



St. Columba Catholic Church

6401 San Pablo Avenue

Oakland, CA 94608

2026 MINISTRY REPORTS

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St. Columba Alpha Ministry 2025

What is Alpha?

Alpha helps create space for honest conversation around some of life's biggest questions through a series of interactive sessions. The sessions are designed to provide guests with an opportunity to share thoughts, ideas and opinions in a safe and caring environment.



Alpha in a Catholic Context is a parish tool for evangelization that invites honest questions and dialogue about life and faith for those in and out of the pews. It begins with the basic Gospel message (kerygma) and accompanies guests as they explore, reflect and respond. Thanks to the generosity of donors, Alpha is provided at no cost.



Alpha Youth in a Catholic Context offers teens a space to encounter Jesus within an authentic community. Whether you're part of a youth group, preparing for Confirmation, or meeting with friends at home or school, Alpha Youth invites you to explore life's deeper questions. Through engaging sessions and open conversations, you'll hear the good news of the gospel, deepen your relationship with God, and find your place in the church.



Sample Alpha Youth Schedules

Alpha Youth Session Sample Schedules

Here's a look at some of the sample schedules for running Alpha Youth. Depending on your context, be sure to customize as needed for your group and when you are running your course.

60 MINUTE SESSION

10 min before - Alpha Team does set up & short prayer

Alpha begins

10 min - Guests arrive, eat together, and chat

10 min - Welcome (still eating)

30 min - Episode with discussion

10 min - Hang out

Alpha ends

10 min - Debrief with Alpha team (or later)

45 MINUTE SESSION

10 min before - Alpha Team does set up & short prayer

Alpha begins

3 min - Guests arrive, eat together, welcome guests

2 min - Welcome

25 min - Episode with discussion

5 min - Short time to mingle

Alpha ends

10 min - Debrief with Alpha team (or later)

For more helpful resources as you run Alpha, see alphas.org/youth

Welcome to the NEW Alpha Youth Series!

Alpha Youth helps you obtain a space for young people to have meaningful conversations about life, faith and purpose.

This new series carefully separates the most important parts of the Alpha Youth program from the rest of the Alpha Youth series in a separate and engaging way. It sets the stage with guests to share their stories and hear from people.

Here's the reason about Alpha Youth: Alpha Youth is the most important part. The impact is greater as people hear you, small groups, those who take the lead and spark a conversation where young people feel heard, respected, and loved. That's what they will remember and talk about with impact their lives.

So what is new in this series?

- 30 minutes plus over 40 minutes
- New content creation
- A focus on prayer for youth
- A new City of Understanding hour
- New topics, stories and resources
- New structure and visual design

What are the Topics in the Alpha Youth Series?

- EPISODE 01: Welcome to the engaging Alpha Youth Party
- EPISODE 02: Jesus is...
- EPISODE 03: What does the Holy Spirit do?
- EPISODE 04: Why would I want a relationship with God?
- EPISODE 05: What does a relationship with God look like?
- EPISODE 06: Who is the Holy Spirit?
- EPISODE 07: How can I live with the Holy Spirit?
- EPISODE 08: The new and engaging Holy Spirit!
- EPISODE 09: How can I live with the Holy Spirit?
- EPISODE 10: What happens next? This is hard!

Alpha Youth is a space for people to explore faith in their own words, thoughts, feelings, and actions. Make your background or focus!

Join us for the most engaging program in your life.

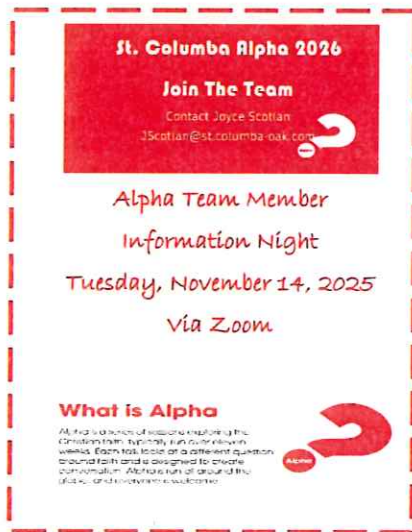
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St. Columba Alpha Ministry 2025

Alpha at St. Columba

St. Columba Alpha Ministry has run several Alpha Programs since our first introduction in 2018. Prior to the pandemic sessions were in-person. During the pandemic, Alpha Online was created. St. Columba ran a couple of online sessions. Participants were from both the parish and wider community. Parishioners are encouraged to invite friends or relatives who have “questions” to attend Alpha.

In the Fall of 2026, for the first time, the Alpha Ministry will collaborate with the Youth Ministry to run Alpha Youth. The combined Ministry will invite the youth at Sacred Heart, St. Patrick, St. Augustine, and St. Benedict to participate. An invitation to serve on the Alpha Team will be extended to the respective parishes’ youth ministry leadership.



St. Columba Alpha 2026

Join The Team
Contact Joyce Scotlan
j.scotlan@st.columba-oak.com

*Alpha Team Member
Information Night*
Tuesday, November 14, 2025
Via Zoom

What is Alpha
Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith, typically in four eleven-week, 60-min. sessions on a different question, around a table and designed to create conversation. Alpha is run all around the globe, and is available online.

Alpha City Showcase | San Francisco

Members of the St. Columba Alpha Team registered to attend the Alpha City Showcase in San Francisco in March 2026. The Showcase is an opportunity to engage in conversations with church and marketplace leaders. Experience an Alpha happening in downtown San Francisco. Encounter Jesus through songs being written in this city. Be empowered and renewed through prayer ministry for you.



Looking to 2026 and Beyond

The goal of the St. Columba Alpha Ministry is to run two Alpha Courses a year. One in the Fall for youth, in collaboration with Youth Ministry, and one in the spring for adults. We hope to provide a safe environment for all to explore their beliefs.

Ideally, Alpha will be run offsite. An agreement exists between the manager at Paradise Café and St. Columba to use their space as a possible venue. Other possibilities include the St. Columba school site, the Emeryville Public Market, or the Emeryville Community Center.



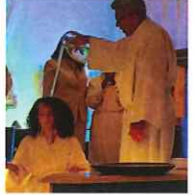


For more information about Alpha Ministry. <https://stcolumba-oak.com/alpha>



ST. COLUMBA
CATHOLIC CHURCH

CATECHUMENATE MINISTRY

2025 Report

Our ministry	Participation	Purpose and structure	Authentically Black, truly Catholic	Effective worship
				

Our ministry



“The Holy Spirit now calls us all to the work of evangelization.”

—What We Have Seen and Heard

The catechumenate at St. Columba is a structured ministry of evangelization and initiation as laid out in the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults. Our initiation ministry is also inspired by Black Catholic spirituality as articulated in [*What We Have Seen and Heard: A Pastoral Letter on Evangelization from the Black Bishops of the United States*](#), published in 1984, and the liturgical vision of Fr. Clarence Rivers.

The ministry engages inquirers, catechumens, candidates, neophytes, and returning Catholics in a multi-stage journey of faith, rooted in the life of the parish community.

Participation

St. Columba has consistently accompanied adults, teens, and children through the catechumenate and related formation processes.



2023

Two adult catechumens, Nick Thacker and Reginald Garcia, were initiated at the Easter Vigil; in the same year, Lynn Tang Lee, a baptized Christian, was received into full communion in December.



2024

Two additional adult catechumens, Tucker Pinochi and Elizabeth Chaponot, were initiated at the Easter Vigil, and both are now active Catholics in the parish community.



2025

Two adult candidates, Paul Daniels and Anthony Brown, were received into full communion. One candidate, Kalimah Priforce, celebrated his confirmation with Bishop Barber at Christ the Light Cathedral.



At the Easter Vigil, five people were initiated: Veronica Alexander, Hillary Blout and her teenage son, Nico Blout, along with teens/pre-teens, Bunny Cooper Gutierrez, Daizy Gonzalez, and Eleanor House Urban. As neophytes, several of them serve in various ministries.

2026

The current formation list shows a growing and ongoing stream of inquirers and candidates. There are multiple unbaptized inquirers: Pamela Sanchez Hernandez, Sarah Perez, and Karen Chin. Pamela and Sarah became catechumens in late 2025 and will be initiated at the Easter Vigil in 2026.



There also multiple baptized candidates: Gloria Tanui, Patty Casteneda-Davis, Carmelita Taylor, Rynn Mancuso, John Sapp, and Cole Reyes Grandel.

We also have several unbaptized children and teens from three families who became catechumens in late 2025: Victoria Elope and Julian Saucedo, Pierce, Elian, and Yatzil Brown, and Cole White.

The ministry has also supported multiple families for infant baptisms and teen confirmations, in collaboration with other parish staff and volunteers. Margaret Roncalli, who leads the adult and children's catechumenate, also regularly prepares families for the celebration of infant baptism. Under her supervision, Dr. Marianela Carter prepares teens for confirmation, ensuring that initiation-related ministries are coordinated pastorally.

Purpose and structure

The purpose and goal of the catechumenate ministry at St. Columba comes from the first sentence of the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults:

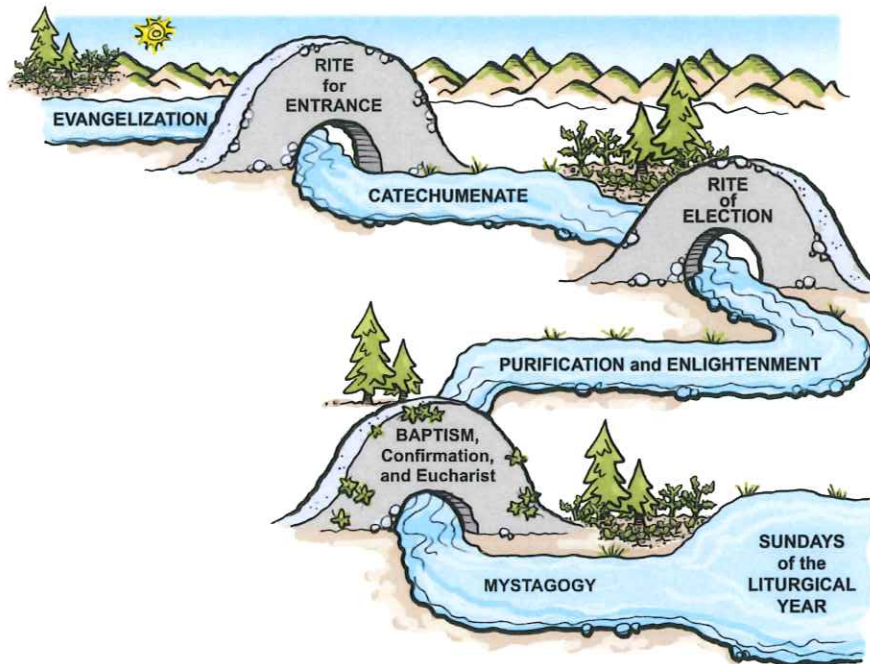


“The Order of Christian Initiation described below is designed for adults who, upon hearing the proclamation of the mystery of Christ as the Holy Spirit opens their hearts, consciously and freely seek the living God and undertake the journey of faith and conversion.”
—Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

To say that more simply, **the goal is to introduce seekers to Jesus Christ and accompany them as the Holy Spirit leads them on a journey of faith.**

The ministry is organized around the classic stages of the catechumenate process.

- **Evangelization and precatechumenate:** The purpose of this period is to announce the good news to those who have not had a significant encounter with Jesus Christ. In the past year we have focused on developing an inquiry process and training training team members to lead it.
- **Catechumenate:** During the period of the catechumenate, seekers enter an apprenticeship process to learn how to live as people of the word, function as members of a Christian community, pray to and worship the living God, and go out in the world to serve those in need.
- **Purification and Enlightenment:** This is an intensive spiritual preparation during Lent. Through the scrutinines and other rites, the elect deepen their conversion and prepare for the sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil.
- **Mystagogy:** During the 50 days of Easter, the neophytes reflect on their baptismal experience and integrate more fully into the liturgical and communal life of the parish.



In line with the rite's instruction that the "Initiation of adults is its own concern and a matter for all the baptized" (OCIA 9), the parish community recognizes that initiation is the responsibility of the whole community. This is particularly evident in the way St. Columba engages in the various rites of the process and the deep relationships fostered between seekers and parishioners.

Authentically Black, truly Catholic

The catechumenate at St. Columba is intentionally “authentically Black, truly Catholic,” drawing directly from the document, *What We Have Seen and Heard* and the Black bishops’ articulation of Black spirituality.



As a direct response to the call of the Black Catholic Bishops, we place particular emphasis on evangelization. The bishops wrote:

Each one of us is called to a special task. The Holy Spirit now calls us all to the work of evangelization.... Evangelization is both a call and a response. It is the call of Jesus reverberating down the centuries: ‘Go into the whole world and proclaim the good news to all creation’ (Mark 16:15). The response is: ‘Conduct yourselves then, in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ’ (Philippians 1:27).

Evangelization means not only preaching but witnessing; not only conversion but renewal; not only entry into the community but the building up of the community; not only hearing the Word but sharing it.

Four markers of Black Catholic spirituality shape our catechumenate process.

Contemplative	Holistic	Joyful	Community-centered
Seekers learn from their sponsors and the community that prayer is spontaneous and pervasive, affirming God’s presence everywhere and fostering trust in God’s power in the “sin-sick world.”	Seekers experience a formation process that engages both heart and head, integrating emotion, intellect, and the body in a way consistent with Scripture and the logic of the Incarnation.	Seekers are immersed into the parish’s liturgical life that emphasizes celebration, movement, song, rhythm, and thanksgiving, even amid suffering, as an expression of faith and hope.	Seekers are formed by the community’s witness that Christian identity is found in “we” rather than “I” and grounded in mutual support and social concern, especially for those whom society marginalizes.

Dismantling racism

We also understand baptism and Christian initiation as a strategy in the struggle against racism, in line with Rev. Bryan Massingale's thinking: "One of the most powerful contributions the Christian community can make toward the goal of racial justice is to celebrate the sacrament of baptism regularly, publicly, and well." (*Racial Justice and the Catholic Church* p. 123).

Effective Worship

Ritual celebration is at the heart of the catechumenate at St. Columba. Our worship involves the entire assembly in the rites of initiation. We focus on preparing rituals that give parishioners an emotional and spiritual stake in the journeys of catechumens and candidates, including more intentional use of dismissal rites, blessings, and public prayer for those in formation.

The approach to worship is informed by Rev. Clarence Rivers' theology of "effective worship," which seeks to satisfy the community's hunger for transcendence and move people to work for justice. Two of Rivers' principles, in particular, direct us:

- Worship is expected to be Spirit-driven, changing, reorienting, and expanding the perceptions of those who participate, what Rivers calls an "effective pneumatology."
- The concept of "soul," rooted in African and biblical heritage, guides the ministry's understanding of liturgy as inspired, Spirit-possessed, and embodied in active witness.

Conclusion

This report is about the catechumenate process at St. Columba. However, the principles of the catechumenate guide all the formation ministries of the church. Therefore, the catechumenate team collaborates with clergy and other parish ministers who prepare families for infant baptism and teens for confirmation, ensuring that all initiation-related ministries share a common spiritual and pastoral vision.

The catechumenate ministry at St. Columba is committed to helping the entire parish community fulfill its responsibility for evangelization, initiation, and ongoing formation, with a clear path from inquiry through initiation and integration into parish life.



Environment Ministry

The Environment Ministry's primary function is to enhance the physical worship space.

The church space is transformed with props, plants and fabrics whose colors coincide with the church seasons.

The vestibule is the entry space first encountered and should always be welcoming.

The Environment Ministry collaborates with other Liturgical ministries about needs during special services or events.

There is a core group of volunteers for setup. The net is cast wide to bring in more help during holidays. All are welcome and encouraged to join the Environment Ministry.

Liturgical Seasons

Advent (purple)

Christmas (white)

Lent (purple)

Easter. (white)

Ordinary Times (green)

Celebrations

Besides celebrating the normal feast days of obligation, St.

Columba also includes:

Black Catholic Family Month
(November)

Black History Month (February)

Work Schedule

Setup for Seasons and Feast happens prior to the church calendar date. The exception would be Holy Week. Holy Week has 3 different setup schedules. Holy Thursday- Foot washing
Good Friday- commemorating the sacrifice.

Holy Saturday- baptism of the elect.

Pentecost (red) is another exceptional day at St. Columba. It takes a day to complete the enhancements.

Faith Formation 2025 Report



The Adinkra symbol *nea onnim no sua a, ohu* – literally “one who does not know can know from learning” is commonly translated as life-long learning. This value is treasured in so much of the work of ministries and committees at St Columba. But no more so than in Faith Formation as its breadth covers seekers, families, and persons from newborn to all ages of adulthood. And it is “faith formation” rather than “religious education” because growing in faith is more than an educational experience: it is primarily about relationship to Christ and in Christ.

As we guide our young people in coming to know Jesus better and in preparing them to take their place in this world, we recognize the support that parents and guardians need in their parental task. We gather monthly as families to hear from one another, to share the collective wisdom and to tell the story of who and whose we are.



We are moving our children out of the classroom and into the circle: the circle of family and of faith community. We gather our children with our elders to hear/tell the story that is our story – the story of Jesus our Liberator and Brother, the story of our journey to freedom.

“The heart of the human community is the family... For us the family has always meant ‘the extended family’ – the grandparents, the uncles and aunts, the godparents, all those related by kinship or strong friendship.”

– from What We Have Seen and Heard: Evangelization in the African American Community, USCCB, 1984



The various parts of Faith Formation include **Infant Baptism** for families preparing for the Baptism of their baby; the **Catechumenate** process for adults age 7 and older for those seeking baptism and full initiation into the Catholic Church; **All-Family Faith Days** which is the “gathering of the village”: families at all ages and stages; monthly **Church for Tots**;

Sacramental Preparation for Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Confirmation; **Children’s Liturgy of the Word** for our elementary school children coming to know Jesus better through the Sunday scripture, especially the Gospel; and occasional and various series or classes as part of continuing **Adult Formation**, such as our Lenten Justice Thursday series.



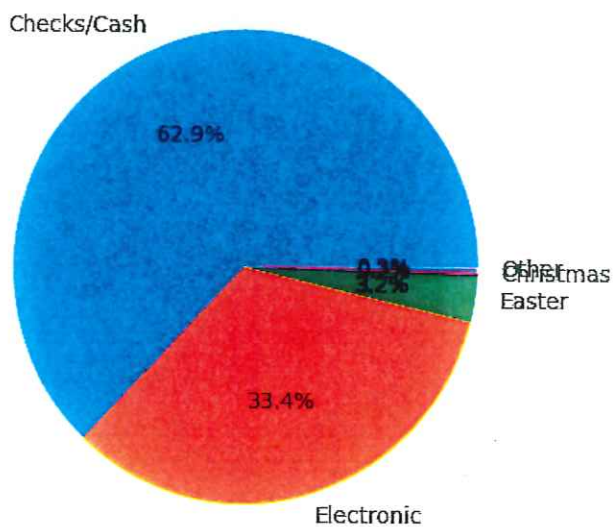
St. Columba Parish Annual Report

This annual report provides a summary of the parish's unrestricted income, highlighting the generosity of the community and the financial foundation that sustains parish life and ministry.

Plate Collections (Total: \$658,485)

The majority of parish income comes from regular Sunday and Holy Day offerings. Cash and check contributions remain the largest source, while electronic giving continues to grow as a stable and reliable form of support. Seasonal collections such as Easter and Christmas provide additional contributions.

Plate Collections Breakdown

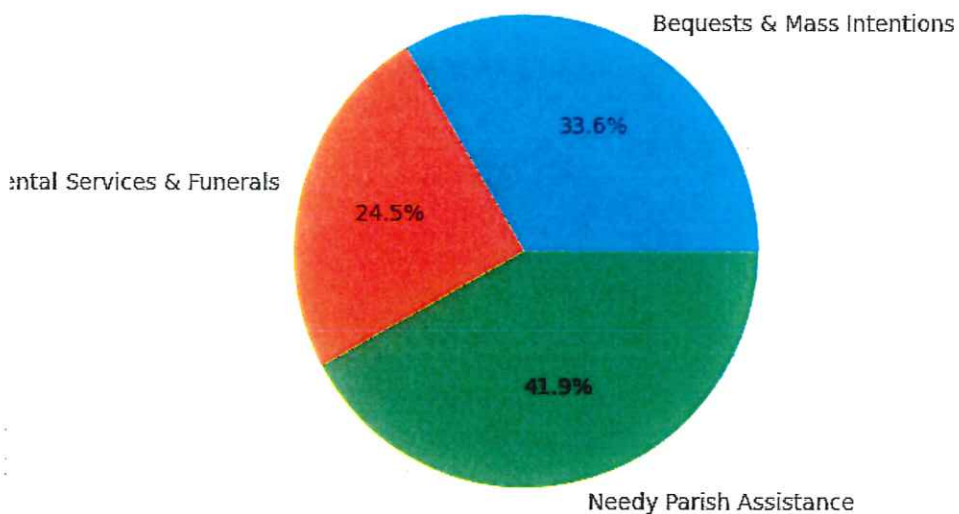


Other Donations and Parish Support

Donations (Total: \$5,350)

Additional unrestricted donations include bequests, Mass intentions, sacramental services, and direct assistance to those in need. These contributions, while smaller in scale, reflect the pastoral and charitable mission of the parish.

Donations Breakdown



Conclusion

The financial health of St. Columba Parish is rooted in the consistent generosity of its members. Regular giving sustains worship, outreach, and community life. We remain deeply grateful for the continued support that enables the parish to serve both its members and the wider community.



St Columba Health Cabinet

"If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together." (1 Cor 12:26)

<https://stcolumba-oak.com/health-cabinet>

1. **Health Cabinet:** St. Columba's Health Cabinet recently celebrated its 26th anniversary. St. Columba is the first Catholic parish to have a health cabinet in our Diocese and inspired 3 other parishes to have their own.

Our co-chairs are Godfrey Wilson and Dr. Marianela Carter. We meet the 2nd Sunday of every month at 9:15am virtually. Please see more on the church website under ministries: We have a very comprehensive history of our cabinet and more about we do. We are medical, dental, mental health and other related health field practitioners, some still working and some retired and interested parishioners with no medical background.

Our mission: The Health Cabinet in collaboration with other ministries and through partnerships with churches and organizations builds awareness of healthy living, physically, mentally, and spiritually; it provides ways to achieve optimal "holistic" health through prevention strategies; discusses chronic health issues openly; and advocates for access to treatment.

Our Vision: As followers of Christ, the Health Cabinet works to enrich the quality of life and reduce healthcare disparities in an ethnically and culturally diverse population. We do this by continually assessing needs and informing parishioners about health issues of special concern to them with culturally sensitive and appropriate information and materials.

We are affiliated with UCSF and the Ethnic Health Institute in Oakland. We provide monthly educational workshops and bulletin columns with a different topic each month. Please join us if you are interested! You do not have to have a medical background, just an interest in educating and advocating for the health of our church community and surrounding community.

Please contact Meg: megbowerman@gmail.com

St Columba Health Cabinet Annual Report 2025-2026

The mission of St Columba Health Cabinet has been in collaboration with other ministries of St Columba, community churches and organizations ;builds awareness of healthy living, physically, spiritually and mentally. We provide ways to obtain optimum holistic health through prevention strategies, discuss chronic health issues openly and advocate for access to treatment.

The vision of St Columba Health Cabinet is to reduce health disparities, and continue to assess the needs of parishioners that are of special concern to them.

2025 events began with the annual Hypertension Sunday February 23, 2025. The Hypertension Sunday Annual event continues as a partnership with Sutter Health Network Ethnic Health Institute. A collaboration was also established with Samuel Merritt University during hypertension Sunday which allowed nursing students to help with blood pressure screening of parishioners. Over 20 parishioners were screened during the annual event in February. The Partnership between St Columba Health Cabinet, Ethnic Health Institute, and Samuel Merritt University has been effective for over 10 years.

The Health Cabinet continued the 2025 year with an event in March which included a listening session facilitated by the State of California Commission on Racial Equity. The Commission listened to issues from community members related to Health Disparities. Over 45 people were in attendance from various parts of the Bay Area. The event was led by Commissioners Dr Larissa Estes and Pastor Traco Matthews. We have been fortunate to have a State report developed from the session for further visioning and planning.

A prostate cancer presentation occurred in June 2025 led by Dr Samuel Washington MD. The presentation educated community members on current data and information related to prostate cancer, screening and care. Over 60 community members were in attendance for the event and everyone present received valuable information. Members were also able to ask questions and engage in inspiring discussions. This event was a deliverable from a grant sponsored by UCSF Helen Diller Comprehensive Cancer Center.

St Columba Health Cabinet in collaboration with the Golden Gate Community hosted the first annual National Night Out August 5, 2025 at St Columba Church Parking Lot. Community Vendors from various agencies were present with educational information for participants. The community was also able to re establish connections with Oakland Police and Fire Departments. The evening was a special event nationwide to foster positive community relationships.

As 2025 year closed Health Cabinet sponsored events continued with annual educational events which included Breast Cancer Awareness (October), monthly Community Wellness Walks and monthly health education bulletin paragraphs. Currently the Health Cabinet is planning a retreat April 2026 for spiritual enrichment and future visioning.

THE ST. COLUMBA HEALTH CABINET

+Godfrey Wilson, Marianela Carter

The Listening Ministry of the Health Cabinet:

1. In 2020, the Listening Ministry was born out of a need to stay connected with parishioners St. Columba Health Cabinet
 - and to combat isolation and emotional distress during the onset of COVID pandemic.
 - Listening Ministers are available to be called by any parishioner, and many also have committed to making periodic calls to ~75 parishioners who have expressed a desire for such ongoing contacts.
 - Annually, members of the Listening Ministry conduct a parish-wide Outreach Campaign (via phone/email/text) to make contact one-to-one with parishioners. Ministers "check in" with each parishioner and ask questions (which vary each year) and are often able to provide the necessary information and resources.

+ Gwen Evans, Fred Piazza, Meg Bowerman

The Mental Health Ministry of the Health Cabinet:

- Established in 2023 and aligned with a national movement among Catholic parishes to increase openness and acceptance to address topics related to mental health and addiction challenges in a caring, faith-based Catholic environment.
- The parish's Mental Health Ministry - one of only three such programs currently active in the Oakland Diocese - provides prayerful accompaniment for people experiencing mental health and addiction challenges, works to reduce stigma and discrimination, and assists individuals and their families to find the support and services they need.
 - * This Ministry provides a range of educational activities to increase parishioners' "mental health literacy", such as the Sanctuary Course for Catholics, collaborative activities with Catholic Charities and presentations by members of the parish with expertise in mental health-related fields. Topics have included: African Spirituality and Mental Health, Caring for Self During Advent. Dealing With Trauma.

+Fred Piazza

+Karen Permillion

St Columba Homebound Ministry Parish Report

The St Columba Homebound Ministry has remained active and continues to support the parish mission through African American Spirituality we are moved to serve.

Our ministry remains committed to supporting the clergy as Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist. Homebound Ministers also report to the pastor on social and resource needs of disabled parishioners. The Homebound ministers have been committed and sacrificed scheduled home visits through life changes of disabled parishioners. Several have supported family members of disabled members even upon parishioner death with funeral arrangements.

Homebound Ministers follow Safe Environment Guidelines and are certified through Virtus Organization Website. Renewal of Safe Environment occurs every 3 years. There are currently 10 members of the Homebound Ministry.

Prayers and discernment questions for potential Homebound Ministers are located on St Columba Parish Website.

St Columba Homebound ministry has gathered twice in the last 6 months for pastor sponsored meals to check in and create ministry bonding.

The future goals of the Homebound Ministry will be training with spiritual enrichment for current ministry members, recruitment of new members and secure resources for ministry stability.



The Haiti Ministry at
ST. COLUMBA | HOPE FOR HAITI:
 Catholic Church, Oakland | EDUCATION - HHE

St. Columba Parish, 6401 San Pablo Ave.
 Oakland, Ca. 94608
 Scholarship Program, Year 17, 2026-27
 St. Bernadette, Martissant
 St. Mary Magdalene, Grand Ravine



Hope for Haiti Ministry Report

As members of St. Columba parish, “through African-American traditions,” we are moved by the Spirit to serve,” and thus work in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in Port-Au- Prince, Haiti, particularly the people of St. Bernadette Parish in Martissant and their Mission School, St. Mary Magdalene in Grand Ravine, to achieve their #1 goal of providing education to the most impoverished children in their neighborhoods.

**Began in 2010 with collaboration of Haitian citizens
 of a neighborhood human rights council; 5 schools, 175 students**

In Year #1, September 2010, HHE's scholarship program began with St. Mary Magdalene Mission School, Grand Ravine, + 4 Protestant schools with a total of 175 students. In year #10 a donor was recruited to sponsor 18 students in the Parish School, St. Bernadette, Martissant. Violence and fundraising caused a drop in Year #9 to only St. Mary Magdelene.

SCHOLARSHIPS:

For the most impoverished Haitian children in the inner-city neighborhood, Grand Ravine, of the capitol, Port-Au-Prince - tuition and school supplies originally \$200.00. This program was named the **“Bruner Memorial Scholarships” in honor of Esterne Bruner**, the brutally murdered 2nd President of the **Community Human Rights Council of Grand Ravine (CHRC/GR)**

Note: Tom Luce, Coordinator of HHE had connections to Haiti from a Haitian seminary classmate in Rome, 1960-64.

When the President of Haiti, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, was ousted in Feb. 2004 by a combination of CORE countries including the USA, Tom went to Haiti to learn what happened with a group called, EPICA (Ecumenical Program on Central America and the Caribbean,).

- The very violent neighborhood of Port-Au-Prince-Grand Ravine, became the center for the work of **CHRC/GR**, a citizen’s human rights council.



The Haiti Ministry at
ST. COLUMBA | HOPE FOR HAITI:
Catholic Church, Oakland | EDUCATION - HHE

St. Columba Parish, 6401 San Pablo Ave.
Oakland, Ca. 94608
Scholarship Program, Year 17, 2026-27
St. Bernadette, Martissant
St. Mary Magdalene, Grand Ravine



- This group became the origin of HHE for choosing a project to help Haiti. Of all the desperate needs CHRC/GR chose scholarships, putting the most impoverished children in school-and keeping them with family at home- to give them a more successful future than being locked in jail from the streets.
 - **Years 1 - 2 (2010-2013)** = 175 scholarships in 5 local private, religious schools, including the Catholic mission school, St. Mary Magdalene
 - **Years 3 - 8 (2013-2018)** = 100 scholarships in 4 local private, religious schools Including St. Mary Magdalene
 - **Year 9 (2018-2019)** = due to violence HHE reduced to 50 students at one of the original schools, St. Mary Magdalene, a Catholic school, a mission of St. Bernadette parish
 - **Year 10 (2019-2020)** Year 10 was upset by violence and Covid-19 but was completed with special arrangements. Continue the 50 students at St Mary Magdalene although HHE was very unhappy to have to close out the other schools and 50 students. Began a new school with 18 students- Year 1, at St. Bernadette, the parish school, thanks to a special donor.
Note: classes did not begin until January of 2020 due to political violence and new students were added for the half-year.
 - **Year 11 (2020-2021)** Completed funding for this year=50 students at St. Mary Magdalene, and Year 2, 18 at St. Bernadette parish school
 - **Year 12 (2021-2022)** = 50 scholarships at St. Mary Magdalene and Year 3, 18 at St. Bernadette also \$300.00 per scholarships. *Due to Covid-19 we had to obtain donations rather than holding group events, , either from individuals, or from groups.*
 - **Year 13 (2022-2023)** = 50 scholarships at St. Mary Magdalene and Year 4, 18 at St. Bernadette. \$300 per scholarship
 - **Year 14 (2023-2024)** = 50 scholarships at St. Mary Magdalene and Year 5, 18 at St. Bernadette. \$300 per scholarship
 - **Year 15 (2024-2025)** = 50 scholarships at St. Mary Magdalene and Year 6, 18 at St. Bernadette. \$320 per scholarship
 - **Year 16 (2025-2026)** = 50 scholarships at St. Mary Magdalene and Year 7, 18 at St. Bernadette. \$320 per scholarship

Scholarships: tuition, school supplies \$320.00



The Haiti Ministry at
ST. COLUMBA | HOPE FOR HAITI:
Catholic Church, Oakland | EDUCATION - HHE

St. Columba Parish, 6401 San Pablo Ave.
Oakland, Ca. 94608
Scholarship Program, Year 17, 2026-27
St. Bernadette, Martissant
St. Mary Magdalene, Grand Ravine



Food Program: A donation of **\$34.00** will provide lunch for **one child for two weeks** per month of the school year. The price for lunch every week **all year** would be **\$64.00 per child**.

Our work in Haiti has already made a significant impact on the lives of these children, but we believe that there is so much more we can do to support them. Our current goal is to raise \$10,000 to provide lunch for 310 children for two weeks per month for one school year. This seemingly simple act of providing a meal holds immense significance in the lives of these young ones. In Haiti, many children face hunger and malnutrition daily. By supplying them with a nutritious lunch, we can ensure that they have the energy and focus they need to thrive in school. Proper nutrition not only supports their physical well-being but also enhances their ability to learn, grow, and break free from the cycle of poverty.

Any generous donation will help us reach our goal of providing lunch to 310 children, giving them a chance at a brighter future

Donations are tax deductible

TAX ID# 94-1156750 | Please make checks out to: "HHE" / Memo Line: "Scholarship"

The Isabel Kellum Scholarship Committee was established to honor the enduring legacy of Isabel Kellum—the first African American lay teacher in the Diocese of Oakland and a devoted parishioner of St. Columba Church.

Our mission is to empower the youth of St. Columba Parish by providing consistent financial support throughout their undergraduate education. Since its inception, the committee has committed to assisting both graduating high school seniors and continuing college students for the duration of their four-year academic journeys.

For the **2025-2026 academic year**, the committee was proud to award **\$15,000** in scholarships to five deserving students. These awards are made possible through the continued generosity of the St. Columba community and our extended network of supporters. Our primary fundraising efforts include the *Stay-at-Home Tea* and our signature annual event, the *Tea & Hat Gala*, traditionally held in late September in the Parish Hall.

Committee Leadership:

- **Co-Chairs:** Mona Rodrigues & Denise Turner
- **Members:** Paula Mitchell, Katie Calvert, Eva Reyes, Cathy Morris, & Katie Hennessey

Below are photos of the Tea & Hat Gala from 2024, 2025





Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Court #127

The Ladies Auxiliary at St Columba has been in existence since 1954 providing services to our Church and Community. Members have served the Church as Lecturers, Eucharistic Ministries, Parish Council members and our Choir.

We honor the vision, courage and legacy of the founding women of the Ladies Auxiliary. We promote sisterhood through Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity. We are always looking for women who are practicing Catholics to join our Court and continue to conduct charitable acts in accordance to our Noble Order.

2025

Provided lunch for the Seniors at the St Mary's Center

Collected toiletries for Covenant House

Distribution of Lunch bags to the Homeless on Oakland Streets

Re-established the Junior Daughters for Court 127

Co-Sponsor Breast Cancer Awareness in October

Provide Lunch for All Family Faith Day

Provide a Family from the Giving Tree by Catholic Charities \$100 Gift Card for Christmas

Participated in several Fundraisers by the Knights of Peter Claver



FROM: KNIGHTS OF PETER CLAVER, INC, COUNCIL #127, St Columba Catholic Church, Oakland, Ca Western States District

TO: KNIGHT FATHER AIDAN McALEENAN, PASTOR/CHAPLAIN

SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 REVIEW

On August 21, 1954, Messrs Andrew Arbuckle and Erbin Celestin were initiated into the Knights of Peter Claver, Council #127. The council was first chartered two months earlier on June 27, 1954, as Father Cantillion Council 127, and they became the first initiates of Council 127 at the storied St Columba Church of Oakland, Ca.

As we celebrate our 70th Anniversary, we, the Knights of Council #127, continue to uphold the words of our dear St Peter Claver, and goals of our Noble Order; By supporting our Pastor, Parish and Bishop. Instilling Civic Pride and Action, Fostering sense of Community; and most important, Developing the Character of our Youth.

We are the Western States District and National Council of the Year 2024.

MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

Knights George Fruehan and John J. (Fr Hilary) Martin were initiated into our Council this fiscal year

Jr Knights Oscar Gurrola, Jaxon Jenkins and Julian Jenkins were initiated into Branch 127 this fiscal year.

ACTIVITIES SUPPORTING THE CHURCH

We attended five Turn Outs this year in Northern California Area. Starting the year off, we hosted our annual MLK week Turn Out. Next, Low Sunday, we hosted a special Turn Out with an after Mass BBQ and fellowship. For Claver Day, we joined our fellow Knights and Ladies at a San Francisco Parrish. We hosted our 70th Anniversary with Turn Out and Reception.

All Family Faith Day is a once a month gathering of parish families for prayer, sharing, learning and food. Grand Knight Maurice Harper is a facilitator of these gathering with Council 127's help and financial donations.

As one of our primary funding entities, the Church Youth Group, led by Maurice Harper, is a service we are proud to support. We dedicate our fund raising from our clothing drives and Community Breakfast exclusively to the Youth Group.

ghostly salutations with ten cars and the Knight mobile filled with candy and goodies. Children and their families came from all parts of the community.

We hosted both a Juneteenth and Fathers' Day celebration at St Columba for the whole local community.

KWANZA CELEBRATION. Our annual Kwanzaa celebration was led by Grand Knight Maurice Harper, Lecturer. Attendees were treated to a great presentation on Kwanzaa and an even greater scrumptious meal prepared by the Knights.

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE IN CITY/STATE

We continue to support our Tiny Home in Oakland. Tiny Homes is a non-profit organization that houses homeless youths 18-25. Council 127 Knights and Court 127 Ladies both support a resident Tiny Home.

Every year at Thanksgiving/Christmas we distribute food boxes and gifts to families in need. The food boxes are supplied by the Knights of Columbus. Our council sponsors the box truck to pick up the boxes and gifts and deliver to our parish as well as brother parishes in our district. We also hand out the boxes and load them to cars.

Over \$3000.00 was contributed by Council #127 for Charity contribution to our Parish, our community, the Claver community, and the community at large. Included in the following:

\$1000.00 African American Oakland Diocese Committee

\$300.00 To the African American Speakers Series Committee

\$750.00 To the St Peter Claver House of San Francisco

\$100.00 To Clergy and Religious Order

\$150.00 to KPC National Programs: Human Trafficking

\$130.00 Contribution to All Family Faith Day

\$430.00 Contribution to Thanksgiving food giveaway with St Marys

Contributions to services of recently departed Claver family members from both our Parish and other District Parishes

Contribution and sponsor to all Youth Group events

The Following Knights serve in the Mass and/or on committees in support of the Church.

Grand Knight Maurice Harper, - 4th Degree Knight, Youth Group Director, Lecturer, President, St. Vincent De Paul, Listening Ministry, Parish Council, Faith in Action local organizing Committee, Confirmation Director, Chaperone and Attendee Black Catholic Men's Conference.

Knight David Angel Harris, -Deputy Grand Knight, Chaperone KPC Juniors , Weekly St Vincent De Paul food distribution, Clothing Drive Committee, Holiday Food Drive Supervisor

Knight Father Aidan McAleenan-Pastor, Chaplin, Chaperone KPC Juniors.

Knight Andrew Peters-Usher, Member Social Justice Committee 2021 WSDC Prat Knight of the Year, Clothing Drive Coordinator, Pinned SVDP, Coordinator KPC/KOC St. Vincent de Paul Food/Gift distributions

Knight Godfrey Wilson-Parish Health Cabinet, CO Chairperson, Founding member of SC Library, Men's Health Workshop.

Knight Kevin L Nichols-Lecturer, Youth and Middle School Tech Camp Founder and Organizer, Speaker Divine Nine Sunday, Sunday Mass Lecturer.

Knight Keith McCullom-Member Church Gospel Choir

Knight Ron Bazile-Lecturer, Leader African American Series and the Black Catholic Month Series

Knight Alex Rudolph-Liturgical Technology, Youth Confirmation Team, KPC Assistant Junior Knight Commander, Chaperone KPC Juniors

Knight Lelton Gibson- Junior Knight Commander, Attended and chaperoned Juniors at Black catholic Men's Conference in Indianapolis. Chaperone KPC Juniors.

Knight Kalimah Priforce-Member Church Gospel Choir. City Councilman, Emeryville, Ca.

Knight George Fruehan, Parish Health Council

ACTIVITIES SUPPORTING THE COMMUNITY

Trunk or Treat was a large activity we participated in this year. Put on by several church groups including the Knights, we decorated the church parking lot with spooky and



Together with Newman Nonviolent Peacemakers

Pax Christi Northern California Presents our Speaker:

Anne Symens-Bucher

Activist Peacemaker & Cofounder of **Canticle Farm**

**& the 2025 Tom Webb Memorial Peacemaker of the Year Awardee
Maurice Harper** Ministry Leader, Social & Racial Justice Activist

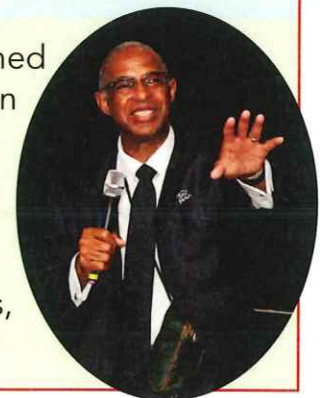
Saturday, February 14, 2026 from 9 am - Noon (Registration starts at 8:30 am)

The Journey of Peacemaking: Using the story of Francis meeting the Sultan, and the framework of the Spiral of the Work That Reconnects, Anne will invite us to reflect on what we can learn from St. Francis about the gifts we receive when we open our hearts to our perceived enemies. Francis' journey can inspire our own peacemaking journey in this time of violence and polarization.



ANNE SYMENS-BUCHER was Joanna Macy's executive assistant and also previously served the Santa Barbara Province Franciscan Friars as co-director of their Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation Office. She once lived at the New York Catholic Worker with Dorothy Day and then founded the Oakland Catholic Worker. She co-founded the Nevada Desert Experience, organizing events at the Nevada Test Site. Anne and her husband, Terry, are Secular Franciscans and founders of Canticle Farm, an intentional community experimenting at the intersection of faith, social justice, and Earth-based nonviolent activism.

MAURICE HARPER, JR. is a ministry leader, social activist, and renowned educator. He is a member of Faith in Action East Bay and the Diocesan Racial Task Force, an active participant in Oakland Ceasefire Walks in Oakland, and a facilitator of JustFaith programs on racial equity, healing, and justice. A long-time member of St. Columba's Church, Maurice is head of their St. Vincent de Paul Society and assists with many social justice and youth activities. He has been an educator in Bay Area schools, including as principal of the former St. Martin de Porres School in Oakland.



Newman Hall/Holy Spirit Church

2700 Dwight Way, Berkeley, CA (at College Avenue). Disabled accessible building.

Parking Hourly parking at Underhill Parking Garage at 2550 Channing Way (Haste and Channing) and street parking. Disabled parking available in the lot across from Newman.

Suggested donation of \$20-\$25 Payable by check, cash, or credit at the event, or via PayPal or credit card online at paxchristinorcal.org. But all are welcome regardless of ability to pay.

Email info@paxchristinorcal.org for RSVP and questions, or phone Dennise at 510-303-9767.

<https://stcolumba-oak.com/stcolumbapride>

St. Columba LGBTQ Ministry 2025

In 2025, St. Columba's lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) ministry organized two public events: a Pride BBQ in June, preaching series and a presence at Oakland Pride in September.

A group of parishioners began meeting in February to plan and organize our Pride BBQ, held on June 21 in our church garden. PFLAG Oakland/East Bay shared resources, and members of Dignity SF and other Catholic parishes were among the nearly 130 people who attended.



**St. Columba
Pride BBQ**

21 JUN Saturday 5pm-7:30pm

All Are Welcome!

Bring a Side Dish to Share

St. Columba Rectory Garden
6401 San Pablo Ave. x 64th St.
Oakland, CA

FREE!
Food! Drinks!
Fun! Music!
Karaoke!
Brazilian Bbq!

Resource Booths
PFLAG
Oakland

RSVP
pride@stcolumba-oak.com

There were a number of individuals who were not familiar with the parish, as well as many long-time parishioners who enjoyed the BBQ, fellowship, and music.




Also during Pride Month in June, several homilies addressed the experiences of LGBTQ Catholics, including preaching by Fr. Bryan Massingale from Fordham University on June 1. This continued our Pride Month speaker series that has occurred for the past six years.



On July 28, Fr. Aidan hosted a dinner in our parish garden for the parishioners who organized the June BBQ. We prayed & shared our faith journeys as Catholics who identify as LGBTQ and allies, and discussed ideas for additional activities for our LGBTQ ministry.

Our organizing group then worked on reserving and organizing a booth at Oakland Pride on September 7.



OaklandPride™

Celebrating 15 Years of Oakland Pride

SEPT 7TH, 2025
PARADE & FESTIVAL


IN **UNITY**, WE **THRIVE**

Come join St. Columba
at the Oakland Pride Festival!
www.oaklandpride.org

Parade at 11am (free)
Begins at Broadway & Thomas L Berkley Way

Festival 12pm - 6pm
At Oakland City Hall - 14th Street and Broadway
Admission \$20 (\$15 for seniors | \$10 for youth)

WHO AND WHOSE WE ARE



Ese Ne Tekrema
"Although we are different we complement each other"

Over 75 people visited our booth during the day, with several sharing their connections with St. Columba through family members and friends, and others curious about the presence of a Catholic parish with an African American history and culture at an LGBTQ pride event.



Several were interested in learning more about our church, including those who lived outside the area who were interested in the livestreaming of our Sunday 10:30am Mass and other virtual programs. It was an important opportunity for public to witness our faith, diversity, and inclusiveness.



Ese Ne Tekrema

"Although we are different we complement each other"

We love our church community who knows

"Who and Whose they are" Together we live the gospel of love for all. Truly catholic and universal. Blessings on one and all and thank you for loving us.

For more information and updates about our LGBTQ ministry,

<https://stcolumba-oak.com/stcolumbapride>

Mass Coordinator Ministry Description - St. Columba Parish

Position Summary: Mass Coordinators are volunteer unpaid positions that serve at the 10:30 AM Sunday Mass, primarily, and at other Masses as needed. Mass Coordinators help the community participate fully and actively by overseeing the smooth flow of the liturgy. Mass Coordinators report to the liturgy director or, in the absence of a liturgy director, to the assigned parish staff person.

Onsite responsibilities during the Mass and its immediate preparation:

- Arrive onsite at least 30 minutes before or earlier as needed.
- Be the point person onsite for liturgical ministry coordinators and ministers, guiding them as needed and ensuring the necessary ministers and items are present and in place at the appropriate times.
- Serve as the main assistant to the celebrant and the liaison between celebrant, liturgical ministers, and sacristan.
- Anticipate and calmly resolve unexpected events arising during Mass that require changes to the liturgy.
- Coordinate with technology and music staff to ensure proper use of the audio-visual aids.

Other responsibilities:

- Collaborate with the liturgy director, sacristan, and liturgical coordinators in preparation for each Mass.
- Keep up to date with liturgical decisions made by the pastoral and liturgical staff.
- Participate in liturgy committee meetings and ongoing formation and evaluation as directed.

Qualifications:

- Committed to the Catholic faith and its liturgical life in the African-American tradition.
- Understands the church's liturgical rites, rubrics, ritual books, terminology, and calendar, and is familiar with the parish's liturgical customs, procedures, norms, and preferences.
- Organized and attentive to details and persons, juggling a variety of tasks and demands at the same time.
- Moves calmly and unobtrusively, cultivating a prayerful environment for everyone and attending to their responsibilities confidently, without distracting others from the liturgy.
- Flexible and can think quickly, making appropriate adaptations and decisions under pressure, and communicating those to a variety of persons discreetly and with grace.
- Remains calm and composed in challenging situations and quickly takes direction and correction as needed.

**2025 Annual Report
Proclaimers Ministry
St. Columba Catholic Church**

The Proclaimers Ministry provides lectors to serve at all three Masses, and throughout the year for special liturgical services, prominently among which are Lent and Advent. Our goal is to declare, exclaim, praise, glorify, and honor "The Word of the Lord". We strive to make a connection between us and the congregation by proclaiming at a level that lifts the word off the page; that imparts feeling and life into the words; that glorifies the meaning of the message; all while preserving the Sacredness of the Liturgy of the Word.

This year, we were blessed to welcome four new proclaimers, totaling a roster of 34. We scheduled proclaimers quarterly, based on their availability. As in previous years, we were short on proclaimers for the Saturday 4:00 P. M. and Sunday 8:00 A. M. Masses, resulting in our ministers doubling the number of times they would normally proclaim during each quarter. There is an abundance of proclaimers for the Sunday 10:30 A. M. Mass, resulting, on average, in proclaiming only twice per quarter. A few dedicated proclaimers served multiple Masses. We continue to try recruiting for the under-staffed Masses, as well as encourage 10:30 A. M. proclaimers to occasionally sign up for one of the other Masses.

In addition to participating in the Liturgy of the Word, our proclaimers were called upon to participate in *Holy Listening* during Lent and Advent. For Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and the Easter Vigil, proclaimers were called upon to participate in dramatic readings for the Liturgy. They received many kudos for "*making the Resurrection come alive*". As one of our Liturgical Ministers said: "*You all got a Standing Ovation in the hearts of the congregation!*"

In August, we had our Annual Proclaimers Workshop onsite. It was most successful, thanks to the conscientious planning by Karen Permillion and Hollis Pierce-Jenkins. Attendees were most pleased with the wealth and variety of information presented. In the future, we hope to continue our annual workshops regularly, and resume our Proclaimers Retreat (funds dependent).

Moving forward, the Proclaimers Ministry will focus on incorporating our youth in the regular Masses. Several of our young parishioners have demonstrated great potential for proclaiming "The Word of the Lord". The impetus is to feed the pipeline to the lifeline of this essential ministry.

We give thanks for all of our proclaimers, who responded “Yes” to God’s call to deliver “The Word”. Their dedication, preparation, and desire for excellence are of the highest quality. It is our prayer that their growth as a proclaimer be fruitful, and blossom into spiritual fulfillment.

Proclaimers Prayer:

Lord, I am your mouthpiece. I am surrendered unto you to be your vessel. Holy Spirit, lead me and guide me as I proclaim your Word in such a way that each parishioner will receive that special message, that one message that they need to hear. Amen!

By: glbe

Outgoing Coordinator:

Gwen Evans

Leadership Team:

Karen Permillion

Hollis Pierce-Jenkins

Barry Stenger

Elizabeth Balbin

St. Vincent de Paul Society St. Columba Conference Annual Report 2025

Who We Are

For over 45 years, the St. Columba Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society has served the families and community of North Oakland.

What began as a small food distribution out of the rectory has now grown and become a vibrant ministry of the St. Columba parish.

This year, 25 weekly volunteers contributed a total of 8,104 hours. Our St. Vincent de Paul conference is led by our Conference President Maurice Harper (pictured here) and Vice President JoAnn Evans.



What We Do

Through community partnerships with the Alameda County Food Bank and Sprouts, **St. Columba has one of the largest parish food pantry and grocery distribution programs in the Diocese of Oakland.**

On average we serve between **60-70 families** weekly from the North Oakland community. **In 2025, we distributed food to a total of 1,935 families, reaching 3,397 individuals within those households.** The estimated value of these in-kind services was \$258,041.

To fully describe the demographics of those we serve, a more formal census needs to be completed. However, based on our current data, we serve primarily seniors who represent the following categories.

- Asian: 45%
- African American: 40%

The remaining 15% represents the following racial and ethnic categories - Hispanic, Middle Eastern, North African, Caucasian and/or mixed race.



*St. Vincent de Paul Society
St. Columba Conference
Annual Report 2025*

Additional Assistance

Occasionally the conference is notified that a family or individual needs support beyond our food distribution. For these situations, we respond with some additional assistance and referrals to other conferences or nearby services. This year, we provided the following additional assistance.

- **Rental Assistance:** \$200 provided to those in need
- **Clothing Assistance:** \$250 worth of clothing support distributed
- **Home Visits:** 34 home visits to providing companionship and groceries

What this Means?



Ms. Shirely has been coming for over 15 years. *“I love coming here. Everyone is so nice. And this helps me care for my mother who lives with me.”*

Mr. Johnson has come to St. Columba for many years. *“This place is a blessing and not just for me but my family, extended family, and even my neighbors. I even try to share what I receive here with people I see on the streets, because they are worse off than me.”*



Mr. Shen has been coming to St. Columba for four years and lives in the Sister Thea Bowman Manor across the street. *“This is very important to all of us here.”*

St Columba Parish High School Youth Ministry

The goal of St Columba High School Youth Ministry has been to attract community youth and connect with each other spiritually and socially through participation in programs and activities. The High School Youth Ministry in coordination with high school Confirmation supports the mission of St Columba Church "Through African American Traditions and Roman Catholic Principles , we are moved by the Spirit of God to serve.

St Columba High School Youth Ministry has the fortunate growth of over 40 active families with students ages 13 -18 years old. The support team of the youth ministry consists of prior youth group members (college students 18 and over) ,parents, and adult catechists. All volunteers are Safe Environment Certified through the Virtus. Organization website.

The 2025-2026 School year activities began with the annual NorCal ONFIRE Youth Rally at Six Flags Vallejo. The youth group bonded with several participants which totaled over 3000 active people. The ONFIRE Rally gave opportunities for networking, liturgy, fellowship and fun. Pastor Fr Aidan shared the day with the students and all were grateful.

Since June 2025, St Columba High School Youth Ministry and Confirmation group have participated in several service projects: Kids Against Hunger-Pleasanton (Packaging food for Haitian Children), St Columba Scholarship Tea Servers, Knights of Peter Claver Food Sale, St Columba National Night Out Community Crime and Safety Night Service, Lake Merritt Estuary Clean Up and various roles of service during liturgies (word proclamation, procession participants, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers , Choir etc.

'St Columba Confirmation and Youth Group held a weekend retreat January 2-4 2026 at San Damiano Retreat Center, Danville. A small group of youth, catechists, and Pastor had a spirit filled weekend themed Gifts Of The Spirit. The students and adult participants engaged in reflection, discussions and community bonding. Pastor Fr Aidan led the Sacrament of Reconciliation and evening Liturgy for retreat participants. All participants were amazed at the power of God's blessings bestowed.

We have been challenged throughout the year to find sufficient resources to maintain certain off campus activities and field trips. The St Columba Confirmation and Youth Group have received significant in-kind donations for group sustainability. We have also held online fundraisers and anticipate grant funding, and parish donations for additional support.

The St Columba Youth Group in combination with High School Confirmation meets first, Second and fourth Sunday . The fourth Sunday meet up is held at St Columba All Family Faith Day. The youth meetings have been educational, spirit filled and visionary. The group looks forward to participation in the upcoming parish vision/ Synod gathering on Pentecost Sunday 2026.

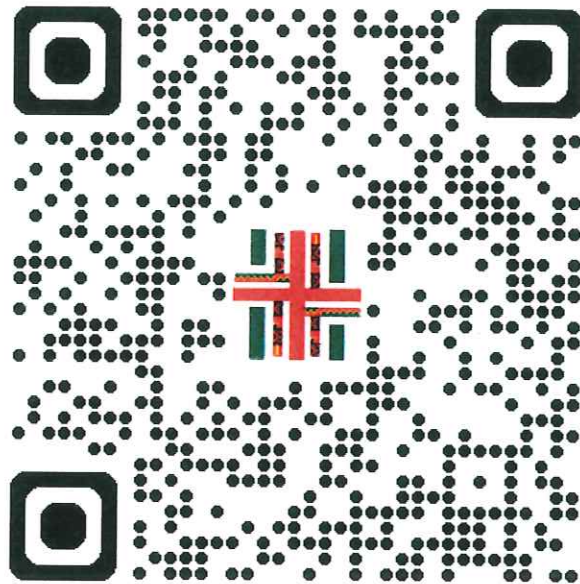
Additional full Budget Report for 2025 & Actual Budget for 2026

Please note that we anticipated income from our school lease beginning July 2026

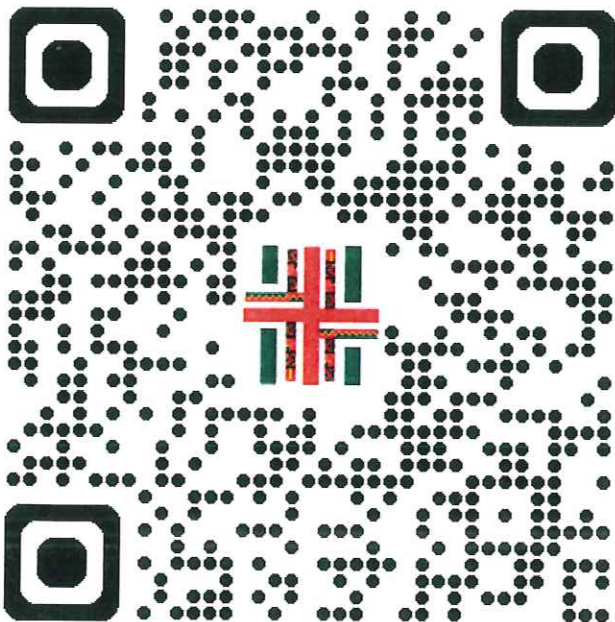
As of the publishing of this document, we have secured planning permission but the new school has not secured funding for the renovation. As soon as they secure their funding a monthly check for the lease will be initiated. Much of the first year goes to funding the real estate companies fee for the work on the lease. (Two companies \$150k)

Any questions please contact me at ajmcaleenan@gmail.com and or cell / text 6502488355

Fr. Aidan



ST. COLUMBA BUDGET 2025



ST. COLUMBA BUDGET 2026