

**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!

**ATTENTION ST. BENEDICT PARISHIONERS!**

Important Information about St. Benedict's Electronic Newsletter Have you been receiving emails from St. Benedict Parish? If not, we want to be sure we have your correct and current email address so that you don't miss out on current Parish news and activities. When you have a moment we'd appreciate your sending a quick email to SaintBenedictCrh@aol.com with your full name and email address. Also, be sure to check your SPAM folder just in case the messages have been going there instead of your INBOX. The St. Benedict Communications Team thanks you for your attention to this matter.

**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.

**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. Request for prayers will be listed in the bulletin for one month and extended upon request.



**CHOIR'S CORNER**

**WHAT'S GOING ON??**  
Interested in joining any of the Choirs?  
Please feel free to contact

Music Director - **Leonard Pete**  
510.917.2390 • thevoicesofstbenedicts@yahoo.com  
Or just join us at Choir Rehearsal on Thursdays at 6pm.

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

**ST. BENEDICT'S WEEKLY EVENTS**

<b>Sunday, Oct. 14</b>		
8:30 am	Sunday Mass	Church
11:00 am	Sunday Gospel Mass	Church
9:30-11:00 am	RCIA Class	Rectory
9:30-10:45 am	Faith Formation Classes	Center
<b>Monday, Oct. 15</b>		
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Wellness Group	Hall
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Church
<b>Tuesday, Oct. 16</b>		
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Wellness Group	Hall
<b>Wednesday, Oct. 17</b>		
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Wellness Group	Hall
<b>Thursday, Oct. 18</b>		
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Church
<b>Friday, Oct. 19</b>		
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Line Dancing Class	Hall
<b>Saturday, Oct. 20</b>		
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Altar Server Training	Church
12 noon - 3:30 pm	KPC Ladies 336 Fashion Show	Hall
4:30 pm	Saturday Vigil Mass	Church



**PRAY FOR THE SICK, ESPECIALLY:**

Arturo Estrada	Anita Recania
Betty Kennedy-Tapscott	Laura Scotlan
Kalene Parker	Brandi Tomlin

Request for prayers will be listed in the bulletin for one month and extended upon request.



**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

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

**MEMBERS**

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



**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. Vincent Cotter**  
IN RESIDENCE

**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



**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.

www.sainbenedictoakland.com



follow us on facebook

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



When Jesus says in today's Gospel that it's difficult for a rich person to enter into the Kingdom of God, the apostles can't believe their ears because, like many of the other Jews of their day, they thought the rich have the best shot at being holy.

The Jews considered their laws to be a road map to holiness. A person who followed the laws was holy and someone who broke the law (even if they didn't know what it was) was a sinner. Since most poor people had to work long hours for the basic necessities of life, they didn't have the time to study and learn all the Jewish laws in Scripture and tradition. So holiness was out of their reach, insofar as that way of thinking was concerned.

Because the rich didn't have to work so hard, they were able to devote more of their time to learning the interpretations of the law and had a better chance at being holy. Some of them even believed their prosperity was a sign that God was very pleased with them.

When Jesus says it's easier for the camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of God, he isn't talking about a sewing needle, although the words in Greek for camel and rope or nearly the same. Instead Jesus may be referring to a gate of the city of Jerusalem.

Ancient people built high walls around their cities for protection from hostile armies. They opened gates in the walls in the morning and closed these gates in the evening so invaders couldn't enter the city at night and capture it while everyone was asleep. The city of Jerusalem had seven main gates and several smaller ones. These gates were low and narrow so the enemy couldn't ride in on horseback but would first have to dismount and then proceed in on foot. The people of Jerusalem nickname one low and narrow gate "the eye of the needle."

Although this gate kept the enemy out, it also made it difficult for travelers who came from distant lands (often with camels laden with heavy, bulky packages) to get into the city. The trader had to unload all of the goods from the camel, get the camel to bend down and squeeze through the gate, carried the goods through the gate himself, and then reload the camel. This whole process was time-consuming and hard work.

Jesus is saying in today's Gospel that just as it's difficult for a camel to get through the eye of a needle because of the baggage, it's equally difficult for a rich person to enter into the Kingdom of God. "If it's hard for a rich person to be holy," the apostles must've thought, "then what chance do poor fishermen like us have?" Jesus tells them not to despair because he doesn't measure holiness by what a person owns, but by what one is willing to give up in order to follow him. Jesus reminds us that whoever sacrifices family and possessions for the sake of the Gospel will have everlasting life. That certainly goes against the "Prosperity Gospel" we often hear preached by many televangelists. Would we be willing to sacrifice a bit of our own wealth to help spread the Gospel?

This weekend's Gospel reading comes to us in a timely fashion, as our country and communities discuss the disparity of wealth, the "haves" and the "have nots". This debate is featured on the global scale, as Pope Francis continues to warn us about the adverse effects of what he terms

as "unbridled capitalism".

Although we may feel immune from the larger implications of global poverty, we have our own share of economic insecurities - how do we care for our families, our children, our aging parents, ourselves? Can we continue to afford living where we do?

This conversation hits home as we see the price of housing skyrocket in our East Bay communities, leaving many with no alternative but to relocate to locations where housing is affordable. I have spoken about this before, and this topic continues to gather steam as more folks are affected.

Market forces are driving up demand, as affordable housing stocks are being depleted in San Francisco and throughout Oakland. East Oakland, as I have stated previously, is the next area where demand will increase dramatically over the next few years, resulting in the displacement of many African American and Latino families, as they seek less expensive housing outside of Oakland.

Discussions around gentrification focus on how more folks are moving into Oakland who lack the cultural sensitivity and awareness that has been the hallmark of Oakland for decades, and many native and/or long-time Oakland residents of color have been made to feel unwelcome in their very own neighborhoods.

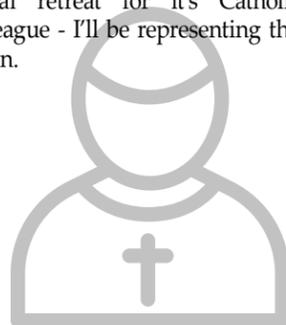
The other result of increased housing prices is the movement of African Americans from Oakland to other parts of the East Bay, where housing is affordable. This has been the topic of a long-standing discussion among pastors of African American churches in this city, as many see their congregations shrink as a result of such displacement.

Our Gospel reading's discussion on wealth is indeed timely. There are no easy solutions to these dilemmas, but I encourage us to be well-informed on this discussion and certainly to share your own experiences on how you have been personally affected by these changes.

I have enclosed the letter from Bishop Michael Barber that many of you have already heard about in the news earlier this week. Please take the time to read it and reflect on our journey to healing and justice.

As a heads up, the priests of the Diocese of Oakland will be on convocation at San Damiano Retreat Center in Danville from Monday, October 22-24; I'll be at the FBI Academy at Quantico, Virginia from Thursday, October 25th to Thursday, November 8th; and from Tuesday, November 13th to Thursday, November 15th, I'll be in Oceanside, CA, at the Major League Baseball's annual retreat for its Catholic priest-chaplains from throughout the league - I'll be representing the Oakland Athletics as their priest-chaplain.

God bless,  
Fr. Jayson Landeza



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ROSARY OF OUR LADY

Each Sunday during the month of October, we will pray the rosary at 8:10 am (before the 8:30 am Mass).

### ALL SAINTS DAY

Thursday, November 1st. Masses at 8:00 and 6:00 pm.

### ALL SOULS ENVELOPES

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND – MASS AT 7:30 AM.

As we celebrate the Feast of All Saints and the Commemoration of All Souls, we are reminded that throughout the month of November we remember all those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, and are experiencing eternal life in Christ. Please use the All Souls offering envelopes on the table at the back of the church to remember love ones, and there will be a Book of the Dead near our picture shrine so that others may be able to place names in that book. Please start bringing pictures of your beloved dead (no 8x10 please) to be placed on the table as well.

### ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

Altar servers are a group of boys and girls who assist at the altar during Mass. If you are interested in becoming an Altar Server, please come and see Deacon Ron for three Saturdays, October 6th, 13th, 20th, 2018 from 11:00 am – 12 noon at the Church.

### SEARCHING?

Take some time out this week to ask if Spirit is calling you to a ministry and decide which one it will be. We need your talents and your time. On next Sunday we will be holding our Ministry Sign-Up Sunday. There will be tables set up with representatives from ministries in the Church to answer your questions, sign you up and get you started. Some of those ministries will be: Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Alter Servers, Ushers, Choir Voices, Youth Group members, Knights, Ladies, St. Vincent de Paul Volunteers, Environment Committee, Facilities Clean-up and Repairs Volunteers. We look forward to your stewardship commitment.

### ATTENTION!

Beginning this Sunday, October 14th, after 8:30am and 11:00am Masses, we will hold a sale of religious handcrafts and souvenirs at the back of the church. Please take this special opportunity to support beautiful work and mission of the Sisters of St. Elizabeth Convent by purchasing the items of devotion. Please read the flyer posted on the bulletin board at the back inside doors of the church for more information.

### CONTINUED SUPPORT

Just a reminder folks: You can continue to support our fundraising efforts. If you enjoyed our wine tasting event and found one you especially liked, please continue to order and enjoy as the Church will receive a percentage of the purchase price which then goes to our maintenance fund. Thank you for your support.

SECOND COLLECTION  
CATHOLIC VOICE – THIS WEEKEND  
WORLD MISSION SUNDAY – NEXT WEEKEND

## MASS INTENTIONS

### 2018 MASS INTENTIONS

The parish office is 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.

Day	Date	Time	Intention
Sunday	October 14	8:30 am	Elouise Brown-Dright + Morel Dright +
		11:00 am	Odile Fisher +
Monday	October 15	7:30 am	For The People
Wednesday	October 17	7:30 am	
Friday	October 19	7:30 am	
Saturday	October 20	4:30 pm	

## CHURCH SUPPORT

Collection	October 7, 2018	\$6,856.50
Other Collection	"100" Club	\$626.00

### 100" CLUB

Beginning Balance	\$9,025.32
Total Income for September 2018	\$788.01
Total Expense for September 2018	\$762.32
Ending Balance as of September 30, 2018	\$9,051.11

### PENNY HARVEST

Ending Balance as of September 30, 2018	\$1,296.68
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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

### October 20/21, 2018

There is a practice and faith sharing session for these Lectors on Tuesday at 7:00 PM in the Rectory

4:30 pm	8:30 pm	11:00 pm
J. Outley	J. Grant	S. Gressel
B. Burns	L. Noriega	C. McIntyre
A. Ricks (EM)	A. West (EM)	O. Wanzo (EM)
	R. LeBlanc-Cunningham (EM)	C. Hadnot (EM)