



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 22, 2026
Fifth 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



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

As we approach Holy Week and the final days of Lent, we hear the well-known story of Lazarus, the brother of Martha and Mary, whom Jesus raises from the dead. John’s account of this miracle is one of the most dramatic accounts in any of the Gospels, save Jesus’ own passion, death, and resurrection. We can only imagine the emotions coursing through Martha and Mary and their loved ones when Jesus stands at the tomb and dramatically cries: “Lazarus, come out!” On this final scrutiny Sunday, may we hear Jesus calling out to us as well, to come out of our tombs of sin and death and embrace new life in the resurrection.

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Readings are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on page 220.

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word:

Ezekiel 37:12-14 *“I will put my spirit in you that you may live.”*

Psalms 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 *“With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.”*

Romans 8:8-11 *“The Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you.”*

John 11:1-45 *“I am the resurrection and the life.”*

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Parish Giving
March 15, 2026

Offertory: including Bus and School Support	\$5191.00
Online Giving	\$1090.00
2nd Collection: Catholic Relief Services	\$ 491.00

“Thank You for Your Generosity”

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MASS INTENTIONS

5:30pm: 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 Mrs. Juanita M. Chaney on the anniversary of her passing (3/24). *From granddaughter Michaela Chaney

*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, 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 21/22, 2026

LECTORS

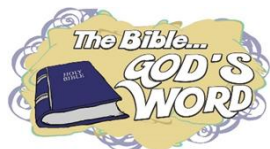
5:30pm Edna Mason* Sharon Carson
9:00am Joe Carter Alicia Carter
11:30am Beverly Blue Juliette Tolbert

USHERS

5:30pm Anthony DeShay Brenda Kennedy
9:00am Michael A. Chaney Rosetta Brown
11:30am Sylvester Brown Matthew Jenkins

ANNOUNCERS

5:30pm Edna Mason*
9:00am Ruth Simmons
11:30am Atzmayah Bailey



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.

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE REMINDER

St. Benedict the Moor's Lenten Penance Service will take place this **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.

UNITY MASS CHOIR

The Unity Mass Choir rehearsal will be held on Thursday, March 26th at 6pm for Holy Saturday Easter Vigil Mass. We will have Liturgy practice on Saturday morning, March 28th at 11:00 am. Thank you – Areatha Scott

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 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). **EXCEPTION: The Easter Vigil Mass will take place on Saturday, April 4th which happens to be the day before Unity Mass.**

2026 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

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

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

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

WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT: COMING OUT OF THE TOMB

The gripping drama of the rising of Lazarus points towards Jesus as the Lord of Life and prepares us for the celebration of our sharing in His Life at Easter. But this Gospel is more than this. It is a call for us to consider if we are in a tomb, and if so, it asks us to hear the voice of the Lord calling us to shore up our courage and to come out of the tomb. The Gospel calls us to walk to the Lord.

Tombs are places for the dead. They are not pleasant. They are dark, wet, and rather stinky. They are not places we want to be. Still we often put ourselves in tombs. There are times that we feel very dead, particularly dead to the Lord. We get involved in things that are negative, nasty, and sinful. We tell others that we are happy with this life. We try to convince ourselves that we are happy with our lives. But we have a difficult time looking into the mirror. We have an even more difficult time walking into a church. And we have a horrible time taking God inside of us, or simply sitting before Him in the Blessed Sacrament.

We try to blame others. We make believe that they have put us into the tomb. For example, others have said, "You don't know what you are missing. Drink this. Take that. Do this. Do that. You'll be happy. Loosen up! You are the only one at the party who is not drinking. Everybody is doing this; why do you think you are so different? And with a group around us, with our defenses down perhaps due to various difficulties in our lives we say, "No big deal. I should try this. I should do that. Everybody else is." And then, the next day, if not sooner, we feel rotten, dirty, even dead. We can blame others for putting us into the tomb, but ultimately, we did it to ourselves. We chose sin and suffer from it.

There are also times that we race into a tomb completely on our own, without the temptation of others. We convince ourselves that this or that is not going to hurt us so much. And we go places where a Christian does not belong, be those places in the world or within our own rooms, or we

do things to ourselves that frustrate ourselves, and then we feel dead.

Jesus is calling us. We are all Lazarus's. He is calling us to come out of the darkness, and come into His Light. He is calling us to come out of the place of death and come into His Life. In his second book on Jesus, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI pointed out that the early Christians referred to themselves as *The Living*. That is what we are called to be, alive in an otherwise dead world.

So, we ask ourselves today, in a very true sense, "Am I happy with myself? Am I comfortable with my life? Am I happy with my relationship with God?" Those questions are just different ways of asking the same thing: "Am I alive, or am I dead?" Or, perhaps, "Is there something that is killing me?" Maybe, my relationship with others is pretty bad, and I tend to get nasty rather easily. Especially for the young people in our midst, maybe we have friends that we try to impress by joining them in drinking and doing drugs, or dressing inappropriately, cursing and talking dirty. We do our best to ignore the dying we feel within us, but the dying does not go away because we want it to go away. The way of death only goes away when we choose to walk away from it.

Lent may be winding down, but there is still time for us to receive the sacrament of penance. Actually, this weekend we have the opportunity for a Lenten penance service in our Church here this Sunday at 4pm. There is still time left for our Lenten Spring cleaning. There is still time for us to be at peace with ourselves and with our Lord.

We ask God today for the courage to walk away from that which is killing us and to walk towards the Light. We ask the Lord for the courage to walk towards the voice that is saying, "Lazarus (John, Bob, Mary, Jane), Come out!" Come out from the tomb and begin to live again. We are called to life not death.

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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

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.