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**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 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)



*April 21, 2024*  
*Fourth Sunday of Easter, Year B*

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

Finance Council Members:

Carl Hayes, Chairman 912-655-7153  
Ebonee Jarrett, Member 912-844-2688  
Tracey Maloof, Member 912-663-3413  
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.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 are reminded that Jesus is the Good Shepherd, committed to caring for his sheep through every danger, difficulty, and trauma. He told his disciples that he would lay down his life for his sheep. Indeed, this is exactly what he did. By laying down his life for our sins, he conquered death and raises us to eternal life with him. Let us allow the risen Lord to guide us to the idyllic pasture of salvation.

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**Readings for this weekend are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on Page 432.**

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*Parish Giving  
April 14, 2024*

Offertory (includes School Support and Bus)	\$7541.00
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*"Thank You for Your Generosity"*

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

**5:30pm** For the peaceful repose of the soul of Anthony B. Jackson on the anniversary of his birthday. \*Prince A. Jackson, III

**9:00am** For the peaceful repose of Margie McNeal on the anniversary of her passing. \*The McNeal Family

For Clarethia Bivins as she celebrates her birthday (April 19<sup>th</sup>). \* Dena Maxwell and Family

For Geraldine Williams as she celebrates her birthday (April 21<sup>st</sup>). Dena Maxwell and Family

**11:30am** For the peaceful repose of the soul of Willie V. Coleman on the anniversary of his birth (4/16). \*Sharon Carson and Family

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**THANK YOU**

Dear Church Family,

During the unfortunate days of my brother's death, you made the process of grieving a bit less painful because of your support. My family and I appreciate the kind words of warmth and encouragement. The Berksteiners are blessed to have you in our lives. I wish peace, light, and love to each of you. E. Berksteiner

**Pray for our Sick & Homebound:** Louise Allen, Willie Allen, Jr., Mariah Bailey, Joe Battle, Bea Betworth, Henry Blount, Odessa Bryant, Alethea Chaney, Otis & Lillie Charlton, Josefa Citizen, Lillian Dilworth, Morris Elliott, Juanita Fields, Jessica Jackson, Mary Jackson, Christine James, Mackenzie Jenkins, Vera Jennings, Clewon Johnson, Hilda Johnson, Joyce Jones, Robert Locke, Lillie Middleton, Dawud Patterson, Jacqueline Bailey-Patterson, Evelyn Porter, Delores Robinson, Elizabeth Robinson, Janice Quinn, Cornelius St. Mark, Catherine Spann, 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)**

**April 20/21, 2024**

**5:30pm** Dominique Jackson\* Rachel Hooper  
**9:00am** Joe Carter Alicia Carter  
**11:30am** Faith Formation Faith Formation

**April 27/28, 2024**

**5:30pm** Edna Mason Sharon Carson  
**9:00am** Dianne Williams Melanie White  
**11:30am** Juliette Tolbert Beverly Blue

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

**April 20/21, 2024**

**5:30pm** Dominique Jackson\*  
**9:00am** Gregory Milton  
**11:30am** Faith Formation

**April 27/28, 2024**

**5:30pm** Edna Mason  
**9:00am** Theresa Garvin  
**11:30am** Joyce Jones

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST SCHEDULE**

**April 20/21, 2024**

**5:30pm** Shirley West  
**9:00am** Gloria Stephens  
**11:30am** Theresa Garvin

**April 27/28, 2024**

**5:30pm** Sharon Carson  
**9:00am** Milenthia Williams  
**11:30am** Juliette Tolbert

**USHER'S SCHEDULE**

**April 20/21, 2024**

**5:30pm** Brenda Kennedy Thomas Dickerson  
**9:00am** George Moultrie Richard Baker  
**11:30am** Faith Formation Faith Formation

**April 27/28, 2024**

**5:30pm** Robert Kennedy Anthony DeShay  
**9:00am** Karen Polk Michael A. Chaney  
**11:30am** Matthew Jenkins Latisha Bailey

**BUS MINISTRY**

Anyone wishing for transportation to the 9:am Mass or 10am 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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**GETTING OUR FINAL AFFAIRS IN ORDER:**

As life would have it, we fail to realize that it is never too soon to put our final affairs in order. And although we are sure to include immediate family and friends in our estate planning, please remember your church, St. Benedict the Moor, in your bequests.

You can make a difference: your legacy matters to St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church. When you leave an estate gift, like a house, land, or a monetary gift to your church family, you are leaving your mark for the future of this Parish that you love and cherish. For instance, over the years, our children have benefitted from the Carolyn G. Mitchell Trust Fund. This Trust helps our Parish with subsidies for our children in Catholic elementary schools in our deanery.

As you get your affairs in order, for your family and loved ones, please remember that St. Benedict is part of your family. The future of this Parish depends on us. As Terry Tempest Williams would say, "The eyes of the future are looking back at us, and they are praying for us to see beyond our own time". It is our prayer that you consider leaving your legacy by bequeathing your gift for the future of your Church family.

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**INFANT BAPTISM**

The next infant baptism will take place on May 19, 2024. Parents wishing to have their children baptized should contact Theresa Garvin (912-507-7553 or Sharon Carson (912-656-0286) for more information or to register their children.

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**SECOND COLLECTION**

There will be a second collection for Catholic Home Missions Appeal the weekend of April 27 – 28, 2024. Please plan to give generously to this fund. Thank you.

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**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Parish congratulations to Deborah Ngo-Bakinde who received academic honors from Savannah State University at the Honors Convocation held Thursday, April 11, 2024. Your parish family is so proud of your accomplishment, Deborah!

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**WEEKLY REFLECTIONS**

**Jesus is the Good Shepherd and Guardian of our souls:**

Do you know the peace and security of the Good Shepherd who watches over his own? The Old Testament often speaks of God as the shepherd of his people, Israel. *The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want* (Psalm 23:1). *Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!* (Psalm 80:1) *We are his people; the sheep of his pasture* (Psalm 100:3). The Messiah is also pictured as the shepherd of God's people: *He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms* (Isaiah 40:11). Jesus says he is the *Good Shepherd* who will risk his life to seek out and save the stray sheep (Matthew 18:12, Luke 15:4). He is the *Shepherd and Guardian of our souls* (1 Peter 2:25).

Jesus made three promises to his followers. He promised them everlasting life. If they accept him and follow him, they will have the life of God in them. Jesus also promised them a life that would know no end. Death would not be the end but the beginning; they would know the glory of indestructible life. Jesus promised a secure life. Jesus said that nothing would snatch them out of his hand, not even sorrow and death, since he is everlasting life. Our lives are safe in his hands.

The words that Jesus spoke upset many of the Jewish leaders. How could he speak with the same authority which God spoke and claim to be equal with God? He must either be insane or divine. Unfortunately, some thought he was mad even though he cured a man who was blind from birth. We are faced with the same choice. Jesus is who he claims to be -

the Son of God and Savior of the world. We cannot be indifferent to his claim. For those who accept him as Lord and Savior, he offers the peace and security of unending life and joy with God. Do you know the peace and security of a life fully submitted to Christ? (*Daily Scripture Readings and Meditations*).

**Your Pineapple for the week:**

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want” (Psalm 23:1).

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**150th Theme Naming Contest**

Don't forget! The deadline to submit your suggestion for our 150th Anniversary theme is April 30, 2024. With a focus on Unity, let's continue to unite as a one family at St. Benedict the Moor to make our anniversary an overwhelming success. Thank you to everyone who has already turned in their contest forms and we are looking forward to receiving many more before the April 30th deadline. If anyone has any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the parish office. Thank you - 150th Anniversary Planning Committee

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**WOMEN'S DAY FUN AND GAMES EVENT**

Come join the Traveling Moors for an afternoon of fun, excitement, and prizes!! A donation of \$25 gets you into the St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church parish hall on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1pm where there will be games, a delicious lunch, prizes and lots of fun!! See any Traveling Moors member for your ticket. See you there!!

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