

# The Catholic Voice

MAY 2022  
VOLUME 60 • ISSUE 5

## ALOHA

THE UNCONDITIONAL  
LOVE THAT PROPELS  
THE MULTI-TALENTED  
**PATRICK LANDEZA**

**PLUS**

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**SEMINARIANS**  
When parish life  
is the classroom

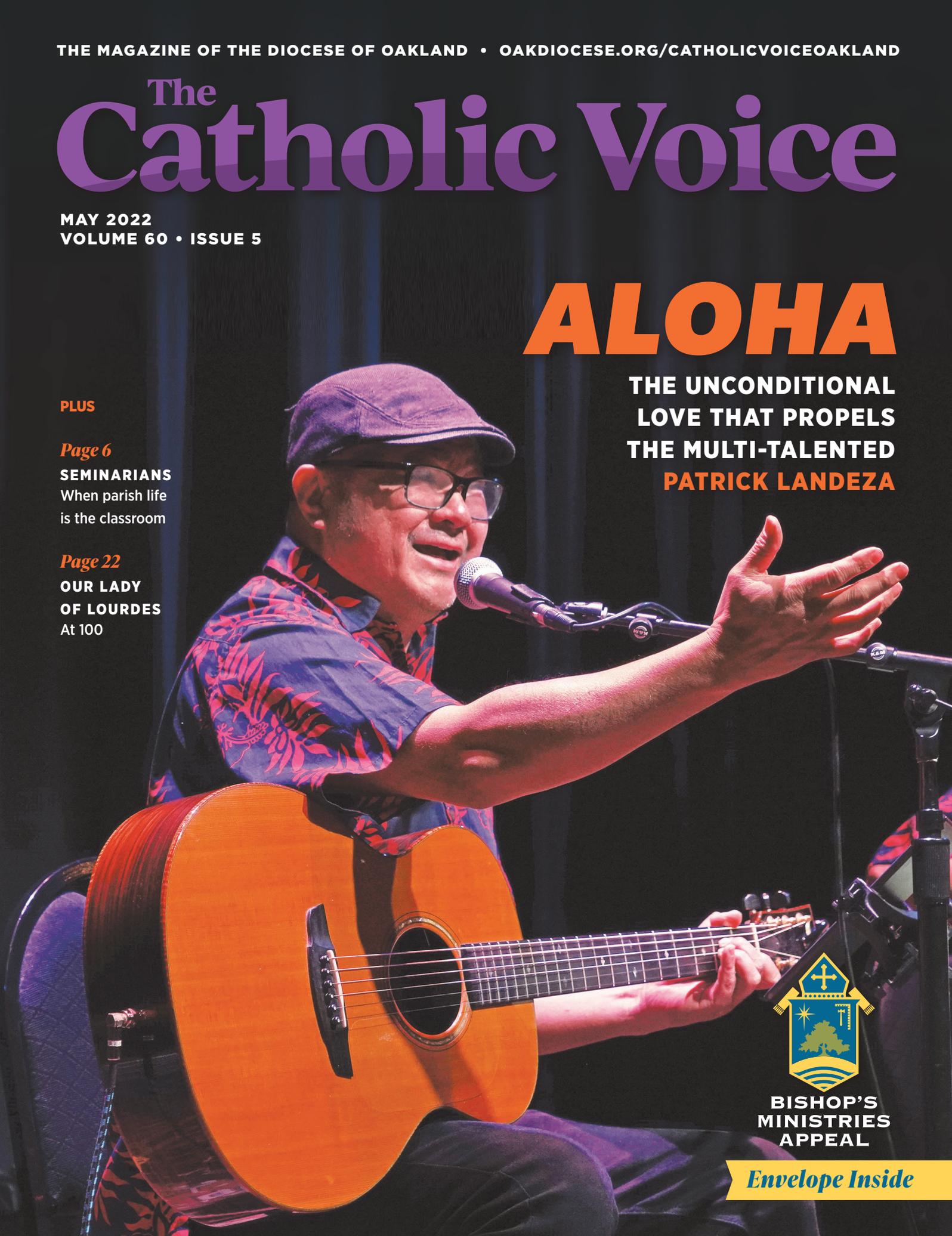
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**OUR LADY  
OF LOURDES**  
At 100



**BISHOP'S  
MINISTRIES  
APPEAL**

*Envelope Inside*



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## The Catholic Voice

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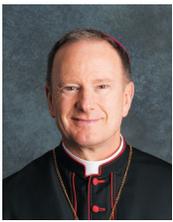


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## At the Chrism Mass, good news in our diocese



BY BISHOP  
MICHAEL C.  
BARBER, SJ

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

PHOTO BY  
CHUCK DECKERT

**W**hat is Sacred Chrism? It's an oil that, after it's blessed, contains the Holy Spirit in a mysterious way. What's it used for? If you look in the Catechism or just Goggle it: Priests and deacons use it when baptizing; bishops use it in Confirmations and Ordinations, where we anoint the new priest's hands, and the bishop's head; and we use it for the consecration of altars and churches.

Baptism, Confirmation, anointing of churches and altars ... but they left out one other use: the anointing of kings and queens in their Coronation ceremony. Queen Elizabeth, 1953. The King of Tonga, 1967.

Book of Revelation says, "Jesus Christ has made us into a Kingdom." When we are baptized and confirmed, and therein anointed with the Sacred Chrism, we become one with Christ, and share with Him in His three Offices of Prophet, Priest and King. We share in it each in our own way, mothers and fathers, priests, lay-people, consecrated religious. You are "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of His own, so that you may announce the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light." (1 Peter 2:9)

What does this mean? We had many listening sessions for our Synodal process that is just concluding now. I went to one with 75 teenagers, who represented different parishes and regions of our whole diocese.

“*Our anointing as priests weds us to the service of our people.*”

We broke them into little discussion groups after they had a Holy Hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. We asked them to discuss among themselves: What can the Church better do for you? How can the Catholic Church better accompany you?

Each group met independently. Then we asked them, What was your group's answer?

One of Number One responses was: Can you help us with mental health issues? When kids come up for Confirmation, I usually ask, Why did you choose St. Paul? Or why did you choose St. Veronica as your Confirmation name? Once I asked a girl – her name was St. Dymphna – Why did you choose St. Dymphna? She burst into tears. Then I remembered St. Dymphna is the patroness of mental illness. I don't ask people that say St. Dymphna why did you choose that anymore.

How can my Baptism and Confirmation help me with my mental health issues? Especially with young people and stresses and pressures they go through. No matter how smart you are, there's always someone smarter. No matter how athletic you are, there's always someone better. You're always being compared. As long as you compare yourself with others, you'll always come up short. How can my Baptism and Confirmation help me to deal with this?

The answer comes from another Synod listening session with young adults (18 to 39+++). We asked those folks, How can the Church better help you or accompany you? One young adult said, "The Church can help us by reminding us of Our True Identity. It is who we are in Christ that matters. We're first of all children of God. That's our true identity. More than my race, my

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 ▶

nationality, my political party, my sexual orientation, whether I'm here legally or illegally, whether I am an A student or a C student, whether I have a clean record or I've been in jail. None of that matters compared to the fact that I am a child of God. And thus an heir of the Kingdom of heaven.

That was brilliant. That's from the Holy Spirit.

Our people are God's anointed. They have the gift of the Holy Spirit, which was conferred on them through our hands, Fathers, Deacons. That's why we have invited them to participate more and more in our diocese and in our decision-making.

And what does the Holy Chrism mean for us priests? In the coronation of a king or queen, the anointing with Chrism weds the monarch to his subjects. Our anointing as priests weds us to the service of our people.

Look at Christ's example in yesterday's Gospel: Mary anointed Jesus' head and feet at Bethany with that expensive oil – remember Judas complained, "That's very expensive" – and the aroma of the oil filled the whole house. Jesus was anointed, and then a few days later, at the Last Supper, he got down on his hands and knees and washed the disciples' feet. As He said at the Last Supper, "The Son of Man has come to serve and not to be served."

When it comes to serving, to pastoral ministry, how are we doing as priests in the Diocese of Oakland?

Last month, we had our Mission Alignment Process meeting with all the priests. We handed out charts showing the statistics for the last 5, 10, 20 years in our diocese; in each parish, of Mass attendance, sacraments and offerings. People have asked me, "How did the meeting go with the priests?" Once we handed out the charts and everybody looked down, I'll just say there was a lot of clucking and fluttering in the Presbyteral Henhouse!

I understand. Who wants to have your report card read out to the whole school?

But your report card is my report card, too. The statistics are pretty much like this: The numbers have fallen off in the last 20 years.

One example: We just celebrated a beautiful Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes, celebrating 100 years. When the church was built in 1962, on the other side of the lake, there were 2,700 people going to Mass every Sunday. Now, on a really good Sunday, it's 125, 150. I don't blame Our Lady of Lourdes; after all, they went and built a cathedral on their doorstep and stole a lot of their people away.

After all, we priests could be finger pointing and engage in a blame game, but that's not at all helpful. There are forces at work in the world and in the Church that are beyond our control.

I knew that when you got those statistics, it could be unsettling. To take away some of the sting, that's why I gave each of you this little book at Christmas, "From Christendom to Apostolic Mission," which sums up the changes in the whole world, the Church and our culture since the beginning of Christendom. It basically says our world and its values no longer support Christianity. There are forces that are opposed to Christ and His Church.

Remember, people walked away in droves when Jesus preached on the Holy Eucharist. And they had seen His miracles. When Jesus went to the Cross, He had a very small congregation indeed.

Yet there are bright lights in our diocese. When we launched our Synod listening sessions, we didn't know if anyone would be interested, or if anyone would want to participate. We invited all the parishes, schools, age groups, Catholic organizations; everybody was invited. In our diocese, more than 10,700 people participated. We listened carefully and compiled their responses that we will send to Washington and then to Rome. Compared to other dioceses in California, we are ninth in size (out of 12), yet in the Synod response, we're No. 2 after Los Angeles.

This is amazing. This is so positive. People who went to the listening session said, "The Holy Hour and sharing was great. Can we have a whole day retreat like this in the future?" One young adult said to me, "What I really want is the chance to sit down with my priest and ask his spiritual guidance with some things I'm going through in my life right now. But my priest always seems kind of busy."

The overwhelming responses are that people don't want to be less Catholic. They want to be more Catholic.

Our diocese has many challenges, but also great potential.

We may think, What can I do about it?

My Dad only went to church on Christmas and Easter. When I told him I wanted to be a priest, he said, "Well, if you're going to become a priest, be a good one."

We can be good priests.

I can be faithful to my prayer. I can lead from the front. I can lead my people to Christ. I can be faithful to my people, answering the phone when they call for help. I can be faithful to God. When I fail or have fallen, I know I need to go to confession. Remember, there were two thieves next to Jesus. One asked for mercy and the other looked away.

There's a lot in the world and the Church that is out of our control. But you and I can be good priests. It may not be reflected in charts with my statistics in my parish. Remember Blessed Charles

de Foucauld. He set up a tent in the Arabian desert, put the Blessed Sacrament there, engaged in Adoration every day and was kind to all the Muslim Arabs who lived around him. They loved him. But he didn't make a single convert. But two religious orders have grown up based on his witness. All from his witness. I can do that.

One parent I was talking to told me that they had to insist their teenage son participate in the Confirmation program in their parish. He would rather stay home all day playing video games than go to Mass. The parents said he *never* talks to us about faith or God. As soon as he came home from his Confirmation retreat, he said to his parents, "That new priest at our church, he's a man of God. He's the real thing!"

That is within our power. We can be that real thing.

Father Jean-Jacques Olier, founder of the Sulpician order, said, "One holy priest can change a whole diocese."

May Isaiah's words be proved true in us, My Brother Priests: "You yourselves shall be named priests of the Lord, ministers of our God you shall be called." †

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*This column is adapted from Bishop Barber's homily at the Chrism Mass on April 12. The priests of the diocese renewed their vows at this Mass.*

# Please Support the 2022 Bishop's Ministries Appeal.

All the funds raised help support the work and vital ministries provided to the parishes and faithful of the Diocese.



*"Feed my lambs,  
feed my sheep"*

**2022 BISHOP'S  
MINISTRIES  
APPEAL**



[www.oakdiocese.org/bishops-ministries-appeal](http://www.oakdiocese.org/bishops-ministries-appeal)

## THE PASTORAL YEAR

# Out of the classroom, into the parishes

*If the pastoral year of a seminarian's formation is intended to give him a taste of parish life, it can be reported that the three assigned to parishes this year are well nourished.*

**S**ix days a week in the parish, mentored by the pastor, the seminarians assist with work that soon, God willing, will one day be their own.

There's the sacramental, helping out at parishes with busy baptismal calendars, assisting at funerals and committals, serving at Sunday Masses.

Parish faith formation programs depend on their presence, and the St. Vincent de Paul conferences can use their helping hands and generous hearts.

Getty Images/Credit: Kara Gebhardt



JUAN CARLOS PONCE

**"I do remember seeing the church,  
so small, but so active.  
It gives the feeling of being a home.  
We have a diverse community.  
In reality, when you see the church  
function, they function as one. There is  
no division; no parallel church."**

JUAN CARLOS PONCE

Getty Images/Credit: theOne

Their work may include the everyday – answering phones in the parish office, looking up sacramental records – that provide them additional encounter with parishioners.

Each has taken on special projects at his parish.

For Garrett McGowan, it's working with the altar servers at Most Holy Rosary Parish in Antioch. We will be seeing them in action in an upcoming issue.

For Juan Carlos Ponce, it's planning a day of reflection for the Knights of Columbus at St. Anthony Parish in Oakley. The event will take place offsite, at the diocesan youth retreat center.

For John Paul Rabago, it's working with young people. "My bread and better is my confirmation ministry," he said.

John Paul, who grew up in Concord where his home parish is Queen of All Saints, says the experience at All Saints Parish in Hayward has been rich with opportunity.

"It's been hands-on experience," he said, "a lot different from your traditional seminary, sitting at your desk, learning theology. Here you are doing hands-on work, learning from a seasoned pastor who provides mentorship as we are embarking on what parish life is like."

In the confirmation ministry, his work began with finding out where they were on their faith journey, with the goal of providing them a solid foundation.

"They're at the point in their lives when they're making bigger decisions," he said.

The class members voted to determine their service project. The overwhelming majority chose feeding the poor.

Volunteering at the parish's St. Vincent de Paul Center, they have offered time and donations, John Paul said. "I think they get a lot out of it," he said. "It provides for them a place to interact socially. They can also find a social outlet at the parish. They genuinely enjoy their time together. If we can build on that, and place the social energy, it's a really good way to plant seeds of faith.

"To accompany them, be present to them, is a blessing," he said. "It provides me with a sense of hope, too. The Church has an opportunity to have a really bright future."

The parish baptism ministry also provides insight. "You get to see how the faith is handed on," he said.

In teaching a baptism class, John Paul found the parents really excited to have their babies baptized. As part of the preparation, he asks the parents, "What are your reasons for having your child baptized?"

Among the replies: I really want a good foundation. I want to hand down the faith that was handed down to me.

"They wanted to hand down the relationship they have with Jesus to their child. To witness this, it was a beautiful experience."

"You are able to be witness to all these things that are unfolding in front of you," he said. "Theology, philosophy ... everything comes to life in the parish setting. There are some things you cannot learn from a book, being able to learn these things in the field is an invaluable experience."

At St. Anthony Parish in Oakley, seminarian Juan Carlos Ponce took on a major project, arranging a day

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**BY MICHELE  
JURICH**

*Michele Jurich  
is editor of The  
Catholic Voice*

**PHOTOS  
COURTESY OF  
ST. PATRICK'S  
UNIVERSITY  
& SEMINARY**



**JOHN PAUL RABAGO**

**"Theology, philosophy ...  
everything comes to life in the  
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**JOHN PAUL RABAGO**

of reflection at the diocesan retreat center for members of the parish's Knights of Columbus and those who might be interesting in joining.

The Knights, he said, were vital in keeping Masses open to the public during the pandemic. They put up a tent outdoors, and could place 300 seats under its protection.

"Here in Oakley, we have some very strong winds," Juan Carlos said. "I was told the tents were destroyed by the winds two times. They had to put it back together.

"For Father Rafael [Hinojosa] and I, this is some way of saying thanks for the work they have been doing."

A second retreat for the Columbiettes was scheduled for the following month, this time at the parish.

His assignment to St. Anthony was not his first visit. "I visited the parish once in my first year of seminary. I was invited to a vocations dinner." He and John Paul were sponsored by the Knights.

"I do remember seeing the church, so small, but so active. It gives the feeling of being a home," he said. "We have a diverse community. In reality, when you see the church function, they function as one. There is no division; no parallel church."

Juan Carlos arrived on the weekend the parish was celebrating Father Mac Lingo's first anniversary as parochial vicar. "It was a great weekend to arrive," Juan Carlos said. "I saw the parish function as one, that's the vision I have of how heaven will be. Everyone acting as one body, one Church."

At St. Anthony's, he has been serving at weekend and daily Masses. He helps with the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. "I've been practicing my singing," he said.

During the week, he's helping with funerals at church, and sometimes at Holy Cross Cemetery, about 10 minutes

away. At weddings, baptisms and quinceaneras, he serves as master of ceremonies and acolyte.

In addition to the parish's six weekend Masses – one on Saturday, five on Sunday -- the parish's faith formation program takes place on Sunday. After Mass, the children go to their class.

"This year we launched a project where we are asking the parents to also attend classes," he said. About 145 parents are attending class while their children are in another classroom. The two priests, a deacon and Juan Carlos rotate teaching parents' class.

Juan Carlos joined the parish leadership for the Walk for Life West Coast, with the goal of getting as many young people as they could to San Francisco in January.

"Last year we took one bus, let's aim for two," he said of their plan. "People in the parish are very generous," he said, noting that many contributed to provide others the opportunity to participate. Each bus would cost \$1,500. Parish leaders took turns promoting the effort. On the theme "you need to be the voices of the unborn, their feet and their hands," people responded.

"We passed our goal," Juan Carlos said. One hundred people participated in the walk.

"We had enough money to provide breakfast and dinner," he said.

"We had pozole, even the bus drivers."

The pastoral year, he said, has "affirmed absolutely" his vocation. "The first week I arrived at the parish, I felt such a peace. I feel this is the right place I needed to be, the path that I'm walking. Being a parish priest, being with the people, praying with the people. That really confirmed my vocation to parish priest." †

*The Bishop's Ministries Appeal supports the education and formation of seminarians.*

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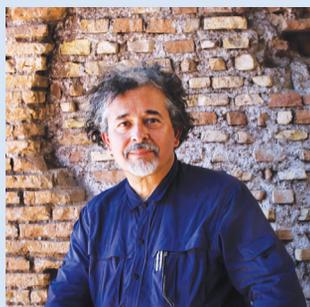
**We have a diverse community. In reality, when you see the church function, they function as one. There is no division; no parallel church.”**



**GARRETT MCGOWAN**

**“On the pastoral side ... funerals, committals, weddings, baptisms, quinceaneras; a little bit of office administration; living in the rectory; getting used to parish life.”**

**GARRETT MCGOWAN**



**LEFT:** Mission San José **RIGHT:** Dr. Rubén Mendoza will discuss Sir Richard Joseph Menn's interior design for the 1985 restoration of Mission San José's Church. (Courtesy of Dr. Rubén Mendoza)

## Mission San José 1985 restoration subject of Anniversary lecture

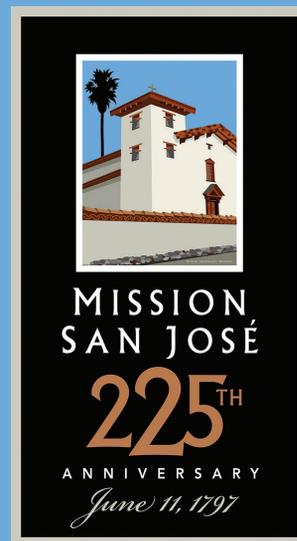
Mission San Jose's 225th Anniversary Speaker Series continues on May 14 with a lecture by Dr. Rubén Mendoza, an archaeologist at California State University, Monterey Bay.

Dr. Mendoza will share what is widely considered Sir Richard Joseph Menn's crowning achievement, the interior design for the 1985 restoration of Mission San José's Church.

Little, if any, documentation exists of the original 1809 adobe church interior, which was destroyed in the earthquake of 1868. This lecture outlines the design criteria and careful consideration of historical facts and meticulous craftsmanship that led to the beautiful Mission San José Church we enjoy today.

Those who attend 8 a.m. Mass prior to the 9:30 a.m. lecture may participate in the Diocese of Oakland Pilgrimage program. Attendees also have the option to reserve a docent-led tour or take a self-guided tour immediately following the lecture.

**Go to [mission225.org/speaker-series](http://mission225.org/speaker-series) for details and tickets for this presentation.**



### Founder's Weekend Festival

June 10-12

Details: [Mission225.org](http://Mission225.org)

Join us for the  
**Crowning of Mary**  
 Please join us for our Crowning of Mary ceremony following the 11:00 Memorial Mass

**SATURDAY, MAY 7TH**  
 Ceremony begins after 11:00 Memorial Mass  
*Flowers will be handed out to all moms.*

**For more information, please contact your preferred location:**

<b>QUEEN OF HEAVEN</b> 1965 Reliez Valley Road Lafayette, CA 94549 (925) 932-0900	<b>HOLY CROSS</b> 2200 East 18th Street Antioch, CA 94509 (925) 757-0658	<b>HOLY SEPULCHRE</b> 1051 Harder Road Hayward, CA 94542 (510) 537-6600	<b>ST. JOSEPH</b> 2540 Church Lane San Pablo, CA 94806 (510) 234-2012
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# Youth, young adults have their say



**PHOTOS BY  
RICH ANDERSON**

**ABOVE:**

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ met with youth representatives from the parishes of the Diocese of Oakland for a Synod Listening Session at St. Isidore Parish in Danville on March 12. The event was organized by Joseph Nufable, coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the diocesan Office of Faith Formation and Evangelization; youth ministers from around the diocese; and the Synod Core Team.

**AT RIGHT:**

Church of the Assumption in San Leandro hosted a Synod Listening Session for young adults of the Diocese of Oakland. On the evening of March 25, Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ met with young adults at the event organized by Joseph Nufable and the Synod Core Team.



## The Rite of Election

Candidates and catechumens preparing to receive the sacraments of initiation came to the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland in three groups on March 19 and 20. After making the promises, the Book of the Elect for each parish was signed by Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ. Bishop Barber was photographed with each parish group after the rite.

PHOTOS BY RICH ANDERSON



## Neophyte Day of Prayer

Those baptized and received into the Catholic Church at Easter are invited to attend a Neophyte Day of Prayer on May 14 at St. Augustine Church in Oakland. The Office of Catechetical Formation is hosting the gathering, which will begin at 10 a.m. and end at 3 p.m.

The day's events will feature Gena McGowan, coordinator for catechetical formation; Joseph Nufable, coordinator of youth and young adult ministries; and Jay Mitchell, RCIA team leader at St. Augustine Parish.

Registration information will be at [www.oakdiocese.org](http://www.oakdiocese.org). For more information contact Gena McGowan at [gmcgowan@oakdiocese.org](mailto:gmcgowan@oakdiocese.org).

He's 7, likes to pray  
and go to Mass.

And he chose to  
be baptized and  
confirmed at the  
Easter Vigil.

# WELCOME, LUCAS!

A SACRED STORY FROM ST. MICHAEL PARISH IN LIVERMORE,  
AS TOLD TO TINA GREGORY, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

PHOTO BY RICH ANDERSON

Lucas Hussain, 7, attended the Rite of Election at the Cathedral of Christ the Light on March 20. After the rite, he and his mother, Catherine Hussain, met Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ.



**Lucas Hussain is in first grade at St. Michael School. He wants to become Catholic because he really likes the prayers.**

**Now he and his mom, Catherine, are working together to prepare for his Baptism and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil.**

**Hi Lucas. What made you decide to become Catholic?**

**Lucas:** I think I just would like to be. I like the prayers and stuff. They make me feel happy.

**Do you pray at home?**

**Lucas:** Yeah. My mom and my grandma pray with me. We pray at night, and I get holy water on my head, too. A blessing.

**Is that what made you want to be Catholic?**

**Lucas:** Yeah. Mom can say it better...

**Catherine:** My husband and I come from two different faiths. I was raised Catholic. He was raised Muslim. We agreed when we married that if we had children, we weren't going to have the power struggles of faith. We planned to let our child make the choice. Things began to change when he was in kindergarten.

**What changed?**

**Catherine:** He was going to public school through the pandemic. We started to notice concepts and social ideas that were being put forth that just didn't sit right with us. We had a lot of conversations and ultimately decided that the best bet was to enroll him in Catholic school. And we love it!

Lucas was exposed to Catholic prayers, through me and my mom, and we do pray at night. But we were not 100% living the faith. I remember talking to Lucas, saying that at St. Michael School in the second grade, he would have the opportunity to receive First Holy Communion. But to receive First Holy Communion, he must be baptized first. I told him that he had to make the choice. I said, "This is up to you. What do you want to do?"

**How did you respond, Lucas?**

**Lucas:** I said YES! [with two thumbs up high!]

**Catherine:** He's going to receive Baptism and Confirmation at Easter Vigil, then will receive First Communion with his class next year. That way he can be with his friends and have a peer experience. I think having camaraderie and community are important.

**What else do you like about becoming Catholic?**

**Lucas:** I like going to MASS! I went to Mass for Ash Wednesday, and I got a cross on my forehead. I wanted to look in the mirror to see what it looked like, but we had to go back to school. But now we have forty days to get ready for Easter, to think about ways we could be nicer to Jesus. I really like going up to get a blessing at Mass. It makes me feel nice.



*I work on stuff with my mom at home. I know the Sign of the Cross. I know the Our Father. I know the Glory Be. But I like the Hail Mary the best."*

**What do you like about St. Michael School?**

**Lucas:** I like learning. Especially math. I like to write sentences too. I also like running track. I like baseball, but that's not at school. And swimming!

**What have you learned while getting ready for Baptism?**

**Lucas:** I work on stuff with my mom at home. I know the Sign of the Cross. I know the Our Father. I know the Glory Be. But I like the Hail Mary the best.

**Really? What do you like best about the Hail Mary?**

**Lucas:** She's Jesus' mom. [shrugging]. The Hail Mary is easy. Not as easy as the Glory Be, but still easy. Moms are nice. I prayed the whole rosary last night for the first time! I started out first just praying some of it. But last night I did the whole thing.

**That's really incredible!  
Good job!**

**Lucas:** Thanks. It's pretty cool. Mary, she said yes to being Jesus' mom. If she said no, there would be no savior.

**Catherine, what was it like to pray the rosary with Lucas?**

**Catherine:** He does amaze me. We prayed a decade together one night. And then the next day he said he wanted to pray the whole thing, but we ran out of time. Then he made it a priority! He did not mess around, took a shower, got ready for bed, and was in bed by 7:30 p.m. He completed his nightly reading to me, then busted out the Rosary. I think there were parts that I forgot, but we did our best, the two of us.

**Sounds like you are growing in your faith because of Lucas?**

**Catherine:** I'm definitely revisiting the faith I grew up with. You could say he's the reason I'm becoming a more active participant. Growing up, my mom's best friend was a priest. Our families would

mesh, and he was practically an uncle. The Catholic faith was very strong and present. I never totally lost faith, like I never said that I don't believe in God or anything. I guess things just got busy with school and work and, you know, going to Mass fell away a bit.

**I'm impressed by how seriously you're taking his religious instruction.**

**Catherine:** Thanks. Sometimes "mom school" is hard. But I want to make sure he understands these big concepts, so sometimes there's a lot of translating that I have to do to bring it to his level.

The Ten Commandments, for example, I had to just condense down. Don't covet your neighbor's goods really means don't obsess about stuff and what other people have. So often I do a lot of reworking. It's important to me that we're not just checking a box and spitting out words. I want it to be meaningful, relevant and applicable for him.

**Well, I think you and Lucas are awesome. We will be praying for you both for sure.**

**Catherine:** Thank you very much.

**Lucas:** THANKS! †

“

*It's pretty cool. Mary, she said yes to being Jesus' mom. If she said no, there would be no savior.”*

Photo by Tina Gregory



Lucas Hussain, 7, likes to pray with his mother, Catherine, and his grandmother. The Hail Mary is among his favorites. Why? "She's Jesus' mom." He adds: "Moms are nice."

## CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2020



Six members of the St. Francis de Sales School for Pastoral Ministry Class of 2020 received a much-anticipated certificate of completion of three years of study on March 8. The ceremony, postponed due to the COVID-19 lockdown, was in the context of a Eucharistic celebration with Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ presiding and Father Jimmy Macalinao, diocesan director of

faith formation and evangelization, concelebrating. Father Brandon Macadaeg, rector of the Cathedral of Christ the Light, served as master of ceremonies. Nelson Gonzales and his group generously donated their time and talent to enhance the celebration.

The graduation was followed by dinner amid much laughter and cheering these new master catechists, who are serving the Diocese of Oakland in a variety of ministries.

The graduates are Cindy Hamer; Gloria Maldonado, After the Choice Ministry/Rachel's Vineyard retreat coordinator and Legion of Mary, Praesidium president; Noreen McKiernan; Sister Mary Magdalene Nguyen, LHC, director of pastoral care, Santa Maria Parish, Orinda; Sister Ancilla Marie; and Darden Paul, children's faith formation coordinator, All Saints Parish, Hayward.

For additional information on the Diocese of Oakland's School for Pastoral Ministry, visit [oakdiocese.org/spm](http://oakdiocese.org/spm).

## GOLF TOURNAMENT

Please join the Knights of Columbus Council 9206, St. Joan of Arc, San Ramon, and St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa County for Swing for Charity, a day of golf, friendship and charitable support.

The golf fundraiser will be held Monday, June 27 at Blackhawk Country Club, Lakeside Course, 599 Blackhawk Club Drive, Danville.

Proceeds will benefit the RotaCare Pittsburg Free Medical Clinic at St. Vincent de Paul, the free medical clinic for the uninsured in Pittsburg. The clinic is staffed by volunteer physicians and has provided more than 13,000 free patient visits since opening in 2011.

Contact Barb Hunt at [b.hunt@svdp-cc.org](mailto:b.hunt@svdp-cc.org) or 925-439-5060 if interested in sponsorship. Register to golf at [www.eventbrite.com/e/16th-annual-knights-of-columbus-charity-golf-tournament-tickets-268506739887](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/16th-annual-knights-of-columbus-charity-golf-tournament-tickets-268506739887).

## GRIEF GROUP

The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Please join the Catholic Community of Pleasanton for bimonthly meetings at St. Elizabeth Seton, 4001 Stoneridge Drive, Pleasanton.

The schedule is May 12 and 26; June 9 and 23; and July 14 and 28.

Meetings, which are open to all, regardless of religious affiliation, begin at 7 p.m. Although there is no advance registration, please arrive a little early to check in.

For a short video explaining the grief program, visit [catholicsof-pleasanton.org](http://catholicsof-pleasanton.org). Call Barbara at 925-846-3904 if you have additional questions. †

## Be a medical missionary in your own backyard

### The RotaCare Pittsburg Free Medical Clinic at St. Vincent de Paul seeks volunteers:

- Physicians
- NPs
- PAs
- RNs
- LVNs



#### Contact info:

[www.svdp-cc.org](http://www.svdp-cc.org) or  
[pittsburg@rotacarebayarea.org](mailto:pittsburg@rotacarebayarea.org)



*The Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
of Contra Costa County*



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

**510.267.8334**

COVER STORY



# ALOHA

## IS UNCONDITIONAL LOVE

**The spirit that empowers Patrick Landeza, husband, father of five, Catholic educator, award-winning Hawaiian musician, mentor to a generation of Bay Area musicians, chef, author, jewelry maker**

BY MICHELE  
JURICH

PHOTOS BY  
DOMINIQUE  
GHEKIERE-MINTZ

“My mom would always test me. She would say, ‘What is aloha?’

“I’d go, ‘Hi and goodbye.’”

His mother would reply, “The true meaning of aloha is unconditional love. And God is love.”

**B**orn the fourth child of Danny Landeza Jr. and Frances Kawaipulou Kuakini O’Sullivan, two people from Hawaii who met and married in Berkeley, Landeza grew up with the family of seven in a two-bedroom apartment on Addison Street.

Three blocks up the street was St. Joseph the Worker Parish, where the Landeza kids went to Mass and to elementary school.

“Culturally my mother helped me to understand who I am as a Hawaiian born on the mainland. Spiritually, my other helped me, and all of us, with our relationship with Christ,” Landeza said.

“Most importantly, my mother shared with us the notion of aloha. That word has power. It has meaning.”

Landeza’s gift of making connections has prompted people to tell him: You’re the fixer. You’re the one that connects people. You make things happen.

In this, he said, “I’m more my father.”

The village in which the family was rooted was made up of aunts and uncles.

It was from those uncles that Landeza would learn the slack key guitar, and the means of making the music that would be recognized with two Nā Hōkū Hanohano awards. Landeza was the first mainland-based artist to win this prestigious award—the Grammy of Hawaiian music.



Landeza & Sons on stage, from left, Justin Firmeza, who is not a son; Patrick Landeza; and PJ Landeza, who is a son.

His love of Hawaiian music is a gift from his mother. She shared her faith with her children.

“Faith is everything,” Landeza said, being Christ-centered and church-centered. You have a brother who’s a priest. You have a mother who’s a saint. That is always the direction.”

Aloha, Landeza said, “embodies what we do as Catholic educators.”

Landeza is in his 27th year as a Catholic educator, currently serving as associate campus minister at Moreau Catholic High School in Hayward.

His journey as a Catholic educator was not one he began on his own.

In his first year as a postulant with the Christian Brothers, he was surprised to hear, “We’re putting you in a classroom.”

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18 ▶

**The Landeza Family:**

Danny, Tyler, Luke, Patrick, Jennifer, Megan and P.J. Patrick and Jennifer's children range in age from kindergarten to college.

COURTESY LANDEZA FAMILY



“I’m 23 years old, teaching juniors and seniors,” he said.

The verdict: “You’re a natural.”

The Christian Brothers life was not to be his path. But teaching proved to be. He discerned a gift to envision his students’ gifts and see how they could be nurtured.

He served as campus minister at St. Elizabeth High School in Oakland, where the ties with his former students remain strong. Many have become award-winning musicians.

“They always return. He was my teacher, he would hear the stories. We want that. Even if it’s just for a second, you can move them. It’s not cliché: Teachers teach.”

The musicians he has mentored often join him in service to musicians who can use their kind assistance. It’s what they do. Aloha.

“I taught them,” he said. “Just as my compositions are, at different stages of life. You see all this. It embodies what we do as Catholic educators.”

He’s grateful for the Catholic educators who were there for him. He recalled Maurice Harper, his teacher and coach at Saint Mary’s College High School in Berkeley.

“He’s a Saint Mary’s All American in basketball, drafted by the Warriors, who decided to return to Saint Mary’s [College High School] and teach,” Landeza said.

“When I didn’t have money for shoes, shoes ended up in my locker.

“My mother worked to help support our education,” Landeza said. “She worked for as long as I know. In return, it paid for our education.”

Frances O’Sullivan wanted a life for her children with more opportunity than her own. “She grew up poor, on a farm, adopted by her aunt and uncle,” Landeza said. She was accepted to Oberlin College to study music, and her principal said she would be better off going to secretarial school.

“A little girl from the Island having everything against her,” he said.



**The Catholic Voice, July 2, 1979**

This issue of The Catholic Voice is not the first time Patrick Landeza has appeared on Page 1. He recalled that he and his sister Donna had been on the cover of the newspaper when they were students at St. Joseph the Worker School in Berkeley. Patrick remembered that someone put a flag in his hand. But when? Was it for the parish’s centennial? A Catholic Schools Week feature? Two bound volumes were pulled from the shelf in The Catholic Voice office. The heavy cover was opened. On the first page, there they were, celebrating Independence Day.

She enrolled at Armstrong College in Berkeley. Upon completion of her secretarial program, Frances O'Sullivan applied for jobs.

"She'd go in for the job interview, people would see her, and tell her, 'There's no job for you.'"

Her response was a lesson she repeated often for her children.

"My mother always said, 'Just forgive them,'" she said.

"C'mon, Mom, people stepping on us," he said.

"My mother, as a Catholic, said, 'Just forgive them.'"

It's her upbringing, her countryness, Landeza said.

"Our mom is our foundation. Everything we know of ... our faith comes from our parents but mainly from our mom. It has carried across her life."

The taste of the Islands, a gift from his parents, is carried out in Landeza's Island, a pop-up food and catering business based in Hayward.

Landeza and his wife Jennifer are the parents of five children, who range in age from a kindergartner to a second-year college student.

They all play music.

When they bought their home, Landeza said, "The very first piece of furniture I bought was a piano.

"I fundraised that piano by selling earrings," he said. "It was the best hustle in the world. That paid for the piano."

The children play multiple instruments. Sometimes there are lessons. "They continue to discover themselves through other instruments," he said. "Thank goodness for YouTube."

Landeza played clarinet in high school. "I started guitar at 16," he said.

"Something happened. An epiphany. A vision. Something happened," he said. "I picked up the guitar. I only wanted to learn Hawaiian slack key guitar."

Finding lessons proved problematic. "I wasn't part of their circle," he said. "No one else would teach me."

That's when he approached the uncles, at parties. After a while, they agreed to teach him.

In a March appearance at Freight & Salvage in Berkeley, Landeza wove stories and songs, crediting his mentors in Hawaiian music with teaching him in exchange for his labor as a roadie. Musicians Raymond Kane, Cyril Pahinui, George Kuo and Dennis Kamakahi – royalty of Hawaiian music – have been mentors whose work he honors and builds upon.

The gig was billed as Patrick Landeza & Sons. PJ Landeza, his son, was on bass guitar and Justin Firmeza, his former student, on steel guitar and piano. In that spirit of aloha and mentorship, he is bringing along the next generation.

"Finding my identity as a Hawaiian and Asian Pacific Islander was not easy," Landeza said. "My music helps me to identify with who I am."†

*Michele Jurich is editor of The Catholic Voice.*



Frances Landeza, foreground, is surrounded on her 80th birthday by her children, from left, Father Jayson, Patrick, Donna, Daina and John. PHOTO BY ANNETTE BATAUSA

## **A Patrick Landeza primer**

### **Where he teaches:**

Moreau Catholic High School, Hayward

### **Where he's performing:**

May 12, Patrick Landeza & Sons  
Yoshi's, Jack London Square, Oakland

### **Latest albums:**

"Ho'omana'o"  
"Slack Key Huaka`i Elua"  
"Far Away"

### **His memoir:**

"From the Island of Berkeley,  
Memoirs From A California-Born Hawaiian"

### **His food:**

Landeza's Island  
landezasisland.com

### **Website:**

patricklandeza.com





◀ St. Benedict Parish honored its Diocesan Medal of Merit recipients, current and past, at Mass. In the back row: Father Jayson Landeza, Julie Hadnot, Dionne Cola and Rufus Fisher. Front row: Ofelia Wanzo, Deacon Ron Tutson, Dr. Chiquita Tuttle and Leonard Pete. Nat Bornor is not pictured.

PHOTO BY JORGE WATSON

# ST. BENEDICT PARISH HONORS DIOCESAN MEDAL OF MERIT RECIPIENTS

PHOTO BY JORGE WATSON

## *Four members of St. Benedict Parish have been awarded the Diocesan Medal of Merit by Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ.*

Father Jayson Landeza, pastor of the Oakland parish, nominated Leonard Pete, Dr. Chiquita Tuttle, Deacon Ronald Tutson and Ofelia Wanzo for the honor.

Leonard Pete has been music director at the parish for more than 15 years. From Crowley, Louisiana, Leonard visited St. Benedict Parish in the summer of 2004, where his cousin and uncle were in the choir. The choir needed a drummer at the time, and Leonard stepped in without hesitation.

He returned to the Bay Area and became a member of the choir. The multitalented musician can sing and play piano, organ, trumpet, accordion and baritone.

He started “Da’ Young People’s Choir” at Christmas in 2005, and in 2006, was invited by the then-pastor Father Jay Matthews to become music director.

Leonard is Grand Knight of the Knights of St. Peter Claver Fr. Jay Matthews Council #336. He is secretary of the pastoral council, member of the liturgy committee, and assistant to the Wellness Team, among his parish activities.

He also serves the greater community, participating in the Dr. Martin Luther King interfaith celebrations, Black history celebrations at St. Patrick's seminary and at several churches in the Bay Area and beyond.

"He is a jack of all trades. He is a blessing. Anytime Leonard has been asked to do something, he always says yes," Father Jayson wrote in the letter nominating Leonard for the medal.

Dr. Chiquita Tuttle's service to the parish and diocese spans decades. She was appointed by emeritus Bishop John S. Cummins to represent lay parents to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on Education. She served three terms on the committee, and more than four terms on the Oakland Diocesan School Board. She also served as parent teacher representative at St. Paschal Baylon School in Oakland.

She serves currently on the Oakland Diocesan Racial Justice Task Force and is chair of its African American Pastoral Center Sub-Committee.

At St. Benedict Parish, she serves as chairperson of the pastoral council and as a member of the finance council. She has represented the parish at the National Black Catholic Congress.

"She is always ready and willing to serve the Church, and by extension, Our Lord, through a faith lived through action," Father Jayson wrote in recommending her for the medal.

Deacon Ronald Tutson has been a member of St. Benedict Parish since 1974. Prior to his ordination to the permanent diaconate in 2008, he served in the parish proclaimer/lector ministry and as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

Deacon Ron has been a member of the Knights of St. Peter Claver Fr. Jay Matthews Council since 1994, and has served as Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Treasurer and Chaplain to the council. He is also a member of Knights of St. Peter Claver William Knox Assembly #15, serving as Faithful Captain and Chaplain.

He is a member of the pastoral council and St. Vincent de Paul, St. Benedict Conference. He serves as a volunteer at the St. Vincent de Paul Dining Room in downtown Oakland.

Deacon Ron serves as RCIA director and Bible study director at the parish. He also participated in the Josephite Fathers conference on Ministry in an African American parish.

"I could not have asked for a better parish deacon," Father Jayson wrote in his recommendation. "Ron is a perfect fit for St. Benedict Parish. Ron hails from

**Father Jayson Landeza, pastor of the Oakland parish, nominated Leonard Pete, Dr. Chiquita Tuttle, Deacon Ronald Tutson and Ofelia Wanzo for the honor.**

Louisiana, and connects extraordinarily well to the lived experiences of our heavily African American worshippers whose roots are in the South."

Ofelia Wanzo has provided loyal and faithful service to St. Benedict parish, and to the larger Catholic community in the East Bay, for more than half a century.

She began her ministry in 1963 at St. Louis Bertrand Parish in Oakland, where she was present to the sick, elderly and shut-in through reading, praying and talking, as well as providing food. She edited the parish bulletin there.

In the 1970s and '80s, with her children enrolled at St. Paschal Baylon School in Oakland, she served as CYO director for youth sports. She coached the track team to a championship in the CYO finals. She also served as the school's coordinator of fundraisers.

At St. Benedict Parish since 1989, she has served as CCD director and prepared children for First Communion and Confirmation. She also serves as the parish director of Safe Environment for Children.

As a member of the St. Benedict Pastoral Council, she works with other members to coordinate the day-to-day workings of the parish. As a member of the St. Vincent de Paul Conference, she helps prepare food baskets, assists at food distribution and is the lead organizer for the Christmas toy giveaway.

Ofelia has been a member of the Knights of Peter Claver's Lady Auxiliary for 26 years. She also coordinates and facilitates the decoration of the church throughout the year, making sure it reflects the liturgical year.

"As a faithful member of St. Benedict, Ofelia has generously given of her time and talent, whether it's Mass, the Parish Picnic, National Night Out, etc.," Father Jayson wrote in recommending her for the medal. "When our church reopened during the pandemic, she assisted with all safety guidelines and protocols at every Mass." †

Getty Images/Credit: Marina Biogachyova





# Our Lady of Lourdes

ALL ARE WELCOME AT OAKLAND CHURCH THAT IS A SIGN OF ITS TIMES

Adapted from the parish history of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

PHOTOS BY DOMINIQUE GHEKIERE-MINTZ

The sky was vivid, sun-splashed blue that afternoon. From their position on the bluff, the group was able to look out over much of what was to become Alameda County, all the way down to the bay.

Padre Juan Crespi, a Franciscan priest accompanying the Spanish expeditionary party that had been dispatched from Monterey to explore the San Francisco area, held the host aloft and uttered the blessing.

This was the first Roman Catholic Mass held in the area. The date was March 27, 1772.

Now, over two and a half centuries later, the family of Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church, situated just below the bluff where Padre Crespi stood that historic day, marks its 100th anniversary.

It all began on Dec. 9, 1921 when Archbishop Edward J. Hanna of the Archdiocese of San Francisco established the parish bounded by Perkins Street in Oakland, the Piedmont city line, Trestle Glen, Athol and Lakeshore Avenue.

The church was named to commemorate the events that happened in the Grotto of Massabie, near Lourdes, in France in 1858. There, a vision of the Virgin Mary came to a teenage girl named Bernadette to reveal the healing waters of the Spring of Lourdes.

The church grounds, a sloping lot along the eastern shore of Lake Merritt, had formerly been part of the old Rancho San Antonio de las Peraltas and were purchased for \$35,000.

Father Bartholomew J. Kevany from County Roscommon, Ireland, was named the first pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes. Father Kevany guided the parish for 37 years until his retirement on Nov. 1, 1958.

The need for a parochial school was underscored by the order in which the parish buildings were erected. In August 1924, the combination school/convent/parish hall – what is now the administration building – was completed. Without a church proper, Masses originally had to be offered in parishioners' homes.

For the first year, services were held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leo J. McCarthy. The first Baptism, of Ursula Ann Haven, took place in the McCarthy home on Jan. 1, 1922.

The temporary chapel and parochial residence were moved to a little cottage at 803 Walker Avenue for the next two years. It was there that the first marriage



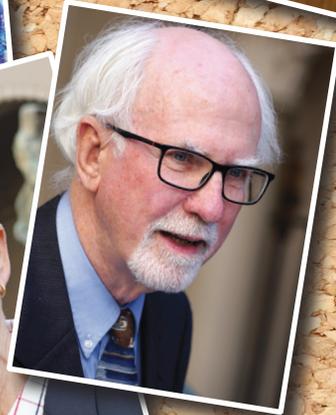


ceremony was performed and the first class, consisting of 12 youngsters, received First Holy Communion.

On Feb. 11, 1925, the church was officially dedicated. The school, which had been operated from its foundation in 1924 until the 1970s by the Holy Name Sisters, closed in June 1989 due to insufficient enrollment.

Thirty-eight years were to pass before ground was broken for the current church building. By then, a new pastor had been appointed.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24 ▶



On Nov. 5, 1958, Father John J. Clogher, also from the County Roscommon, Ireland, was named to succeed Father Kevany. Like his predecessor, Father Clogher was to stay with Our Lady of Lourdes until his retirement 30 years later.

Architect Vincent Buckley designed the 12,500-square-foot, Romanesque style, concrete and reddish-brown Italian marble structure featuring an imposing 110-foot bell tower. The construction contract was awarded to Pacific Coast Builders. Father Clogher oversaw the construction process.

In the 1970s, Our Lady of Lourdes Church was about to experience a renaissance of sorts. Shortly after the school closing, the parish Liturgy Committee began looking into ways to stimulate more parishioner involvement. By this time, Father Seamus Genovese, also originally from Ireland, had been named pastor on June 19, 1988. Father Seamus worked in partnership with the Liturgy Committee to bring about positive change.

One way to render the liturgical experience more accessible to the layperson was to reconfigure the church building. The church had been designed in the old style in which the priest faced the altar, which was flush with the front wall, with his back to the congregation. The hope was to develop ideas that involved the laity more in the sacraments. Going into the project, the committee solicited as much parishioner involvement as was possible.

The committee was rewarded with a strong showing of almost 200 parishioners at the initial meeting, and 80 to 90 people regularly present at workshops thereafter. What these gatherings developed was not an actual blueprint for renovations, rather they were

used to develop a consensus on how people viewed the celebration of the sacraments.

Father Seamus was present throughout the process as an adviser, but he maintained the church members themselves made all final decisions. On Dec. 8, 1993, John Goldman of Goldman Architects in San Francisco was selected to draw up the plans. Taking into consideration the committee's suggestions, Goldman was able to develop a series of mock drawings. "The key when making a decision," Father Seamus explained, "was always to think in terms of what we're celebrating."

A fundraising campaign to help underwrite the costly repairs and reconfiguration was begun. Goldman's final plan was accepted in April 1995.

MA Lindquist Contractors, with a bid of \$700,000 (which, coincidentally, was the same as the final construction cost in 1962) was chosen to implement the changes. Construction began in the second week of December 1995 and was completed by the third week of May 1996. All told, including the price of a new organ and new pews, the makeover cost about \$1 million.

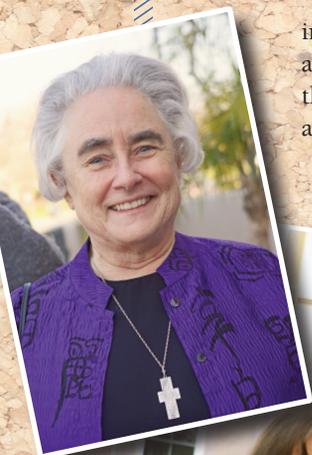
In its first 90 years, Our Lady of Lourdes has had only three pastors, a remarkable feat for a modern church. It is only by coincidence, Father Seamus insisted, that all three men hailed from Ireland.

On March 11, 2015 the much beloved Father Seamus left this world. The congregation of Our Lady of Lourdes continues to miss him and holds his contributions and memories as precious to all who knew him.

Over the years, the demographics of the church body have changed greatly. Being an urban parish, Our Lady of Lourdes boasts a wonderfully diverse flock, something the congregation and clergy are justifiably proud of. Today, the lay leadership plays an integral role in the ministry and administration of the parish.

Today, the people of Our Lady of Lourdes are under the pastoral care of Father Jim Schexnayder. Father Brandon Macadaeg, rector of the nearby Cathedral of Christ the Light, serves as parochial administrator.

On Feb. 13, the people of the parish joyfully observed the centennial at a Mass celebrated by Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ and concelebrated by priests who have served at the parish over the years. †



“

*The key when making a decision was always to think in terms of what we're celebrating.”*

FATHER SEAMUS GENOVESE



Father John McGarry, SJ, stands in front of his grandparents' home, where Our Lady of Lourdes Parish's first Mass was celebrated.

Father John McGarry's own relationship with the Oakland parish dates back to 1989, when he arrived for seminary studies in Berkeley. "I knew that I wanted to work in a parish while I studied, and I remembered that this parish on the Lake began in my mother's childhood home across from it," he said.

"My knocking on Seamus' door in 1989 began a steady stream of Jesuits help here over the last 30 years. Some of my fellow priests have served the people here on Sundays, and Fr. Seamus helped me in my responsibility for the priestly formation of young Jesuits, by welcoming seminarians, and then deacons, not only serve here, but to learn here — to learn how to be a priest, how to reverently and joyfully celebrate the Mass, how to preach well and connect with the people so that they could, like Seamus, help in drawing people closer to God — closer, deeper, broader, in knowing, loving and serving God in this world."

*"Seamus [Genovese] was a good role model, a good mentor. He was serious about his responsibility as a priest while also being so committed to goodness and kindness and welcoming of people into God's house, nourishing them and empowering them to live their faith with courage and joy. No one was ever excluded from here. Seamus was committed to making real that beautiful line in one of the Eucharistic prayers for reconciliation, including people around the table, "from every race, language and way of life," Seamus made sure to accept everyone here and help them to feel at home — what a gift from a parish, a church building, a pastor — whose community began in the living room of a home in 1921."*

— FATHER JOHN MCGARRY, SJ †



# Faith, Hope & Charity

## ANTIOCH YOUNG LADIES INSTITUTE #101 CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

**W**e are pleased to announce the 100th celebration of our institute. YLI (Young Ladies Institute) is the oldest California women's organization on the West Coast.

Young Ladies' Institute was founded on the Christian principles of charity and love. On Feb. 5, 1922, 50 ladies gathered in Antioch, under the supervision of Grand President Ella C. Graham, to organize the 101st Institute of the order. These women pledged to uphold the guiding principles and set the foundation for the following 100 years. "Antioch," being the name of a biblical city, was chosen as the institute name.

◀ **LEFT:** The 2021-2022 YLI #101 Officers are, from left back: Pam Confetti, Trustee; Beth Enea, Recording Secretary; Gwenn Ehrlich, Marshal; Mary Greenberg, Trustee; Teresa Glenn, President; Jeanette Borges, Grand President; Teri Anello, Treasurer; Rosemary Anyanwu, Organist. Bottom Row from left: Grace Mariner, Sentinel; Mel Costanza, Trustee; Rachelle Martin, Past President; Lee Oliver, 2nd Vice President; Shelli Daviess, Trustee; Yolanda Lord, 1st Vice President; Sammie Garcia-Johns, Financial Secretary.

**RIGHT:** President Teresa Glenn and her mother Shelli Daviess joined the Young Ladies Institute #101 together. ▶

COURTESY PHOTOS



Young Ladies' Institute

These dedicated women forged ahead, continuously providing encouragement and understanding to each other while supporting charitable works and enjoying social activities. The good deeds were an incentive for more and more women to join.

The members of Antioch #101 have loyally served Holy Rosary Church since 1922 and St. Ignatius of Antioch, a second Antioch parish, was added in 1979. We are also proud to offer YLI to our neighbors at St. Anthony's in Oakley and Immaculate Heart of Mary in Brentwood.

In the past 100 years, the office of president has been held by

96 unique and talented women. Leaders are plentiful with many members having served as Institute Deputy and 21 having been appointed as District Deputy. Grand Institute has benefitted from the numerous members who have served on various Grand Institute Committees. Four members have served as Grand Directors and two members, Loretta Kelley and Betty Scott, have served as Grand President.

As we celebrate 100 years of Unity, Sisterly Love and Protection, we are reminded that these principles are the precious jewels that give brilliance to our organization for they embody

our love and concern for each other. These principles connect the members past, present and future of Antioch Institute #101 in a spiritual bond of shared and cherished friendship.

We celebrated this momentous occasion at a Feb. 19 luncheon at The Lone Tree Golf & Event Center in Antioch followed by our monthly meeting. We were joined by our Grand President Jeanette Borges, as well as other visiting members from our sister institutes.

Here's to the next 100!

*Teresa Glenn*  
YLI #101 President 2021-2022 †

# STANDING WITH MOMS IN NEED

*“[E]very human life, unique and unrepeatable, has value in and of itself; it is of inestimable value. This must always be proclaimed anew with the courage of the Word and the courage of actions. It calls us to solidarity and fraternal love for the great human family and for each of its members.”*

*–Pope Francis on the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of [Evangelium Vitae](#) (March 25, 2020)*

As our nation awaits the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, we join together in prayer and expectant hope that states will again be able to protect women and children from the injustice of abortion. As we affirm the value of every human life, we welcome the possibility of saving countless unborn children as well as sparing women and families the pain of abortion.

The Catholic Church has a long history of service to those who are most vulnerable and remains the largest private provider of social services in the United States. Through the sacrificial efforts of faithful Catholics, the Church serves millions through diocesan ministries and agencies, Catholic hospitals and healthcare systems, immigration clinics, shelters, and Catholic schools and parishes. From religious communities to pregnancy care centers, from refugee resettlement services to foster care and adoption agencies, and from maternity homes to parish-based ministries, the Church consistently bears witness in word and deed to the beauty and dignity of every human life—including both mother and child.

As the chairmen of committees serving the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, we proclaim a vision for our society that upholds the truth that every human life is sacred and inviolable—a society in which the legal protection of human life is accompanied by profound care for mothers and their children. We exhort our nation to prioritize the well-being of women, children, and families with both material resources and personal accompaniment so that no woman ever feels forced to choose between her future and the life of her child.

**In that effort, we recommit our committees and urge our dioceses, parishes, and Catholic agencies and institutions:**

- To redouble our efforts to accompany women and couples who are facing unexpected or difficult pregnancies, and during the early years of parenthood, offering them loving and compassionate care through initiatives such as [Walking with Moms in Need](#) and countless others.
- To ensure our Catholic parishes are places of welcome for women facing challenging pregnancies or who find it difficult to care for their children after birth, so that any mother needing assistance will receive life-affirming support and be connected to appropriate programs and resources where she can get help.
- To help Catholics recognize the needs of pregnant and parenting moms in their communities, enabling parishioners to know these mothers, to listen to them, and to help them obtain the necessities of life for themselves and their children.
- To be witnesses of love and life by expanding and improving the extensive network of comprehensive care including pregnancy help centers, maternity homes, and Catholic health care and social service agencies.

- To proclaim with a clear and united voice that our society can and must protect and care for both women and their children.
- To redouble our advocacy for laws that ensure the right to life for unborn children and that no mother or family lacks the basic resources needed to care for their children, regardless of race, age, immigration status, or any other factor.
- To continue to support and advocate for public policies and programs directed toward building up the common good and fostering integral human development, with a special concern for the needs of immigrants and low-income families.

We are deeply conscious that, after nearly half a century of legalized abortion, more than 65 million children have died from abortion and an untold number of women, men, and families suffer in the aftermath.

**Recognizing this pain and loss, we also recommit our committees and urge our dioceses, parishes, and Catholic agencies and institutions:**

- To proclaim God’s mercy after abortion and compassionately accompany women and men who are suffering after an abortion.
- To expand our diocesan abortion healing ministries, most often called [Project Rachel Ministry](#), so that women and men receive forgiveness, healing, and spiritual renewal through Christ’s infinite mercy.
- To transform our parishes into what Pope Francis calls “islands of mercy in a sea of indifference” by raising Catholic awareness of the great struggle involved in an abortion, and the guilt, pain, and grief that follow.

In all these ways and more, the Catholic Church witnesses to the sanctity of all human life, from conception to natural death, and works to build a true culture of life in our nation. May a renewed commitment to life overflow into increased protection of unborn children and expanded support for their mothers and families.

**MOST REVEREND JOSÉ H. GOMEZ**

Archbishop of Los Angeles  
President, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

**MOST REVEREND THOMAS A. DALY**

Bishop of Spokane  
Chairman, USCCB Committee on Catholic Education

**MOST REVEREND ROBERT P. REED**

Auxiliary Bishop of Boston  
Chairman, USCCB Committee on Communications

**MOST REVEREND ANDREW H. COZZENS**

Bishop of Crookston  
Chairman, USCCB Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis

**MOST REVEREND PAUL S. COAKLEY**

Archbishop of Oklahoma City  
Chairman, USCCB Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development

**MOST REVEREND DAVID J. MALLOY**

Bishop of Rockford  
Chairman, USCCB Committee on International Justice and Peace

**MOST REVEREND SALVATORE J. CORDILEONE**

Archbishop of San Francisco  
Chairman, USCCB Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life, and Youth

**MOST REVEREND MARIO E. DORSONVILLE-RODRÍGUEZ**

Auxiliary Bishop of Washington  
Chairman, USCCB Committee on Migration

**MOST REVEREND WILLIAM E. LORI**

Archbishop of Baltimore  
Chairman, USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities

OFFICIAL SCHEDULE

**May 1**

- 10 a.m. Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, St. Jerome Parish, El Cerrito

**May 2 and 3**

- Spring Meeting with California Catholic Conference of Bishops, Sacramento

**May 3**

- 6:30 p.m. Region 1 MAP Meeting, St. Theresa Parish, Oakland

**May 4**

- 11 a.m. Catholic Telemedia Network Board of Directors Meeting, Menlo Park
- 6:30 p.m. Region 5 MAP Meeting, St. Bede Parish, Hayward

**May 5**

- St. Patrick's Seminary and University Board of Trustees Meeting, Menlo Park
- 6:30 p.m. Region 2 MAP Meeting, Santa Maria Parish, Orinda

**May 6**

- 7 p.m. Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, Holy Spirit Parish, Fremont

**May 7**

- 10 a.m. Group Teen Confirmation, Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland  
*Participating Parishes: St. Edward, St. Ignatius, St. Paul, Our Lady of Lourdes*
- 2 p.m. Group Teen Confirmation - Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland  
*Participating Parishes: Our Lady of Good Counsel, St. Paul Chong Korean Community, St. Patrick (Oakland), St. Perpetua, St. Benedict*

**May 8**

- 11:30 a.m. Mass and celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, St. Albert/St. Philip Neri Parish, Alameda
- 5 p.m. Mass and celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, Church of the Good Shepherd, Pittsburg

**May 10**

- 10 a.m. Priest Personnel Board Meeting
- 1 p.m. Presbyteral Council Meeting

**May 13**

- Dinner with St. Patrick Seminary and University Auction Winners, Bishop's Residence

**May 14**

- 10 a.m. Group Teen Confirmation - Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland  
*Participating Parishes: St. Bonaventure, Christ The King, Santa Maria, St. Paul*

**May 15**

- 10:30 a.m. Mass and celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, Corpus Christi Parish, Piedmont
- 4 p.m. Group Teen Confirmation, Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland  
*Participating Parishes: Most Holy Rosary, St. Ambrose, St. Joseph (Fremont), St. Monica, St. Margaret Mary*



Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ blesses the palms in the center aisle of the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland at the beginning of Holy Week, the Palm Sunday Mass. (Photo by Chuck Deckert)

**May 16**

- 6:30 p.m. Father Tolton Performance, St. Columba Parish, Oakland

**May 18**

- Benedict XVI Institute Board of Directors Meeting, Archdiocese of San Francisco

**May 20**

- 6 p.m. Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, Assumption Parish, San Leandro

**May 21**

- 10:30 a.m. Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Concord
- 4 p.m. Mass with Knights of Columbus at State Convention, Sacramento

**May 22**

- 11:30 a.m. Mass and celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, St. Charles Borromeo Parish, Livermore
- 5 p.m. Mass and celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, Divine Mercy Parish, Oakland
- 7:30 p.m. Father Tolton Performance, Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland

**May 24**

- 10:30 a.m. College of Consultors Meeting
- 7 p.m. Diocesan Synod Closing Mass, Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland

**May 25**

- Dinner with Ordinandi to the Presbyterate and Priests in Residence, Bishop's Residence

**May 27**

- 9 a.m. Diocesan Musicians Gathering and Luncheon, Cathedral of Christ the Light Parish Hall

**May 28**

- 10 a.m. Ordination to the Priesthood, Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland
- 4 p.m. Mass and celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, St. Felicitas, San Leandro

**May 29**

- 11 a.m. Mass and Pastoral Visit with St. Paul Chong Korean Community, Catholic Community of Pleasanton/St. Elizabeth Seton Church, Pleasanton

**May 31**

- 7 p.m. Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate, Catholic Community of Pleasanton, St. Augustine Church

**NOTE:** Schedule subject to change. Please see [www.oakdiocese.org/bishop](http://www.oakdiocese.org/bishop) for schedule updates.

## 'Tolton' story comes to Diocese of Oakland

"Tolton: From Slave to Priest," the story of America's first Black priest, is scheduled to come to four parishes in the Diocese of Oakland in the month of May.

The multimedia live production, with music, drama and inspiring performances, tells the story of Father Augustus Tolton.

Presentations, all at 7:30 p.m., are scheduled:

May 16 at St. Columba Parish, Oakland

May 17 at All Saints Parish, Hayward

May 21 at St. Mary Magdalen Parish, Berkeley

May 22 at the Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland

Please contact each parish for ticket information. †

# REMEMBER THE FAITHFUL



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**WHERE:**  
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## Remembering those who we have laid to rest in our Catholic Cemeteries during the month of February.

### † HOLY SEPULCHRE

Manuel Abad  
Eugene Agostini  
Robert Anderson  
Mary Joe Angotti  
Francisco Aranda  
Jimmy Belmares  
Felipa Ben  
Jessica Benavides  
Marjorie Berberich  
Pauline Bunio  
August Camacho  
Sarah Cantu  
Evelyn Capozo  
Juan Jose Carranza  
Carl Carrick  
Vincent Castro  
Son Kinh Chau  
John Chaves  
Sam Congi  
Janet Constanza  
Gabriel Contreras  
Bernice Marie Costa  
Georgia Deterra  
Robert Dillon

Corinne Donegan  
Alice Espinola  
Selena Fagrey  
John Fahey  
Martha Figueiredo  
Michael Flanagan  
Alice Foster  
Fabian Garcia  
Elizabeth Glick  
Jean Gonzalez  
Emidio Goulart  
Maximinio Gracio  
Yenixia Gutierrez  
Hans Frank Hansen  
Cristina Herras  
Terra Hieshetter  
Patricia Hodge  
Hilda Jakob  
Marian Jordon  
Noel Kelleghan  
Fe Lagpacan  
Vincent Laguardia  
Venancio Lavarias  
Patrick Lenneau  
Dolores Lenneau  
James Logue  
Norberg Lois  
Caterina Marasco  
Janet McCormick  
Mary Medina  
Romualdo Ortiz  
Cristino Ortiz III

Flora Palacio  
Salvador Paniagua  
Steed Pereira  
Donald Promes  
Elias Rafael  
Rocco Romeo  
Albert Rosette  
Ascencion Salcido  
David Sanchez  
Jose A. Sanchez-Mendoza  
Arthur Santos  
Cecelia Santos  
Mary Sharp  
Wayne Siligo  
Antonio Silva  
Oliver Silva  
Mildred Simpson  
Cathrine Stutzman  
Veronica Thruston  
Faye Torres  
Terri Tran  
Uyen Thi Nguyen Tran  
Jose Vasquez  
Jerry Venaas  
Adela Vives

### † QUEEN OF HEAVEN

Joseph Allen  
Robert Allen  
Baby Kylie Bissel  
Delia Brown  
Otto Bruehiem  
Janis Bush  
Vladimir Cezar  
Leslie A. Dalecio  
Emily Dow  
Ivan Feurdeau  
Melissa Futagaki  
Juan Garcia  
Michael Gardner  
Michelle Gelin  
Cecil Guidry  
Simin Haghghat Pars  
Angela Harfouche  
Ruth Hogan  
Manuel Jauqar  
Pauline Kearney  
Mary Knox  
Hojung Lee  
Stanley Lubriewski  
Sherry Mangini  
Joseph Marino  
Lois Martinez  
George McElroy  
Denise McKenzie  
Margaret Moran  
Robert Murphy

Issac Negrete-Chacon  
Lorreta E. Nuti  
Anna Odello  
Vince Parlette  
Francis Roche  
Marion Roche  
Simeon Rojo  
Lilla Roll  
Robert Roll  
Vivian Stein  
George Sully  
Kathleen Tancredy  
Mildred Vasquez  
Jose Verdin  
Wade Wallace  
Andrew Xiari  
Tomas Yanez  
Virginia Yanez  
Jose Juan Zaragoza

### † HOLY CROSS

Rosalina Atanacio Arellano  
Anthony L. Borrelli  
Meliana Avaya Cardoza  
Patricia L. Cunningham  
Katsu Cunningham  
Jerrald M. Day  
Arturo De Guzman Diaz  
Felix Agustin Dominguez  
Clara Teresa Fagilde  
Alfred Anthony Ferrara  
Pedro Guित्रon  
Erika Jimenez  
Benjamin Leon  
Jack R. McGarry  
Dennis E. Mckenzie  
Daniel Olan  
Michael Joseph Petersen  
Phong John Pham  
Ralph C. Ramirez  
Carolina Ramos  
Joan Dolores Richardson  
Carlos Santoyo  
Joseph Saraiva  
Charlotte A. Savinovich  
Charles C. Stellini  
Deane Swan  
Victor M. Tamblyn  
Angelina Trezza

### ST. JOSEPH

Roberto Antonio  
Fred A. Antroll  
Jovencia R. Bantola  
John Belmondo  
Amelia M. Bermudez  
Urbano Buendia

Mary B. Chavez  
Barbara Connolly  
Audelia Delgado  
Amalia Franco  
Scott R. Franklin  
Josephine Geary  
Louise Headington  
Jose Jacob  
Marian Lempart  
Darryl E. Lilienthal  
Maria G. Lopez  
Jaime Olivares  
Francisco R. Ortega  
Viola Palumbo  
James Rickey  
Juan Santos  
Vincent Sena  
Carlos J. Torres  
Salvador Torres Ulloa  
Daniel L. Vigil III

### † ST. MICHAEL

Marianne Patricia Griffith  
Pamela Kelley  
Stephen Douglas Santor  
Mary Louise Trudeau  
Angel Rodriguez Valencia  
John Thomas Volponi

### † ST. AUGUSTINE

James Gerald Bowen  
Miguel Flores Estropia  
Diana Kalbarczyk  
Donald Joseph Rossi

### † ST. MARY

Maria Baca  
Daniel Bannantyne  
Gabriel Barrera  
Donald Dickson  
Shirley Freeman  
Alberto Lapuz  
Mary Lawson  
Magdalena Mendez  
Julian Ramirez  
Carmelita Rickman  
Raquel Rodriguez  
Jennifer Santini  
Matt Vasquez  
Pascuala Woods

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ISAIAH 40:30-31



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