



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



August 2, 2026

Eighteenth 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

Carl Hayes, Parish Financial Council Chairman

Sharon Carson, Administrative Secretary

Jerome Grayson, Bldg/Maintenance



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

Jesus takes us outside again today, to a deserted place where thousands of people followed him. Despite having only five loaves and two fish, Jesus is able to feed the entire crowd. We gather here every Sunday, a crowd perhaps only in the dozens or hundreds, but where we can all be fed, now with Jesus' own body, offered and multiplied to satisfy us all. We can imagine that we are here with Jesus as he speaks to us and feeds us as he did on that wonderful day, for indeed this is what he does.

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Readings are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on page 312:

Isaiah 55:1-3 Come to the Lord.

Psalms 145 "The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs."

Romans 8:35, 37-39 Nothing can separate us from God's love.

Matthew 14:13-21 The people ate and were satisfied.

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Parish Giving July 26, 2026

Offertory: including Bus and School Support	\$ 4741.00
Online Giving	\$ 1377.00
Special Collections: Church in Africa	\$ 25.00

"Thank You for Your Generosity"

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MASS INTENTIONS

For the peaceful repose of the souls of Anthony Jackson and Roland Glover. *Prince A. Jackson, III

For the repose of the soul of Howard k. Bailey on the anniversary of his birthday (August 9). *Mariah Bailey

For Ruth Simmons as she celebrates her birthday on Monday August 3). *Ruth Simmons

Pray for our Sick & Homebound: Louise Allen, Frances Allen, Joe Battle, Henry Blount, Alethea Chaney, Otis Charlton, Josefa Citizen, Ida Cruse, Juanita Fields, Glenn Grant, Raymond Heyward, Jessica Jackson, Mary Jackson, Christine James, Mackenzie Jenkins, Vera Jennings, Cleveon 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, Tamba 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,

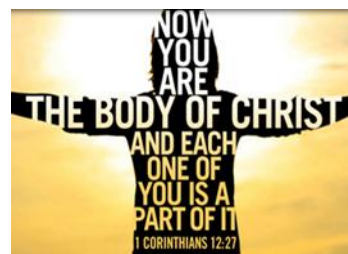
to be understood as to understand,

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**

MINISTRY SCHEDULE
August 2, 2026 – Unity Mass

LECTORS

Juliette Tolbert **Georgene Jones**

USHERS

Rosetta Brown **Brenda Kennedy**
Michael Chaney

ANNOUNCER

Ruth Simmons

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PARISH SYMPATHY

Parish condolences to Mr. Otis Charlton & Family on the loss of his wife, Mrs. Lillie Mae Charlton, who passed away Sunday, July 26, 2026. A Funeral Mass was held Saturday, August 1, 2026 at St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church.

Parish condolences to Mrs. Jessica Howard, Brenda Kennedy, Belinda Chaplin and other family members on the loss of Mr. Nathaniel P. Howard, Jr. who passed away Friday, July 24, 2026. Funeral services will be held 10am Friday, August 7, 2027 at St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church.

Parish condolences to Mrs. Willodean Brown & Family on the loss of her daughter, Ms. Brenda Brown Ferguson, who passed away Saturday, July 25, 2026. Funeral services will be held 10am Thursday, August 6, 2026 at St. Benedict the Moor.

Our thoughts, prayers, and condolences are with all of these families.

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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.

THANK YOU

It has been heartening to know that the joy of faith we shared with Margaret was shared also with so many – our family, church friends, and loved ones. Thank you for your comforting words and acts of condolence during this time. May we all move forward with faith and a commitment to share the love that Margaret (Weston) so freely gave. May God bless you all. – The Weston Burke Family

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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!

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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). Requested donation is \$25 which can be given to any of the coordinators listed above or dropped off to the parish office. The next planning meeting will be August 14, 2026 to finalize details. 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.

18TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

YEAR A

Today's gospel opens with the information reaching Jesus about the beheading of his cousin John the Baptist. The reality of this event and especially the brutality of the death of John would have crushed Jesus. Remember they were cousins, not just cousins who gathered at funerals and weddings, but cousins whose mothers were very close. Close enough that Mary had to spend 3 months with Elizabeth when she was pregnant and even remained there until the birth of John the Baptist. John even recognized Jesus and rejoiced while both of them were still in the wombs of their respective mothers. Jesus had walked long distances to hear John preach and be baptized by him. Simply put, John was a hero to Jesus. So, you can imagine what the news of the death of John would have done to Jesus. Jesus chose to go away to the desert, to a lonely place to mourn his loss and also process what that meant for him and his ministry in Galilee.

But when Jesus arrived the lonely place, he encountered something he didn't bargain for; he encountered human suffering at a different level. He saw hunger and sickness among the people he had come to save. Remember that in John 10:10 he had said that he has come for us to have life and have it in abundance. The situation before him provided him with opportunity to make his promise come to life. He was moved with compassion when he saw the plight of the people who have been let down by their leaders, both religious and civil leaders, people who have been abandoned and who needed help. He forgot his own needs for rest and comfort after the death of John and began to address the needs of the people. Our God cares; he sees our needs and he is always willing to do something about our needs, whether they are spiritual, emotional, physical, or material; whether they are personal tragedies or natural disasters. God is always ready to satisfy the hunger that we feel, he is ready to give us food in abundance and through the prophet Isaiah, he invites us to come to him: All you who are thirsty, come to the water! You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat; come

without paying and without cost, drink wine and milk! What a beautiful invitation?

However, we realize that Jesus did not solve the hunger of the crowds directly by himself, he used what the people had with them, the 5 loaves and the 2 fish. This tells us that a great deal of God's care and compassion rests on our own shoulders. A great deal of the human suffering in the world has been caused by human agency and can also be relieved by human agency. Jesus also used his disciples for the organization of the people and the distribution of the food. He still does that today through his Church and his disciples. We, like the disciples, are called again and again to be mediators between Jesus and others, offering the little talent, time and resources we have with total generosity.

We might find it easier to blame God, or to blame governments, or generally to see the hunger and suffering in the world as other people's problems. But they are also ours, they are mine. That is the meaning of the Eucharist we celebrate here today, namely, that as Christians, we commit ourselves to share, to work with God in communicating his compassion to all. The community must put in common all it has in order that food may be available for all. Only when we accept to come together and put in common all we have including our talents, time and treasures will we be able to find a solution to the numerous problems of mankind. As long as people remain selfish with everyone acting on their own, seeking the realization of their selfish desires and satisfaction of their personal interests and welfare, we shall continue to have the scandalously rich living next to the abjectly poor. This is a situation that is unacceptable by the gospel values. Christian disciples must rise today to work with Christ to create a more balanced world where we show compassion for the sufferings of our brothers and sisters and also take care of one another.

Have a Safe & Blessed Week!