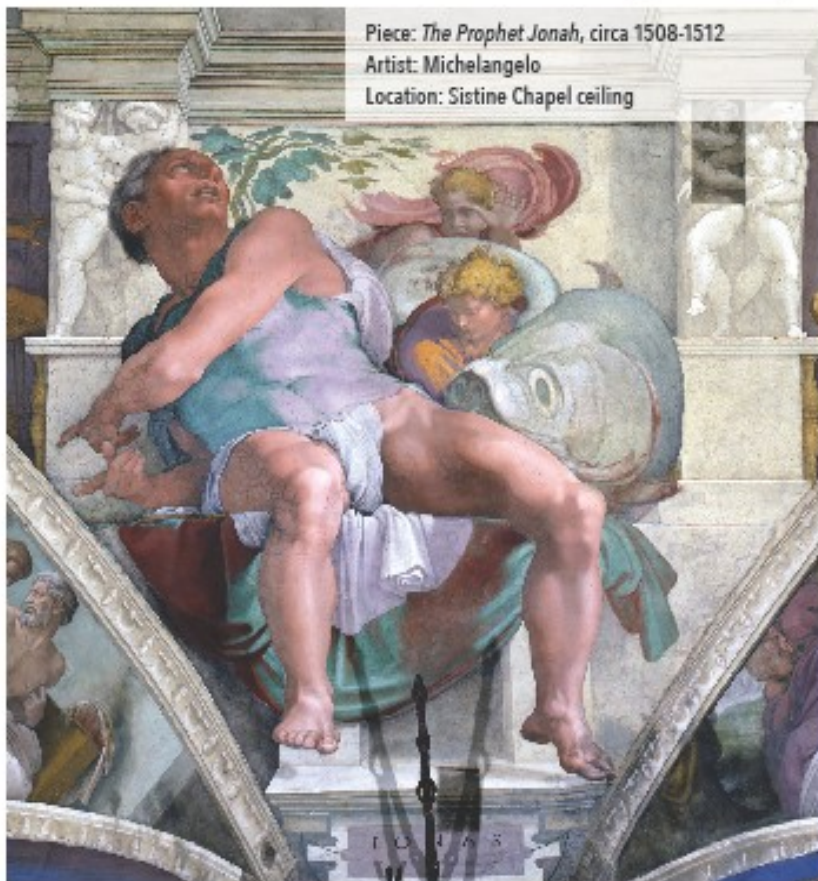


God's Patient Call

This painting of Jonah in the Sistine Chapel is directly above *The Last Judgment*. Michelangelo chooses to depict Jonah for his theological connection to Jesus, who said, "just as Jonah was in the belly of the whale three days and three nights, so will the Son of Man be in the heart of the earth three days and three nights" (Matthew 18:40).

Unlike Jesus, Jonah initially balks at God's call until he grudgingly accepts and preaches to the city of Nineveh. In his rebellion, he gets in a boat and goes the opposite direction from where God was calling. Eventually he was thrown overboard and swallowed by the fish, seen painted at his side. After a three-night stomachache, the fish spewed Jonah up on the shore, back where he had started.

Jonah looks up to heaven with a weary longing, which might denote his melancholy personality. The fig tree further reinforces his weakness because it recalls the episode when Jonah lay under the fig tree in depression and lethargy.



Piece: *The Prophet Jonah*, circa 1508-1512
Artist: Michelangelo
Location: Sistine Chapel ceiling

Like Peter and Andrew, James and John, God entered Jonah's life and called him. Unlike the apostles, it took him a while to say yes. We can also be slow to respond to the invitation of God in our soul, whether in big or small things. Perhaps the attraction of the world or fear of sacrifice keeps us from saying yes. Yet his voice is constant and persistent.

Michelangelo paints Jonah dangling above *The Last Judgment* as if to subtly say, you are cordially invited to say yes to God's patient callings...while you still have time.

—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

For Reflection

Do I understand that putting off the voice of God is also putting off all the good, joy, and peace he wants to bring about by what he is asking?

Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Then they abandoned their nets and followed him.

(Mark 1:17-18)

MICHAEL C. BARBER, S.J.
BISHOP OF OAKLAND



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OAKLAND, CA 94612
510.267.8316

January 14, 2018

To the Faithful of the Diocese of Oakland

Dear brothers and sisters,

I write to you today regarding the recent decision by the Trump administration to rescind Temporary Protective Status (TPS) for approximately 200,000 El Salvadorans living in the United States.

This action by our president is heartbreaking. I am particularly troubled we are disrupting the lives of people who immigrated here legally under an order signed by President Bush in 2001. They are upstanding citizens who, every 18 months, pay to undergo a required vetting process to keep their permit active. They are homeowners, hard workers, and taxpayers whose children are U.S. citizens. They are contributing to the communities in which they live here in the U.S., and supporting their family members who stayed behind in El Salvador, a country still unstable and rocked by violence. More than 190,000 US-born children have at least one parent who will lose legal status due to the administration's decision. Going back to a dangerous environment could have fatal consequences; if they choose to stay and lose immigration status they will be at immediate risk of deportation.

Our Catholic Charities of East Bay recommends all affected schedule a legal screening to identify potential remedies. Their services are provided by Board of Immigration Appeals accredited representatives and licensed immigration attorneys. People seeking help should call 510-768-3100 or visit www.cceb.org/our-services/immigration-legal-services/. Our diocesan Office for Life and Justice at 510-267-8379 or chernandez@oakdiocese.org has more information and ways each of us can be involved.

Pope Francis reminded us in his message for the World Day of Migrants, which is ironically January 14, "Our shared response may be articulated by four verbs: to welcome, to protect, to promote and to integrate."

I encourage all of us to join efforts in seeking a better solution to this situation. Please also contact your Senator and Representative. We believe all people have the right to migrate to protect their lives and their families. While the Church recognizes the right of nations to regulate their borders, this right must be exercised with mercy and justice and balanced with immigrants' rights to human dignity and life.

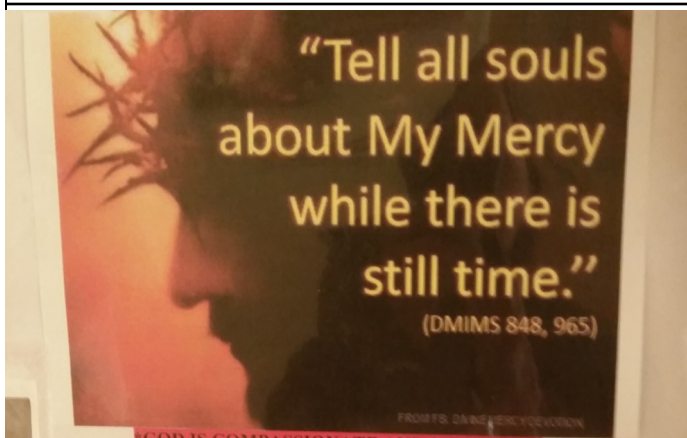
Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Michael Barber S.J.

The Most Reverend Michael C. Barber, SJ
Bishop of Oakland

Mass Intentions for the Week

		Intention	Requested by
Saturday, Jan. 20	5 p.m.	Deceased Members of the Hughes Family	Dan Hughes/Ruth Vietti
Sunday, Jan. 21	8 a.m.	Renaldo Marin †	Marin Family
	9:30 a.m.	All the Deceased Members of the Woo and Dong Families	John and Nancy Woo
	11 a.m.	Pacita Odenia †	Praxy Calbes
	12:30 p.m.	Thanksgiving of Ana Prindle and Children for Blessings of Good Health	Ana Prindle and Children
	6 p.m.	St. John Parishioners	St. John Parish
Monday, Jan. 22	8 a.m.	Al and Katie Carlson-Good Health	St. John Friends
Tuesday, Jan. 23	8 a.m.	Souls in Purgatory	Guy Kamdem
Wednesday, Jan. 24	8 a.m.	Silvestre Antonio †	
Thursday, Jan. 25	8 a.m.	Angelo Matteucci †	Gina Lencioni
Friday, Jan. 26	8 a.m.	Concepcion Antonio †	
Saturday, Jan. 27	8 a.m.	Marciano Samson †	



Let Us Pray for the Sick

Rodolfo Abesamis, Virginia Alday, Gera Assefa
 Evelyn Baker, Niani Barber, Pearl & Patrick Batiste
 Paul Batist, Irene Blair, Robert Britto, Richard
 Calapini, Evelyn Canepa, Jeff Chavez, Bernadine
 Clark, Brenna Clark,
 Jennette Cleadenger
 Betty Cooper, Linda Crittendon
 Cora Dongon
 Joann Douglas, Pablo de la Vega
 Mary Dong, Tami Duncan, Juanita
 Estrellas, Filomena Giese,
 Mike Giovannini, Joseph Golinveau, Domingos
 deGregorio, Andy Gutierrez James Gutierrez, Ruben
 Gutierrez, Maydelle Halligan Joanne, Marvin & Maurice
 Haynes, Sherry Highlander, Tamaya Hunt, Pat Jeffre,
 Ann Jones, Tom Kennedy Robin Laws, Maria Impang
 Lozada, Bernice Luckett Marian & Michael Luoma,
 Nancy McVey, Francis Mondragon, Ester Oppus, Judith
 Padilla, Theresa Parella, Angelina Patacsil, Victoria
 Payless, Fely Sabares, Jovita Santos, Linda Schneider,
 Salvador Tejero, Rose Texara Pat Tilley, James Vaughn,
 Joseph Vidal, Sarah Vidal, Evodio Walle, Jan Williamson



Safe Environment Mandate

All volunteers and church employees must complete training thru virtusonline.org and obtain a certificate online.

Volunteers, who mentor minors or assist and administer to vulnerable adults on an ongoing basis, as well as, church employees, would need to complete a livescan/fingerprint application in addition to a Virtus online training on Protection God's Children.

Send a copy of the certificate and a completed livescan/fingerprint application to the Rectory. For any questions, please call the Rectory or the Safe Environment, Diocese c/o Diana Bitz 267-8315.

Senior Center Event

Jan. 23, Tuesday: Guest Speaker at 11:30am/
 Lunch at 12:30pm. Call: 237-3808 (Tuesdays).

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

There is a certain urgency in today's Gospel as Jesus calls His first disciples - Andrew and Simon, James and John. Each one follows Jesus immediately, unhesitatingly abandoning nets and boats and father and fellow-workers. To what is Jesus calling me - at this moment, in these circumstances? What will I need to abandon in order to follow Him?

This Week's Service Schedule

Sunday Readings: Jon 3:1-5, 10, 1Cor 7:29-31, Mk1:14-20.

Monday Readings: 2Sam 5:1-7, 10, Mk 3: 22-30.

Tuesday Readings: 2Sam 6:12b-15, 17-19. Mk 3:31-35. Or 2Cor 4:7-15, Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday Readings: 2Sam 7:4-17, Mk4:1-20. Or 3:8-12, Jn 15:9-17.

Thursday Readings: Acts 22:3-16, Mk 16:15-18.

Friday Readings: 2Tim 1:1-8 Or Titus 1:1-5, Mk 4:26-34. Or Lk 10:1-9.

Saturday Readings: 2Sam 12:1-7a, 10-17, Mk 4:35-41. Or 1Peter 4:7b-11, Mk 4:35-41. Or 1Peter 4:7b-11, Mk 9:34b-37.

Liturgy of the Hours, Mon.- Fri. at 7:40am.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena, Wed., 8:30am at the Church and 6pm at the Chapel.

Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet, Mon.- Sat., 8:30am at Church; Daily, 3pm, 9pm, and 10pm (Spanish) and Wed., 7:30pm (Spanish), Chapel.

Holy Infant of Prague Novena, Thu. at 8:30am at Church.

Devotion to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Fri., 6pm at the Chapel.

Confession, Sat., at 4pm or at an appointed time.

World Day of the Sick, Feb. 10

Bishop Barber invites everyone to take part at a Mass celebrated at the Cathedral on a Saturday at 11am and also to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Stewardship

Envelopes & EFT, January 14, 2017	\$ 2,307
Loose Donations	\$ 1,430
Second Collection: Seminary	\$ 752
Parish Development and School	
Tuition Assistance Program	\$ 380

Thank you for your generosity.

Ash Wednesday

February 14 is a day of fasting and abstinence.

Walk For Life, Jan. 27

Bishop Barber invites the laity to a Mass concelebrated by bishops and priests at St. Mary Cathedral in San Francisco at 8am prior to an assembly at Civic Center and The Walk down Market Street.

Feast of St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr

Blessing of the throat is at Mass at 8am, Feb. 3, Saturday.

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for the Month of January

Evangelization: Religious Minorities in Asia. That Christians, and other religious minorities in Asian countries, may be able to practice their faith in full freedom.



with Silent and Live Auction

LITURGY AND ILLNESS

Please be aware that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass does not apply to those who are ill, especially those who suffer from contagious disease. It is a sign of consideration for others that those with flu-like symptoms remain at home. We encourage those who are ill to unite themselves to our Crucified Lord and offer their sufferings for their sanctification and the sanctification of the whole world.

WINTER COLD AND FLU SEASON

As always, you are reminded to use common good sense in the reception of Holy Communion during the annual cold and flu season.

If you are feeling ill or think you may have been exposed to a virus, you should refrain from partaking of the Blood of Christ from the communal chalice. In the same way, you should refrain from offering your hand to others at the sign of peace. Likewise if you are not comfortable sharing the sign of peace or receiving Holy Communion from the communal chalice for fear of infection, you should feel no pressure to do so.

All of us must be aware of such sensitive matters in the intimate life of the Christian community and we should expect that some will refrain from the sign of peace and the communal chalice out of care for our well-being and not out of unkindness or a lack of piety.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO STAY HEALTHY

- **Know the facts.** Influenza is thought to spread mainly person-to-person through coughing or sneezing of infected people.
- **Take everyday actions to stay healthy.**
- **Cover your nose and mouth** with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or into your sleeve if you do not have a tissue available. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- **Wash your hands thoroughly and often** with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.** Germs spread that way.
- **Stay home if you get sick.** CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.
- **Get vaccinated.** Vaccination is the best protection we have against flu.
- Source: Centers for Disease Control (<http://www.cdc.gov>)

Holy Land Pilgrimage Dec. 3-13, 2018

Walk the path filled with miracles.
For information:
www.polandmej.com
Or call Victoria at 650-758-5802, or
Luvi at 510-918-5825.

Fr. Joseph Tran will preside at all daily masses of the pilgrimage.

