

# ST. BENEDICT THE MOOR

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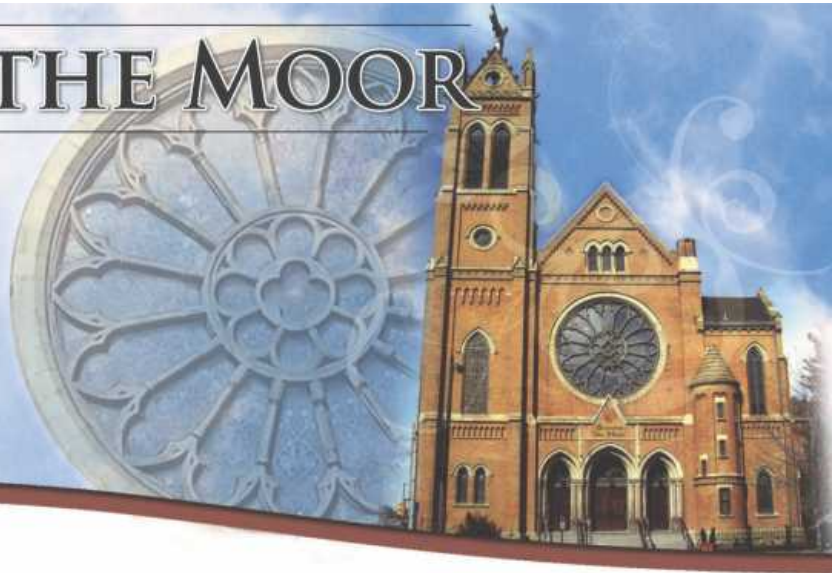
91 CRAWFORD STREET AT CENTER  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15219

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

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

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

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



*January 1, 2012*  
*Feast of Mary Mother of God*



### STAFF

*Pastor* .....Rev. 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 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)



**Celebrating Catholic Schools**  
**Sunday January 29, 2012**  
*(Only one Mass at the Church)*  
**11:00 A.M.**

**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 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)

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 8** *Feast of the Epiphany*  
 9:00 a.m. Fr. Francis Plantes  
 12:00 p.m. Parishioners of Saint Benedict the Moor

**DEC 31-JAN 1 STEWARDSHIP ~ THANK YOU!**

12:00 a.m. ....	\$ NA
10:00 a.m. ....	\$ NA
Mail-ins.....	\$ NA
Total 12:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. Mail in .....	\$ NA
Development Fund & Parish Share .....	\$ NA
Christmas Flowers .....	\$ NA

*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 (\$0.00.)*

**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	NA	NA	—	NA
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>739</b>

**THE GOOD NEWS THAT FOLKS NEED TO HEAR**

As I was driving down Webster Avenue to the parish offices, I saw a man in the rain cleaning up litter. He looked toward me and I gave him the thumbs up as I pulled away from the stop sign. He responded accordingly. Litter is a constant problem in neighborhoods. I know it was a problem in the neighborhood where I lived in Clairton. It was a problem in Charleston, WV, too. It was nice to see the man having a sense of pride and cleaning up the trash on Webster Ave. The next time I need to stop and say something to him personally.

The teachers at school did a fantastic job with the children and the Christmas pageant. The outfits of the performers were outstanding. I think that the star, the gifts and the wise men's camel really stood out!

*The Good News this week are volunteers keeping the Hill clean and the whole school, especially, the "Primary" Prime Time Players!*

**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 #14 (Written on 12/23/2011)**

Mondays are bulletin days. I spend 12/19/2011 writing the bulletin, laying it out and preparing it to be emailed on Tuesday. I also had to prepare another bulletin to be emailed on Friday (12/23/2011). You will notice in this bulletin that there are no amounts either in the *Stewardship* section or in the *Attendance* section of this bulletin.

On Monday, I presided at the Mass of Christian Burial for *Dame Mary Walker*. It seems to never fail that when I am newly assigned to a parish a person of great notoriety dies. It is a challenge to be true to our worship, to the role as pastor, to the deceased and to the deceased's family. But God prevails and carried me through it all. As I said at the funeral, I am privileged to stand on the platform of an improved quality of life that Mary helped to build for the parish and the Hill District to seen in a great light.

On Tuesday, the school had a Christmas Program. I attended it. The teachers did a terrific job with the youngest members of the school. They integrated the 8<sup>th</sup> graders into the program in roles of leadership. Little ones in a school always look up to the oldest members in the school.

On Tuesday evening, I helped at a Reconciliation Service at the parish in which I grew up. I always enjoy going back to the parish and lending a hand. After all, the people of that faith community helped me to be who I am today.

On Tuesday, I heard from TiAnda Blount, the wife of Mel Blount. Ms. Donna Roberts from school arranged this call. TiAnda and I plan to meet after Christmas and see how we might cooperate in addressing the needs of young males in our school and in the Hill.

On Wednesday, Mrs. Parham and I met to discuss some school issues. Even though we meet on a regular basis twice a month, we also meet when necessary to keep me informed on discipline issues which might be rooted deeply in the lives of a child's family.

*I hope that you are enjoying the Christmas season!*  
 Fr. Rich

## BUILDING COMMUNITY IN THE CHURCH AND SOCIETY

*In the Parish...*

**Reminder: National Immigrant Week is January 8-14.** This year's theme, *Welcoming Christ in the Migrant*, 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 weekend for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The parish will be celebrating both of these events.

**Reminder:** 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 proceed to the March for Life. *For more information, call 1-888-2-ofm cap.*

**Catholic Schools Week—at the end of January:** At the end of this month, we celebrate Catholic Schools Week. Please note on the front of the bulletin and the announcement that there will be *one Mass on Sunday, January 29, 2012. It will be at 11:00 a.m.* Also, during Catholic Schools Week, we recruit more aggressively for next year's enrollment for the school. If you have ideas for recruiting and if you can help, please let Mrs. Parham know.

**Thank You:** I appreciate the cards and gifts from parishioners during the Christmas season. Thank you for the thoughtfulness.

*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 9<sup>th</sup> 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.*

**Special Collection:** The Pittsburgh Diocese is home to two nationally recognized educational programs for children with special needs: *Saint Anthony School Programs and DePaul School for Hearing and Speech* (formerly known as The DePaul Institute). A special collection to benefit these two organizations will be taken the weekend of *January 14-15, 2012* at all masses at each parish. I know two persons that benefited greatly from the Saint Anthony School Program and I personally benefited from the DePaul School. I attended DePaul before going to first grade due to a serious speech problem I had. These are two tremendous programs.

*In Society...*

**Reminder: *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 by the Kuntu Repertory Theatre. For more information, call 412-394-3353.

**Hill District Consensus Group:** The death of Mary Walker drew me to look closer at the *Consensus Group*. On the Group's web page, there are some great organizing principles for the parish to consider for itself as we reflect on our life as a parish and move into the future. A great sign of respect for a person (like Mary Walker) who spent her life serving the community from her faith is to keep alive the work that she did.

**In Gratitude to Our Advertisers:** It is only right that the parish acknowledge and support those who advertise in the bulletin. Thank you, *Ellis Insurance Agency, Inc.*

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY CHANGE



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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