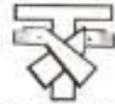




Fr. Noel Danielewicz
OFM Conv.
tau1226@gmail.com
410-818-8149



Fifth Sunday of Lent

Sisters and brothers,
“May the Lord, give you peace!”

My own personal fear of leaving you in the Lenten Desert was unwarranted as God made away with our lay leadership surfacing to meet the current needs of the Church—community.

In our first reading from the book of the Prophet Jeremiah, God promises to make a new COVENANT with us remember our sins no more. Our conversation with the Lord and with one another has changed. It has found new depth and commitment, as we have entered a “**Lenten Journey of conversion and transformation.**”

We are in communion with the Lord Jesus, who calls us to the baptismal waters of new life/ where God promises to be the God of our heart’s desire and we in turn pledge to be his people.

Our faith—history as a people reminds us of the Covenant with **Abraham & Isaac**, where Isaac was nearly sacrificed for the sins of humanity, but his life was spared. The promise of inheritance to a nation that would grow like the stars of the midnight sky. Then there was the **Covenant with our father Noah**, as God promised the sign of the rainbow to the nations, that the earth would never be destroyed again. The Covenant with Moses, who gave us our gift of the 10 Commandments, to live with the boundaries of relationship between God and us.

Finally, the Covenant of Baptism in which we are redeemed through “**water and the Holy Spirit.**” You and I are adopted sons and daughters of the Father, sisters and brothers in Christ Jesus, and living Temples of the Holy Spirit. Yes, we are the Body of Christ, we are the people of God, we are the Church!

Our Lenten journey is one that is both personal and communal, as we draw nearer to our goal—life on high in Christ Jesus! May we celebrate the Easter Gift of Jesus in the **sacrament of**

reconciliation. As the sacrament of Baptism forgives the sins of a person’s life and that of Original Sin, Penance or Confession is the way to find forgiveness after Baptism.

Sisters and brothers, take the time in the weeks ahead to celebrate the Easter Gift of Jesus found in John 21. “Whose sins you shall forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you shall retain are retained.” May Christ, who is our light and our salvation, draw us into the sunshine of God’s love and mercy, as we experience the **healing and welcoming hand of forgiveness** that heals the sin-sick soul.....

Remember the word PENANCE has a gift from within....drop the n’s and we receive the **PEACE of God!**

May the power of the Holy Spirit free us from whatever might hold us back on seeking the **Gospel transformation** that the Risen Christ wishes to extend to us this Easter! This is the point /not of dragging the weight of our sins any longer, but leaving them at the foot of the Cross and **know the true freedom of the sons and the daughters of the Resurrection!**

Live forgiven and live redeemed!

Your brother on the road,
Friar Noel



Holy Week

Palm Sunday—10:30am

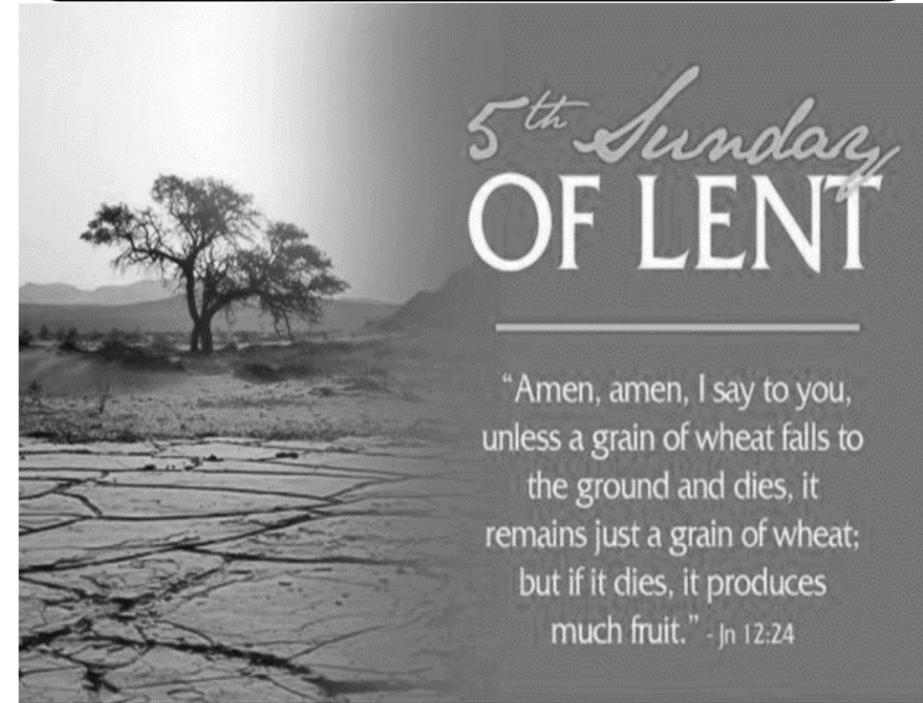
Holy Thursday—6:30pm

Good Friday—3:00pm

Easter Vigil—Please visit another parish

Easter Sunday—10:30am

St. Benedict the Moor Church



5th Sunday
OF LENT

“Amen, amen, I say to you,
unless a grain of wheat falls to
the ground and dies, it
remains just a grain of wheat;
but if it dies, it produces
much fruit.” -Jn 12:24

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.”

March 21, 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

“Create a clean heart in me, O God.”

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

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

Pastoral Concerns

Medical—Update: Fr. Noel entered Piedmont Northside Hospital on March 8th for surgical removal of his right cancerous kidney. He was discharged from the hospital on Thurs., March 11th and continues to recover and heal at the Friary. On March 25th Fr. Noel will be seeing his surgeon for the removal of his staples.

Thank—You Church: Words are simply inadequate to express my love and gratitude for the prayers, cards, gifts and words of encouragement and support. The power of prayer and gift of Faith has been instrumental in God making all things well for me! Ever—grateful,
Friar Noel

Special Thanks: To Friar Paul Pantiru, OFM Conv., for presiding over the Sunday Eucharist last Sunday. We are also grateful to Dr. Brett Dawson and Mrs. Ethel Johnson as they led the daily Liturgy of the Word and Communion Service. Also for coordinating the Stations of The Cross on Fridays at 12 & 6:30PM.

Finally, to our sister, Gail Buffong, who continues to coordinate our Parish Recitation of the Rosary on Monday through Thursday, and on Sundays celebration of The Word. We have been averaging 25-35 contacts daily from as near to us as AL to NY and Ohio as we bring the Gospel beyond the borders of Columbus, Georgia! Please pass on our phone number to your family and friends: 706- 894- 9969.

Welcome! As we celebrate the 5th Sunday of Lent, we welcome among us our brother, **Fr. Manny Vasconcelos** as our celebrant this morning.

In your charity please pray for: the soul of **+Sister Mary Bernard Srocka, CSSF** of Our Lady of the Angels Convent in Enfield, CT. Blessed with 98yrs. of life as Felician Sister, X-RAY technician, this native New Yorker is at home in the Lord!

The soul of **Paul Julien**, brother of Junius “JJ” Julien. His services will be held Wednesday, March 24th at St. Catherine of Sienna Catholic Church in Donaldsonville, LA. Sympathy and prayers to the family. May faith in God who comforts all give you strength and comfort.

Also, remember the soul of our brother Friar, **+GIORGIO ABRAM, ofm conv.**, who upon his return from the funeral of his brother, **Friar, +GIULIANO ABRAM, ofm conv.**, in Italy; caught COVID-19 in Ghana, West Africa. His funeral was held this week in the “Valley of Prayer” with burial in the Friars Cemetery. Friar Guiliano was among the early friars of Ghana and spent the past 44 years helping eradicate leprosy there. *Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen!*

Stewardship Blessings: In the name of the Church of St. Benedict the Moor, I would like to thank all those, who have faithfully been supporting our developing needs as we worked through this time of the pandemic. Through your generosity of giving, we have been able to move forward and day to day upkeep of the Church to address our recent 2021 Sanctuary restoration. To God be the glory, the praise and the honor forever! Amen!

Annual Catholic Appeal: Thank you to those who have made their gift to the ACA. If you haven't yet made your pledge, please consider doing it this week.

Special Collection

This week we take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection to help **Jesus in disguise**. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide relief and support for struggling communities and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

Save the Date

Lace up your sneakers and register to participate in the Sprint Into Spring 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run, hosted by the St. Anne-Pacelli Catholic School Vikings Booster Club! In order to be guaranteed a race t-shirt, please register for the race online by April 5, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. Online registration closes April 14, 2021.

Race Registration Fees
5K - \$25; 1 Mile Fun Run - \$15

Stewardship

Weekly Finance Report: March 14
Offertory: \$1610.00 (Online \$260.00)
Utilities: \$45.00 (Online \$50.00)
Kitchen Reno: \$269.00
Church Repair: \$100.00 (Online \$110.00)
Easter Flowers: \$140.00

Our online giving has been updated to a new and easier to use platform. Online donations allow you to stay up-to-date and continue your support.

Please go to <https://osvhub.com/stbenedictthemoorcolumbus/funds> to contribute.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

READING 1 Jer 31:31-34

The days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers the day I took them by the hand to lead them forth from the land of Egypt; for they broke my covenant, and I had to show myself their master, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD. I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer will they have need to teach their friends and relatives how to know the LORD. All, from least to greatest, shall know me, says the LORD, for I will forgive their evildoing and remember their sin no more.

RESPONSORIAL

R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness; in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my offense. Thoroughly wash me from my guilt and of my sin cleanse me.

R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me. Cast me not out from your presence, and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me. I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners shall return to you.

R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.

READING 2 Heb 5:7-9

In the days when Christ Jesus was in the flesh, he offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; and when he was made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

GOSPEL Jn 12:20-23

Some Greeks who had come to worship at the Passover Feast came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we would like to see Jesus.” Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me. “I am troubled now. Yet what should I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour. Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it and will glorify it again.” The crowd there heard it and said it was thunder; but others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” Jesus answered and said, “This voice did not come for my sake but for yours. Now is the time of judgment on this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself.” He said this indicating the kind of death he would die.

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.

Fr. Noel Danielewicz	Earl King
Sr. Agnes, fsma	Elvia King
Sr. Apollonia, cssf.	Lenny Korona
Sr. Delores Anne, cssf	Shirley Labbe
Helen Bell	Ida Ruth Lane
Amanda Cole	Mittie Lewis
Mik Cole	Delores McLeod
Robert Cole	Ruben Meinhofer & Fam.
Helena Danielewicz	Denvey Nelson
Ola Danielewicz	Major Nettles
Robert Dozier	Cordell Parker
Carl English	Gwendolyn Parker
Stephanie Findlay	Debra Pough
Fluellen Family	Evelyn Pough
Yvonne Gilberti	Joe Ravalese
Elizabeth Grey	Joan Rogala
Ginnette Hughes	Lydia Sliva
Cecelia Hyams	Madeline Smith
Clarence Johnson	Emi Talbert
Donald Julien	Friar Steven Tremier
Michael King	Dorothy Washington
	Friar Carl Zdancewicz