



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
EUCHARISTIC 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 8, 2026
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A**

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



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

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day

During the long winter we become keenly aware of the value of sunshine. The sun rises later in the morning and sets earlier in the afternoon; quite often it's gray and cloudy all day. Today we hear Jesus tell his disciples that they are to shine their light for all to see, as a lamp on a lampstand does. This winter, may we spread Christ's light to the world, bringing joy and life to darkness and gloom.

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Readings are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on page 280.

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word:

Isaiah 58:7-10 *"Your light shall break forth like the dawn."*

Psalms 112: 4-5,6-7,8-9 *"The just man is a light in darkness to the upright!"*

1 Corinthians 2:1-5 *"I have announced to you the mystery of Christ crucified"*

Matthew 5:13-16 *"You are the light of the world."*

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*Parish Giving
February 1, 2026*

Offertory: including Bus and School Support	\$834.00
Online Giving	\$1,432.00

"Thank You for Your Generosity"

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MASS INTENTIONS

9:00am For Fr. Anselm and all MSP Priests as they continue to labor in the Lord's vineyard. *AMSP

For the people and the needs of the parish.

THANK YOU!!

Thank you to the Friends of St. Benedict the Moor for their very generous donation of \$1500 to the parish to help support our children who attend Catholic schools. The donation has been a project of the Friends of St. Benedict the Moor since its inception under the leadership of Mrs. Dorothy B. Campbell. We appreciate your generosity. May each of you continue to be blessed as you bless others.

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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, Clevon 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).

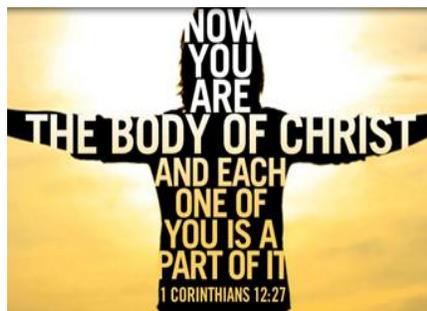
PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

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.

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 8, 2026

LECTORS

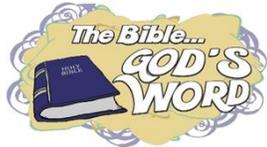
5:30pm Dominique Jackson Edna Mason*
9:00am Barbara McGhee Kimberly Carter-Johnson
11:30am Juliette Tolbert Monesha Gallishaw*

USHERS

5:30pm Anthony DeShay Robert Kennedy
9:00am Richard Baker George Moultrie
11:30am Sylvester Brown Matthew Jenkins

ANNOUNCER

5:30pm Edna Mason*
9:00am Emily Fann Williams
11:30am Monesha Gallishaw*



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 parishioners, Mrs. Rosemary Walden and Ms. Taylor Walden on the loss of their mother and grandmother, Mrs. Catherine Walls Taylor, who passed away Saturday, January 31, 2026. Funeral service was held 12:00pm on Saturday, February 7th at Greater Pentecostal Temple, 5905 South Okatie Hwy., Hardeeville, SC 29927.

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 was held 11:00am on Saturday, February 7th at St. Mary's Baptist Church, 110 Ferrill Street in Savannah.

Our thoughts and prayers are with these families.

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.
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SAVE THE DATE!!

We are excited to announce an upcoming children's play, "The Magic Carpet Ride, Fashion and Talent Show" has been postponed. The new date will be Sunday, **March 8th** following the 11:30am Mass. 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!

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. The next luncheon will take place on Thursday, **March 19, 2026**. Let's continue to share the love of Christ.

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TOWN HALL MEETING

The Town Hall Meeting has been rescheduled for **Saturday, February 28, 2026 at 3:00pm**. All parishioners are strongly encouraged to attend. Thank you.

FIRST QUARTER CELEBRATION

Preparations are under way for the First Quarter Unity celebration - **March 1, 2026**. Those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries are asked to please call or respond to a call from your month's contact. Their numbers are listed below. Thank you.

January: Wilma Brown (912) 659-8941. GiGi Jones (912) 604-7394.

February: Rosetta Brown (912) 247-0114. Theresa Garvin (912) 507-7553.

March: Brenda Kennedy (912) 660-3464. Edna Mason (912) 247-1671.

WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

WE ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH

Jesus says in today's gospel, "You are the salt of the earth." Salt is very essential to human's health. Lack of it adversely affects the functioning of body cells, nerves, muscles, and bones. Salt is used to season food in order to enhance flavor and taste. Before the invention of fridges and freezers, salt was an important preserving agent. It is widely believed that salt was the oldest method of food preservation. Salt has played a great role in medicine since the beginning of humankind. Salt is used for cleaning, washing, sanitizing, purifying, and disinfecting. The importance of salt to humanity must be the reason Jesus calls his followers "the salt of the earth."

In today's Gospel Acclamation from John 8:12, Jesus says about himself, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will have the light of life." Then, in the gospel reading, Jesus tells us, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden." It is very striking that what Jesus says about himself, he also says about us. This is because we are supposed to be reflections of the glory of Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 3:18). We are supposed to be fragrance of Christ (2 Corinthians 2:15). Christ is our head, and we are supposed to be his body (Colossians 1:18). We are supposed to be ambassadors of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20).

Isaiah reminds us in the first reading how we can be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. We are to feed the hungry, shelter the oppressed and homeless, cloth the naked, and attend to the afflicted. Around us are people in need of our help, love, care, and support. They are the elderly, the lonely, the sick, the troubled, the grieving, the hungry, the deprived, the incapacitated, the wounded, the oppressed, the heartbroken, the poor, the abandoned and so on. For some of these people, life is tasteless. As salt, we are to bring flavor to their life. Some of them see only darkness and hopelessness around them.

As light, we are to light up their darkness and restore hope in them.

Furthermore, both salt and light operate by associating with the thing that they want to change. Salt cannot improve the food unless it goes into the food and changes it from within. But salt only produces its effect when it is totally merged with the food. It cannot be distinguished from the rest of the food but its presence or absence is very obvious. Light cannot show the way unless it encounters the darkness. Sometimes Christians think that the way to go is to keep away from getting involved with society and popular culture. But by shying away from the realities of our society and our world we might indeed be hiding our lamp under the bushel basket. To make a difference we must get up and get involved. It is like a person who went before God and said, Lord, look at my hands, they are clean. I have not done any harm and have not hurt anyone. I have done my prayers and have served you. I kept away from all who would be difficult. The Lord said, yes they are clean but they are empty. The Christian, too, can only be truly effective when he or she is fully a member of society and, at the same time, gives an unmistakable taste to that society. With light and salt the world becomes a safer and better place. It is our duty as Christians to make the world a better place.

We will not be able to engage faithfully in works of mercy if we lack qualities of salt and light. And we have lost our saltiness and our flame when we have become numb to other people's afflictions and sufferings. When we are indifferent to the plight of others, when we do not hear their cry for help, acceptance and forgiveness, then we do not portray those qualities of salt and light that we ought to be. Like the Psalmist urges us: the good man is a light in the darkness for the upright (Ps 112), so let our light shine before men and women, so that seeing our good works, right attitudes and selfless sacrifices, they may give thanks to our heavenly Father. May our salt not lose its flavor, and may our light never go out. Amen.