

Personal and Special Appeal and Request toward Establishment of My Marriage and Family Apostolate and Advocacy Office in Nigeria

Dear People of God:

I, Father Sylvester Odurinde, a priest of the Catholic Diocese of Oyo, Western Nigeria, and also a Marriage and Family Therapist and Professional Clinical Counselor, sincerely express my profound gratitude to the Pastor of St. Benedict Parish, Rev. Jayson Landeza, for given me the opportunity of residency while I was looking for where to stay for one year internship programs, I also thank you all the loving community of this church for your love and gestures toward me. I am indeed grateful. Your impact remain an indelible mark on my life. I will never forget you in my prayers, for all your kindness and gestures and love.

Dear People of God, I am indeed eager to go back home by the end of May 2017 to work as a Marriage Counselor/Counselor among my people who are less than 55,000 Catholic out of a 2 million population; a community that is primarily Muslim and Baptist.

It is my mission to provide all the professional help I can to assist and ensure the unity of families in my country. To be able to do this I am humbly asking you for your financial help. Upon return to my country I have to set up an office for myself and a sanctuary in which to meet those families I will provide counseling for. I need supplies, computers and internet services.

In the course of my internship I have written two books which are based on experiences I have had, both clinical and in advocacy, during my stay in the USA. The books are entitled "Understanding Early Childhood Mental Health" and "Crisis Response in Our School". The book entitled "Crisis Response in Our School" is dedicated to Rev. Jayson Landeza for all his support during my one year Internship Programs. This book is also dedicated to the loving families of St. Benedict Parish for your love, support and gestures toward me.

I am listing below expenses that I will incur upon my return to Nigeria when I begin work as a consultant *I am appealing to you through a second collection on May 21, 2017*, that has been approved by Father Jayson, to help me in my endeavors. For this I will be eternally in your gratitude.

- Permanent Office Outlet \$2,000
- Office Chairs and Desk \$650
- Counseling & Play Therapy tools \$950
- Photocopier Machine \$700
- Printer \$350
- Computers \$800
- Cost of Publication of Books in Nigeria \$2,000
- Book Shelf \$600
- Generators (no regular electricity in Nigeria) \$1,200
- Internet Facilities \$1,500
- Projector \$600
- Mobile Megaphone \$300
- Logistics \$500

Total \$12,150

Happy Mother's Day

St. Benedict's Weekly Events

Sunday, May 14		
Monday, May 15	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Wellness Group Parish Hall
Tuesday, May 16	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Wellness Group Parish Hall
Wednesday, May 17	6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Wellness Group Parish Hall
Thursday, May 18	6:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal Church
	7:00 pm	Safe Environment Training Parish Hall
Friday, May 19	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Line Dancing Class Parish Hall
Saturday, May 20		

PLEASE JOIN US!

PARISH PASTORAL PLANNING

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

MEMBERS

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

ARE YOU NEW TO THE PARISH? To request a *registration form*, please complete and drop in the offertory basket. Have you moved?

Had an information change?
 Let us know by completing and returning.
We respect your privacy! This information is for St. Benedict Parish use only.

Name: _____
 Phone# _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ Zip: _____

Send Me A Registration Form
 Change of Address Moving out of Parish



MISSION STATEMENT

As the people of God who are loved by the Father, being saved by the Son, and strengthened and endowed with the gifts of the Spirit for the service of the Lord, and all here at St. Benedict, we resolve in the spirit of Christian unity and cooperation to use our gifts and talents in building up the Kingdom of God in East Oakland

PARISH STAFF

Mrs. Divina Cabrera
 SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER

Mr. Leonard Pete
 MUSIC DIRECTOR

Mrs. Ofelia Wanzo
 CCD DIRECTOR

Rev. Jayson Landeza
 PASTOR

Mr. Ron Tutson
 DEACON

Rev. Paul Vassar
 CLERGY SUPPLY

Fr. Sylvester Odurinde
 IN RESIDENCE

Mr. Rufus Fisher
 PLANT MANAGER

Dr. Chiquita Tuttle
 PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR

Ms. Ariana Catherine
 YOUTH MINISTER

MASS TIMES

SATURDAY:
 4:30 PM (VIGIL MASS)

SUNDAY:
 8:30 AM
 11:00 AM (GOSPEL MASS)

MON, WED & FRI:
 7:30 AM (8:00AM ON HOLIDAYS)

CONFESSION

SATURDAY:
 3:45 PM TO 4:15 PM
 (OR BY APPOINTMENT)

BAPTISM
 INSTRUCTION OF PARENTS REQUIRED

MARRIAGE
 6 MONTHS ADVANCED NOTICE REQUIRED

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES

HOLY SEPULCHRE CEMETERY:
 510.581.2488

ST. MARY'S CEMETERY:
 510.654.0936

ST. JOSEPH CEMETERY:
 510.223.1265

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:



Theologians sometimes describe the Church as a “pilgrim people” because Christians are like pilgrims on a journey in search of their heavenly home. Because it’s easy for people to get lost when traveling to a place they’ve never been before, they have to look for signs and landmarks that tell them they’re going in the right direction or they need someone who has already been there to point the way so they won’t make a wrong turn. A person’s spiritual journey is no different.

In today’s Gospel story, Jesus says he is the way, the truth, and the life, and that no one can come to the Father unless they come through him. This means Jesus is our guide, pointing the way to our heavenly home and calling our attention to the various spiritual signs and landmarks that tell us that we’re going in the right direction. Without Jesus, we can easily get lost because we may not know where we are going.

One of the lessons in today’s Gospel reading also influenced the formation of the Nicene Creed, a summary of beliefs of the Christian faith. In the days of the early church, there was a heresy called Arianism that claimed Jesus is not God in the same way the Father is God and that Jesus is supposedly inferior to the Father. The Nicene Creed is the Church’s response to that heresy.

In this creed, we find the phrase that says “Jesus is God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God; begotten, not made, one in being with the father.” These words mean Jesus is God in the same way the Father is God. Jesus, our light, comes from the Father who was light and Jesus, the true God, comes from the Father who is true God. In other words, Jesus and the Father are one. That’s exactly what Jesus means when he tells Philip in today’s gospel that whoever has seen him has also seen the Father.

Jesus shows us the way to the Father through his word found in Sacred Scripture. The Bible is like our map to the Father. How often do we consult this map to make sure we’re going in the right direction? Why not develop the habit of putting aside 10 or

15 minutes each day to read and reflect on God’s word?

Next week’s Second Collection will be to assist Fr. Sylvester with his project when he returns home to Nigeria. Please make out your checks to **Fr. Sylvester Odurinde**, NOT to St. Benedict.

I will be in Reno, Nevada, from Monday morning to Wednesday afternoon for a meeting of the Region XI Conference of Presbyteral Senates, the leadership group of priests from California, Nevada and Hawaii. We represent the Catholic priests of the three states. Just work - no gambling!

Congratulations to our very own Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Court #336 Lady Lily Brown-Parker for being named the KPCLA 2017 Lady of the Year for the Western States District of the KPC. The award was presented last weekend as the Western States District met in Sacramento. Much blessings and best wishes to Lady Lil and to the continued work of the Knights and Ladies Auxiliary Council and Court #336 here at St. Benedict for all the work they do in contributing to the life and ministry of our parish. I can’t thank you enough!

Congratulations and blessings upon those who received First Eucharist last weekend. Alfonzo Alvarez, Miya Kees, Ify Nneji, Tianna Outley received First Reconciliation on Friday night, and are surrounded by the prayers of our St. Benedict family. Much thanks to Ofelia Wanzo and Dionne Cola for working with these young people. Please continue to pray for them.

God bless,
Fr. Jayson

Please pray for:

- Trenton Barnes
- The Bowman Family
- JoAnn Hines
- The Pepino Family
- Anita Recania
- Maretta Rhone



(Will stay in the bulletin for one month)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ROSARY OF OUR LADY

Each Sunday during the month of May, the rosary will be recited at 8:10 am (before the 8:30 m Mass). If you’re in need of Rosary, please see Mr. Fisher.

ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC

Sunday, July 9, 2017. Please mark your calendars.

“LIVE” VIRTUS PROTECTING GOD’S CHILDREN SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING

If you haven’t completed your training for Safe Environment, this is your **last chance** to attend the live training on Thursday, May 18th at 7:00pm in the parish hall. We are mandated to do this every three years. All parishioners who are engaged in any parish ministry must complete the training. You can register on line for a live training at: www.virtusonline.org or sign-up at the back of the church. **You must pre-register for the live training.**

Saturday, June 10, 2017 - St. Benedict Community Feeding

Dear St. Benedict Family,

The Cursillo Community of St. Benedict is planning for another community-feeding event on Saturday, June 10, between the hours of 11am and 2pm. The event will be held in the Parish parking area. We are requesting your assistance with this endeavor and hope you will consider donating side dishes and or personal hygiene products for distribution on the day of the event.

The day’s agenda is as follows:

- Set-up from 8am – 10:30am
- Food serving and dissemination of personal hygiene kits from 11am to 2pm
- Clean up from 2pm to 4pm

Requested Items:

- Side Dishes Examples:** rice, greens, macaroni and cheese, green beans, corn, potatoes, green salad, fruit salad, potato salad and paper goods e.g. plates, cutlery, napkins etc...)
- Personal Hygiene Items:** toothpaste, tooth brushes, mouth wash, deodorant, hand wipes, hand sanitizer, bars of soap, feminine hygiene products, combs and brushes

Additional Assistance is needed with:

- Set-up tables and chairs prior to the event
- Assist with serving food
- Clean up and take down tables and chairs after the event

We ask that you bring your donations of personal hygiene items to the Rectory no later than Tuesday, June 6. Side dishes may be brought the day of the event between the hours of 8am and 11am.

Sign-up sheets are located on the tables in the back of the Church. Please sign-up today if you are able to assist with this community service project.

Should you have questions please contact:

- Name: Jaylynn St. Julian
- Contact Information: 510-635-6937

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, May 14	8:30 a.m.	The Casey Family
	11:00 a.m.	Saint Benedict Parish Members
Monday, May 15	7:30 a.m.	For The People
Wednesday, May 17	7:30 a.m.	
Friday, May 19	7:30 a.m.	
Saturday, May 20	4:30 p.m.	

CHURCH SUPPORT

Collection:	May 7, 2017	\$5,525.65
Other Collection:	“100” Club	\$835.00

“100” CLUB

Beginning Balance	\$3,971.55
Total Income for March 2017	\$993.65
Ending balance as of March 31, 2017	\$4,965.20

PENNY HARVEST

Ending Balance as of March 31, 2017	\$1,195.24
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Please remember to bring your pennies and drop them off by the altar before or after Mass. There’s no need to wrap your pennies in a roll.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

LECTORS/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

MAY 13/14, 2017

4:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
H. Santi	L. Bornor #	L. Dixon #
B. Burns	B. Kennedy-Tapscott	C. Dixon
	J. Matthews *	L. Brown-Parker *
		J. LaFitte-Tutson *

2017 MASS BOOK

The parish office will be accepting Mass Intentions for the 2017 Mass Book. If you would like to offer a Mass for the (Living) Intentions of your family/friends, or for your deceased family members/friends, stop by the Parish Office during office hours. We will be happy to assist you.

SICK AND HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

If you know of anyone in the parish who is sick and homebound who would like to receive communion at their home or if you know someone who is sick and is in need of prayers, please contact Divina Cabrera at the church office (510) 632-1847 or fill out one of the request forms at the back of the church. Request for prayers will be listed in the bulletin for one month and extended upon request.

SECOND COLLECTION
CATHOLIC COMMUNICATION - THIS WEEKEND
FR. SYLVESTER’S PERSONAL APPEAL - NEXT WEEKEND