



Fr. Noel Danielewicz
OFM Conv.
tau1226@gmail.com
410-818-8149

Christian Funeral Service for our +Sister Annie Lee McKay Veal

1. May the peace and the blessing of the Risen Christ be upon you sisters and brothers!

In the name of the Community of St. Benedict the Moor, I would like to extend our sympathy to Mrs. Annie Veal's Family—her son, **Johnathan**; grandchildren—**Isaiah Veal** and **Wisdom Roland**.

As well as to her first cousins—**Betty Stroy**, **Bertha Kinlaw** and **Betty Tucker** and a host of relatives and friends.

2. As we gather in this Easter Season to celebrate the life and the legacy of **Sister Annie Lee McKay Veal** --mother, grandmother, cousin, and sister in the Lord, we find consolation in knowing that **Christ Jesus** has conquered sin, death and the grave and offers her and us **the promise of Eternal Life!**

The Letter of Paul to the Philippians 3:12-16 helps us appreciate the sacred journey that Mrs. Annie Veal walked over these past 87 years of life.

On February 13, 1933 a daughter was born to Millie Scott Raines and Thomas McKay and they named her "**Annie Lee.**"

Baptized a Catholic—Christian at Mother Mary Mission, she graduated from Mother Mary Mission School in 1952. It was here that she met the love of her life---Johnny Veal, whom she would marry in 1959.

They enjoyed 59 years of a devoted married life and from this union was born an only son, whom they would name **Johnathan**.

3. St. Paul in his Letter to the Church at Philippi places us as runners in the race of LIFE -- **racing to grasp the PRIZE if possible, since I have been grasped by Christ Jesus.**

A week before she had taken sick, I called Sister Veal and asked her how she was doing since she had not made it to Mass that Sunday. And she assured me that she was all rightsimply running late she decided to stay home.

As St. Paul continued—"I give no thought to what lies behind, but push on to what is ahead" so did Sister Annie. And she began to describe her life in Phenix City that centered on Mother Mary Mission and flowed into her love of her parish of St. Benedict the Moor.

Her skills as a Second Grade Teacher came to the fore and she became the story—teller and shared her LIFE with me. I felt her passionate zeal for living and loving those on her checker—board of LIFE.

She spoke for over an hour and I simply was captivated by her dynamic gift of unfolding

the story of her LIFE with wit and humor. Thanking God today for that iconic moment of sacred trust and joy.

4. Little did I realize sisters and brothers, "**what giving no thought to what lies behind, but push on to what is ahead**" would mean.

Sister Annie's Calvary would soon commence....from hospitals to care centers the prayer intention remained constant: the hope of a cure and healing.

But St. Paul reminds us—"My entire attention is on the FINISH LINE as I run toward the prize to which God calls me—LIFE on high in Christ Jesus!"

Once again, the teacher had one more lesson to teach and she taught us from her own confrontation with sickness and death.

Her EYES were fixed on the FINISH LINE as she continued to run toward JESUS, who is Divine Mercy!

Sisters and brothers, may we come to realize that our lives are changing and hopefully we are beginning to see **what is important to the heart....what is essential....what is of God?**

That we love the sisters and the brothers, that we take time for those who are in need and make a difference with our lives.

5. COVID—19 has become the backdrop of our national and global news. The Good Shepherd, Jesus comes before us to GATHER his flock....to PROTECT his sheep....to LAY DOWN his life for us!

- I offer you, brothers and sisters to calm your fears, your anxieties about COVID—19....about the possibility of becoming sick and dying.

- Turn to the words of Matthew 11: 28—30 as Jesus reaches out to us: "Come to ME, all you who are weary and find life burdensome and I will refresh you! Take my yoke upon your shoulders and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble of heart. Your souls will find rest, for my yoke is easy and my burden light!"

Let Jesus be our burden—bearer.....as we continue to run the race of life....just keep your EYE on the PRIZE!

St. Benedict the Moor Church



Our Mission

St. Benedict the Moor is an historic Catholic - Christian Community that celebrates its African - American heritage and welcomes cultural diversity. Join us at the Table of the Eucharist as sisters and brothers in the Lord. We are committed to grow and diversify the Church through the new evangelization, family, catechesis, young adult ministry and outreach to the poor. In the spirit of the prophet Joshua, we can say:

"As for me and my household; we will serve the Lord."

April 26, 2020

Third Sunday of Easter

"Lord, you will show us the path of life."

St Benedict the Moor Parish

Sunday Mass: 10:30 am
Daily Masses: Mon.-Fri. 7:30 am
Friday: Adoration follows Mass
Saturday: 8 am

Holy Days of Obligation:
Mass: 7:30 am & 6:30 pm
(Exceptions will be posted)
Penance: Saturday 8:30-9:30am
Anytime upon request.

Emergencies:
Please call Fr.Noel
or the office anytime
410-818-8149
706- 323-8300

Pastor

Fr. Noel Danielewicz, OFM Conv.
tau1226@gmail.com
410-818-8149

Staff

Administrative Assistant
Deborah Thompson

Director of Religious Education
Gail Buffong
706-536-8468

Director of Outreach
Beverly Casimier

Music Ministry
Mary Beth Kozee/Joe Saulsbury

Office Hours:

Pastor: Monday-Thursday 10-4 pm
Secretary: Monday 10-2 pm
Tuesday 1-5 pm
Wednesday /Thursday 10-4 pm

E-mail Address

stbenedict07@knology.net
Phone: 706- 323-8300
Fax: 706- 324-2641
Website

stbenedictthemoorcolumbus.org
Church

2930 Thomas Street
Columbus, GA 31906
Community Hall/Office
2935 9th St.
Columbus GA 31906

Reflection on Now!

There is a line in the book, *THE RESTLESS HEART*, by Ronald Rolheiser, (with the Tower of Babel in mind), which describes the way we are feeling in terms of **VULNERABILITY**: is that space within which human beings can truly meet each other and speak the same language." At this moment we realize that the whole world is vulnerable, no one is immune.

Vulnerability speaks well to where we find ourselves at the present moment in our world, in our nation, and within our Church and family. May we find this grace—moment to recognize the presence of Christ among us and affirm the Scripture: *"that whenever, there are two or more of us gathered in Jesus' Name, the Lord is present among us."*

Let the Church say: Amen! Hallelujah!

Rice Bowls

With the culmination of the season of Lent it is time to return your **rice bowls** to the Church. It would be most practical to please count your Lenten Gift for the poor and needy of the world and simply **write a check to St. Benedict the Moor** and note in the bottom left—corner: RICE BOWL. May the Lord Jesus continue to bless your generosity for the least of your sisters and brothers, as we see the face of Christ in the poor.



Happy Birthday:

Barbara Lawrence April 8
Annie Hicks April 9
Norman Johnson April 12
George Smith April 14
Yetunde Ayinmide April 21
Marcus Ransom April 23
Gina Hern-Martinez April 26

Faith is Always Open

The Diocese of Savannah is introducing a new program entitled: "Faith Is Always Open." The goal is to give our parishioners a way to feel connected during this time when they feel so isolated. The link for this website is www.diosav.org/faith. This new program will begin this week on our web—site/"Faith is Always Open," in social media and in future editions of *The Southern Cross*.

Church members are invited to participate by sending in pictures and stories of their new normal: the usually busy family that now has time to say grace before each meal, participating in the conference calls i.e., the nightly Rosary, and the family who watches Sunday or daily Mass via live—streaming, EWTN.....

This is also a time when we ask all of our Church members to keep their weekly or monthly offertory commitment to the Church. select by our on—line giving at our website: stbenedictthemoorcolumbus.org.

Daily Readings

Monday: Saint Angela Merici 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Ps 89:20-22, 25-26; Mk 3:22-30

Tuesday: Saint Thomas Aquinas 2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19; Ps 24:7-10; Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday: 2 Sm 7:4-17; Ps 89:4-5, 27-30; Mk 4:1-20

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29; Ps 132:1-5, 11-14; Mk 4:21-25

Friday: Saint John Bosco 2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17; Ps 51:3-7, 10-11; Mk 4:26-34

Saturday: 2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Ps 51:12-17; Mk 4:35-41

Holistic Spirituality

Holistic spirituality encompasses us to be mindful of body, mind and spirit. More than ever, it's important to stay home to slow down the spread of **COVID--19**, and if we must go out, practice **social distancing**. However, while we stay at home, there are a few ways the CDC recommends **managing stress** during these challenging times.

- Take breaks from watching, reading or listening to the news and social media.
- Connect with others. Talk with friends and family over the phone or via video chat about your concerns and how you are feeling.
- Take care of yourself. Take deep breaths, stretch, or meditate. Try to eat healthy meals, exercise, and get plenty of sleep.
- Be sure to pray and surrender what you can't FIX into the hands of a loving and provident God.

Stewardship

Week of April 12, 2020

| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Offertory envelopes | \$ 871. 00 |
| On—Line Giving | 1,018. 00 |
| Rice Bowl | 100. 00 |
| Kitchen Renovation | 25. 00 |
| Church Repair | 100. 00 |
| Priest Retirement | 80. 00 |
| Holy Thursday | 90. 00 |
| Good Friday | <u>90. 00</u> |
| | \$2374.00 |

Week of April 19, 2020

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Offertory envelopes | \$ 510. 00 |
| On—Line Giving | 140. 00 |
| Rice Bowl | 50. 00 |
| Mass Intentions | <u>190. 00</u> |
| | \$890.00 |

As we continue to give God thanks for the gift of our lives and our Catholic Faith, may we remember to do what is ours to do to keep the mission of the Church alive and well. We thank all those who have given to the support of St. Benedict and we ask those who have not yet mailed their tithes to please do so as soon as possible. We need everyone on board to help keep us in budget. May the Lord keep on blessing you!

IN OUR PRAYERS

Our sick list is for parishioners, family and friends in need of prayer. Please keep our list current by calling the office to add or remove a name.

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|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sr. Agnes, fsma | Ida Ruth Lane |
| Sr. Delores Anne, cssf | Mittie Lewis |
| Helen Bell | Friar Julio Martinez |
| Amanda Cole | Fr. Jeremiah McCarthy |
| Mik Cole | Delores McLeod |
| Robert Cole | Denvey Nelson |
| Robert Dozier | Sr. Norberta, fsma |
| Bertha Gibbs | Cordell Parker |
| Yvonne Gilberti | Gwendolyn Parker |
| Friar Vincent Gluc | Anna Perez |
| Elizabeth Grey | Debra Pough |
| Willie Hicks | Evelyn Pough |
| Ginnette Hughes | Marcus Ransom |
| Clarence Johnson | Friar Andy Santamauro |
| Donald Julien | Lydia Sliva |
| Paul Julien | Madeline Smith |
| Elvia King | Dorothy Stewart |
| Michael King | Friar Jude Winkler |
| Jerry Korona | |

Mass  Intentions  for the Week

Sunday, April 26th

Third Sunday of Easter 10 AM
(Live stream @ Our Lady of Lourdes)
for the Community of St. Benedict

Monday, April 27th

+Loyal Evans, husband of Mary Ellen

Tuesday, April 28th

+Christine Ramon—Schneider

Wednesday, April 29th

+Annie Lee Veal

Thursday, April 30th

+Sr. Joyce Helfrich, OSF

Friday, May 1st

+Joan Hawkins

Saturday, May 2nd

healing for **Rev. Daniel O'Connell**

Mass Intentions can be offered for family and friends both living and deceased. The stipend is \$10 for the support of the Franciscan Friars.

This week all scheduled Masses are being celebrated at Franciscan Martyrs Friary.