

May 21st: Saint Columba Earth Day Mass Celebration | 2017

On May 21st, Saint Columba will host our first ever Earth Day Mass Celebration at City Slicker Farms at 2847 Peralta Street, Oakland for 10.30 am mass. The church doors will be locked. City Slicker Farms is about nine minutes away from St. Columba.

St. Francis Pledge Ministry has been working hard to plan this event. We invite you to stay after mass to enjoy the location. Please bring a blanket or lawn chair and pack a lunch in reusable containers.

St. Francis Pledge Ministry invites you to commit to leaving the earth better than you found it. To do this, consider giving up one thing to conserve natural resources. You pick the length of time and please come to our mass celebration willing to share what you've decided to give up. Here are a few examples to get you thinking.

CONSIDER:

1. Giving up meat at least one day a week.
2. Taking alternative transportation at least once a week.
3. Changing your home light bulbs to LED, if you haven't already.
4. Making your own personal care products.

There are a lot of things you can do to help conserve resources. These suggestions help to save water, energy, improve air quality, and help to keep pollutants from further contaminating our soil.

GUEST SPEAKER:



Our guest speaker will be our very own parishioner, **Rue Mapp**, an incredible earth champion.

Rue Mapp is the Founder of Outdoor Afro, and oversees a carefully selected and trained national volunteer leadership team of 62 men and women who represent 28 states around the US.

Through Outdoor Afro, her not-for-profit organization with offices in Oakland, CA, and Washington, D.C., Rue, as CEO, shares

opportunities to build a broader community and leadership in nature. Her important work has generated widespread national recognition and support.

Originally beginning in 2009 as a blog, Rue has since captured the attention and imagination of millions through a multi-media approach, grounded in personal connections and community organizing. From its grassroots beginning, now Outdoor Afro enjoys national sponsorship and is recognized by major organizations for the importance of diversity in the outdoors.

In 2010, Mapp was invited to the White House to participate in the America's Great Outdoors Conference, and subsequently to take part in a think-tank to inform the launch of the First Lady's "Let's Move" initiative. She was appointed program officer for the Stewardship Council's Foundation for Youth Investment to oversee its grant-making program from 2010-2012.

Since that time, Mapp's work and op-eds have been featured in publications including The Wall Street Journal, Backpacker Magazine, Seattle Times, Los Angeles Times, Ebony Magazine, Sunset Magazine, NPR, and many others.

Rue's ongoing work has been recognized with numerous awards and distinctions: The Root 100 as one of the most influential African Americans in the country (2012 and 2016), Outdoor Industry Inspiration Award, National Wildlife Federation Communication award (received alongside President Bill Clinton) and Family Circle Magazine selected Rue as one of America's 20 Most Influential Moms.

Mapp remains in high demand to speak around the country and in Canada about her innovative approach that has successfully connected thousands, especially from the African American community, to nature and the benefits of spending more time outdoors.

She is proud to serve on the Outdoor Industry Association board. In 2014, Rue was appointed to the California State Parks Commission by Governor Jerry Brown.

A graduate of UC Berkeley (with a Degree in Art History), Rue's skills and background make her a unique voice via the leadership and programs she has instituted through OA, enlightening a diverse community to the wonders and benefits of the outdoors. Rue resides in Oakland, CA and is the proud mother of three active teenage children.



Promise to leave this world stronger; safer; more sustainable, and more beautiful than you inherited it!

This event is an opportunity to celebrate the earth and her resources.

It does not replace our Picnic in the Park.



St. Francis Pledge Ministry Saint Columba Catholic Church

We pledge to pray, act, and advocate to reverse our adverse impacts on climate.