



Fr. Noel Danielewicz
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Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sisters and brothers, we seem to harbor a lot of ready—made excuses that we tuck away in our consciences that cloak our unavailability to do God’s bidding. Parents have them and children have them; students have them and so do teachers; the government has them and so do the prophets.

“What are we looking for in life?” That seems to be the underlying question weaving through today’s scriptures. God calls Samuel by name three times in the middle of the night. Samuel responds: **“Here I am!”** On the third call Samuel answers the Lord with the coaching of his spiritual mentor Eli and says: **“Speak Lord, your servant is listening!”**

Perhaps, we, like **Samuel** and later **Andrew** and **John**, and in our own American history **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** All called to Follow the Lord! At first, Samuel is perplexed in who’s calling him by name. He discovers that it is not Eli, the priest who is summoning him, but rather **God is calling him** by name to come further. Samuel informs us to beware of the dangers of **“hardness of heart”** a syndrome caused by a lack of attentiveness to the Word of God and to the voice of the Lord whose call may be falling upon deaf ears. This can result in a gradual dullness of the heart and spirit that stunts our spiritual growth and may end up in alienating ourselves from God.

The Gospel of John builds on the **call to discipleship**, as **James and John, Andrew and Simon** meet Jesus and are captivated by his mission and message and ask: **“where do you stay?”** They left their nets and boats, their very livelihood as fishermen, their family to see where Jesus stays. However, for many there is often an internal resistance as fear and reluctance surface. What is required is a **strong FAITH** in saying YES to the God of the call and the Lord of the journey. Placing our **TRUST** in God who invites and waits upon our freedom to respond to his invitation: **“Come and follow me!”**

In our historic memory, in the state of Georgia, God called a man by the name of **MARTIN** to the ministry as a **“preacher of the WORD,”** as an **“advocate of non—violence,”** and a **“drum major for justice.”** Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

was a brother in the ministry, a martyr for Civil Rights of all people and a prophetic voice whose words continue to touch the core of our being today. Dr. King heard the Lord call his name in the wilderness of segregation and racism and brought a gospel message of love and respect for the dignity of every human being.

He heard the Lord’s voice from the Jefferson County Jail in Birmingham, to the state capital in Montgomery, and to the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. Sisters and brothers, what are you looking for? Whose voice have you heard speak in the midnight hour? Does the cry of the GOSPEL call you to risk all, to follow HIM, to compel you to commit yourself to proclaiming the Good News of **love and mercy, forgiveness and peace, systemic change and non-violence** to a world wounded and bleeding because of fear of the unknown, suffering from self—hatred that gets projected to people of color and God—given diversity.

Sisters and brothers, whatever the call, to whatever the path make NO mistake that it is the Lord who calls us once again in the midnight hour to rise from our sleep and **respond to the Spirit that troubles the waters of our lives!** At this time and within our own country too often perceived by many **“as another Promised Land,”** God has the attention of the world. May the Lord sow the seeds of a new day of peace and justice, health and care for humanity and for our Mother the Earth. A new day for the dawn of economic equity for all, and a deliberate choice to choose simplicity of life, integrity of commitment, and a Nation dedicated to ONE GOD, who calls us **to build together a more fraternal and evangelical world.**

Let those who **are ready for decisive discipleship** that is opened to risk for a God, who loved us without limits and calls us to love one another as sisters and brothers! If you are ready to make a commitment it is time to say: **“Here, I am...I’m the one you have been looking for!”**

*Friar Noel,
simply a disciple*

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.”

January 17, 2021

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Here am I, Lord: I come to do your will.”

St Benedict the Moor Parish

Sunday Mass: 10:30 am
Daily Masses: Mon.-Fri. 12:00 noon
Saturday: 8 am
Holy Days of Obligation:
Mass: 12 noon & 6:30 pm
(Exceptions will be posted)
Sacrament of Penance: Divine Mercy
Room Saturday 8:30-9:30am
or by Appointment

Emergencies:
call Fr.Noel: 410-818-8149
Office: 706- 323-8300

Communications
Address: St. Benedict the Moor
2935 9th Street
Columbus, Georgia 31906

Pastor

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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 10-11:30 am
1:00-3:00 pm

E-mail Address
stbenedict07@knology.net
Phone: 706- 323-8300
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Website

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

Pastoral Concerns

Daily Mass: The eucharist will be celebrated Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 12 Noon and on Tuesday, and Thursday at 11 AM. Mass on Saturday remains at 8:00 AM. **The Sacrament of Penance** is available immediately following Saturday morning Mass.

The Outreach Program at St. Benedict the Moor reopened last week at 12 Noon. Take-out lunches are served to our sisters and brothers during the time of the pandemic. Anyone interested in helping out in this ministry, please see Beverly Casimier or call the Church Office at 706 323- 8300.

Evening Rosary at 8 PM "The family that prays together stays together." Since the beginning of the pandemic, Gail Buffong was instrumental in getting us on a conference call to pray the Rosary nightly at 8:00 PM. Presently, it has evolved into the following format. **The Rosary** is led by different members of the Church from **Monday through Thursday**. While on **Sunday** we celebrate **A Service of the Word** using the Sunday scriptures which are mailed in the weekly Bulletin, a homily, and intercessory prayer. Call in this week and join your church-family as we pray for all those affected by the COVID virus and for our Nation. (706-894-9969)

Annual Catholic Appeal 2021

The **Kick-Off Weekend** will begin on Sunday, January 24th. We will be showing a video of the work that the appeal funds accomplish throughout the Diocese of Savannah. This Year's theme is: **"Steadfast in Faith."**

The **2021 Goal** for

St. Benedict the Moor is \$16, 550.

Mr. Richard Gibbs will be our chairperson as we continue to support the good works of the Church in these trying times.

E-Mail Addresses

Please help us update our communication information that will enable us to contact you through the use of mail, cell phones, and e-mails. Our hope is to issue a new Church Directory once all our information is current. Thank—you.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ GA _____
 Landline _____
 Cell phone _____
 E-mail _____



Known as one of the social events of the year, The **Deimel Legacy Ball** exists to raise funds to support tuition assistance at St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School. The 16th Annual Deimel Legacy Ball will be celebrated on Saturday, January 30, 2021 at 6 p.m. at St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School with COVID-19 safety protocols, such as mask wearing and social distancing for in-person attendees. The event will feature opportunities to meet new Diocese of Savannah Bishop Stephen Parkes, a video presentation highlighting the many recent enhancements to St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School, an online auction, cash raffle, and a grab-and-go dinner prepared by renowned local chef, Jamie Keating. Opportunities to enjoy the event virtually also exist. Learn more about event sponsorships and/or make reservations to attend here: www.BeAViking.com/deimel-ball.

Mass Intentions

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Sunday, January 17, 2021	10:30 AM
St. Benedict Church—Family	
Monday, January 18, 2021	12 Noon
+ Sister Ramona , cssf	
Tuesday, January 19, 2021	11:00 AM
+ Marcus Ransom health	
Wednesday, January 20, 2021	12 Noon
+ Officer Tom Pycz	
+ Friar Giuliano Abram , OFM Conv.	
Thursday, January 21, 2021	11:00 AM
+ For the Souls of the Unborn	
Friday, January 22, 2021	12 Noon
+ Dennis Vershowsky , ofs health/Covid-19	
Saturday, January 23, 2021	8:00 AM
+ Nate Santoro	

Mass intentions are scheduled throughout the year for a particular occasion. We ask for a two week notice in scheduling. The ordinary stipend is ten dollars for the support of the Franciscan Friars.

In Memoriam

+**Friar Guiliano Abram, OFM Conv.** (78), who died of COVID-19 on January 11, 2021 in Padua, Italy. May he enjoy eternal life and beatitude as a joyful and faithful brother in the Lord. His Mass of Christian Burial will be at the Basilica of St. Anthony of Padua, where he worked in its restoration.

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

READING 1 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19

Samuel was sleeping in the temple of the LORD where the ark of God was. The LORD called to Samuel, who answered, "Here I am." Samuel ran to Eli and said, "Here I am. You called me." "I did not call you," Eli said. "Go back to sleep." So he went back to sleep. Again the LORD called Samuel, who rose and went to Eli. "Here I am," he said. "You called me." But Eli answered, "I did not call you, my son. Go back to sleep." At that time Samuel was not familiar with the LORD, because the LORD had not revealed anything to him as yet. The LORD called Samuel again, for the third time. Getting up and going to Eli, he said, "Here I am. You called me." Then Eli understood that the LORD was calling the youth. So he said to Samuel, "Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply, Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening." When Samuel went to sleep in his place, the LORD came and revealed his presence, calling out as before, "Samuel, Samuel!" Samuel answered, "Speak, for your servant is listening." Samuel grew up, and the LORD was with him, not permitting any word of his to be without effect.

RESPONSORIAL

R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

I have waited, waited for the LORD, and he stooped toward me and heard my cry. And he put a new song into my mouth, a hymn to our God.

R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

Sacrifice or offering you wished not, but ears open to obedience you gave me. Holocausts or sin-offerings you sought not; then said I, "Behold I come."

R. Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

"In the written scroll it is prescribed for me, to do your will, O my God, is my delight, and your law is within my heart!"

R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

I announced your justice in the vast assembly; I did not restrain my lips, as you, O LORD, know.

R. Here am I, Lord; I come to do your will.

READING 2 1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20

Brothers and sisters: The body is not for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body; God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? But whoever is joined to the Lord becomes one Spirit with him. Avoid immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the immoral person sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been purchased at a price. Therefore glorify God in your body.

GOSPEL Jn 1:35-42

John was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God." The two disciples heard what he said and followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" — which translated means Teacher —, "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see." So they went and saw where Jesus was staying, and they stayed with him that day. It was about four in the afternoon. Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus. He first found his own brother Simon and told him, "We have found the Messiah" — which is translated Christ —. Then he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John; you will be called Cephas" — which is translated Peter.

Stewardship

Weekly Finance Report: January 10
 Offertory: \$3435.00 (Online \$2125.00)
 Kitchen Reno: \$450.00
 Black and Indian Mission: \$260.00
 Utilities: \$325.00 (Online \$100.00)
 Church Repair: (Online \$100)
 Poor Box: (Online \$100)

Online donations allow you to stay up-to-date and continue your support. Please go to www.stbenedictthemoor.org to contribute.

In Our Prayers

Fr. Noel Danielewicz	Elvia King
Sr. Agnes, fsma	Lenny Korona
Sr. Apollonia, cssf.	Ida Ruth Lane
Sr. Delores Anne, cssf	Elaine Layer
Helen Bell	Mittie Lewis
Amanda Cole	Delores McLeod
Mik Cole	Ruben Meinhofer & Fam.
Robert Cole	Denvey Nelson
Christine Dawson	Major Nettles
Robert Dozier	Cordell Parker
Carl English	Gwendolyn Parker
Stephanie Findlay	Debra Pough
Fluellen Family	Evelyn Pough
Yvonne Gilberti	Joe Ravalese
Elizabeth Grey	Marcus Ransom
Ginnette Hughes	Lydia Sliva
Clarence Johnson	Madeline Smith
Donald Julien	Donnie Tarvin
Paul Julien	Emi Talbert
Jamaya Kennedy	Dorothy Washington
Michael King	Friar Jude Winkler
Earl King	