

The Catholic Voice

NOVEMBER 2022 • VOLUME 60 • ISSUE 11

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Thank you for reading *The Catholic Voice*. Thank you for your story ideas, comments and contributions.

A few housekeeping items: Magazine deadlines are two months before the cover date. Even earlier is better! Events that arrive too late for the magazine find a home on *The Catholic Voice* website and/or Facebook page. We're also able to share your news and events on the diocesan website and social media.

If you haven't visited *The Catholic Voice* Facebook page, it's <https://www.facebook.com/TheCatholicVoice>. You can make comments on the Facebook page.

The Catholic Voice online archive is transitioning to a new home, or virtual home, at the Hesburgh Library at the University of Notre Dame. The archive is at <https://thecatholic-newsarchive.org/>. So far, about five years of issues are available online. More to come!

Thank you to those who have let us know that they aren't receiving the magazine. We'll get you back on the mailing list. On the diocesan website, you can request the magazine or change an address. Go to <https://oakdiocese.org/catholic-voice-oakland-subscriptions>.

If you'd prefer, leave a message at 510.419.1075. Please spell names and addresses and leave a phone number in case we need additional information.

In this issue, you'll find an envelope that invites you to send your Advent prayer requests to Bishop Barber. I hope you will.

Gratefully,

Michele Jurich, Editor, *The Catholic Voice* ✝

The Catholic Voice

The magazine of the
Diocese of Oakland
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NOVEMBER 2022
VOLUME 60, ISSUE 11

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The Catholic Voice is mailed to households registered in parishes of the Diocese of Oakland. Contact your parish office to be added to *The Catholic Voice* mailing list.

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The Diocese of Oakland is a member of the Catholic Media Association

The Catholic Voice (ISSN 0279-0645) is published monthly by the Diocese of Oakland, 2121 Harrison St., Oakland, CA 94612. Periodicals postage paid at Oakland, CA and at additional mailing offices: POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: *The Catholic Voice*, 2121 Harrison St., Oakland, CA 94612. © 2022 *The Catholic Voice*, Diocese of Oakland.

Book by missionary in our midst makes a lasting impression



BY BISHOP
MICHAEL C.
BARBER, SJ

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ has been bishop of the Diocese of Oakland since May 2013.

We recently celebrated World Mission Sunday and heard homilies from visiting missionaries. Sometimes these missionaries are in our midst.

Father Augustine Joseph, pastor of St. Augustine Church in Oakland, is one such apostle. He recently wrote “Mission Stories,” a book on his “previous life” as a missionary in rural India, which I read, in one sitting, with fascination. It left a lasting impression on me.

When I was a boy attending a Catholic elementary school, we always looked forward to the annual visit of the missionary priest – who would try and recruit us to join his Order by regaling us with stories of overseas adventure. These men were the Davy Crockett and Daniel Boone of the Catholic priesthood. One minute they were paddling down the Amazon in a white cassock trying not to get bitten by deadly piranha fish. The next minute they were being considered as potential dinner entrées by a tribe of cannibals. They mastered exotic languages and learned to eat “anything that moved” – all with the purpose of fulfilling the Lord’s Great Commission to “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.”

For a minute we all wanted to sign up.

Father Augustine Joseph did sign up. And reading his accounts of missionary life in rural India brought me right back to my

eighth-grade classroom. Told with verve and unabashed honesty, Father Augustine emphasizes more the kind, devout and friendly people he encountered than his own sacrifices and trials.

Yet struggle he did, but all for a very good purpose. To bring the Catholic faith to those who were struggling to find a true and merciful God. Reading this book you’ll hear about leeches, how much blood they suck, and how to get them off you. You will know how to season a dinner of rice and dog meat. You’ll learn how to answer when a potential convert asks Father, “I have three wives and I want to be baptized.” You will see the exceptional generosity of people who share the best of what they have with the priest, because he represents Christ. And also their palpable poverty: When 500 devout rural villagers attended an outdoor Mass, and a collection was taken, it yielded less than \$1.00.

Father Augustine has a way of writing that is straightforward and



After Nov. 20, Father Augustine Joseph’s book is expected to be available at St. Augustine Church, 400 Alcatraz Ave., Oakland. Call 510.653.8631 to inquire about the book.



puts you right in the place. I felt hungry and sweaty just reading about his long and strenuous hikes through the mountains. I felt embarrassed when he describes trying to take a bath and there is absolutely no privacy. I felt his fear as Father Augustine looked at 200 human skulls on display as he spoke with a hosting chief. I recoiled at the smell when he was led to a disused church that had been used as a pigpen.

You will also experience the gratitude and love these Indian Christian souls feel for Christ and their priest when he went to such lengths to reach their village and celebrate the sacraments for them. After reading this book, I not only admired Father Augustine, but I felt so proud to be a member of a Church that has such loyal parishioners – and such dedicated priests.

Father Augustine has a knack of mixing quotes from Scripture and the Latin classics to illustrate his stories. May I propose one he missed that might describe the whole book, and Father’s missionary life: *Forsan et haec olim meminisse juvabit*. A joy it will be one day, perhaps, to remember even this. (Virgil, Aeneid 1.203) †

“You will see the exceptional generosity of people who share the best of what they have with the priest, because he represents Christ. And also their palpable poverty.”

MICHAEL C. BARBER, S.J.
BISHOP OF OAKLAND



2121 FARMERS STREET
OAKLAND, CA 94612
510.267.5316

October 7, 2022
Our Lady of the Rosary

To All the Faithful of the Diocese of Oakland,

Our world is in need of renewal. Too many of our brothers and sisters are hurting and in need of healing – but too many of us are in turn separated from the very source of our strength: Our Lord Jesus Christ.

To revive our connection to Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, I am calling for our Diocese to join in the National Eucharistic Revival to reflect upon the centrality of the Eucharist in our lives and to reaffirm our call to be a people nourished, fed, and renewed by the Eucharist itself.

The theme of the National Eucharistic Revival 2024 is “Behold, I make all things NEW.” Christ Himself invites us to renew our personal encounters with Him in this Revival. It is my prayer that as we all reinvigorate our devotion to the Blessed Sacrament and deepen our formation on the Real Presence, we will in turn be inspired to missionary action. Jesus is here and will renew us.

As part of this Revival, I am calling for a **Diocesan Eucharistic Revival Conference in 2023** with the theme: *“I am with you Always!”*

Save the dates:

September 8-9 for the Spanish-language track

September 15-16 for the English-language track

More details are forthcoming.

I know these weekends will be a wonderfully renewing time of prayer, talks, discussion, Mass, Adoration, and a public procession of the Blessed Sacrament. My appreciation goes out to the Steering Committee guiding this Congress, a group of the faithful on fire for the Lord chosen from parishes across the Diocese.

It is time to revive and rekindle the fire of the Eucharist in our hearts. We are looking forward to collaborating with you to make this 2023 Diocesan Conference not only successful, but also fruitful and faithful.

With the assurance of my prayers and blessings, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend Michael C. Barber, S.J.
Bishop of Oakland

For the greater glory of God

Upcoming Events

DOMINICAN SISTERS OF MISSION SAN JOSE 2022 HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

43326 Mission Circle, Fremont

Sept. 26-Nov. 5 Online ordering of baked goods and Signature items at www.msjdominicans.org.

Nov. 12 9 a.m.-noon Public harvesting of olives at Dominican Sisters Motherhouse.

Nov. 19 9 a.m.-4 p.m. In-person shopping and pre-ordered Signature items will be available for pickup.

Signature items include traditional fruitcakes, DSMSJ olive oil, bourbon balls, honey soap, holy honey from the Sisters' beehives.

Also offered: crocheted baby clothes, knitwear, afghans, scarves and hats; household specialties; plants and more.



IHM CRAFTERS' HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH

500 Fairview Ave., Brentwood.

Oct. 28 1-5 p.m.

Oct. 29 10 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Oct. 30 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Handmade items and quilt raffle are among the offerings.

REQUIEM FOR THE HOMELESS CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE LIGHT

2121 Harrison St., Oakland

Nov. 2, 7 p.m. Frank LaRocca's Requiem for the Homeless will be the evening Mass setting for All Souls Day at the Cathedral of Christ the Light. Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ will celebrate the Mass. Dr. Rudy De Vos will conduct the Cathedral Choir and Orchestra.

TRI-VALLEY COMMUNITY OUTREACH THANKSGIVING DINNER

Served at St. Raymond Parish, 11555 Shannon Ave., Dublin

Nov. 24 noon to 4 p.m. Dinner is served from noon to 4 p.m. Thanksgiving Day for seniors, families, military, singles and anyone in Danville, San Ramon, Dublin and Pleasanton needing dinner. The ninth annual dinner is provided through the efforts of business, churches and community organizations.

To volunteer or to contribute goods:
trivalleyoutreach@gmail.com. †



FRANK LA ROCCA
REQUIEM
FOR THE HOMELESS
NOVEMBER 2, 2022 ✶ 7:00 PM

"Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us." — Romans 5:5

Hope is here!

Please join us on All Souls' Day, Nov. 2, 2022 as we pray for—and with—the faithful departed. This Commemoration reminds us that even after death, we are linked with our loved ones and fellow-pilgrims in an unbroken line of faith, hope and love.

The All Souls' Day Requiem Mass gives us the opportunity to strengthen that connection, to remember those who have died, and to inspire and strengthen one another as a community of believers still here on earth.

This year the Cathedral Choir and Orchestra will resound the composer Frank La Rocca's Requiem for the Homeless. Bishop Barber will be the celebrant.



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CREATE YOUR PATH
DISCOVER YOUR IMPACT

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OUR EVENTS
TODAY! »**
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Bishop O'Dowd
High School

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, November 5
12:00 pm–3:00 pm

Take a tour, meet our students, talk with teachers and administrators.

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admissions@bishopodowd.org
510.553.8631

WHAT DID JESUS DO IN TIMES OF GRIEF?



BY SANDY
HEINISCH

PHOTO BY
DOMINIQUE
GHEKIERE-
MINTZ

At times we humans may wonder how Jesus could have been both God and man. The concept of Jesus being God may be far easier to accept than His being human. Yet there are many biblical passages that tell us about His humanity during his life on earth.

Jesus was born to a real woman (Luke 2:7) and often showed many of the human emotions each of us experience. He was hungry (Matt. 4:2), He was thirsty (John 19:28), He became exhausted (Mark 4:38). He was tempted (Matt. 4:1–11), sorrowful (Matt. 26:38), angry (Mark 3:5), rejected by his family (Mark 3:21), falsely accused (Mark 14:56), and betrayed by a friend (Luke 22:47). He even wept at a funeral (John 11:35).

And, of course, He died a slow, painful and inevitable human death (Luke 23:46) crying out in despair to God (Luke 22:44).

Jesus experienced all the emotions that we may feel or have felt. Jesus lived in the imperfect world that we live in. In reflecting on those times in His life I have come to understand that we humans must realize that Jesus completely knows what it is to be human because He was as fully

human as each of us is human. I especially find value in the passage illustrating His anger. Jesus became enraged as a result of His unconditional love for everyone. In this verse, Jesus shows what is known as “righteous rage.” He had a legitimate human right to be enraged, since corruption and injustice were wreaking havoc on the lives of ordinary people. What at one time was a good thing, money changing turned into greed.

Grief. Perhaps we should reflect on how deeply Jesus had to experience grief. His mother, Mary’s parents, St. Anne and St. Joachim were, of course, His grandparents. St. Joseph was His foster father. When we suffer grief, we can also know that Jesus must have felt great

sadness when His grandparents and foster father died.

When He heard from Mary and Martha that their brother Lazarus had died, Jesus wept openly. (John 11:35)

After hearing about the beheading of St. John the Baptist, He went off to an island by Himself. He needed time to process His feelings and speak to His father. But when crowds heard that He was there, they followed him.

How did Jesus respond? He certainly didn’t say: leave me alone.

Jesus saw the crowd and He felt compassion for them. He immediately got to work healing sick people, although He was grieving the loss of His dear cousin.

Jesus’ grief empowered Him to minister to others in

need. He turned outward instead of inward. Instead of feeling human and saying, leave me alone, He went on to do His Father’s wishes. The needs of the crowd were far more important than being alone.



**Jesus’ grief
empowered
Him to minister
to others in
need. He turned
outward instead
of inward.**

When personally I felt the losses first of my son and then of my husband, I wanted to be alone. I sought time to process what happened and what I needed to do to heal. I spent much time asking the Holy Spirit for a hint of what was I to do now? What did He want of me? I reflected on the Eccles. 3:2-4 passage ... a time to be born, a time to die, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance.

What does the example of Jesus tell us how to handle grief? It tells us that we must use our grief to minister to others. Whether that would be feeding the hungry, visiting the sick, ministering to those in prison or in my case, helping those who mourn.

We need to make sure that our grief doesn't turn into a case of self-pity and isolation. Our grief can empower us to love and serve

others in need. When I turned back to my ministry, I found out some people were far more in need than I. In my brokenness, God is able to use me to share my faith with others. As a grief minister for 16 years, I have spoken to hundreds of people about their grief. After the death of my son, I knew what my ministry was. But not until my husband's death was I truly able to fully walk the walk.

When Jesus was on the cross, He called out to His father: Why have you forsaken me? He felt abandonment. But more deeply He knew that His father would never abandon Him. In very much the same way He never abandons us either, if we allow/accept/remember Him. He walks our personal journey of grief every step of the way, if we just remember that. Jesus is always with us. †

In the November 2021 issue of *The Catholic Voice* magazine, readers learned of Sandy Heinisch's journey to grief ministry in the Diocese of Oakland and with Catholic Funeral & Cemetery Services.



On the cover of that issue, Sandy is pictured with her husband Frank. They were just about to celebrate their 59th wedding anniversary. On March 31, 2022, Frank Heinisch died. He was 80.

After a funeral Mass at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Brentwood, Frank was interred at Holy Cross Cemetery, where he shares a crypt with their son, Frankie.

After a short time, Sandy returned to grief ministry, called particularly to serve parents who have experienced the death of a child. This reflection grew from a session with parents.

ALL SOULS DAY

Sunrise to Sunset

On Nov. 2, Catholic Funeral & Cemetery Services cordially invites you to remember your loved ones from sunrise to sunset in the cemeteries of the Diocese of Oakland.

At four cemeteries, rosary will be recited in the morning.

Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. at Holy Cross Cemetery in Antioch, Queen of Heaven in Lafayette and St. Joseph in San Pablo, and at 10:30 a.m. at Holy Sepulchre in Hayward.

Please check with your local cemetery for updates.



Living Our Mission

CATHOLIC FUNERAL & CEMETERY SERVICES

Queen of Heaven
1965 Reliez Valley Rd
Lafayette, CA 94549
925.900.0202

Holy Cross
2200 East 18th Street
Antioch, CA. 94509
925.900.0203

Holy Sepulchre
26320 Mission Blvd
Hayward, CA 94544
510.605.4755

St Joseph
2540 Church Ln
San Pablo, Ca 94806
510.605.4787

JESUS, PRESENT IN THE EUCHARIST, INSPIRES COMPASSION, SHARING, POPE SAYS



BY CAROL
GLATZ,
CATHOLIC
NEWS
SERVICE

ONE CANNOT LOVE AND WORSHIP THE EUCHARIST WITHOUT COMPASSION FOR THE POOR AND MARGINALIZED, POPE FRANCIS SAID AT A MASS CONCLUDING ITALY'S EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS.

Let us recognize that the Eucharist is the prophecy of a new world, it is the presence of Jesus who asks us to dedicate ourselves to an effective conversion," which includes the conversion from indifference to compassion, from waste to sharing, from selfishness to love and from individualism to fraternity, he said in his homily Sept. 25.

The pope concelebrated the Mass at an outdoor stadium in the southern Italian city of Matera, which was host to Italy's 27th National Eucharistic Congress Sept. 22-25.

Rain, thunder and lightning storms forced the pope to travel by airplane and car rather than by helicopter from the Vatican.

In his homily, the pope reflected on the day's Gospel reading (Lk 16:19-31), in which Jesus tells the parable about the nameless rich man who "dined sumptuously each day" and ignored the poor man, Lazarus, "who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps."

When Lazarus died, "he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham," however, when the rich man died, he was sent to "the netherworld, where he was in torment," according to the Gospel reading.

Pope Francis said, "It is painful to see that this parable" is still alive today with so many "injustices, inequalities, the unequal distribution of the earth's resources, the abuse of the powerful against the weak, the indifference to the cry of the poor, the abyss we dig every day creating marginalization."

All of this, he said, "cannot leave us indifferent."

The parable talks about the abyss or great chasm that the rich man dug between him and Lazarus when they were alive, so now, "in eternal life, that gulf remains," the pope said.

One's eternal destination is determined by one's earthly life, he said. "If we dig a chasm now," separating oneself from others, then "we dig our own grave for later; if we raise walls against our brothers and sisters now, we remain imprisoned in loneliness and death later."

The Eucharist offers a "permanent challenge" to adore and worship God, not oneself, the pope said, and "to put him at the heart" of everything.

"Only the Lord is God, and everything else is a gift of his love," he said.

"If we worship ourselves, we die, asphyxiated inside our tiny ego; if we worship the riches of this world, they take possession of us and enslave us; if we worship the god of appearance and are inebriated in wastefulness, sooner or later life is going to ask us (to pay) the bill," Pope Francis said.

"Instead," he said, "when we adore the Lord Jesus present in the Eucharist, we receive a new way of looking at our lives as well: I am not the things I possess and the successes I am able to achieve; the value of my life does not depend on how much I can show off nor does it diminish when I go through failures and setbacks."

"Every one of us is a child who is loved" and blessed by God, "who wanted to clothe me with beauty and wants

PICTURED:
Pope Francis
greeted family
members as he
celebrates the
closing Mass of
Italy's National
Eucharistic
Congress at
the municipal
stadium in
Matera, Italy,
on Sept. 25.



me free from all enslavement,” he said. Those who worship God are free and are slaves to no one, he added.

The pope asked people to rediscover the prayer of adoration and to pray for a church that is “eucharistic, made up of women and men who break themselves like bread for all those who gnaw on loneliness and poverty, for those who are hungry for tenderness and compassion, for those whose lives are crumbling because the good leaven of hope has been lacking.”

The ideal, he said, is “a church that kneels before the Eucharist and worships with awe the Lord present in the bread, but which also knows how to bend down with compassion and tenderness before the wounds of those who suffer” and to become the “bread of hope and joy for all.”

“For there is no true eucharistic worship without compassion for the many ‘Lazarus’ who walk beside us even today,” he said.

“While we are hungry for love and hope or are broken by the trials and sufferings of life, Jesus becomes food that feeds us and heals us,” he said, and while injustice and discrimination against the poor continue, “Jesus gives us the bread of sharing and sends us out every day as apostles of fraternity, justice and peace.”

After the Mass, Pope Francis went to the Archdiocese of Matera’s new Mensa della Fraternità, a soup kitchen and social center for the poor and the elderly. The pope greeted the staff and blessed the new structure, which was completed as a project in conjunction with the eucharistic congress. †

“
*Jesus gives us the
bread of sharing
and sends us out
every day as apostles
of fraternity,
justice and peace.*”

TRAVEL ON A PILGRIMAGE!

Fulfill that dream NOW.

*YOU are invited to join
Fr. Richard Mangini!*



FOOTSTEPS OF JESUS - ISRAEL- THE HOLY LAND
Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Sea of Galilee, Dead Sea, Masada++
February 10-20, 2023 (plus Petra, Jordan optional)
\$4299 includes air, hotel, touring and most meals!

SHRINES OF FRANCE – Paris, Lisieux, Chartres, Lourdes ++ also visit Omaha Beach! May 8-18, 2023
Fr. Richard Mangini & Fr. Jim Schnexnayder
\$4499 includes air, hotel, touring and most meals!

FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL - Greece & Turkey, Athens, Meteora, Corinth, Ephesus, Santorini, Patmos + Includes Cruise! Sept 23-Oct 2, 2023
\$4699 includes air, hotel, touring and most meals!

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Reservations and Information
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Groups@PerilloTours.com



Additional Information call /email Organizer
BELINDA HELD
724-481-1700 / Belinda@APilgrimsJourney.com



Meet the 2022 Bill Ford Scholars

**THREE MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2022
AT DIOCESAN SCHOOLS HAVE RECEIVED
BILL FORD CYO SCHOLARSHIPS.**

The scholars are Tiburcio Horvath of St. Philip Neri School in Alameda, Marissa Jimenez of St. Joseph School in Fremont and Dylan Navarro of Holy Spirit School in Fremont.

The Bill Ford CYO Scholarships were established in 2018 by an anonymous donor. They honor the longtime CYO director. The scholarships are not awarded on the basis of skill in sports, but on the candidate's participation in CYO, in understanding of good sportsmanship and by exhibiting the Gospel values that are the essence of CYO participation.

The good sportsmanship was tested in the past couple of years, as COVID-19 limited CYO activity. But the CYO athletes overcame disappointment and showed remarkable resilience.

To apply, students submit essays and references from their coaches. Twenty-eight CYO student-athletes applied. A committee interviewed finalists.

Each student has received a \$1,000 scholarship. The scholars were honored at a park in Hayward, with their families and coaches present.



Dylan Navarro
Holy Spirit School, Fremont



I have been a part of Holy Spirit CYO, running track and field since the first grade and awarded the Oakland Diocese softball throw champion in 2019 for fifth-grade boys representing Holy Spirit School. I have also been playing boys basketball for Holy Spirit CYO since the second grade and won the Knights of Columbus free throw contest champion at both council and district level.

I learned through my years at Holy Spirit School and through the many opportunities I have had to engage in my faith that, “We have a creator who has told us that anything is possible, that we are all created in his likeness and image and we are made for excellence.”

In CYO, excellence is defined as making sure that everybody is challenged and guided and taught according to each player’s ability level. It is not just a general approach for everybody. It is looking at the individual athlete/player and determining what he or she needs to be successful.

“I am very passionate about sports, disciplined in everything that I do and I love helping other people.”

I am also passionate about leading by example and have led my team to victories with humility. I have been taught that when you lead by example, you are making the people around you better.

These are qualities I have which has built a strong foundation in who I am that will allow me to take better advantage of all the resources and education Saint Francis High School has to offer.

CYO Sports: Track and Field, Basketball
Additional Activities: AAU Basketball, Travel Baseball, Aikido, Taekwondo, Holy Spirit Church acolyte, Junior Vincentian and coding/certified coder in virtual reality level 3, artificial intelligence and Java script.



Marissa Jimenez
St. Joseph School, Fremont



As long as I can remember, I have been involved in some sort of extracurricular activity, usually a sport. As the youngest child of a late CYO coach, I always looked up to the athletes who played for my dad’s team. My dad coached my two older brothers and coached me in CYO basketball from second to sixth grade.

Before playing CYO sports, I played club soccer, an environment with lots of biases and rivalries. When I started playing CYO, I was immediately greeted with smiling faces from both sides of the court with each girl ready to join hands in prayer. I learned how to be a graceful winner and loser because of the setting that CYO athletics made.

“Playing with the reminder that I played for myself, my friends, my family, and God helped me to keep a constant love for the sports that I chose.”

Volleyball was a new experience for me – I went from high-contact sports to no contact at all. I learned not only the fundamentals of volleyball, but also how to celebrate everything, the mistakes and the victories. CYO helped me to align my priorities for playing sports. I developed my love for volleyball through CYO and started playing for a club team.

I have unfortunately reached the conclusion of my CYO career, but I thoroughly enjoyed my team. I have been astonished time and time again by the sportsmanship and stewardship that I saw from the coaches (even opposing ones), players, families and even from myself.

CYO sports: Basketball, volleyball
Additional Activities: Club volleyball UC elite, attended girl junior national championship in 2021, play in the NCVA power league for the 2022 season, student leadership, campus ministry and other faith-oriented and enriching activities.



Tiburon Horvath
St. Philip Neri, Alameda



My first experience with CYO was in first grade on the cross country team. I loved the sense of community and belonging, but what really endeared me was the sportsmanship shown by the athletes and spectators, all cheering for every single runner to cross the finish line.

Every practice, the camaraderie helped me meet and get to know many new people from various grades. In addition, an eighth- grader was very kind to me and was a positive role model in the way that he interacted with and supported everyone on the team.

When I joined the basketball team, we had fun in the games, and the score never mattered to us. We lost every game and we lost by a lot, but we focused on trying our best, getting better every practice and getting everyone a point by the end of the year.

Our basketball team helped me and my teammates build our character because we focused on learning the rules, the skills, sportsmanship and the fun of just playing.

“CYO has taught me to enjoy the process, have fun and strive to be the best version of myself.”

CYO Sports: Cross country, track and field, basketball and sand volleyball
Additional Activities: President of School Leadership Council, club basketball, club indoor volleyball and fly fishing. †



BUILDING A CHAPEL

RETREAT CENTER GETS WHAT IT HAD BEEN MISSING

BY MICHELE JURICH

Michele Jurich is editor of *The Catholic Voice*.

PHOTOS BY DOMINIQUE GHEKIERE-MINTZ

The Diocesan Youth Retreat Center in Lafayette has hosted retreats for Catholic school students and confirmation classes over the years, but in those decades of service it has lacked one element: a chapel.

No more.

In what was once a garage and later a storage space described by Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ as “dark, dreary and damp,” Father Daniel Williamson of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal designed and constructed a chapel. The centerpiece of the chapel is a crucifix, carved by Pete Hurd.

On Labor Day, also the Feast Day of St. Teresa of Calcutta, Bishop Barber consecrated the altar and chapel.

The renovation of the retreat center has been the work of Msgr. John McLaughlin, a priest of the Archdiocese of Boston. After completing seven years as director of spiritual formation at the seminary, he requested a new assignment.

“I asked the Cardinal,” he said. “He knew I had been building a chapel in the desert in Tombstone, Arizona. I wanted to take some time to live as a hermit there.”

He was living in the desert for a year, when Bishop Barber, who was a friend from Msgr. McLaughlin’s time with the Archdiocese for the Military, asked him what he was doing. Upon hearing the monsignor was living as a hermit, the bishop suggested, “Why don’t you come and live as hermit in my diocese?”

Bishop Barber didn’t have a desert to offer, but he did have the retreat center.

“I liked the place,” Msgr. McLaughlin said. “It was very private. I could meet with your priests for spiritual direction and confessions, and maybe I can fix the place up.”

Idle during the pandemic, the retreat needed some loving attention.

“So I started,” he said. “I painted 16 rooms.”

But there was more. “We wanted to put in a big chapel for people doing retreats, because it never had one.”

Bishop Barber had the crucifix, offered by Mary Hurd.

“Could we build a chapel around that?”

Father Daniel, of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, who renovated a chapel at the community’s residence at St. Louis Bertrand Parish in



“

A retreat ... is a time to follow Jesus' instruction, 'Come away by yourself to a place and rest awhile with me.'”

Oakland, built the chapel in what had been a garage and storage room.

Just outside the doors, a pergola to increase the seating capacity covered a newly paved area.

Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services of the Diocese of Oakland contributed \$25,000 toward building the chapel, and also the granite for the altar.

The Filipino community of the Diocese of Oakland made a contribution at its gala celebrating the 500th anniversary of the arrival of Christianity in the Philippines.

Generous individual donors provided the remainder.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 14



The journey of the crucifix

PETE HURD WAS A WOODCARVER BY AVOCATION. THE PARISHIONER AT ST. MARY MAGDALEN IN BERKELEY CRAFTED MANY A CRUCIFIX IN HIS HOME WORKSHOP.

HIS LARGEST WORK FOUND A HOME IN THE NEW CHAPEL OF THE DIOCESAN YOUTH RETREAT CENTER IN LAFAYETTE.

The cross is Honduran mahogany. The Body of Christ was carved in pine. It is said carvings have a resemblance to the person doing the work. That may be.

Pete Hurd began woodcarving in the 1980s, said his wife, Mary Hurd, who offered the crucifix to the Diocese of Oakland for the retreat center.

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ and Father Daniel Williamson, of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, who designed the chapel, visited Mary to view Pete's work.

A team of son and grandson carefully moved the corpus by truck across the East Bay hills to its new home.

When the Hurd family saw the chapel-to-be, it was still a garage.

Mary recalled that Pete had another destination in mind for his work. When his parish church was undergoing renovation in the late 1990s to restore its Mission-style architecture, Pete offered his crucifix. That offer was declined.

So the Body of Christ remained at the Hurd household for years.

Pete's service to the parish included founding, with Sister Ann Ronin, OP, the first and fourth Sunday dinner ministry for the poor and homeless. Those meals are served today.

Pete Hurd, father of four, grandfather of ten and great-grandfather of three, died at the age of 90 in 2019.

The Hurd family hopes to gather at the chapel for Mass to honor the patriarch and see his work above the altar.

"He would be pleased that the crucifix has found a home," Mary said.

– Michele Jurich

Msgr. McLaughlin lives on the property, which he has opened to priests who visit for confession, spiritual direction or just to spend their day off in a serene setting.

Among the fixing-up that he has accomplished is the placement of crucifixes and religious pictures in every room.

The retreat center is not quite ready for overnight visitors. The big issues, Msgr. McLaughlin said, are heating and air conditioning (the center has neither one); upgrade of the electrical system; and roof repair. "Last time it rained, I had 22 buckets out," he said.

He lives the life of a hermit in the center, where he shares the grounds



with a family of five deer, a bobcat and lots of turkeys, raccoons, squirrels, birds and rattlesnakes.

"My day's pretty early and pretty filled with prayer when I'm not running around," Father McLaughlin said.

"I'm excited about it for the diocese," he said.

"This is your place. I'm only temporary here," he said. "As we're all temporary here."

On the warm morning of the consecration, Bishop Barber was joined by about two dozen priests at Mass, and about 100 guests.

In his homily, he recounted the history of the Diocesan Youth Retreat Center. He recalled that in 1963, the diocese's first bishop, the Very Rev. Floyd Begin, purchased the land that would become Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

About 15 years later, with a gift from the Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation, Bishop John S. Cummins purchased the house.

Bishop Barber also remembered the gracious service of Tim O'Hara, who managed the retreat house.

"What has always been missing here is a perma-

nent chapel, altar and tabernacle and the reservation of the most Blessed Sacrament," Bishop Barber said. "We need to have a permanent holy place to celebrate Mass and have our Lord's presence in the Blessed Sacrament for all who come here to pray and make retreat."

A retreat, he said, "is a time to follow Jesus' instruction, 'Come away by yourself to a place and rest awhile with me.'"

"We make the sacraments of His body and blood available; we make His holy mercies available in the sacrament of reconciliation; and the knowledge of what Jesus has done for us will be extended to every person, especially the young people, who come here on retreat to pray."

The newly consecrated chapel is dedicated to José Sánchez del Río, a *cristero* who was martyred at 14 when he refused to renounce his Catholic faith. †



LEARN MORE

If you're interested in contributing to the renovation of the retreat center, send your gift to:

Office of Mission Advancement,
Diocese of Oakland,
2121 Harrison St.,
Oakland CA 94612.

Please make the check payable to:
Roman Catholic
Bishop of Oakland

Memo line:
Diocesan Youth
Retreat Center

NOTICE OF POTENTIAL REPURPOSE OR REIMBURSEMENT OF FUNDS DONATED TO ST. JOSEPH PARISH, FREMONT, FOR THE "TO BUILD CHURCH" PROJECT FROM 1999-2022.

St. Joseph Parish, 43148 Mission Boulevard, Fremont, wishes to inform donors who gave from 1999-2022 to their "To Build Church" campaign of the opportunity to repurpose donated funds to the current needs of the parish, or to receive a reimbursement of their donated funds. This includes heirs of deceased donors. Donors may contact Gina Mehta, Parish Business Manager, for more information at 510.656.2364 ext. 100 or unwindingprocess@saintjosephmsj.org.



**How can we help?
Let us know.**

510.267.8334

Igbo Catholic Community Hayward celebrates Clergy and Religious

BY UGO UBIL

Sunday, Sept. 4, 2022 was a special day in the Igbo Catholic Community, Hayward (ICCH), Diocese of Oakland. It was a day the faithful set out to honor all Catholic Clergy and Religious serving us in all spiritual matters and working hard for our salvation. The Community's blueprint design for the celebration is modeled like activities and memories of Mother's and Father's Sunday.

The Church honors the Fathers and the Mothers and that is the reason why Igbo Catholic Community came up with the idea to honor the Clergy and Religious for all what they do for us in our personal lives, in our families and regarding our spiritual matters. Igbo Catholic Community, Hayward is the first community on record to set aside a particular day to honor Clergy and Religious in a special way.

The special guest was Very Rev. Lawrence D'Anjou, vicar general of the Diocese of Oakland. The chaplain of the community, Rev. Osita Modestus Mgbaramuko, was the chief celebrant and over 20 priests concelebrated. There were two deacons on the altar and among the Religious were three Reverend Sisters.

The homily was done by Rev. (Dr.) Alfred Amos. Father Amos is one of the priest members of ICCH. He focused his teaching of the day on the Gospel (Luke 14:25-33) to analyze how Jesus Christ uses "a short and simple story that teaches a religious or moral lesson." He said that God's words are full of wisdom and cannot be read or understood literally. He cited this example "If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple."

Father Amos said that Jesus did not and never commanded anyone to hate his or her family members and or friends. But rather, he explained, what Jesus is teaching to us is that nobody, be it father, mother, wife, brothers, sisters and children should deny you the love of Christ. In essence, we should not place anyone or any situation between us and God. That God should always be number one in our situations, all the time and in all seasons.

Before the Mass ended, the ICCH appreciated all the Clergy and Religious present. The President of ICCH, Sir Austin Uwakwe, on behalf of the community, thanked the special guest of honor, Father D'Anjou.

The President of the Men's and Women's organizations, respectively, Sir Ambrose Nnamede and Dr. (Lady) Ugochi Amuzie jointly

appreciated the clergymen with beautiful gifts. Lady Onyinyechi Udeh, the director of youths and adults ministry, was on stage to appreciate the Religious Community present with beautiful gifts as well.

In the hall after Mass, the youth ministry took over the stage for a spectacular dance performance. It was followed by lively entrance and cutting of beautiful hand-crafted cake by the chief host, Father Mgbaramuko and Father D'Anjou.

The appreciation of Clergy and Religious continued with their own dance performance. They entertained the gathering with a popular Nigerian song called Buga. With the success and its joyful impact on our Clergy and Religious, this celebration has become an annual event on the first Sunday of September.

Igbo Catholic Community, Hayward, is a vibrant community of men, women, children, youths and young adults that come together to offer liturgical and cultural diversity for their common goal. It was inaugurated in 2004 to address the spiritual and social needs of the people of Igbo descent from Nigeria living in the Bay Area.

The Igbo Mass is held on every first Sunday of every month at 2:30 p.m. at All Saints Church in Hayward. Mass features Igbo ethnic liturgical hymns, charismatic songs and music with exotic musical instruments. †

✚ LEARN MORE

Membership of this community is open to every Igbo Catholic living in the Bay Area. Contact: info@igbocatholic.org.



NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER AT THE

Cathedral of Christ the Light

ALL SAINTS DAY

Nov. 1

12:10 p.m. Mass with

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ

ALL SOULS DAY

Nov. 2

12:10 p.m. Mass with

Father Brandon Macadaeg

7 p.m. Requiem Mass with

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ

VIETNAMESE MARTYRS CELEBRATION

Nov. 19

10 a.m. Procession and Mass with

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ

THANKSGIVING

Nov. 24

8 a.m. Mass with

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ

10 a.m. Mass with

Father Brandon Macadaeg

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Dec. 3

1 p.m. Mass with

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

December 4

5:30 p.m. with

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Dec. 8

12:10 p.m. Mass with

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ

BLUE CHRISTMAS (LONGEST NIGHT)

Dec. 21

7 p.m. service with

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ

CHRISTMAS EVE

Dec. 24

5 p.m. Mass in Vietnamese

9:30 p.m. Prelude music

10 p.m. Mass with

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ

CHRISTMAS DAY

Dec. 25

8 a.m. Mass in Vietnamese

11 a.m. Mass in English

1:30 p.m. Mass in Spanish

The Cathedral of Christ the Light

2121 Harrison St., Oakland

www.ctlcathedral.org †

The Gift of Giving

The Catholic Voice once again offers The Gift of Giving, which highlights the needs of various nonprofit organizations in the Diocese of Oakland. Some need gift cards; some need socks. All can use your prayer and concern. As J.C. Orton of *Night on the Streets – Catholic Worker* said,

“The greatest gift one can give is the gift of presence.”

BAY AREA CRISIS NURSERY

The Bay Area Crisis Nursery’s mission is to prevent child abuse and neglect. The only crisis nursery in the Bay Area, it provides short-term overnight and day services for babies and children to give parents time to focus on solving a crisis or stressful situation. Knowing their children are safe, parents can make better use of other services to resolve crises like homelessness, domestic violence, mental or physical illness and a myriad of other unexpected emergencies.

Need: Adopt-A-Family provides gifts for all members of families served

Contact: 925.685.6633

Website: www.bayareacrisisnursery.org

DETENTION MINISTRY OF THE DIOCESE OF OAKLAND

The Detention Ministry of the Diocese of Oakland will help bring Christmas this year to the families of formerly incarcerated men and women who currently live in transitional homes.

Need: Because of COVID-19 restrictions, we are accepting cash donations. Families benefiting from the program will receive gift cards to a target amount and can shop online or in person at the selected stores.

Mail address: Checks made payable to The Catholic Community of Pleasanton may be sent to The Catholic Community of Pleasanton, P.O. Box 817, Pleasanton CA 94566 before Dec. 5. Please put Detention Ministry in the memo line of the check. You may also donate to this program online at www.catholicsofpleasanton.org.

Contact: Matt Gray, mgray@catholicsofpleasanton.org

BIRTHRIGHT OF BRENTWOOD

A nonprofit crisis pregnancy center offering free, confidential, non-judgmental service to pregnant women. We operate with the belief that “every woman has the right to give birth, and every child has the right to be born.”

Need: Cash donations, baby wipes, size 4-6 diapers and new 0-6 month clothing, office volunteers

Mail address: 857 Second St., Suite D, Brentwood, 94513

Contact: Rose Deitz, 925.634.1275 or brentwoodbirthright@gmail.com

BIRTHRIGHT OF CONCORD

A nonprofit pregnancy support service offering free, confidential, non-judgmental help to pregnant women. Need: Maternity clothes, diapers sizes 1-4, new diaper bags, baby clothes to 18 months, volunteers to work with pregnant and parenting moms, gifts cards for Target, Ross and Walmart so Birthright can purchase needed items for moms and babies.

Mail address: 3106 Clayton Road, Concord 94519

Contact: 925.798.7227

Website: www.birthright.org/concord

Birthright is open: Mondays and Tuesdays 11-2; Wednesdays 1-4; Thursday - Saturday Appointment Only

THE GABRIEL PROJECT OF THE DIOCESE OF OAKLAND

The Gabriel Project is a parish-based outreach that seeks to bring the love of Christ to women in difficult and crisis pregnancies. We see in the conception of each child, a fresh expression of God’s unfailing love. We offer immediate and practical help – spiritual, emotional and material.

Need: Donations of maternity and baby items, financial help and volunteers to be “angels” and “assistant angels.”

Where: Throughout the Diocese of Oakland

Contact: David Zarri, coordinator, davidzarri@earthlink.net or 925.686.9277; www.cagabrielproject.wordpress.com

NIGHT ON THE STREETS – CATHOLIC WORKER

Hospitality to the Body of Christ (the homeless and needy in local communities) by providing food, clothing, shelter, counseling and referral and assisting others who do so.

Need: Prayers for health, guidance and support of our continuing works of mercy; financial support for our 26th year of consistent and continuing hospitality for our unsheltered and poor brothers and sisters; volunteers to bring food and servers for our Sunday breakfast served al fresco at two locations in Berkeley. Sleeping bags are always needed. The greatest gift one can give is the gift of presence.

Mail address: P.O. Box 11312, Berkeley 94712-2312

Contact: J.C. Orton, coordinator, noscow@sbcglobal.net or 510.684.1892.

MERCY BROWN BAG PROGRAM

Sponsored by Mercy Retirement & Care Center, this program provides nutritious groceries to more than 8,000 needy seniors twice monthly, free of charge. The program helps seniors make ends meet, retain their health and provides opportunity for community building and socialization.

Need: Cash donations, large-size paper bags, notes to seniors still in isolation and volunteers to help us make and deliver food to senior communities and homes.

This Christmas: For Christmas, we are hoping to add notes for the bags we deliver to doors. Bring/mail to Mercy Retirement & Care Center. We bought insulated bags to home deliver frozen chicken; donations toward chicken or the bags are welcome.

Volunteer: Sign-up sheets to choose a shift are at www.mercybrownbag.org.

Where: 3431 Foothill Blvd., Oakland 94601

Contact: 510.534.8540, extension 369

OAKLAND ELIZABETH HOUSE

Oakland Elizabeth House is a 12- to 18-month transitional housing program for women and children who experience homelessness because of domestic violence, rent increases, job loss, substance abuse and mental health challenges. Our mission is to support women and children in their transition to independence by creating and maintaining a nurturing, cooperative living environment that provides resources, hospitality and respect.

Need: Cash donations

Where: 6423 Colby St., Oakland 94618

Contact: 510.658.1380

Website: www.oakehouse.org

ST. MARY'S CENTER

St. Mary's Center is a community of hope, justice and healing that serves at-risk seniors and preschoolers in the heart of Oakland. We strive to improve quality of life through counseling, shelter, nutrition, advocacy and social support. We are open for Senior lunches Monday through Friday at noon and Sunday at 1 p.m.

Need: Shelf-stable foods; new socks; new travel-size toiletries, soap, body wash, creams, lotions and shaving supplies

Address: 925 Brockhurst St., Oakland 94608

Contact: Beverly Hop at St. Mary's Center for information on how to donate items or to arrange a drop-off: 510.923.9600, extension 231, or email bhop@stmaryscenter.org.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL OF ALAMEDA COUNTY

The first St. Vincent de Paul Conference of Alameda County in Oakland was active from 1882 to 1892. The current Council of Alameda County was established in 1938. Hot meals are served in the kitchen; overnight guests find warmth and safety in the shelter. Workforce development, men's and women's centers and technology workspace are available. The Kitchen of Champions offers training for food service careers.

Need: New socks and underwear for men; gently used, durable large-size pants for men; unwrapped gifts in the \$20 range for the 250 children who will attend the annual Christmas party; monetary gifts welcome. There's a wish list at smile.amazon.com. Gifts may be ordered and delivered to the St. Vincent de Paul address. Drop-offs are welcome.

Address: 2272 San Pablo Ave., Oakland CA 94612

Contact: Blase Bova, executive director, 510.435.2625

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Founded in 1964, St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County assists vulnerable residents all through the year and especially during the holidays. At Thanksgiving and Christmas, SVdP may be the only resource that a family in need has for a holiday meal or gifts. In addition to the holiday programs, rental, utility and emergency assistance is available from St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County. Assistance for Individuals and Families in Need in 2022: Assistance is offered from our centralized Pittsburg Family Resource Center and our 28 parish-based Conferences (branches), located throughout the county. Collectively, SVDP's programs provide holiday help to more than 14,000 county residents.

Wish List: Volunteers, food cards, warm coat and monetary donations

Contact: To donate a gift card, monetary donation or to volunteer, please contact Barb Hunt, 925.439.5060; or send checks to Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County Attn: Development Department, 2210 Gladstone Drive, Pittsburg, CA 94565.

Donate online: www.svdpc-cc.org

All donations will support the following holiday programs:

- **Free Thanksgiving Dinner:** Served on Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 24) at St. Vincent de Paul's Free Dining Room at 1415 Simpson Court, Pittsburg. Holiday meal of turkey and all the trimmings for 150 guests, many of whom are our regular Pittsburg Free Dining Room guests.
- **Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday Food Baskets & Gift Programs-SVdP's 28 Conferences (branches):** The 28 SVdP parish-based Conferences conduct local food and gift programs within each of the communities they support. The SVdP branch at St. Francis of Assisi in Concord distributes 150 turkeys and food baskets at Thanksgiving. Contact Stephen Krank, s.krank@svdp-cc.org.
- **Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Gift Card Program:** Pittsburg Family Resource Center, 2210 Gladstone Drive, Pittsburg. Provides a \$75 food gift card to families at Thanksgiving and Christmas. This provides needy families extra food during the holidays.
- **Holiday One Warm Coat:** Provides the distribution of over 7,000 coats to the needy in November and December.
- **Rental & Utility Assistance During Winter:** To donate to the rental/utility assistance fund, please visit svdp-cc.org and indicate "Housing & Utility Assistance" to help the needy meet basic needs of heat and shelter throughout the county during the winter months. †

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

BY MONICA CLARK

Monica Clark served as editor of *The Catholic Voice* from 1986 to 2010. She is on the board of the local CCHD grant organization.

A radio station for Mame-speaking Guatemalan immigrants, an organizing project of day laborers in Antioch and leadership training for youth in low-income communities in Oakland are three of the nine programs of East Bay non-profit organizations granted funds this year by the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD). A total of \$150,000 has been awarded.

To qualify for a grant, an organization must focus on structural change that achieves greater socio-economic equality for marginalized individuals and communities. Funding is also given to groups that enable those of low-income to improve their lives economically, such as by starting a business.

Marc McKimney, CCHD coordinator in the Oakland diocese, said funded organizations must provide skills and leadership training for their low-income members and give them active participation in the organization's decision-making.

"We believe that those most directly affected by unjust social systems and structures must be heard. Their lived experiences give them wisdom and understanding to advocate for fair and just solutions to improve their lives. Their voices are key," McKimney said.

The U.S. Catholic bishops established the Catholic Campaign for Human Development in 1970 as a response to Pope Paul VI's encyclical *Populorum Progressio* (*The Progress of People*).

The bishops recognized that the Church's charitable services, such as Catholic Charities and St. Vincent de Paul Society, were not enough to address the country's growing poverty. Structures that maintain and support the root causes of poverty needed to be changed.

The bishops established an annual nationwide parish collection to raise funds for organizations that empower those who are poor and on the margins of society to address social and economic inequities.

This collection is taken up each November in parishes across the U.S. on the weekend prior to Thanksgiving.

Some of the funds are retained in each diocese for small local grants. The remainder is sent to the national CCHD office in Washington DC, which combines all monies received throughout the country. This allows for larger grants to be awarded for major projects. All organizations receiving funds have been vetted to ensure that their work does not violate Church teaching.

Since CCHD began, more than \$6.5 million in CCHD grants have been disbursed to non-profit organizations in the East Bay.

The nine organizations receiving funds this year are:

1

Genesis (\$40,000 national grant), working in Oakland and east Alameda County, unites multiracial, income-diverse communities to promote effective, equitable solutions to regional problems including public transportation, affordable housing and services for those who are disabled. A current campaign advocates for affordable housing in the Tri-Valley so that essential workers can live where they are employed.

2

Planting Justice (\$50,000 national grant) constructs vegetable gardens and operates a large, organic nursery that provides skills training and living wage jobs to formerly incarcerated and low-income residents in East Oakland. CCHD funds will support the development of an aquaponics farm and training center near the nursery, providing 32 new living wage jobs and giving residents access to healthy food.

3

Ashland Community Association (\$10,000 local grant) is building a network of residents in unincorporated mid-Alameda County who organize for economic and social improvements in their low-income communities. Together they identify barriers to financial stability and advocate with public officials to achieve needed changes and bring aid, like COVID-19 relief, to their area.

4

Monument Impact (\$10,000 local grant) is a Latinx-led organization addressing the institutional barriers to economic and social advancement for low-income immigrants and people of color in Central and East Contra Costa County. CCHD funds will support their Day Labor program in Antioch and Concord which includes a job bank, workers' rights training, ESL classes and leadership training for housing advocacy.



HOW TO DONATE

The annual collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development takes place in parishes in the Oakland Diocese on Nov. 19-20.

For those unable to donate at their parish, online donations can be made at: <https://cchdeastbay.org>.

Donations can also be made by sending a check payable to Catholic Charities East Bay with CCHD written in the memo line to:

**Catholic Campaign for Human Development
433 Jefferson Street, Oakland, CA 94607**

5

My Eden Voice (\$10,000 local grant) is a grass-roots organization of individuals and families, mostly immigrants and people of color, in the unincorporated area between San Leandro and Hayward advocating for renter protection policies, the need for parks and open space in areas with high health disparities and fair civic representation for Alameda County services and resources.

6

Padres Guerreros (\$10,000 local grant) organizes Latinx parents of children with disabilities in the unincorporated communities of Alameda County to advocate for the educational needs of their children. Limited school resources for special needs students, parents' struggles to navigate complicated school systems and language barriers often keep families from receiving needed services.

7

Radio B'alam - Mayan Voices (\$5,000 local grant) is an Oakland-based Internet radio station stream-building educational and community-building programs to Mam-speaking Guatemalan immigrants in the East Bay. Their goal is to provide the Mam community with accurate information on such topics as cultural sexism, workers' rights, health care access, how to report a hate crime and how to advocate for positive change.

8


St. Mary's Center (\$5,000 local grant) provides a variety of services to low-income seniors and young children in West Oakland. Its Leadership Academy trains seniors to advocate for policy changes that will create and sustain housing for people who are unhoused or at risk of losing their housing.

9

Urban Peace Movement (\$10,000 local grant) builds low-income youth leaders in Oakland to help transform the social conditions that drive violence and mass incarceration in their communities. A current focus is advocating for changes in Alameda County's approach to juvenile justice. †

LEARN MORE

To learn more about the history and mission of CCHD and to view its "Empower, Organize, Advocate" video go to:
<https://cchdeastbay.org>

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

WORKING ON THE MARGINS

www.usccb.org/cchd

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Gratefully Rejoicing as the Body of Christ

HOPE heal

Renew

ESPERANZA SANACIÓN RENOVACIÓN

A VIRTUAL CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

November 3-5, 2022

The "Hope, Heal, Renew Catholic Virtual Conference" is a collaboration of the (Arch) Dioceses of Boise, Fresno, Honolulu, Las Vegas, Monterey, Oakland, Reno, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Francisco, San Jose, Stockton.

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Reclaiming Joy in Divisive Times.

SR. ROSALIA MEZA, VDMF
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KERRY WEBER
The Messiness of Mercy

DR. HOSFFMAN OSPINO
Una Iglesia que escucha con espíritu sinodal: Lecciones del V Encuentro

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<https://www.hopehealrenew.org>

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

RESPECT FOR THE BODY, *in life and in death*

BY MICHELE JURICH

Catholic teaching is rich with respect for the human body. That respect does not end at death.

While the Church, since Vatican II, has recognized cremation as a respectful way to treat the remains, it also recognizes that the created remains stay in one place.

Not scattered in a favorite place, or divided among family members or placed into jewelry.

The remains are to be placed in holy ground.

“When we celebrate a funeral liturgy, whether the body is there or the cremains, we honor the remains out of respect,” said Father Matthew Murray, pastor of St. Isidore Parish in Danville.

“It’s ultimately through the body that we express love. It’s through the body that we really get to know someone. We are not just meant to be spirits. That’s not how God made us. God made us soul and body, intricately and intimately united. That’s how God wants us.

“So ultimately we have a respect for the body not just the way we come to know who God is, because we’re made in the image and likeness of God, but that God himself, in His amazing love and desire for us, has taken on a human body like ours as well.

“The fact that someone believes in Christ, received the graces of Christ in Holy Communion in their bodies, is a call for us to show respect after they’ve died.”

Funeral rites receive the same respect, whether the body is present, or cremated remains.

“We show the remains of the person dignity and respect, throughout the funeral Mass with the same blessings as we would with a casket,” he said. “We bury the person in a place of respect, in a cemetery that’s ultimately blessed and a place where people can visit, go pray and remember their loved one. “

With cremation continuing to grow as a choice, particularly in the West, that holy ground may be taking new shapes.

“We are also now as a society more cognizant of our environment and which has been some of the driver toward cremation,” said Kindlen Robles, director of Funeral and Cemeteries of Catholic Funeral and Cemeteries Services of the Diocese of Oakland.

There are some green burial trends that are not in keeping with Church teaching.

“To just put cremains in the ground that are going to disperse over time is not in line with Church teaching,” he said.

In keeping with the Church teaching to keep the created remains together, CFCS is working on eco-conscious developments at the Oakland diocese cemeteries.

“As we develop our facilities, how do we have eco-conscious development?” Kindlen said. “Are we looking at perhaps a more natural cremation environment that enables us to place an urn into an urn vault that can now be placed in the ground.

With this option, “I’m not utilizing a lot of natural resources, such as a large concrete vault. A family is not utilizing the same level of manufactured goods that have a carbon footprint. I am getting more use out of the land, as well as surrounding it with natural beauty.”

In doing so, families may be more inclined not to scatter remains, but rather inter them in sacred, beautiful grounds, which is aligned with Church teaching.

“I want to do it at every location where we have a large landscape footprint,” he said.

Some cemeteries already have naturally wooded areas; for others, there’s some planning in progress.

“We have to start planting the right kind of trees now, to provide the natural backdrop and develop more sections and provide a beautiful environment,” he said.



Getty Images: horigelach

REVERANCE FOR REMAINS

The cremated remains of a body should be treated with the same respect given to the human body from which they come. This includes the use of a worthy vessel to contain the ashes, the manner in which they are carried, and the care and attention to appropriate placement and transport, and the final disposition. The cremated remains should be buried in a grave or entombed in a mausoleum or columbarium. The practice of scattering cremated remains on the sea, from the air, or on the ground, or keeping cremated remains on the home of a relative or friend of the deceased are not the reverent disposition that the Church requires.

SOURCE: U.S. Appendix to the Order of Christian Funerals, no. 417

ADVANCE PLANNING

For those who are planning in advance, an interesting sidebar came up in the conversation with Father Matthew Murray. While people might select an executor for an estate, have you considered an executor, of sorts, for your spiritual side?

“Do I have someone that’s going to contact the parish, to ensure that I get the sacraments, not at my last moments. It can be a real grace to receive confession and Holy Communion. We think of the priest at the last moment.”

Think sooner. “If they’re still with us, consciously, if they’re able to respond and receive confession and holy Eucharist. Please let us know ahead. If their health is failing, the Lord wants to enter in with his grace.” †

“We show the remains of the person dignity and respect, throughout the funeral Mass with the same blessings as we would with a casket.”

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

OFFICIAL SCHEDULE

Nov. 1

12:10 p.m. All Saints Day Mass, Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland

Nov. 2

7 p.m. All Souls Requiem Mass with Cathedral Choir and Orchestra,
Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland

Nov. 3

Fall Study Day with the Presbyterate of the Diocese

Nov. 4

Meeting with the Presbyterate of Deanery 12
Reception with Presidents and Principals of our High Schools
in the Diocese

Nov. 5

11 a.m. 150th anniversary of founding of Sisters of the Holy Family,
St. Joseph Church, Fremont
3 p.m. Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, St. Margaret
Mary Parish, Oakland

Nov. 8

Meetings with the Presbyterate of Deaneries 13 and 14

Nov. 9

Catholic Telemedia Network Board Meeting, St. Patrick Seminary and
University, Menlo Park
Benedict XVI Board Meeting, Archdiocese of San Francisco

Nov. 10

10 a.m. Priest Personnel Board Meeting, Chancery offices, Oakland
1 p.m. Presbyteral Council Meeting, Chancery offices, Oakland

Nov. 11

Order of Malta investiture Mass, Christ Cathedral, Anaheim

Nov. 12-18

USCCB Meetings in Baltimore, Maryland, including:

- Doctrine Committee
- General Assembly

Nov. 19

10 a.m. Vietnamese Martyrs Mass, Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland
2 p.m. Mass for Vocations, St. Raymond Parish, Dublin
5 p.m. Oakland Chapter Knights of Columbus Admiral's Ball

Nov. 21

Order of Malta Clinic Fundraising Event, Bishop's Residence, Oakland

Nov. 22

10:30 a.m. College of Consultants Meeting

Nov. 24

8 a.m. Thanksgiving Day Mass

Nov. 30

6 p.m. Eucharistic Revival Visit with First Communion Students,
St. Raymond Parish, Dublin

For a complete schedule, please go to www.oakdiocese.org/bishop. †

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

1. Publication Title DIOCESE OF OAKLAND/CATHOLIC VOICE (THE)	2. Publication Number 98640	3. Filing Date 09/29/2022
4. Issue Frequency MONTHLY	5. Number of Issues Published Annually 12	6. Annual Subscription Price \$25
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®) 2121 HARRISON ST. SUITE 100 OAKLAND, ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA 94612-3788		Contact Person JANET ANG Telephone (include area code) (510) 267-8338

8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) 2121 HARRISON ST. SUITE 100 OAKLAND, ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA 94612-3788
--

9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank) Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) BISHOP MICHAEL C. BARBER, SJ 2121 HARRISON ST. SUITE 100 OAKLAND, ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA 94612-3788

Editor (Name and complete mailing address) MICHELE JURICH 2121 HARRISON ST. SUITE 100 OAKLAND, ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA 94612-3788

Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) MICHELE JURICH 2121 HARRISON ST. SUITE 100 OAKLAND, ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA 94612-3788
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10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)

Full Name ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP OF OAKLAND	Complete Mailing Address 2121 HARRISON ST. STE. 100, OAKLAND, CA 94612-3788
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11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None

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