know God personally. In the encounter of the wise men with Jesus, we see the plan of God to give his only Son as King and Savior, not just for the Jewish people but for all the nations as well. The Lord Jesus came that both Jew and Gentile might find true and lasting peace with God. Let us pray today that Jews and Gentiles alike will find the Lord and Savior on their journey of life. Do you bring the light of Jesus Christ to those you meet

through the witness of your life and testimony? (*Daily Scripture Readings and Meditations*).

**Your Pineapple for the Week:**

“You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart” Jeremiah 29:14).

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*"Wise Men Still Seek Him"*

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**Our monthly lunch for the sick and shut-ins will take place on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed to assist with preparations the day before and with the cooking and deliveries on January 17<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the parish office if you have questions. Thank you – Gloria Stephens, Coordinator.**

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**INFANT BAPTISM**

The next Infant Baptism will be held on Sunday, February 11, 2024. Parents wishing to have their children receive the Sacrament should contact Theresa Garvin (912-507-7553) or Sharon Carson (912-656-0286). Thank you.

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**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

The poinsettias that were used to beautify the church during the Christmas season will be available for pick up beginning Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> during office hours. Please contact the parish secretary to schedule a time to pick up your plant. Thank you.

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**Thank you to the youth and adults who took the time to decorate the church for the Christmas season. You did a wonderful job and it was so beautiful!!**