



MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 5:30 pm
SUNDAY 10:00am

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



May 17, 2026 *The Ascension of the Lord* *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

Forty days after he rose from the dead, Jesus ascended to the Father in heaven. His mission had been accomplished. Now he commands the disciples to begin their mission. Once they receive the Holy Spirit, they are to spread the Good News to the ends of the earth. But he assures them of one final thing: even as he reigns at the Father’s right hand, he will remain with them always. May that promise reassure us as we take up the mantle the first disciples left for us.

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Readings are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on page 253.

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Word:

Acts 1:1-11 *“As the Apostles were looking on, Jesus was lifted up.”*

Psalm 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 *“God mounts his throne to shouts of joy; a blare of trumpets to the Lord.”*

Ephesians 1:17-23 *“God seated Jesus at his right hand in the heavens.”*

Matthew 28:16-20 *“All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”*

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Parish Giving
May 10, 2026

Offertory: including Bus and School Support	\$5515.00
Online Giving	\$ 785.00

“Thank You for Your Generosity”

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MASS INTENTIONS

10:00am For the people and the needs of the parish.

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COMBINED CHOIRS REHEARSAL DATES

Tuesday, May 19, 2026, Resurrection of Our Lord
Tuesday, May 26, 2026, Resurrection of Our Lord

6:00pm Youth Rehearsal
7:00pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

For any questions or concerns, contact Dr. Patrice White (912) 441-4985 or Kathy Stewart (912) 677-5203

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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, Marion “Mac” Singleton, Cornelius St. Mark, Inez Walthour, Margaret Weston, Nathaniel Wiggins, Crystal Williams, Tambra Williams, Narvia Williams, Julie Porter-Winfrey (out-of-town).

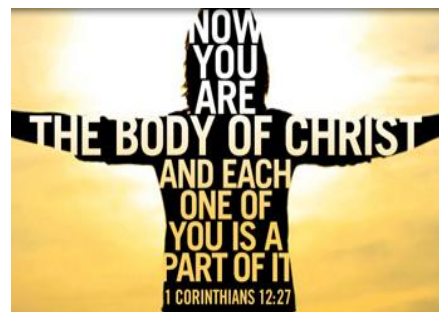
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PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

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**

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**MINISTRY SCHEDULE
May 17, 2026**

LECTORS

5:30pm Taylor Walden Shirley West
10:00am Faith Formation Faith Formation

USHERS

5:30pm Brenda Kennedy Anthony DeShay
10:00am Faith Formation Faith Formation

ANNOUNCERS

5:30pm Edna Mason
10:00am Faith Formation

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.

MONTHLY LUNCHEON

The next monthly luncheon for our sick and shut-in brothers and sisters will be provided on Wednesday, May 20th. Let's continue to share the love of Christ. Thank you *Gloria Stephens – Coordinator

GRADUATION MASS

High School and College graduates will be recognized at the Unity Mass on Sunday, June 7th. We are asking these graduates to submit their information to the parish office no later than Friday, May 29th. Please include any honors, special recognition and future plans. We want to celebrate your accomplishments with you!

OPEN POSITIONS

St. Francis Cabrini Catholic Church has two open positions:

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND FACILITIES/MAINTENANCE

For more information go to: www.diosav.org; to apply send a resume to: jgreen@diosav.org.

NATIONAL Eucharistic Pilgrimage

ONE NATION UNDER GOD

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini Route

Coming to the Diocese of Savannah May 25-28

diosav.org/nep-2026
eucharisticpilgrimage.org

THURSDAY, MAY 28

Mass of Thanksgiving
 9 am - 9:45 am
 Cathedral Basilica of St. John the Baptist

Eucharistic Procession
 10 am - 11 am
 Cathedral Basilica to St. Benedict the Moor Church

Eucharistic Adoration
 11 am - 12 pm
 St. Benedict the Moor

Transfer to the Diocese of Charleston
 1 pm - 1:30 pm
 Cathedral Basilica

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Diocese of Savannah Office of Black Catholic Ministry

**2026 Revival
 Father Ajani Gibson
 St. Peter Claver Church
 New Orleans, Louisiana
 Revivalist**

**Monday, June 1, 2026
 6:30pm – Devotion/Praise & Worship
 Sacred Heart Catholic Church
 1707 Bull Street
 Savannah, GA 31401**

**Tuesday, June 2, 2026
 6:30pm – Devotion/Praise & Worship
 St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church
 441 East Broad Street
 Savannah, GA 31401**

**Youth Night
 Wednesday, June 3, 2026
 6:30pm – Devotion/Praise & Worship
 Resurrection of Our Lord Catholic Church
 112 Fell Street
 Savannah, GA 31415**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
 FATHER ROBERT E. CHANEY AT 912-232-5258**

WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Today we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord, an event that marks the end of the forty days after the resurrection that Christ spent with his disciples as we heard in the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles. It is true that the event was about Jesus and his confirmation to the apostles that he was truly the Messiah and that all authorities had been given to him, yet in a lot of ways, the Ascension was for the benefit of his apostles and to all those who will come to believe in the message they were to preach. Paul strongly makes this point in the second reading when he wrote: "... that you may know what is the hope that belongs to his call, what are the riches of glory in his inheritance among the holy ones, and what is the surpassing power for us who believe in accord with the exercise of his great might ..."

All the readings of today speak about power, might, and authority; and they speak of them as coming from God through Christ for the service of the brothers and sisters. Jesus exercised his power doing good deeds, healing the sick, raising the dead, forgiving sinners and reconciling us with the Father. God exercised his powers in raising Jesus from the dead and lifting him up into heaven. At his Ascension, Jesus handed over the power and authority to his apostles, and we have inherited those powers and authorities today. What are we doing with them? In the account of Ascension as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles, we were told that after Jesus was lifted up to heaven, the apostles stood there gazing into the sky. But two men, I believe two angels said to them: "Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return the same way as you have seen him going into heaven". This has a lot of implications my dear friends. I guess the central message of the angels was, "men, stop wasting time, get to work, use the powers you have been given, and know that when he comes back he will be expecting an account of your stewardship". That's one of the big challenges of the Ascension of the Lord.

So the big question is: Do we recognize the power we have as disciples of Christ? How are we using the power we have been given? Remember that before his departure Jesus introduced his disciples to their mission. He told them to

continue his work all over the world. He told them that those who believe in him will also do the works that he has been doing. They now have the mission to preach the Gospel to the whole world. This mission involves the call to evangelize people, to continue the healing work of Jesus, to preach the good news after they have been strengthened by the power from on high.

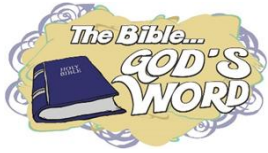
So where do we stand today with regard to the mission we have received from Christ? Are we still gazing into the sky like the disciples on that day of the Ascension, or have we rolled our sleeves and got down to doing the work of evangelization? Are we using our power as Christians to bring about peace, reconciliation, unity and justice? Are we spreading the message of love or are we sowing the seeds of fear, hatred and division? Are we using the power we have received to do evil, seek revenge and oppress others? The power we have received is the power to express and encourage, wherever we find ourselves, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness, and gentleness. People must see us as messengers of truth, love, compassion, justice, freedom and beauty. That's what Christ demands of us as he ascended to the Father; and that's what we must produce through the power of the Holy Spirit who will be poured into our hearts in a special way on Pentecost day.

On this day of Ascension, therefore, we are reminded that the God we believe in is the mighty Lord of glory who will also reward with glory all those who live in obedience of his commands. Jesus is no longer physically in the world. As his followers, we are to continue his good deeds by witnessing him to the world. Jesus remains in the world through us who are his disciples, ambassadors, and witnesses. We are mirrors of Christ. We are his mouth, his hands, his feet, and his heart. May we not remain looking at the sky but go into the "upper room" of prayer and receive our call and "the surpassing greatness of his power." He is with us through his Spirit, strengthening us and sustaining us in our calling as Christians. May his name be praised now and forever. Amen.

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FRIENDS OF ST. BENEDICT THE MOOR

The drawing for the Mothers' Day Basket raffle will take place in the parish hall on Sunday, May 17th, immediately after Mass. Everyone is invited to see if they are the lucky winner!



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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