Knights of Peter Claver St. Benedict Council 336

Scholarship Fundraiser on Saturday, September 23, 2017 at Red Hawk Casino. Donation $35.00 per person (5 hours stay). Make checks payable to KPC Council 336. Reservation deadline: September 13, 2017. Sorry, no refunds after deadline. For information call: Marvin Millet (510) 638-7263 or Herb Houston (510) 387-7673, Leonard Pete (510) 917-2390 or Clayton Foster (510) 333-1403.

Save The Date:

Our KPCLA Court 336 Annual Fashion Show Fundraiser, Saturday, October 7, 2017, 12:30 pm – 3:30 pm; all tickets are available for purchase at $35 each. For more information, please call Gloria McCullough at 510-604-3833.

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.

2017 Mass Intentions

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.

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.

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
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**

St. Benedict's Weekly Events

Sunday, September 17		
8:30 am & 11:00 am	Mass	Church
Monday, September 18		
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Wellness Group	Parish Hall
Tuesday, September 19		
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Wellness Group	Parish Hall
Wednesday, September 20		
9:00 am - 11:00 am	SVDP - Distribution of Food Bags	Parish Hall
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Wellness Group	Parish Hall
Thursday, September 21		
6:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Church
Friday, September 22		
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Line Dancing Class	Parish Hall
Saturday, September 23		
4:30 pm	Mass	Church

PLEASE JOIN US!

Parish Pastoral Planning

Dr. Chiquita Tuttle	Chair/Facilitator
Dionne Cola	Vice Chair/ Assistant Facilitator
Leonard Pete	Meeting Recorder

Members

Ariana Catherine
Sidney Fernandes
Jules Garibaldi
Romel Lucas
Emma Morton
Linda Smith
Jaylynn St. Julian
Tara Sykes
Ofelia Wanzo

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 ☐

ST. BENEDICT

CATHOLIC CHURCH, OAKLAND CALIFORNIA

2245 82ND AVENUE • OAKLAND CA 94605 • 510-632-1847 • EMAIL SAINTBENEDICTCRH@AOL.COM

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

Ms. Dionne Cola
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Mr. Ron Tutson
DEACON

Rev. Paul Vassar
CLERGY SUPPLY

Mr. Rufus Fisher
BUILDING FACILITIES MANAGER

Dr. Chiquita Tuttle
PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR

Miss 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

We recommend using Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services (CFCS):

Holy Sepulchre, St. Mary's and St. Joseph Cemeteries.
Contact CFCS/Cooper's Chapel at (510) 362-0424 or www.cfcsoakland.org

www.saintbenedictoakland.com

follow us on facebook

A Spark of Heaven in East Oakland

Cely is 62 years old. She survived a breast cancer 10 years ago. 3 years ago, her cancer of the throat did not kill her. This time, she is on the last stage of her cancer of the tongue. She cannot eat nor drink. Not even a straw could touch her tongue. Doctors could not even identify whether it is 5th or 6th stage. They say, it is the last last stage. She gladly named it stage 7, the perfect number. Could her naming it 7 a perfect way to proclaim the Gospel of today when Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy seven times. That is the Kingdom of heaven…" (Mt. 18:22-23) I had the privilege to anoint her last month. She was so vibrant and at peace. With a difficulty in listening to her caused by the deformity of her tongue, she said, "I thank God for everything… and everyday. I am at peace, father." And you see a genuine joy in spite of her suffering. Not even her cancer of the tongue can silence her to speak of the goodness of God. With her disposition, I preached to myself, "You see Aris, she all has the right to complaint before God yet she chose praising God. What is your right to complaint about petty problems? Can't you just talk about God?"

The readings of today, the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Times, encourage us to focus on God so we can experience peace. The first reading opens with clear a statement, "Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight." Oopppsss, how crazy are we sometimes that we nurse anger and bitterness within us, "we hug them tight" without us realizing we self-destruct. I read it from a poem of a child, "Our worry, make us hurry, to the cemetery!" I propose instead, "Don't worry, be happy, stay healthy!" Let go of all negativities and self-centeredness so God can take charge. PEACE.

St. Paul understands peace as everything for and with the Lord. Our life is for the Lord and even our death is also for him. (Rom 14:8) This is what peace is all about. If we offer everything to the Lord, you think He will be insensitive to us? And so the Gospel talks about how we become channels of forgiveness, of grace, of blessings and of peace. These four words (forgiveness, grace, blessing and peace) talk about one reality. Just as we are forgiven many times by the Lord, so we shall forgive many times. Just as we have received much blessings from Him, so shall we become blessings to others. Don't be the dead-end of blessings. Don't be selfish. Be selfless and be countless.

Back to St. Benedict. In my regular walk around the church grounds one afternoon, a car suddenly parked. The driver, a woman in her perhaps mid 60's called my attention. She appeared so distressed that she had been going around for hours but she could not find her home. My heart bled literally for it can happen that we want to go home and yet we could not just find our way. This woman knew she was lost and the only place she remembered was that her home was near the Church. Wow, she must have loved the Church so much that losing sense of home, she had the church as a compass. With the help of *waze,* (a cellphone application) I drove my car, she followed and I brought her home. Once we found the home address, I deliberately left in haste. I wanted to sneak out from the scene and talked to God instead. "Lord, I am a sinner. Oftentimes, I complaint about petty things. But this time I hope I did something good. I am not complaining. I just want this small good deed to be just between the two of us. If there is a reward for it, I want you to deliver it personally when I get there." Then I went home in peace knowing I have in store something "there".

Last Sunday (September 3), while I was with Fr. Jayson in the Rectory, Dionne, yes, the woman who welcomed me and brought a basket full of fruits (the story I wrote last Sunday, September 10) came saying to me, "Father, I want to thank you for bringing home my sister the other day." What?!!? Caught unprepared, I wanted to ask, "How did you know it? I told God to just keep it between the two of us." But I chose to remain silent, listened to her and perhaps figure out what is God telling me. After listening to her, Fr. Jayson's face glowed in awe and smiled saying, "Aris, I am happy for you!" Honestly, I did not know how to handle the "thank you" of Dionne and the compliment of Fr. Jayson. All I knew at that time was, in the company of the two, a brother and a sister; I experienced a deep sense of peace and fulfillment. I swear it was not me at all. I can only imagine God filling up all empty spaces that time. And believe me, at that moment all I felt was that a spark of heaven ruptured a small space on earth we call St. Benedict Church. And this kingdom of heaven is in East Oakland, California.

Welcome to the home of God, where no sinner is denied of repentance, no cancer of the tongue can stop us proclaiming God, no lost driver is deprived of home, no lonely person remains in isolation. Everybody is welcome here. Welcoming people frustrate sin in everything. At the door of St. Benedict's Church, Benedict's medal hangs where no evil can enter. Only the kindness and mercy of God is multiplied not seven times but seventy seven times. Amen.

Fr. Aris P. Martin, SVD

Announcements

Congratulations
Father Jayson Landeza
for your recognition as a
First Responder Hero
by the Red Cross of the Bay Area
that was held last Friday, September 15th
at the Grandview Pavillion in Alameda.

2017 – 2018 Faith Formation (CCD)

Registration forms for students in grades 1-8 are available at the back of the church. Children in second grade this year and older, preparing for the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and/or Eucharist must be registered in, attending CCD classes regularly. No child will be accepted in the sacramental preparation classes after October 1, 2017.

Parish Bible Study

Parish Bible Study provides the nourishment from Scripture that compliments the nourishment we receive in the Eucharist. Participants will: Encounter Christ, Foster Christian Community and grow in understanding the Bible. Come, join Deacon Ron and other participants for Scripture Study on the Gospel of Luke. Scripture Study begins on Wednesday, September 06, 2017 at 7:00 PM in the Parish Center for 12 sessions thru the month of November 29, 2017. Study sets which include a Bible Commentary and a Study Guide are $15.95, payable to St. Benedict Church.

Annual Blue Mass

Honor First Responders at our Annual Blue Mass Friday, October 6, 10:00 am The Cathedral of Christ the Light, 2121 Harrison St., Oakland Oakdiocese.org/BlueMass Please include the following in your bulletins or use as pulpit announcements: All first responders and their families are cordially invited to attend the Blue Mass on Friday, October 6 at The Cathedral of Christ the Light. Every day, lives are saved and touched by first responders. This interfaith service will honor all those men and women who serve the citizens of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, as well as remember all those who lost their lives in the line of duty in the past year. Mass begins at 10:00 am and a luncheon will follow in the Event Center; advance reservations are required. Seat reservations are available at oakdiocese.org/BlueMass.

Thanksgiving Mass for Healthcare Providers

Save the Date! Saturday, September 30, 10:00 am. The Cathedral of Christ the Light, 2121 Harrison St., Oakland. We encourage all who provide healthcare services, direct and administrative, to attend this multicultural Mass on September 30 to celebrate the energy, dedication, and generosity of all healers in the Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

Mass Intentions

Sunday, September 17	8:30 a.m.	For The People
	11:00 a.m.	
Monday, September 18	7:30 a.m.	Lurlene Dyett✝
Wednesday, September 20	7:30 a.m.	
Friday, September 22	7:30 a.m.	
Saturday, September 23	4:30 p.m.	

Church Support

Collection:	**September 10, 2017**	$4,159.44
	Diocesan Priest Retirement	$1,478.76

"100" Club

Beginning Balance	**$7,266.18**
Total Income for July 2017	$570.00
Ending balance as of July 31, 2017	**$7,836.18**

Penny Harvest

Ending Balance as of July 31, 2017	**$1,195.24**

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

September 23/24, 2017

4:30 p.m.	**8:30 a.m.**	**11:00 a.m.**
J. Moore	C. McIntyre	S. Gressel
S. Swayne	J. Outley	D. Cola
		J. Smithson-Bell *

Please pray for the sick, especially:

Alex Donaville
Kevin Donaville
Anita Recania
Lisa Trevigne

Names will be removed at the end of each month

Second Collection - Next Weekend
Saint Vincent de Paul