

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.

RETROUVAILLE

Marriage Help – Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has helped tens of thousands of couples at all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. This program can help you too. For confidential information or to register for the upcoming program beginning with a weekend on February 24, 25, & 26, 2017, call (510) 276-4118, email Oakland@RetroCA.com or visit the web site www.HelpOurMarriage.com

ST. PATRICK’S ANNUAL CRAB FEAST

Please join the Parish of St. Patrick for it’s Annual Crab Feast on Saturday, January 28, 2017 at St. Patrick, 1023 Peralta Street, Oakland, CA 94607. 6:00pm Happy Hour; 7:00pm Crab Feasting. Tickets \$50.00 (No Take Outs or Tickets Sold at the Door). For tickets please contact: Parish Office 510-444-1081 (Leave a message), Mary Loggins 510-532-5003, Mary Washington 510-535-0912

SAINT PETER CLAVER PILGRIMAGE

Join the Knights of Peter Claver Intercouncils Courts of Northern California and the Catholic Voice in Cartagena, Columbia and Panama City, Panama on June 5 – June 12, 2017. \$3,149/pp* includes round-trip airfare from SFO (other cities available – call for pricing), 5 star hotels, most breakfasts, lunches and welcome/farewell dinners, English-speaking tour escort, private air conditioned motor coach (*per person based on double occupancy). Book now! Limited Seating! For more information and reservations contact: Sara O’Malley Szucs, 773-527-0123 or email PeterClaver@GoDiplomat.com.

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.

Please pray for:

Kenneth Greer



(Will stay in the bulletin for one month)

St. Benedict’s Weekly Events

Sunday, January 22		
Monday, January 23	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Wellness Group Parish Hall
Tuesday, January 24	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Wellness Group Parish Hall
Wednesday, January 25	9:00 am - 12 Noon	SVDP - Distribution of food Parish Hall
	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Wellness Group Parish Hall
Thursday, January 26	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal Church
Friday, January 27	1:00 pm	Line Dancing Class Parish Hall
Saturday, January 28	10:00 am	OCO Meeting (Housing Crisis) Parish Hall

PLEASE JOIN US!

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**

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



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

Mrs. Divina Cabrera
SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER

Mr. Leonard Pete
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Mrs. Ofelia Wanzo
CCD DIRECTOR

Rev. Jayson Landeza
PASTOR

Mr. Ron Tutson
DEACON

Rev. Paul Vassar
CLERGY SUPPLY

Fr. Sylvester Odurinde
IN RESIDENCE

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 reading, Jesus begins preaching by telling his followers to reform their lives because the Reign of God is near. This is the focus of Jesus message.

The term "Kingdom of Heaven" (or "Reign of God") referred to a time when, through the Messiah, God's spirit would establish a new order or kingdom in which there would be no pain, suffering, or injustice. When Jesus proclaimed that the kingdom of heaven was at hand, he meant the Spirit of God was beginning the process of transforming the world. The day the Jews were eagerly awaiting was finally near.

At a time when the world didn't have telephones and televisions or the Internet, Jesus needed help in getting his message across. Help came in the form of four poor fisherman who were casting their nets into the sea. Sometimes we find it difficult to understand why these men would leave everything to behind to follow a wandering preacher from Nazareth, but there was a good reason.

In Jesus' day, there were two kinds of rabbis. The first kind taught Jewish boys how to read and write Scripture in the synagogue schools. The second type, called the master rabbi, taught other men how to be rabbis. A master rabbi's students probably moved in with him so they could have intense training. The master rabbi provided them with shelter and food and, in return, the students worked for him in order to earn their keep. Jesus was a master rabbi.

The Jews considered it a great privilege to study to be a rabbi. So great was the honor that anyone who had such an opportunity would not hesitate to except it. He would commit himself on the spot because he knew his family and relatives would pitch in to assume his responsibilities so he could devote full-time to his studies. That was probably what happened to Peter, Andrew, James and John. Jesus offered them the chance to become rabbis and their families and friends would've considered them fools if they had not taken advantage of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

A rabbi is a teacher. Pray today for all of their religion teachers who taught you about God. Ask God to bless them for their efforts and sacrifices. If possible, call one of them or write a letter expressing your appreciation. Even better, become one here at St. Benedict!

I know that many of you watched President Obama's farewell address from Chicago last week. I decided to tape it instead because I felt that it would be too emotional for me to watch it.

Last night (this past Wednesday), I began to watch the recording of the speech, but became much too weepy to have the heart-strength to see it.

More than I can ever say publicly (or at least on social media), the election of Barack Obama as the 44th President of the United States was one of the happiest,

joyous and most profoundly spiritual experiences of my life, for so many different reasons.

Yes indeed, he was the first African American president, and I moved and honored to be the pastor of an African American Catholic parish both at the beginning of his presidency and at its conclusion. Reason enough to give abundant praise and thanks to God.

President Obama and I are the same age, separated by three months, so I am able to have experienced a president who was my own age, hoping that before I die there will be one younger than me (and hopefully a woman - you hear that Kamala Harris or Michelle Obama)!

But perhaps most profound to me, that goes beyond explanation to most folks, is that President Obama was born and raised in Hawaii. Although I was born and raised in Berkeley, my family is from the Islands, and things Hawaiian are deeply infused in my DNA. So when I found out that he was "keiki o ka aina", or a "child of the land", I was behind him 100%. He could understand the nuances of ethic diversity, particularly as it related to Asian Pacific Islander culture, and yet remain comfortable in the Anglo culture of his mother and appreciative of his African roots.

I cried out of happiness for days after his election, and at a St. Columba liturgy celebrating his election a few days later, I found myself uncontrollably sobbing out of sheer joy, elation and a deep sense of gratitude to God for allowing me to see his election to the presidency.

When President Obama started his run for the presidency, we at St. Columba formed a weekly prayer group that met each Friday to pray for his safety during the election, and as I understand, that group continued to meet all throughout his tenure these past 8 years. Praise God that he leaves the Oval Office safe and sound, although a bit more gray and perhaps a little wiser about the world.

I am deeply saddened that he and his beautiful, elegant and articulate wife Michelle, as well as Malia (which means "Mary" in Hawaiian) and Sasha, will be leaving the White House. Full of grace, class and style, it has been a joy and blessing to observe the fullness of the Obama presence in the White House these past 8 years, and I look forward to his continued presence in the world scene as a respected elder over the next 25-30 years. May God continue to bless President Barack Obama and his beloved family for years to come.

I sobbed out of joy when President Obama was elected, and I am weeping in sad despair as he leaves office. God help us indeed!

God bless,
Father Jayson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAINT BENEDICT MARDI GRAS DANCE

Our annual fundraising event takes place on Saturday, February 25 at 6:00 pm until 10:00 pm at the parish hall. For tickets and more details, please call Dolores Millet at 510-638-7263.



BIBLE STUDY

The word of God is a seed. We need to nurture the ground of our lives to allow the seed to grow and bear fruit within us.

Plan to attend our parish study of the Gospel of Mark beginning on February 01, 2017. We will meet for ten sessions on Wednesday evenings from 7 - 8:30 p.m. in the parish center. There is a fifteen-dollar (\$15.00) donation to cover study materials. Register by calling Divina at the Parish office (510-632-1847) or Ron at (510-633-4557) by January 25, 2017.

2017 MASS BOOK

The parish office will be accepting Mass Intentions for the 2017 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.

A WELLNESS NEW YEAR TO ALL!!

Resolve to get well and be well this year. Join the St. Benedict Wellness Group on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays from 6 to 7 pm to make lifestyle changes that will help to improve your overall wellness. It's about preventative changes to insure quality of life. Feel better, look better, perform better everyday. Adding this year, Saturday morning walks. Join the wellness movement!

SICK AND HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

If you know of anyone in the parish who is sick and homebound who would like to receive communion at their home or if you know someone who is sick and is in need of prayers, please contact Divina Cabrera at the church office (510) 632-1847 or fill out one of the request forms at the back of the church. Request for prayers will be listed in the bulletin for one month and extended upon request.

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.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, January 22	8:30 a.m.	Raymond August† For The People
Monday, January 23	11:00 a.m.	
Wednesday, January 25	7:30 a.m.	
Friday, January 27	7:30 a.m.	
Saturday, January 28	4:30 p.m.	

CHURCH SUPPORT

Collection:	January 15, 2017	\$5,659.00
Other Collection:	"100" Club Seminary	\$50.00 \$570.01

"100" CLUB

Beginning Balance	\$1,690.80
Total Income for December 2016	\$775.00
Ending balance as of December 31, 2016	\$2,465.80

PENNY HARVEST

Ending Balance as of December 31, 2016	\$1,109.34
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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

JANUARY 28/29, 2017

4:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
J. Moore	B. Kennedy-Tapscott #	S. Gressel
J. Garibaldi	L. Robertson	M. Nubie #
	J. Matthews *	D. Cola *
		C. McIntyre *

SECOND COLLECTION
SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL