



## 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.

;00am



*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!

#### Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day

## HISTORIC

ST BENEDICT THE MOOR CATHOLIC CHURCH—*Since 1874*

441 E. Broad St – Savannah, GA 31401-5106

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*March 23, 2025*

*Third Sunday of Lent, Year C*

Rev. Romanus Obiora Ezeugwu, MSP, Pastor  
 Sharon Carson, Supt. of Religious Education  
 Dianne Williams, Parish Council Chairperson  
 Sharon Carson, Administrative 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



[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.

The readings we will hear today remind us that we are fortunate to be alive for this blessed season of Lent. Why? Because it means we still have the opportunity to repent of our sins and to turn back to God with our whole hearts. We all sin; it is the human condition. But with hearts in the right place, we feel remorse for our sins and we promise God, others, and ourselves to do better. How lucky we are that we can! As we continue through this holy season, let us make the most of this opportunity.

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**Readings for this weekend are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on Page 587.**

**Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word**

Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15 *"I AM sent me to you"*.

Psalms 103 *"The Lord is kind and merciful"*.

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12 *"The life of the people with Moses in the desert was written down as a warning to us"*.

Luke 13:1-9 *"If you do not repent, you will all perish as they did"*.

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*Parish Giving*  
**March 16, 2025**

Offertory: including Bus and School Support	\$5879.00
Special Collections: Catholic Relief Service	\$ 40.00

*"Thank You for Your Generosity"*

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

**5:30pm** For God's healing power and grace upon Eric Chriss. \*Prince A. Jackson, III

For the peaceful repose of the soul of Willie V. Coleman on the anniversary of his passing (3/23). \*Sharon Carson & Family

**9:00am** For the peaceful repose of the soul of Nancy Gordillo on the anniversary of her birthday. \*Robert Wright

For the peaceful repose of the soul of Juanita M. Chaney on the anniversary of her passing (3/24). \*Michael A. Chaney

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**Pray for our Sick & Homebound:** Louise Allen, Frances Allen, Joe Battle, Henry Blount, Alethea Chaney, Otis & Lillie Charlton, Josefa Citizen, Juanita Fields, Raymond Heyward, Jessica Jackson, Mary Jackson, Christine James, Mackenzie Jenkins, Vera Jennings, Clevon Johnson, Hilda Johnson, Willie Leachman, Robert Locke, Louis McClendon, Jr., Lillie Middleton, Dawud Patterson, Evelyn Porter, Delores Robinson, Janice Quinn, Sr. Barbara Shimkus, Cornelius St. Mark, Inez Walthour, Margaret Weston, Nathaniel Wiggins, Crystal 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.

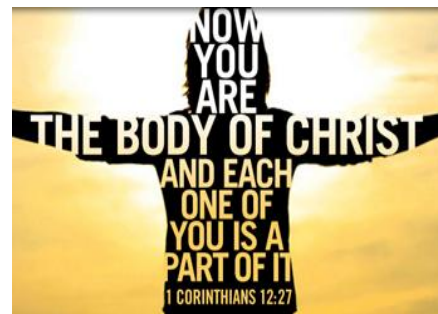
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**PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

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.



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

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE**  
**March 22 - 23, 2025**

**LECTORS**

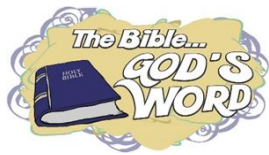
**5:30pm** Taylor Walden Sharon Carson\*  
**9:00am** Georgene Jones Barbara McGhee  
**11:30am** Monesha Gallishaw Juliette Tolbert  
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**USHERS**

**5:30pm** Robert Kennedy Anthony DeShay  
**9:00am** George Moultrie Richard Baker  
**11:30am** Sylvester Brown Tyrone Bryant  
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**ANNOUNCER**

**5:30pm** Sharon Carson\*  
**9:00am** Theresa Garvin  
**11:30am** Aiden Mason-Harvey  
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**IMMERSE YOURSELF IN THE WORD OF GOD**

The Bible is not just information or a historical book. It is not just for quick inspiration. One of the most important ways the Holy Spirit reaches us is through scripture. If we neglect His voice in the place where He speaks, we are shutting off a crucial part of our relationship with Him.

**BIBLE STUDY ... TRY IT!**

Every Wednesday evening @6:00pm in the Parish Hall.  
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**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

Knights of Columbus Council 10274 is collecting baby supplies for children up to 2-3 years old. The collection point will be a baby crib placed in the entryway to the parish hall during the unity mass reception on Mar 2. Please contact any Knight if you would like to give or have items picked up for donation. All items donated will go to the Living Vine Maternity Home. Look for the signs around the church for what items are needed.

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**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Do not miss an opportunity to spend time with our Lord and Savior. **During Lent, Eucharistic Adoration will take place every Friday immediately following the Stations of the Cross.** Come and feel the real presence of Jesus in prayer and adoration.

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**2025 STATIONS of the CROSS**

Stations of the Cross will be held every **Friday at 6:00pm beginning March 7<sup>th</sup>.**  
 (Rosary begins at 5:30pm)  
 Make this service a part of your Lenten journey!

**March 28<sup>th</sup>** - AMSP and Lectors

**April 4<sup>th</sup>** - New Horizons of Women and Men, Traveling Moors

**April 11<sup>th</sup>** – CCW and Friends of SBM

**April 18<sup>th</sup>** – (Rosary at 2:30pm; Stations at 3:00pm) – Legion of Mary, Choirs, and Youth

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**SCAM WARNING**  
 Please note: If you receive a text message claiming to be from Bishop Parkes with a “verse of the day” or a grant application, it is a scam and should be ignored. Bishop Parkes will not text you.

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**SPECIAL COLLECTION**

Our next special collection will be for Catholic Relief Services on March 30<sup>th</sup>. Please give generously to this collection. Thank you.

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**50/50 FUNDRAISER IS STILL HERE!!**

Don't miss out on your opportunity to win cash by participating in the 50/50 Fundraiser. Cost to enter is \$20 and you can enter as often as you wish. Drawing is quarterly and winner receives half of the pot while the other half goes to benefit St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church. The more you enter, the more you can win!! Envelopes are available in the pews and at the entrance to the church.

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**PARISH CONGRATULATIONS!**

The McAuley Scholarship Program at St. Vincent's Academy is a new and exciting scholarship program set up to reward students who excel in specific areas with substantial awards. The four-year renewable scholarship is named after Catherine McAuley who founded the Sisters of Mercy in 1831. Congratulations to Blessed Sacrament School 8<sup>th</sup> grader and rising St. Vincent's 9<sup>th</sup> grader Michaela O. Chaney who is awarded the McAuley Scholarship for Leadership. Your St. Benedict the Moor Church family is so very proud of your achievement, Michaela! Keep up the great work.

## **WEEKLY REFLECTIONS**

### **The Time for Repentance and Forgiveness is Right Now!**

The real danger and calamity which Jesus points out is that an unexpected disaster or a sudden death does not give us time to repent of our sins and to prepare ourselves to meet the Judge of heaven and earth. The Book of Job reminds us that misfortune and calamity can befall both the righteous and the unrighteous alike. Jesus gives a clear warning - take responsibility for your actions and moral choices and put sin to death today before it can destroy your heart, mind, soul, and body as well. An unrepentant sin is like cancer which corrupts us from within. If it is not eliminated through repentance - asking God for forgiveness and for his healing grace - it leads to a spiritual death which is far worse than physical destruction.

Jesus' parable of the barren fig tree illustrates his warning about the consequences of allowing sin and corruption to take root in our hearts and minds. Fig trees were a common and important source of food for the people of Palestine. A fig tree normally matured within three years, producing plentiful fruit. If it failed, it was cut down to make room for more healthy trees. A decaying fig tree and its bad fruit came to symbolize for the Jews the consequence of spiritual corruption caused by evil deeds and unrepentant sin.

The unfruitful fig tree symbolized the outcome of Israel's indifference and lack of response to God's word of repentance and restoration. The prophets depicted the desolation and calamity of Israel's fall and ruin - due to her unfaithfulness to God - as a languishing fig tree (see Joel 1:7,12; Habbakuk 3:17; and Jeremiah 8:13). Jeremiah likened good and evil rulers and members of Israel with figs that were either good for eating or rotten and wasteful (Jeremiah 24:2-8). Jesus' parable depicts the patience of God, but it also contains a warning that we should not presume upon God's patience and mercy. God's judgment will come in due course - very soon or later.

God, in his mercy, gives us time to get right with him, but that time is now. We must not assume that there is no hurry. A sudden and unexpected death leaves one no time to prepare to settle one's accounts when he or she must stand before the Lord on the day of judgment. Jesus warns us that we must be ready at all times. Tolerating sinful habits and excusing unrepentant sin and wrongdoing will result in bad fruit, painful discipline, and spiritual disease that leads to death and destruction. The Lord in his mercy gives us both grace (his gracious help and healing) and time to turn away from sin, but that time is right now. If we delay, even for a day, we may discover that grace has passed us by and our time is up. Do you hunger for the Lord's righteousness (moral goodness) and holiness? (*Daily Scripture Readings and Meditations*).

### **Your Pineapple for the Week:**

“Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion.” (Hebrew 3:15)

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### **MERCY IN ACTION: A CONVERSATION FOR TODAY'S CATHOLICS**

Don't forget to attend the youth and family event in the parish hall at St. Benedict the Moor this Sunday, March 23, 2025 at 2pm. Come hear a powerful testimony about religious life, culture, racism, and Catholic activism from Sr. Cora Marie Billings, religious Sister of Mercy. We especially encourage young people to attend this event. Light refreshments will be served. More information can be found at [linktree.com/sistercoramarie](http://linktree.com/sistercoramarie). You don't want to miss it!!

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### **PARISH SYMPATHY**

Parish condolences to Michael and Deborah Jones on the loss of his brother, Robert Jones, Jr., who passed away on March 12, 2025. Funeral services were held March 22<sup>nd</sup> in Brunswick, GA. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

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### **UNITY MASS CHOIR**

Rehearsals will be held on Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm. All members should be in attendance. Thank you – Kathy Stewart.