



## 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 LENT**  
**STATIONS OF THE CROSS –**  
**5:30PM**  
**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION – 6PM**

**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)



**March 8, 2026**  
**Third Sunday of Lent - 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



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**

Water plays a pivotal role in today's liturgy. In the Liturgy of the Word, we hear Moses bring forth water in the desert when the Chosen People feared dying of thirst. In the Gospel, Jesus reveals himself as the source of living water, telling the woman at the well that whoever drinks of this water will never thirst again. Today we also celebrate the first scrutiny rite with those who are preparing for baptism, where they will receive the water of new life. Whether we have been baptized for many years or are preparing for baptism in just a few weeks, we thirst for the life-giving water that only our Lord, "the one called the Christ," can provide.

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**Readings are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on page 214.**

**Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word:**

Exodus 17:3-7 "Give us water, so that we may drink."

Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 "If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts."

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8 "The love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us."

John 4:5-42 "The water that I shall give will become a spring of eternal life."

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*Parish Giving*  
**March 1, 2026**

<b>Offertory: including Bus and School Support</b>	<b>\$6592.00</b>
<b>Online Giving</b>	<b>\$1530.00</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Collection: Catholic Relief Services</b>	<b>\$ 20.00</b>

*"Thank You for Your Generosity"*

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**MASS INTENTIONS**

**All Masses** For God's blessings, grace and favor upon Edna Mason in celebration of her birthday on March 10<sup>th</sup>.  
\*Your Family

**9:00am** For God's blessings on Nancy Gordillo on her birthday. \*Robert Wright

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

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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, Lillie Middleton, Dawud Patterson, Evelyn Porter, Emma Preer, Janice Quinn, Sr. Barbara Shimkus, Cornelius St. Mark, Inez Walthour, Margaret Weston, Nathaniel Wiggins, Crystal Williams, Tamba Williams, Narvia Williams, Julie Porter-Winfrey (out-of-town).

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**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**

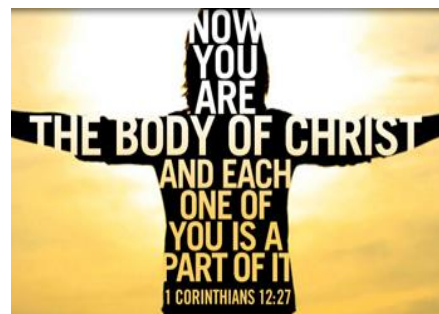
O God, hear our prayer  
And let our cry come unto You.  
Bless our Diocese of Savannah  
With many vocations to the Priesthood,  
Diaconate, and Religious Life.  
Give the men and women You call  
The light to understand Your gift  
And the love to follow always  
In the footsteps of Your Priestly Son.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

**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 7/8, 2026**

**LECTORS**

**5:30pm** Taylor Walden Shirley West  
**9:00am** Joe Carter Kimberly Carter-Johnson  
**11:30am** Matthew Jenkins Monesha Gallishaw\*

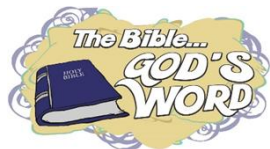
**USHERS**

**5:30pm** Anthony DeShay Robert Kennedy  
**9:00am** Michael A. Chaney Rosetta Brown  
**11:30am** Matthew Jenkins Tyrone Bryant

**ANNOUNCERS**

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

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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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**YOUTH PLAY**

Please remember to come out to see our children's original play "The Magic Carpet Ride" after this weekend's 11:30am Mass in the parish hall. Tickets are \$10 for attendees age 18 years and older. Lunch is included. Tickets are available at the door if you haven't already purchased one. This is one event you don't want to miss!!

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**PARISH CONDOLENCES**

Parish

sympathy to Mr. Anthony Mapp, Mrs. Geraldine Thomas, Mrs. Helen Odum, and family on the loss of their brother and nephew, Justin Smith who passed away on February 27, 2026. Funeral arrangements are incomplete as of bulletin printing and will be announced at a later time.

Parish sympathy to Jeffrey and Stephen Lipsey and family on the loss of their mother, parishioner Mrs. Anne Lipsey, who passed away on Wednesday, March 4, 2026. Visitation will be held 6 – 8pm at Admas Home on Friday, March 13th. Funeral services will be held at St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church on Saturday, March 14, 2026 at 11:00am.

Our thoughts and prayers are with these families.  
**2026 STATIONS OF THE CROSS SCHEDULE**

**Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday at 5:30pm beginning February 20<sup>th</sup>. 30 minute Eucharistic Adoration will follow after the Stations of the Cross.**

**Make this service a part of your Lenten journey!**

**March 13** – Associate Missionaries of St. Paul, Lectors & Choirs

**March 20** – New Horizons of Women and Men, Traveling Moors & Legion of Mary

**March 27** – Council of Catholic Women, Friends of St. Benedict the Moor & Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist

**April 3** – (Celebration of the Lord's Passion begins at 3:00pm) - Pastor, Deacon and Youth

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**FREE MEDICARE HEALTH BENEFITS CHECKUP**

CPN SAV will host two "FREE MEDICARE HEALTH BENEFITS CHECKUP WORKSHOPS" at the Center Well Home Health facility, 2280 E. Victory Dr. Savannah, GA 31404. Dates are Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. featuring Humana MEDICARE benefits and at 1:30 p.m. featuring AETNA Medicare benefits. 2026 Medicare Benefits will be reviewed. Refreshments and a free lunch will be served. To register for the workshops please text – 912-224-4815: Leave name, mobile telephone number and which time you would like to attend. You will receive a return text confirming your registration. Please REGISTER ASAP. Thank you.

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***MASS SCHEDULE UPDATE***

**Effective Palm Sunday (March 29<sup>th</sup>), there will be only one Mass on Sundays at 10:00am. The 5:30pm Mass on Saturdays will continue as currently scheduled including no 5:30pm Mass on the Saturday before the first Sunday of the month (Unity Mass).**

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*Thank you to all who came out to celebrate our first quarter birthday and anniversary reception. Remember that "FAMILY MAKES EVERYTHING BETTER".*

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**MONTHLY LUNCHEON**

The monthly luncheon for our sick and shut-in brothers and sisters will be provided on Wednesday, March 18, 2026. Let's continue to share the love of Christ.

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**The next special collection is on March 15<sup>th</sup> for the Catholic Relief Services. Please be generous.**

## ***WEEKLY REFLECTIONS***

### **THE SAMARITAN WOMAN AT THE WELL**

The gospel of today recounts the story of the woman of Samarian who encountered Jesus at the well. It is such a long story, yet laden with a lot of meaning.

Let's look at the woman again: She walked alone to the well at a very unusual time of the day (about noon, when most women usually went to the well in the morning hours). Why at that time and alone? She probably did not have friends, because she was not exactly like the rest. They might be making fun of her because of her story. She didn't want to be noticed, that was why she went at an hour she was sure no one else will be at the well. But Jesus met her at her hour of need, when she was at her lowest.

She was obviously carrying a bucket with which she was going to fetch water. But that bucket was not entirely empty: it was a bucket that contained her pains, hurts, fears, shame and the humiliations she had suffered. That bucket was heavy and probably very old because she would have had it for a very long time. It's possible that it was leaking too. She kept coming to the well often because she could only get a limited amount of water because of the condition of the bucket (a lot of stuff in it). The woman would have walked slowly because of the weight of the bucket, physically and psychologically. She needed help, even if she didn't know it at the time.

There was Jesus. He made the first move, he knew that the woman was in a bad place. It was for this kind of people he had come into the world in the first place, and he was not going to allow her to remain in her sorry state. He reached out to her to save her, and fortunately the woman accepted the invitation. There was a moment of a sacrament – a moment of an encounter between the human and the divine. After all this is the gospel of John we are talking about. No one comes in contact with Jesus and remains the same; and the case of this woman was not going to be different.

With the interaction Jesus had with the woman at the well, the lies of her life came crashing; she stood before the Truth. She accepted the truth of who she had been and allowed the Truth (Jesus) to set her free. Scripture said "If the Son makes you free, you will be really free" (John 8:36). She left her bucket at the well, at the feet of Jesus and ran into the village. This is very powerful: she left the symbol of her old life, she ran (not walk slowly as when she was coming to the well earlier), and she went to speak to people when initially she was avoiding contact with people, even her fellow women. What a difference an encounter with Jesus can make in the life of an individual.

Her story could be our story too. So often in life, we are moving about with buckets with which we want to draw water – the water of life. Yet inside that bucket there could possibly be hatred, anger, lack of forgiveness, pride, envy, jealousy, promiscuity, cheating, addictions, greed, laziness, gossiping, etc. You know what is in your own bucket. Are you comfortable carrying the bucket around? Can you not see that it is weighing you down, slowing you down and keeping you unhappy? Jesus wants to have an encounter with you. This season of Lent is especially a very beautiful time for you to approach the well to encounter Jesus in the sacrament of reconciliation.

My dear friends, let us drop the buckets, whatever the contents maybe, at the feet of Jesus; you don't have to continue to carry the bucket anymore, it's too heavy for you. He told us to come to him all who are weary and heavy burdened and he will give us rest (Matthew 11:28). And in 1 Peter 5:7, we are told "Place all your worries on him since he takes care of you". Jesus wants to set you free, remember if the Son sets you free, you will truly be free. He came that we may have life and have it abundantly (John 10:10). Isaiah 55:1 invites us, "All you who are thirsty, come to the water." Indeed, we are thirsty for living water (happiness), and Jesus makes himself available to us today. Let us open our hearts and minds to accept Jesus especially in the Sacraments of reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist. Empowered by his grace, may we go out among the peoples we come in contact with to proclaim the truth as the woman of Samaria did; so

that others will hear our testimony and come to believe in  
Jesus. Amen.