



Saint Benedict the Moor Parish

Personal Parish for Black Catholics in Pittsburgh

"With God All Things Are Possible!"

APRIL 10, 2022

Mass Schedule

Sunday 11:00 am
Livestream:
facebook.com/SBTMPGH/live

**Sacrament
of Reconciliation,
Baptisms, Weddings,
and Funerals**
by appointment.

 Our church is accessible.

Staff

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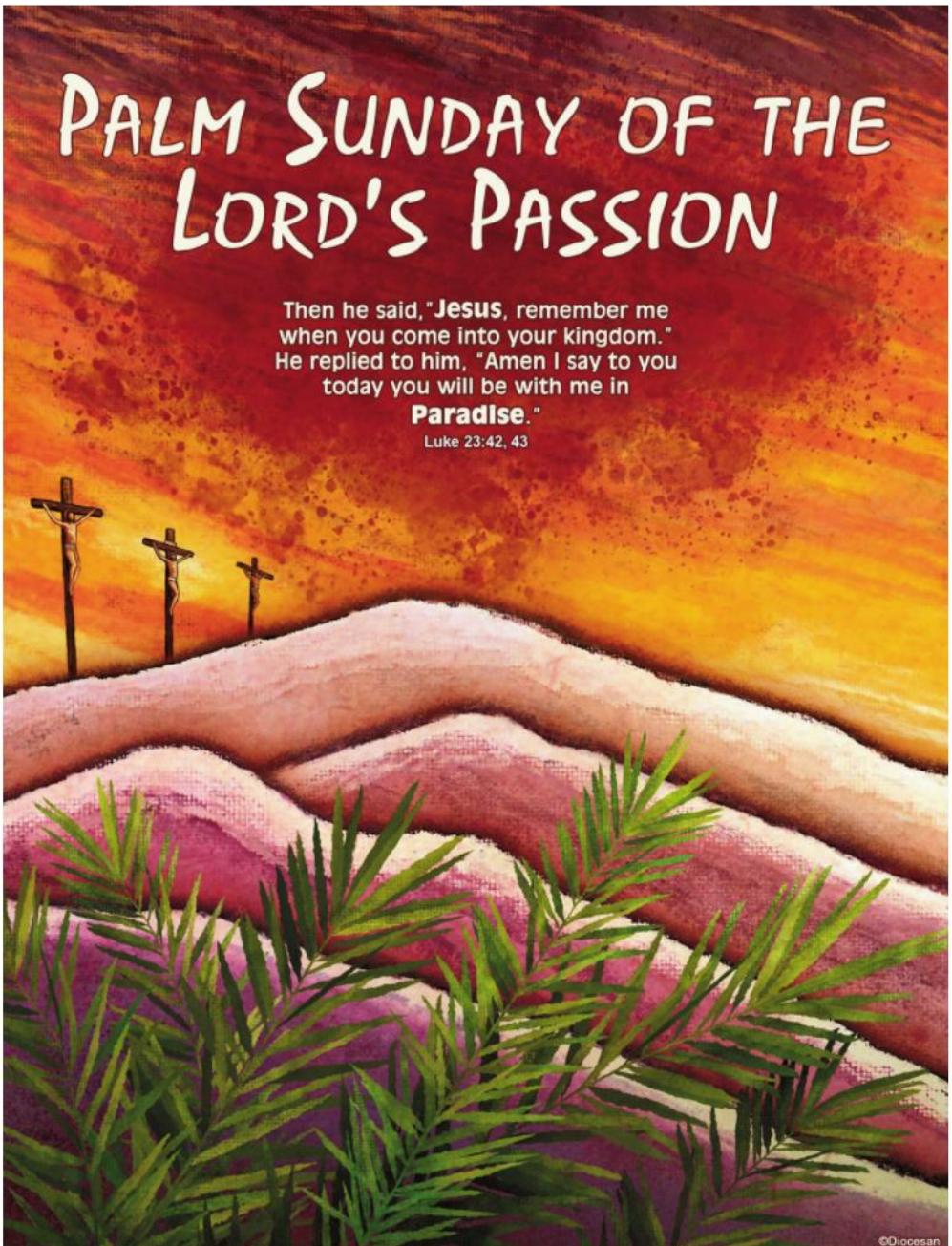
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St. Benedict the Moor Parish-PGH



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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@sbtmparishpgh.org.

Joseph Anthony
Duane Ashley
Dorothy Brisbane
Marqus Clancy
Kristen Ashley-Cooper
Rita Costa
Dorothy Dansby
Edward Davis
Gloria Davis
Robert Davis

Dolores Denton
Frederick Elliott
Fomunjeng Family
Lydia Francis
Marie Francis
Woody Frazier
Sarah Freker
James Fuller
Ann Fultz
Janet Glass

Brenda Glenn
Christina Hall
Vincent Hall Sr
Vincent Hall Jr
Alda White Johnson
The Jackson Family
Sandra Johnson
Salima Kamadoli
Stella Lowden
Josephine O'Connor

Nicole Orlando
Mary Samuels
Genevieve Sanford
Janice Simmons
Rudolph Williams
Jenell Younger

Mass Intentions

April 10 11:00 am

Palm Sunday

Fr. David Taylor
Mable Dinwiddie Whitley+
(Jennifer Lynn Whitley)

April 17 11:00 am

Easter Sunday

Fr. Matthew Hawkins
All Parishioners and Family of SBTM

Stewardship APRIL 3

Offertory	PSP	Special Collections
\$5,162.00	\$135.00	\$433.00

Birthdays April 10th—April 16th

**Olawake Elegure
Marissa Randall
Todey Doerue
Avayah Freeman
Owen Rubin
Veronica Morgan-Lee**

Happy Birthday!!



St. Benedict the Moor Parish Youth Mass

We invite you to come celebrate with us in our Youth Mass. This Mass will be led by the St. Benedict the Moor Religious Ed Students at:

St. Benedict the Moor Church
Sunday, April 24th, 2022
Second Sunday of Easter
11:00am Mass

All are welcome to attend!

If you have any questions or need more information. Please contact, our office manager Ms. Priscilla Davis at: office@sbtmparishpgh.com or call: (412) 281- 3141

Easter Blessing of Families Bishops of Pittsburgh to Bless Families Easter Afternoon at Cathedral

Bishop David Zubik, with the auxiliary bishops of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, will bless families at Saint Paul Cathedral on Easter Sunday afternoon, April 17, 2-4 p.m. Prayers will be offered at 2 p.m., but families may arrive at any time during the afternoon to meet, greet and receive the blessing of the bishops. Saint Paul Cathedral is at the intersection of Fifth Avenue and North Craig Street in the Oakland neighborhood of Pittsburgh.

*Your special ways and generous heart
make a beautiful difference. Thank you
so much.
- The Harris Family*





Pastor's Note

Hosanna!

We begin an incredibly special week as we reflect on The Lord's Supper, Passion, Death, and Resurrection. Today, our liturgy is divided into three parts: commemoration of the Lord's entrance into Jerusalem, Liturgy of the Word, and Liturgy of the Eucharist. We read two gospels from Luke, a joyful procession into Jerusalem, then the Passion Story. Jesus is both a prophet and savior and is portrayed as unafraid about the fate that lies before him. Today's mass recognizes that Jesus' full glory and kingship would only come about when he was lifted up. The experience of being love and hated, of being welcomed and then rejected, provides us strength to enjoy the difficulties of our own life.

Today's first and second readings offer biblical themes for reflecting on Jesus' suffering and death. In the First Reading from Isaiah, we read how the prophet suffers in carrying out his mission, but is confident that God will vindicate him. Gods' servant experiences typical rejection, even though he is speaking a word to the weary. Though he is bringing good news to the people, it does not protect him from violence. Yet the servant remains faithful, firm in his trust in God and sure of the divine goodness of his mission.

In the Second Reading to the Philippians, because Jesus took on

himself, our human condition and accepted death on a cross, the Father has made him Lord of heaven and earth. Paul encourages the community that they should shine like lights in the world by imitating the humble Christ who served others rather than himself.

The Passion story shows how Jesus responded to what was done to him. He absorbed all the violence, transformed it, and returned it as love and forgiveness. We see amid his Passion, Christ cared about others- the women of Jerusalem who sympathized with him, the thief being nailed to the cross next to him, and his mother Mary. Even when they nailed his hands and feet to the cross, he was loving as Luke presents a Christ who is merciful and forgiving. He forgives his executioners, and on the cross he brings salvation to a criminal.

The Passion of Jesus gives courage, strength, and hope to all who suffer. We are never alone. By uniting our suffering to the sufferings of Jesus, we can find peace.

This weekend at our 11am Mass, we welcome the Little Sisters of the Poor who are taking up a collection at our church doors for their ministry to the elderly at their beautiful personal care home on Benton Avenue in Brighton Heights. Please be as generous as possible.

Happy Holy Week!

Living Stations

Please join us this Sunday evening, **Palm Sunday, April 10 at 7:30pm** at St. Bede Church in Point Breeze for Living Stations performed by the St. Kilian Parish Youth Ministry program. Over fifty youth will perform the Stations of the Cross live. The Knights of Peter Claver and the Christian Mothers of St. Mary Magdalene Parish will be providing dinner for the cast and crew.

Looking Ahead

- **Holy Thursday- April 14, 6:30pm**

Mass of the Lord's Supper—Church will remain open until 10pm for private prayer.

- **Good Friday- April 15, 12:30pm
Stations of the Cross & 1:30pm
Liturgy of the Word service**
- **Holy Saturday- April 16, 7pm-
Easter Vigil**
- **Easter Sunday- April 17, 11am**

The parish office will close at Noon on Wednesday, April 13 and reopen on Tuesday, April 19 at 10am.

I will be on my annual Spring Retreat- Monday April 18 thru Friday April 22.

Parish Share

The Annual Parish Share 2022 Campaign has begun. **Our goal is \$30,000.** Every registered parishioner should have received a Parish Share Information packet and pledge card in the mail. Please complete the pledge card either paid in full or with a pledge payable to "St. Benedict the Moor Parish" and memo the check "Parish Share" and return it in the parish envelope that was provided. Extra envelopes and information packets are available in the back of the church.

No funds collected via the program go towards lawsuits or legal affairs, they support the day- to- day operations at the Pastoral Center and Seminary in Green Tree, the Hospital Chaplaincy programs in our area hospitals and nursing homes, tuition scholarships and grants for our Catholic Elementary and Secondary Schools, and the Campus Ministry programs at our local colleges and universities.

Something to Think About...

My only ambition is to serve God in the most humble tasks.

- St. Andre Bessette

With God, All Things Are Possible!

Fr. Tom Burke

Pastor

tburke@diopitt.org

Fr. David Taylor

Today we begin a week in which we can review and participate in the richness of salvation. This is far more than a week to observe, it is a week to actually participate in the life, death, and Resurrection of the Lord and how this changes every aspect of our lives.

The two gospels read today show us the challenge of living a committed Christian life in a world full of moral contradictions and apathy. The Gospel for the procession shows Jesus as a servant leader with the full support of his people. The gospel narrative proclaims Jesus as the suffering servant who will do anything to save his people. In both accounts, Jesus is fully faithful to his mission.

The Passion story shows how Jesus responds to what was done to him. Although he appears weak, he is in full control. There is no glorification of suffering and death. If anything, it is the ultimate example of faithful love. He teaches us that suffering can be redemptive, and there is no greater act of forgiveness. We are invited to see our own suffering and death in light of this. Luke emphasizes the preeminent role of women in his gospel. They are most faithful during his passion, and we know that Mary Magdalene was the first to witness the reality of Resurrection.

Let's plan to lay aside this week. Each day carries a wealth of spiritual support to enable us to be faithful to our own ministries. Just two years ago we were unable to attend these special devotions in person. What a blessing to be together again.

Fr. Matthew Hawkins

We now enter a period of our liturgical calendar that challenges our conventional notions of "greatness."

When you look at our politics, our entertainment, sports, and business and finance, the people who come readily to mind are full of themselves and give undue attention to their public image. Our notion of "greatness" correlates with self-absorption, even building one's reputation at the expense of others. Our operating philosophy seems to be, "I must diminish you so that I can feel great."

It is surprising, therefore, that God, the Author of all Creation, approached greatness in exactly the opposite way. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. Consider Paul the Apostle's notion of greatness. In his letter to the Philippians, Paul wrote: "Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped." In other words, although Jesus was of the same substance as God the Father and was perfectly entitled to all of the prerogatives of his divinity, he did not cling to these prerogatives like people who cling to their titles and social status out of insecurity.

Paul writes: "Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." Jesus did not seek the high places of status, power, and social esteem. Instead, like water, he flowed where the ground was lowest and flowed around obstacles, relentlessly pursuing the destiny to which God was

calling him.

This is a notion of greatness that boggles the human mind. It is a notion of greatness that is rooted in obedience. So profoundly grounded in obedience is this notion of greatness that, as Paul points out, it was "obedience to the point of death." And it was not just any type of death; it was death in the most scandalous and humiliating manner: "death on a cross."

Our notion of greatness is that we always have to puff ourselves up, but Jesus pointed to self-emptying as the path to greatness. That was not a human notion of greatness. Therein his divinity was revealed to those with the gifts of discernment. Paul wrote: "at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord." If we are wise, we will recognize the presence of God in His humility.

But notice, even when we recognize the greatness of Jesus, it is not for his self-aggrandizement and elevation; it is to give glory to God the Father. Our human notion of greatness is distorted. We believe that we are great when we make everything about ourselves. When we do this, we become very small. Our greatness comes from emptying ourselves and glorifying God in all we think, desire, say, and do. This is how we live in the image of the One who created us.

ST. BENEDICT THE MOOR PARISH WANTS YOUR HELP!

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