



*Calendar of events for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of the Diocese of Oakland*

January 8, 2012 – Feast of the Epiphany  
Parish Celebrations

August 22, 2012 – Feast of Our Lady Queen of the World  
Diocesan Mass – Cathedral

September 9, 2012 @ 4:00pm – Golden Anniversary  
History of the Diocese of Oakland  
Cathedral Event Center

October 13, 2012 – Diocesan Cultural Celebration  
Cathedral

January 6, 2013 – Feast of the Epiphany  
Anniversary Banquet

*More specific information regarding locations and times will be communicated at a later date. As various other celebrations are confirmed they will be added to the calendar*

## **Department of Catholic Schools**

To commemorate 50 years of ministry together as part of our Diocese of Oakland, our Catholic elementary and secondary schools will be writing, illustrating, editing and publishing a book of prayers and pictures.

This hardback book will include 2 contributions from each school. First, the schools will submit a prayer. This can be an original prayer by a student or faculty member or a favorite traditional prayer. The prayer may be related to the charism of the school or inspired by their community. Next, the schools will submit a picture. This can be original student artwork or photography and we will be sure to have the permission to reprint and distribute.

There will be a short section about each school, including the date the school opened, the founding order, and a little bit about their history. This will lead into their two contributions.

We hope with this book that we are able to showcase and celebrate the many faces of our Diocesan family and share the rich tradition of Catholic faith formation and academic excellence in our schools.

We also hope that we may inspire others to pray through our prayers and to feel closer to God through our students' art.

## **Department of Evangelization and Catechesis and Department of Ethnic Ministries**

The Department of Evangelization and Catechesis and the Department of Ethnic Ministries will collaborate in offering to interested parishes ways of implementing the following ideas.

1. Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy – A commitment to live out 50 expressions of these values.
2. Referencing Biblical Passages of Jubilee and its themes. We will assist the Parish in the application of these themes. (Deliverance, liberty, ecological issues, renewal, jubilee)
3. 50<sup>th</sup> theme of Gathering Good Together In Christ  
How might a parish insert this theme in its celebration of
  - Christmas
  - Easter
  - Pentecost
  - Cultural Feasts
  - Parish Feast

We offer to meet with pastors, parish councils, and justice committees.

Contact Sr. Felicia Sarati, Hector Medina or Sam Vasquez for further information.

## **Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry**

The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry will organize a 24 Hour Prayer Vigil enumerating 24 diocesan intentions. Information and details regarding the Prayer Vigil can be found on the office website. Suggestions for prayer services for youth and young adult will also be posted.

For further information, please contact Patti Collyer.

## RENEW

A significant experience in the Diocese of Oakland within the last 50 years was a diocesan-wide process/program of RENEW. For three years many parishes followed the RENEW format, encouraging the development of Small Christian Communities where the materials and the Scriptures were discussed and made personal. Many of these small communities have continued to meet and many parishes continue to offer opportunities for small groups to meet during Lent each year.

The Presbyteral Council voted to encourage each parish to consider having a renewal of RENEW during Lent this year, our Anniversary year.

Renew International offers two program in particular that you might find useful.

1. There is a twelve-session program based on Ronald Rollheiser's materials: Longing for the Holy: Spirituality for Everyday Life. This format includes prayers, reflections, sharing questions and stories from saints and ordinary contemporary people of faith. There are many materials available to help with this format: the small booklet for each person to have (LHFS), a leader's booklet, a personal journal, music CDs, etc. There is a whole parish kit.
2. There is a six-session program on the Sunday Readings for Lent of 2012 (LLFSB). Participants are called to commit to works of justice and to the ongoing conversion of hearts. (Session one visible on line.)

Both these programs are available in English and Spanish from RENEW INTERNATIONAL 1-888-433-3221 [www.renewintl.org/store](http://www.renewintl.org/store).

For help in setting up **new** small groups for this Lent, please contact Fr. Dan Danielson at (510) 530-4343 ext. 17 or [ded1000@yahoo.com](mailto:ded1000@yahoo.com). Fr. Danielson can share formats that have been used in the past and assist those who were not in the diocese when RENEW was done the first time and may find the process somewhat daunting.