



*The King of Israel, the LORD,
is in your midst,
you have no further misfortune to fear.*

— Zephaniah 3:15b

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St. Bonaventure Catholic Church *Iglesia Católica de San Buenaventura*

5562 Clayton Road, Concord, CA 94521 ❖ www.stbonaventure.net

PHONE (925) 672-5800 ❖ FAX (925) 672-4606

December 13, 2015 Third Sunday of Advent | 13 de diciembre de 2015 Tercer Domingo de Adviento

MASSES IN ENGLISH/EN INGLÉS

Saturday Vigil/Sábado: 5:00 PM
Sunday/Domingo 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM,
11:00 AM, 5:00 PM

MASSES IN SPANISH/EN ESPAÑOL

Domingo: 12:45 PM

DAILY MASS/MISA DIARIA (CHAPEL/CAPILLA)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday/Lunes,
Martes, Jueves y Viernes: 9:00 AM
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday/Martes, Miércoles y
Jueves: 6:30 AM

COMMUNION SERVICE/SERVICIOS DE COMUNIÓN (CHAPEL/CAPILLA)

Monday & Friday/Lunes y Viernes: 6:30 AM
Wednesday/Miércoles: 9:00 AM

BAPTISM/BAUTIZOS

In English: Call the office to begin the process.
This requires two months preparation. *En Español:*
Los Sábados
10:00 AM. Llame a la oficina para hacer arreglos con
un Sacerdote ó Diácono. Este requiere dos meses de
preparación.

MARRIAGE/MATRIMONIO

Call the office to arrange with a Priest or
Deacon. This requires six months preparation.
Llame a la oficina para hacer arreglos con un
Sacerdote ó Diácono. Este requiere seis meses de
preparación.

RECONCILIATION/RECONCILIACIÓN

In English: Saturdays 3:30 PM (in the church) or by
appointment. *En Español: Llame a la oficina para*
hacer arreglos con un Sacerdote. Por cita.



As disciples at St. Bonaventure, we are committed to know Christ better and make Him better known. To this end we are committed to...

Keep connected to our parish community
Nurture the development of our faith and knowledge of Christ
Offer to share the Holy Spirit's gifts of time, talent and treasure
Worship through prayer, Mass and the Sacraments

THOUGHTS FROM FR. RICHARD
 PENSAMIENTOS DE PADRE RICARDO

■ **THE AVENUE OF EDUCATION BRINGS FULLER LIFE**

It is not clear whether the graduation of the 173 candidates for their Bachelors' degrees from high school will be outside in the humid hot air or inside in closer cramped quarters, because of the torrential rains of yesterday afternoon through the night. Fingers are crossed. (Friday afternoon Nov. 20)

The rains did not return; the graduation exercises took place in an outside gathering with a roof, on the grounds of the Instituto, a grandstand on one side and seating for 450. Everyone was jubilant and excited. There were prayers, speeches. I gave one; Fr. Adrian the first, the Principal last. I welcomed each graduate, shook their hand, kissed their cheek, asked God to bless each one and offered each hearty congratulations, with picture snapping from every which angle. Then it became dark. A lovely dinner was served from the school kitchen, families assembling in various classrooms serving as their dining rooms. The dinner cost \$14.95 person. Not much, you say, but a great cost to someone who is a single parent and earns only \$500 per month.

Soyapango is a dangerous place if you live in a zone where gangs and gang warfare are in everyday life. Many parents and children do not want to cross such zones even to get to another safe zone. That is why there is very little choice in selecting another venue for the graduation. The Instituto lost 28 students who had to move away from gang zones because of threats to students to join the gangs or to pay for protection. Neither the parish itself, Maria Madre de las Americas, nor the Instituto, is in a gang zone.

Depending on the courses, in General High School Studies, Computer Science, Tourism and Hotel Management, or Nursing, the Instituto is a two or three-year course preparing students to enter the workforce or to continue in university. The Instituto is named after me because of our St. Bonaventure Sister Parish

relationship: the Instituto Catolico Padre Richard Mangini. Graduates numbered 275 this year. 280 new freshmen will start in January, which is the beginning of the new year.

On Thursday, I met in the morning with three groups of the new 280 students who were finishing a three-day orientation to the school, its spirit, its norms, its expectations. I told them that I was a real person and not just a name of a school. I told them of how Fr. Adrian and I and St. Bonaventure Parish got connected. After lunch, I returned for the Closing of the School Year Exercise, with the entire student body present and the awarding of medals for third, second and first place honors in all subjects.

Friday morning, I celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving for the graduates and students. I would say about a third of the graduates and their parents came. Not many people have cars. Public transportation is the mode for getting around for most people. There are many evangelical and other small non-Catholic church group members who attend the Instituto because of its renowned quality education. This was the first time that the Mass of Thanksgiving was separated from the Graduation itself. The Mass was followed by a luncheon and entertainment celebrating my 75th birthday with the teachers of the Instituto, the Grammar School and the Day Care-Kindergarten. That represents another 300 students. In the middle of this lunch, the heavens opened in a torrential downpour that rained on for hours. No speeches. We could not hear each other because of the rain plummeting on the aluminum roof.

Today is Sunday, the Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, and the last Sunday of the Liturgical Year. I am about to go to celebrate the 6:30am Mass in the Church of Mt. Carmel. The Parish has three places of worship. The Carmel church is attached to a Monastery of Carmelite Sisters who own and operate a large school for girls, from kindergarten to high school. Then I shall return to the home base church of Santa Maria Madre de las Americas to celebrate the 8:00am Mass. Then I will be free for the rest of

the day, I think, visit some friends in Santa Tecla and return home Monday evening.

I am always aware of the great difference from driving from Soyapango to the suburban outskirts of San Salvador, driving away from people who live at the lower economic level to those who are upper-middle-class. The building blocks of the houses are the same, but living space and comfort are very different. There is no hot running water in Soyapango and there are no functioning showers. Each toilet- bathroom has a square cement tank filled with water, buckets sitting on the ledge. Good thing that the weather is always warm. It does not take too long to get used to such "showering" if you want to bathe. Another apparent difference is clothes: those that are sold on the streets, hand-me-downs from other countries, merchandise and styles that were never purchased in first-world countries, to world class shopping centers in the "alta clase" districts. I noticed some of the suits worn by the graduates, ill-fitting, perhaps borrowed for the occasion. The middle class is rising through education and better-paid jobs, but is probably less than 20 % of the population.

What always strikes me most is looking at the long lines of older men and women who walk to Holy Communion with deep wrinkled, darkened skin, from a long life of hard work at little pay. Yet the smile and words of welcome reveal the vast reservoir of the human soul.

■ **MEXICO TRIP NO LONGER SPONSORED BY DIOCESE**

In a recent letter from Bishop Michael Barber, the Diocese of Oakland will not underwrite liability Insurance to cover the Holy Week trip to Tijuana, Mexico, because Tijuana, Mexico is on the State Department list as one of the most dangerous areas for safety. With good prudential reasoning.

The trip that happens every Holy Week, for almost 20 years, began as the inspiration of one couple from St. Agnes Parish and has carried on with the help of other adults and teenagers over the years. The Jack Walton couple are still involved.

There are many other groups sponsored by independent or Protestant groups that continue to go to Tijuana because insurance can be bought. The concern of the bishop is safety and the insurance implications for the diocese would be enormous. There is always a first time.

The Department of Evangelization and Catechesis will help any parish who wishes to involve parishioners in missionary trips, whether domestic or foreign. It will arrange them but wants to assure participants of safety, and a true learning and encountering experience. It is not just going to bring or to do something but to get to know the people, share their lives and share their faith. The encountering aspect is as important as doing good.

The trip to Mexico will still take place and parishioners from St. Bonaventure will still go, but the parish can longer sponsor it or raise funds officially for it. The same goes for the St. Agnes parish. Miranda, our Youth Ministry coordinator, is part of a committee which will sort out the many new opportunities for service which will be sponsored by the diocese and, hopefully, St. Bonaventure church will participate.

**PARISH LIFE THOUGHTS
FROM CHRISTA FAIRFIELD**

■ GIFTS OF LIGHT : PARISH CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

We want to thank those who responded to our recent invitation to include the parish in your special Christmas giving.

We are blessed with the financial gifts that you share on Christmas. These gifts provide us cash for our work into the first quarter of the year. Thank you for your generosity at Christmas.

We want to invite your further generosity with some other special parish needs. To make one of these gifts or any other special gift, you can put it in an envelope with a note designating your intention and place it in the Sunday basket. If you would like a Christmas card that indicates your gift was made in someone's name, please contact Marion Guglielmo at marion.guglielmo@stbonaventure.net. She will be happy to

provide you with the card. Below is the list of special parish needs:

- \$25 to provide a Bible for our children preparing for 1st Communion (We provide one Bible for each of our children preparing for the sacrament. This includes tax and shipping.)
- \$100 to bring a visiting priest to help our parish priests when they need respite or to serve off campus
- \$100 to purchase one of the 3 new trees we are buying for the Christmas environment
- \$180 to sponsor a Confirmation teen's attendance at the Confirmation Weekend Retreat (This expense can be a substantial burden for some of our families.)
- \$1,500 to construct a Parish Directory sign that will provide a map of our parish facilities for visitors. (Following the construction of this sign, we are planning distinct building signage.)
- \$2,500 to replace our aging hall tables and chairs
- \$4,000 to provide industrial ceiling fans for the Large Hall. (The heat in the hall can be oppressive in warmer months.)
- Volunteering to help our parish ministries grow. Several are seeking new members:
 - Garden Angels
 - Hospitality Sunday
 - St. Vincent de Paul
 - Family to Family
- And may we not forget to include prayers for the continued life of Christ being lived out in our parish.

■ GENEROSITY OVERFLOWS FROM THE HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Wow! What a very caring and sharing community we at St. Bonaventure Catholic Church are. As part of the Classy Crafters, we want to thank all of you, the creators of beautiful quilts, afghans, purses, baby items, doll dresses, just to name a few things that were so generously donated as well as the baking, candy making and all things sweet and yummy jams, canned fruits and various other home canned products and super beef jerky, not to mention the many hours, talents and money that our tireless workers who meet every week from February to November have given, all in the name of love for our

fellow people who are less fortunate than we and need our Food Pantry here at St. Bonaventure. We would be remiss if we didn't acknowledge all of the work that went into the gala, wine pull, raffles and silent auction. Many workers were behind the scenes, from maintenance guys to the parish staff. With everyone working together for a common goal, we were able to net \$23,000.00 in just a short weekend. And we still have our Christmas Bake Sale coming up on Dec. 19 and 20. We thank you so much. You have done so much for so many who might have gone without on this Thanksgiving, and their future.
Boutique Coordinators: Jenny Meeker, Lorie Kirkham and Barbara Wolpman

■ SAVE THE DATE FOR THE VINTAGE CONCERT

Annual "Vintage" Christmas Concert – Saturday, December 19, from 7:30pm – 9:00pm. Admission: **FREE**

Featuring VINTAGE (Joyce & Santiago Martinez, Maryann Tarantino and Rich Smith). Joining VINTAGE will be Roxanne Pardi, Donnie Fisi, John Jordan and Kevin McFarland, and with special guests Katy & Dell Burchett

■ DO YOU SHOP ON AMAZON?

If so, you can raise money for St. Bonaventure Faith Formation while you shop. All you have to do is log on to www.smile.amazon.com and choose "St. Bonaventure Church Concord." You can shop as you normally would and Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchases to the parish.

■ HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSURE

Thursday, December 24 to Friday, 25
 Thursday, December 31 to Friday, January 1

■ SAVE THE DATE FOR CRAB FEED:

The Knights of Columbus will present their annual Crab Feed event on Saturday, January 30, 2016. The theme of the event will be a Super Bowl Party. Come root for your favorite team and enjoy a great meal. Tickets will be on sale in early December.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Weekend of December 5 & 6 Collection

Goal: \$25,440

Actual: \$25,101

Deficit: (\$339)

2nd Collection:

Loan Interest: \$2,095

Food for the Family: 522

*EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer)
included in above figures*

JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY



December 13, 2015, Third Sunday of Advent

Pope Francis chose to inaugurate the *Jubilee Year of Mercy* last Tuesday because December 8 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the closing of Vatican II. That council, Pope Francis reminds us, inaugurated a new phase in the Church's history. The Spirit called the Church to tear down the walls that for far too long had made it a fortress, and to proclaim the gospel in a new, more accessible way. Pope Francis quotes Saint John XXIII in declaring the Church's preference for "the medicine of mercy," and Blessed Paul VI in proposing the Good Samaritan as our model for discipleship (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 4). Pope Francis adds that God's mercy is "the beating heart of the Gospel," and that mercy "must penetrate the heart and mind" of every disciple (*MV*, 12). Three times today's Gospel asks, "What should I do?" Pope Francis would say: Imitate Jesus, who came not wielding the fiery judgment that John the Baptist had threatened, but instead imparting healing, compassion, forgiveness—mercy!

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc. Papal quotes Copyright © 2015, *Libreria Editrice Vaticana*. Used with permission.

PROCEDURE FOR DISPLAYING EVENTS IN CHURCH FOYER

We've noticed in recent months many things being left in the foyer for people to pick-up. Many times, we don't know who left them and/or anything about the organization or event. It also makes the table by the entrance to the church look crowded and messy. In an effort to manage the display of these promotional materials, we are instituting a procedure for displaying these items in the church foyer:

- As a rule, unless something is being sponsored by the parish, diocese or USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops), we do not allow flyers in the foyer.
- For all material meeting the above rule, the flyer originals must be stamped for approval by the parish office. After being stamped, they may be copied.
- Flyers are not to be placed on the table by the entrance to the church. There are slots in the Plexiglas notice wall by the door to the hospitality room.

Questions? Contact Christa Fairfield or Eileen Limber (925)672-5800 or eileen.limberg@stbonaventure.net



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

LITURGY & PRAYER

■ ADVENT COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION SERVICE: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15 AT 7:30 PM

Give yourself the gift of God's mercy and forgiveness as you prepare your heart to celebrate Christmas. Join us for our Advent Reconciliation Service containing a Liturgy of the Word followed by an opportunity for individual confession and absolution on Tuesday, December 15 at 7:30 PM in the church.



Christmas Eve: Thursday, December 24

- 3:00 PM Christmas Mass with Early Childhood Christmas Pageant
- 5:30 PM Christmas Mass with Elementary Children's Christmas Pageant
- 8:00 PM Christmas Vigil Mass
- *12:00 AM Christmas Midnight Mass (time change)

Christmas Day: Friday, December 25

- 8:00 AM Christmas Day Mass (English)
- 10:00 AM Christmas Day Mass (English)
- 12:45 PM Christmas Day Mass (Spanish)



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- MONDAY:** NM 24:2-7, 15-17A; PS 25:4-5AB, 6, 7BC-9; MT 21:23-27
- TUESDAY:** ZEP 3:1-2, 9-13; PS 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; MT 21:28-32
- WEDNESDAY:** IS 45:6B-8, 18, 21B-25; PS 85:9-14; LK 7:18B-23
- THURSDAY:** GN 49:2, 8-10; PS 72:1-4AB, 7-8, 17; MT 1:1-17
- FRIDAY:** JER 23:5-8; PS 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; MT 1:18-25
- SATURDAY:** JGS 13:2-7, 24-25A; PS 71:3-4A, 5-6AB, 16-17; LK 1:5-25
- SUNDAY:** MI 5:1-4A; PS 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; HEB 10:5-10; LK 1:39-45

CHRISTMAS EVE PARKING

ENTRANCE ACCESS:

All vehicles are to **enter** the parish parking lot **through the Clayton Road entrance**. The gate at **Indiana Drive is for Exit only**. Please do not park on Indiana Drive.

EXIT:

All vehicles in the southwest **(back) lot are to exit through the Indiana Drive gate**. All vehicles in the northeast **(front) lot are to exit through the Clayton Road exit**. Crossing over between lots will congest traffic and create a safety issue.

HANDICAPPED PARKING:

We have 14 designated Handicapped Parking spaces. We know this is insufficient for heavy attendance Masses. **We encourage those who can walk the distance to park accordingly and leave the handicapped spaces for those most in need.** Your handicap placard must be clearly displayed.

NO PARKING AREAS:

- Parking in front of the rectory garage is prohibited.
- Striped areas at the ends of rows and red curbs anywhere on the property are **no-parking** areas. Vehicles parked in these areas may be ticketed and towed. We must observe the City Codes that require emergency vehicle access to the property.
- Parking on Farm Bureau property is strictly prohibited. Your vehicle may be towed.
- Our neighbors strongly request that we not park on the local streets, since it leaves no parking for their friends or family who might be visiting. We encourage you to honor their needs. Any car parking in such a way that a residential driveway is blocked may be towed.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERINGS

Many people each year comment on the beauty of the Church and Chapel environment during the Christmas season. Each year we use multiple fresh trees and over 100 poinsettias to create a space that celebrates the birth of Christ. This effort can only be realized through the generous donations of our parishioners.

You can honor a loved one either living or deceased with a gift to our Christmas Flower Fund. You may either use the envelopes found at the exits of the church, or you may fill out the information found in the bulletin, cut it out and send it (or bring it) to the office. What a wonderful way to remember someone special.

Amount Enclosed

Donor

Phone

Address 1

Address 2

Given in Name of

NEED A NEIGHBOR?

Neighbor-to-Neighbor Ministry is here to assist parishioners with temporary, minor needs. Those we serve must be adults (over 18 years old) and physically mobile. There are established community organizations in place to meet long-term and other needs.

We Offer:

- Assistance with transportation to the parish, the grocery store or doctor. *We can assist in finding regular rides to a specific Mass or parish offering
- Assistance with an errand or a light task
- Visiting the sick or homebound

For assistance leave a message at 672-5800 x2238. We will pick up calls Monday-Friday. Every effort will be made to respond within 24 hours of the call. Please note that the ministry is not designed for immediate or emergency needs. It can take a few days to locate a volunteer to meet the need.

LIFE AND JUSTICE MINISTRY

■ VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT CC INTERFAITH HOUSING

Seeking In-Kind Donations: Diapers of all sizes for families at Garden Park and Lakeside Apartments. Throughout the year, we provide incentive prizes to students for good report cards or demonstrating good school habits. We hand out \$5 Starbucks cards to high school students, \$5 Jamba Juice cards to all students, and \$5 toy gifts to grades K-5. We also need Safeway, Target and/

One mightier
than I is
coming



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or Costco gift cards for our Youth Enrichment Coordinators to purchase food and supplies for afterschool snacks and meals.

■ TAKE ACTION – STAND IN SOLIDARITY WITH SYRIAN REFUGEES

In the wake of the tragic events in Paris on November 13, 2015, Catholic Charities of the East Bay urges the community to stand in solidarity with the hundreds of thousands of Syrians and others displaced by the violence in their homeland.

While this is a complex issue, we urge our community to avoid the impulse to blame all refugees for the actions of terrorist organizations. They, too, are victims of violence and persecution and seek a place of safety and freedom. Instead, let us stand firm and serve the marginalized, just as we pray for continued healing and safety in our communities.

We urge you to take action *today!* Call Steve Mullin at (510) 768-3165 or e-mail smullin@cceb.org. Or Visit: <http://www.cceb.org/2015/11/take-action-stand-in-solidarity-with-syrian-refugees/>

FAITH FORMATION FOR ADULTS

■ WOMEN'S (WCF) RETREAT FOR THE YEAR OF MERCY

We invite you to mark your calendars for the Women's Christian Fellowship Retreat "Blessed are the Merciful." Jan 29-31, 2016. It will be led by Dr. Margaret Turek, the head of Evangelization and Catechesis in the Oakland diocese, and Fr Patrick Summerhays, a priest in the San Francisco diocese. Cost: \$190; at St Clare's Retreat Center in Soquel. Start the New Year on the right track with other women who will soon become new friends. Questions? Maureen 925-360-1621.

■ ENGAGED ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Are you planning on marrying in the Church in the next year? St. Bonaventure offers three preparation weekends throughout the year. Couples are invited to attend the next weekend on February 20 & 21, 2016. It is never too early to attend a

weekend. It is usually recommended that couples attend at least 3 months before the wedding. This is a wonderful opportunity to discuss and discern your future life together. The cost is \$125/couple. Contact Matthew & Stacey Remington (672-4006) for more information or to register for the weekend.

■ 2016 MEN'S RETREAT: SAVE THE DATE

The annual St. Bonaventure Men's Retreat will be held March 4-6, 2016 at San Damiano Retreat Center in Danville. Registration opens soon. For more information call Peter Nixon at 925-363-5884 or Matt Remington at 925-672-4006

■ CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you. (Mt 6:6)

The practice of Contemplative (or silent) Prayer is just that: "practice". It's not always easy and some days are better than others, but the results are worth it. An opportunity to sit quietly with God – not asking for anything and letting the worries and busyness of the world go away. We have two opportunities during the week to practice Contemplative Prayer in the Chapel. We start with a short reflection, enter into 20 minutes of silent prayer and end with the Our Father. Join us Tuesday 4:05-4:30pm and/or Wednesday 7:15-7:45am. Just come when you can. Call Eileen (672-5800 x2217) if you have questions.

■ MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Does the way you live your life and especially your marriage give praise and glory to God? Let God transform your marriage relationship. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are February 26-28 and August 5-7. Early registration, 4 to 6 weeks out, is highly recommended. For more information contact Mike & Jeanne @ 925.672.2016 or Joe & Sue @ 925.680.7767 now or go to www.oaklandwwme.org Weekends are presented in the Pleasanton/Dublin area.

■ **TAI CHI FOR HEALTH**

Blessings from Tai Chi for Health! Join us in the powerful, playful practice of Tai Chi & Qi Gong. Sessions are each Wednesday, in the Small Hall, and Friday in A4, from 10am to 11am. Bring an open mind and bottled water. Love offerings \$10. Contact Instructor Ben at 925 565-4636 with questions.

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

■ **ADULT ACTIVITIES:**

SAVE THE DATE: MINI-PILGRIMAGE TO SAN JUAN BAUTISTA: Wednesday, February 24, 2016

■ **KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS**

This weekend is the *last chance* to purchase Christmas Cards, Advent wreaths, replacement candles and more. When you want to send the very best, send “Christ” at Christmas.

■ **PREGNANT? NEED HELP?**

☎ 1-800-910-0191, The Gabriel Project

■ **CLAYTON VALLEY COUNSELING CENTER (CVCC) AT YOUR SERVICE**

For 15 years, CVCC has been serving the St. Bonaventure Community. The Counseling Center, with licensed therapists, serves individuals, couples and families, and prepares engaged couples for marriage using the well-established Prepare Program. ☎ 925-210-6176.

■ **ST. BONAVENTURE CANCER SUPPORT**

A community of parishioners and survivors of cancer are waiting and willing to share your experience, pray with you and be there to help you through your ordeal. We offer ourselves in love and prayer to be at your side in many ways. *Please call us; know that you are not alone:* ☎ Elaine Shingleton at 672-1850, or Maria Padilla Fulmore (*Que habla Español*) 686-6916. *Section: Outside of Parish*

OUTSIDE PARISH

■ **ST. AGNES OPEN HOUSE:**
January 31, 10:00 a.m.– 12:00 noon

Come join our loving, faith-filled school community. There will be refreshments and a Book Fair. Kinder Information Night will be January 11 at 7:00 p.m.

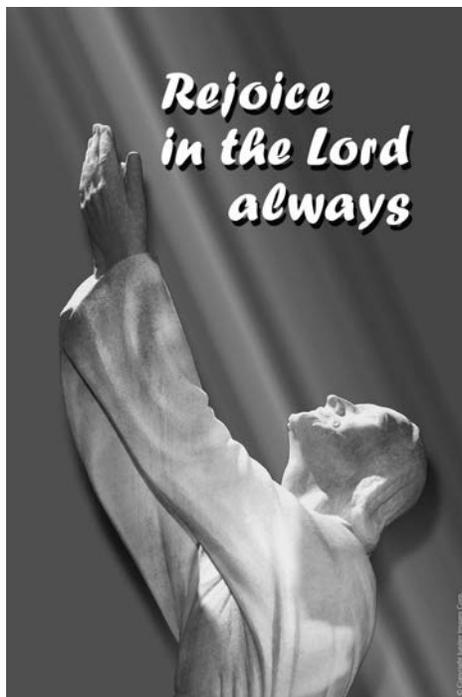
Pray For

ALL MILITARY PERSONNEL

SANCTUARY LIGHT IS LIT FOR
 PATRICK GLEASON
 December 12 – 18, 2015



Rejoice
 in the Lord
 always



Mass Intentions For The Week 

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

5:00 Scott Holm
 Souls in Purgatory
 Nancy Massetani
 Jeffrey Stich
 Rolando V. Llacer

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

7:30 Jane Boehle
 Mary Garaventa
 Idonna Tryon
 Angela Johnson
 9:00 St. Bonaventure Community
 11:00 Rolando V. Llacer
 Michael J. Murphy
 Florentino Gueco
 Pedro Gaddi
 5:00 Marlene Gonsalves
 Sabino Ysmael
 George Jager
 Vera Zila

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14

6:30 Communion Service
 9:00 Katherine Garaventa
 Rolando V. Llacer
 Fran Ford
 Richard Rodriguez

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15

6:30 Patients at Children’s Hospital
 Fr. David Lawrence
 9:00 Rolando V. Llacer
 Don & Jeanann Davis
 Doris Rygh

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16

6:30 Rolando V. Llacer
 Ana Menchaca
 9:00 Communion Service

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

6:30 Victims of ISIS Attacks
 Fr. Richard Mangini
 9:00 Ernesto Dizon
 Rolando V. Llacer

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

6:30 Communion Service
 9:00 Rolando V. Llacer
 Nonato & Iria Almeida
 Maria Diaz
 Maryanne Hunt

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

5:00 Jan & Brian Smith
 Kathleen Muller
 Robert Ackerman
 Souls in Purgatory
 Lou Ellis

■ LUCAS 3: 10-18 VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE

Apenas ingresado nuestro continente a la civilización, María acudió a la montaña del Tepeyac para presentarnos una presencia de la Iglesia con fisonomía muy propia. No era una mujer europea, ni una india de nuestro continente recién descubierto, es la expresión del mestizaje, la raza nueva que en aquel momento surgía en la historia. Y así la dulce morenita del Tepeyac va a ser desde entonces también la que da la fisonomía propia a la Iglesia de este continente. A mí me interesa mucho queridos católicos, que tengamos de nuestra religión el concepto auténtico, ahora tan falseado, tan calumniado y que tengamos la idea de un Dios que al traernos la cruz de su Cristo a nuestro continente quiso personificar esta religión redentora en la figura bendita de María bajo esa fisonomía propia de América Latina.

Tratemos de explicar brevemente en honor de la Virgen de Guadalupe, para utilidad de nuestra fe, estas tres notas que le dan la fisonomía propia al catolicismo latinoamericano.

El Espíritu de Pobreza. Se caracteriza María y la Iglesia en América por la pobreza. María dice el Concilio Vaticano II, se destaca entre los pobres que esperan de Dios la redención. María aparece en la Biblia como la expresión de la pobreza, de la humildad, de la que necesita todo de Dios y, cuando viene a América, su diálogo de íntimo sentido maternal hacia un hijo lo tiene con un indio, con un marginado, con un pobre.

Así comienza el diálogo de María en América, en un gesto de pobreza. Pobreza que es hambre de Dios, pobreza que es alegría de desprendimiento, pobreza que es libertad, pobreza es necesitar al otro, al hermano y apoyarse mutuamente para socorrerse mutuamente. Esto es María y esto es la Iglesia en el continente. "Bienaventurados los pobres de espíritu porque de ellos es el Reino de los cielos." Le damos gracias a María por haber marcado desde el inicio de nuestra civilización cristiana en el continente, con esa marca bendita de la pobreza evangélica, a la cual nos está invitando esta noche para ser felices con la felicidad del Evangelio.

Su inserción en la historia de nuestros pueblos. En segundo lugar queridos hermanos, María es la imagen de una Iglesia que no quiere sentirse al margen de la historia, sino que quiere estar en plenitud en la vida de los pueblos. Apenas descubierta América, María se insiere, María vive con nuestra historia. Aquí está la muestra. Nuestro pueblo siente que María es algo del alma de nuestro pueblo, y así lo sienten todos los pueblos latinoamericanos. Nadie se ha metido tan hondamente en el corazón de nuestro pueblo como María. María, pues, es la imagen también, un reclamo, de una Iglesia que está presente con la luz del Evangelio como Dios la quiere, en la civilización de los pueblos, en las transformaciones sociales, económicas, políticas, no se puede prescindir de un evangelio que nos amamanto, no podemos traicionar una Iglesia, un Dios que nos ha dado los secretos de los verdaderos caminos por donde los hombres se hacen felices.

El connubio inseparable entre la Evangelización y la Promoción. Y finalmente, María es el modelo de una Iglesia que sabe conjugar la evangelización y la promoción. Una evangelización sin el amor al hombre para promoverlo, sería una evangelización falsa, mutilada, una religión que no se preocupa de promover a nuestro pueblo, de enseñar a leer a nuestros analfabetas, de incorporar a la civilización tantas marginaciones de nuestra sociedad, no sería la verdadera Iglesia redentora. Evangelizar y promover, he ahí la gran tarea, como María, que no solamente cree y es feliz por su fe sino que al pie de la cruz, junto al Redentor es la colaboradora más íntima de la gran promoción de la renovación cristiana de los hombres.

Bendito sea Dios, hermanos, que la Virgen de Guadalupe es todo un signo de nuestra religión. Tratemos de imitarla, que nuestra presencia aquí no sea solo folclórica sino que sea una reflexión profunda para vivir como Ella. Vamos a ofrecer unidos con La Virgen de Guadalupe presente en el alma de cada uno de nosotros, para ofrecerle a Dios el sacrificio inmaculado del Cuerpo y de la Sangre de Cristo que redime a nuestros pueblos.

■ FRASES DEL PAPA FRANCISCO

"Cuántas lágrimas derramó Santa Mónica por la conversión del hijo! ¡Cuántas mamás también derraman lágrimas para que los propios hijos regresen a Cristo! ¡No perdáis la esperanza en la gracia de Dios!

■ SERVICIO DE CONFESIÓN O RECONCILIACIÓN DE ADVIENTO

Adviento no se considera un periodo penitencial sino más bien un período de deleite, devoción y expectación.

Celebrar el Sacramento de la Reconciliación o Confesión debe ser parte de nuestra preparación para la venida del Salvador. Participamos en este Sacramento porque estamos seguros de que Dios es misericordioso. Tenemos esta confianza ya que siempre Dios nos ha mostrado su justicia y su misericordia.

Servicio de Reconciliación en Español: **San Buenaventura el jueves, 17 de diciembre a las 7:30 PM.**

Horario de Oficina:
Díacono Mariano Preza
Teléfono ☎ (925) 844-9015
Cerrado para almuerzo de 12:30-1:30p.m.
Lunes a Jueves: 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Viernes: 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.





La Hermandad del Señor de los Milagros de Concord Agradece al Reverendo Padre Ricardo Mangini, por su hospitalidad y apoyo con nuestra Hermandad. Nuestro agradecimiento a los Diáconos Mariano Preza y Gustavo Escruceria, por su dedicación con la comunidad hispana.

Las gracias a la Señora Christa Fairfield, al personal administrativo y a todos los miembros de la comunidad de San Buenaventura, que se unieron con nosotros para la realización de nuestro Homenaje del 2015.

Nuestro agradecimiento a los miembros del Coro, a su Director Hamerson Gil, por su excelente participación. Gracias por ser partícipes de este homenaje . Que nos llene de Fe, Devoción y Esperanzas.

Que el Señor de los Milagros este presente con Ustedes en estas Navidades y los llene de Bendiciones para el 2016. **Les deseamos unas Felices Navidades y un Prospero Año Nuevo**

■ PROCEDIMIENTO PARA DEJAR ANUNCIOS EN LA ENTRADA DE LA IGLESIA

Hemos notado que en los últimos meses, se han dejado muchos artículos y anuncios en la entrada de la Iglesia para uso de los feligreses. Muchas veces, no sabemos quién los deja o cualquier información acerca de la organización o del evento. Además la mesa de la entrada a la Iglesia se ve muy desordenada. Para poder mantener el orden, organizamos un nuevo protocolo para cualquier material de anuncio en la Iglesia.

Como regla general, **no se permite ningún anuncio en la entrada de la**

Iglesia, excepto cuando es anuncio de la Parroquia, de la Diócesis o de USCCB.

Todo anuncio debe ser aprobado y sellado por la oficina de la Iglesia ANTES de hacer copias o colocarlo.

Los anuncios no deben ser puestos en la mesa a la entrada de la Iglesia. Hay compartimientos en el presentador de plástico en la pared por la puerta del salón de hospitalidad.

¿Preguntas? Por favor contactarse con Christa Fairfield o Eileen Limberg (925) 672-5800 o eileen.limberg@stbonaventure.net

