



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**

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



September 6, 2026

**Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A
Unity Mass**

Rev. Anselm Eke, MSP, Pastor

Deacon Torrance A. Garvin, Sr.

Theresa Garvin, Supt. of Religious Education

Dianne Williams, Parish Council Chairperson

Carl Hayes, Parish Finance 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

On this Labor Day weekend, we call to mind all those whose work makes our lives better and easier, from members of our family, to people in our community, to people around the world. Even as we labor ourselves in service of one another, we are also called to labor in the vineyard to help build God's kingdom. Today's readings remind us that we are responsible for each other, that we cannot give up on others just because we disagree with them or they have hurt us. This weekend, as we appreciate and thank others for their labor, let us reconcile with those who have offended us, and so work to build up the entire kingdom of God.

Readings are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on page 323:

Ezekiel 33:7-9 "If you do not speak out to dissuade the wicked from his way, I will hold you responsible for his death." Psalm 95 "If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts." Romans 13:8-10 "Love is the fulfillment of the law." Matthew 18:15-20 "If your brother or sister listens to you, you have won them over."

Parish Giving August 29/30, 2026

Offertory: including Bus, School Support, & Assumption	\$3292.00
Online Giving	\$1452.00

"Thank You for Your Generosity"

MASS INTENTIONS

10:00am: For the peaceful repose of the souls of Mrs. Wilhelmina Butler-Chisholm and Mrs. Allie Bell Jones on the anniversaries of their passing and birthday. *The Garvin and Jones Family

For the People and needs of the Parish.

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SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a second offertory collection today for the Annual Catholic Appeal Campaign. Please be generous with your donation.

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, Tambra 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
September 6, 2026

LECTORS

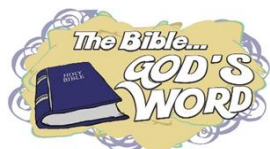
10:00am Kimberly Carter-Johnson
Monesha Gallishaw

USHERS

10:00am Rosetta Brown Brenda Kennedy
Michael A. Chaney

ANNOUNCER

10:00am Marvin Manning, Sr.



**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!

Weekly sessions take place on Wednesdays, at 6:00pm in the parish hall.

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**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 – 12:00noon (Except 1st Friday of the month). To ensure that our Lord is not left alone, there is 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).

MONTHLY LUNCHEON

The next luncheon for our sick and shut-in brothers and sisters will be provided on Wednesday, September 16, 2026. Help is especially needed with the delivery of the meals. Let's continue to share the love of Christ. Thank you – Gloria Stephens, Coordinator.

USHERS' MEETING

There will be an important meeting for all current and potential ushers on Thursday, September 10th at 6:00pm in the education building. Please attend.

FRIENDS OF ST. BENEDICT

For those who expressed interest in traveling with the Friends of St. to Chicago in June 2027, the deposit is due October 1, 2026. Please contact Ruth Simmons or Claretha Bivins. Thanks for your continued support.

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 \$16,021.04 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.

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QUARTERLY UNITY MASS RECEPTION

The quarterly Unity Mass Reception will take place today immediately after the 10:00am Mass in the parish hall. All are invited to attend and celebrate with our brothers and sisters who have birthdays and/or anniversaries in the months of July, August and September. We look forward to seeing you there!

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FAITH FORMATION & YOUTH NEWS

There will be an important meeting for all Faith Formation staff and those involved in Youth Ministry on Thursday, September 10th at 6:00pm. Please make every effort to attend.

Faith Formation classes will resume on Sunday, September 13th immediately following the 10:00am Mass. Sign your children up after Mass this weekend or the day classes begin. We look forward to helping your children know their faith and preparing them to receive the sacraments.

CONFIRMATION

Four of our young people will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at the 5:30pm Mass on Saturday, September 19, 2026. The celebrant for the occasion will be Bishop Stephen Parkes. A reception will follow in the parish hall. All are invited to attend in support of our youth and to greet Bishop Parkes.

SAVE THE DATE!

Photos for the upcoming St. Benedict the Moor Parish Directory will be taken on the following dates/times:

Friday, October 16, 2026
2:00pm – 8:30pm

Saturday, October 17, 2026
10:00am – 4:00pm

Appointments will be scheduled at a later date. More information will be provided in the following weeks.

23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

There are times when we open our Bible and we come across certain passages that are as relevant and practical in our lives today as they were thousands of years ago when they were first written. Today's readings are good examples of such passages. Today's readings remind us that as faithful Christians it is our responsibility to reach out to our not-so-faithful brothers and sisters and bring them back into the fold. They even go on to recommend practical steps on how to go about doing this.

I have had the opportunity of meeting a few returning Catholics who had wandered away to other churches or even stayed away entirely from church. One thing that most of them shared as what hurt them the most in all their many years of spiritual exile is that nobody in the church missed them. Nobody ever phoned or visited to find out what was wrong. One particularly said: "I got the impression that the church does not want me". Of course we know that the church wants all of her members. But what are we doing to help the many men and women in such situation find their way back into full communion with the church? Today's readings invite us to review our I-don't-care attitude towards fallen and lax members of the church, reminding us that, yes, it should be our business to reach out to them.

Why should it be our business whether somebody else decides to serve God or not? As members of the church, we are not just a priestly people who offer sacrifice, we are also a prophetic people, which means that we are God's spokespersons. Have you ever invited any person to join the church? Have you shown any concern towards a brother or sister you have not seen in church for a while? You can do it today. Today's first reading is, in fact, a compact job description that God gave to the prophet Ezekiel on what it means to be a prophetic person.

In our world today where people are so sensitive and so easily offended, we all worry about how to approach

people without offending them. Jesus speaks to us in the gospel, and tells us not just what to do, but how to do it. He implies that we must not harbor grudges, not presume anything or engage in unfounded gossips and unnecessarily malign others. Instead, he said: "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. The directive is that those who are spiritually stronger (the offended party) take the initiative to reach out to those who are spiritually weak (i.e. the offending and erring member). What is at stake is how to bring an erring member back into the fold, to full reconciliation and communion with God and with us. The motivation for this kind of Christian action is to "regain" our brother or sister, to restore the broken relationship, not primarily to denounce or find out who is right or wrong. An anonymous writer once wrote, "Apology doesn't mean that you were wrong, or the other person was right. It simply means that your relationship is more valuable than your ego".

The process of reconciliation which the gospel passage recommends requires humility and patience and involves four stages: (1) Approach the defaulting brother or sister person-to-person. (2) Go a second time accompanied by one or two trusted companions. (3) Bring the case before the local church. (4) Treat the individual as you would a tax collector or pagan. This means to accept the person with love, just as Jesus taught us in Matthew 5:44, 'love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you'. This may sound like a daunting procedure, but the good news is that in nine cases out of ten, we may never need to go beyond the first stage. An erring member approached in a personal and courteous manner most likely is happy to come back without much argument. Remember my dear friends, our mission is to be our brother's and sister's keepers by watching over them; not wishing their downfall and failures. Let us thank God for the clear and practical message contained in today's readings. As good hearers of God's word, the next step is for us to now go and put it into practice.