

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Because the scribes were able to read and write, most people in the first century respected them for their intelligence. Some of these learned scholars loved all the attention they got and did everything they could to get even more of the spotlight.

In today's Gospel, Jesus criticizes the scribes of the Pharisee party for wearing long robes and excepting marks of respect in public. The robes may have been the wide, scarf-like prayer shawls (called the Tallit) that Jews wore while praying. Some scribes continued wearing these prayer shawls long after they finished reciting their prayers so others would see that they had been praying and would think that they were holy.

The scribes also preferred sitting in the synagogue's front seats, which the towns dignitaries usually occupied. Many of them coveted the seat in the very front because it faced the congregation and everyone present noticed those who sat there. The seats farthest back were for the lower classes, women, and children.

Jesus criticizes these scribes because they did not perform their actions out of genuine holiness but because they wanted the attention of others. Their intentions were very different from that of the poor widow in today's Gospel.

In the temple, there were 13 trumpet-shaped chests for collecting offerings, each for specific purpose (for example, to buy oil for the lamp to the temple). Rich people probably got everyone's attention by going from chest to chest putting their offerings as everyone watched them. Since ancient people did not use paper money, the sound of the coins hitting the inside of the metallic trumpet made it obvious how much money they gave. While his apostles observe this happening, Jesus calls their attention to the poor widow who quietly contributes only a few small coins. This woman's holiness exceeded that of the scribes and the rich because she didn't give to be noticed by others but to be noticed by God.

All of us are sometimes like the scribes. We want to be noticed and we want others to think well of us. How much are we motivated by what others will say or think about us?

As I mentioned last week, I am away (AGAIN?!) this weekend at St. Joseph Church/Mission San José in Fremont to preach at all of the Masses in advance of next week's national Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) collection next weekend. This annual appeal assists in supporting local efforts to enable entities to assist through self-sustaining and enabling others to improve their conditions and situations. I am on the Catholic Charities of the East Bay CCHD subcommittee - hence the request for me to speak on behalf of the appeal.

How about those election results! What can we say. Like many of you, I was disappointed with how the governors races turned out in Florida and Georgia, as well as the Texas Senate race. The House of Representatives is now a counterbalance to 45, and I think that's a good thing. I have my own set of disappointments on the results of the locals races, and I'll stop right there.

Law enforcement tends to be filled with many conservatives, and being here at the FBI reminds me of that fact. I had a insightful discussion with an African American female officer from U.S. Capitol Police in Washington, DC. She candidly and painfully shared with me the difficulty of being with many other law enforcement professionals from throughout the country currently studying here at the FBI Academy. Often these other folks bring their very "traditional" ways of thinking, which often runs counter to many of us from urban areas. It's easy for us to remain in that bubble until we interact with people whose experience is very different.

Former U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions was here at the FBI Academy the day before he was fired by 45. Many of wondered why he was here, though it's not unusual for the Attorney General to be here, since he's technically the FBI falls under the Department of Justice. After he was fired, some of my colleagues here concluded that the AG was saying his "goodbyes", and perhaps picking up some FBI goodies from the Bureau store we have here at the Academy.

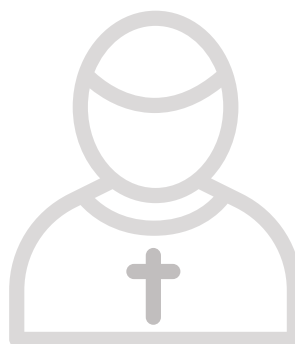
A remind that we have a Parish Town Hall Meeting next Sunday at 12:30PM in the parish hall, immediately following the 11:00 AM Mass.

From this Tuesday morning to Thursday afternoon, I'll be in Oceanside (outside of San Diego) for the Major League Baseball's (MLB) annual retreat for Catholic priests serving as team priest-chaplains. I'll be representing the Oakland A's as their Catholic chaplain.

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 don't forget to add their names to our Book of the Dead, which is located near our altar shrine in honor of our beloved deceased.

Just a reminder that Thanksgiving Day Mass is next Thursday, 22nd at 9:00 AM.

God bless,  
Fr. Jayson Landeza



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### VETERANS DAY

Monday, November 12th is Veterans Day. The office will be closed on Monday in observance of the holiday. The Mass on Monday will be at 8:00 am.

### ALL SOULS

The month of November is a time to remember our deceased loved ones. You are invited to bring pictures of your beloved deceased (no 8x10 please) and place them on the All Souls table for the month of November. There will be a Book of the Dead near our picture shrine so that others may be able to place names in that book. All Souls envelopes are also available on the table at the back of the church.

### THANKSGIVING DAY

On Thanksgiving Day, November 22nd, we will celebrate Mass at 9:00 am. Please bring the bread and wine you will serve for your Thanksgiving meal to be blessed during Mass. After Mass, there will be an Open House at the Parish Center. All parishioners are welcome. The Mass on Friday, November 23rd will be celebrated at 8:00 am.

### RCIA (RITES OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS)

Purpose:

An opportunity for anyone interested in learning about the Catholic faith. We welcome all. The program provides your materials. Format: conversations around the dining table in the rectory

Time: Sundays, from 9:45 to 10:50 am If you have not received the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation, then on Holy Saturday, you are ready to receive the Sacraments of Initiation. Any and all Catholics, practicing or not, are welcomed to the conversations around the table.

Blessings, Deacon Ron and Beverly Ervin

### CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE

Please join us as we kick-off the Holiday Season with a Christmas Dinner Dance on Saturday, December 1, 2018 at 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM in the Parish Hall. Hosted by The Voices of St. Benedict. Music by: DJ & Music Director, Mr. Leonard Pete. Donation: \$20 (\$25 at the Door). Food included ~ Drinks for Purchase. For Tickets or more info, contact Leonard Pete (510) 917-2390 ~ mrleonardpete@yahoo.com. Attire: Dress to Impress.

### BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

If anyone has an announcement to be published in our weekly parish bulletin, it is due to the parish office on Wednesdays before 4:00 pm. Please submit your announcement to the parish office at this email address: saintbenedictcrh@aol.com. Thank you.

### THANK YOU!

St. Benedict Conference of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Wishes to thank St. Benedict Parish for everything you do for

SVdP. We are asking for Donations in this Season of giving. We are in need of Turkeys or Hams, and non-perishable food items, including cranberry sauce, greens, yams, green beans, stuffing mix and any other food items. Sunday November 13th non-perishable can be placed in SVdP Barrel in the Church front entrance and perishable can be taken to Rectory. Friday, November 9th 1-3 and Tuesday, November 13th from 9-11 in Parish Hall. Thank you again for you donations.

### 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.

### CALLING ALL WOMEN!

Looking for a way to celebrate Advent? Magnificat SOTI, a Ministry for Catholic Women invite all to join them at their Prayer Breakfast, December 8, 2018 9:30 -1:30. The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated at 9:30, followed by the breakfast. Crowne Plaza 45 John Glenn Drive, Concord, CA. Please join us for a morning of Praise, Prayer, and Inspiration from our speaker Father Matthew Spencer! Starting out in a career in software engineering, it wasn't long before Fr. Spencer answered the call of the Holy Spirit and entered the seminary of the Oblates of St. Joseph. He now serves as the host of "St. Joseph's Workshop" on Immaculate Heart Media/Relevant Radio. Men are always welcome to attend! Tickets are \$33/\$40 after December 1st. For more information: <https://magnificat-ministry.net/chapters/chapter-states-a-d/ca-walnut-creek/> Email Magnificatsotirsvp@gmail.com for reservations or call Kim Sullivan at 925-683-8220 for any questions.

### HOLIDAY TRADITION - SWING AND SOUL - LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER

Sunday, December 16, 2018, 4:00 pm, Paramount Theater, Oakland. Michael Morgan's inspired, multi-varied musical bash takes its inspiration this year from the soul of Nina Simon and the boogie-woogie of Fats Domino. Special guests abound in this annual rollicking holiday party.

Tickets: Online - oaklandsymphony.org

Phone: 510-444-0802, Box Office Hours: Mon-Fri, 9 pm-4 pm

Group rate (discount) for 10 or more tickets ordered at the same time.

## 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.

Sunday	November 11	8:30 am 11:00 am	For The People
Monday	November 12	8:00 am	
Wednesday	November 14	7:30 am	
Friday	November 16	7:30 am	
Saturday	November 17	4:30 pm	

### 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.

## PRAY FOR THE SICK

Alvin Clement  
Kalene Parker

Anita Recania  
Laura Scotlan

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

## SECOND COLLECTION

Next week, our second collection will be for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Over 43 million people in the United States live in poverty. This collection supports programs to empower people to identify and address the obstacles they face as they work to bring permanent and positive change to their communities. Learn more about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development at [www.usccb.org/cchd/collection](http://www.usccb.org/cchd/collection) and locally at [www.cchdeastbay.org](http://www.cchdeastbay.org) (Be sure to view the videos of the recent grant awards luncheon.).

## CHURCH SUPPORT

Collection:	November 4, 2018	<b>\$4,714.00</b>
Other Collection:	World Mission/Home Mission	<b>\$617.50</b>
	The Catholic Voice	<b>\$ 40.00</b>

### 100" CLUB

Beginning Balance	<b>\$9,051.11</b>
Total Income for October 2018	<b>\$651.01</b>
Ending Balance as of October 31, 2018	<b>\$9,702.11</b>

### PENNY HARVEST

Ending Balance as of October 31, 2018	<b>\$1,296.68</b>
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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.

## LECTORS/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

### NOVEMBER 17/18, 2018

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

<b>4:30 PM</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>
D. Dixon	L. Robertson	L. Dixon (Lec)
L. Palmeri	R. LeBlanc-Cunningham	R. Guillory
		W. Sykes-Bush (EM)
		O. Wanzo (EM)

### WELCOME TO OUR NEW PARISHIONERS:

Frederick and Rachele Cunningham and Family  
Kendra Lewis and Family  
Selimoni Mikaele Percival, Jr. and Family



## 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

Ms. Dionne Cola  
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

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 & 11:00 am  
GOSPEL MASS

MON, WED, & FRI.....7:30 am  
8:00 AM ON HOLIDAYS

## CONFESSION

SATURDAY.....3:45-4:15 am  
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](http://www.cfcsoakland.org)



## ST. BENEDICT WEEKLY EVENTS

<b>Sunday, November 11</b>		
8:30 am	Sunday Mass	Church
11:00 am	Sunday Gospel Mass	Church
9:45 am – 10:50 am	RCIA Class	Rectory
9:30 am – 10:45 am	Faith Formation Classes	Center
<b>Monday, November 12</b>		
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Wellness Group	Hall
<b>Tuesday, November 13</b>		
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	SVDP – Preparation of Food Bags	Hall
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Wellness Group	Hall
<b>Wednesday, November 14</b>		
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	SVDP – Distribution of Food Bags	Hall
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Wellness Group	Hall
<b>Thursday, November 15</b>		
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Church
<b>Friday, November 16</b>		
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Line Dancing Class	Hall
<b>Saturday, November 17</b>		
4:30 pm	Saturday Vigil Mass	Church



## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Dr. Chiquita Tuttle  
CHAIR/FACILITATOR

Dionne Cola  
VICE CHAIR  
ASSISTANT FACILITATOR

Leonard Pete  
MEETING RECORDER

### MEMEBERS

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



## CHOIR'S CORNER

### What's going on???

Interested in joining any of the Choirs? Please feel free to contact

Leonard Pete  
MUSIC DIRECTOR

510.917.2390  
[thevoicesofstbenedicts@yahoo.com](mailto:thevoicesofstbenedicts@yahoo.com)

Or just join us at Choir Rehearsal on Thursdays at 6:00pm.



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



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.

