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**Historic St. Benedict the Moor Catholic Church**  
441 E. Broad St., Savannah, Ga 31401

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**February 7, 2021**  
**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**

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**Rev. Romanus Obiora Ezeugwu, MSP, Pastor**  
**Shirley West, Admin Secretary**  
**Bea Betworth, Accounts Secretary**  
**Sharon Carson, Supt. of Religious Education**  
**Dianne Williams, Parish Council Chairperson**  
**Carl Hayes, Finance Chairperson**  
**Jerome Grayson, Bldg/Maintenance**

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**Please remember to follow our Parish Covid-19 safety guidelines:**

- 1. Please read carefully the Covid-19 information provided at the entrance of the church.**
- 2. For your protection and for the safety of others, masks are highly recommended at Mass.**
- 3. Sanitizer is available for use at the entrance of the church. Please use it before coming into the church. There is also a sanitizer bottle in each pew.**
- 4. There is social distancing seating arrangement. Please it is critical that you follow the directions of the Ushers.**
- 5. Please observe social distancing also when leaving the church. Please do not socialize outside the church. Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people. Do not gather in groups.**

**Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day**

We come together each Sunday a needy people, a damaged people, a human people, each of us coming to realize that we cannot make it on our own. But we are a faith-filled people, trusting in the Lord, our Savior, our Redeemer, whom we know is here with us as we gather together. Buoyed by that knowledge, we celebrate the Eucharist today with our sisters and brothers, giving thanks to God, receiving our Lord in his Body and Blood, and going forth to others renewed and rejuvenated in our mission as disciples.

**Mass Intentions:**

We pray for unity: that through a recommitment to prayer, we may be of one mind and heart in Jesus Christ.

5:30PM: For the repose of the soul of Patricia Hamilton on the anniversary of her passing.  
\*offered by S. West.

**(Prelude, Intro, Hymn, Penitential Act)  
Gloria**

Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you; we bless you; we adore you; we glorify you; we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; You are seated at the right hand of the father, have mercy on us. For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord, You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, With the Holy Spirit, In the glory of God the Father, Amen.

**First Reading: A reading from the Book of Job 7:1-4, 6-7.**

Job spoke, saying: "Is not man's life on earth a drudgery? Are not his days those of hirelings? He is like a slave who longs for the shade, a hireling who waits for his wages. So I have been assigned months of misery, and troubled nights have been allotted to me. "If in bed I say, 'When shall I rise?' then the night drags on; I am filled with restlessness until the dawn. "My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle

and come to their end without hope. Remember that my life is like the wind; I shall not see happiness again."

**The Word of the Lord.**

**Responsorial Psalm:**  
[Psalm 147:1-6]

**Response: Praise the Lord who heals the brokenhearted.**

**Second Reading: A reading from the 1st letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians 79:16-19, 22-23.**

Brothers and sisters:  
If I preach the gospel, this is no reason for me to boast, for an obligation has been imposed on me, and woe to me if I do not preach it! If I do so willingly, I have a recompense, but if unwillingly, then I have been entrusted with a stewardship. What then is my recompense? That, when I preach, I offer the gospel free of charge so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel. Although I am free in regard to all, I have made myself a slave to all so as to win over as many as possible. To the weak, I became weak, to win over the weak. I have become all things to all, to save at least some. All this I do for the sake of the gospel, so that I too may have a share in it.

**The Word of the Lord.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: ALL STAND**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**  
Christ took away our infirmities  
and bore our diseases.  
**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

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**GOSPEL:**  
✠ **A reading from the gospel of St. Mark 1:29-39.**

On leaving the synagogue Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew with James. Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. They immediately told him about her. He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up. Then the fever left her and she waited on them. When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed with demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. Rising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed. Simon and those who were with him pursued him and finding him said, "Everyone is looking for you". He told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come". So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee.

### **The Gospel of the Lord.**

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#### **PROFESSION OF FAITH**

**I believe** in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, **of all things visible and invisible.**

**I believe** in one Lord Jesus Christ, **the only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages,** God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, **consubstantial with the Father;** through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven: **(At the words that follow, all bow)** and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. **(end bow).**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, **he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day, in accordance with the Scriptures.** He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

**I believe** in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. **who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the**

**Prophets. I believe** in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. **I confess** one baptism for the forgiveness of sins, **and I look forward to** the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

#### **(PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL)**

**Response: Lord hear our prayer.**

#### **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.**

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#### **LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

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#### **Spiritual Communion Prayer**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.  
**Amen.**

-St. Alphonsus Liguori

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#### **ASH WENESDAY**

+ Ash Wednesday is Wednesday February 17, 2021 and marks the beginning of Lent. "This tradition has its roots in the Old Testament, where wearing ashes was a common sign of repentance for sins, and a sign of one's humility before God. -Fr. Larry Rice.

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#### **2021 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL**



We began the Annual Catholic Appeal a couple of weeks ago. This year's theme is "***Steadfast in Faith***".

Your sacrificial gift and prayers will help make this year's appeal a success. Our parish goal is **\$30,839.00** and we can do this if, after thoughtful consideration and prayer, everyone participates according to our ability. We are blessed with much; let us be a blessing to others.

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*Parish Giving*  
*January 31, 2021*

Offertory	\$ 5578.00
Deanery Schools	\$ 40.00
Parish Bus	\$ 10.00
Black & Native Amer.	\$ 30.00

*"Thank You for Your Generosity"*

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**You Can Join In!**

9 Days for Life is a digital pilgrimage” of prayer and action focused on cherishing the gift of every life. A multi-faceted novena highlights a different intention each day. Join to receive the novena through the 9 Days for Life app, daily emails, or daily texts at [www.9daysforlife.com](http://www.9daysforlife.com).

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*Please Pray for our Sick & Homebound*



Michael Allen, Joe Battle, Henry Blount, M. Marie Blue, Carmen Broussard, William & Odessa Bryant, James Cain, Shawn Chaney, Anne Chappell, Josefa Citizen, Lillian Dilworth, Morris Elliott, Juanita Fields, Anthony Hall, Laura Harris, Jessica Jackson, Charlotte Jenkins, Clewon Johnson, Margaret Jones, Bobby Locke, Michelle Lovewine, Rosalyn Marshall, Margie McNeal, Audrey Moultrie, Dawud Patterson, Adriene Perry, Sr., Adriene Perry, Jr., Janice Quinn, Marilee Short, Lucille Singleton, Inez Walthour, Frankie Washington, Jeanette Westley Margaret Weston, Louise Wiggins, Nathaniel Wiggins, Arlene Wiley, Ellen Williams, Tandra Williams, Yvonne Williams, Crystal Williams, Narvia Williams, Julie Porter-Winfrey.

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**PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS**

**Be a blessing to others:**

Today's Gospel shows us how Jesus devoted himself in alleviating the pain and suffering of the people he encountered. People freely brought their troubles to him because they found him ready and able to deal with any difficulty,

affliction, or sickness which they encountered. When Simon brought Jesus to his home, his mother-in-law was instantly healed because Jesus heard Simon's prayer.

Bringing healing and wholeness is Jesus' ministry even today, and he has entrusted us with this responsibility. Let us ask the Lord for the ordinary healing we need in our own lives. When we are healed, let us not forget to thank Jesus for his goodness, mercy, and compassion by turning to serve others. In this Gospel, we are also told that Simon's mother-in-law served Jesus and his disciples after Jesus had cured her. Sometimes we are more interested in what we want Jesus to do for us than we are in thanking him for what he has already done. Fever could have killed Simon's mother-in-law, but Jesus restored her to good health. She decided to use the good health which Jesus had given her to serve Jesus and his disciples. Like Simon's mother-in-law, and we ought to show God appreciation by serving him as he deserves and by living our lives for others. Jesus wants us to take the blessings we have received and share them with others who we encounter, especially those who are in need.

We need to live for others as Jesus did: Jesus was a man for others, sharing what he had with others. In his life there was time for prayer, time for healing, and time for reconciliation. Let us take up this challenge by sharing love, mercy, compassion, and forgiveness with others.

**Your Pineapple for the week:**

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the

God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God” (2 Corinthians 1:3-4).