



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 27, 2026

Twenty-sixth 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

As we gather to celebrate the Eucharist, let us give God thanks for second chances. All of us fail sometimes, maybe quite often. But this does not mean that we are condemned forever, unable to overcome our faults and past sins. We are constantly invited to repent, seek forgiveness, and change our behavior. Saint Paul, who knew a thing or two about doing all this, calls upon us to reject selfishness and instead look out for the interests of others. Let us pray today for a change of heart that will lead us to more closely follow the road to God's kingdom.

Readings are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on page 330:

Ezekiel 18:25-28 *"By turning from wickedness, a wicked person shall preserve his life."* Psalm 25 *"Remember your mercies, O Lord"* Philippians 2:1-11 *"Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus."* Matthew 21:28-32 *"He changed his mind and went. Tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of heaven before you."*

Parish Giving September 20, 2026

Offertory: including Bus & School Support	\$4172.00
Online Giving	\$1361.00

"Thank You for Your Generosity"

MASS INTENTIONS

10:00am For the People and needs of the Parish.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

The Special Collection for this weekend is for the Mission Cooperative Appeal. Please be generous with your donation. Thank you.

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Unity Mass rehearsal will be held on September 29, 2026 at 6:00pm. Please be in attendance. Thank you! *Kathy Stewart

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, Janice Quinn, Sr. Barbara Shimkus, 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,

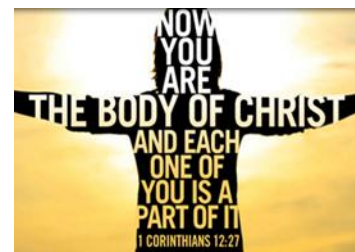
to be understood as to understand,

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
September 26/27, 2026

LECTORS

5:30pm Beverly Blue Shirley West
10:00am Matthew Jenkins Gregory Milton

USHERS

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

ANNOUNCER

5:30pm Dr. Deborah Robinson Jones
10:00am Joyce Jones

.....
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.

+++++

**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).

YOUTH SUMMIT

Calling all middle school and high school youth: There will be a youth summit after the Unity Mass on October 4, 2026 to brainstorm and generate ideas for Youth Ministry and Faith Formation activities for the year. The summit will take place in the parish hall. Please plan to attend. Thank you.

.....

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
12:00noon – 4:00pm

Please sign up for a time slot for your family on the sheet provided at the entrance of the church. We look forward to your participation.

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 \$16,620.38 which is 49.90% 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.

.....

Priesthood Sunday is all about praying for priests and their holiness! Every day our priests pray for us and our intentions as they preside over Mass, hear confessions, anoint the sick, or bury our loved ones. Don't forget to tell your priest you are praying for him. You never know what he is going through, sacrificing out of love for us.

PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY PRAYER

Most gracious Heavenly Father,

We thank you for the gift of our Pastor, Fr. Anselm. Through him, we experience your presence in the sacraments. Help him to be strong in his vocation. Set his soul on fire with love for your people. Grant him the wisdom, understanding, and strength he needs to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire him with the vision of your Kingdom. Give him the words he needs to spread the Gospel. Allow him to experience joy in his ministry. Help him to become an instrument of your divine grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest.

Amen.

PARABLE OF THE TWO SONS

This parable of the Two Sons is unique to Matthew and many scholars feel that he might have composed it himself to present the situation of the early church. However, we are presented with the actual situation during the time of Jesus regarding the response of the religious groups. It is a straight forward parable and the issue proposed presents clear choices. It opens the mind of the listener and reader to judge what is right: whether it is good to say something you will do and later not do it or to promise someone that you will not do something and later regret the action and do it. In fact both of them seem to be no good sons in their response to their father. Both of them were imperfect. But it is far nobler to change the mind and do good than to remain set in the direction of evil. We are not saved by belonging but by becoming.

In our relationship with God actions speak louder than words. Thus in the context of the parable the son who actually did what his father requested fulfilled his father's will. This supports a strong point that Matthew makes throughout the gospel that doing the will of God is far superior to just talking about it. This parable however, does not end with the point it already made. Matthew proves with specific references to tax collectors and prostitutes entering the kingdom of God before the religious leaders to whom Jesus is speaking. He recalls here how earlier in the Gospel he referred to the Sadducees and Pharisees when they came to be baptized at Jordan. He called them a generation of vipers that has come to flee from the wrath to come. As it turned out this group had gone through the motions of repentance but obviously did not believe and therefore did not change. They are similar to the son who said he would go out to work in his father's vineyard but did not go. Since Jesus

presented the parable in terms of characters, the leaders were almost obliged to respond without realizing that they were condemning themselves.

What is clear from this Gospel and from the First Reading is that God is primarily concerned with our present relationship to him. As far as the past is concerned, God has a very short memory. In fact, we might say he has none at all. This is the "injustice" of God that Ezekiel mentions. We remember the man who was crucified with Jesus on Calvary. He was a major criminal, a brigand, a robber, perhaps a murderer. There, in the very last moments while hanging on the cross he asks pardon and forgiveness — "Jesus, remember me when you enter into your Kingdom." The reply comes instantly, without any qualifications whatsoever, "Today, you will be with me in Paradise." The forgiveness he receives is immediate and total. The readings tell us that it is never too late for God's mercy. Peter knew that when he repented of his denial of his Lord. Even the betrayal of Judas was not beyond God's power to forgive. In fact, Jesus tells us that no sin is greater than the power of God to forgive. His mercy waits patiently and he wants all to turn towards him and be with him. Jesus calls us today to make our own personal choices. In those choices we are free and individually responsible for our own actions. In this context the Psalm of today echoes the sincere cry of the psalmist who sincerely wants to follow the Lord's way, and recognizes his own need of the Lord's mercy for his sins. The psalm also recognizes the Lord's favor towards those who humble themselves before him.

+++++

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.