

ST. BENEDICT THE MOOR

CATHOLIC CHURCH

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

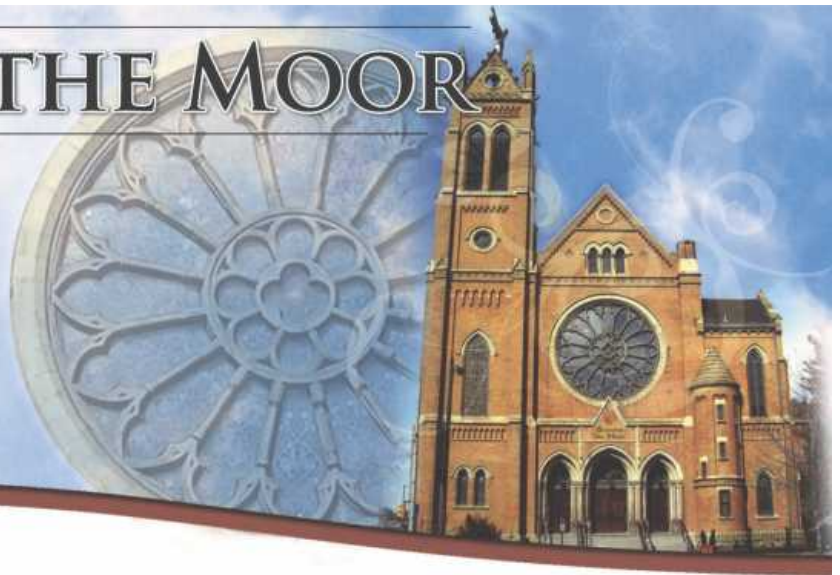
91 CRAWFORD STREET AT CENTER
PITTSBURGH, PA 15219

Church: 412-281-3141 • Fax: 412-391-7151

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

Website: www.stbenedictthemoor.org

Email: churchoffice@stbenedictthemoor.org



December 25, 2011
Christmas Day



Feast of Mary, Mother of God
(New Year's Eve and Day)

Saturday, December 31, 2011 — Mass 4:30 PM

Sunday, January 1, 2012 — Mass 10:00 AM

STAFF

PastorRev. Richard J Zelik, OFM Cap

Pastoral Associate Deacon Reynold Wilmer

Receptionist..... Priscilla Davis

Business Manager Brenda Younger

Records..... Sr. Marlene Luffy, CDP

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 Wilksburg. 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, DECEMBER 24-25 *Christmas Eve and Day*

11:30 p.m. (Christmas Eve December 24th) For the Parishioners

10:00 a.m. (Christmas Day December 25th) For the Parishioners

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31-JANUARY 1 *Mary, Mother of God*

4:30 p.m. (New Year's Eve December 31st) Sadie Simmonst

(Moses Simmons Family)

10:00 a.m. (New Year's Day January 1st) Victoria Davist

(Helena Harris)

DECEMBER 17-18 STEWARDSHIP ~ THANK YOU!

9:00 a.m.	\$2,313.00
12:00 p.m.	\$1,720.75
Mail-ins.....	\$1,240.00
Total 9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. Mail in	\$5,273.75
Development Fund & Parish Share	\$175.00
Christmas Flowers	\$160.00

In a few weeks there will be a new format in the Stewardship box of the bulletin. Be aware our weekly average expenses are \$5,522.00. The balance for this week collection minus expenses is a negative (\$248.25.)

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AT SUNDAY LITURGIES

DECEMBER	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	OTHER	TOTAL
4	120	121	—	241
8	—	—	35	35
11	105	114	—	219
18	96	148	—	244
25	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	321	383	35	739

THE GOOD NEWS THAT FOLKS NEED TO HEAR

Christmas brings the best out of folks. After the 12:00 p.m. liturgy on Sunday, December 18th, there was a flurry of activity as parishioners decorated the church for Christmas. They did leave a few signs of Advent behind. On the next day, the Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated for Dame Mary Walker. There were all ages helping to decorate the church. Thank you to all who helped.

On the 18th, I went to the funeral home where Mary Walker was laid out. It seemed as though the decorators had jumped in cars and headed to the funeral home. It was moving to see folks take some more of their time to be with Mary's family and friends at the funeral home. Of course, some of the same folks who decorated were at the funeral on Monday.

The Good News this week are the parishioners who took time during this business season to do for their fellow parishioners.

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, James Harden, Barbara Tucker, Adelaide Wilson, Jim Cunningham, Gordon Bullard, Edward and Dolores Zelik, Ralph Zelik Ann Fultz and Lisa Sowash.



THE FIRST 100 DAYS



The First 100 Days (9/15 to 12/24/2011)...

Update #13 (Written on 12/19/2011)

Every Monday is bulletin day. I spend 12/12/2011 writing the bulletin, laying it out and preparing it to be emailed on Tuesday. Also, Mrs. Joelynn Parham, Ambrose and Sue from the Extra Mile Foundation and I met to discuss school operations. Mrs. Parham and I meet twice a month. At one of the meetings, we meet with the Extra Mile Foundation in order to make sure that the school is operating well. The Extra Mile Foundation offers financial support to the school but is also a conduit for programs for outside funders who assist the school in meeting its goals and objectives. Mrs. Parham manages the day to day operations of the school. Mrs. Parham and I under the directives of the Diocese oversee of the vision of the school and establish its goals. Currently, the school is being measured by its enrollment, quality of education and the success of its life skills programs, which includes religious development of the students.

On Tuesday, I attended a luncheon, called Coaches Corner. The football coaches from the four divisions of the WPIAL (including the City champs), who won the football championships for 2011 were honored. Players are invited. I went to make sure some of the players from Clairton attended. This year the school sent players. It is important for high school players to hear the speakers. This year Steeler, Larry Foote, spoke. After the luncheon, I attended the meeting of the downtown clergy. It is an ecumenical group.

On Wednesday, I met with a parishioner and developer. I tried to be of assistance in a project on which he was working.

On Thursday, Brenda Younger, the parish business manager, and I met. We meet two times a month. Here are a few things we reviewed: publishing the 2010-2011 finance report for the parish, reviewing some budget line items, making preparations to sign some service contracts and making arrangements to publish weekly finance matters in the bulletin. On Thursday evening, I met with Deacon Reynold. We meet twice a month, too. We spent time talking about a funeral policy for the parish.

On Friday, I was on retreat with the friars from my friary.

Fr. Rich

BUILDING COMMUNITY IN THE CHURCH AND SOCIETY

In the Parish...

Reminder: *New Year's Eve (Saturday, December 31, 2011) Mass will be at 4:30 p.m.* (for those who want to end the old year in prayer, begin the new one in prayer and who may want to go to a party or social in the evening and sleep-in the next day); *Mass on New Year's Day (Sunday, January 1, 2012) will be at 10:00 a.m.* New Year's Day is a Sunday, our regular day of worship. January 1st is a special day for the Church because we celebrate the *Feast of Mary, Mother of God*. Mark your calendars.

Reminder: National Immigrant Week is January 8-14. This year's theme, *Welcoming Christ in the Migrant*, helps remind us that Christ makes himself present to each of us in the lonesome traveler, the newcomer and the immigrant. We are called to open our hearts and provide hospitality to those in need. National Immigrant Week ends on The Federal Holiday for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend. The parish will be celebrating both of these events.

Capuchin Mass for Life: The Capuchin Friars participate in the *Annual National March for Life (Monday, January 23, 2012)* in Washington, DC. The friars and friends gather at the Basilica Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, DC for a Mass in the Crypt Church and after Mass, they will proceed to the March for Life. *For more information, call 1-888-2-ofm cap.*

Capuchins and Holy Trinity Church: Gail Boice recently donated a Diamond Jubilee (1856 to 1932) book about Holy Trinity Church (now named Saint Benedict the Moor Church). Fr. Agatha Rolf, OFM Cap (d. 7/7/1931) and Fr. Hillary Liehr, OFM Cap (d. 9/3/1956) were members of Holy Trinity Church who became Capuchins in the Province that I am a member.

Keep in Prayer: On December 19, the parish celebrated the Mass of Christian Burial for *Dame Mary Walker*. Please keep her family and friends in prayer.

In the Diocese and in cooperative ministries...

Reminder: The *Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Mass* will be Sunday, January 15, 2012 at 12:00 Noon at Saint Paul Cathedral in Oakland. The 9th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blood Drive will be held on *Monday, January 16, 2012 from 1:00-6:00 p.m. at Saint Benedict the Moor Church.* (See the bulletin inserts).

Regarding Fr. Sorensen: Bishop Zubik has publicly stated that the recent situation regarding Fr. Sorensen is very disturbing to him. The Diocese and the Bishop are cooperating to the fullest extend regarding this matter. There is no knowledge of any of Fr. Sorensen's activities prior to this current situation. If anyone fell victim to Fr. Sorensen, call the diocesan *Victim Assistance Hotline at 1-888-808-1235.*

In Society...

Reminder: On Thursday, December 29, 2011 from 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., there will be a Kwanzaa Celebration at the Hill House Kaufmann Center and the Blakey Program Center. *If you need more information, call 412-228-5160.*

Kuntu Repertory Theatre: *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* (written by August Wilson and directed by Vernell A. Lillie) will be performed at the Carnegie Library (Homewood) from January 19 to February 4, 2012. For more information, call 412-394-3353.

In Gratitude to Our Advertisers: It is only right that the parish acknowledge and support those who advertise in the bulletin. Thank you, *Vince Marino LLC.*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Ken Osunkwo (12/25), Christopher Peacock (12/25), Richard Stewart (12/25), Deborah Cox (12/26), Robert Foster (12/26), Edward Clark (12/27), Lamar Washington (12/27), Caroline Kamau (12/28), Myka Joy Lichius (12/29), Dina Benaiah (12/31), Roseann Burwell (12/31), Benjamin Gbolo (12/31), Amanda Gooden (12/31)

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