



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

Email: stbenedict@bellsouth.net



March 15, 2026 Fourth 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
Joseph Carter, Member	912-398-0414



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

In the Gospel today, we hear Jesus declare that he is the light of the world. Later, Saint Paul writes that we should live as children of light. How appropriate on this second scrutiny Sunday, when we are called to take an honest look at ourselves to see our weaknesses and sinful tendencies, that we are reminded how important it is to shine a light on our character and expose it to the light of day. "Live as children of light," Paul writes, "for light produces every kind of goodness and righteousness and truth." Let us ask God for forgiveness and guidance so that we can go forth shining with the light of Christ.

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Readings are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on page 216.

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word:

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a *"David is anointed as king of Israel."*

Psalms 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5,6 *"The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want."*

Ephesians 5:8-14 *"Arise from the dead and Christ will give you light."*

John 9:1-41 *"The man who was blind went off and washed himself and came back able to see."*

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*Parish Giving
March 8, 2026*

Offertory: including Bus and School Support	\$5196.00
Online Giving	\$1080.00
2nd Collection: Catholic Relief Services	\$ 20.00

"Thank You for Your Generosity"

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MASS INTENTIONS

5:30pm For the peaceful repose of the soul of Prince A. Jackson, Sr. on the anniversary of his passing. For the peaceful repose of the soul of Prince A. Jackson, Jr. on the anniversary of his birthday. For the peaceful repose of the soul of Mattie Glover on the anniversary of her birthday.

*Prince A. Jackson, III

9:00am *For the peaceful repose of the soul of Leroy Simmons on the anniversary of his birthday, March 18th.

*Ruth Simmons.

*For the people and the needs of the parish.

8:00am Wednesday, 3/18 For the intentions of Fr. Anselm Eke, MSP as he celebrates his birthday.

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

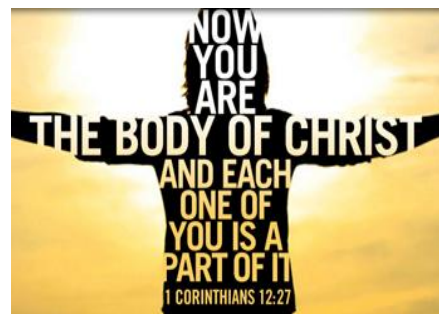
O God, hear our prayer
And let our cry come unto You.
Bless our Diocese of Savannah
With many vocations to the Priesthood,
Diaconate, and Religious Life.
Give the men and women You call
The light to understand Your gift
And the love to follow always
In the footsteps of Your Priestly Son.
Amen.

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 14/15, 2026

LECTORS

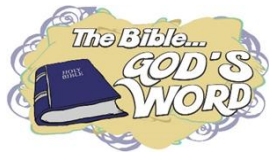
5:30pm Dominique Jackson Sharon Carson
9:00am Georgene Jones Joyce Jones
11:30am Faith Formation Faith Formation

USHERS

5:30pm Brenda Kennedy Robert Kennedy
9:00am Richard Baker George Moultrie
11:30am Faith Formation Faith Formation

ANNOUNCERS

5:30pm Deborah Jones
9:00am Theresa Garvin
11:30am Faith Formation



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.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Our parish target goal for this year's Annual Catholic Appeal is \$33,307.00. In order to meet this goal, each family is asked to please make a pledge of at least \$275.00, or more, if you can. Again, this year the Diocese has implemented giving a rebate to parishes that have exceeded their individual target goals. Please prayerfully consider making your pledge today. With God's help, and the generosity of our parish family, we can reach our goal together.

CHOIR REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

We will have Unity Mass rehearsals on March 24th, @ 6pm for Palm Sunday and March 31st @ 6pm for Easter Sunday. All choir members are to be in attendance. Thank you so much – Kathy Stewart

MONTHLY LUNCHEON

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

YOUTH FUNDRAISER

Our Youth Ministry will have it's annual St. Patrick's Day fundraisers on Tuesday, March 17th. You can park your vehicle in the schoolyard for a small fee, watch the parade, then buy a snack from our concession stand at the corner of Abercon and Harris Streets. Please support our youth!

2026 STATIONS OF THE CROSS SCHEDULE

Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday at 5:30pm during the Lenten season. 30 minute Eucharistic Adoration will follow after the Stations of the Cross.

Make this service a part of your Lenten journey!

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 – Stations begin at 2:30pm -Pastor, Deacon and Youth

Good Friday Service: Celebration of the Lord's Passion begins at 3:00pm

MASS SCHEDULE UPDATE

Effective Palm Sunday (March 29th), 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).

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

St. Benedict the Moor's Lenten Penance Service will take place on **Sunday, March 22nd at 4:00pm**. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is essential for maintaining and strengthening our bond with Jesus Christ. This is an opportunity to experience God's love, mercy and forgiveness in this wonderful Sacrament. No matter how disconnected anyone may feel, it is our prayer and wish that they will use this opportunity to be reconciled with and reconnected to our Lord.

ACIES CEREMONY

The Legion of Mary - Our Lady of Miracles Praesidium – invites all parishes, active and auxiliary members to the Acies Ceremony on Saturday, March 28, 2026 – 11:00am – at Sacred Heart Parish, 1707 Bull St. The Acies is an annual renewal of Legionaries to our Blessed Mother. Flyers with additional information are available at the entrance to the church. Please come out.

CONGRATULATIONS

Robert Wright happily announces the graduation of his granddaughter, Madison Simone Wright, from Clemson University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing. She finished with a GPA of 3.5. Congratulations to Madison and proud grandpa Robert.

WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT (LAETARE SUNDAY)

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, our gospel today is taken from John 9, the Man Born Blind. This story brings us face to face with the difference between physical blindness and spiritual blindness; it is the story of a simple man open to God's presence and arrogant men who cannot see the power of God at work right in front of them.

Though he was physically blind, the man in the story knew he was very dependent on others and especially on God, and he drew close to God. And because he drew closer to Christ, he received his healing. But the Pharisees were spiritually blind which made them judgmental, envious and gave them a false feeling of independence. They were not disposed to the truth and consequently they distanced themselves from Christ and consequently remained in their blindness.

What about us? Are we drawing closer to Jesus today or are we distancing ourselves from him. Are you praying, reading the Scriptures and seeking closeness with Christ through the Sacraments, especially Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist? We have an opportunity for Sacrament of Reconciliation during the Lenten Penance service scheduled on Sunday, March 22 at 4pm. The season of Lent is a time we are encouraged to attend Mass regularly over the weekend and even during the weekdays. We should make extra effort to participate at the Stations of the Cross and Adoration which we have here on Fridays. We have to show our desire for closeness with Christ for his healing through praying the rosary, reading the Scriptures and spiritual books.

From earliest times today's gospel story has been associated with baptism. Just as the blind man went down into the waters of Siloam and came up whole, so also believers who are immersed into the waters of baptism come up spiritually whole, totally healed of the blindness with which we are born. For, like the blind man in the gospel, we are all born blind - spiritually, that is.

Another reason why this story was used in the preparation of catechumens for baptism is that it spells out in a very dramatic way what it takes to be a disciple of Jesus. It is, in fact, a story of how a blind man who used to sit and beg became a disciple who went about witnessing to Jesus. As in last week's story of the conversion of the Samaritan woman by

Jacob's well, this story of the healing of the blind man shows that the one thing you need to qualify to bear witness to Jesus is not doing a certain kind of studies but having a certain kind of experience and disposition. The crisis of faith in our time is not very different from the crisis of faith of the Pharisees, namely, thinking that true piety means knowing and following the Book. But Christianity has a lot more to do with knowing and following the Person, the person of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Friends, what is important in today's world is to recognize our limitedness before God and reach out to him continuously for enlightenment. In the end the believer is in the light, because Jesus is the Light of the world. As the blind man confessed Christ before others, through our Baptism, we are called to plead the cause of the Light. If we are rejected because of our spiritual calling, let us rejoice, for it is Christ Himself Who is being rejected through our testimony. Let us pray to God to open our eyes to see the daily miracles happening in our lives, in our families, in our communities and in our world. Be assured of my prayers for each of you.

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2026 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 28th – Palm Sunday Vigil Mass
5:30pm – begins outside the church at 5:15pm

Sunday, March 29th – Palm Sunday Mass
10:00am – begins outside the church at 9:45am

Tuesday, March 31st – Chrism Mass
11:00am – The Cathedral Basilica of St. John the Baptist

Thursday, April 2nd – Holy Thursday
5:30pm – Passover Seder Meal (Parish Hall)
7:00pm – Mass of the Lord's Supper – includes Washing of Feet
*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass until 12 midnight

Friday, April 3rd – Good Friday
2:30pm – Stations of the Cross
3:00pm – Good Friday Service: Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Saturday, April 4th – Holy Saturday
8:30pm – Easter Vigil Mass

Sunday, April 5th – Easter Sunday
10:00am Mass – Note: THERE IS ONLY ONE MASS ON EASTER SUNDAY

Children's Easter Program precedes the final blessing