

## MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 18 8:30 am Jackie Pinson - 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
The Clergy  
11:00 am Rosa Lee Osborne†  
Digna Echevarria†  
Sherry Allen and Nala  
Special Intention

### 2023 MASS INTENTIONS

The parish office is accepting Mass Intentions for 2023. If you would like to offer a Mass for the (Living) Intentions of your family/friends, or for your deceased family members/friends, please call the parish office at 510-632-1847. Donation for a Mass is \$10.00. Thank you.

## SICK MINISTRY

If you know someone who is sick and is in need of prayers, please contact the church office (510) 632-1847.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK, ESPECIALLY

Dino Blackburn  
Louise Noriego  
Monique Salgado  
Rick Santi

Lottie Sonnier  
Romel Tapscott  
Geraldine Walker

Request for prayers will be listed in the bulletin for one month and extended upon request.

## SECOND COLLECTION

Saint Vincent de Paul - Next Weekend

### HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT OUR PARISH?

1. Online: oakdiocese.org  
Click on giving then click on support your parish.
2. Mail: You can mail your envelopes to the Parish Office at 2245 - 82nd Avenue, Oakland, CA 94605 or, if you prefer, we have a mailbox slot inside the porch to the right of the security door.
3. Bring contribution to Mass to be deposited into the collection baskets during the Offertory.

### ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH?

Please scan this QR code:



We are so BLESSED to have you visiting with us today and we hope that you've enjoyed Worshiping with us.

Please fill out the online form so that we can keep in touch with you and keep you informed of any upcoming events or information about St. Benedict. If you need to update your current information, you can fill out this form as well.

Please note that we respect your privacy. This information is ONLY for the St. Benedict Church Communications/Technology Committee.

## CHURCH SUPPORT

Collection: December 11, 2022 **\$2,855.00**  
Immaculate Conception **\$193.75**  
Other Collection: "100" Club **\$93.75**  
Saint Vincent de Paul **\$43.75**  
Religious Retirement **\$874.00**

Thank You For Your Generosity

### PENNY HARVEST

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.

## LECTORS/MINISTERS

December 24, 2022  
Christmas Eve - 7:30 PM  
J. Soublet

December 25, 2022  
Christmas Day - 10:00 AM  
L. Robertson



### PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

David Krashna  
CHAIR/FACILITATOR

Linda Palmeri  
VICE CHAIR  
ASSISTANT FACILITATOR

Dale Blake  
MEETING RECORDER

#### MEMBERS

Ariana Catherine Dionne Cola Julie Hadnot Elrta Larry Romel Lucas Leonard Pete Alex Schmitt Chiquita Tuttle Ofelia Wanzo Regina Wilson-Henry



### CHOIR'S CORNER

What's going on??  
Interested in joining any of the Choirs?  
Please feel free to contact

Leonard Pete  
MUSIC DIRECTOR  
510.917.2390

thevoicesofstbenedicts@yahoo.com



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



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.

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 18, 2022



## 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  
OFFICE MANAGER

Mr. Leonard Pete  
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Mrs. Ofelia Wanzo  
CCD DIRECTOR

Mr. Jules Garibaldi  
BUILDING MANAGER

Rev. Jayson Landeza  
PASTOR

Mr. Ron Tutson  
DEACON

Ms. Dionne Cola  
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Rev. Paul Vassar  
CLERGY SUPPORT

Rev. Vincent Cotter  
IN RESIDENCE

Mr. David Krashna  
PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR

Mrs. Sherril Gressel  
FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Miss Ariana Catherine  
YOUTH MINISTER

## MASS TIMES

SATURDAY.....4:00 pm  
VIGIL MASS

SUNDAY .....8:30 am

.....11:00 am  
GOSPEL MASS

## CONFESSION

BY APPOINTMENT  
510-632-1847

## 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



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



*Marriage customs in Palestine in Jesus' time were much different from what we are accustomed to today. Back then, there were two parts of a Jewish marriage ceremony - the engagement and the consummation.*

*The engagement, which usually lasted at least a year, was a time for the bride to make her dress and prepare for the wedding. During this period, the bride and the groom couldn't see each other so they communicated through messages delivered by the best man.*

*The engagement began with the signing of a formal marriage agreement or with the groom giving gifts to the bride's family. After this took place, the bride and the groom were legally husband and wife even though they did not yet live together.*

*The consummation occurred when the groom took his wife into his home to live with him. The consummation completed the marriage contract.*

*The story in today's Gospel tells us that Joseph found out about Mary being pregnant while they were engaged but before they consummated the union. The engagement year had not ended and they were not yet living together. Since Joseph couldn't visit his wife during this period, she obviously wasn't pregnant with his child.*

*With Mary and Joseph legally becoming husband and wife at their engagement, divorce was the only way Joseph could end the relationship. Another alternative was for Joseph to publicly accuse Mary of adultery, which, according to Jewish law, would have led to her being stoned to death. This confusing situation is finally cleared up by an angel who tells Joseph that Mary conceived the child by the power of the Holy Spirit. The child has divine origin. The angel gives the child the name Jesus, a name that means "Yahweh saves" or simply "salvation." A very appropriate name indeed!*

*Can we imagine putting ourselves in Mary's place: pregnant, suspected of adultery, and about to be divorced. How would we feel? How could this happen to us? What will the neighbors think? After reflecting on this, perhaps take some time to pray for young, pregnant, unwed mothers and for those who are going through the pain of divorce.*

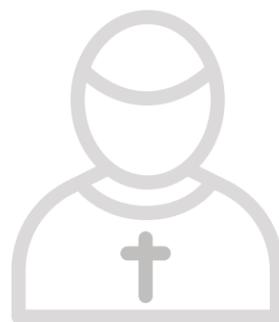
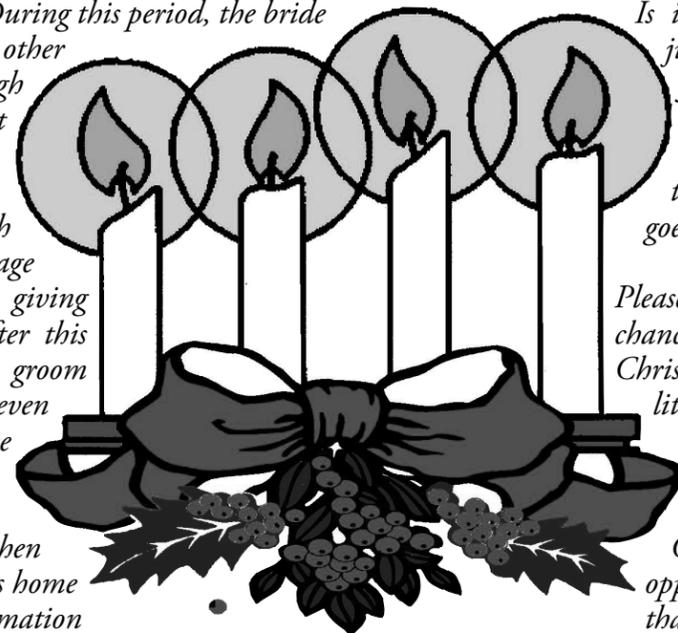
*Is it just me or did Christmas just sneak around the corner from us? Yes this weekend is the Fourth Sunday of Advent, and Christmas is a week from today. As the proverbial saying goes, "My, has time flown by!"*

*Please make sure that you get a chance to look at our upcoming Christmas Eve and Christmas Day liturgy schedule to get a sense of our happenings during this holiday season.*

*Christmas provides us with the opportunity to recognize the hope that the Birth of Christ and its celebration provides. Ancient people, particularly in the Northern Hemisphere, saw the need, in the midst of winter, to have an occasion and reason to endure. This season, in the difficulties that we often encounter, as a nation, a community, and as individuals, asks us to connect to the hope that we've experienced through Christ in our lives. May that be the hope of Christmas to us and our world!*

*My continued apologies for my absence from St. Benedict - and for your information, I will be officially installed as Pastor of Divine Mercy Parish on Saturday, January 14th, 2023, at the 5:30 PM evening Mass. You are all welcome and invited to attend. I will also remain your Pastor here at St. Benedict.*

**God Bless!  
Father Jayson**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ATTENTION!

**Due to health concerns, the cups of the Blood of Christ will not be available until further notice.**

### BECOME A PART OF CHRISTMAS TRADITION

Help us create a beautiful environment for the Christmas Season. Your gift of Poinsettias may be made in honor of, in memory of a loved one, or simply as a gift. You can begin dropping off your donations of Poinsettias on Saturday/Sunday, December 17/18, 2022 at the church.

### TEAM UP TO CLEAN UP FOR CHRISTMAS!

Tuesday, December 20, 2022 beginning at 3pm. We could use your help to freshen up the pews and clean up the Church before we decorate for the Christmas Season. Come join us!

**2022 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

**CHRISTMAS EVE LITURGIES**  
Celebrating Christmas in Song  
Featuring...The Voices of St. Benedict  
Saturday, December 24, 2022 - 6:30 PM  
Christmas Eve Mass  
7:30 PM

**CHRISTMAS DAY MASS**  
Sunday, December 25, 2022  
10:00 AM

**NEW YEAR'S DAY LITURGY**  
Sunday, January 1, 2023  
8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

### CHRISTMAS DECORATING

Wednesday, December 21, 2022 beginning at 10am. The Environment Committee needs volunteers to help decorate the Church for the Christmas Season. Come join us.

### NUDGERS

In her Faith Sharing this past weekend our Pastoral Associate Dionne Cola urged us to *nudge* our family members, friends, parishioners to return to the pews of St. Benedict Church. Let us all be *nudgers*! Who can you reach out to and invite back to our in-person church services? A parish team of Roberta "Bobbie" Porter, Joyce Allen, Jules Garibaldi, Mrytle Gabriel, and me, David Krashna, is formed to begin the pastoral council phone banking project described in last week's church bulletin to *nudge* our parishioners back, but it is *all hands on deck*! Let us *all* get our folks back into our church pews. If you

have additional suggestions regarding Increased Parishioner Participation, one of the goals of the St. Benedict Parish Pastoral Council, please submit them to [saintbenedictcrh@aol.com](mailto:saintbenedictcrh@aol.com).

### ATTENTION!

The Wellness Group will be on holiday break until further notice.

### HEALING MASS

Our monthly Healing/Anointing Mass, in collaboration with Divine Mercy parish will be held on the First Saturday of every month, at 10:00am, at St. Paschal Baylon Church, 3700 Dorisa, Oakland. The next scheduled Anointing Mass is on January 7<sup>th</sup>. Looking forward to seeing you there!

### DO YOU OWN A BUSINESS?

Would you like to like to make a short announcement about your business or trade to the Church family? Maybe you would like to hold a workshop for anyone interested in a particular subject. Let us know. Leave a message with your name and phone number at 510 632-1847 or email [saintbenedictcrh@aol.com](mailto:saintbenedictcrh@aol.com).

### BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

If anyone has an announcement to be published in our weekly parish bulletin, it is due to the parish office on Wednesdays before 4:00 pm. Please submit your announcement to the parish office at this email address: [saintbenedictcrh@aol.com](mailto:saintbenedictcrh@aol.com). Thank you.

### 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.