



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



October 11, 2026

Twenty-eighth 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 Pastoral Council Chairperson

Sandra Best, Parish Finance Council Chairperson

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

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells a parable of a king who invites anyone and everyone to a huge feast he is giving for the wedding of his son. Similarly, every Sunday we all are invited to a wonderful feast: the eucharistic feast, the wedding feast of the Lamb. We accept the Lord's invitation to partake in his sacrificial meal, a foretaste of the heavenly banquet we hope to attend one day. Let us give thanks and praise to our God, who welcomes us to the feast.

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Readings are found in the Word & Eucharist Catholic Mass Book beginning on page 336:

Isaiah 25:6-10a *"The Lord will prepare a feast and wipe away the tears from every face."* Psalm 23 *"I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life."* Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20 *"I can do all things in him who strengthens me."* Matthew 22:1-14 *"Invite to the wedding feast whomever you find."*

Parish Giving October 4, 2026

Offertory: including Bus & School Support	\$5745.00
Online Giving	\$1497.00

"Thank You for Your Generosity"

MASS INTENTIONS

10:00am For Fr. Anselm and all MSP Priests as they continue to labor in the Lord's vineyard. *AMSP

For the People and the needs of the Parish.

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PARISH CONDOLENCES

Parish sympathy is extended to Mrs. Helen Odums, Ms. Gloria German, and Mrs. Carolyn Brown on the loss of their sister, parishioner Mrs. Geraldine Thomas, who passed away on Monday, October 5, 2026. Funeral Mass was held on Saturday, October 10, 2026 at St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

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SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

There is a special collection today for the Southern Cross Subscription Drive. Envelopes are provided in the bulletin for your donation. The next special collection will take place next weekend (October 17th – 18th) for World Mission Sunday. Please be generous in giving to these funds. Thank you.

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, 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,

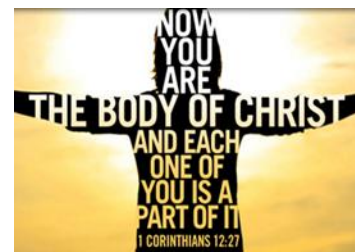
to be understood as to understand,

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**

MINISTRY SCHEDULE
October 10 - 11, 2026

LECTORS

5:30pm Sharon Carson Beverly Blue
10:00am Juliette Tolbert Joyce Jones

USHERS

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

ANNOUNCER

5:30pm Sharon Carson
10:00am Atzmayah Bailey

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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).

MONTHLY LUNCHEON

The next luncheon for our sick and shut-in brothers and sisters will be provided on Wednesday, October 21, 2026. Help is especially needed with the delivery of the meals. Let us continue to share the love of Christ. Thank you – Gloria Stephens, Coordinator

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

The Sacrament of Baptism for children under 7 years of age will take place on Sunday, November 22, 2026. Parents who wish to have their children receive the sacrament will need to contact Theresa Garvin (912) 507-7553 or Sharon Carson (912) 656-0286 for more information or to register.

THE CARTER FAMILY SINCERE THANKS

The Carter Family sincerely thanks our St. Benedict the Moor Church family for your faithful prayers, cards, food, calls visits, encouraging words, and every act of kindness shown to us during the loss of my beloved husband, our beloved father, and grandfather, **Joseph Carter, Jr.** Through this difficult season, your prayers and expressions of love have strengthened and comforted us. We are deeply grateful to God for surrounding our family with such compassionate and supportive people. Every gesture has touched our hearts and will always be remembered. Please continue to keep our family in your prayers as we trust God to guide, comfort, and sustain us each day. With heartfelt gratitude and love, we thank you for standing with us in faith and lifting us before the Lord. **May God bless each and every one of you abundantly. Mary-Alicia Carter, Kimberly Carter-Johnson, Joey Eugene Carter, and the grandchildren.**

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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 \$18,737.38 which is 56.26% 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.

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.

QUARTERLY UNITY MASS RECEPTION

If you are celebrating your birthday and/or anniversary in the months of October, November or December, please contact your coordinator so we can plan the menu for our Sunday, December 6, 2026 Unity Mass Reception. The coordinators are: October: Donna Myers (912) 232-8280; November: Barbara Manning (912) 224-0095; December: Vergie Williams (912) 220-1803. Thank you!

28TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

Today's scripture readings, especially the first and gospel readings speak to us about God's invitation to a magnificent banquet. It is an invitation to wholeness and holiness. This invitation from God to holiness is an invitation of joy. Responding to the invitation from God to embrace a life of holiness does not yield a life of gloom and hard sacrifices; but happiness and contentment. It does not yield misery; but celebration. It does not yield sadness; but joy. It lasts not for a time; but for eternity. It is important to underline that God is not obliged to invite us; rather it is all done out of divine love for his creation; it is all gift. But he expects us to respond positively to the invitation quite unlike those invited guests of the king.

As I listened to the gospel, I could not help but reflect on the various reasons why those who were invited to the feast refused to come. Matthew says that they "ignored" the invitation and "went away, one to his farm, another to his business and the others assaulted the king's messengers." Luke's Gospel is more detailed on this point and presents the reasons for the refusal of the invitation thus: "I have purchased a field and I must go look at it ... "I have purchased five yoke of oxen and am on my way to see them" ... "I have just married a woman, and therefore I cannot come" (Luke 14:18-20).

What do these different people have in common? All had something urgent to do, something that couldn't wait; that demanded their immediate attention. And what does the wedding feast represent? It indicates the messianic goods, participation in the salvation brought by Christ, and, therefore, the possibility of eternal life. The feast represents something important in life, indeed, the only important thing in life. The mistake of those who rejected the invitation is clear, then: They have left the important for the urgent, the essential for the contingent! This is a widespread and insidious danger, both in the sphere of religion and in the purely human sphere. It is something worth reflecting on.

First of all, let us consider the religious sphere. Neglecting the important for the urgent in our spiritual life means continually putting off our religious duties because there is always something urgent calling for our attention. I get up in the morning and it looks like I am running late to work or school, and I cannot pray. I

put off prayer (the important) in order to get ready and run off to work (the urgent). It is Sunday and it is time to go to Mass, but there is that visit I have to make or that guest from far away I have to entertain; that work in the garden or the overgrown lawn I have to mow and the weather is just right for mowing, what about that lunch I need to prepare, and so on and so forth. Mass can wait, lunch cannot; so you put Mass off and go to your stove.

Yes, the danger of neglecting the important for the urgent is also present in the human sphere, in everyday life, and I would also like to reflect on this. It is of the utmost importance that a man dedicates time to his family, be with his children, talk to them if they are grown, and play with them if they are little. But then at the last moment there are always urgent things to deal with at the office, extra things to do at work, and he puts it off till another time, returning home too late and too tired to think about anything else.

It is a very important thing for a man or a woman to go every so often to visit their aging mother or father who is living alone at home or some care facility. For everyone it is important to visit or call a sick friend to show your concern and perhaps offer them some practical help. But it is not urgent and if you put it off, it does not appear that the world will end and perhaps no one will notice. And you put it off.

The same is true in regard to your health, which is also something important. The doctor sees that you need to take care of yourself, do your exercises, take some time to rest, and avoid stress. ... You answer, "Yes, yes, I'll definitely do it just as soon as I'm done with that project, when I've finished working on the house, when I've paid off all my debts. ... Until you see that it is too late.

Here is where the problem lies: We go through life chasing after the thousand little things and never find time for the things that truly impact human relationships and can give joy (or deep sadness when neglected) in life. The gospel of today teaches us to establish priorities, to attend to what is essential. In a word, to not lose the important for the sake of the urgent as happened with those who were invited to the wedding feast in our parable.