

The Catholic Voice

NOVEMBER 2023 • VOLUME 61 • ISSUE 11

Diocesan Eucharistic Revival Congress

CONSECRATING

***THE DIOCESE OF OAKLAND
TO THE IMMACULATE
HEART OF MARY*** Page 6

**ENVELOPE
INSIDE**

**Bishop's Ministries
Appeal**



INSIDE NOVEMBER

1 On Our Cover

The Diocesan Eucharistic Revival Congress

3 From the Bishop

Homily from the Diocesan Eucharistic Revival Congress

6 Praise and thanksgiving

In four sessions at the Cathedral of Christ the Light, the faithful gathered

10 What death taught me

A grief counselor learns life lessons



14 Taking the Next Step

Tutoring leads to diplomas ... and beyond

18 The Gift of Giving

From new socks to nutritious food to Christmas toys

20 African American theology

From the African American Pastoral Center

22 Official

Bishop's schedule and clergy assignments

Editor's note

The Eucharistic Revival Congress had grand moments — the Eucharistic procession ending in the consecration of our diocese and our communities, as pictured on the cover of this issue, was one of those awe-inspiring moment.

There were little moments, too. A father kneeling with his children beside him. A daughter who adjusted her doll just so that the doll, too, was kneeling.

Finding faith in the little moments as well as the big was the gift I received from attending four sessions.

I heard Father Daniel Williamson of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal speak in sessions for elementary school students, teens and adults. I left with something new to ponder.

Itinerant missionary Meg Hunter-Kilmer, a week before her birthday, not only spoke from the heart, she touched hearts with her vibrant stories of saints.

In case you missed the revival, or if you want to hear these talks and Masses again, there are links to videos of the Masses in Spanish and in English, as well as audio recordings of some of the speakers. The link is on Page 9. Thank you Diana Banasan of the Cathedral of Christ the Light for making those available.

A big thank you, too, to all the volunteers from parishes throughout the diocese who were not only hard-working but welcoming.

On other pages, The Gift of Giving, a *Catholic Voice* tradition, is on Pages 18-19. Thank you to the busy nonprofit organizations that shared the wish lists of the people they serve.

Gratefully,

Michele Jurich, Editor, *The Catholic Voice* ●

The Catholic Voice

The magazine of the Catholic Diocese of Oakland
Copyright 2023
NOVEMBER 2023
VOLUME 61, ISSUE 11

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ
PUBLISHER

Helen Osman
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

Michele Jurich
EDITOR

Dominique Ghekiere-Miontz
COVER PHOTO

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.

Chancery phone: 510.893.4711

The Catholic Voice phone: 510.419.1075



Elizabeth Martin Solsburg
PRESIDENT/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Stacy Love
GRAPHIC DESIGN



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. © 2023 *The Catholic Voice*, Diocese of Oakland.

LIVING

THE TRUE PRESENCE



BY BISHOP MICHAEL C. BARBER, SJ

Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ has been bishop of the Diocese of Oakland since May 25, 2013.

**PHOTOS BY
CHUCK DECKERT**

Last month, my brother Father Stephen Barber and I went to Sacramento to attend the funeral Mass of a priest who was a young priest when we were boys. When we first became altar boys at our parish in Sacramento in the 1960s, we served Mass for him.

He had always encouraged us and was an outstanding priest. He died at a ripe old age.

After having us as altar boys, the bishop appointed him chaplain of the Juvenile Hall in Sacramento, a post he held for 27 years.

At his funeral, they told this story:

It was Christmas morning and he was saying Mass for the young inmates in Juvenile Hall. Because it was Christmas, so many more of the

boys came to Mass. As he was distributing Holy Communion, he saw he was going to run out of hosts. The young inmate who was his server said, "Father, I know in the cupboard there's the box of hosts. I can go get some more and put them in there."

Father McSweeney said, "Joey, we can't use those hosts. They're not yet consecrated."

And Joey said, "Oh, Father, them dudes will never know the difference."

After Mass, the young boy said, "I was only trying to help, Father."

Knowing the difference

We know the difference. We know that the bread and wine are changed into the very Body and Blood of Christ in the Eucharistic Prayer, when the priest says the words of conse-

cration. That's why we're having a Eucharistic Revival in the United States and why we're having it in our diocese. We've been finding that people have been losing faith in the reality of the Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist; that they think it might just be a symbol or that maybe nothing happens in the Mass. We have to say no. Perhaps next to the forgiveness of sins in confession, this is one of the greatest gifts Jesus gave us, which He left us at the Last Supper and left the priesthood to have men who would be able to confect this Sacrament for us for all eternity.

But it's not just belief in what happens at the altar; it's also the belief that we need to receive Him and, in order to receive Him, we need to come to Mass, we need to

participate with the community in this celebration.

It took our Lord a long time to convince the Jews and also His disciples of this. We heard in the Scripture that when the Jews were in the desert 40 years, and they were hungry and they were thirsty, Our Lord commanded Moses to strike the rock. Water came out of the rock and they were fed miraculously with water. He also had Manna appear, which fed them with the bread in the desert. Those are prefigurements of the Body and Blood of Christ that would later be miraculously made. Jesus Himself turned water into wine. He fed the 5,000 with loaves and fishes, another prefigurement of the gift of the Eucharist, in

don't come back. They don't realize the great gift that is here: Christ, the son of God Himself who is ready, willing, loving wants to come to them and help them and us with all our worries and problems.

The desire for Christ

Among all the organizations that are present today is Night on the Streets Catholic Worker Berkeley. That organization has been feeding breakfast to the homeless in two parks in Berkeley every Sunday morning for over 25 years, never missing a Sunday.

I was helping them one Sunday and when the line of the homeless, most of whom were men, forms down the block and

but how much wiser he is than so many of our own people who go to our schools and our families who may have fallen away from our faith.

He had that desire for Jesus Christ in Holy Communion. We went and got the Blessed Sacrament. We gave him Holy Communion there.

I said, "There's a parish here, Holy Spirit Newman Hall right in Berkeley. You can go to Mass every Sunday."

He looked at his shopping cart. "I can't take my eyes off my cart. That's everything that I have."

I know there are also students here from Cal Berkeley today.

"We can arrange valet parking for that cart," I told him. "If you want to come to our Mass, we'll take care of it. That is no impediment."

He was wise. He not only had physical hunger for the breakfast; he hungered for our Lord, and that's the real hunger of the world.

Oh, my Lord, thank you for the gift of the Blessed Sacrament. Thank you all for teaching the young about the mystery of the Eucharist; that our Lord is here and he's ready and willing to help us.

In times of turmoil

In addition to receiving Communion at today's Mass, we're going to have the procession. As we know from history, in times of turmoil or challenge in the Church, when there were plagues, when there were famines, when there were invasions, the priests would carry the Blessed Sacrament through streets of towns and villages, invoking the aid of the Lord on their city and their community. That is my intention when we process our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

Two weeks ago, I attended a

summit meeting of representatives of all the law enforcement agencies of Alameda County and the city of Oakland with elected representatives from the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and the Oakland City Council and mayor's office. The NAACP was there. Two pastors were there: Bishop Bob Jackson of Acts Full Gospel Church and I represented the Catholic Church.

We expressed that public safety is the number one need now. People are afraid: home invasions, carjacking, having your car smashed.

A priest came here to say the Vietnamese Mass on a Sunday morning. He went out to his car. People had opened his car and were raiding it. He had a tussle with them.

We're all afraid in Oakland and in our city. That's why, besides voting intelligently, which we can do to elect people who will protect us, we also ask our Lord's intercession.

A lot of people have written to me: You need to do an exorcism on the city.

I think we need to bless the city and dedicate this city and county to Christ, and that's what we're going to do. We have an altar set up outside. I'm going to bless the city of Oakland. I'm going to say a prayer of consecration asking our Lord and our Blessed Lady to look over and protect us in this city.

We also need to vote intelligently and do everything we can to protect ourselves.

My friends, we thank the Lord for this gift. Never take it for granted. From first Communion to our last Communion on our deathbed, Jesus wants to be with us. He's with us every day and every Sunday. Come, let us adore Him. ●

This is excerpted from Bishop Barber's homily at the Diocesan Eucharistic Revival on Sept. 16, 2023.



which He would feed us for all eternity.

Yet so many of our people maybe fall away from attending Mass; our young people, a lot of them, get confirmed and



We're all afraid in Oakland and in our city. That's why, besides voting intelligently, which we can do to elect people who will protect us, we also ask our Lord's intercession."

around the corner. They come up and you say, "What can I serve? Do you want the oatmeal, the grits or the Cheerios?" At the next station, "Do you want the bread with the cream cheese or do you want peanut butter?" Then, "Which kind of fruit do you want?" Then, "Coffee or hot chocolate?"

I was at my station and I asked a man, "What can I serve you? What would you like?"

He looked at me and saw I was a priest.

He said, "Father, what I really want is to receive Holy Communion."

That man may be homeless,

ALL SOULS' DAY SOLEMN MASS

NOV. 2, 2023 ✠ 7 PM
Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ, Celebrant



GABRIEL FAURÉ

REQUIEM

The Cathedral Camerata
Cathedral String Ensemble
Rudy de Vos, Conductor
John Renke, Organist



THE CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE LIGHT

2121 HARRISON STREET OAKLAND CTLCATHEDRAL.ORG



CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

WORKING ON THE MARGINS



www.usccb.org/cchd

Copyright © 2022, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops,
Washington, DC. All rights reserved. Photo: © Getty Images.



ENRICH YOUR SPIRIT
CREATE YOUR PATH
DISCOVER YOUR IMPACT

We welcome you to find your place
at O'Dowd. You belong here.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE
JANUARY 5 »**

bishopodowd.org

admissions@bishopodowd.org
510.553.8631



Bishop O'Dowd
High School

SOLEMN ACT OF CONSECRATION

**OF THE DIOCESE OF OAKLAND TO THE
IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY**



PHOTOS BY
CHUCK DECKERT
AND DOMINIQUE
GHEKIERE-MINTZ



See the videos
and listen to audio
from the Diocesan
Eucharistic Revival
Congress.



Dear Mother of God and Mother of the Church,

In order to please the Sacred Heart of your Divine Son, to fulfill the requests you have given us in Fatima, to do reparation for all the offenses to your Loving Heart, to preserve the Dogma of the Catholic Faith, to obtain the salvation of all souls, to call from Heaven an ocean of graces and spiritual and material blessings upon all the people living in the territory of the Diocese of Oakland, and to put all natural laws under your Holy Mantle to be always spared and protected from natural catastrophes and spiritual evil:

I, Bishop Michael C Barber, SJ, by the Grace of God Successor of the Apostles, High Priest and Shepherd of this portion of the Catholic Church called the Diocese of Oakland in California, solemnly bind and consecrate the land and all the people living in the Diocese of Oakland to Your Immaculate Heart; cover us with Your Loving Mantle of Mercy and Compassion.

Ever Virgin, Immaculate Mother, Queen of Heaven and Earth, Mother of Divine Grace and Mother of the Church, we ask you to cover us with the Infinite Merits of your Divine Son in order to safely arrive to the Eternal Day and see God face to face.

With this Solemn Act of Consecration to Your Immaculate Heart, I also encourage all the Presbytery, Deacons, Consecrated Religious and Lay people of my Diocese to promote "the Five First Saturdays Devotion" in reparation for the five greatest offenses addressed to Your Immaculate Heart and the daily prayer of the Holy Rosary as You have requested at Fatima to obtain peace in the hearts, in the families, in the nations, in the whole world and to become humble instruments of the Great Triumph of Your Immaculate Heart in the world, as you have prophesized in Fatima.

I ask this + in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

+Michael Barber S.J.

Bishop Michael C Barber, SJ
+Bishop of Oakland
Christ the Light, Oakland, California



Father Daniel Williamson of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal crafted a cherrywood baldacchino that was placed over the Blessed Sacrament during Adoration at the Cathedral of Christ the Light. Eucharistic Adoration was part of each of the four sessions of the Eucharistic Revival Congress. ▶



■ Youth groups accompanied by their leaders, high school students and their teachers and families from around the Diocese of Oakland attended the evening session of the Diocesan Eucharistic Revival Congress, where they heard from speakers such as Meg Hunter-Kilmer and Father Daniel Williamson. Some of the young people were familiar with Eucharistic Adoration, which followed the speakers, and for some it was a new experience. At the end of the youth session, pizza was served in the Cathedral Event Center.





■ Elementary school students who attended the Diocesan Eucharistic Revival Congress session with their principals and teachers took part in a session on Eucharistic adoration conducted by the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, San Junipero Serra Priory, Oakland. The monstrance was placed on the Burning Bush. As adoration was concluding, Father Daniel Williamson carried the monstrance row by row, offering students and their chaperones an opportunity for up-close adoration, an experience that left students feeling peaceful and close to Jesus, in the words of students from St. Felicitas School. At the end, the students were invited to extinguish the candles.



See the videos and listen to audio from the Diocesan Eucharistic Revival Congress.



■ At the sessions for adults, the faithful heard from speakers Father Daniel Williamson, CFR and Meg Hunter-Kilmer in the morning session in English-speaking session, and from Father Agustino Torres, CFR and Katherine Angulo Valenzuela in the Spanish-speaking session. Many priests of our diocese offered confession at both sessions.



What Death Has Taught Me

STORY BY SANDY HEINISCH
PHOTO BY DOMINIQUE GHEKIERE-MINTZ

On Sept. 20, 2003, my father Frank died. I lost my past. On Feb. 22, 2005, my son Frankie, age 39, died of an embolism to his heart. I lost my future. On March 31, 2022, I lost my husband Frank to cancer. I lost my present.

I have chosen to think of these events as life lessons. What did I learn from death?

The answer is simple. A tremendous amount.



This grief journey has had many bumps in the road. Challenges each day to find meaning for this pain. Struggles just to find purpose in living. Some of the lessons illustrate that God has a sense of humor. Some of the lessons have shown me a loving God. All have shown me that He didn't desert me. I would like to share some of these lessons.

Soon after Frank died, the dishwasher broke. Then the icemaker broke the next day. Then the toilet broke. This was God's sense of humor. I had to figure out what to do.

Option #1, I could sit in the middle of the room and have a pity party.

Option #2, I could have gone to bed and pulled the cover over my head like

Scarlet O'Hara did and think about it tomorrow.

Option #3, learn to fix the toilet, call a repair person for the refrigerator and get a new dishwasher.

I learned that I could make a decision without my husband's wisdom and skill.

I learned that I could live alone. Not liking it much. But I can do it. I found peace

and serenity in the quietness of my home.

I learned gratitude. I found new friends who understood. They taught me to treasure each and every kindness that they gave and continue to give me. They called and listened to my stories. They held me as I sobbed. We shared moments of true friendship. I couldn't have made it without my new friends.



I learned new facts about grief from a friend who experienced the loss of her husband:

- The way OUT of grief is *through it*.
- The very worst kind of grief is *yours*.
- Grief is **HARD WORK**.
- Effective grief work is *not done alone*.

I learned new facts about grief from a friend who experienced the loss of her husband:

- The way out of grief is through it.
- The very worst kind of grief is yours.
- Grief is hard work.
- Effective grief work is not done alone.

I appreciated family. My children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all in their own ways, showed me unconditional love and how to lean on them.

I learned the importance of grief support groups. I learned that they got me. I wasn't alone in this craziness called grief. Even though I have been a grief counselor for 18 years, I never knew how valuable and essential this was to healing after a death. I'm grateful for my two wonderful grief counselors from Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Brentwood.

My grief facilitator from St. Joseph Parish in Alameda made me write a love letter to Frank. At first, I told her that I wasn't going to do it. But after, I realized what a great lesson in healing.

But most of all, I learned that God was walking this journey with me. I frequently went to Mass and kept asking

Him what did He want of me? I asked Father Erick Villa, "What do I do now?" He said, "Ask for strength. Surrender to God."

I waited. And I waited longer. All along, God was holding me upright. Then He said: Return to your ministry. Help others on this journey. And I did.

I also learned that my faith has sustained me throughout. My prayers were answered. I know that my three Franks will be with me someday. We will be together again and never have to utter a goodbye again. ●

Sandy Heinisch serves in grief ministry, called particularly to serve parents who have experienced the death of a child and widows and widowers. Grief ministry is available at many parishes in the Diocese of Oakland and through Catholic Funeral & Cemetery Services.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit www.oakdiocese.org/grief-ministry

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 98040	3. Filing Date 09/20/2024
4. Issue Frequency MONTHLY	5. Number of Issues Published Annually 12	6. Annual Subscription Price \$25.00
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®) 2121 HARRISON ST STE 100 OAKLAND CA 94612-3788		Contact Person JANET ANG Telephone (include area code) (510) 267-5536
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) MOST REV. MICHAEL C. BARBER, SJ 2121 HARRISON ST STE 100 OAKLAND CA 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) MOST REV. MICHAEL C. BARBER, SJ 2121 HARRISON ST STE 100 OAKLAND CA 94612-3788		
Editor (Name and complete mailing address) MICHELE JURICH 2121 HARRISON ST STE 100 OAKLAND CA 94612-3788		
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) MICHELE JURICH 2121 HARRISON ST STE 100 OAKLAND CA 94612-3788		
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	
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		
Full Name	Complete Mailing Address	
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes: <input type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)		
PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 1 of 4) (see instructions page 4) PSN: 7530-01-000-9031 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com		
13. Publication Title THE CATHOLIC VOICE	14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below 09/29/2023	
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation		
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months
71,224		72,479
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)		
(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	71162	72479
(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	0	0
(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS	0	0
(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	0	0
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		71162 72479
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)		
(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)	0	0
(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	0	0
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))		0 0
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		71162 72479
g. Copies not Distributed (See instructions to Publishers at page #3)		200 200
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		71362 72679
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		100 100
* If you are claiming electronic copies, go to line 16 on page 3. If you are not claiming electronic copies, skip to line 17 on page 3.		
16. Electronic Copy Circulation		
a. Paid Electronic Copies		0 0
b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)		71162 0
c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)		71162 72479
d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16a divided by 16c x 100)		100 100
<input type="checkbox"/> I certify that 90% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.		
17. Publication of Statement of Ownership		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the 11/1/20 issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.		
18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner Michele Jurich, Editor, The Catholic Voice		Date 09/20/2023
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).		

UPDATE: Bishop's Ministries Appeal 2023...

THROUGH EXTRAORDINARY
PARISHIONER GENEROSITY,
**THE 2023 BISHOP'S
MINISTRIES APPEAL HAS
RAISED 73 PERCENT OF THE
ANNUAL \$3 MILLION GOAL!**

- ▶ With your help, we can not only reach our goal, we can surpass it!
- ▶ Please use the attached envelope to send your gift today or scan the QR code on page 13 to donate online.
- ▶ No gift is too small. Every gift is appreciated.

***Appeal ends Dec. 31 –
please donate online or
send your gift today!***

Gifts to the Bishop's Ministries Appeal, as well as other gifts designated for specific purposes, are held by the Roman Catholic Bishop of Oakland (RCBO) and can only be used for the donor's intended purpose. The bankruptcy laws protect such donations from being used to pay any legal settlements related to RCBO filing for bankruptcy.

**GOAL:
\$3 MILLION**

**73%
RAISED
TO DATE**





I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS

BISHOP'S MINISTRIES APPEAL 2023

Your gift supports:

RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION & FAITH
FORMATION

CLERGY
FORMATION &
SUPPORT

PASTORAL
MINISTRIES

SCHOOLS
& PARISHES
IN NEED

PRIEST
RETIREMENT
& CARE

Scan to donate!





Taking the Next Step



OAKLAND LEARNING CENTER ASSISTS LATE-BLOOMING SCHOLARS EARN DIPLOMAS

BY CARRIE MCCLISH | PHOTOS BY DOMINIQUE GHEKIERE-MINTZ

Wearing a black graduation gown over his street clothes, Benjamin Short admitted that the moment had caught up with him. “I’m happy and nervous at the same time,” he said. The 21-year-old was not only going to pick up his high school diploma at the June 15 graduation ceremony, he was one of the scheduled speakers.

As a newly minted graduate of the Next Step Learning Center, Benjamin’s message consisted of a brief but hard-earned observation – “that it is good to get your priorities straight instead of the things you thought were cool before.”

Benjamin, who grew up in Merced, was in the 10th grade when he started skipping school and hanging out with friends.

Gradually, with the support of his family, Benjamin said that he decided to get his priorities straight. He had two special reasons to be motivated: “My little brothers were looking up to me, and I wanted to be a good role

model for them.” Finishing high school soon became one of his priorities.

To earn his high school diploma, Benjamin needed to complete a “certain amount of credits.” He found information and guidance at Next Step Learning Center, an Oakland-based educational program that helps low-income youth and adults of all ages to finally reach delayed learning plans that include helping students achieve basic literacy, earn high school diplomas or GEDs, or succeed in college.

Short expressed his appreciation for the support he received from staff members like “Miss Peggy” (Program Director Peggy

Presley) for being nice and helpful. “They just welcomed me in, arms open ... They didn’t cut me no slack, told me what I needed to get done.”

Next Step Learning Center was founded about 30 years ago by three Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary: Cynthia Canning, Rosemary Delaney and Margaret Kennedy. Although the sisters are “technically retired,” they remain a huge help to Lisa Stringer, Next Step’s executive director. She said that the sisters continue to bring their enthusiasm and energy to the program “in terms of talking to the community” and in “keeping the momentum” going. Three Sisters also serve on the center’s Board of Directors.

“That’s what drew me to Next Step is that the sisters really love these students and they love this work,” Lisa said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16 ►



For Akunna Umezuruike, attending the Next Step graduation ceremony marked an important step on her personal journey to one day earning a master's degree. But the event was also a lesson to pass on to her two oldest daughters – that education matters.

Akunna, a mother of four, brought 11-year-old Chiamaka and 9-year-old Sochi to the commencement service so that they could see for themselves “how people graduate” and to realize that they, too, can make graduation their goal.

Originally from Nigeria, Akunna said that education is important in her family. “As a female, you have to be educated,” she said. But after arriving in the United States, she discovered that she

needed to take several classes in order to obtain her high school diploma. Her aunt, Patricia Uzegbu, who told her about Next Step, “pushed me” to move forward, she said

Currently a certified nursing assistant, Akunna said that she is praying that her next step will be college. “I can’t wait to get my master’s degree.” ●



CARRIE MCCLISH is a writer, photographer, artist and SNJM Associate. She is a parishioner at Sacred Heart Parish in Oakland.



NEXT STEP LEARNING CENTER

MISSION:

NEXT STEP LEARNING CENTER BELIEVES IN THE RESILIENCE OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT AND IN EACH PERSON'S ABILITY TO LEARN AND GROW.

At Next Step Learning Center, low-income youth and adults re-engage in education. With the support of caring staff, dedicated tutors and stimulating curriculum, students:

- Build basic literacy
- Earn a high school diploma or GED
- Gain job skills
- Succeed in college
- Embark on sustaining careers

NEXT STEP JULY 2022-JUNE 2023 HIGHLIGHTS:

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS:

- 96% are living below one-half of the poverty line
- 48% are balancing parenting with school
- 39% are juggling work and studying
- 37% are living with disabling conditions
- 24% are homeless or in temporary housing

- 59% are Black / African American
- 19% are Latina
- 6% are Asian/Pacific Islander
- 5% are Native American
- 5% are White
- 5% are Mixed Race

• 48% Men | 46% Women | 6% Trans/Non-Binary

- 75% increased income within 6 months of graduating
- 90% are working (60% working only, 30% working and in college)



406

students participated in Next Step programs

11,000

hours of instruction provided

378

students enrolled and received instruction

227

skill gains: advanced a grade level or passed a GED sub-test

91

graduates earned a high school diploma or GED



FATHER ROBERT MENDONÇA

FATHER ROBERT MENDONÇA, RETIRED PRIEST OF THE DIOCESE OF OAKLAND, PASSED AWAY PEACEFULLY EARLY SUNDAY MORNING, OCT. 1, 2023. HIS LOVE OF THE PRIESTHOOD AND HIS CONGREGATIONS RAN DEEP AS EVIDENCED BY THE MUTUAL LOVE HE SHARED WITH SO MANY.

Father Bob served within many parish communities, including Holy Spirit, Fremont; St. Charles, Livermore; St. Michael, Livermore; and St. Raymond, Dublin.

Father Bob was preceded in death by his wife Lori. Father Bob and Lori shared 24 happy years together tempered by his wife's long-term illness, lupus erythematosus.

After her untimely death, Father Bob entered St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park and soon began balancing his studies with his many duties as Director of Music Ministries.

In his earlier years, Father Bob worked as a private music teacher, music minister, radio announcer, and more. Before he entered the seminary, he worked as a public school teacher at Alvarado Middle School in Union City.

Colleagues have relayed that they "remembered how much he loved music and technology and was such a giving and kind man." Those qualities of a giving, kind and servant's heart remained with him until the very end.

In the early 1970s, Father Bob became a member of the Charismatic Renewal. In 2018, Bishop Michael C. Barber, SJ appointed Father Bob as director of English-Speaking Catholic Charismatics for the Diocese of Oakland. Father Bob also enjoyed working with his brothers and sisters as a ranking member of the Northern California Renewal Coalition. He also served as a chaplain for the Knights of Columbus.

The Sunday evening Vigil at St. Raymond Church in Dublin was followed by the Funeral Mass on Oct. 9.

Father Bob loved his ministries and true to every homily he would always conclude with what he would say to us if he were here right now:

"May God richly bless you this day." ●

WHERE ARE THE GRADUATES TODAY?

• Working only.....	56%
• Working & College	26%
• Working and Job Training	2%
• College Only.....	8%
• Job Training only	2%
• Job searching.....	2%
• Parenting full time	1%
• Deceased.....	1%

Source: Next Step Learning Center

CONTACT:

Next Step Learning Center
2222 Curtis St., Oakland CA 94607
www.nextsteplc.org

To Enroll

To get started in our education programs, use the contact form at www.nextsteplc.org/contact or call 510.251.1731 to schedule an appointment.

To Volunteer

Contact using the form at www.nextsteplc.org/contact. Include the subjects you are interested in tutoring, your preference for days and times, and if you have a preference for online or in-person tutoring. Tutors can be paired with a literacy, GED, high school or college student.

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

1506 Mendocino Ave.
Concord 94521
925.685.6633
bayareacrisisnursery.org

The Bay Area Crisis Nursery’s mission is to prevent child abuse and neglect. The only crisis nursery in the Bay Area, it provides emergency child care and shelter for babies and children to give parents time to focus on solving a crisis or stressful situation. The Nursery also operates a Food & Diaper Pantry and a free Boutique filled with clothing, children’s equipment and toys, and much more!

Need: Adopt-A-Family provides gifts for all members of families served, Thanksgiving Food Drive Nov. 6-17; Holiday Food Drive Dec. 4-15. See website for details.

DETENTION MINISTRY OF THE DIOCESE OF OAKLAND

3999 Bernal Ave.
Pleasanton 94566
510.893.4711
catholicsofpleasanton.org

The Detention Ministry of the Diocese of Oakland will help bring Christmas this year to families of current and formerly incarcerated men and women. These families need our Christmas joy: Christ’s light and love in the midst of dark times, as they strive to begin life anew.

Need: We are accepting cash donations. Families benefiting from the program will receive gift cards purchased from the cash donations that we receive. Our program empowers the parents by giving them the opportunity to purchase toys and gifts for their own families. Thank you for your generosity! We are so blessed and grateful.

Mail: Checks made payable to The Catholic Community of Pleasanton may be sent to The Catholic Community of Pleasanton, 3999 Bernal Ave., Pleasanton CA 94566 before Dec. 4. Please put Detention Ministry in the memo line of the check. You may also donate to this program online at catholicsofpleasanton.org.

Contact: Matt Gray, mgray@catholicsofpleasanton.org

BIRTHRIGHT OF CONCORD

3106 Clayton Rd.
Concord 94519
925.798.7227
birthright.org/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.

BIRTHRIGHT OF SAN LORENZO

1048 Grant Ave.
San Lorenzo 94580
510.481.9677
birthright.org/sanlorenzo

A nonprofit crisis pregnancy center, having served women in crisis since 1996. Hundreds of mothers and babies have been given warm, personal service to

help find workable solutions so she can give birth to her baby and face the future with dignity and hope. We can help you!

Need: More volunteers to keep the office open; a volunteer fluent in internet use to spread the word on services available to pregnant women; clothes for newborn girls; and baby lotion and baby powder.

THE GABRIEL PROJECT OF THE DIOCESE OF OAKLAND

2121 Harrison St., Suite 100
Oakland 94612
925.686.9277
<https://cagabrielproject.wordpress.com>

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.”

Contact: David Zarri, coordinator, davidlzarri@earthlink.net

MERCY BROWN BAG PROGRAM

3431 Foothill Blvd.
Oakland 94601
510.534.8540, ext. 369
mercybrownbag.org

The Mercy Brown Bag Program has served Oakland seniors for 40 years. Since its opening in 2022, the program’s Common Spirit Health Grocery Store has become a significant food source for seniors in Oakland’s Fruitvale neighborhood as food insecurity continues. Seniors living nearby come to shop for food twice a month at no charge rather than receiving a bag of preselected items. In its first week, the store served 250 neighbors; recently the store served 2,000 shoppers

monthly. The store has become the program's most important distribution point of fresh groceries to low-income seniors, and now distributes groceries through 45 sites across Oakland.

Need: Cash donations; large-size paper bags; help in grocery stocking shelves/overseeing shoppers; delivery of food to smaller senior living centers in the East Bay.

This Christmas: Volunteers will write notes for grocery bags. It's a big job and more writers are welcome.

Volunteer: Sign-up at mercybrownbag.org.

NEXT STEP LEARNING CENTER

2222 Curtis St., Oakland 94607
510.251.1731
nextsteplc.org

An older youth and adult literacy, high school equivalency preparation, high school diploma completion and college transition program operated by the Sisters of the Holy Names.

Need: Volunteer tutors, especially for Monday evenings; cash donations for literacy books; financial assistance for students unable to afford a bus pass or to pay high school equivalency examination fees.

Contact: Lisa Stringer, executive director or Peggy Presley, program director, 510.251.1731

NIGHT ON THE STREETS - CATHOLIC WORKER

P.O. Box 11312
Berkeley 94712-2312
510.684.1892
catholicworker.org/directory/ca-berkeley-night-on-the-streets-html/

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: The greatest gift one can give is the gift of presence. Volunteers are needed to bring food and servers are needed for our Sunday breakfast served al fresco at two locations in Berkeley. Prayers are needed for health, guidance and the support of our continuing works of mercy; financial support for our 27th year of consistent and continuing hospitality for our unsheltered and poor brothers and sisters. Sleeping bags are always needed.

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

OAKLAND ELIZABETH HOUSE

6423 Colby St.
Oakland 94618
510.658.1380
oakehouse.org

Oakland Elizabeth House is a 12- to 18-month transitional housing program for women and children who experienced 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

ST. MARY'S CENTER

925 Brockhurst St.
Oakland 94608
510.923.9600
stmaryscenter.org

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 1:00.

Need: Shelf-stable foods, healthy energy bars; high-protein canned meat goods; new socks; and new travel-sized toiletries, soaps, body wash, creams, lotions and shaving supplies

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

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL OF ALAMEDA COUNTY

2272 San Pablo Ave.
Oakland 94612
510.435.2625
svdp-alameda.org

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.

Please see our registries at amazon.com and target.com. Gifts may be ordered and delivered to the St. Vincent de Paul address. Drop-offs are welcome.

Contact: Blase Bova, executive director, 510-435-2625

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

2210 Gladstone Drive
Pittsburg 94565
510-638-7600
svdp-cc.org

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. Rental, utility and emergency assistance is also available. Assistance for Individuals and Families in need is offered from our centralized Pittsburg Family Resource Center and our 28 parish-based Conferences (branches), throughout the county. Collectively, SVDP's programs provide holiday help to more than 14,000 county residents.

Need: Volunteers, food cards, warm coats and monetary donations

Contact: To donate a gift card, monetary donation or to volunteer, 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 94565.

Donate online: svdp-cc.org

All donations will support these holiday programs: Free Thanksgiving Dinner, served on Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 23) at St. Vincent de Paul's Free Dining Room; Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday Food Baskets and Gift Programs at 28 parish-based Conferences; Thanksgiving and Christmas Food Gift Card Program at the Pittsburg Family Resource Center; Holiday One Warm Coat; and Rental & Utility Assistance During Winter. ●

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

What Does it Mean to be Black and Catholic?

BY DR. CHIQUITA T. TUTTLE

I have often asked the question of my fellow Black Catholics: How many of our Black Catholics understand what we mean when we say Black Theology? Can we relate that meaning to Catholic social teaching? What about our young students and adults, do they understand Black Theology? How can we make the topic of Black Theology relatable and understandable?

There are several agencies within the Church that address this subject and have worked hard to keep it top of mind. “Top of mind” is awareness. It’s a measure of how aware a consumer is of a brand, for example. It is part of consumer behavior and is a key aspect of market research and marketing communications.

Organizations like the National Black Catholic Congress (NBCC), The National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus (NBCCC), The Institute of Black Catholic Studies at Xavier University (IBCS), The Journal of the Black Catholic Theological Symposium, which published *Theology: A Portrait in Black*, in 2006 and *Black Catholic Messenger*, have provided definitions and explanations of this topic.

Recently, I busied myself reading numerous articles by incredible writers like Rev. Cyprian Davis, OSB, author of *The History of Black Catholics in the United States* (a must for your library), Rev. Thaddeus J. Posey, OFM Cap., author of *Theology: A Portrait in*

Black. I’ve also read articles written by Sister Eva Lumas, Dr. Kathleen Dorsey Bellow of the Institute of Black Studies at Xavier University, and Rachel Swarns, author of *The 272* (another must for your library) to increase my knowledge of what is Black Theology.

My focus and purpose for doing this research is to develop a plan where the African American Pastoral Center can make an impact through education and communication. I believe the subject of Black Theology is critical to our understanding of where we have come from, who we are, our contributions and gifts to the Church, and where we need to be in the future within the Universal Catholic Church.

What I have discerned is that awareness of Black Theology and spirituality needs to be raised for many Black Catholics. So, the question becomes, how do we do this? One way is to convene a presentation and invite subject area specialists to speak on the subject for us — specialists like Dr. Toinette Eugene, Sister

Eva Lumas, Father Leo Edgerly and Father Ken Hamilton, to name a few. By doing so, it also addresses the contributions that Black Catholics have made, and can make, to the Universal Catholic Church and specifically to the Diocese of Oakland.

We cannot forget the famous presentation made by Servant of God, Sister Thea Bowman when she addressed the Congress of Bishops in 1989. Her words have been repeated many times but are clearly worthy of repeating here for your discernment:

“What does it mean to be Black and Catholic? It means that I come to my church fully functioning. That doesn’t frighten you, does it? I come to my church fully functioning. I bring myself; my black self, all that I am, all that I have, all that I hope to become. I bring my whole history, my traditions, my experience, my culture, my African American song and dance and gesture and movement and teaching

and preaching and healing and responsibility – as gifts to the Church. I bring a spirituality that our Black American bishops told us that spirituality is contemplative and biblical and holistic, bringing to religion a totality of mind and imagination of memory, of feeling and passion, and emotion and intensity. A faith that is embodied incarnate praise – a spirituality that knows how to find joy even in the time of sorrow – that steps out on faith that leans on the Lord. A spirituality that is commoner – that tries to walk and talk and work and pray and play together.”

I will extend an invitation to the Black Catholic community in the Diocese of Oakland to attend a listening session where we can share



Sister Thea Bowman, on stage and smiling at Walsh University.

“

What does it mean to be Black and Catholic? It means that I come to my church fully functioning.”

- SISTER THEA BOWMAN



the vision of the AAPC, hear what you seek, and need to grow your spirituality and knowledge about our contributions to the Catholic Church. We will also speak to leadership roles and ministries within our parishes about how we might collaborate and partner.

Bishop John Huston Ricard, SSJ said at the most recent National Black Catholic Congress that we must not let the fire die out relative to our presence, contribution and gifts to the Church. I look forward to us working together to growing our community again and bringing our young adults to our ministries. Let's work to keep that fire eternally lit!



DR. CHIQUITA T. TUTTLE

Dr. Chiquita T. Tuttle is the coordinator of the African American Pastoral Center of the Diocese of Oakland.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

On the listening sessions, visit www.oakdiocese.org/aapc

**NP's
RN's
LVN's
CMA's**
VOLUNTEER HERE
orderofmaltaclinic.com

THE CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE LIGHT
2121 HARRISON STREET OAKLAND CA



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

510.267.8344

OFFICIAL CALENDAR – For a complete schedule, please go to www.oakdiocese.org/bishop

November 1

9 a.m. All Saints Day Mass and School Visit – St. Perpetua Elementary, Lafayette

12:10 p.m. All Saints Day Mass and Visit with Catholic Daughters of America, Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland

November 2

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

November 4

11 a.m. Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, Group 1, St. Jarlath Parish, Oakland

7:30 p.m. Bay Wide Young Adult Mass, Old Mission San José, Fremont

November 5

11 a.m. Mass and Parish Visit, St. Benedict Parish, Oakland

November 8

Catholic Telemedia Network Board Meeting, St. Patrick Seminary and University, Menlo Park

November 11-17

USCCB Meetings in Baltimore Maryland, including:

- Doctrine Committee
- General Assembly

November 18

11 a.m. Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, Group 2, St. Jarlath Parish, Oakland

5 p.m. Vocations Fair Closing Mass, St. Michael Parish, Livermore

November 19

9:30 a.m. St. Clement Feast Day Mass (Spanish) St. Clement Parish, Hayward

11:30 a.m. St. Clement Feast Day Mass (English) St. Clement Parish, Hayward

November 23

8 a.m. Thanksgiving Day Mass, Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland

November 28

10:30 a.m. College of Consultors Meeting

November 30

1 p.m. Presbyteral Council Meeting, Chancery offices, Oakland

PRIEST ASSIGNMENTS

The Most Rev. Michael C. Barber, SJ, Bishop of Oakland has made the following clergy assignments and appointments:

Father Javier Ramirez is appointed Parochial Administrator of St. Louis Bertrand Parish, Oakland, effective Aug. 1, 2023.

Father Rafal Duda is appointed parochial vicar of St. Edward Parish, Newark, effective Aug. 1, 2023.

Father Alfonso Borgen is appointed parochial vicar of St. Cornelius Parish, Richmond, effective Aug. 1, 2023.

Father Fabio Correa is appointed parochial vicar of St. Cornelius Parish, Richmond, effective Sept. 1, 2023.

Father Kwame Assenyoh, appointed Chaplain to Saint Mary's College, Moraga, effective Dec. 1, 2023.

Father Augustine Joseph appointed Pastor of St. Charles Borromeo, Livermore, effective Dec. 1, 2023.

Father John Prochaska, appointed Parish Administrator of St. Augustine, Oakland, part of Berkeley parish cluster, effective Dec. 1, 2023.

The bishop has confirmed the following assignment made by a Religious Order Superior:

Father Lijoy Chiriyankandath Jose, OFM Cap, pastor of St. Jarlath Church, Oakland, effective Sept. 3, 2023.

2023 College of Consultors

- Very Rev. Lawrence D'Anjou
- Father Leo Edgerly Jr.
- Father Ismael Gutierrez
- Father Thi Van Hoang
- Father Anthony Huong Van Le
- Father George Mockel
- Father John Prochaska
- Father Erick Villa

2023 PRESBYTERAL COUNCIL

Pastor/Priest Administrator from:

- Region I – Father John Prochaska
- Region II – Father George Mockel
- Region III – Father Thi Van Hoang
- Region IV – Father John Erick Villa
- Region V – Father Rolando Bartolay

Parochial Vicar Representing:

- Alameda County – Father Alberto Perez
- Costa County – Father Francisco Figueroa-Esquer

Representative for Communities of Men:

- Father Kevin Schindler-McGraw, OFM Conv.

Retired Incardinated Priest: Father Paul Vassar

Priest for Special Works: Father Jimmy Macalinao

Bishop's Appointees:

- Father Leo Edgerly, Jr.
- Father Matthew Murray
- Father Ismael Gutierrez
- Father Anthony Huong Van Le
- Father Geoffrey Baraan
- Ex-Officio – Very Rev. Lawrence D'Anjou

REMEMBER THE FAITHFUL



**PLEASE JOIN US FOR
OUR VIRTUAL MASS**

WHEN:

November 2, 2023

WHERE:

<https://1977-Catholic-Funeral-and-Cemetery-Services.livecontrol.tv/4a696ca4>

CATHOLIC FUNERAL & CEMETERY SERVICES

*Your complete resource for Funeral,
Cremation, and Cemetery services.*

Our staff of experienced Family Service Advisors are a rich resource guiding you towards minimizing stress, reducing family burden and securing today's favorable prices. They will thoughtfully assist you in planning in advance so that your wishes are met.

**Call (855) 863-1431 or visit
us online at cfcsoakland.org**

Serving all faiths throughout the Bay Area



Living Our Mission

CATHOLIC FUNERAL & CEMETERY SERVICES
A MINISTRY OF THE DIOCESE OF OAKLAND

***Remembering those who we have laid to rest in our
Catholic Cemeteries during the month of August 2023.***

† HOLY SEPULCHRE

Carolyn Abrew
Edwin Agbaya
Adriano Alegre
Audra Andrade
Benjamin Avelino
Loretta Bagley
Enrique Barretta
Deacon Leonard Bettencourt
Barbara Bouterious
Therese Gisele Brantome
Mary Caslin
Rochus Chui
Margaret Cormier
Anibal Dacosta
Gil DeLuna
Martin Diaz
Joseph Dileo
Anna Dubordieu
Dreams Duvernay
Mary Epperson
Miguel Fernandez
Clementina Figueiredo
Marie Flavel
Barbara Follick
Theodore Foster
Steven Fryman
Francisco Gallo
Charles Gerow
Melinda Gonzalez-Lopez
Viola Gonzalez
Jayden Grant
Marianne Griffin
Corazon Gutierrez
Christopher Lopez
Allan Lowe
Stanley Lucas
Altagracia Marquez
Luis Marquez
Clarence Medeiros
Bertha Medina
Ernest Mendieta
Jose Mendoza
Alan Morales Herrera
Joseph Moriarty
Leona Palumbo
Sarah Parkhurst
Andrew Pena
Donna Perez
Elaine Piche
Robert Pohlit
Daniel Puamau
Fernando Ramirez Hernandez
Patricia Ramirez
Guadalupe Rios
Eva Rodrigues
Jesus Rodriguez
Jose Luis Rodriguez
Mary Ann Schindler
John Silfer
Winifred Silva
Romeo Simard
Rose Sousa
Larry Tabor
Brenda Tran
Hong Tri Tran
Lupe Verduzco
James Warquez
You Zhuang Wei
Jazzma Wilson
Antoine Wiltz
Roberto Salinas Velasco

Christina Simon
Eleanor Sison
Frances Souza
Ann Thompson
Mary Tran
Alexander Villalobos
Barbara Wirth

† QUEEN OF HEAVEN

Sandra Anderson
Enrico Banson
Richard Barbitta
Kristin Castagno
Donna Coker
Sergia Conley
Madeline Cortese
Geoffrey Disch
Robert Eckert
Ricardo Enriquez
Leonardo Espinoza Garcia
Rochelle Flotten
Judy Ford
Carmina Grundon
Lydia Haley
Hal Hammer
Martha Joanes
Michael Kalfos
James Koeppen
Thomas Lembo
Irene Manhao
Connie Miles
Marilyn Myers
Ingeborg Noble
Marlene O'Connell
Horatio Ozorio
Patricia Rubino
Sima Sadeh
Marie Stanton
Helen Starosciak
Evelyn Teevan
William Tenney
Mary Tran

† HOLY CROSS

Elisa Aguilar Arteaga
Barbara Ann Aiello
Catherine Rita Aiello
Daniel Whalton Amythist
Haruko Aoi
Hector Manuel Aponte
Phyllis Rutoskey Arevalo
Cecilia E. Arreola De Mejia
Lorraine Gloria Avery
Marlene Dolores Ayling
Diana Marie Baughman
Sophia W. Bomberger
James Peter Carey
Leonardo Castro
Manuel Antonio Garcia
Darrell Bruce Gillium
Eric Charles Gorski
Bianca Hernandez
Phe D. Hoang
Abel Miguel Juare
Barry R. Laederich
Jose Salugao Lapuz
William E. Lynds
Jesus Melagoza
Gilberto Popcaal
Shirley and Rambac
Lynn Thomas Rice

Claude Oswald Robinson
Lina San Martin
Brandon Alexis Valencia
Elena Valenti
Delora Webb
Jo Webber
Danny R. White

† ST. JOSEPH

Mary Lou Aldama
Charlotte Alvarez
Robert Archuleta
Aida Cabasa
Mary E. Decker
Stella T. Edgerly
Charles B. Elkins
Lois J. Faria
Jose M. Gonzalez
Kathryn Hicks
Leonard James
Bennie M. Johnson
Susan G. McCarthy
Roedean McGowen
Jorge Mendoza
Anna Marie Mejia
Rafael Mendez Sanchez
Jorge Mendoza
George Montes
Flora Noriega
Manuel Noriega
Florence Pezzola
Rujel Ramos
Heracleo Rodriguez
Lydia P. Rule
Derek L. Talbert
Sothy Tan
Anthony Walker
Shirley J. Zichichi

† ST. MICHAEL

David Walter Herz
Dennis Jay Mitchell
Efigenia Laurente Reyes
Ramon Vaca Valdez
Janice Mae Weidhass

† ST. AUGUSTINE

Judy Arredondo
Patricia Louis Lanning
Elton Clement Medeiros
Eduina Silva

† ST. MARY

Isabel Ferosmo
Hiraya A. Gatchalian-Raga
Renée Granados
Isaías Hernandez
Huong Ho
Roberto Madro
Julieta Pantonia
Laura M. Scotlan
Lolita Szeto
Ke Thi Tran
Pia Wilson

† CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE LIGHT

Robert M. Brown
Alexander P. de Guia
Fred Naseef
Elmer V. Ramos

Start planning today:

Funeral | Cremation | Cemetery | Family Estates



Roman Catholic Diocese of Oakland

2121 Harrison St #100

Oakland, CA 94612

All Souls' Day

November 2, 2023

*Cemeteries will be open Sunrise to Sunset
7 a.m. to 6 p.m.*

*7:30 a.m....Sunrise Rosary
11 a.m....Bilingual Mass
4 p.m....Evening Rosary
6 p.m....Cemetery closes*

The events will take place at the following locations:

*Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Lafayette
Holy Cross Cemetery, Antioch
Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Hayward
St. Joseph Cemetery, San Pablo*

cfcs

Living Our Mission

Please respect these sacred areas. No loud music and no drinking.