



Saint Benedict the Moor Parish

Personal Parish for Black Catholics in Pittsburgh

"With God All Things Are Possible!"

OCTOBER 9, 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

Rev. Thomas J. Burke, Pastor:

tburke@diopitt.org

Rev. David H. Taylor,

Senior Parochial Vicar:

dtaylor@diopitt.org

Rev. C. Matthew Hawkins,

Parochial Vicar:

mhawkins@diopitt.org

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office@sbtmparishpgh.com

Jeannette Finch, Sacristan

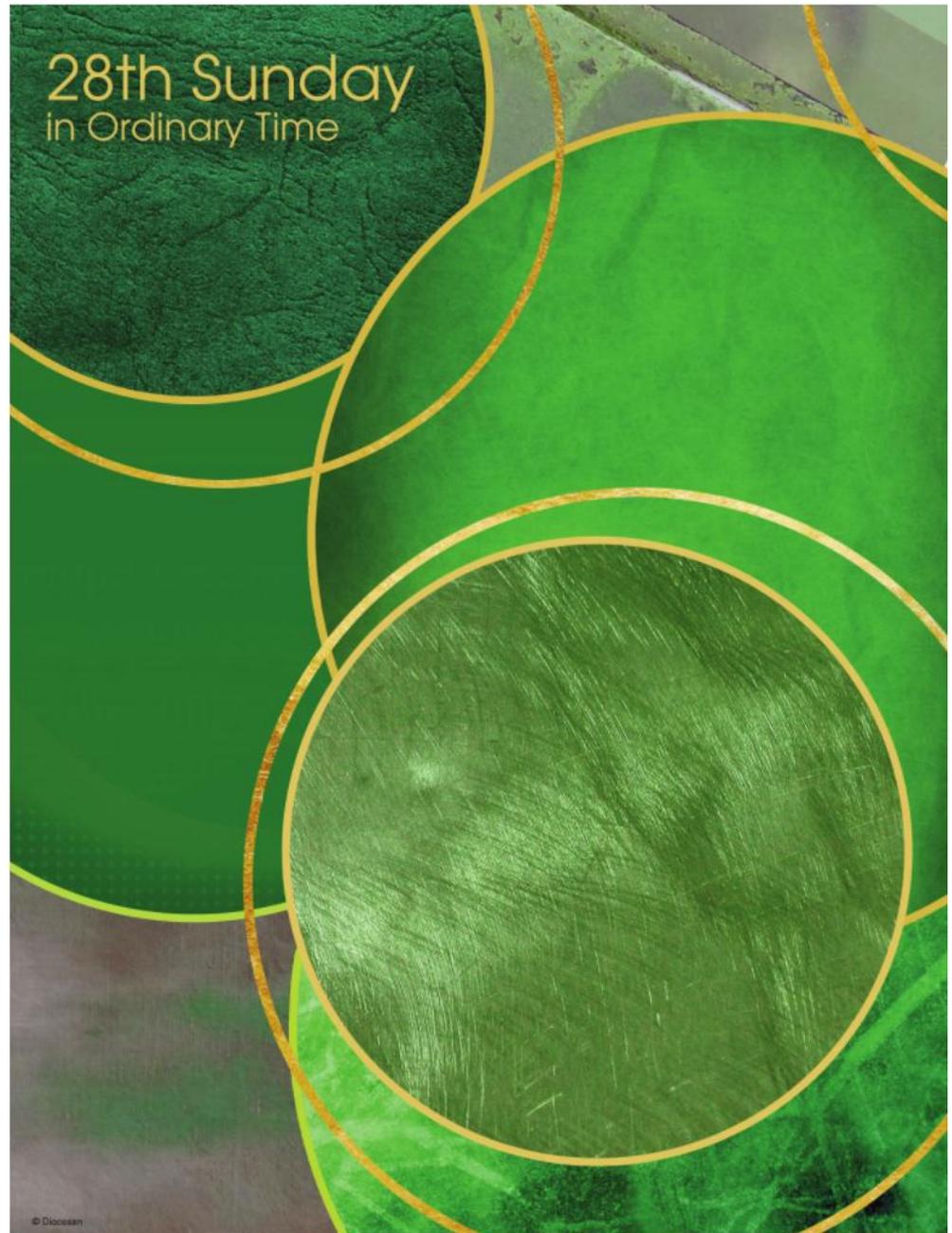
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Website:
sbtmparishpgh.com



St. Benedict the Moor Parish-PGH



SBTMPARISHPGH



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@sbtmparishpgh.org.

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

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

Brenda Glenn
Thoren Griffin
Alda White Johnson
The Jackson Family
Sandra Johnson
Salima Kamadoli
Harold Lee
Stella Lowden
The Mary Family
Eric McDonald

Joan Moran
Josephine O'Connor
Nicole Orlando
Andy Papworth
Mary Samuels
Genevieve Sanford
Sharon Silvestri
Janice Simmons
Rudolph Williams
JJ Younger

Mass Intentions

October 9 11:00 am
28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Matthew Hawkins
Gertrude Stott
(Victoria Betsill)

October 16 11:00 am
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

All Clergy
Carl Younger
(Keith & Brenda Younger)

Stewardship October 2

Offertory	PSP	Special Collections
\$3,202.00	\$245.00	\$203.00



This week
the Sanctuary
Candle
is Lit in Memory of
Deceased Kittel by
Wilson Family

St. Benedict the Moor School Mass

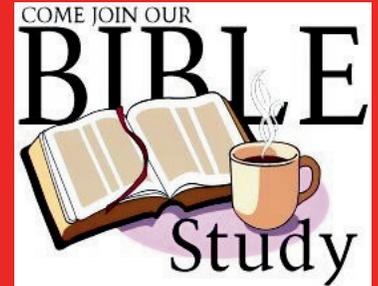
Friday October 21, 2022 1PM
October School Mass
Tuesday November 1, 2022 1PM
All Saints' Day
School Mass is held in the auditorium.

631 Watt Street, Pittsburgh
Parking on street or parking lot

Bible Study with Fr. Matthew Hawkins

Thursdays at
7 pm on Zoom

For more information, contact
Fr. Matthew at 412.661.7222 or
mhawkins@diopitt.org



Open Retreat for Men and Women

presented by the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary with
Fr. Thomas Burke as Retreat Master on **Saturday, October 22**, from
9 am to 12 pm in St. James Chapel,
718 Franklin Avenue, Wilkinsburg 15221.

A continental breakfast will be served at 8:30 am and lunch will
start at 12 pm. Please RSVP by Monday, October 17, to
Joyce Broadus at joycebroadus66@gmail.com.

Confirmation

Please join us next Sunday,
October 16, as our
Confirmation Candidates
receive the Sacrament of
Confirmation at the 11am
mass.

Please pray for our students,
their sponsors, and their
families as they prepare to
receive the Holy Spirit.



Birthdays

October 9th — October 15th

Alice Arroyo-Hartshorm
Dayebga Fomunjeng
Kathalyn Howard-Frazier
Sabriyah Better
Cyrille Froncek
Maya Dyer
Sydney Dyer
Mpande Mwape
Keith Smith
Dashawn Tillman
Helen Frazier
Emeka Onwugbenu
Suzanne Davis
Sara Ellis
Phyllis Harris
Ina Kabagambe
Betty Pickett

Happy Birthday!!



Pastor's Note

Faith and Blue Weekend!

From a very young age, my parents taught me to always say thank you. Anytime I receive a gift, or someone helps me I give thanks. My sister Linda and brother-in-law Eric have taught my four nephews: Wyatt, Donovan, Killian, and Keegan to say thank you. Every time I have given them a gift, I always receive a written thank you note in the mail.

This weekend, we celebrate the Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The readings this weekend focus on being thankful for all of God's blessings.

In the First Reading from the Book of Kings, we read how Naaman, a Syrian and an army commander from a foreign land becomes a believer in the Gospel of Israel, as he is grateful for the healing. Elisha teaches the word of God and there is a spiritual transformation in Naaman as he is freed of his leprosy and professes his faith in God.

In the Second Reading to Timothy, Paul attests to his service to God and the Lord's faithfulness and declares that Jesus remains faithful to his father's saving plan even if others prove to be unfaithful.

In the Gospel of Luke, as Jesus is traveling through Samaria and Galilee preaching and teaching, he heals ten lepers. They approach Jesus and ask "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" Only one leper came back to thank him. He was a

Samaritan. Lepers were considered "outcasts" and Samaritans and Jews did not interact with one another. Jesus shows compassion for the outcasts of his day and thereby is a role model for how to be inclusive and merciful.

In today's readings we hear of divine healing extended to those outside the commonly held boundary of God's people. In both the first reading and the gospel, the individuals cleansed of their leprosy were foreigners, not men of Israel. Yet both returned to express gratitude and their recognition of the saving power of God. Our Lord shows us that God's love is for all people.

All that God asks of us is to acknowledge his love, forgiveness, and his faithfulness to humbly bear witness to the generosity of God's love. Never forget that gratitude is the greatest of all gifts, a gift that keeps on giving without measure. Where we have received sympathy, support, and concern, we can give thanks in return.

Let us listen to our Lord to see how Jesus might be asking us to show love and compassion to someone who is hated or looked down upon or judged by others. Let us express our gratitude and thankfulness for every gift we receive.

This weekend, parishes across the Diocese of Pittsburgh will be celebrating National Faith and Blue Weekend which is a joint community outreach program focusing on resolution and reconciliation. The initiative by religious and police leaders intends to bring law enforcement officers and citizens together using local houses of worship in their community to facilitate. Police Officers from the City of Pittsburgh, along with other local agencies will be joining us for mass and greeting parishioners at the door.

As the Son of a Retired Sergeant of the Pittsburgh Police Department, (my dad

Bill Burke was stationed at Zone 2 in the Hill District for many years) and my brother-in-law, Eric, is currently a Pittsburgh Police Officer working in the Traffic Division, and as a former Chaplain to the Pittsburgh Police Department, I am grateful to the men and women who serve to keep our neighborhoods and streets safe.

Confirmation

Next Sunday, October 16, we will welcome Auxiliary Bishop William J. Walterscheid for the Sacrament of Confirmation on our children at the 11am mass. We pray for our students, their sponsors, and their families as they prepare to receive the Holy Spirit.

Parish Share 2022

Every parish in the Diocese of Pittsburgh participates in the Parish Share Program which helps operate the Diocesan Pastoral Center and St. Paul Seminary in Crafton, the Hospital Chaplaincy programs at our local hospitals, Campus Ministry Programs at our local colleges and universities, and helps with training and programs for our schoolteachers and religious education catechists. We all benefit from parish share! This year, St. Benedict the Moor Parish's goal is **\$30,000**. We have collected **\$10,000** so far. Please help us reach our goal by making a contribution payable to St. Benedict the Moor Parish and memo the gift "Parish Share." Thank you for your generosity.

Something to Think About...

If the only prayer you ever make in our life is "thank you, Lord" that is enough!

- Julian of Norwich

With God, All Things Are Possible!

Rev. Thomas J. Burke

Pastor

E-Mail: tburke@diopitt.org

Fr. David Taylor



There were many challenges and sacrifices we had to face during the first two years of the COVID-19 pandemic. One of the most difficult ones was

staying away from family, friends and many other activities that have been important to us. Not being able to attend funerals, weddings, baptisms and other family events was a major sacrifice, but we did it out of love and concern for one another. In times of serious illness, it is crucial to have the love, concern and closeness of those we love.

I was called upon to minister to a family whose son and brother was dying from HIV/AIDS. Most of his family had abandoned him. They did not attend his funeral. I was convinced that his suffering without family and friends' support led to an early death. In times of illness, the closeness of family can be crucial. Jesus, in many of the healing stories, showed just how important both physical and spiritual healing can be. In today's Gospel the man healed of Leprosy was spiritually renewed and his life was never the same. This was shown with his deep gratitude for his recovery. He was saved by a generous God who offers this healing to everyone willing to take this leap in faith.

We can also live with a spiritual disease of hate, indifference, and a lack of care for others. The Lord offers a cure for this as well, but we must take the risk of acknowledging this sickness and opening ourselves up to this healing which is readily available. We face many needs of both spiritual and physical recovery, and we must join with others along the way. There is nothing weak about reaching out to God and to each other in this time of need. "Our faith has saved us".

Fr. Matthew Hawkins



There was once a time when the Church said that the family was the first school for Catholic education. This is still true, but it

is much more complicated than it seems. This also reveals a deeper problem with catechesis in the 21st century. Many of us envision a day when we will be more effective in retaining current members of the Church, reaching people who have never been members, and bringing back those who have left. If that is the case, we must rethink our assumptions about Catholic education and faith formation.

First, it is important to understand that faith formation "in the home" was never limited to one's immediate family. In the past, people lived, worked, worshiped, and were schooled in the same neighborhood. An entire culture formed us in our faith. Our neighbors, schools, and church reinforced what our parents taught us. Faith formation consisted of the information we memorized and the example of adults and other children in our neighborhoods. We did not just learn in a household but in a community.

We can no longer rely on this form of faith formation. People live in one neighborhood, work in another, attend Mass in another, and attend school in yet another location. Families and communities are fragmented; the integrity of the family and the community has broken down. We can no longer think about faith formation taking place primarily within the home because it never occurred exclusively in the home in the first place. It took place in a community.

Ironically, we need churches and schools to play a bigger role in Catholic education and faith formation just when these institutions are weakest due to declining enrollment and Mass

attendance. When one reflects on this, one begins to grasp the seriousness of our situation. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we must prioritize retooling these institutions to be reliable transmitters of the Church's teaching and builders of faith communities. Churches and schools must not only teach Catholic ideas, but they must also teach Catholic culture. Above all, our schools and worship sites must become places where people encounter Christ.

After reviewing interviews and surveys of former Catholics, Brandon Vogt pointed out, "... The ultimate reason people leave the faith is that they are not rooted in a living encounter with Jesus in the Church." He added, "If we want to prevent our children from leaving the Church, and if we want to win them back after they've drifted, we need to create what Pope Francis calls a 'culture of encounter,' which unites young people to Jesus *through* the Church, not despite it."

In other words, children and adults should be able to experience Catholic culture in our churches and schools. We must also evangelize the culture of our communities. We must promote a culture of persons where we see a culture of commodities. Where we see a culture of radical individualism, we must promote a culture of relationship and *communio*. Where we see a culture of death, we must promote a culture of life. Education is as much about culture as it is about ideas.

Father Matthew's Dramatized Scriptural Rosary is broadcast nightly at 7:00 PM on 102.1 FM. Also, Father Matthew's Bible Study is on Zoom every Thursday at 7:00 PM. Please register craffaele@stmarymagpgh.org.

On October 20, Fr. Matthew will be the keynote speaker at the 13th annual McGinley-Rice Symposium: *The Face of the Person Who is Socially Isolated*. The Symposium will be held at Duquesne University. For more information, contact Kellie Dalton at the School of Nursing at 412-396-5203.

ST. BENEDICT THE MOOR PARISH WANTS YOUR HELP!

Do you or someone you know have a great business in town that should be on the bulletin?

If so please contact Rick Cortez at 1-412-292-0132 or RCortez@Diocesan.com to reserve space on the new color bulletin. Our weekly bulletin is entirely supported by the sponsors that appear on the back pages.

Advertising on the weekly parish bulletin is a great return on your advertising dollar in that the expense is tax deductible and the ad will promote your cause throughout the community.



Help us reach and inform our parishioners with weekly communication efforts

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Contact Michael Freker @ mfreker@diopitt.org or call 412-456-3055



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