

# ST. BENEDICT THE MOOR

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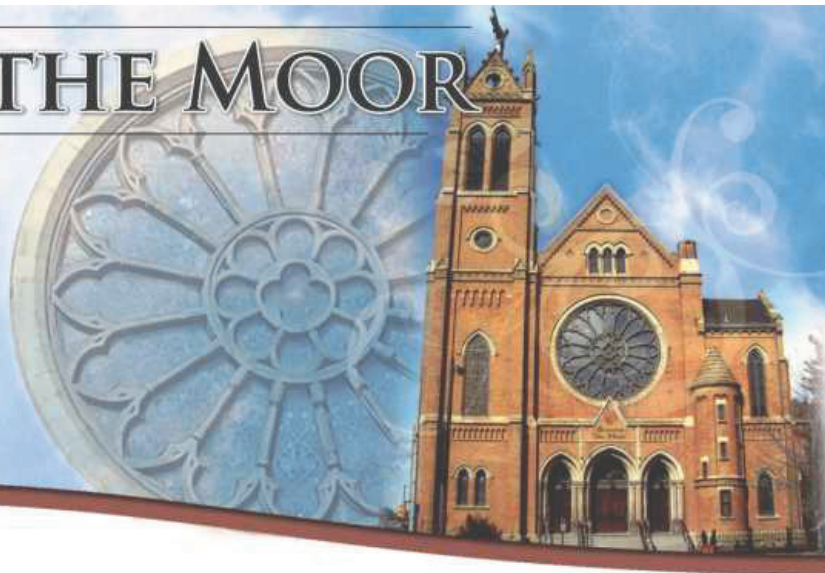
91 CRAWFORD STREET AT CENTER  
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Church: 412-281-3141 • Fax: 412-391-7151

School: 412-682-3755 • Fax: 412-682-4058

Website: [www.stbenedictthemoor.org](http://www.stbenedictthemoor.org)

Email: [churchoffice@stbenedictthemoor.org](mailto:churchoffice@stbenedictthemoor.org)



*November 27, 2011*  
*First Sunday of Advent*

### The New Saint Benedict the Moor School Open House

*At the Corner of Webster Avenue and Watt Street In the Hill*

*Sunday, December 4, 2011*

*10:30 AM to 3:00 PM*

*(More details inside)*



#### STAFF

*Pastor* .....Rev. Richard J Zelik, OFM Cap

*Pastoral Associate* Deacon Reynold Wilmer

*Receptionist*..... Priscilla Davis

*Business Manager* ..... Brenda Younger

*Chair, Pastoral Council*.....Janice Simmons

*Chair, Finance Council*.....Deborah Gory

*Music Ministers:*

.....Peggy Bullard and Antonia Long

*Principal* ..... Joelynn Parham

*Rel Ed. Coordinator* ..... Suzanne Davis

#### BUSINESS OFFICE HOURS

10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Saint Benedict the Moor Parish ministers in cooperation with two other Center City Parishes (Saint Mary of Mercy and Epiphany Churches) as well as with Saint Charles Lwanga Church in the Homewood and Sister Thea Bowman Academy in Wilkinsburg  
The parish also cooperates in the ministry of the Office of Black Catholic Ministries in the Diocese.

#### MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. & 12:00 p.m.

Thursday: 9:15 a.m.

*(according to school schedule)*

#### RECONCILIATION

Sunday: 8:30 a.m.–8:50 a.m.

#### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

1st. Saturday of the month:

9:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.

#### NOVENA

February 1 to March 29

#### PASTORAL AND SACRAMENTAL NEEDS

(Inside)

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT**

**Saint Benedict the Moor Church** is a Christ-centered, Spirit-filled Roman Catholic parish located on Freedom Corner in the Hill District of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Founded in 1889 as an African American parish, we are diverse, multinational, and intercultural where all are welcome.

We are committed to the spiritual growth of our parish community through prayer, devotion to the Scriptures and the Sacraments, dedication to evangelization, education, advocacy, service and outreach.

We are committed to creating in our parish family a deeper awareness that through our Baptism we have become part of the Body of Christ. It is because of our participation in the Sacred Celebration of the Eucharist with the empowerment of the Holy Spirit that we have the responsibility to use our time, talent and resources to spread the good news of salvation to the people of God.

We are committed to the mission of Jesus (Luke 4:16-21)

**PASTORAL AND SACRAMENTAL NEEDS**

**BAPTISMS:** To have an infant baptized or a child (RCIC) or to be baptized (and celebrate other Sacraments of Initiation) as an adult (RCIA) please contact Deacon Reynold Wilmer at 412-471-0257 Ext 115

**CONFIRMATIONS:** Youth wanting to celebration Confirmation and adults wishing Confirmation need to contact Deacon Reynold Wilmer (phone above).

**FIRST COMMUNION:** Parents wishing to have their children prepared to receive First Holy Communion, please call the Parish Office at 412-281-3141 Ext 0.

**RECONCILIATION:** The regular scheduled time is at 8:30 a.m. to 8:50 a.m. or call to schedule a time.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** At most hospitals, nursing homes and personal care homes, the facilities have arrangements with local Catholic clergy to address this need if one is seriously ill.

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:** Couples planning to marry are to contact our Deacon at least six months before the desired date. Marriage preparation is required.

**FUNERALS:** Please call the Parish Office so that the Bereavement Committee call assist you

**NEW PARISHIONERS** are invited to join our Catholic community. Call the Parish Office.

**RELIGIOUS VOCATIONS:** If you feel called to the Diocesan Priesthood or Religious Life, contact the Vocation Office at 412-456-3123.



(†) DENOTES DECEASED

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27 1st Sunday of Advent**

9:00 a.m. Unborn, elderly, handicapped and all causes of life  
12:00 p.m. Rev. Francis P. Plantes †

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4 2nd Sunday of Advent**

9:00 a.m. Gertrude Comer † (Richard and Marlene Graham)  
12:00 p.m. Morris Satz † (Simone Hickey)

**NOVEMBER 19-20 STEWARDSHIP ~ THANK YOU!**

9:00 a.m. ....	NA
12:00 p.m. ....	NA
Mail-ins.....	NA
Development Fund & Parish Share to date.....	NA
Religious Retirement .....	NA

(The bulletin was submitted on 11/18/2011 and current figure not available.)

**IN GRATITUDE FOR YOUR COOPERATIVE SPIRIT**

On behalf of the parishioners, I want to thank Deacon Reynold Wilmer and Rochelle Chatman for preparing the youth of the parish to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. We, the parishioners of Saint Benedict the Moor Church, also appreciate the members of Saint Charles Lwanga Parish who were part of the preparation team. A big “thank you” goes to the sponsors of the Confirmation candidates. You have taken the time to be with our young folks during their time of preparation and now a larger task is at hand. Stay close to these young members of the parish. Your guidance is still needed. Thank you goes to Father David Taylor for leading this cooperative ministry with Saint Charles Lwanga Parish. The parishioners also appreciate Fr. John McKenna for the use of the meeting room at Epiphany Church. Lastly, thank you to Bishop David Zubik for coming to celebrate Confirmation and to all parishioners who helped with the liturgy and the social after Mass. This is the Catholic Church at its finest.

**PRAY FOR OUR SICK , HOMEBOUND, HOSPITALIZED**

*The following requests our prayers:*

James Burwell, Edward Davis, Lydia Francis, Brenda Glenn, Louise Humphrey, Joyce Johnson, Theresa Lewis, Sherry McGinnis, Nathaniel McKenzie, Patrick Moran, Betty Muse, Josephine O’Connor, Marva Price, Agnes Robinson, Barbara Tucker, Mary Walker, Adelaide Wilson.



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 27**

Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37  
Monday: Is 2:1-5/Mt 8:5-11  
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24  
Wednesday: Rom 10:9-18/Mt 4:18-22  
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27  
Friday: Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31  
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35--10:1, 5a, 6-8  
Next Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

## THE FIRST 100 DAYS



(9/15 to 12/24/2011)...

*Update #9 (Written on 11/18/2011)*

Bulletin material was due early again for this issue. This issue is our first new bulletin.

On Monday 11/14,

I met with Ms Joelynn Parham, Principal at the new Saint Benedict the Moor School. This is the first of regular scheduled meetings that we will have. The meetings afford us the time to keep the school program in sync with the requirements of the Diocese, with the vision and direction of the parish and with the goals of the Extra Mile Foundation and provide the opportunity to address what maybe pressing issues at the school. The meetings are also pastoral in nature because at them, I learn about the needs of our students, their families and our school staff. *We set a date for Open House for the parishioners to see the new school building setting, a date for a meeting with the parents and guardians of the students to address some organizational issues and a date for me to meet with the men on staff to create a strategic approach to help the boys in the school.*

On Monday night, I met with the Pastoral Council. I presented my understanding of the parish's organizational structure based on the Bishop Zubik's five elements of a "Parish Alive" (Eucharist, Catechesis, Formation, Evangelization and Stewardship) and on material gathered by Rob Copeland to create a parish directory of ministries and organizations. In regards to parish plans, the Council and I agree that a more coordinated approach to catechesis and formation is needed in the parish and is a high priority.

Brenda Younger and I met with someone from the Huckestein Company to review the HVAC in the parish office building and the heating in the Church. Some changes are needed. There will be a proposal coming from Huckestein.

Curtis Cureton, Director of the Ozanam Program, and I met. We discussed ways in which the parish and the Ozanam Program can cooperate for the good of youth on the Hill. Curtis and I have worked together in the past.

Also Bob Wisdom and I met. Bob tends to the parish web site. We began making some needed changes to the web page.

Fr. Rich

## BUILDING COMMUNITY IN THE CHURCH AND SOCIETY

*In the Parish...*

- **Saint Benedict the Moor School** is under the care of the parish. It is a new school because for a number of reasons, Saint Agnes School and Saint Benedict School were merged into one school. Staff, families and students have worked hard in a short amount of time to unite as a New Saint Benedict the Moor School. In appreciation of those efforts, take some time to visit the new facility on **Sunday, December 4, 2011. The building will be open from 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**
- **Parents and guardians of students at Saint Benedict the Moor School** will have a meeting in the school auditorium on **Tuesday, November 29, 2011 beginning at 6:30 p.m.** The purpose of the meeting is twofold: an opportunity for parents and guardians of the students to meet each other, the staff and the pastor at Saint Benedict the Moor Church and a time to begin to organize a parent/teacher organization. The leadership of parishioners with children in the school is needed.
- One of our parishioners, Andrew James, **learned through the Diocese that there are replacement kneelers available for our pews at no cost.** A number of our kneelers need repaired. Andrew will look into this offer by the Diocese and see if the kneelers could be used by our parish. If they are usable, he will replace the kneelers in Church. Andrew is also organizing a group of men to **remove the clutter from the basement of the Church.**
- Seemingly **small ways** of helping in the parish **are really big ways.** Thank you to all the parishioners who cover for one another in regard to liturgical ministries. I appreciate the younger members of the parish who help with altar serving and volunteer when they see a need at a liturgy. This shows maturity and responsibility.
- **The Eucharist**, celebrating the presence of Jesus Christ in the Bread and Wine and in the life of people in the community, **is an important aspect of our faith life as Catholics.** We are blessed to have faith-filled liturgies. Beginning in December, in the bulletin, there will be a listing of the number of folks present for the weekend Masses. Hopefully, this will serve as a reminder to all to encourage each other to be at a weekend liturgy and to assist each other in coming to Church.

*In the Diocese and in cooperative ministries...*

- **Monday, December 12, 2011 is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.** This feast is celebrated annually in the Diocese with the Latino Catholic Community. All are invited to a 7:00 p.m. Spanish Mass at Saint Paul Cathedral. The principal celebrate is Bishop David Zubik. A reception will follow the Mass in the Cathedral Social Hall. If you can, participate in the celebration of this feast because this is the tradition of some of our parishioners.

*In the Community...*

- (As I get a sense of what the parish is doing collectively in the Hill District community, I will post items here. Hopefully, that will be soon.)

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



James Brymn, Maya Brienne Dean, Alda White Johnson (Nov. 27); Colleen Dawn Scott, Charles Lloyd Davis, Barabara D. Donatien, Dr. Ogundu Ngwu (Nov. 28); Betty Penny (Nov. 29); Woodrow Wilson Frazier, Dr Andrew Igbineweka (Nov. 30); Geno Asque, Yvonne Harris, Ezinne Ugwuoke, Sandra Wilson (Dec. 1); Trinity Griffin, Nora Peacock (Dec. 2);

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