



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 13, 2026

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

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

We are reminded today of how important it is to forgive one another. When Peter asks Jesus how many times he needs to forgive someone, Jesus tells him not seven times, but seventy-seven times. He is essentially saying that there is no limit that should be put on forgiveness. After all, the Lord forgives us all constantly. And we need it! It's the least we can do to forgive someone who has hurt us. Let us call to mind our own sins and our own need for forgiveness even as we consider those to whom we should offer that same gift.

Readings are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on page 325:

Sirach 27:30 – 28:7 *"Forgive your neighbor's injustice; then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven."*
Psalm 103 *"The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger and rich in compassion."* Romans 14:7-9 *"Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's."* Matthew 18:21-35 *"I say to you, forgive not seven times, but seventy-seven times."*

*Parish Giving
September 6, 2026*

Offertory: including Bus & School Support	\$5452.00
Online Giving	\$ 770.00

"Thank You for Your Generosity"

MASS INTENTIONS

10:00am: For Deacon Torrance and Theresa Garvin as they celebrate their 29th wedding anniversary. *The Garvins

For the peaceful repose of the soul of Mrs. Wilhelmina Butler-Chisholm on the anniversary of her birthday. *The Garvin and Chisholm Families

For Fr. Anselm and all MSP Priests as they continue to labor in the Lord's vineyard. *AMSP

For the People and needs of the Parish.

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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.

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, Hilda Johnson, Willie Leachman, Robert Locke, Lillie Middleton, Dawud Patterson, Donald Perry, Evelyn Porter, Emma Preer, Janice Quinn, Sr. Barbara Shimkus, Inez Walthour, Nathaniel Wiggins, Crystal Williams, Tamba Williams, Narvia Williams, Julie Porter-Winfrey (out-of-town)

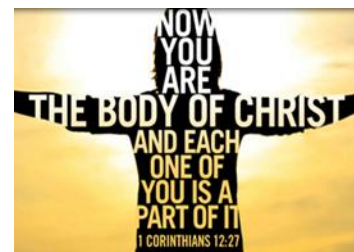
PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

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**

MINISTRY SCHEDULE
September 12/13, 2026

LECTORS

5:30pm Taylor Walden Sharon Carson*
10:00am Georgene Jones Joyce Jones

USHERS

5:30pm Robert Kennedy Richard Baker
10:00am George Moultrie Tyrone Bryant
Sylvester Brown

ANNOUNCER

5:30pm Sharon Carson*
10:00am Marvin Manning, Sr.
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MASS OF BEATIFICATION

We are all invited by Bishop Stephen D. Parkes to attend the **Mass of Beatification of the Venerable Servants of God Pedro De Corpa and Four Companions (The Georgia Martyrs)** 11:00am on Saturday, October 31, 2026 at the Savannah Convention Center (Hutchinson Island). There is no cost to attend, however, registration is required to help with planning. Please RSVP at diosav.org. For those who may have problems with transportation, our church bus will be available to take you to and from the water taxi on River Street. Please notify the church office by October 26, 2026 if you would like to take advantage of this service. You don't want to miss out on this special event.

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**ADORATION AND EXPOSITION OF THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT**

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).

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.

PARISH CONDOLENCES

Parish sympathy to Mrs. Margaret St. Mark on the loss of her husband, parishioner Cornelius St. Mark, who passed away on Wednesday, September 2, 2026. Funeral Mass was held on Saturday, September 12, 2026 at St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church. Burial will take place 11:00am on Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at the Beaufort National Cemetery.

Parish sympathy to Mrs. Kathleen T. Johnson and family on the loss of her husband, parishioner Mr. Clevon Johnson who passed away on September 4, 2026. Funeral Mass will be held 10:00am on Saturday, September 19, 2026 at St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church. Christian wake service will take place 6:00pm at Adams Funeral Home.

Parish sympathy to Mrs. Alicia Carter and family on the loss of her husband, parishioner Joseph Carter, Jr., who passed away on Tuesday, September 8, 2026. Funeral Mass will be held 11:00am on Friday, September 18, 2026 at St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church. Adams Funeral Home is handling arrangements.

Our thoughts and prayers are with these families.

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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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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 D. Parkes. A reception will follow in the parish hall. All are invited to attend in support of our youth and to greet Bishop Parkes.

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 Clarethia Bivins. Thanks for your continued support.

FORGIVE AS YOU HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN

Today's Scripture readings, especially the first and the gospel, speak to us about the very important message of forgiveness. The truth is that none of us can claim that we have never been hurt by others at one point or another. People, even the ones we trusted so much, hurt and fail us. They put us in situations which caused us so much pain and we suffered. Tendency is, we become very angry and resentful of those who have hurt us so badly and there is a strong desire for vengeance. But unfortunately we fail to realize that these negative feelings are like poison in our hearts, as we heard in the first reading: "Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight".

To refuse to forgive is to keep that hateful, foul poison in our hearts. There are many persons who think that they are getting their revenge on those who have offended them by refusing to forgive. Unfortunately, the truth is that anger and resentment do more harm to the person who harbor them than to the ones at whom they are directed. The energy we spend to keep malice is enormous and the strain it puts on us is unbelievable. The memories of past hurts continue to cloud our lives; self-pity and further thoughts about the wrong done to us only add to the bitterness we feel. When there is so much bitterness in us, joy and happiness disappear from our hearts and we are left with an empty sadness that only broods the memories of the hurt which we have suffered. And how does this help anyone?

When it comes to the issue of forgiveness, there are actually many of us who want to forgive, but they believe that there has to be a limit to how often we can forgive the repeat offenders. Peter speaks the minds of those individuals when he asked Jesus: "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "Not seven times but seventy-seven times." If we try to solve this mathematically, there can still be a limit of forgiving. But, no, the point of Jesus is this: we should not count how many times we should forgive. As long as there is need for forgiving, we must be ready to offer our forgiveness. The truth is, we sin often, or we make mistakes often. And therefore, forgiveness should be done more often.

Furthermore, forgiveness should be understood in the context of the fact that we have been forgiven by God. In the

parable which Jesus told to illustrate this, the king made a remark to the unforgiving servant, "Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant, as I had pity on you?" People who withhold forgiveness are people who have a very short memory of who they are before God. They forget that, in the first place, that they are sinners and that they have been forgiven by God. If only we have this awareness that we are "forgiven", then it would be easier for us to forgive others. Who are we then to withhold forgiveness when in reality we too are sinners, like others? We are no perfect human beings. We do commit sin, and God is ready to forgive us. Therefore, we must also exercise pity and mercy toward others who have wronged us.

Most of us pray every day the LORD'S PRAYER (Our Father). In that prayer we come upon the portion that says: "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us"; do we realize what we are saying as we pray those words? (Unfortunately, so often when we come to that point, many of us find ourselves yawning, maybe unintentionally). What we are saying in fact is this: "Lord forgive me to the extent, to the same degree, in the same way as I have forgiven John or Mary or Bob or Jane who has offended me. The implication of the prayer is that we could only ask forgiveness from God, when we have already forgiven others. And of course when we forgive, we ought to forget too. Here we need to pray for healing of our hearts so that even if we were to remember the offense or the offender at any time in the future, we are not filled with the old bitterness that dominated us before we forgave the offender. I pray today for all of us gathered here, that forgiveness, acceptance and kindness may replace any feelings of resentment, anger and hate which we may have harbored against the persons who offended us in the past. Peace be with you all.

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus Council #10274 is collecting baby supplies for children up to age 3. There is a box placed near the stairs in the church for donations. Please contact any Knight if you would like to give or have items picked up for donation. All items will go to the Living Vine Maternity Home. Thank you.
