



Saint Benedict the Moor Parish

Personal Parish for Black Catholics in Pittsburgh

"With God All Things Are Possible!"

JANUARY 15, 2023

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:

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Priscilla Davis, Office Manager:

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Jeannette Finch, Sacristan

Ray Krivanek, Maintenance

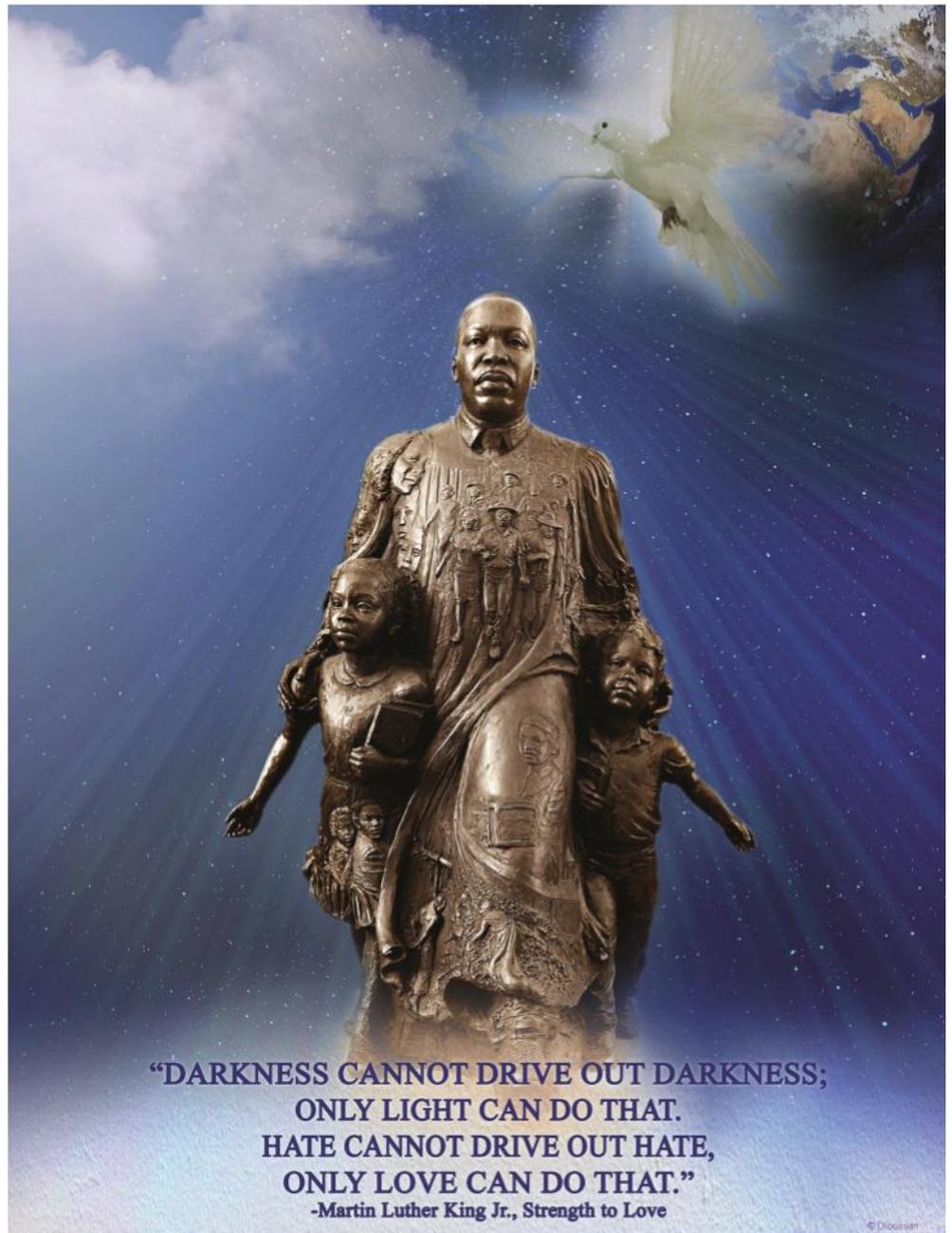
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Religious Education

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**"DARKNESS CANNOT DRIVE OUT DARKNESS;
ONLY LIGHT CAN DO THAT.
HATE CANNOT DRIVE OUT HATE,
ONLY LOVE CAN DO THAT."
-Martin Luther King Jr., Strength to Love**

Saint Benedict the Moor Church • 91 Crawford Street • Pittsburgh PA 15219

office@sbtmparishpgh.com • 412.281.3141

Website:
sbtmparishpgh.com



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@sbtmparishpgh.org.

Joseph Anthony
Duane Ashley
Marqus Clancy
Kristen Ashley-Cooper
Rita Costa
Dorothy Dansby
Edward Davis
Dolores Denton
Patricia Ellis
Fomunjeng Family

Lydia Francis
Marie Francis
Woody Frazier
Sarah Freker
James Fuller
Ann Fultz
Janet Glass
Brenda Glenn
Thoren Griffin
Christina Hall

Damitra Penny Harris
Patti Johnson
The Jackson Family
Sandra Johnson
Harold Lee
Stella Lowden
The Mary Family
Eric McDonald
Joan Moran
Pierre Nshimyumukiza

Josephine O'Connor
Nicole Orlando
Andy Papworth
Mary Samuels
Genevieve Sanford
Sharon Silvestri
Janice Simmons
Richard A. Stewart Jr.
Rudolph Williams
JJ Younger

Mass Intentions

January 15 11:00 am
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Matthew Hawkins
Peggy Bullard
(Ann Betters)

January 22 11:00 am
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. David Taylor
Dorothy Yankes
(SBTM Choir)

Stewardship JANUARY 1

Offertory	PSP	Special Collections
\$6,360.00	\$410.00	\$841.00

Stewardship JANUARY 8

Offertory	PSP	Special Collections
\$3,871.00	\$275.00	\$130.00



This week
the Sanctuary
Candle is Lit in
Memory of
Deceased Finch &
Carter Families
by Jeanette & Lisa Joy
Finch

Protection of God's Children

Report suspected child abuse at the
24-Hour Child Abuse Hotline: **800.932.0313**.
If a child is in imminent danger, call 911.

St. Benedict the Moor Will Be Participating in a Parish-Wide Survey

St. Benedict the Moor Parish will be participating in a parish-wide survey about discipleship conducted by the Catholic Leadership Institute! **We need your help!**

Please help us by participating in a 10-15 minute survey online. The survey can be accessed through an online link from February 5th thru 22nd, and will ask you to reflect on your own spiritual growth and enable you to give feedback on our parish's efforts to help you grow. All responses will be confidential and the parish will only receive information about the community as whole. We will share the link with you a bit closer to the launch of the survey.

We are trying to get the highest response rate possible. This information will be invaluable to Fr. Tom and our various ministries as we plan for the future and strive to be the best disciples we can be. We will receive the results this spring/summer at which time we will share what we have learned with the entire parish.

If you prefer a paper copy you may pick one up after Sunday Masses (Feb. 5, 12, 29). They will be located in the back of the church. To submit the completed paper survey, please drop off in the box that will be provided in the back of the church. To make special arrangements for getting a paper copy, please contact Priscilla Davis at the parish office, 412-281-3141.

Thank you for helping with this important project!

Happy Birthday!

William Harrison
James Parham
Frank Harp
Christopher Sharkey
Chilufya Mulumba
Miles Randall
Rudolph Williams
Theresa Hawkins
Diana Yankes
Lucille Dabney
Gail Young
And Happy Belated Birthday to Ira Ritter III





Pastor's Note

Discipleship!

As we put the Christmas decorations away, we now return to "Ordinary Time" which is a span of thirty-three or thirty-four weeks in which the readings focus on the ministry of Jesus. (We will take a pause of Ordinary Time on February 22 when we begin the Season of Lent).

During the winter season, beginning with this weekend, readings will focus on the beginning of Jesus' public ministry and our call to follow him and share the gifts, the miracles, and blessings. The readings this weekend focus on Discipleship.

In the first reading from Isaiah, we read how a prophet introduces us to an ideal servant of God who brings light to the nations.

In the Second Reading from Paul to the Corinthians, we read how Paul greets the people of faith called to holiness in the name of the Lord.

In the Gospel of John, we read how John the Baptist reveals Jesus as the Lamb of God and testifies that he is the Son of God.

All three readings focus on three people who were sent by God to proclaim God's word. Each of us is called to proclaim the Good News. One way to live out our calling is to share our joy. God calls us to be a light to all the nations. Jesus was the sacrifice, provided by God, who would offer his life to redeem us all.

As we return to Ordinary Time, we are called to be witnesses. Through our Baptism and Faith, we are called to be a light to all nations by serving

God and live justly through our words and actions.

Our actions, words, and relationship with others could spread the light of Christ to others. May our hearts be open to God's loving presence in our lives.

Parish Assessment 2023

Every Parish in the Diocese of Pittsburgh has an "Assessment" assigned to them to help run the Diocese of Pittsburgh. This assessment, used to be called "Parish Share." This year's Assessment is \$37,000. This fund helps operate the Diocesan Pastoral Center and St. Paul Seminary in Crafton, and our Hospital Chaplain, and College Campus Ministry Programs. As you plan to make your donations, please remember St. Benedict the Moor Parish.

Your financial contributions in the weekly offertory collection help us continue to keep the church updated, clean and comfortable. If you get parish envelopes in the mail, please use them. We pay for the postage and printing plus it makes things easier for our money counters to calculate than counting the loose checks. On-line giving is also an option through Faith Direct.

St. Benedict the Moor Parking Lot

During all home games of the Penguins hockey season, parking is available for a \$20 donation in our parking lot for non-parishioners. If you are going to be attending the game, please notify Priscilla Davis or Fr. Tom ahead of time so that we can get you on the reserved parking list with your name and license plate number. Active, registered parishioners will not be charged to park but a donation to the parish is appreciated to help us offset the costs for maintenance and upkeep.

Music Ministry

In the next few months, will be actively searching for a new Director of Music. If you know someone who is interested in applying, please let me, or Antonia Long know. Special thanks to Antonia Long and Craig Yankes who are helping with the music program in this transitional

phase. We are also looking for more members to join our wonderful choir!

Called For More Grant

The Diocese of Pittsburgh has awarded St. Benedict the Moor Parish a Grant through the Catholic Leadership Institute (CLI) which we will be participating in the **Called For More Program**. This three-year initiative will help us look at where we are as a parish and how we can grow in our faith. I am pleased to appoint Jennifer Whitley, Priscilla Davis, and Greta Stokes Tucker as our Primary Point of Contacts for this program. Stay tuned for more exciting information to follow in the next several weeks how you can participate and become involved!

Happy Dr. Martin Luther King Day on Monday January 16. Our parish office will be closed for the holiday.

Something to Think About...

"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase."

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr

With God, All Things Are Possible!

Fr. Tom Burke

Pastor

E-Mail: tburke@diopitt.org



Fr. David Taylor



Self-identity and how we use it in our relationship with others can be a powerful influence in life. We often can understand more of who we are when we see how our daily actions can mirror the perspectives of others. When John the Baptist spoke of Jesus as the "Lamb of God", he was thinking of baptism and salvation and how he could lead others to Christ. Jesus then would help us lead many more to this life of service and salvation.

During the time I was contemplating a vocation to ministry in the priesthood, I could not help but to look more deeply into my own identity within the Church and how I might serve in a role of servant leadership. This became all the more crucial to my discernment during the ministry and assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King. I could see how the church had to take a more serious role in the moral issues of racism and bigotry. While the church often showed a lack of concern, I knew this could change and I thought maybe this was the Lord's way of leading me to ministry in the Catholic church. This discernment was not easy as many saw the church as doing too little too late.

Dr. King was convinced that the church must play an essential role in moral issues, and one his greatest gifts was taking leadership in this, in spite of the many obstacles he knew he would face. In this effort, he and many others were able to help move the church to a leadership role in this and other moral issues. As we honor the life and legacy of Martin Luther King this weekend, I can't help but be grateful that we as the church have a better moral vision of where the Lord is leading us. I have never regretted my decision to serve.

Fr. Jim Garvey, a good friend and coworker with me at St. Charles Lwanga for several years, died recently. We served well together in ministry. May God bless him for all of his service.

Fr. Matthew Hawkins



The common notion about Reverend Martin Luther King's impact on American history is too limited. People usually reduce his legacy to the strategy of creative non-violence. There was much more to King than that. Martin Luther King was the product of traditional African American culture, grounded in a faith-based community. Too often, we lose sight of that today.

When we celebrate the man, we should also celebrate the culture and community that produced him. While non-violence is a principle that a war-torn and polarized world needs today, non-violence for its own sake was not the foundation of King's ministry. The foundation of King's ministry was a belief in the fundamental dignity of the human person in the image of God. Without that belief, everything else would have fallen apart.

The strategy of creative non-violence would not have made sense if its practitioners had not believed in the humanity of their opponents and their own human dignity in the eyes of God. Practitioners of nonviolent social change refused to treat their opponents as creatures beyond redemption or themselves as beasts without dignity. Creative non-violence was grounded in restraint, disciple, self-control, and respect for humanity. How else would it be possible for men and women to face police dogs and fire hoses as they wore dresses, suits, and ties and knelt in prayer?

The creative non-violent movement was designed to remind society of its civility and angry partisans of our common humanity. It was predicated on a society that shared the values of life, family, and worship and could still be shamed when their actions did not fit the practices they preached. Participants in the movement of creative nonviolence had the courage and confidence to address society's contradictions because they had the humility to struggle against the

contradictions within themselves.

The creative non-violent movement did not subscribe to a notion that is popular today: the idea that one can hide within silos of separate identities and only associate with those with whom one agrees. They did not subscribe to the idea of moral relativism, in which each person and community has their own truth. They did not subscribe to the notion that only their opponents were evil. They understood that people are more than their social identities and that we all need God's mercy.

Creative non-violence meets us in the fullness of our humanity, acknowledging both the good and the bad within all of us. It meets us where we are, with all our weaknesses, imperfections, foibles, blundering, and irresolution. It does not deny our humanity nor allow others to do so. It also does not deny the humanity of those who oppose us.

Creative non-violence meets us where Christ finds us. Like the Psalmist, who marveled at humanity's smallness, practitioners of creative nonviolence had the humility to say, "When I see your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and stars that you set in place -- What is man that you are mindful of him, and a son of man that you care for him? (Psalm 8:4-5)"

The Lord does not overlook our strengths and weaknesses, nor does God see our flaws as a reason to abandon us. These are the values that changed the past. They are the values that will restore our hope for the future.

Father Matthew's Dramatized Scriptural Rosary is broadcast nightly at 7:00 PM on 102.1 FM.

Father Matthew's Bible Study is on Zoom every Thursday at 7:00 PM. Please see the bulletin or the parish website for details on registering.

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

EITC/ DSTC Scholarship credits are available! 90% State Tax Credit available to Business and Qualified Individuals! Make a difference in local kids' lives by redirecting 90% of your PA tax liability to Catholic schools.

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



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