

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.

THE AFRICAN AMERICA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

would like to thank those who participated in the Black Family History Day. Once again the St. Benedict Family made the day a success. We are certain our Ancestors are pleased.

Jackie Barrow Stewart
Publicity Chair AAGSNC

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 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.

CALLING ALL WOMEN!

Magnificat Ministry for Catholic Women Invites you to our March Prayer Breakfast on **Saturday, March 12, 2016, 9:30 AM -12:30 PM** at Crowne Plaza Hotel, 45 John Glenn Drive, Concord, CA. Please join us in welcoming our speaker, Denise Bossert! Denise is a well-known author and syndicated columnist. She is the daughter of a Protestant minister and will share with us her story of conversion to the Catholic faith! **Join us for Prayer, Praise, and Inspiration!** Reservations are \$28/ \$35 after March 5th. Please go to www.magnificatsoti.org for info or reservations call (925)788-7762.

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

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**

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.

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

Camille Tompkins, 510-419-1081, ctompkins@oakdiocese.org. Pentecost Tours, Inc., 800-713-9800 travel@pentecosttours.com. 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.

YOUTH MINISTER

Keeping up with the wonderful spirit and energy of our recent retreat we are looking for individuals who are interested in being mentors or volunteers with our youth and young adult activities. If interested, sign ups are available in the back of the church. For any questions see Ariana Catherine.

Any young adults 21-40 interested in participating in various young adult activities and be mentors to the youth of the parish and parish community, please sign up in the back of the church. For any questions contact Ariana Catherine or Jennifer Fernandes.

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

 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:



In today's Gospel from the 13th chapter of Luke, we hear about two tragic incidents that happened in Jesus' day. First, Roman soldiers killed some Jews who were offering sacrifices in the Temple and then mixed their blood with the blood of animals that the priests offered to God.

The second incident involved 18 people who died when a building collapsed on them. Because the news of these was probably on the lips of almost everyone in Palestine, including Jesus and his disciples, some of those in today's Gospel asked Jesus for his opinion about these tragedies.

The Jewish people used their faith in God to explain the meaning of events in their world, including the tragedies mentioned above. The talk around town was that God was punishing the victims for the sins that the victims had committed. Their reasoning resulted from a misinterpretation of the Genesis story about the first sin (chapter 3).

Because pain and sin did not become a part of life until Adam and Eve rebelled against God in the Genesis story, many people in Jesus' day thought there was a cause-and effect relationship between sin and suffering, believing that sickness and death were God's punishment for sin. This conclusion sounds logical at first, but Jesus rejects it in today's Gospel.

In the story about Adam and Eve, pain became part of life not as a punishment for sin but as a consequence of it. The difference between punishments and consequences is crucial if we hope to understand this particular story.

Driving a new luxury car, an alcoholic races down the street at 95 mph, fails to stop at a red light, and runs into a telephone pole as he swerves to miss a pedestrian. The alcoholic suffers a broken leg and totals his new car. A judge suspends his license and orders him to pay a \$1000 fine.

The broken leg and the wrecked car are consequences of the alcoholic's actions but the fine and the suspension are the punishments. This example shows us that

consequences naturally flow from an action while punishments are imposed by someone else. We can say that suffering and death flow from living in our world and are not punishments from God for something that we did. God was not punishing the victims of the two tragedies mentioned in today's Gospel because of a particular sin they committed. Even someone who never sinned would still suffer and die as a consequence of living in a sinful world. Indeed, such events invite to pray for the victims and their families.

The victims of human trafficking count as people who warrant not only our prayers but our active support, advocacy and intervention. Human trafficking, particularly as it relates to the sex trade, has become a very serious issue around the world and in our Oakland community. I see this on a first-hand basis serving as a chaplain for the Oakland Police Department. On numerous occasions I have accompanied sworn personnel and have helped to assist them in working with street walkers. Far more insidious are the pimps and

those who recruit and exploit the vulnerable to engage and manipulate them into this lifestyle and cycle of despair.

Fr. Paul Vassar will be preaching about this vital issue at all of the liturgies this weekend. We both experienced this phenomena while we were pastoring St. Columba parish in North Oakland, a location that has always had a heavy presence of street walkers. I know that he has a particular knowledge and keen insight on this topic, so we hope to glean from his sharing.

Don't forget - Saturday, March 12th, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM - parish pastoral planning process to help determine the direction and focus on the future priorities and goals of our St. Benedict family. Please be a part of our vision for the future of the parish!

Have a continued blessed and prayerful Lenten Season.

Fr. Jayson



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, March 1st at 7:00pm in Parish Center.

COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, March 21st at 7:00pm in Parish Hall.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS
All Fridays during Lent we will gather to walk and pray the Stations of the Cross in the church at 12 noon. All parishioners are welcome.

LENTEN OBSERVANCE
All Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence from meat and meat products. This law obliges everyone who is fourteen (14) years of age and older. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence (one full meal, two lesser meals, no meat, no eating between meals). The Law on fasting obliges all persons who are between the ages of eighteen (18) and fifty-nine (59).

RICE BOWL
Our parish will participate in Catholic Relief Service' Lenten Program, Operation Rice Bow, 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.

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 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.



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, February 28	8:30 a.m.	Joe Johnson† Doris Johnson†
	11:00 a.m.	Erika Soublet Birthday
Monday, February 29	7:30 a.m.	
Wednesday, March 2	7:30 a.m.	
Friday, March 4	7:30 a.m.	
Saturday, March 5	4:30 p.m.	For The People

CHURCH SUPPORT

Collection:	February 21, 2016	\$4,066.00
Other Collection	"100" Club	\$20.00

"100" CLUB		
Beginning Balance		\$8,319.09
Total Income for January 2016		\$540.20
Ending balance as of January 31, 2016		\$8,859.29

PENNY HARVEST		
Ending Balance as of January 31, 2016		\$912.03

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 5/6, 2016		
4:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
A. Swayne	J. Grant	L. Hall-Ervin
J. Garibaldi	L. Robertson	J. LaFitte-Tutson
		L. Brown-Parker *

SECOND COLLECTION
SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

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.