



Spanish First Communion on April 30. Photo Courtesy of Rosann Halick.

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

May 8, 2016 The Ascension of the Lord | 8 de mayo de 2016 La Ascensión del Señor

MASSES IN ENGLISH/EN INGLES

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

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Weekend of April 30 & May 1
 Collection
 Goal: \$25,440
 Actual: \$27,303
 Over: \$1,863

2nd Collection
 Loan Interest: \$1,884

Parish Loan Debt: \$44,075.86

Food for Family: 417

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

STAFF DIRECTORY

OFFICE: 925-672-5800

Fr. Richard Mangini, PASTOR... x 2203
 rmangini@stbonaventure.net

Fr. David Lawrence, SJ PAROCHIAL VICAR .. x 2221
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FACILITIES AND MAINTAINANCE

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 fpalmeri@stbonaventure.net

LITURGY & PRAYER

Anthony Arteaga, DIRECTOR OF LITURGY .. x 2230
 aarteaga@stbonaventure.net

FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN

Pre-School through Fifth Grade Program:
 Rosann Halick, DIRECTOR x 2204
 rhalick@stbonaventure.net

Debbie Schnick, ADM. ASST. x 2207
 dschnick@stbonaventure.net

**JR HIGH AND YOUTH MINISTRY
 (6TH THROUGH 12TH GRADE)**

Youth Ministry:
 Miranda Ripoli, DIRECTOR x 2229
 mripoli@stbonaventure.net

FAITH FORMATION FOR ADULTS

Sr. Anne Burgard, ADULT INITIATION DIR. x 2219
 aburgard@stbonaventure.net

Eileen Limberg , ADULT FAITH FORMATION
 COORDINATOR. x 2217
 elimberg@stbonaventure.net

LITURGY & PRAYER

**JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY –
 MAY 8, 2016, THE ASCENSION OF
 THE LORD**



As the liturgical year—and this *Jubilee Year of Mercy*—unfold, we reflect on what Jesus’ ascension meant for the first disciples and means now for us. Stay in Jerusalem, Jesus had instructed, awaiting “the promise of the Father. In a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit. You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:4–5, 8). Despite Jesus’ absence, they wait “with great joy... continually in the temple praising God” (Luke 24:52–53). But as we join them, waiting and worshipping, the enduring challenge—theirs and ours—is delivered by “two men in white” (Acts 1:10). In every age, disciples must stop looking at the sky, head down the mountain, and go back into the world, “commissioned,” says Pope Francis, “to announce the mercy of God, the beating heart of the Gospel,” inviting everyone to find “in our parishes, communities, associations and movements... wherever there are Christians... an oasis of mercy” (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 12).

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.
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**FIFTH SUNDAY ROSARY: SUNDAY,
 MAY 29**

All are invited to come to the chapel and pray the rosary with our Knights of Columbus on Sunday, May 29 at 10:30am. Come after the 9:00am Mass or prior to the 11:00am Mass.

WWW.STBONAVENTURE.NET
GO TO “GIVING/OUTREACH” TAB
USE CODE CA 725



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MON: ACTS 19:1-8; PS 68:2-3AB, 4-5ACD, 6-7AB; JN 16:29-33
 TUE: ACTS 20:17-27; PS 68:10-11, 20-21; 17:1-11A
 WED: ACTS 20:28-38; PS 68:29-30, 33-36AB; JN 17:11B-19
 THU: ACTS 22:30; 23:6-11; PS 16:1-2A, 5, 7-11; JN 17:20-26
 FRI: ACTS 25:13B-21; PS 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20AB; JN 21:15-19
 SAT: ACTS 1:15-17, 20-26; PS 113:1-8; JN 15:9-17
 SUN: VIGIL: GN 11:1-9 OR EX 19:3-8A, 16-20B OR EZ 37:1-14 OR JL 3:1-5; PS 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-30; ROM 8:22-27; JN 7:37-39
 DAY: ACTS 2:1-11; PS 104:1, 24, 29-31, 34; 1 COR 12:3B-7, 12-13 OR ROM 8:8-17; JN 20:19-23 OR JN 14:15-16, 23B-26

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 ☎ 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.



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

LIFE AND JUSTICE MINISTRY

■ ACTING WITH MERCY: VISITING THE IMPRISONED

Kairos Prison Ministry shares the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to incarcerated men, women, youth and their families. Kairos sprang from the Cursillo movement and is supported by volunteers from the 4th Day movements such as BonFire and Cursillo, as well as other Christian volunteers. As a ministry, Kairos embraces a diverse group of volunteers working together to fulfill Christ's call to action in Matthew 25:36.

Inside prisons, Kairos Prison Ministry has a strategy to bring inmates to a 3½ day program where they will receive the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ. Kairos helps to develop a Christian community on the inside through a structured program of talks, mediations, chapel visits, music, and a lot of listening and loving.

And for adult females impacted by incarceration, Kairos Outside offers a comfortable, non judging retreat for women to support each other as they journey through the incarceration of a friend or relative. In this retreat setting, women with similar challenges share their common stories and draw on each other for strength, forming a Christian community.

Finally, Kairos Torch provides a safe place to the youthful offender for spiritual exploration. Torch offers unconditional love and acceptance in a Christian setting that encourages the sharing of one's life journey through the mentoring of a mature, Christian volunteer, to find a full life.

There are many ways to help with this very important, highly impactful ministry. Please contact Cindy Hamer, 925-980-9450 or email clhamer@sbcglobal.net to see how you can become involved!

FAITH FORMATION FOR ADULTS

■ EXPLORING CATHOLICS

Mercy Me! Questions for the Church in the Year of Mercy

There is a lot of talk about Mercy this year, but how does it apply to my everyday life? How do I continue practicing Mercy after the year is over? What are some of the issues that may be keeping me away from church? What does the church say about things like sin, remarriage, or being LGBT? Gatherings are on Tuesday nights (7:00-9:00pm) in Classroom B1. Come to all the sessions or just those that appeal to you.

May 17: "Are All Welcome or Not: Maybe Yes, Maybe No", addressing LGBT issues in the church today. Fr. Jim Schexnayder will join us to share his experiences ministering to the LGBT community in the Oakland Diocese.

May 31: "Grill the Canon Lawyer". Fr. Bob McCann, Canon Lawyer for the Diocese of Oakland and Professor at St. Patrick's Seminary, will join us to talk about divorce, annulment and remarriage.

■ WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP MAY DINNER

Come join in the fellowship, have a great dinner, hear an amazing story and honor our mother Mary all at the same time. Thursday, May 26 @ 6:30 PM in the Large Hall. Our speaker will be Fr Jerry Brown of Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, sharing his journey from the Episcopal Church to becoming a Catholic priest, and also describing Mary's influence in his ministry. Dinner will be \$26 and is a catered chicken marsala dinner by "Fuget About It" catering. Tickets will be sold online and after Masses a few weeks before the event. Questions? call Dot Price ☎ 925-287-0246

■ ENGAGED ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Are you planning to marry 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 **June 25 and 26, 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.

■ MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Jesus "raised his hands and blessed them." Jesus prayed for his disciples and us to know and believe the good news of the Gospel! Open your heart and allow God's love to transform all areas of your life including your marriage. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are on **August 5-7 and Nov. 18-20**. 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. Weekend presentations are 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 ☎ 925 565-4636 with questions.

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

■ **ADULT ACTIVITIES:**

SENIOR LUNCHEON: Thursday, May 12 at 11:30 AM in the Large Hall, \$12 per person. Come celebrate Cinco de Mayo with lunch provided by the La Tapatia Restaurant, which is managed by parishioner Lisa Camera. We will enjoy chips and salsa, house salad, your choice of chicken or cheese enchiladas, your choice of pork or chicken burritos, chicken taquitos, rice and beans. As always, drinks and dessert are included. Please make reservations by Monday May 9 by calling George or Mary Jane Brown at ☎ 363-4708 or by registering after Mass on May 7 or 8. Adults of all ages are welcome!

■ **FAITH AND FAMILY DAY AT THE A'S, VS. SEATTLE MARINERS: Saturday, September 10, game time 1:05**

This year we will be in one section, closer to home plate than last year: Section 225, Plaza level, in the shade. The tickets are \$23. There are only one hundred (100) seats being reserved for us for a short period of time. I will have some tickets on hand for purchase. Please let me know as soon as possible if you are interested. Call Gerry at 709-5404.

■ **HOSPITALITY WEEKEND**

Join us for Hospitality Weekend! Thank you to the parishioners and volunteers who have donated to this fine ministry. After the 5pm Saturday Mass, we will have wine, soda, cheese, cookies, and crackers. After the 7:30am, 9am, and 11am Masses, there will be coffee, juice, donuts, and bagels. All are welcome!

■ **FLORES DE MAYO: "FLOWERS OF MAY" — Saturday, May 28 at 5:00 PM Mass, St. Bonaventure Church**

The Filipino-American community of St. Bonaventure invites you to our annual parish celebration of Flores de Mayo, honoring the Blessed Virgin Mary.

4:00 PM – Pray the Rosary in the Large Hall

4:45 PM – Process to the church

4:55 PM – The statue of the Blessed Mother is processed to the altar, followed by those who wish to offer flowers.

5:00 PM – Mass

Members of the *Hulog ng Langit* (Gift from Heaven) choir from St. Francis of Assisi will lead us in song during the Mass. Dinner reception will follow in the Large Hall.

If you want to help with set-up or clean-up, please call Sol Cuenco (925) 676-5905 or solemama@yahoo.com

■ **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.



April 24th First Communion of Jr. High and High School Students.
 Photo Courtesy of Rosann Halick

MOTHER'S DAY

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We offer a Spiritual Bouquet to our mothers, living or deceased, who will be remembered and honored at all Masses on Mother's Day.

*Otilia "Tita" Aguirre
Barbara Appelhans
Vilma Arteaga
Anne Blankenhorn
Amelia Borcena
Cynthia Borcena
Anita Browne
Bertha Buckley
Lucy Caballero
Rosí Caballero
Grace Celada
Yolanda Claros
Jane Colaco
Vivian Connors
Mary Cotter
Kathy Dagang
Jeanann Davis
Cecil de Guzman
Chuyen de Guzman
Cheryl de Guzman
Kimberly de Guzman
Luz G. de Guzman
Susan de Guzman
Jeanie Dewhurst
June Dewhurst*

*María Diaz
María de los Angeles Diaz
Shirley Elsberry
Carol Ely
Donna Espinal
Frances Exten
Camille Franco
Natalie Gannon
Marion Gugliemo
Rose Gugliemo
Tabitha Gugliemo
Missy Gugliemo
Conchita Guzman
Angeline Guzzo
Caridad Ha
Lynn Halick
Rosann Halick
Agnes Haubrich
Margaret Haubrich
María Luz Hawkyard
María Teresa Hawkyard
Jennifer Johnson
Lisa Lan-Kulick
Kay Lane
Margaret Mangini*

*Frances Milcetic
Marybeth, Liz, Margot &
Theresa Milcetic
Rena Milcetic
Doris Minorsky
Ketty Nemitz
Cathy Olsen
Tre'Essa Palmeri
Joan Purcell
Rita Raymond
Carol Riley
Diana Lynn Saguiped
Grace Saguiped
Segundina C. Sangalang
Rubina F. Soria
Diana Tegge
Joanne Teran
Virginia Teran
Carmen Trespacios
Laste Vargas
Mercy Villalba
Pat Walsh
Josephine Wranau
Mary, Our Blessed Mother
Mothers Worldwide*

OUTSIDE PARISH

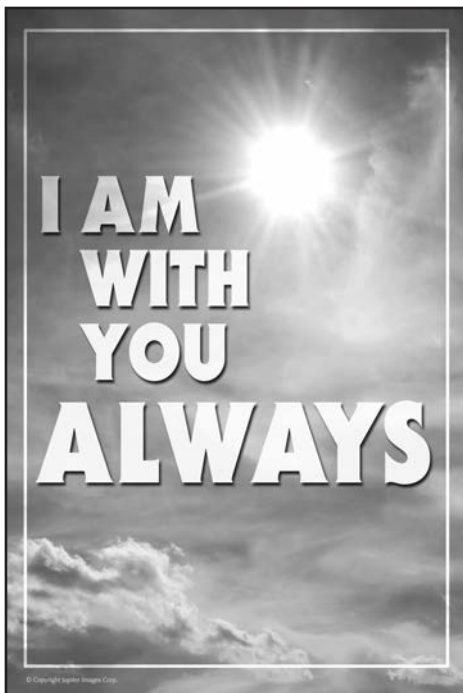
■ WANT TO LISTEN TO SOME GREAT STORIES?

As a Caring Hands volunteer, you have the opportunity to be there for someone who has a *lifetime* of stories to tell. The heart of our program is connecting a senior with a caring volunteer so you really get the chance to know each other well. As a Caring Hands volunteer, you can make a significant impact on dispelling the loneliness and isolation that affects so many seniors.

Volunteer hours are flexible. We do our best to find a senior who lives close to you and who meets your day and time requirements. John Muir Health offers comprehensive training and ongoing support so you feel prepared to be a volunteer. For more information about volunteering for this unique and special Caring Hands Volunteer Program, call Linda Groobin ☎ 925-952-2999 or visit our website: www.johnmuirhealth.com/caringhands.

We have training scheduled for Friday May 20, in Walnut Creek, Friday July 22, Brentwood

I hope you will consider joining us!



■ JOIN THE FUN AND SUPPORT CATHOLIC EDUCATION AT OUR 9TH ANNUAL DAY AT THE RACES!

Dominican Sisters Vision of Hope invite you to our 9th Annual Day at the Races at Golden Gate Fields on May 21. In addition to an exciting day of racing - including a live broadcast of the Preakness Stakes - the event features a silent auction of gift baskets, gift certificates, vacations, sporting event tickets and much more. Raffle items include owner's tickets to Giants games, \$200 restaurant package and \$150 Nordstrom's gift certificate. All tickets include valet parking, admission to the Turf Club, daily racing program, breakfast and prime rib lunch buffets.

Vision of Hope looks forward to setting new records for both attendance and benefits for the children in our three local schools: St. Elizabeth in Oakland, St. James and St. Anthony-Immaculate Conception in San Francisco. For information call Vision of Hope at 510-533-5768 or go to www.visionofhope.org. The first race starts at approximately 11:45 a.m. The Sisters hope to see you there!

■ DALE'S SCOVILL ORGAN CONCERT

Dale Scovill will be presenting an organ concert "My Favorite Things" on Saturday, May 21st at 7:30 PM. The concert will be held at Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church, 1578 Clayton Valley Road, in Clayton. Tickets are \$15 at the door.

■ WHITE PONY EXPRESS

You can play a direct, personal role in helping to end hunger in Contra Costa County. Think about helping with *White Pony Express!*

White Pony Express is a 100% volunteer-based non-profit that redistributes approximately 18,000 lbs. of fresh, delicious, healthy food each week to those in need. We need more volunteers to get the food delivered to these neighbors!

White Pony Express (WPE) partners with food retailers with a surplus and delivers free of charge to those in need. Some of the more well-known donors are Nob Hill Foods, Whole Foods, Costco, Sprouts Farmers' Market and The Cheesecake Factory-but there are a hundred additional donors. White Pony Express distributes throughout the county to over 30 recipient partners including Bay Area Rescue Mission, Shelter, Inc., Loaves & Fishes, Love A Child, Don Brown Shelter, and Shepard's Gate.

WPE operates fifteen hours a day, seven days a week. Volunteers are needed for 2-4 hour shifts. Our primary need is for daytime volunteers during the hours from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Help us serve those in need - it is rewarding work! Contact: Vince Karakashian at vkarakashian@gmail.com or 925-876-0402.

■ CONTRA COSTA CHORALE SPRING CONCERT 2016

Sunday, May 15 at 5:00pm at Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church, 1801 Lacassie Ave., Walnut Creek ; \$25 General, \$20 Students/Seniors/Disabled, Free Admission for children under 12

Tickets may be purchased in advance through BrownPaperTickets.com or at the door on the day of the concert.

The Contra Costa Chorale, directed by Cindy Beitmen, presents "In Praise of Music," celebrating the Chorale's Golden Anniversary. Begun in 1966 by Joseph Liebling as the Richmond Symphony Chorus, the Contra Costa Chorale has presented choral concerts throughout the Bay Area in the 50 years since its inception. The concert will feature Haydn's 'Lord Nelson Mass,' Ralph Vaughan Williams' 'Serenade to Music' and 'Where Everything is Music' by Stephen Main, especially commissioned for the Contra Costa Chorale for this auspicious occasion. Reception to follow after the concert. All are welcome! For more information, visit our website at www.ccchorale.org or email ccchorale@att.net, ☎ (510)255-0703.

■ **HELP A VETERAN FIND A HOME**

Are you a landlord, property owner or property manager? You may hold the key to ending Veteran homelessness in Contra Costa! More than 40 Contra Costa armed services veterans are lease-ready but cannot find a place to live. If you have a vacant or soon to be vacant unit, consider renting to one of these brave men and women.

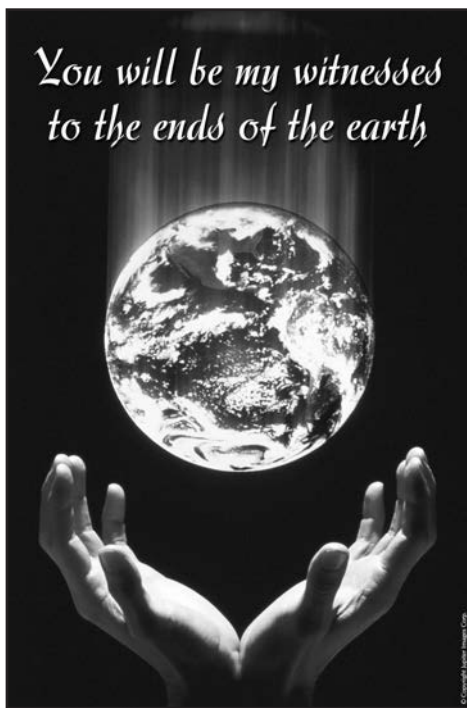
For more information, contact the Landlord Education and Placement Program (L.E.A.P.) at cclandlordconnect@hsd.cccounty.us or call 925-313-7700

■ **CCIH FAITH COMMUNITIES SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUMMER VOLUNTEERS!**

With summer quickly approaching, we are looking for help in the following areas:

- Camp leaders needed: Help run a one-week on-site summer camp for 20-40 low-income children. Requirement: 2 hours/day for a week (Mon-Thurs). You choose the hours and theme. This is a perfect teen project. Adult supervision will be provided. Locations: Pleasant Hill, Concord or Pittsburg
- Water safety needed at Garden Park Apartments: We have approximately 18 children under the age of 5 at Garden Park Apartments (GPA) in Pleasant Hill that we are hoping will become water-safe. Are you interested in volunteering 2-3 hours/day for 1-2 weeks to teach a “mommy and me” class and/or water safety at GPA in Pleasant Hill? Current lifeguard, CPR and first-aid certification is required.

• Interested in helping run a summer day camp for one week? We are currently putting together summer programming for children (toddler through middle school), and we need your help. Many of these are formerly homeless or very low-income. In the past, volunteers have organized small groups to host different “camps”. These activities take place at our housing sites (Pleasant Hill, Concord and Pittsburg) for a couple



SANCTUARY LIGHT IS LIT FOR
TIRSO DE GUZMAN
 May 7- May 13, 2016

hours/day for 1-4 days during the week. Some examples include hosting a four-day dance camp; art camp; putting on a science camp; hosting a music camp; teaching gardening. Feel free to call and discuss ideas or just offer general help to an already formed camp week. On-site CCIH staff supervises all camps.

■ **CARMELITE HOUSE OF PRAYER**

Rosary Procession and Crowning Sunday, May 15 at 2:00pm, Carmelite House of Prayer, Oakville

Come join us and bring a friend to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary at the Carmelite House of Prayer, Oakville, located in the Napa Valley. Our annual rosary procession and crowning will conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Light refreshments will be served.

Mass Intentions For The Week 
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SATURDAY, MAY 7

- 5:00 Patrick Smith & Brothers
 Gladys de Guzman
 Elena Z. Villanueva
 William Baas

SUNDAY, MAY 8

- 7:30 St. Bonaventure Community
 9:00 Judith Webb
 Raymond & Margaret Mangini
 Claire Sullivan
 Maria Diaz
 11:00 Kitty Nemitz
 Veronica Pardi
 Mela Vital
 Juana Cuenco
 5:00 Skip Ipsen
 Don McCauley
 Eva Horvath

MONDAY, MAY 9

- 6:30 Communion Service
 9:00 Grace Ebarvia
 Arthur Docili

TUESDAY, MAY 10

- 6:30 All Cancer Patients
 The Pastoral Staff
 9:00 Citas Reyes
 Catherine Caponio

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

- 6:30 Lauro Lao
 Mamerto Lao
 Emidio & Carmen Busuttill
 9:00 Communion Service

THURSDAY, MAY 12

- 6:30 Emidio and Carmen Busuttill
 9:00 Lloyd & Barbara Craft
 Benedicto C. Lopez
 Robert Uy
 Vidal V. Crescencio

FRIDAY, MAY 13

- 6:30 Communion Service
 9:00 Effie and Bob Cartan
 Laste Vargas

SATURDAY, MAY 14

- 5:00 Pat O'Brien
 Juana Cuenco
 Noreen McGowan
 Ann Lydon

Pray For 
 DISABLED VETERANS

■ ASCENSIÓN DEL SEÑOR, 8 DE MAYO, LUCAS 24: 46-53

Queridos hermanos: Cristo se va a los cielos. Había venido al mundo con una misión: la de salvarnos, perdonar nuestros pecados y abrir las puertas del cielo para que pudiéramos conseguir la vocación de nuestra vida: la felicidad. Aspiramos a ser felices, a llenar nuestra inteligencia de la verdad y nuestro corazón del amor. Y en esta vida no lo podemos conseguir. Y tampoco lo podíamos conseguir en la otra, pues por el pecado original se había cerrado el único lugar donde estaríamos satisfechos: el cielo. Vino Cristo al mundo a vivir nuestra vida, a compartir nuestra existencia, a participar de todo lo que de bueno y malo tiene el ser humano. Y vino a enseñarnos que se pueden cumplir los mandamientos y cómo hay que cumplirlos. Y cuando nos enseñó todo esto, murió por nosotros, nos perdonó, nos dejó los sacramentos y se fue.

Era necesario y conveniente que Cristo se marchase. Nos lo dice el mismo Cristo: si no se va, no vendrá el Espíritu Santo; si se va es para prepararnos un lugar en el cielo, junto al Padre. Los que seguimos a Cristo, los que creemos en El, debemos convencernos que nuestra morada definitiva está en el otro mundo donde Cristo ha ido a prepararnos el lugar.

La Ascensión de Jesús era la condición para que nos viniese el Espíritu Santo. La tercera persona de la Santísima Trinidad será la encargada de completar la obra de Cristo. La Iglesia comenzará la misión evangelizadora del mundo a partir de la Ascensión de Cristo y de la venida del Espíritu Santo. Los discípulos continuarán la obra de Cristo. Tendrán que predicar el Evangelio, la buena noticia de que todos estamos llamados a una felicidad eterna. Estamos encargados por Cristo de trabajar en el mundo para conseguir el cielo. La continuación de la obra de Cristo por nuestra parte supone tratar de hacer un mundo mejor, más justo. Debemos tratar de hacer visible a Cristo con la fe, con la esperanza, con el amor. Estamos en el período que ve entre la primera y la segunda venida de Cristo. Y se nos ha dado un

mundo para convertirlo, para transformarlo, para llevarlo a Cristo, a Dios.

Tenía razón San Pablo cuando lleno de optimismo decía a los efesios: “Dios, con gran amor, nos ha resucitado con Cristo Jesús y nos ha sentado ya en el cielo con él.” La verdad de la Ascensión no es sólo una verdad sobre Jesucristo, sino también una verdad sobre las posibilidades y los horizontes del hombre; una verdad sobre lo que podemos y debemos ser cuando aceptamos la mano tendida de Jesús a cada hombre.

Recordemos la Ascensión de Jesús. Es una escenificación final preciosa de la ascensión constante de Jesucristo. Todo el Evangelio fue una subida a Jerusalén y nunca volvió la cara ante la dificultad. Desde Belén hasta el monte Calvario todo fue una ascensión valiente y constante. La nube fue el último escalón para quien toda la vida pisó con fuerza los caminos de la tierra.

Realicemos, pues, nuestra propia ascensión. Todos nosotros queremos ir subiendo cada día en nuestra vida, queremos superarnos. Y ¿Cuál es el camino? Los discípulos pensaron lo mismo y se quedaron mirando a las nubes. Querían una nube para subir, superar los problemas de una forma mágica, sin esfuerzo. Pero entendieron luego que ser cristiano no era estar en las nubes, sino ser fermento en la tierra. Con la Ascensión empieza nuestra total responsabilidad aquí en la tierra. Cristo nos dice: “Vayan y prediquen.” Empezamos a ser cristianos cuando tomamos conciencia de nuestra responsabilidad ante el mundo y el hombre, cuando parece que por todas partes se palpa la ausencia de Dios. La Ascensión no es evasión, sino compromiso. No es magia, sino esfuerzo.

Estamos celebrando la Eucaristía. Por la fe se nos hace presente el Cristo invisible en la hostia consagrada. Vamos a pedirle que aumente nuestra fe y que sigamos sus huellas para que, como El, podamos subir al cielo y encontrar la felicidad que merecemos, buscamos y esperamos. Dios les ayude. Diácono Mariano Preza.

■ AÑO JUBILAR DE LA MISERICORDIA LA ASCENSIÓN DEL SEÑOR



Este año litúrgico-- como Año Jubilar de la Misericordia-- revela, reflexiones sobre lo que la Ascensión de Jesús significaba para los primeros discípulos y lo que significa ahora

para nosotros. Quédense en Jerusalén, Jesús les había instruido, en espera de “la promesa del Padre. En pocos días se bautizarán con el Espíritu Santo. Seréis mis testigos en Jerusalén, en toda Judea y Samaria y hasta los confines de la tierra”(hechos 1:4 – 5, 8).

A pesar de la ausencia de Jesús, los discípulos esperan “con gran alegría... continuamente en el templo alabando a Dios” (Lucas 24:52 – 53). Hoy nos unimos a ellos, esperando y adorando, en persistente desafío --suyo y nuestro -- comunicado por “dos hombres de blanco que dijeron: Galileos, ¿Qué hacen allí parados, mirando el cielo? Ese mismo Jesús que los ha dejado para subir al cielo, volverá como lo han visto alejarse” (hechos 1:10). En todas los tiempos, los discípulos deben dejar de mirar al cielo, bajar la montaña, e ir hacia el mundo, “encargados”, dice El Papa Francisco, “para anunciar la Misericordia de Dios, que es el corazón del Evangelio,” invitando a todos a encontrar “en nuestras parroquias, comunidades, asociaciones y movimientos... donde hay cristianos .. un oasis de Misericordia.” (*Misericordiae Vultus*, 12).

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BAUTIZOS 2016

LUGAR DE BAUTIZO: IGLESIA • LUGAR CLASES: B-1
 ENCARGADO: GREGORIO MENCHACA, 826-5102

****PARA INFORMACIÓN SOBRE CLASES, FAVOR CONTACTAR LA OFICINA****

FECHA DE BAUTIZO	HORA DE BAUTIZO	FECHA DE CLASE	HORA DE CLASE
Sat 08/13	10:00 a.m.	Fri 08/05	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 08/27	10:00 a.m.	Fri 08/19	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 09/10	10:00 a.m.	Fri 09/09	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 09/24	10:00 a.m.	Fri 09/16	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 10/15	10:00 a.m.	Fri 10/07	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 10/29	10:00 a.m.	Fri 10/14	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 11/05	12:00 p.m.	Fri 11/04	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 11/19	12:00 p.m.	Fri 11/18	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 12/17	12:00 p.m.	Fri 12/16	7-9:30 p.m.

■ FORMACIÓN DE LÍDERES, MINISTROS Y PARROQUIANOS

Se invita a los ministros, a los líderes y a la comunidad en general a la formación teológica impartida por el diácono Mariano Preza. Muchas personas de la comunidad han aprovechado esta formación antes, pero cada clase es una nueva experiencia al conocimiento, el programa está abierto a toda la comunidad y es gratis. Esta formación ayudará a conocer mejor y a ampliar nuestra visión de Dios. En este Año de la Misericordia, regalémosle la oportunidad de aprender, reconocer y vivir el amor de Dios.

Las clases son los lunes y empiezan el lunes, 25 de enero, 2016.

Cuando: Lunes

Hora: 7:00-9:00 PM

Lugar: Salón de clases B-1

¡Todos son bienvenidos!

■ FRASES DEL PAPA FRANCISCO

“Vuestra felicidad no tiene precio y no se negocia; no es un ‘app’ que se descarga en el teléfono móvil: ni siquiera la versión más reciente podrá ayudarnos a ser libres y grandes en el amor.”

Horario de Oficina:
Diácono 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.

■ FLORES DE MAYO

Sábado, 28 de mayo Misa a las 5:00 PM.

La comunidad Filipina de San Buenaventura le invita a la celebración anual de Flores de Mayo, en honor a la Santísima Virgen María.

4:00 PM – rezar el Rosario en el salón grande

4:45 PM – procesión a la Iglesia

4:55 PM – la estatua de la Santísima Virgen se colocará en el altar, seguido por aquellos que desean ofrecer flores.

5:00 PM – Misa.

Los miembros del coro de San Francis de Asís, *Hulog ng Langit* (regalo del cielo) nos conducirán durante la Misa

Después de la Misa seguirá una recepción en el salón grande.

Si desea colaborar con arreglo o limpieza, por favor llame a Sol Cuenco (925) 676-5905 o solemama@yahoo.com

■ QUINTO DOMINGO DEL ROSARIO: DOMINGO 29 DE MAYO

Todos están invitados a venir a la capilla a rezar el Rosario con los caballeros de Colón el domingo, 29 de mayo a las 10:30 AM. Después de la Misa de 9:00 AM o antes de la Misa de las 11:00 AM.

