Dear People of God:

I, Father Sylvester Odurinde, a priest of the Catholic Diocese of Oyo, Western Nigeria, and also a Marriage and Family Therapist and Professional Clinical Counselor, sincerely express my profound gratitude to the Pastor of St. Benedict Parish, Rev. Jayson Landeza, for given me the opportunity of residency while I was looking for where to stay for one year internship programs, I also thank all the loving community of this church for your love and gestures toward me. I am indeed grateful. Your impact remain an indelible mark on my life. I will never forget you in my prayers, for all your kindness and gestures and love.

Dear People of God, I am indeed eager to go back home by the end of May 2017 to work as a Marriage Counselor/Counselor among my people who are less than 55,000 Catholic out of a 2 million population; a community that is primarily Muslim and Baptist. It is my mission to provide all the professional help I can to assist and ensure the unity of families in my country. To be able to do this I am humbly asking you for your financial help. Upon return to my country I have to set up an office for myself and a sanctuary in which to meet those families I will provide counseling for. I need supplies, computers and internet services.

In the course of my internship I have written two books which are based on experiences I have had, both clinical and in advocacy, during my stay in the USA. The books are entitled “Crisis Response in Our School” is dedicated to Rev. Jayson Landeza for all his Response in Our School”. The book entitled “Crisis Response in Our School” is dedicated to Rev. Jayson Landeza for his support during my one year Internship Programs. This book is also dedicated to the loving families of St. Benedict Parish for your love, support and gestures toward me. This book is also dedicated to the loving families of St. Benedict Parish for your love and gestures toward me.

I am listing below expenses that I will incur upon my return to my country I have to set up an office for myself and a sanctuary in which to meet those families I will provide counseling for. I need supplies, computers and internet services.

- Permanent Office Outlet $2,000
- Office Chairs and Desk $650
- Counseling & Play Therapy tools $950
- Photocopier Machine $700
- Printer $350
- Computers $800
- Cost of Publication of Books in Nigeria $2,000
- Book Shelf $600
- Generators (no regular electricity in Nigeria) $1,200
- Internet Facilities $1,500
- Projector $600
- Mobile Megaphone $500
- Logistics $500

Total $12,150

Accordingly, I appeal to all of you to support in any measure possible my apostolate. I hereby appeal to all the parishes in my Diocese to support me in my endeavor. I hereby request those of you who are new to the Parish or moving to our Parish to please complete and return the form below to advise us of your change of address.

FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS OR NEW MEMBERSHIP

Name: ____________________________
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

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

HOly SEPULCHRE CEMETERY: 510.581.2488
ST. MARY’S CEMETERY: 510.654.0936
ST. JOSEPH CEMETERY: 510.223.1265

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

www.saintbenedictoakland.com
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK:

Theologians sometimes describe the Church as a “pilgrim people” because Christians are like pilgrims on a journey in search of their heavenly home. Because it’s easy for people to get lost when traveling to a place they’ve never been before, they have to look for signs and landmarks that tell them they’re going in the right direction or they need someone who has already been there to point the way so they won’t make a wrong turn. A person’s spiritual journey is no different.

In today’s Gospel story, Jesus says he is the way, the truth, and the life, and that no one can come to the Father unless they come through him. This means Jesus is our guide, pointing the way to our heavenly home and calling our attention to the various spiritual signs and landmarks that tell us that we’re going in the right direction. Without Jesus, we can easily get lost because we may not know where we are going.

One of the lessons in today’s Gospel reading also influenced the formation of the Nicene Creed, a summary of beliefs of the Christian faith. In the days of the early church, there was a heresy called Arianism that claimed Jesus is not God in the same way the Father is God and that Jesus is supposedly inferior to the Father. The Nicene Creed is the Church’s response to that heresy.

In this creed, we find the phrase that says “Jesus is God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God; begotten, not made, one in being with the Father who was light and Jesus, the true God, our light, comes from the Father who is God.” This means Jesus is God in the same way the Father is God. Jesus, our light, comes from the Father who is God. In other words, Jesus and the Father are one. That’s exactly what Jesus means when he tells Philip in today’s gospel that whoever has seen him has also seen the Father.

Jesus shows us the way to the Father through his word found in Sacred Scripture. The Bible is like our map to the Father. How often do we consult this map to make sure we’re going in the right direction? Why not develop the habit of putting aside 10 or 15 minutes each day to read and reflect on God’s word?

Next week’s Second Collection will be to assist Fr. Sylvester with his project when he returns home to Nigeria. Please make out your checks to Fr. Sylvester Odurinje, NOT to St. Benedict.

I will be in Reno, Nebraska, from Monday morning to Wednesday afternoon for a meeting of the Region XI Conference of Presbyterian Bishops, the leadership group of priests from California, Nevada and Hawaii. We represent the Catholic priests of the three states. Just work - no gambling!

Congratulations to our very own Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Court #336 Lady Brown-Parker for being named the KPCLA 2017 Lady of the Year for the Western States District of the KPC. The award was presented last weekend as the Western States District met in Sacramento. Much blessings and best wishes to Lady Lil and to the continued work of the Knights and Ladies Auxiliary Council and Court #336 here at St. Benedict for all the work they do in contributing to the life and ministry of our parish. I can’t thank you enough!

Congratulations and blessings upon those who received First Eucharist last weekend. Alfonzo Alvarez, Miya Kees, Ily Nneji, Tianna Outley received First Reconciliation on Friday night, and are surrounded by the prayers of our St. Benedict family. Much thanks to Ofelia Wanzo and Dionne Como for working with these young people. Please continue to pray for them.

God bless,
Fr. Jayson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ROSARY OF OUR LADY
Each Sunday during the month of May, the rosary will be recited at 8:10 am (before the 8:30 Mass). If you’re in need of Rosary, please see Mr. Fisher.

ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC
Sunday, July 9, 2017. Please mark your calendars.

“LIVE” VIRTUS PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING
If you haven’t completed your training for Safe Environment, this is your last chance to attend the live training on Thursday, May 18th at 7:00pm in the parish hall. We are mandated to do this every three years. All parishioners who are engaged in any parish ministry must complete the training. You can register on line for a live training at: www.virtusonline.org or sign-up at the back of the church. You must pre-register for the live training.

SCHEDULE OF masses for May 2017

May 7, 2017 4:30 p.m.  Our Lady of the Rosary - 12th Sunday of Ordinary Time
May 8, 2017 8:30 a.m.  St. Peter Claver - One Holy Day of Obligation
May 14, 2017 8:30 a.m.  The Casey Family
May 15, 2017 7:30 a.m.  The Bowman Family
May 17, 2017 7:30 a.m. _tgt0006
May 19, 2017 7:30 a.m.  The Pepino Family
May 20, 2017 4:30 p.m.  St. Peter Claver - Trinity Sunday
May 21, 2017 8:30 a.m.  The Bowman Family
May 22, 2017 8:30 a.m.  The Pepino Family
May 25, 2017 8:30 a.m.  The Pepino Family
May 26, 2017 8:30 a.m.  The Pepino Family
May 27, 2017 8:30 a.m.  The Pepino Family
May 28, 2017 8:30 a.m.  The Pepino Family
May 29, 2017 8:30 a.m.  The Pepino Family
May 30, 2017 8:30 a.m.  The Pepino Family
May 31, 2017 8:30 a.m.  The Pepino Family

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

LECTORS/Eucharistic Ministers

May 13/14, 2017
4:30 p.m.  H. Santi
8:30 a.m.  L. Dixon ####
11:00 a.m.  L. Dixon #
8:30 a.m.  C. Dixon
11:00 a.m.  J. Dixon-Parker *
8:30 a.m.  J. LaFatte-Tuson *

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.

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 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.

SECOND COLLECTION
CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION - THIS WEEKEND
Fr. Sylvester’s Personal Appeal - Next Weekend

Please pray for:

Trenton Barnes
The Bowman Family
JoAnn Hines
The Pepino Family
Anita Recania
Maretta Rhone

(Will stay in the bulletin for one month)