



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

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

@6:00PM (Beginning 9/4/2026)

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



July 12, 2026

Fifteenth 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

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

The setting of today's Gospel may remind us of a warm midsummer day—maybe like today. Jesus comes outside and walks down to the sea. So many people gather along the shoreline that Jesus decides to go out in a boat and speak to the entire crowd from there. Imagine yourself sitting on a beach on a beautiful day with hundreds of others, listening to the Lord teaching in parables. Through the power of imagination, we have that opportunity today

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Readings are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on page 304:

Isaiah 55:10-11 *"The rain makes the earth fruitful."*

Psalms 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14 *"The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest."*

Romans 8:18-23 *"Creation awaits the revelation of the children of God."*

Matthew 13:1-23 *"A sower went out to sow..."*

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Parish Giving July 5, 2026

Offertory: including Bus and School Support	\$4986.00
Online Giving	\$1160.00
Special Collections: Peter's Pence	\$ 25.00
Church in Africa	\$ 30.00

"Thank You for Your Generosity"

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MASS INTENTIONS

5:30pm For the peaceful repose of the souls of Marilyn Jackson and Hattilyn Slocum. *Prince A. Jackson, III

10:00am For God's continuous blessings upon Mrs. Mariah Bailey as she celebrates her 92nd birthday today. *The Children and Grands

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.

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SPECIAL COLLECTION

The next special collection will take place the weekend of July 18 – 19, 2026 for the **Church in Africa**. Please be generous with your donation.

Pray for our Sick & Homebound: Louise Allen, Frances Allen, Joe Battle, Henry Blount, Alethea Chaney, Otis & Lillie Charlton, Josefa Citizen, Ida Cruse, 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, Donald Perry, Evelyn Porter, Emma Preer, Janice Quinn, Sr. Barbara Shimkus, Cornelius St. Mark, Inez Walthour, Nathaniel Wiggins, Crystal Williams, Tandra 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**

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MINISTRY SCHEDULE

July 11 - 12, 2026

LECTORS

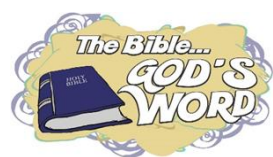
5:30pm Dominique Jackson Sharon Carson*
10:00am Juliette Tolbert Joyce Jones

USHERS

5:30pm Robert Kennedy Anthony DeShay
10:00am Rosetta Brown Michael A. Chaney
Matthew Jenkins

ANNOUNCERS

5:30pm Sharon Carson
10:00am Ruth Simmons



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.

Please note: Our Bible study group will not meet during the months of July and August.

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, July 15, 2026. Let's continue to share the love of Christ. Thank you – Gloria Stephens – Coordinator.

PENNIES FROM HEAVEN

Don't know what to do with all of those pennies you have been saving now that they are being taken out of circulation? Well, the Knights of Columbus Council #10274 will be happy to take them off your hands and give them to a charitable cause through their **Pennies From Heaven** fundraiser. Bring any pennies you don't want and put them in the white bucket at the front entrance of the church beginning this week. May you be blessed as you bless others. Thank you!

SAVE THE DATE!

WHEN: Saturday, August 29, 2026

WHAT: Women's Wellness Event

HOSTED BY: The Traveling Moors

*STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS IN THE COMING WEEKS!!

QUARTERLY UNITY MASS RECEPTION

Just a reminder to those who are celebrating their birthday or anniversary during the months of July, August or September to contact your coordinator to see how you can help with the quarterly Unity Mass reception scheduled for September 6th. Coordinators are: July – Sharon Carson (912-656-0286), August – Ruth Simmons (912-713-9921), September – Yvonne Williams (912-657-3841). Thank you.

ADORATION AND EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Beginning September 4, 2026, we will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on the First Friday of each month through June 2027. We invite you to take part in this beautiful prayer as we raise our hearts and minds to God.

Then beginning September 11, 2026, through June 2027, the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place every Friday from 8:30am – 2:00pm. To ensure that our Lord is not left alone, there will be a sign up sheet for participants to indicate when they will plan to be available to spend time in the church with the Blessed Sacrament (at least 30 minutes or more). More information will be provided soon.

Weekly Reflections

15TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

PARABLE OF THE SOWER

The young man Eric was giving testimony to the turnaround in his life since he accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior. Two years before, he confessed, he had no appetite for the Word of God. On Sundays he used to shop round the neighborhood churches for the priest that gave the shortest homilies. His idea of a good church service was one that took as little time as possible. The shorter the better. But now that he is born again he could sit down and listen to the preaching of God's word for hours on end. Our disposition for the Word of God is a good indication of our relationship with the Lord. Today's gospel is an invitation to review and renew our attitude to the word of God.

The Parable of the Sower likens the teaching of God's word to the sowing of seeds. The seeds fall on different types of soil, the pathway soil, the rocky soil, the thorny soil, and the good soil. Each of these types of soil is said to represent a certain type of heart with which hearers receive the word of God. The question each of us must ask ourselves today is, "What type of soil for the word of God do I represent? Am I like the pathway where the seed cannot even sprout, or like the rocky ground where the seed sprouts but has no roots, or like thorny ground where the word of God is choked to death by worldly cares, or like the good soil that bears much fruit? Comparing our different dispositions to different types of soil has one crucial limitation. Soil cannot help being what it is. We can. And so the question that follows is: "How can I improve the disposition of my heart so that the word of God can bear fruit in my life or bear fruit more abundantly?"

The word of God is not just for information, it is for transformation. We should let our divine friend speak to us. Friendship is sustained by spending quality time with each other, frequent communication and love.

It is our own fault if we let other things get in the way of the Word of God. The parable in the Gospel says that sometimes the Divine Sower's seed falls on the pathways through the fields. There is no union with the Word, it is simply there, and it is lost to the birds of the sky. Sometimes we refuse to make God's Word the guide of our lives. We refuse to delve

into what God is calling us to. We know we can learn about the Lord by studying the Bible, by praying over the scripture, by keeping a union with God, but we are just too lazy to pray. Sad, but that is what it is, sometimes we are just too lazy to pray, we don't make time for Him, the Love of our lives, and then we become shocked that His Presence has been stolen from us by the birds of the air.

The parable then says that sometimes the seed falls on rocky ground. It doesn't develop roots. This part of the parable really cuts us to the core, because it says that the enthusiasm for the Word, the enthusiasm for the Lord, is not good enough. All those good feelings will die out with time, unless it is far more than feelings we search for. Blessed Mother Theresa wrote that she felt completely dry and abandoned by Christ throughout her life, but she never stopped proclaiming Him with her life. If nothing changes in our lives after our continual encounters with Christ, then we will reduce this spiritual experience to mere feeling.

Sometimes the seed falls among the thickets and thorns. God's word takes root, but other things take priority in our lives. All of us have many activities and obligations. What we seem to forget is that our primary responsibility is to Jesus Christ. We have been given the Word. We cannot allow the other concerns around us choke off his Presence within us. We cannot allow ourselves to become deaf to His Call to rebuild His Church.

But there are times that the seed falls on good soil. These are the people who care for the Presence of the Lord, who are more concerned with His Kingdom than their own emotional feelings of His Presence; these are the people who refuse to let anything the world throws at them choke off the mission they have been entrusted with by the Divine Sower.

We can be these people, you and I. We can be the people who throughout our lives are dedicated to the Kingdom of God. We can rebuild His Church.

But we need to be good soil. We have got to cultivate the presence of the Lord in our lives, and serve Him no matter whether we feel His Presence today as we did last week, last month, last year, or whenever we were given the gift of a spiritual high. We can fight off anything that will choke off His Presence. We can be this good soil that returns to the Lord fruit beyond our imagination, but not beyond His imagination.