



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 23, 2026

Twenty-first 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 Finance Council Chairman

Sharon Carson, Administrative Secretary

Jerome Grayson, Bldg/Maintenance



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

Today we hear Jesus challenge his disciples. "Who do you say that I am?" he asks them, after asking them what others say. Saint Peter responds at once, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." We are the disciples who Jesus challenges now. How do we answer this question? As we encounter him here today and receive him in the Eucharist, let us think of who Jesus is for us.

Readings are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on page 319:

Isaiah 22:19-23 "I will place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder." Psalm 138 "Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands." Romans 11:33-36 Matthew 16:13-20 "You are Peter, and to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven."

Parish Giving August 15/16, 2026

Offertory: including Bus, School Support, & Assumption	\$ 4934.00
Church in Latin America	\$ 40.00
Online Giving	\$ 955.00

"Thank You for Your Generosity"

MASS INTENTIONS

10:00am: RIP Dr. Lester B. Johnson, Jr. on the occasion of his 100th birthday on August 26th.

For the People and needs of the Parish.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

Our parish target goal for this year's Annual Catholic Appeal is \$33,307.00. As of the last report we received, we have contributed \$15,146.70 which is 45% of our target goal. Our support of diocesan agencies and ministries is one way that we respond to God for all we have received. Please prayerfully consider making your pledge today. With God's help, and the generosity of our parish family, we can reach our goal together.

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, Ebonee Jarrett, 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**

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

August 22/23, 2026

LECTORS

5:30pm Edna Mason Shirley West
10:00am Georgene Jones Barbara McGhee

USHERS

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

ANNOUNCER

5:30pm Dr. Deborah Jones
10:00am Emily Williams-Fann

THANK YOU

The Family of SFC Nathaniel P. Howard, Jr. extend our sincere thanks for your prayers, support, and acts of kindness during our time of loss. We are especially grateful to everyone who attended the funeral Mass and celebration of his life and legacy. Your presence and compassion was a source of comfort and strength. – The Howard & Kennedy Family.

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.

ADORATION AND EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Beginning September 11, 2026, through June 2027, the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place every Friday from 8:30am – 2:00pm (Except 1st Friday of the month). 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).



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE of SAVANNAH
2170 E VICTORY DR • SAVANNAH, GA 31404 • DIOSAV.ORG

CALLED BY NAME!

Dear Friends in Christ,

Today I am announcing our 2026 Called by Name campaign to identify faithful young men and women in our diocese who could be future leaders in our Church. Our last Called by Name was very successful, putting us in touch with hundreds of young people, many of whom came to events or joined discernment groups. This was a testament to the power of invitation. Sometimes all that is needed is to affirm a young man or woman by saying, “I see something in you. Have you considered what God may be calling you to do?”

In this spirit, please submit the names of at least one (but hopefully several!) faithful young people you know. You can use the card provided at Mass or online at savannahvocations.org. If you submit a person under age 18, please include their parents’ names as well.

Note that these men and women do not need to have expressed a desire to be Priests or Religious Sisters. They simply need to love Christ and the Church, exhibit a strong faith, and have a heart for service. I will send each nominee a letter of congratulations and encouragement. In addition, our Vocation Team will offer support as they discern their vocations, especially by inviting them to join small discernment groups and attend various events.

Thank you for your thoughtful participation in this important effort. Your invitation could help a young person discover a vocation that will bless the Church for generations.

May we meet each day in our prayers and
Rejoice in the Lord always!

In Christ,
Most Reverend Stephen D. Parkes
Bishop of Savannah

21ST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

If Jesus were to ask you today: who do you say that I am? What would your answer be? I have thought about this question several times in my life: who is Jesus for me? Depending on what is going on at the time, I have seen him at different times as my Savior, as my Lord, my friend, and even my brother. There have also been times when I have seen him as my Judge. But let me ask you: Who is Jesus for you sitting in the pew today? Let me put the question differently: How does Jesus figure in our lives? How much of a central figure is he? How often do we think of Jesus in the ordinary events of our lives? How often do we ask ourselves: Am I loving others as Jesus has loved me? Do we ask ourselves the question: What would Jesus have done at this given time if he found himself in my shoes? These are all related questions to the one Jesus asked the disciples in Caesarea Philippi. Peter spoke on behalf of the other disciples and his response was: 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God'. By this response Peter declares Jesus to be chosen, to be the Son of God, the Living God as opposed to the dead, false gods of his time. The answer is obviously a good one and it can be our answer too. But just as it had implications for Peter, so does it have for us.

Putting this answer into action is to help build up the Church upon the rock that is Peter. Christ told Peter that he is the rock on which he will find his church. The gates of hell will not prevail against him or against the church which is built on this rock. This surely is a deeply comforting thought. If Peter is the rock, the foundation, then we are small stones helping to support the structure of the living Church. How will we do this? What are we doing to be supportive, to be constructive, to be generous, and to be loving? Let us never say, who me? You must mean someone else; for I have a sharp self-awareness of my sin, I am paralyzed by fear, I have a temper, I am sometimes foggy headed, I am only mortal and sometimes weary, I am sometimes cocky and overly confident, and I am sometimes broken and fallen. These are all excuses that would not work because Peter was all these, yet Christ trusted him with leadership of the church. Each of us has something to offer in spite of our feeling of unworthiness.

In our society today, there are so many who do not want to be seen as being very religious. We do not want to take a stand on so many social issues today to avoid being seen as a church person. So many have chosen sports and politics over their Christian faith. I have seen many young people and their families sacrifice programs in the church including receiving the sacrament of confirmation and attending religious education classes because of their involvement in sports and school programs. I am sure the event of the pandemic is still fresh in our minds? Do you remember how the churches were the first places to be shut down? Do you remember how so many people were afraid to come to church for fear of getting COVID, yet they were not afraid of going to sports event, or the cinema or even going to the malls? Why is the Church the first thing to be sacrificed when we are looking for solution for any problem in our society today? Why have we allowed fear to paralyze us and cast doubt on our faith? The phrase: 'be not afraid' or 'fear not' occurs more than hundred times in the bible, and yet we don't seem to heed that command from God. If we truly believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, then let us also believe that he has given us all it takes to withstand the forces working against our faith. Let us trust Jesus to strengthen us as he strengthened Peter to carry out the mission he entrusted in his hands. Jesus is our Lord, he is our friend and above all, he is our Savior who will see us through all the difficulties we encounter in life.

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UNITY CHOIR REHEARSALS

This is a friendly reminder that Unity Mass Choir rehearsals will be held on the following dates:

- Tuesday, August 25th at 6pm
- Tuesday, September 1st at 6pm

Your presence is important as we prepare together, and I kindly ask that everyone make every effort to attend both rehearsals. Thank you for your commitment and participation. I look forward to seeing everyone there! Blessings, Kathy Stewart.

