

ARE YOU A FAN OF ST. BENEDICT?

Well if you're a Facebook member, Like our Page! You can find us under the following title:

Fans of St. Benedict Church Oakland, CA

Make sure that you like our page as well as spread the word to many of your family and friends. This is a great way to keep up with the latest News and Updates with St. Benedict Church.

THE CHOIR'S CORNER

What's going on??

Interested in joining any of the Choirs?

Please feel free to contact Music Director, Leonard Pete.

Phone: 510-917-2390

Email: thevoicesofstbenedicts@yahoo.com

Or just join us at Choir Rehearsal on Thursdays at 6pm.

Are you on Facebook?

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

St. Benedict's Weekly Events

Sunday, January 7 8:30 am & 11:00 am	Masses	Church
Monday, January 8		
Tuesday, January 9		
Wednesday, January 10		
Thursday, January 11 6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Church
Friday, January 12 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Line Dancing Class	Hall
Saturday, January 13 4:30 pm	Mass	Church

PLEASE JOIN US!

Please pray for the sick, especially:

Suzy Arnhart
Patrick Coady
Charles Gault
Bob Stockman
Lisa Trevigne



REQUEST FOR PRAYERS WILL BE LISTED IN THE BULLETIN FOR ONE MONTH AND EXTENDED UPON REQUEST.

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

ST. BENEDICT

CATHOLIC CHURCH, OAKLAND CALIFORNIA

2245 82ND AVENUE • OAKLAND CA 94605 • 510-632-1847 • EMAIL SAINTBENEDICTCRH@AOL.COM

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

Rev. Jayson Landeza
PASTOR

Ms. Dionne Cola
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Mr. Ron Tutson
DEACON

Rev. Paul Vassar
CLERGY SUPPLY

Rev. Aris Martin, SVD
IN RESIDENCE

Mr. Rufus Fisher
BUILDING FACILITIES MANAGER

Dr. Chiquita Tuttle
PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIR

Miss 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

We recommend using Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services (CFCS):

Holy Sepulchre, St. Mary's and St. Joseph Cemeteries.

Contact CFCS/Cooper's Chapel at (510) 362-0424 or www.cfcsoakland.org

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK:



Epiphany means "manifestation" or "appearance." In Greek mythology, this word describes the time when a god appeared among human beings. So it's appropriate that we use the term for Jesus' appearance in our world.

Matthew's Gospel is the only one containing the popular story about the wise man who follow the star to Bethlehem in search of a newborn king. Finding the house where Jesus and his parents are staying, they pay homage and give the child gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The rich symbolism in the story deserves our close attention.

The Star: ancient people believed a new star appeared in the sky each time a child was born. Consequently, when they spotted an extra bright star they concluded someone important had been born, someone who would outshine everyone else. This was certainly true of Jesus.

Gold, Frankincense, and Myrrh: A loyal subject who had an audience with the king did not approach him empty-handed but brought gifts to show appreciation for receiving such a great honor. Failing to do so would've been a breach of etiquette. Because a gift should reflect the importance of the person who receives it, only the best and most expensive gifts (like gold, frankincense, and myrrh) were good enough for a king. Gold, the most precious of metals, was especially valuable because it was so rare. Frankincense and myrrh, on the other hand, were perfumes only the rich could afford because merchants had to import them from distant lands.

Bethlehem: many Jewish people thought the Messiah would come from Bethlehem, the city King David came from, because the messiah was to be one of David's descendants. Like David, the messiah would be a military/political leader who would bring peace and prosperity.

The Wise Men: The words "mag"i and "magician" ("one who has secret knowledge") both come from



the Greek word *magoi*, a word that originally referred to the educated priestly class in Persia but later described any knowledgeable individual. Because *magoi* had nothing to do with royalty, we shouldn't call Jesus' visitors kings, but wise men. Being from the East (areas like Arabia and

Mesopotamia), these men were not Jewish. Matthew carefully chose all these symbolic details to tell us Jesus was not just important individual but it was also the messiah-king whom many of the Jews were eagerly awaiting. Including the Gentile visitors may have been Matthew's way of saying the messiah would be for all people, not just the Jews.

The three wise men gave the best gift they could possibly give to the child Jesus. If Jesus were born today, what gift would we bring?

Again, much thanks to Leonard Pete and the choir for the beautiful music on Christmas Eve and Midnight Mass; much gratitude to Betty Kennedy Tapscott and the liturgical environment ministry team for preparing the church for the Christmas Season and all-Year around; thanks to our liturgical ministers (lectors, eucharistic ministers ushers and altar servers); and to Wallita Sykes-Bush, Nat Bornor and our parish St. Vincent de Paul Conference for their incredible hard work and generosity to the needy in our community. I am grateful to the staff, and in a particular way to Father Paul Vassar for helping me out with Masses during the Christmas Season.

St. Benedict parish continues to mourn the losses that we've experienced over the past few weeks. The tragic and sudden loss of Will Parker, son of Lily Brown-Parker, and the unexpected death of Bishop O'Dowd President Steve Phelps, have been the most significant. Our parish family will continue to hold all of them in our thoughts and prayers.

Continued blessings and best wishes to you and your family and friends in this New Year!

God Bless,
Fr. Jayson Landeza

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAVE THE DATE

St. Benedict's Mardi Gras Dance - our annual fundraising event takes place on Saturday, February 10, 2018, 6-10 pm at the parish hall. Please mark your calendar.

A WELLNESS NEW YEAR TO ALL!!

Resolve to get well and be well this year. Join the St. Benedict Wellness Group on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays from 6 to 7 pm to make lifestyle changes that will help to improve your overall wellness. It's about preventative changes to insure quality of life. Feel better, look better, perform better everyday. Adding this year, Saturday morning walks. Join the wellness movement!

2018 MASS INTENTIONS

The parish office will be accepting Mass Intentions for 2018. 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.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

A New Year' resolution... how about to take some time for the two of you -- to be alone and rekindle that flame of love and intimacy. Relax, let go and grow your love for one another by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend held at **San Damiano Retreat Center**, Danville on May 18-20th. Space is VERY limited! Early registration is highly recommended. For more information Ray & Roberta @ 916.806.4601 or Joe & Sue @ 925.680.7767 now or go to oaklandwwme.org

PLEASE JOIN US

If you have stood as a visitor to our community before, and because you enjoyed being with us you continue to come, please, seriously consider registering with St. Benedict as your faith community. We would love to have you as a part of our family. Just fill out the registration form located on the back of this bulletin and drop it in the offertory basket. Thank you. God loves you and so do we.

SECOND COLLECTION
"100" CLUB - THIS WEEKEND
SEMINARY - NEXT WEEKEND

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, January 7	8:30 a.m.	For The People
	11:00 a.m.	
Monday, January 8	7:30 a.m.	
Wednesday, January 10	7:30 a.m.	
Friday, January 12	7:30 a.m.	
Saturday, January 13	4:30 p.m.	

CHURCH SUPPORT

Collection:	Christmas	\$7,052.81
Other Collection:	"100" Club	\$210.00
	Saint Vincent de Paul	922.46

Collection:	December 31, 2017	\$3,946.50
Other Collection:	"100" Club	\$100.00

"100" CLUB		
Beginning Balance		\$9,968.88
Total Income for November 2017		\$489.59
Ending balance as of November, 2017		\$10,458.47

PENNY HARVEST		
Ending Balance as of November 30, 2017		\$1,244.15

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

JANUARY 13/14, 2018

4:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
D. Dixon	E. Morton	M. Nubie #
L. Palmeri	J. Outley	C. Dixon
		S. Gressel *
		O. Wanzo *

Rest In Peace

Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of
ALICE BADIE
Please remember her family in your prayers.