

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Christ

Sisters and brothers—

May the Lord give you peace! We gather as the Church at the onset of Holy Week 2022 to celebrate the Passion of the Lord Jesus! What really do the liturgies of this week celebrate? Amid the COVID—19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine, the violence in our cities we find solace and hope by inter-facing in the suffering of Jesus.

Church, YOU and I are connected in a very intimate way through the passion of the Lord. **The CROSS** + once a symbol of death and defeat is now our sign of

Resurrection—victory!

Beginning with our liturgy this morning, we are NOT being taken back in time, as if we were re-enacting the events of Holy Week. Rather, **we are celebrating what GOD is doing among us here and now!** We find our safety and security, our life and our hope in knowing the Lord has not abandoned us in this time of storm and uncertainty.

Like the disciples, we are caught off guard by a turbulent and unexpected storm. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis has reminded us that we are all on the same boat—fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us are called to row together, each one of us in need of comforting and supporting one another.

As we reflect back, it wasn't too long ago that we have been powerful and able to do anything. Pope Francis continues—

“Greedy for profit, we let ourselves get caught up in things and lured away by haste...we were not shaken by wars and injustices across the world, nor did we listen to the cry of the poor or that of our ailing planet. We tended to carry on regardless, thinking we would stay healthy in a world that was sick.”

Now, that we are in the stormy sea, we implore you, **“wake up, Lord!”**

Every time we gather around the Table of the Lord, **we encounter the Paschal Mystery— in the passion and suffering, death and resurrection and sending of the Holy Spirit.** Pope Francis challenges us how we are to navigate in this time of crisis with the need to invite JESUS into the boats of our storms. Reminding us, that we have an anchor in HIM, who is our life and resurrection!

The Gospel describes Jesus entering into Jerusalem, riding on a beast of burden...the transportation of the poor. He was greeted by enthusiastic crowds waving palm branches and shouting: **“Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest!”**

When receiving your **palm branches**, may it remind you of **our universal call to holiness of life!** Yes, you and I are called by Baptism to become **SAINTS!** That doesn't mean that we always get things right...for the Church is a community of sinners, struggling to become saints!

Let us take this week to enter into retreat as we pray and meditate, fast and celebrate, our journey from **Gospel—conversion to Easter—Transformation!** May our renewal of our Baptismal Promises be a sign to God and to one another that we are sisters and brothers in the Risen One!

Your brother in the Lord,
Friar Noel



St. Benedict the Moor Church

May the blessings of the
Lord be with you on a
Palm Sunday
and always.

Our Mission

St. Benedict the Moor is a Catholic Christian Community that celebrates its African-American heritage and welcomes cultural diversity. Join us at the Table of the Eucharist as sisters and brothers in the Lord. We are committed to grow and diversify the Church through the new evangelization, family, catechesis, young adult ministry and outreach to the poor. In the spirit of the prophet Joshua, we can say:

“As for me and my household; we will serve the Lord.”

April 10, 2022

PASSION OF THE LORD Palm Sunday

“My God, my God,
why have you abandoned me?”

St Benedict the Moor Parish

Sunday Mass: 10:30 am
Daily Masses: Mon.,Wed.,Fri. 12:00
Tues.,Thurs. 11:00am
Saturday: 9 am
Holy Days of Obligation:
Mass: 12 noon & 6:30 pm
(Exceptions will be posted)
Sacrament of Penance: Divine Mercy
Room Saturday 9:30am
or by Appointment

Emergencies:
call Fr.Noel: 410-818-8149
Office: 706- 323-8300

Communications
Address: St. Benedict the Moor
2935 9th Street
Columbus, Georgia 31906

Pastor

Fr. Noel Danielewicz, OFM Conv.
tau1226@gmail.com
410-818-8149

Staff

Administrative Assistant
Deborah Thompson

Director of Religious Education
Gail Buffong
706-536-8468

Director of Outreach
Beverly Casimier

Music Ministry
Mary Beth Kozee/Joe Saulsbury

Office Hours:

Pastor: Monday-Friday 10-11:30 am
1:00-3:00 pm
Secretary: Monday-Tuesday 10-2 pm
Wednesday-Thursday 10-4 pm

E-mail Address

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Website

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Church

2930 Thomas Street
Columbus, GA 31906

Community Hall/Office
2935 9th St.
Columbus GA 31906

Pastoral Concern

Lenten Penance Service

Sisters and brothers, the Sacrament of Penance will be available on Tuesday evening, April 12th at 6:00 p.m. This will be the final opportunity to receive the Easter Gift of Jesus, the sacrament of Penance. Travel light and leave your heavy burdens at the foot of the Cross.

St. Benedict Hall Renovations

This week 52 new LED fixtures will be installed by the Edwards Electrical Company in the Hall, Lobby and Church Offices. In time, we should see a decrease in our electrical bill. May the Lord keep on blessing us as we move forward in our growth as one welcoming and praying Church!

ACA: Annual Catholic Appeal

Sisters and brothers—If you haven't as yet made your pledge or paid on it, please do so. Our GOAL for the Church of St. Benedict the Moor 2022 is \$14,605. May the Lord keep on blessing your stewardship as we do our share in helping support the umbrella of ministries that are part and parcel of the Diocesan Church.

Special Collection : for our Sisters & Brothers in the Ukraine

The eyes of the world are fixed on the WAR in the Ukraine, that has caused a free people to be forced to leave their own country for the safety of women and children. We pray for our brothers and sisters, who are fighting for their human rights. The disregard for the sacredness of all human life has been documented as Crimes of War against humanity.

May the Lord touch our hearts, as we begin to respond with financial support and our storming the heavens for systemic change and accountability. As we see the face of the suffering Christ in our sisters and brothers, who are in dire need of our help. This is a blessed opportunity for us to reach out and make a difference. May the Lord bless our generosity a thousand—fold.

Stewardship:

Why and How Much Should I Be GIVING to the Church, to the Poor

by Ben Scott, Layman and Benefactor whose insights and experience have caused him and his wife, Louise to take a second look on tithing and the blessing of giving to the Church and to the Poor.

Did you realize that one half of the world lives on an average of \$2.50 a day. In third world countries, MALNUTRITION is rampant and even exists in developed countries. This is shameful given the fact that there is so much wealth in the world and that many people who have the ability to give are NOT sharing their resources with the poor; **a pandemic sin of omission.**

Jesus tells us— *“the more you are given (time, talent and treasure) the more is expected.”*

The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University found that the poor received a smaller percentage of charitable giving from higher income families, while lower income families gave a higher percentage of their income to the poor. It was learned, that most of the higher income charitable giving was going to cultural organizations.

Another outstanding statement confirms that 90% of Christians do not tithe. This fact will create a financial burden for the Church and limit its mission work.

Matthew 6: 21, 33 reminds us—**“Remember, where your treasure is, there your heart is also. Seek first his kingship over you, His way of holiness, and all these things will be given you besides.”**

Holy Week Collections

Palm Sunday: Ukraine
Holy Thursday: Return Rice Bowls
Good Friday: Holy Land
Easter Sunday: Priests Retirement

Worship and Pastoral Schedule

Sunday, April 10, 2022 10:30 a.m.

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
Church family of St. Benedict the Moor for the soul of **+Agnes Olbrys** (April 5, 2022)
Practice for Holy Thursday

Monday, April 11, 2022 12 Noon

Monday of Holy Week
+Patricia Hopper

7 p.m. Mercy Monday—Confessions at

Tuesday, April 12, 2022 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday of Holy Week
+Jean Queene

12 Noon Outreach Ministry
6:00 p.m. Lenten Penance Service at St. Benedict the Moor

Wednesday, April 13, 2022 12 Noon

Wednesday of Holy Week

+in Thanksgiving—25th Birthday of

Arun Benny

Thursday, April 14, 2022 5:00 p.m.

Holy Thursday—Mass of the Lord's Supper
for Franciscan Priestly Vocations
Handwashing—a Call to Serve!
Procession to the Altar of Repose
Adoration will follow this Evening's Mass
The Church will remain open until 9:00 p.m.

Friday, April 15, 2022 3:00 p.m.

Good Friday of the Passion of the Lord
Service of the Word—Stations
Veneration of the Cross
Communion Service

Saturday, April 16, 2022 6:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday—The Easter Vigil
for Peace in the Ukraine

Service of the Word
Blessing of Fire/Lighting of Paschal Candle
Blessing of Holy Water & Renewal of Baptismal Promises
The Eucharist

Sunday, April 17, 2022 10:30 a.m.

Easter Sunday—the Resurrection of the Lord
Renewal of Baptismal Promises
Outdoor Reception

Stewardship

Weekly Finance Report: April 3, 2022

Offertory: \$2145.00 (online \$255.00)

Catholic Relief: \$20

Building Fund: \$1225.00

Easter Flowers: \$31

Utilities: \$165.00

Our stewardship is an act of thanksgiving for everything we have and are. It is an act of personal response to our Baptismal call: to live in a faith community committed to the Lord Jesus Christ and committed to serve each other's needs.

In Our Prayers

Fr. Noel Danielewicz	Veronica Mary Koleser
Valentina Nejfelt	Lenny Korona
Helen Bell	Mittie Lewis
Beverly Casimier	Rishi Mahabir
Amanda Cole	Brenda Malone
Mik Cole	Delores McLeod
Robert Cole	Ruben Meinhofer & Fam.
LaKeith Collier	Denvey Nelson
Paul Danielewicz	Major Nettles
Robert Dozier	Cordell Parker
Carl English	Gwendolyn Parker
Carlos Gaslin	Debra Pough
Yvonne Gilberti	Evelyn Pough
Elizabeth Grey	Joe Ravalese
Sarah Hicks	Joan Rogala
Ginnette Hughes	Adryonna Rutherford
Lillian Humber	David Savoy
Cecelia Hyams	Elaine Shorty
Sabrina Jackson	Lydia Sliva
Clarence Johnson	Madeline Smith
Albertine Jones	Friar Jude Surowiec
Brittany Jones	Emi Talbert
Cecil Jones	Dorothy Washington
Donald Julien	Mamie Wooden
Earl King	
Elvia King	