

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



The strange names in this weekend's Gospel are confusing, but they are very important because they help us identify the historical period during which Jesus lived and preached. These names require a closer examination.

The reading begins with Luke telling us that Herod, Phillip, and Lysanias were tetrarchs at the time when John the Baptist began preaching and when Pilate was procurator of Judea. "Tetrarch" is a Greek word that means "a ruler of one fourth"; it refers to one of the four sections into which the Romans divided their provinces. "Procurator" is another word the Romans used for "governor".

When Herod the Great (the king of the Jews when Jesus was born) died in 4 BCE, the Romans divided his kingdom among his three sons: Antipas, Archelaus, and Philip. Herod Antipas, the Herod Luke refers to in this weekend's Gospel, ruled Galilee (where Jesus lived and spent most of his time preaching) until 33 CE, and Herod Archelaus reigned in his own territory until the Romans removed him from power in 25 CE and replaced him with the Roman governor named Pontius Pilate. Since Luke tells us Philip was still ruling and Pilate was already in power when John's ministry began, the events in today's Gospel must have taken place between 25 and 33 CE.

Luke helps narrow the date even further when he says John the Baptist began preaching during the 15th year of the reign of Tiberius. Since we know Tiberius Caesar became the sole emperor of Rome in 14 CE, John's ministry had to begin at about 28 to 29 CE, with Jesus' own ministry beginning shortly afterwards.

Today's Gospel ends with Luke shifting his focus to John the Baptist, quoting John as telling the people to clear the way for the Lord. Kings in those days sent their messenger ahead of them before they visited a city or town. The messengers were responsible for helping the people prepare for the coming of the king. That's John's message to us today. He reminds us to get our hearts ready because our king, Jesus Christ, is on his way, as we enter into the Advent Season.

We spend time preparing for important events in our lives, such as job interviews, parties, dates, etc. how much time do we spend getting ready for Jesus?

Words can't begin to express my gratitude to our 11:00 AM Sunday Choir, under the leadership of Leonard Pete, for the wonderful parish Christmas party and celebration last Saturday evening. A nice turnout with lots of dancing and music, with yummy food. Thanks again for putting us in the holiday mood.

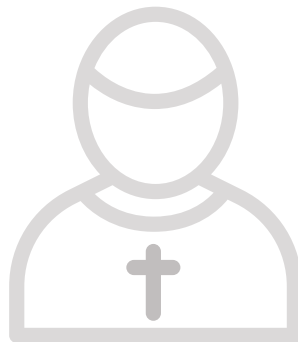
A word of thanks once again to our parish St. Vincent DePaul society for the tremendous work they did to prepare for the Thanksgiving basket distribution a few weeks ago. They can certainly use your help to prepare for the Christmas basket distribution, which will take place on Wednesday, December 19 from 9 AM to noon. They will be preparing food baskets on Tuesday, December 18 from 9 AM to noon here at St. Benedict. Our St. Vincent DePaul Society parish conference will also be receiving an award and grant from the diocese this coming Friday, at ceremony where I will be taking Bishop Barber's place by presenting the awards on his behalf. Once again, thanks to all of the hard work they have done to help feed the hungry and needy in our community.

Beginning this Saturday afternoon at the 4:30 PM liturgy, Dorgan McDade will be serving as the cantor, leading the music through voice and piano. For years, there was no music at the 4:30 Mass, and when I arrived, I asked Leonard Pete to provide a tape of recorded music so that folks could sing along. Dorgan will lead the music at the 4:30 PM and all liturgies when Leonard is away. Thank you Leonard and Dorgan for making this happen.

Last Thursday morning, Fr. Vince and I met with Pat Clancy, a friend of Fr. Vince, and we discussed the painting of the church. It's our hope to start this work in January. We'll keep you posted on how this ad hoc project is progressing.

Continued blessings in this Advent Season!

God bless,
Fr. Jayson Landeza



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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
The date for decorating the church has been moved to December 23rd, after 11:00 am Mass. Volunteers are welcome to help decorate. 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!

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL
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. Tuesday, December 18th from 9-12 noon nonperishable can be brought to our Parish Hall. Thank you again for you donations.

ATTENTION!
The Wellness Group will be on holiday break from December 19th to January 7th, 2019.

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.

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.

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. Thank you. God loves you and so do we.

MASS INTENTIONS

2019 MASS INTENTIONS

The parish office is accepting Mass Intentions for 2019. If you would like to offer a Mass for the (Living) Intentions of your family/friends, or for your deceased family members/friends, please come to the parish office between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm. Donation for a Mass is \$10.00. Thank you.

Sunday	December 9	8:30 am	The Moa Family Reunion
		11:00 am	WII Demetrius Parker†
Monday	December 10	7:30 am	
Wednesday	December 12	7:30 am	
Friday	December 14	7:30 am	
Saturday	December 15	4:30 pm	Lamar Larry†

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	Laura Scotlan
Richard Cotter	

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

SECOND COLLECTION

Religious Retirement

CHURCH SUPPORT

Collection:	December 2, 2018	\$4,398.12
Other Collection:	"100" Club	\$783.30

"100" CLUB

Beginning Balance	\$9,702.11
Total Income for November 2018	\$800.50
Ending Balance as of November 30, 2018	\$10,502.61

PENNY HARVEST

Ending Balance as of November 30, 2018	\$1,296.68
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Thank You For Your Generosity

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 15/16, 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
L. Palmeri	L. Robertson	J. Smithson-Bell
D. Dixon	C. Ologbosele	T. Clay (EM)
A. Ricks (EM)	J. Matthews (EM)	C. Hadnot (EM)
	G. Johnson (EM)	C. McIntyre (EM)

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



ST. BENEDICT WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday, December 9		
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
Monday, December 10		
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Wellness Group	Hall
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Church
Tuesday, December 11		
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Wellness Group	Hall
Wednesday, December 12		
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Wellness Group	Hall
Thursday, December 13		
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Church
Friday, December 14		
1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Line Dancing Class	Hall
Saturday, December 15		
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



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.



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.

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

WWW.SAINTBENEDICTOAKLAND.COM

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

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