

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Sometimes historical and political situations have influenced the ways Christians picture Jesus. So when monarchs ruled nations and empires, the popular image people had of Jesus was that of the King of Kings, an image that reminded them that Jesus ruled the universe.

This emphasis on Jesus as a divine ruler eventually let the church to designate the last Sunday of the liturgical year (that's today) as the feast of Christ the King. Like the other images of Jesus, this image also has biblical support.

In today's Gospel, Pilate asked Jesus if he is a king and Jesus' response is that he is indeed a ruler but his kingdom is not of this world. In other places in the Bible, Jesus tells the parable in which he refers to himself as a king who separates the good from the bad (Matthew 25:31-46) and, when he rides into the city of Jerusalem on a donkey (Luke 19:28-40), the people treat him as if he is royalty. These are only a few examples of passages that speak of Jesus' kingship.

In biblical times (as well as in today's society), it was a great honor to be in the presence of the king because he didn't give everyone this privilege, and he granted even fewer individuals an audience with him. As the king into the room, all present bowed their heads and fell to their knees, acknowledging him as their Lord and Master. Without a sound from anyone, the king then ascended his throne and began to discharge his royal duties.

Because Jesus has become so familiar to us, we sometimes forget that he is our king and we don't always appreciate how privileged we are to be granted an audience with our king whenever we want one. Unlike earthly king, we can confidently bring our needs before Jesus' heavenly throne, knowing he will listen to us and will not turn us away. No earthly king whatever it be so accessible to his subjects. It reminds me of the old Gospel song, "Jesus, That's My King!"

Kings are often address as "my lord." What does the word "lord" mean? What does it mean when we call Jesus "our Lord and Master"? Is Jesus really the Lord of our lives?

If there is any time that the Lord's presence as King in our world is most sorely needed, it would be at this time! We continue to feel the effects of the terrorists attacks in Paris, Kenya and Beirut, and there's a deep feeling of insecurity among across the world in light of the recent events that have transpired.

The Feast of Christ the King came about after World War I during the rise of Communism in Russia, Fascism in Italy and National Socialism in Germany. Pope Pius X wanted the world to know that neither Hitler, Stalin nor Mussolini were kings but Christ was/is the King. It would be good for the world to heed that in today's environment.

I want to thank Dionne Cola again for her very powerful words at last weekend's liturgies. We all need to hear God's call for each and everyone of us to respond to the needs of St. Benedict Parish as best we can. It's no secret that we've been losing folks over the past number of years, and we need to stem the tide.

I hope that you had a Happy Thanksgiving, surrounded by family, friends and loved ones. We often take for granted our many gifts and blessings, and it takes tragedies such as the Camp Fire up in

Butte County for us to remember life's fragile nature, and to draw close in thoughts and prayers folks who lost loved ones, homes and businesses in the fire.

A word of gratitude to our St. Benedict St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) Society for their generous ministry to the neediest in our community. Last Wednesday, they distributed over 200 turkeys and food baskets to those seeking assistance. Thank you for the generous gift of your time and effort, SVdP!

As you may have already read in the news, Sr. Thea Bowman, a trailblazing African-American sister who was the first black sister in her white congregation, the first black woman to address the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and an inspiration to thousands of people with her words and songs, is another step further toward sainthood.

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops voted Nov. 14 at their general assembly in Baltimore to advance Bowman's cause, opening the way for a diocesan commission to determine whether she lived a life of "extraordinary and heroic virtue."

Bowman, who was a Franciscan Sister of Perpetual Adoration, was declared a servant of God on May 15, when her home Diocese of Jackson, Mississippi, requested the bishops endorse opening her cause for sainthood. On Nov. 18, in a ceremony scheduled before Wednesday's vote even took place, Jackson Bishop Joseph Kopacz will read the edict opening the investigation, followed by a special Mass. Bowman died of cancer on March 30, 1990, at age 52.

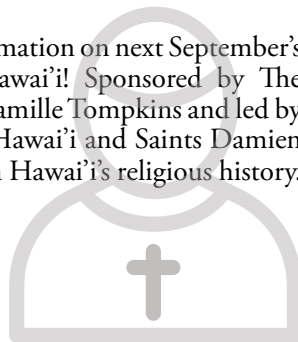
Bowman will be declared venerable, worthy of imitation by the faithful, if the tribunal finds in Bowman's favor and the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome endorses the decision.

Born Bertha Bowman on Dec. 29, 1937, in Yazoo City, Mississippi, she was the daughter of a doctor and a teacher. She attended Holy Child Jesus School in Canton, about 38 miles from her birthplace, run by the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration. At age 8, she decided she wanted to become a Catholic. She knew by her early teenage years that she was called to consecrated life.

In the 1950s, she studied at Viterbo College in La Crosse, Wisconsin, where the order is based, while preparing to enter the convent. She was the first African-American member of the community, and one of very few African-Americans in La Crosse at the time. She went on to study at the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. When she eventually returned to Canton in 1979 to care for her elderly parents, she continued to teach and inspire the people in her community. We will continue to keep you updated with her ongoing process towards canonization to sainthood.

Please make sure you check out the information on next September's parish and diocesan pilgrimage to Hawai'i! Sponsored by The Catholic Voice, organized by our own Camille Tompkins and led by yours truly, it's a great introduction to Hawai'i and Saints Damien and Marianne, figures that loom large in Hawai'i's religious history.

God bless,
Fr. Jayson Landeza



ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, December 6th at 6:30 pm in the parish center.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Saturday, December 8th is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and it is a Holy Day of Obligation. The Mass is at 9:00 am.

BECOME A PART OF CHRISTMAS TRADITION
Help us create a beautiful environment for the Christmas Season. Your gift of Poinsettias may be made in honor of, in memory of a loved one, or simply as a gift. Please drop-off your Poinsettias on Saturday, December 15th through Friday, December 21st. Please call Betty Kennedy-Tapscott at 510-612-3176.

CHURCH DECORATIONS FOR CHRISTMAS
Volunteers are welcome to help decorate the church for Christmas on Friday, December 21st at 10:00 am. Please call Betty Kennedy - Tapscott for more information.

2018 CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Liturgies
Monday, December 24, 2018
11:00 pm - Christmas Caroling Music
12:00 midnight - Midnight Mass

Christmas Day Liturgy
Tuesday, December 25, 2018
10:00 am

Wednesday, December 26, 2018
8:00 am

New Year's Day Liturgy
Tuesday, January 1, 2019
10:00 am

3RD BI-ANNUAL CHILDREN HOSPITAL DRIVE
Our KPC Ct./CN 336 kick-Off of the 3rd Bi-Annual Children Hospital Drive began Sunday, November 18th and will run to Sunday, December 16th, 2018. We humbly request your generous donation of all new items of: Stuff Animals/Toys, Socks for all ages, and an Assortment of Art Supplies suitable for Teen Patients, too! Advance thanks from the Ladies and Knights of Court/Council 336 domiciled here at St. Benedict, Oakland, CA. For questions, inquiries, and donations contact Chair Lady Lil Brown-Parker (510-206-9942) & Committee members Ladies: Wallita Sykes-Bush, Jewel Terrell, Theresa Gaudet, Madonna Billups, & Co-Chair/Poster Artist Lady Reese Fernandes!

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 - mrleonarddpete@yahoo.com. Attire: Dress to Impress.

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

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.

WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Is Spirit calling you to a ministry? Listen closely and decide which one it will be and make the commitment. Your Church family humbly request the pleasure of your time and talent to be shared in any of the following ministries: Lectors, Eucharistic ministers, Alter Servers, Ushers, Choir Voices, Youth Group Members, Knights, Ladies, St. Vincent de Paul Volunteers, Environment Committee, Facilities Clean-up and Repair Volunteers, or start a new ministry. We look forward to your stewardship commitment.

SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Saint Mary's College High School, Berkeley, celebrating its 155th anniversary, will host its annual Open House on Sunday, December 2 from 1:00-2:30 p.m. The event will feature workshops on academics, financial aid, athletics, and programs unique to Saint Mary's. All sixth, seventh, and eighth grade families interested in learning more about attending Saint Mary's College High School are welcome! <http://www.saintmaryschs.org/>

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 25	8:30 am	For The People
		11:00 am	
Monday	November 26	7:30 am	
Wednesday	November 28	7:30 am	
Friday	November 30	7:30 am	
Saturday	December 1	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

Eva Aguillard	Kalene Parker
Alvin Clement	Anita Recania
	Laura Scotlan

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

SECOND COLLECTION

Saint Vincent de Paul - This Weekend
"100" Club - Next Weekend

CHURCH SUPPORT

Collection:	November 18, 2018	\$3,137.55
Other Collection:	"100" Club	\$ 37.00
	Campaign for Human Develop.	\$635.45

"100" CLUB

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

PENNY HARVEST

Ending Balance as of October 31, 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.

LECTORS/EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

DECEMBER 1/2, 2018

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

4:30 PM	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
J. Moore	L. Noriega	Lucia Watson
J. Garibaldi	J. Outley	J. Wilson
		R. Guillory (EM)
		G. McCullough (EM)



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

SUNDAY8:30 am

..... 11:00 am
GOSPEL MASS

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

CONFESSION

SATURDAY..... 3:45-4:15 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



ST. BENEDICT WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday, November 25		
8:30 am	Sunday Mass	Church
11:00 am	Sunday Gospel Mass	Church
9:45 am - 10:50 am	RCIA Class	Rectory
Monday, November 26		
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Wellness Group	Hall
Tuesday, November 27		
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Wellness Group	Hall
Wednesday, November 28		
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Wellness Group	Hall
Thursday, November 29		
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Church
Friday, November 30		
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Line Dancing Class	Hall
Saturday, December 1		
4:30 pm	Saturday Vigil Mass	Church

PLEASE JOIN US!



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



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.



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

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.