

Saint Benedict's Church
2423 Grant Street
Omaha 10, Nebraska

June 16, 1952

Most Reverend Archbishop G. T. Bergan
The Chancery Office
Omaha, Nebraska

Most Reverend Archbishop :

I believe that it is my duty humbly to present for your consideration the following recommendation. I believe that it is my duty, for I am thoroughly convinced that the matter is of the utmost importance; and also because I know your paternal interest and pastoral concern about this field of Catholic labor.

I wish to recommend that ST. BENEDICT'S BE CHANGED TO THE STATUS OF A REGULAR PARISH AND BE ASSIGNED DEFINITE PARISH BOUNDARY LINES.

Here are the main reasons for which it would seem that the recommended change be made at once:

(1) The Physical Plant is now ready.

The extensive renovations made during the past four years have resulted in a St. Benedict's that is worthy of being a parish. No longer need any person be disgraced by being a member here. Nor would any extreme financial burden be placed upon those who fall within the parish limits; there should be no heavy expenditures for repairs or upkeep during the next few years.

(2) St. Benedict's Members are now ready.

The preparatory period of specialized work on the Negro as such has been completed. Sufficient converts have been made; and through the thirty years of St. Benedict's history, the seeds of the Catholic family and home have been developed. The preliminary work of training in the support of their church has been achieved; the enthusiastic laboring on Church projects, and the 100% increase in Sunday collections during the past three years are positive proof of this achievement.

(3) The "Other" Catholics of Omaha are now ready.

For the most part the Catholics of Omaha have been prepared as far as possible for this integration.

a.. There has been no fanfare about the flat practice of the doctrine of the Mystical Body by the Holy Name Society. Certainly the reelection of a young Colored man as Vice President has been due not only to the fact that he is acceptable as