

## PLEASE JOIN US

If you have stood as a visitor to our community before, and because you enjoyed being with us you continue to come, please, seriously consider registering with St. Benedict as your faith community. We would love to have you as a part of our family. Just fill out the registration form located on the back of this bulletin and drop it in the offertory basket. Thank you. God loves you and so do we.

## ATTENTION ST. BENEDICT PARISHIONERS!

**Important Information about St. Benedict's Electronic Newsletter**  
Have you been receiving emails from St. Benedict Parish? If not, we want to be sure we have your correct and current email address so that you don't miss out on current Parish news and activities. When you have a moment we'd appreciate your sending a quick email to [SaintBenedictCrh@aol.com](mailto:SaintBenedictCrh@aol.com) with your full name and email address. Also, be sure to check your SPAM folder just in case the messages have been going there instead of your INBOX. The St. Benedict Communications Team thanks you for your attention to this matter

## CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL STUFFED ANIMAL, SOCK, AND ART SUPPLIES DRIVE

Sponsored by KPCLA, Ct. 336 and KPC Council 336, starts immediately and ends March 20, 2016! Please bring in as many of the following new items as you can:



- Stuffed Animals
- Socks for all ages
- Art supplies, especially conducive to the older children
- Collection containers are in the rear of the church/St. Benedict

Contact Co-Chairs Lil Brown-Parker (510-206-9942) and Reese Fernandes for more information. Thanks.

## THE KNIGHTS OF ST. PETER CLAVER COUNCIL 336 PRESENTS ....

**Thunder Valley Casino Bus Trip (Annual Scholarship Fundraiser)** on Saturday, April 9, 2016. Departure Time: 8:00 am at St. Benedict Parking Lot, 8:30 am at K-Mart Parking Lot, 1500 Fitzgerald Dr., Pinole, CA. Donation: \$35.00 includes \$15 Free Play & \$5 Food Credit. Checks payable to KPC Council 336. Reservation deadline: April 1, 2016. (Donation is non-refundable after deadline). For more information: Marvin Millet - 510-638-7263, Herb Houston - 510-387-7673, Clayton Foster - 510-333-1403, Leonard Pete - 510-917-2390. Note: All passengers must have a valid Government Photo I.D. & All PASSENGERS must have or obtain a Player's Club Card to receive the casino free play & food credit.

## ANNUAL CHRISM MASS

**Wednesday, March 16, 6:30 pm, The Cathedral of Christ the Light, 2121 Harrison St., Oakland Mark Hernbroth 510-273-4980 [mhernbroth@oakdiocese.org](mailto:mhernbroth@oakdiocese.org) [Oakdiocese.org/Chrism](http://Oakdiocese.org/Chrism)**

All parishes and members of the Diocese are invited to come celebrate the annual Chrism Mass on Wednesday, March 16 at 6:30 pm. Join with us as the chief shepherd of our Diocese, Bishop Michael Barber, S.J., blesses the Oil of the Catechumens and the Oil of the Sick and consecrates the Sacred Chrism, all of which are taken back to the parishes for the celebration of the Sacraments. This year's celebration begins with the Musical Prelude and procession of the Parishes at 6:30 pm. Also, in a sign

of unity and fidelity, the priests of the diocese concelebrate the Mass with their Bishop and recommit themselves to their priestly ministry. This is the one time, each year, when the local church gathers as one family in faith to celebrate as one Church, called by Christ to know Christ and make Him better known. Parking is available for a flat rate of \$5 at the Kaiser Center parking garage across the street. Use of public transportation is encouraged; the Cathedral is a two-block walk from the 19th Street BART station. Additional transportation information can be found online.

## THE CATHOLIC VOICE 2016 JUBILEE OF MERCY ITALY PILGRIMAGE OCTOBER 20-29

Camille Tompkins, 510-419-1081, [ctompkins@oakdiocese.org](mailto:ctompkins@oakdiocese.org). Pentacost Tours, Inc., 800-713-9800 [travel@pentacosttours.com](mailto:travel@pentacosttours.com). [CatholicVoiceOakland.org](http://CatholicVoiceOakland.org). The Catholic Voice invites you to celebrate the Jubilee Year of Mercy in Venice, Padua, Bologna, Florence, Siena, Assisi, and Rome. Celebrate Mass at some of the most beautiful basilicas in Italy, visit the treasures of Vatican City, and see Pope Francis during the Papal Audience. Join the 10-day pilgrimage to Italy to celebrate the Jubilee Year of Mercy for \$3,999. Costs includes airfare, ground transportation, housing, and most breakfasts and dinners. **\$100 Early Bird Discount is available to those who register before December 23.** For brochures, contact Camille Tompkins, see above. For additional information and reservations, contact Pentecost Tours, Inc., see above.

## ARE YOU A FAN OF ST. BENEDICT?

Well if you're a Facebook member, Like our Page! You can find us under the following title:

### Fans of St. Benedict Church Oakland, CA

Make sure that you like our page as well as spread the word to many of your family and friends. This is a great way to keep up with the latest News and Updates with St. Benedict Church.

## THE CHOIR'S CORNER

### What's going on??

#### Interested in joining any of the Choirs?

Please feel free to contact Music Director, Leonard Pete.

Phone: 510-917-2390

Email: [thevoicesofstbenedicts@yahoo.com](mailto:thevoicesofstbenedicts@yahoo.com)

#### Or just join us at Choir Rehearsal on Thursdays at 6pm.

Are you on Facebook?

Like our page! We're titled **The VOICES of St. Benedict - Oakland, CA**

**ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?** To request a *registration form*, please complete and drop in the offertory basket.

Have you moved? Had an information change?

Let us know by completing and returning.

*We respect your privacy! This information is for St. Benedict Parish use only.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Send Me A Registration Form

Change of Address  Moving out of Parish

[www.saintbenedictoakland.com](http://www.saintbenedictoakland.com)

 follow us on facebook



## MISSION STATEMENT

As the people of God who are loved by the Father, being saved by the Son, and strengthened and endowed with the gifts of the Spirit for the service of the Lord, and all here at St. Benedict, we resolve in the spirit of Christian unity and cooperation to use our gifts and talents in building up the Kingdom of God in East Oakland

## PARISH STAFF

**Rev. Jayson Landeza**

PASTOR

**Mr. Ron Tutson**

DEACON

**Rev. Paul Vassar**

CLERGY SUPPLY

**Mrs. Divina Cabrera**

SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER

**Mr. Leonard Pete**

MUSIC DIRECTOR

**Mrs. Ofelia Wanzo**

CCD DIRECTOR

**Mr. Rufus Fisher**

PLANT MANAGER

**Mr. Clifford Ologbosele**

PARISH COUNCIL PRESIDENT

**Ms. Ariana Catherine**

YOUTH MINISTER

## MASS TIMES

SATURDAY:  
4:30 PM (VIGIL MASS)

SUNDAY:  
8:30 AM  
11:00 AM (GOSPEL MASS)

MON, WED & FRI:  
7:30 AM (8:00AM ON HOLIDAYS)

## CONFESSION

SATURDAY:  
3:45 PM TO 4:15 PM  
(OR BY APPOINTMENT)

## BAPTISM

INSTRUCTION OF PARENTS REQUIRED

## MARRIAGE

6 MONTHS ADVANCED NOTICE REQUIRED

## CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY:  
510.581.2488

ST. MARY'S CEMETERY:  
510.654.0936

ST. JOSEPH CEMETERY:  
510.223.1265

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:**



Most of the Pharisees strictly observed the smallest details of the Jewish laws (a practice they believe made them holier than others) and did not associate with those they consider sinners out of fear of being contaminated by these people. In today's Gospel, this group is angry because Jesus does not act the same way. Instead of eating with the Pharisees, Jesus dined with tax collectors and those the Pharisees consider the dregs of society.

First-century Jews who believed God was there king had a strong dislike for tax collectors. The Jews felt outraged when the Roman armies conquered Palestine and declared that the emperor (not the one true God) would rule over them. As if it wasn't bad enough that this mere human tried to take God's place, he also imposed taxes on the Jewish people, taxes the Jews believed should go to God, their king, for the upkeep of God's house, the Temple in Jerusalem. By collecting taxes, the emperor was actually stealing from God and the tax collectors were helping him do it. That's why the Pharisees were so angry when Jesus chose to eat with the tax collectors instead of respected Pharisees.

In the parable in today's Gospel, the younger son asked for his share of the inheritance. Jewish law and entitled the oldest son to twice as much inheritance as his brother(s) because he would become the head of the family and would have more responsibilities. If there were only two sons, they were supposed to divide the estate into three parts, with the younger son getting one third of it. So the younger son in today's Gospel caused a great financial hardship on his family.

After spending his money on loose living, the sun gets a job feeding pigs. Since the Jews regarded pigs as unclean animals that they could not eat or sacrifice to God, the son had really struck rock bottom because he was caring for useless animals in the eyes of the Jewish faith.

Returning home, the son asked his father to take him back not have a slave but as a servant. Slaves had more security because they were part of the family and the master had to take care of them. Servants, on the other hand, were not part of the family and could find themselves unemployed and out on the streets at any time.

Rejoicing that his son returned, the father gives him a robe (symbolic of royalty), a ring (a sign of authority and power), and sandals for his feet (worn by important individuals). Thus, he restores the son to his previous position in the family. Perhaps this parable invites us to return to our heavenly God in this Lenten season. Give God a chance to welcome us back.

Many of us missed having our choir with us last week, but the Voices of St. Benedict were on a mission at a mission. Our 11:00 AM Gospel Choir, the Voices of St. Benedict, were invited to take part in a combined Black History Month / Mission Rebuilding Project to raise funds for the seismic retrofit of Mission San Antonio de Padua, outside of Jolon, on the California Central Coast.

Mission San Antonio de Padua was founded in 1771 by Saint Junipero Serra, the third mission in the California Mission system. Located in the middle of Fort Hunter Liggett Military Reservation, the parish is staffed by the Franciscan Friars, under the auspices of the Diocese of Monterey.

Our choir left St. Benedict parish at 5:45 AM on Sunday morning, in transportation provided by St. Benedict parishioner Henry Royal, Jr., and returned to the parish at 5:00 PM later that afternoon. Meeting the choir at the Mission was Fr. Jay Matthews, Dr. Cheryl Bryant Bruce, MD, and Ruben Flores. Dr. Cheryl and Ruben helped to make this all happen, so much thanks go out to them.

The choir led the music at the 9:00 AM liturgy at the Mission, and they gave a fundraising concert at 11:00 AM, with a packed Mission enjoying the inspired music, led by our phenomenal choir director Leonard Pete. As I understand, it was three hours down and three back, with our choir members enjoying a beautiful and pleasant ride and enjoying the pastoral scenic views of the Central Coast flora and fauna. They were well-received by the grateful, appreciative and hospitable parishioners of the Mission, many of whom have never heard or seen a live performance of a Gospel Choir. Thank you again for all those who made this possible and enabled others to experience the richness of our African American Catholic tradition.

Remember - parish planning process, this Saturday, March 12th, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Looking forward to seeing all of you there to help plan the future of St. Benedict!

Our very own Fran Porter was on KQED's "Forum" with Michael Krasny this past Tuesday morning. She was part of a discussion titled "Oakland's Stories, Told Through Quilts", and the segment featured members of the African American Quilt Guild of Oakland. Please go to the KQED-FM website or Google "Fran Porter KQED Forum" and you'll hear the show. We are so grateful for you, Fran!

Have a continued blessed and prayerful Lenten Season.

*Fr. Jayson*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PARISH PASTORAL PLANNING**

Saturday, March 12, 2016, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM in the Parish Hall.

**COMMITTEE MEETING**

Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00pm in Parish Hall.

**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

*Holy Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>*  
6:30 PM - Mass of the Lord's Supper  
(Followed by Potluck)

*Good Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>*  
1:00 PM - Liturgy of the Lord's Passion

*Holy Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>*  
8:00 PM - The vigil of Easter

*Easter Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>*  
8:30 & 11:00 AM - Easter Sunday Masses

*Easter Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup>*  
8:00 AM Mass

**HOLY THURSDAY POTLUCK**

Please sign-up for the Holy Thursday Potluck. Sign-up sheets are available on the table at the back of the church.

**EASTER LILIES**

Help us create a beautiful environment for the Easter Season. Your gift of Easter Lilies may be made in honor of a loved one, in memory of the loved one, or simply as a gift. Please drop-off the Easter Lilies and Potted Floral plants on Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, and on the weekend of March 19<sup>th</sup> and the 20<sup>th</sup>. Please don't bring cut flowers until Good Friday. Thank you.

**RICE BOWL**

Our parish will participate in Catholic Relief Service' Lenten Program, Operation Rice Bowl, as part of our Lenten Observance. Throughout Lent, Operations Rice Bowl will help us pray, fast, learn and give in solidarity with those in need around the world. We encourage you to be a part of this Lenten journey at home with your family and love ones. Envelopes are available for pick-up at the back of the church. Please return those envelopes on the weekend of Palm Sunday.

**THANK YOU!**

The Mardi Gras Dance Fundraiser was a big success and Dolores Millet and the Committee did a magnificent job. This year's profit for the church was \$2,500.00.

**SECOND COLLECTION**  
**"100" CLUB - THIS WEEKEND**  
**BISHOP'S OVERSEAS APPEAL - NEXT WEEKEND**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Sunday, March 6	8:30 a.m.	Najib Shabazz 5 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Selimone Percival 65 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
	11:00 a.m.	Joe Johnson + Doris Johnson +
Monday, March 7	7:30 a.m.	
Wednesday, March 9	7:30 a.m.	
Friday, March 11	7:30 a.m.	
Saturday, March 12	4:30 p.m.	For The People

**CHURCH SUPPORT**

Collection:	<b>February 28, 2016</b>	\$4,476.50
Other Collection	"100" Club	\$10.00

**"100" CLUB**

Beginning Balance	<b>\$8,319.09</b>
Total Income for January 2016	\$540.20
<b>Ending balance as of January 31, 2016</b>	<b>\$8,859.29</b>

**PENNY HARVEST**

<b>Ending Balance as of January 31, 2016</b>	<b>\$912.03</b>
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*Please remember to bring your pennies and drop them off by the altar before or after Mass. There's no need to wrap your pennies in a roll.*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

**LECTORS/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

**MARCH 12/13, 2016**

<b>4:30 p.m.</b>	<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>
J. Soublet	G. Johnson	C. McIntyre
G. Green	J. Outley	J. Moore
		C. Dixon *

**2016 MASS BOOK**

If you would like to offer a Mass for the (Living) Intentions of your family/friends, or for your deceased family members/friends, stop by the Parish Office during office hours. We will be happy to assist you.



**REST IN PEACE**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Daniel Chaffers**, the uncle of Leonard Pete, and **Morel Dright, Jr.**, the brother of Janice Moore. Please remember their families in your prayers.

**Funeral Service for Daniel Chaffers:**  
Tuesday, March 15th - 6:30 PM.  
Followed by Repast in the Parish Hall