



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

Sisters and brothers, we gather this morning as the community of the Risen Christ as we remember Mother's Day on this Fifth Sunday of Easter. Turning to the Gospel of John we find Jesus in the Upper Room speaking with his apostles some words of consolation as he prepares them for what is coming next—his passion and death by crucifixion. He is saying **"good by"** to them while they are confused, upset and being flooded with an array of human emotion...in shock, anger, disappointment...Thomas speaks up and asks—**"Master where are you going?"** And Jesus responds: "Do not let your hearts be troubled....believe also in me."

I believe, we like the apostles are in need of the consolation of the Lord at this time as we too are asking what's going on in our world? when is this pandemic going to end? where are you Lord in the midst of it all? Today's Gospel offers us three features of the Lord's gift of consolation, namely, **closeness/nearness, truth and hope.** Jesus says to us: **"I am here!" "I am here with you!"** using few words Christ consoles us in silencein the silence of his abiding—peace. Too often, we might misinterpret that quiet, that silence, that stillness as God not being there!

The second feature of Christ's consolation is consoling us **in the Truth!** Jesus did not hide the truth, but spoke the truth gently without seeking to hurt his disciples. He said: **"Do not let your hearts be troubled. In my Father's House, there are many dwelling places. I am going to prepare a place for you."** Once again, Jesus is not mincing the truth, but says it as it will be....**"I'm leaving... I will die...."** He speaks simply, and says it meekly, without wounding anyone. Jesus acknowledges **that he will die** and doesn't hide that truth. Sisters and brothers, the same is true of our own reality in this pandemic, that there will be a lot of DEATH and that we will have to suffer, but through it all **Jesus will be close to us to strengthen and console us.**

And the third characteristic of God's consolation is **HOPE.** Christ will not deny the awfulness of the present moment we are experiencing together. Jesus reassures us: **"but let not your hearts be troubled.. believe, also in me."** Upon leaving us in death,

He goes first to open the door, the doors of the Father's House through which one day we too will pass! Amen! Jesus continues, **"I will come again to take you to myself that where I am you may also be!"** Jesus will return and take us by the hand and invites us to enter into his peace. It is that **PEACE** that is at the base of every consolation that the Lord chooses to offer us. Yet sometimes, we allow our humanity to get in the way of receiving what God desires to offer us. Sisters and brothers, God wants to be with us with this **gentleness,** with this **closeness,** with this **meekness,** with this **truth** and with this **hope!**

You and I are sojourners on the path of LIFE and we can become anxious when we are lost. Many of us resort to Mapquest or a GPS to guide us to our designated destinations. But God offers us not a MAP but a PERSON, **Jesus Christ! who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life!** As we continue to journey forward, Jesus entrusts us to the care of his Mother and ours. From the Cross he says: **"Woman, this is your son/your daughter! And to his beloved John, he says Behold your Mother!"**

Today, as a Nation, we remember our mothers, grandmothers, Godmothers, and spiritual mothers, who have given us LIFE and brought and taught us about JESUS! As we continue to take time to give thanks for the gift of Motherhood within the Church and the world, may Mary our Mother wrap us under her maternal **mantle of protection and consolation.** We also remember our Mothers who have gone before us to the House of the Father. May they continue to look out for their sons and daughters, as we hope to join them one day in heaven. And may we pray **for those new moms,** who await the miracle of birth—a child made in the image and likeness of God. To one and all..a happy and blessed Mother's Day as we pray for you at the Table of the Lord! This Eucharist is for you! The greatest gift we can give. Be Blessed!

With love, **the Franciscans!**

St. Benedict the Moor Church



Our Mission

St. Benedict the Moor is a 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."

May 17, 2020

Sixth Sunday of Easter

"Let all the earth cry out to God with joy."

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-Friday 11-2 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

Thank You Outreach

Dear Fr. Noel and Outreach Ministry,
Congratulations on a job well done in support of some of our families and neighbors.

We appreciate receiving the bulletin and keeping “in—touch” with our church activities.” Sincerely,

Greg & Chris Dawson

Church Improvements

Over the past month, we have been making some exterior improvements to our signage on the corner of Thomas Street that has been repainted to match our church buildings. Also the wall and landscape box in front of the Church has been repaired and painted. New shrubs and flowers will soon be planted for a fresh curb appeal.

The wall in front of the Marian Shrine to the right of St. Benedict Community Hall has been painted. Check—out our flower garden! From parsley to zinnias, Easter and calla lilies, red shasta daisies and dusty miller add to the mix.

Kitchen Renovation

Our Pastoral and Finance Councils have initiated plans to renovate the church kitchen, pantry and utility room. We hired the services of architect Courtland Bailey of BB Home Designs to redesign the area space. We are currently seeking three assessments for this project.

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things, and long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

St. Alphonsus Liguori

COMMUNICATIONS

Sunday Eucharist: Please join us at 10 am on live—stream for the celebration of the Lord’s Eucharist. Live from Our Lady of Lourdes with Fr. Bob and myself celebrating. <http://ololcolga.come/live> PDF

Liturgy of the Word: Sunday evenings at 8 pm where we will share the Sunday Scriptures, a homily, and Prayer for spiritual communion and a blessing. 706-894-9969.

Rosary: Monday through Friday join us at 8 pm for the recitation of the Rosary. Recall: “the family that prays together, stays together.” 706- 894- 9969

Mailed Bulletins: We are keeping our line of communications opened through the printed word. If you are not receiving a Church Bulletin weekly, please call the Office at 706- 323- 8300

Church Tithes: May be sent through the mail or on line—giving. We thank-you for your goodness and generosity. St. Benedict the Moor /2935 9th St. or at stbenedictthemoorcolumbus.org

Emergency # 410- 818 - 8149
Please feel free to reach me on my cell phone particularly in a time of sickness or death, or a need to talk during this time of crisis.

Virtual Confirmation Night
For our Confirmation candidates: Mark Ngugi and Jaylen Neal will be on a Virtual Diocesan Confirmation Night on Thursday, May 14th at 6 PM. This will be an opportunity for all candidates from the Savannah Diocese to meet and gather for prayer, a talk, games and a message fro Archbishop Gregory Hartmayer. Let us pray for them at they continue to prepare the sacrament

A 2nd Friar Named Archbishop

Breaking news from the Vatican that our former Minister General, the the new **Archbishop of Genoa, Italy.** He Most Rev. **Friar Marco Tasca, OFM Conv.,** has been named by Pope Francis as just completed two: six year terms as the 119 successor to St. Francis of the Friars Minor Conventual. Originally, from Padua, Italy, Friar Marco will offer the Church of the Archdiocese of Genoa a dynamic and energetic spirit of leadership and vitality. We wish him God’s blessings and peace!

Health and Wellness

We must try to follow the best advice of the medical community no matter how trying we may find the restrictions. Speaking as a physician, I want to emphasize that this is a bad disease that will only rear it’s ugly head even more intensely if we give into social pressure that underestimates the gravity of the situation. Viruses also commonly mutate during pandemics, so that a new strain may already be out there. Our defense will only be an effective treatment or vaccine, neither of which is available yet. Let us pray and support one another by whatever means available. Be safe.

Fred Conforti, MD
Great Barrington, MA

Thank You from Annual Deimel Ball

We are so grateful for your sponsorship of \$1,000 in support of Catholic education in Columbus, Georgia. We are still totaling donations received, but we anticipate another successful year supporting **tuition assistance at St. Anne—Pacelli School.** For the 2019—2020 school year the Deimel Legacy Ball made an \$82,000 in aid to more than a ¼ of our students. Our school is growing in students and opportunities because of your support.

Sincerely,
Tiffany Shreve

Director of Advancement & Alumni Relations

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.

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, May 17th -- 6th Sunday of Easter
Community of St. Benedict the Moor

Monday, May 18th St. John I. Martyr
+Paul Caravan

Tuesday, May 19th Easter Weekday
Cheryl Jackson (health)

Wednesday, May 20th St. Bernardine
Kevin Williams (health)

Thursday, May 21st St. Christopher
Magallanes of Mexico
+William J. Cannistraci (2020)

Friday, May 22nd St. Rita of Cascia
Dorothy Stewart (health)

Saturday, May 23rd Easter Weekday
for those on our Sick List

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.