

PASTORAL CONCERNS

Our Sympathy and Prayers

The Church—Family of St. Benedict expresses our sincere condolences to Maria Turner and family upon the death of her husband, Joseph. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at Noon here at St. Benedict. I would like to thank the Knights of Columbus for leading us in the Rosary during the Wake Service on Tuesday evening. Special thanks to our Funeral Choir under the direction of Dr. Joseph Saulsbury and for all those parishioners who participated in any way. Your ministry of prayer and presence is invaluable.

Thank—you & Thank—You

In the name of the entire community, I would like to thank all those who participated in our **Spring Cleanup of the Church Shed**. Some 25 volunteers showed up for a yeomans job of emptying out the shed, sorting out the items and organizing the contents that would be kept. We were able to fill a dumpster, donate to Goodwill, and recycle.

The Shed will need a new ceiling and some termite control service ASAP. This is all part of maintaining good stewardship of our property and buildings. Thank—you one and all for your giving and devotion to St. Benedict the Moor Church—Family!

Chapter/Gathering of Friars

The Conventual Franciscan Friars of the Province of Our Lady of the Angels will be gathering in Chapter a fraternal and spiritual meeting of elections of leadership, and direction of the fraternity into the next quadrennium. This year, sixty delegates along with another 10 Friars of the current administration will meet to review the past four years of ministry and fraternal life of the Province along the eastern seaboard of the United States and Canada.

Mid—week, the newly elected Provincial, Friar Michael Heine and his council will be installed. The Friars will meet to discuss proposals for new directions of ministry and formation in the second phase of Chapter that will begin in July at the Maritime Center in Baltimore, Maryland.

Please keep the Friars in Chapter in your prayers, as they listen to the voice of the Spirit of God speaking through their brothers. It was at the Chapter of 2018 that the Friars accepted the invitation of our brother, Archbishop Gregory Hartmayer to staff three parishes in Columbus, Georgia, namely, St. Anne, St. Benedict the Moor, and Our Lady of Lourdes. Holy Father, St. Francis of Assisi and our Mother Clare of Assisi be with the Friars in this time of discernment and decision.

Renovation Update

The Church Hall renovation continues with the dry—walling of the lobby. On Tuesday, May 17th the new flooring arrived and work began on removing the old tile floor. It is labor intensive since the original tiling was glued to the sub—floor.

On Wednesday, May 18th, the remainder of the floor in the hall and the lobby was removed and the work of installing the new pergo flooring began. Let us continue to be supportive of our efforts to move forward in being good stewards of our buildings. May God keep on blessing all those who have been so generous to make a dream become a reality.

Current ACA Report

Our ACA chairperson, Brother Richard Gibbs reminds us that we are still in need of honoring our commitment to pledging for the Annual Catholic Appeal. This year's GOAL for St. Benedict the Moor is \$14,605. To date we have pledged \$8,600 and have paid \$6,394 on our pledges. May God keep us faithful to our responsibility of meeting our portion for the ministries beyond parish borders. From the Diocesan tracking report 35% of the parish participated. Where are the other 65%?

Letter from Provincial: Friar James

Enclosed in this week's bulletin is a letter from Friar James McCurry, OFM Conv., Provincial of Our Lady of the Angels Province for the past 12 years. Please read his letter that was written for Friars staffed for the past four years.

Stewardship

Weekly Finance Report: May 15, 2022

Offertory: \$2790.00 (online \$255.00)

Repast: \$180.00

Building Fund: \$980.00

Altar Flowers: \$200.00

Utilities: \$100.00

Church Repair: \$100.00 (online \$400.00)

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.

St. Benedict the Moor Church



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."

May 22, 2022

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*"O God, O God,
let all the nations praise you!"*

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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Phone: 706- 323-8300

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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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sisters and Brothers,
in the Risen Lord— peace and blessings in this Easter season of new life and promise!

Our historical source of life in the early Church draws from the Acts of the Apostles. Luke offers us a further glimpse of the developing Church, as we are headed to visit a prison in Philippi, Greece. Here we find **Paul and Silas** arrested by the authorities and incarcerated for preaching about the Name.

Upon their arrest, they were stripped and beaten with rods and thrown into prison. About the midnight hour an intervention takes place while Paul and Silas were praying and praising the Lord... the doors of their cells sprung open and the chains of all imprisoned were pulled loose.

Amid all of this, the **prison guard** moved by the power of God from taking his very life...began to ask Paul and Silas, **what must he do to be saved?** It was a moment of conversion...a change of heart...a graced opportunity, that he was seared by the Spirit of God.

Paul and Silas spoke the Word of God to the guard and he and his family sought to be baptized and were saved. As a result of all of this, the guard brought the disciples home and bathed their wounds and provided a meal for them. They all rejoiced and were glad, that God visited the prison and their home that night. Paul and Silas became quite aware that God used them as instruments of **bringing the Good News** of salvation to both the guard and his family.

Church—what took place in the Acts of the Apostles, can be taking place today in a variety of situations that we find ourselves in. There are plenty of opportunities **to prepare a fertile ground for the receptivity of sharing the FAITH** with seekers and believers, who are searching for God.

There are so many moments in time as sickness, an accident, a tragedy or death that can be an opportune **moment of WAKE UP!** My youngest brother relayed a story of he and a friend upon having an exhilarating time on the water after kayaking, they heard a disruptive noise that sounded like crackling fireworks. Looking up they saw a 60 foot tree that was falling in their direction. The tree missed them by 10 feet...and Paul's response was—**"God was with us!"** They found the

situation as both scary and miraculous!

Reflecting upon our own life experiences, we, like Paul, Silas, and the Prison Guard and his family had a great deal in common. We have just witnessed in the Word of God **the power of deliverance**. When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we ask God **"to deliver us from evil!"**

And so we pray—

that the Lord would deliver us from the evil of judging and criticizing others and give us the grace of support and encouragement.

we pray that the Lord would deliver us from lust and promiscuity and gift us with reverence and chastity.

we pray that God will deliver us from the violence that has escalated throughout our nation and gift us with the grace of nonviolence.

we ask God to deliver us from envy and greed, and bless us with the desire for simplicity of life and the gift of being generous.

we pray that God would deliver us from pain and brokenness, and gift us with healing and wholeness.

we pray that the Lord would deliver us from the chains of addiction that bind us, so that we may know the freedom of the sons and daughters of God!

As Jesus prepares the apostles for his return to the Father, He promises to send the **Paraclete** who will teach us everything and reminds us of all that He said to us. The role of the Holy Spirit is one of being an **advocate or consoler**. He intervenes before the Father's justice on behalf of the wrongdoings of sinners.

Church, let us wait in prayerful expectation for the Spirit of the Lord to come upon the Church this Pentecost 2022. My prayer for the Church—Family of St. Benedict is that you may **receive the gifts of passion and boldness** to do the work of the New Evangelization. That we may NOT allow fear to keep us from proclaiming JESUS to the world by the way we love the sisters and brothers. How? By feeding the hungry, educating the young and not so young in the Catholic Christian Faith for starters....

Let us pray together—

"Come, Holy Spirit and renew the face of the earth...renew the face of the Church! And may God bless St. Benedict's with the blessings of new life and membership for years to come. Amen and Amen!

Your brother in the Lord,
Friar Noel



Altar Flowers are donated
in memory of
Marie Thornton
on the anniversary of her birth
by Mary Johnson

Worship and Pastoral Schedule

Sunday, May 22, 2022 10:30 a.m.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Intention of +Joseph Clay Turner

St. Benedict the Moor Church--Family

Monday, May 23, 2022 12 Noon

Easter Weekday the soul of +John Haggas

Tuesday, May 24, 2022 11:00 a.m.

Easter Weekday

blessings of health for Friar Noel

Outreach Ministry 12 Noon

Wednesday, May 25, 2022 12 Noon

Easter Weekday

for the work of the Provincial Chapter of the Province of Our Lady of the Angels

Thursday, May 26, 2022 11:00 a.m.

St. Philip Neri

blessings upon the Nejfelt and Danielewicz Families

Outreach Ministry 12 Noon

Friday, May 27, 2022 12 Noon

St. Augustine of Canterbury

blessings upon Valentina Nejfelt & Family

Saturday, May 28, 2022 9:00 a.m.

Easter Weekday

soul of +Janet Milwicz

Sacrament of Penance 9:30 a.m.

Pastoral & Finance Councils 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 29, 2022 10:30 a.m.

The Ascension of the Lord

Intentions of St. Benedict the Moor Church

soul of +Richard Nejfelt (5-15-22)

In Our Prayers

Fr. Noel Danielewicz
Valentina Nejfelt
Helen Bell
Beverly Casimier
Amanda Cole
Mik Cole
Robert Cole
LaKeith Collier
Paul Danielewicz
Robert Dozier
Carl English
James Fisher
Ollie Fisher
Carlos Gaslin
Yvonne Gilberti
Elizabeth Grey
Sarah Hicks
Ginnette Hughes
Lillian Humber
Cecelia Hyams
Sabrina Jackson
Clarence Johnson
Albertine Jones
Brittany Jones
Cecil Jones

Donald Julien
Earl King
Elvia King
Veronica Mary Koleser
Lenny Korona
Mittie Lewis
Rishi Mahabir
Brenda Malone
Delores McLeod
Ruben Meinhofer & Fam.
Burnett Nelson
Denvey Nelson
Major Nettles
Cordell Parker
Gwendolyn Parker
Debra Pough
Evelyn Pough
Joe Ravalese
Joan Rogala
Elaine Shorty
Shawn Siegman
Lydia Sliva
Madeline Smith
Friar Jude Surowiec
Emi Talbert
Dorothy Washington

