



Saint Benedict the Moor Parish

Personal Parish for Black Catholics in Pittsburgh

"With God All Things Are Possible!"

MARCH 5, 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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Jeannette Finch, Sacristan

Ray Krivanek, Maintenance

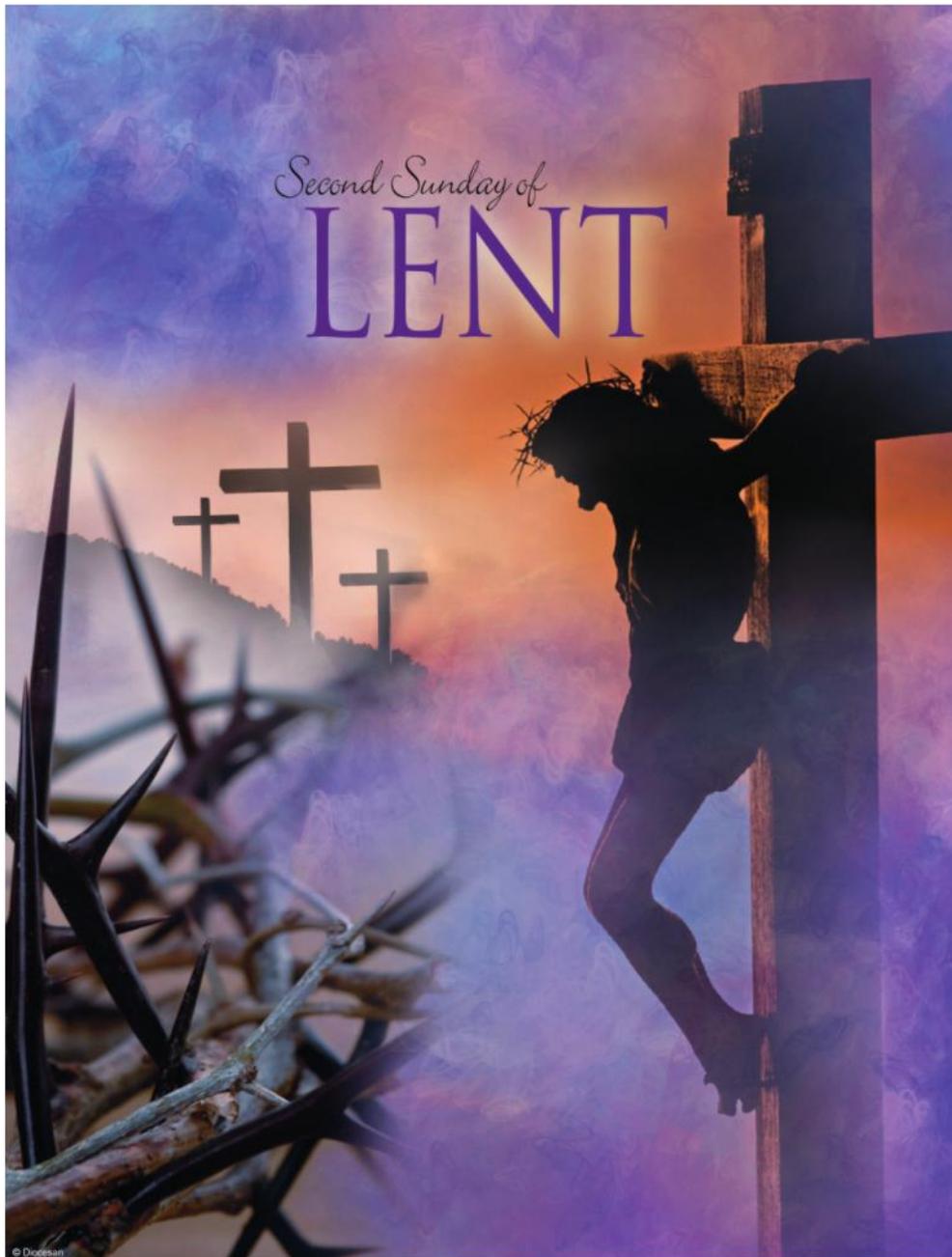
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St. Benedict the Moor Parish-PGH



[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@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
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
James McCarthy
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

March 5 11:00 am
Second Sunday of Lent

Fr. Matthew Hawkins
Joseph & Emelia Paszkiewicz
(Josephine O'Connor)

March 12 11:00 am
Third Sunday of Lent

Fr. David Taylor
Vincent Tucker
(Greta Stokes-Tucker)

Stewardship FEBRUARY 26

Offertory	PSP	Special Collections
\$3,275.00	\$210.00	\$395.00



This week
the Sanctuary
Candle is Lit for
Iona Horn
by
Gerald Winslow

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.

To report church-related abuse to the
Diocese of Pittsburgh call:
888-808-1235

Announcements for the bulletin due
Mondays at 8am for the upcoming Sunday.
Please email bulletin@sbtmparishpgh.com

We Need Your Help

The DMI survey is now active through March 31st. Please take 10 to 15 minutes of your time to complete this VERY important survey. It will greatly benefit our parish.

The survey is online

<https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/g18a3g>

however, a paper copy will be available in the gathering area of the church for those who prefer paper. To make special arrangements for getting a paper copy mailed to you, please contact Priscilla in the Parish Office at 412-281-314.



Stations of the Cross

Come Join Us For Lay Led
Stations of the Cross
Every Friday of Lent at 6:30 pm
at St. Benedict the Moor Parish
Good Friday at 12:30 (tentatively)

Cailloux: The Fight to Freedom

This Sunday, join us after Mass to watch the recently-released film *Cailloux: The Fight to Freedom*. It is an important and heroic story that breathes new life into history and the sacrifice of a Catholic African American hero who fought for freedom during the Civil War, but was almost forgotten until now. In this newly-released film, the story of Cailloux's faith and struggle for freedom is told through the works of local New Orleans artists and preeminent experts. This short film runs for 30 minutes.



**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

Also, Be sure to tune in to Fr. Matthew's dramatized
Scriptural Rosary at 7:00 PM every evening on 102.1 FM



Pastor's Note

Let's Eliminate Negative Thinking!

During the season of Lent some people make goals and resolutions wanting to make changes in their lives. Maybe a change to eat healthier, in our prayer routine, or to attend daily mass, eucharistic adoration, or reconciliation. This weekend we celebrate the Second Sunday of Lent, and the readings focus on change.

In the First Reading from the Book of Genesis, we read how the Lord calls Abram, and thanks to his faith and commitment, the whole human race is blessed. God challenges Abram to move out of his "comfort zone" and leave his father, household, and extended family and even his homeland. Abram is assured that he will gain name by building his life around God. All the nations of the earth will find blessings in Abram because he will show them the true purpose of life.

In the Second Reading from Paul to Timothy, Paul assures believers about the strength available for them as they endure every hardship for the sake of the Gospel.

In the Gospel of Matthew, we read the "transfiguration" as Jesus goes up to Mount Tabor with Peter, James and John and is physically changed. (The summit of mountains in Matthew's gospel are places of special encounters). Jesus is tested and tempted in the desert on top of mountain by the devil, Jesus delivers the Sermon on the Mount and now we read he is physically changed. The disciples see Jesus truly as he is, his true glory as the Son of God, showing like the Son. As he is trans-

figured, he is accompanied by Moses and Elijah.

The purpose of the Transfiguration story is to reveal that Jesus is the Son of God. Matthews version recalls the life and ministry of Moses and giving the law on Mt. Sinai. Moses represents the Torah and Elijah represents the prophets. Jesus represents the fullness of the law and the prophets and the fullness of the divine revelation.

Jesus encourages his disciples to be not afraid. New life can only come from looking at things in a new way. God calls all of us to a new way of thinking. When we really listen to the Gospel and Jesus' preaching, we can be transformed. As Jesus was transfigured on the mountaintop, may our lives be totally changed this Lent.

Join us Friday's during Lent at Noon for Stations of the Cross at Mother of Good Counsel Church in Homewood or 7pm at St. Bede Church in Point Breeze for Stations of the Cross followed by Eucharistic Adoration until 8:30pm.

Let us pray continue for the people of Ukraine and for peace in Eastern Europe.

Called For More Grant

The Diocese of Pittsburgh has awarded St. Benedict the Moor Parish a Grant through the Catholic Leadership Institute (CLI) participating in the **Next Generation Catholic Parish Program**. This three-year initiative will help us look at where we are as a parish and how we can grow in our faith.

Last weekend, Ms. Ximena DeBroeck from CLI visited us at mass and met with various parishioners in small group discussions, and the clergy and the staff. With the parishioner's input, all of the information collected will help the Clergy Team, Pastoral Staff, and our parish create a vibrant community of disciples, leaders, and missionaries for today and tomorrow!

Disciple Maker Index Survey

Please participate in the on-line parish survey that we are conducting thru March 31. All responses will be

confidential and the parish will receive the results in the Spring. Paper copies of the survey are also available after all the Sunday masses. Please contact Priscilla Davis at the parish office to have a paper copy mailed.

Parish Assessment 2023

Every registered parishioner should have received an information packet regarding the Annual Parish Appeal Program (formally Parish Share). Every Parish in the Diocese of Pittsburgh has an "Assessment" assigned to them to help run the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Our 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.

We are asking every family to make at least a \$50 donation every month towards the appeal so that we can obtain our goal.

Something to Think About...

Change is the law of life. Those who look only to the past or the present are certain to miss the future.

With God, All Things Are Possible!

Fr. Tom Burke

Pastor

E-Mail: tburke@diopitt.org



Radio Program,

with Fr. Tom Burke as host, highlights

elementary and secondary schools; colleges; youth ministry programs; and more, and is broadcast every other Sunday morning at 6:30 am on KDKA-AM. Fr. Tom's next show is **March 12th**. A link to the podcasts of the program is on KDKA:

kdkaradio.radio.com/media/podcast/catholic-education-plus

Fr. David Taylor



In several of the trips I have made visiting my brother (Fr. Taylor) in Los Angeles, we explored other areas in California.

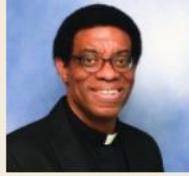
On some of these trips we would drive both up and down along the coast. One year we pre-planned to take a spiritual retreat together. We found a place located in Big Sur off the coastal highway. It was located up a long mountainous region. We stayed in a cabin along the mountain. Throughout the week, without cell phone, computer, or television service, we spent a lot of our time walking through the wilderness.

This was great for spiritual reflection. The time went fast, and I wished we could have stayed longer, but I realized that these special occasions offered a kind of spiritual rejuvenation for life back in the valleys of life.

Each year, on the Second Sunday of Lent, we read of a special mountain experience of Jesus with three of his Apostles. Their ultimate journey was to Jerusalem where they would find suffering and death. The Mt. Tabor experience was not an escape from the difficult times ahead.

On Mt. Tabor, Jesus used the time to pray with his Apostles. The appearance of Moses and Elijah added to the affirmation of the journey. After this "peak experience" they were ready to resume the journey. Lent is a kind of spiritual journey for all of us. We may not be able to climb a mountain, but Lent can give us this special rejuvenation so necessary for our daily trials and temptations. We have to chart our own route, but God's help is with us all along the way.

Fr. Matthew Hawkins



Last week's Lenten theme covered three major temptations and the Church's remedies.

In our journey with Christ, we are likely tempted by the desires of the flesh (lust and gluttony), desires of the eye (greed), and the sin of pride. Remedies for these temptations that lead us to sin are fasting to tame the desires of the flesh, charity to cure the desires of the eye, and prayer, which humbles us before God and overcomes the temptation of pride.

This week we focus on the faith journey. Many Catholics haven't read the Old Testament. They think that the God they see in the Old Testament differs from God revealed in Jesus Christ. They see the Old Testament as disconnected from the New. This is a mistake. Every line of the Gospels refers to passages in the Old Testament in the same way every person has a shadow. Bible scholar Richard Hays illustrated this point in his masterwork *Echoes of Scripture in the Gospels* (2016). We cannot fully appreciate the New Testament without a working knowledge of the Old.

"But" one might object, "the Old Testament is a story about the Jews; what has it to do with the rest of humanity?" The answer is that it has everything to do with the rest of humanity. God's self-revelation to the tribe of Abraham was not just a gift to

a tribe but to all humankind. God reveals Himself to us in the particularity of ethnicities, nations, and tribes because it is only through particular experiences that we understand human universality. No chosen person, whether prophet, king or apostle, is blessed for their own sake and self-aggrandizement. One is selected for the sake of others and to bless all humanity. Similarly, Abraham's faith journey is the archetype for all human journeys toward God.

In today's Gospel, we witness Matthew's version of the Transfiguration. Luke elaborates that it is the opening scene of Jesus' journey to his passion on the cross. In the Gospel of Luke, we read, "When the days for his being taken up were fulfilled, he resolutely determined to journey to Jerusalem (LK 9:51)." Journeying is a recurring theme in the Bible: Abraham journeyed to a land where he had never been. His journey of faith was based on a promise from God. The Hebrews journeyed from captivity in Egypt to return to the promised land. The Israelites journeyed to foreign lands when they were forced into exile after their homeland was invaded. To be a person of faith is to spend time on a journey, often in spiritual exile and a spiritual desert. Paradoxically, this is when we are most likely to encounter the face of Christ.

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.

DIOCESAN
Catholic Life Every Day

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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