



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
Email: stbenedict@bellsouth.net



February 1, 2026
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A
Unity Mass

Rev. Anselm Eke, MSP, Pastor
Deacon Torrance A. Garvin, Sr.
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
Marvin Manning, Sr. Member	912-844-5580
Audrey Moultrie, Member	912-398-5301
Melanie White, Member	912-439-1488
Eric Scott, Jr., Member	912-695-5189



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 and selecting the **Online Giving** link to get started.

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day

Matthew structures his Gospel around five lengthy sermons of Jesus and today we hear the beginning of the first of them, the well-known and oft-quoted Sermon on the Mount. It can be a challenge to hear it as the radical departure from conventional thinking that it was when Jesus first spoke these words from the mountaintop. May we ask God for the grace to realign our ideals and realize the kingdom of heaven.

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Readings are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on page 277.

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word:

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13 *"I will leave in your midst a people humble and lowly."*

Psalms 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 *"Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!"*

1 Corinthians 1:26-31 *"God chose the weak of the world."*

Matthew 5:1-12a *"Blessed are the poor in spirit."*

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Parish Giving
January 25, 2026

Offertory: including Bus and School Support	\$4100.00
Online Giving	\$ 950.00

"Thank You for Your Generosity"

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MASS INTENTIONS

10:00am In thanksgiving for Tristan Garvin as he celebrates his 15th birthday today, praying for God's continued blessings, guidance, and protection. *Dea. Torrance and Mrs. Theresa Garvin.

For God's blessings on Salathia Magnum as she celebrates her birthday (February 2nd) and Darryl Johnson as he celebrates his birthday (February 4th). *Mrs. Vivian Johnson

For the people and the needs of the parish.

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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, Glenn Grant, Raymond Heyward, Jessica Jackson, Mary Jackson, Christine James, Mackenzie Jenkins, Vera Jennings, Clewon Johnson, Hilda Johnson, Willie Leachman, Robert Locke, Louis McClendon, Jr., Lillie Middleton, Dawud Patterson, Evelyn Porter, Emma Preer, 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

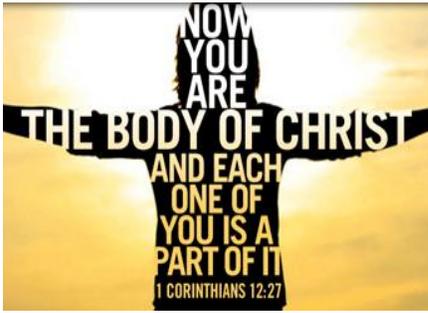
<p>O God, hear our prayer And let our cry come unto You. Bless our Diocese of Savannah With many vocations to the Priesthood, Diaconate, and Religious Life. Give the men and women You call The light to understand Your gift And the love to follow always In the footsteps of Your Priestly Son. Amen.</p>

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

February 1, 2026

Unity Mass

10:00am

LECTORS

Gregory Milton

Alicia Carter

USHERS

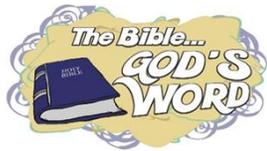
Richard Baker

Brenda Kennedy

Rosetta Brown

ANNOUNCER

Marvin Manning



**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.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Do not miss an opportunity to spend an hour with our Lord and Savior. Eucharistic Adoration takes place every Friday at 6pm in the church. Come and feel the real presence of Jesus in prayer and adoration.

PARISH CONDOLENCES

Parish sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Brad Broxton and family on the loss of his mother, Mrs. Ella Marie Broxton, who passed away on Tuesday, January 20, 2026. Funeral service will take place 11:00am on Saturday, February 7th at St. Mary's Baptist Church, 110 Ferrill Street in Savannah. Viewing will be held 4pm –

6pm at Adams Funeral Home on Friday, February 6th. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

The next special collection will be taken up on Ash Wednesday (February 18th) for Aid for Central and Eastern Europe. Please be generous in giving to this fund.

TOWN HALL MEETING

Due to the expected inclement weather yesterday, the Town Hall Meeting had to be postponed. It will be rescheduled and the new date announced by the Parish Pastoral Council soon. Thank you for your patience.

SAVE THE DATE:

Valentine's Day Dance sponsored by the New Horizons of Women and Men (NHWM), Saturday, February 14, 2026, in St. Benedict's Old School Building. See any member of the NHWM for tickets

SAVE THE DATE!!

We are excited to announce an upcoming children's play, "The Magic Carpet Ride, Fashion and Talent Show" has been re-scheduled for Sunday, March 8, 2026 after the 11:30am Mass in the parish hall. This play offers children an opportunity to participate in a fun, meaningful presentation that highlights Christian values, with both speaking and non-speaking roles available. Mark your calendars and please come out to support our children. If your child is interested in being part of the play, or if you would like more information, please contact Vergie Williams (912-220-1803), Kimberly Carter-Johnson (912-323-2750) or Sharon Carson (912-656-0286). Rehearsals will begin soon!

WELCOME BACK FR. ANSELM!! YOUR PARISHIONERS MISSED YOU AND HOPE THAT YOU ENJOYED YOUR VACATION. WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU HOME!!

ST. JOSEPHINE BAHKITA MASS

The St. Josephine Bahkita Mass will be held on Saturday, February 7, 2026 at 10:00am. All are welcome. There will be light refreshments after Mass. Thank you – CCW of St. Benedict the Moor.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

Your annual contribution statements are available for pick up after the Unity Mass today or from the parish office during regular hours beginning this week. To ensure confidentiality, the statements will only be given to the person whose name is on the envelope. Thank you for your understanding.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS

Lent for 2026 begins with Mass on Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026. Services will be held at 8am and 6pm. Do all you can to get off to a good start for the season of Lent.

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MONTHLY LUNCHEON

Our sick and shut-in brothers and sisters want our church family to know how much they appreciate your thoughtfulness by providing the monthly lunch. Let's continue to share the love of Christ.

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WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

*Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great
in heaven.*

What is the good life which God intends for us? And how is it related with the ultimate end or purpose of life? Is it not our desire and longing for true *happiness*, which is none other than the complete good, the sum of all goods, leaving nothing more to be desired? Jesus addresses this question in his sermon on the mount. The heart of Jesus' message is that we can live a very happy life. The call to holiness, to be saints who joyfully pursue God's will for their lives, can be found in these eight beatitudes. Jesus' beatitudes sum up our calling or vocation - to live a life of the beatitudes. The word *beatitude* literally means "happiness" or "blessedness".

God gives us everything that leads to true happiness

What is the significance of Jesus' beatitudes, and why are they so central to his teaching? The beatitudes respond to the natural desire for happiness that God has placed in every heart. They teach us the final end to which God calls us, namely the coming of God's kingdom (Matthew 4:17), the vision of God (Matthew 5:8; 1 John 2:1), entering into

the joy of the Lord (Matthew 25:21-23) and into his rest (Hebrews 4:7-11). Jesus' beatitudes also confront us with decisive choices concerning the life we pursue here on earth and the use we make of the goods he puts at our disposal.

Jesus tells us that God alone can satisfy the deepest need and longing of our heart. Teresa of Avila's (1515-1582) prayer book contained a bookmark on which she wrote: *Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you. All things pass - God never changes. Patience achieves all it strives for.*

Whoever has God lacks nothing - God alone suffices.

Is God enough for you? God offers us the greatest good possible - abundant life in Jesus Christ (John 10:10) and the promise of unending joy and happiness with God forever. Do you seek the *highest good*, the total good, which is above all else?

The beatitudes are a sign of contradiction to the world's way of happiness

The beatitudes which Jesus offers us are a sign of contradiction to the world's understanding of happiness and joy. How can one possibly find happiness in poverty, hunger, mourning, and persecution? Poverty of spirit finds ample room and joy in possessing God as the greatest treasure possible. Hunger of the spirit seeks nourishment and strength in God's word and Spirit. Sorrow and mourning over wasted life and sin leads to joyful freedom from the burden of guilt and spiritual oppression.

God reveals to the humble of heart the true source of abundant life and happiness. Jesus promises his disciples that the joys of heaven will more than compensate for the troubles

and hardships they can expect in this world. Thomas Aquinas said: *"No one can live without joy. That is why a person deprived of spiritual joy goes after carnal pleasures."* Do you know the happiness of hungering and thirsting for God alone?

Lord Jesus, increase my hunger for you and show me the way that leads to everlasting peace and happiness. May I desire you above all else and find perfect joy in doing your will.

(Daily Scripture Reading and Meditation)