



Saint Benedict the Moor Parish

Personal Parish for Black Catholics in Pittsburgh

"With God All Things Are Possible!"

JUNE 20, 2021

Mass Schedule

Sunday 10:30 am

Livestream:

facebook.com/SBTMPGH/live

**Sacrament
of Reconciliation,
Baptisms, Weddings,
and Funerals**

by appointment.

Adoration

Thursday 10:00 am



Our church is accessible.

Staff

Rev. Thomas J. Burke, Pastor:

tburke@diopitt.org

Rev. David H. Taylor,

Senior Parochial Vicar:

dtaylor@diopitt.org

Rev. C. Matthew Hawkins,

Parochial Vicar:

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Priscilla Davis, Office Manager

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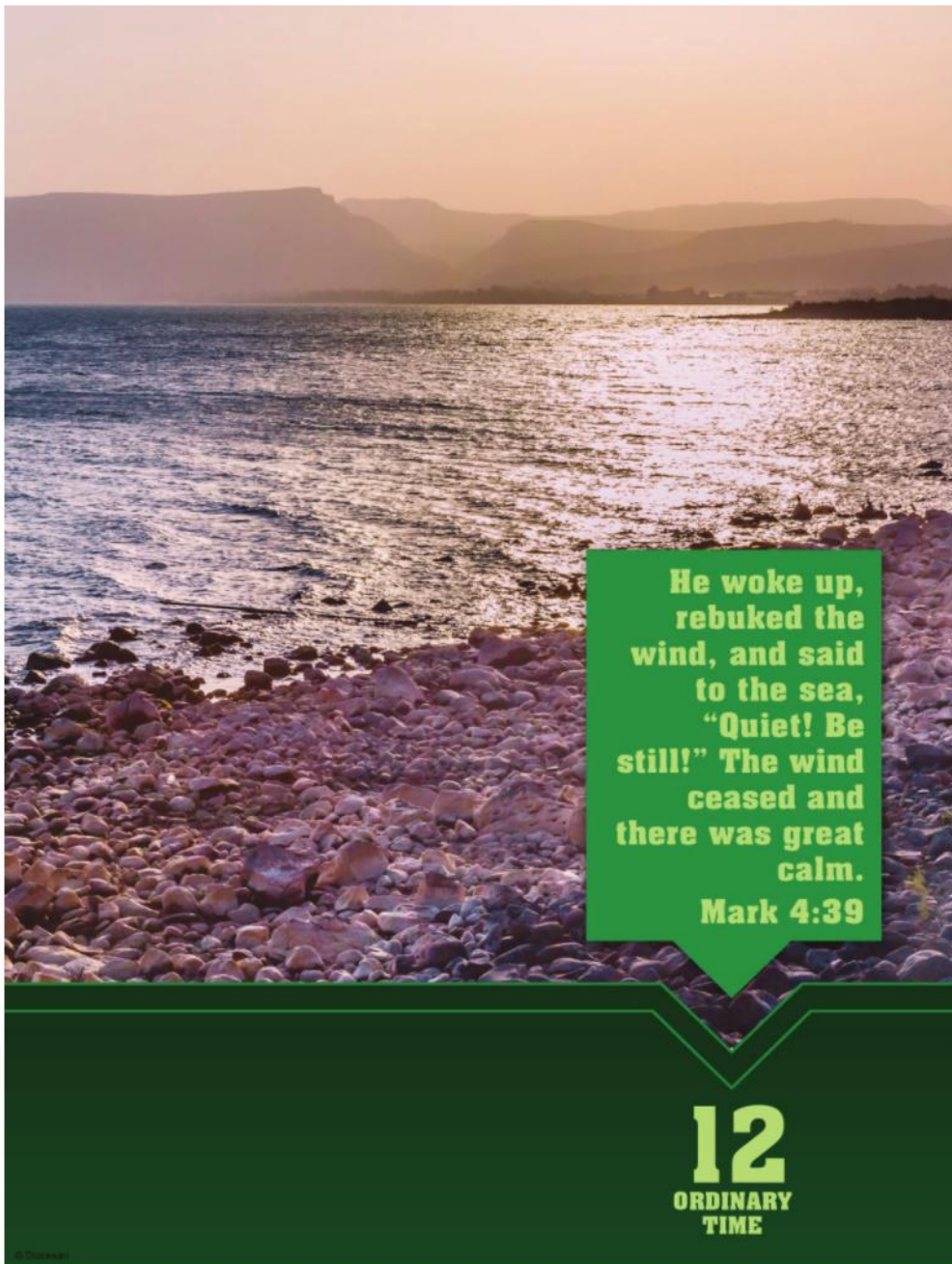
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St. Benedict the Moor Parish-PGH



[SBTMPARISHPGH](https://www.instagram.com/SBTMPARISHPGH)



[SBTmparishPGH](https://www.youtube.com/SBTmparishPGH)

Pray For All Who Request Prayers

Our parish community prays for those who request prayers for any reason. If you, a family member, or friend would like to be on our prayer list, please contact the Parish Office at 412.281.3141 or office@sbtm-parish-pgh.org.

Duane Ashley
Dorothy Brisbane
Rita Costa
Edward Davis
Rita Davis
Robert Davis
Dolores Denton
Frederick Elliott

Lydia Francis
Marie Francis
Woody Frazier
James Fuller
Ann Fultz
Janet Glass
Brenda Glenn
Mary Graham

Alda White Johnson
The Jackson Family
Sandra Johnson
Salima Kamadoli
Aisha Lado
Lynda Ravnell Lewis
Josephine O'Connor
Nicole Orlando

Mary Samuels
Genevieve Sanford
Janice Simmons
Rudolph Williams
Jenell Younger

Mass Intentions

June 20 10:30 am
Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Matthew Hawkins

All of the Deceased and Living Fathers,
Uncles, and Brothers of Saint Benedict the
Moor Parish

June 27 10:30 am
Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Matthew Hawkins

Sisters Dorothy Durant, Ruth Gee,
and Linda Dunson
(Marilyn Dunson)

Stewardship June 13

Offertory	PSP	Special Collections
\$3,085.00	\$485.00	\$89.00

God Bless
OUR FATHERS

I will instruct you
and show you the
way you should
walk, give you
counsel with my
eye upon you.

Psalms 32:8

Welcome!

**Saint Benedict the Moor Parish extends a warm welcome to
Dr. Kathy Humphrey, the incoming President of
Carlow University, and her husband Lyle Humphrey.**

**Dr. Humphrey is an innovative and passionate leader within
the higher education field, and across the Pittsburgh
community. They will be joining our Mass celebration on
Sunday, June 20, 2021 as an introduction to the Black
Catholic Community in Pittsburgh.**

Upcoming Event

Not many African Americans are Catholic; not many Catholics are African American. What does it mean to be a member of the rare population that is both Catholic and African American? How might the American Catholic Church engage African American communities more constructively in the future than it has in the past? How might Black Catholics more constructively engage the Catholic Church?

At 1:00 PM on Sunday, June 27th via zoom, Catholics for Change in Our Church (<https://ccoc-pgh.org/>) will host a discussion with a panel of Black Catholics from the Diocese of Pittsburgh about African American membership in the Catholic Church.

SBTM Sunday School is In Need of Your Help

Restarting our program from scratch takes time, talent, and treasure. Right now we need YOUR TREASURE to assist with the cost of program materials including books, craft supplies, music, and retreats.

We are asking **YOU** to sponsor a **SBTM** child.

_____ \$50 for one child

\$_____ whatever you can afford.

**Thank you for your generosity! For More Information
Please See a Member of the Religious Education Committee**



Pastor's Note

Happy Father's Day!

My dad, Bill Burke is a very humble man. He grew up in Hazelwood, attended St. Stephen's Elementary School and graduated from Central Catholic in 1958. After high school he served in the Navy then came home and entered the Pittsburgh Police Academy. He served as a Police Officer for thirty years and was the founder of the Law Enforcement Officers Memorial on the North Shore. My dad is a wonderful husband, father grandfather and great grandfather. I really look up to my dad as wonderful mentor and role model. He taught me how to ride a bike and drive a car and went on several Boy Scout Camping trips over the years. A devoted husband for fifty-nine years to my mom, Marge, my dad was a hard worker and faith filled man. A true hero in my eyes.

Happy Father's Day to all our fathers, grandfathers, stepfathers, uncles, or any man who holds father like role to someone. Let us pray for all our fathers living and deceased this Father's Day weekend.

Today, we celebrate the Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time. All the readings focus on calming the storms in our life... quiet and be still.

In the first reading from Job, we read how Job had to face many storms in his life; losing his family and possessions, a true test of faith. In the Second Reading to the Corinthians, we read how Christ

showed his love by dying for us. We are to imitate that love. In the Gospel of Mark, by calming the storm Jesus shows his divine power and his care for his disciples. In the calming of the storm, the apostles witnessed a work that only the power of God can save them. Mark is using the story for teaching purposes. The disciples feel that the Lord has abandoned them, but they are summoned to have faith in his presence with them and care for them.

To grow in faith, we need to deepen our relationship with Jesus and to spend time with him daily and include him through prayer. We can survive the storms in our life with his help.

Attention Class of 2021!

Graduates of the Class of 2021 who are members of St. Benedict the Moor Parish are invited to be recognized next Sunday, June 27th at the 10:30am mass by Fr. Matthew Hawkins. Graduates are invited to wear their cap and gown. Please RSVP to Priscilla Davis by Friday, June 18 at 412-281-3141 or e-mail at office@sbtmparishpgh.com.

Priesthood Ordination

Next, Saturday, June 26 at St. Paul Cathedral, Bishop David Zubik will ordain **Joseph S. Uzar Jr.** to the priesthood. Joe grew up in Carnegie and is from the newly merged parish St. Raphael the Archangel Parish serving Carnegie/Green Tree/Scott Township. We pray for **Joe** as he prepares to serve the church of Pittsburgh.

Congratulations to **Fr. Matthew Hawkins** who will be celebrating his First Anniversary of his Priesthood Ordination next Sunday, June 27!

We Are Open!

We are now open to full capacity for mass. New signs have been put up indicating that those who are fully vaccinated may attend Mass without wearing a mask. Those not fully vaccinated or those fully vaccinated who feel more

comfortable seated around others who are wearing masks, reserved sections are available while attending Mass. Those who are not comfortable yet to return to mass can continue to mail in their weekly envelope or participate in our online giving program.

Bishop Zubik has dispensed every one of the Sunday obligation until further notice so those who are at risk or with health issues still can refrain from coming to Mass. Those who are unable to attend Mass physically are welcome to view the Mass Livestream.

Mission Appeal

Thank you to all who participated in last weekends is Annual Mission Co-op Appeal for the **Diocese of Muranga in Kenya (East Africa)**. Please disregard the offertory envelope in the July packet. The Diocese moved up the date of the appeal to be held in June instead of July.

St. Benedict the Moor Center

We are still working with the Diocese and Ayisha Morgan-Lee to transfer ownership of the former St. Benedict the Moor School, Rectory and Convent on Bedford Avenue. We hope to close on the transaction in the next several weeks.

Something to Think About...

A smooth sea never made a skillful mariner.

With God, All Things Are Possible!

**Fr. Tom Burke
Pastor**

E-Mail: tburke@diopitt.org

Fr. David Taylor

Jesus is a bridge over troubled waters. Today's readings from Job and Mark, although intended to increase our faith, also shows us how we can be that reassurance for others. This classic Psalm reminds us that we have to be the extension of God's care and concern for our neighbor. Job really never lost his faith but rather found it tested almost beyond limits. God tells Job, and each of us that we are not in full control of our destinies. Because of this we can share our faith and our weakness with others. Jesus makes the same point in calming the waters. Although he comes to the rescue, Jesus gives the mandate to them to carry on in the Post Resurrection new church.

It is truly human for us to have doubts and fears, but life has shown us that often in our weakest moments we can be the "Bridge Over Troubled Waters" for one another. There are many barriers and obstacles we face in life. A lot of them we impose on ourselves. We can be a bridge or safety net, leading the way to safety. This is especially true whenever we can make gratitude a way of life. We must be both givers and receivers of the faith and hope that God ultimately will provide.

Recently we observed the one hundredth anniversary of the Tulsa Massacre. As we remember the faith and determination of all of the victims and the survivors, perhaps we are not so surprised about the extent of the hate which lead to this horrific event. Now we, this weekend, observe Juneteenth. The Emancipation Proclamation did little to help and support the newly freed slaves. Events like the Tulsa Massacre and many others is the proof of this. The newly "freed" people faced a reality meant to destroy any sense of hope. The murders, lynchings, and burnings became a staple long after the Emancipation. Sadly, many churches participated in this degradation.

Two years ago, I attended a family reunion in Kentucky. We not only traced our heritage to that time, but we shared pictures and stories of the survival of our ancestors. But we have "Come This Far by Faith." People must know their history in order to continue the faith. Today there are attempts to remove teaching this part of American History. We must never allow this to happen. The bigotry and racism still around us today bear this out. We must remember, celebrate, and believe.

As we celebrate Father's Day I cannot help but emphasize the many sacrifices made by our parents to make life better for all of us. A lot of the strength of our parish comes from many dedicated men who teach the faith as a regular way of life.

Fr. Matthew Hawkins

The Church has certainly weathered serious storms in recent years, but are our times any different from other times in the Church's history? In the Hebrew Bible and in the Christian New Testament, storms and water were symbolic of chaos and death. When we read, in the Gospel according to Saint Mark, the disciples were in a small boat with Jesus and "A violent squall came up and waves were breaking over the boat, so that it was already filling up," the early Church, which was listening as the Gospel was read to them out loud, could see themselves in this passage. The passage, for them, was not just a story about the disciples 30 years earlier, it was also about the chaos and turmoil that threatened to engulf their Church at the time they were hearing about it.

This image of danger and chaos was also reflected in Psalm 107, which read: "They who sailed the sea in ships, trading on the deep waters, His command raised up a storm wind which tossed its waves on high." The scene would have reminded one of a rollercoaster ride if it had not been so deadly: "They mounted up to heaven; they sank to the depths; their hearts melted away in their plight." The rising and the falling of the boat reminds us that there is nothing unique about the turbulence in the Church in our times.

In the Gospel of Mark, although Jesus was with the disciples they were afraid that things had gotten out of his control. They felt compelled to awaken him to their troubles and to take action to put an immediate end to their fears. The Gospel tells us: "Jesus was in the stern, asleep on a cushion. They woke him and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' The Psalmist in Hebrew scriptures knew the anxieties that the early Church would later experience in their own

time, and the anxieties that many of us feel today. It is the fear that God is no longer tending the people he cultivated to carry knowledge of Him to the world. The Psalmist shows us that, whether Hebrew or Christian, the people to whom God has revealed Godself are given to experience a similar anxiety over their circumstances and impatience with God: "They cried to the LORD in their distress...(Ps 107)."

Yet, one of the most persistent patterns in the narrative of salvation throughout the ages is that in times when death and chaos seem to have triumphed over life and fulfillment in God that God demonstrates that He is God. God's purpose, in times of confusion and hardship, is not merely to bring an end to our suffering, important as that may be for us, rather God's purpose is to give us something that is much more valuable: it is to give us an awareness of God's presence.

In the Gospel according to Mark, Jesus woke up, "rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Quiet! Be still!'" The Psalmist says that God "hushed the storm to a gentle breeze, and the billows of the sea were still."

These passages remind us of God's words in the Book of Job:

Who shut within doors the sea,
... When I set limits for it
and fastened the bar of its door,
and said: Thus far shall you come but no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stilled! (Jb 38)

In other words, in the midst of the chaos, God's presence was revealed and he asked his disciples, "Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?" This is the same question that Jesus asks of us today.

ST. BENEDICT THE MOOR PARISH WANTS YOUR HELP!

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