



## 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  
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)



*August 25, 2024*

*Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B*

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

#### Finance Council Members:

Carl Hayes, Chairman 912-655-7153  
Eboney 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**

Life is difficult. We struggle each day as we try to balance our checkbooks, our time, and our obligations. We come here to worship each week when we could be somewhere else, doing something else. Our faith, our sense of what God is calling us to do, and the Holy Spirit draws us here instead. But each Sunday it is ultimately our decision. We have made the decision to give this hour to the Lord. We are not the first to have to make this decision. The readings we hear today remind us that each of the Chosen People and each of Jesus' disciples were faced with the same decision. May their response inspire us.

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**Readings for this weekend are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on Page 505.**  
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*Parish Giving  
August 18, 2024*

Offertory	\$ 6402.00
Special Collections:	
Church in Latin America	\$ 65.00
Assumption	\$ 330.00

*"Thank You for Your Generosity"*

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

**5:30pm:** For the peaceful repose of the souls of Matthew Striggles and Gloria Striggles on the anniversary of their passing. \*Prince A. Jackson, III

For the peaceful repose of the soul of Catherine Spann on the 40<sup>th</sup> day of her passing. \*Pearl Persad & Cauline Simmons.

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**LECTORS' SCHEDULE**

(\*indicates Announcer also)

**August 24/25, 2024**

5:30pm	Sharon Carson*	Adriene Perry
9:00am	Barbara McGhee	Teresa Udowana
11:30am	Juliette Tolbert	Matthew Jenkins

**USHERS' SCHEDULE**

**August 24/25, 2024**

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

**ST. BENEDICT THE MOOR CATHOLIC CHURCH  
CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF LOVE & SERVICE  
TO GOD**

**Pray for our Sick & Homebound:** Louise Allen, Joe Battle, Bea Betsworth, 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, Clevon Johnson, Hilda Johnson, Joyce Jones, Robert Locke, Lillie Middleton, Dawud Patterson, Evelyn Porter, Delores Robinson, Elizabeth Robinson, Janice Quinn, Sr. Barbara Shimkus, Cornelius St. Mark, Inez Walthour, Margaret Weston, Nathaniel Wiggins, Arlene Wiley, Crystal Williams, Ellen Williams, Tamba 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.

**THANK YOU!**

Our hearts are bowed in sorrow over the passing of our loved one, yet during these times, you have lifted many of our burdens for which we are eternally grateful. We shall never forget your many kind expressions of sympathy and all other acts of kindness shown during the illness and passing of our loved one. From the depth of our hearts, all of us say, "Thanks to each of you." \*The Bason and Wingster families.

**OUR PARISH 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
PROGRAM:**

**A 3-day Anniversary Parish Retreat:**

Friday, August 30 – Sunday, September 1, 2024

**Parish Picnic:**

Sunday, September 1, 2024, after the Unity Mass

**Gospel Fest:**

Sunday, September 22, 2024 @ 5:00pm

**Historic Review of the Church/Youth Event:**

Friday, October 4, 2024 @ 6:00pm

**Banquet with Silent Auction:**

Saturday, October 5, 2024 @ 6:00pm

**Anniversary Thanksgiving Mass**

Sunday, October 6, 2024 @ 10:00am

**Blessing of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the  
Old Sch. Bldg.:**

Sunday, October 6, 2024, after 10am Mass

**Celebration at the Old Sch. Bldg.  
Compound:**

Sunday, October 6, 2024 after the blessing of  
The 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Old School Building.

**OUR ANNIVERSARY PARISH RETREAT  
PROGRAM:**

Retreat Preacher: Fr. Martin Eke, MSP  
Pastor, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church  
Houston, Texas

**Retreat Theme:**

*“Now You Are the Body of Christ, and Each One of  
You is a Part of It”*

**Day 1: Friday, August 30, 2024**

6:00 PM: Praise and Worship (Choir)

Introduction of Speaker (MC)

Opening Prayer (Fr. Martin)

Scripture Reading (Lector)  
1 Corinthians 12:12-21

Musical Selection: (Choir)

Talk: Fr. Martin

Musical Selection: (Choir)  
Intercessory Prayer  
Love Offering / Collection (Song – Choir)  
Closing Prayer and Final Blessing / Closing Song  
(Choir)

**Day 2: Saturday, August 31, 2024**

6:00 PM Praise and Worship (Choir)

Opening Prayer (Fr. Martin)

Scripture Reading: (Lector)  
1 Corinthians 12:24b - 30

Musical Selection (Choir)

Talk: (Fr. Martin)

Prayer and Anointing of the Sick (accompanied  
with songs - Choir)  
Love Offering / Collection Song – Choir  
Closing Prayer and Final Blessing – Closing Song

**Day 3: Sunday, September 1, 2024**

10 AM UNITY MASS / Conclusion of Retreat

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**Appreciation:**

With heartfelt gratitude, I thank all of you for the love and support you have shown me in this Parish! I am so humbled by your warm expression of affection and the gifts that I received from you on my Birthday.

The average number of morning Mass attendees is eight to ten parishioners. On my Birthday, I entered the church and wondered if I was in the wrong church. The number of Parishioners that attended morning Mass that day was thirty-five. I strongly feel your love and support!

Please know that I appreciate all you do for me and our Parish! May the Lord bless and reward you for your kindness. I love you all! - Fr. Romanus.

## WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

### Faith Is a Gift and A Personal Response to God's Revelation of Himself:

Why do some find it easier while others find it harder to accept the claims which Jesus made? Many were attracted to Jesus because he offered them something irresistible - a visible sign of God's mercy and favor which Jesus demonstrated in his wonderful works of healing, deliverance, and miraculous signs, including the multiplication of the loaves and fish when he feed the five thousand who had gathered to hear him speak. Many stumbled, however, when Jesus made claims which only God can make. Jesus' discourse on "eating his flesh and drinking his blood" (see John 6:51-59) which pointed to the Last Supper, caused offence to many of his followers.

Jesus claimed to be the bread of heaven, the very life of God given to us as spiritual food to sustain us on our journey to our promised homeland with the Father in heaven. Jesus did not leave any middle ground for his hearers. They must either accept his word as divine or reject it as the claim of an imposter. Even the apostles admitted that this was a "hard saying". This expression meant that it was not just hard to understand, but hard to accept. Jesus pressed the issue with his beloved disciples because he wanted to test their faith and loyalty to him as the Holy One sent from the Father in heaven. Jesus promised his disciples nothing less than the full blessing of eternal life and union with God. Jesus assures his disciples that it is his heavenly Father who gives the invitation and the grace to believe and follow even in the "hard sayings". Jesus knew that some would not only reject him and his word but would do so with violence fueled by hatred, envy, and even betrayal by one of his own disciples.

Jesus told his disciples that his words were "spirit and life" (John 6:63) - his words came from the heavenly Father who is the Author of life and the One who breathes his Spirit into those who believe in him. Through the gift of faith Peter was able to receive spiritual revelation of who Jesus truly is - the Holy One of God, the eternal Son sent from the Father in heaven to redeem a fallen human race and reconcile them with God.

Paul the Apostle tells us that it is the work of the Holy Spirit who enlightens the eyes of our heart and mind to understand the truth and wisdom that comes from God (Ephesians 1:17-18). Faith is the key to understanding and experiencing God's actions and work in our personal lives. Paul the Apostle tells us that "God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us" (Romans 5:5). We can know God personally, and we grow in recognizing his voice as we listen to his word and obey his instruction. Do you believe, as Peter did, that Jesus has the words of everlasting life and the power to change and transform your life? Ask the Lord Jesus to increase your faith that you may grow in knowing, loving, and serving him as your Lord and Redeemer, Teacher and Healer, Master and Savior. (*Daily Scripture Readings and Meditations*).

### Your Pineapple for the Week:

"Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life; and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God" (John 6:68-69).

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### 150th Anniversary Gala Tickets

If you have not already done so, do not forget to purchase your tickets for the 150th Anniversary Gala which will be held in the Savannah Civic Center Grand Ballroom on October 5, 2024. Doors open at 5:30pm; A Silent Auction starts at 6:00pm and the Anniversary Gala Program begins promptly at 6:30PM.

Although installment payments have ended, tickets are available for purchase until September 1, 2024. Individual tickets are \$150.00 and a table of eight (8) is \$1,000.00. Please do all that you can to attend what will be a beautiful celebration as we mark this historic occasion of our parish, St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church, Savannah, GA.

Attire: Semi-Formal.

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### NEW HORIZONS DINNER SALES:

The New Horizons of Women and Men will be selling Barbecue Rib Dinners and Grilled Chicken **Dinners in the Parish Hall on Saturday August 31, 2024, beginning at 11:00 a.m.** Please see any New Horizon member for additional details and to buy tickets. Thanks for your support.

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