



St. Bonaventure Catholic Community *Comunidad Católica de San Buenaventura*

5562 Clayton Road, Concord, CA 94521 • PHONE (925) 672-5800 • FAX (925) 672-4606 • www.stbonaventure.net

Celebrate the Season with **VINTAGE**



VINTAGE: Maryann Tarantino, Joyce Martinez,
& Santiago Martinez, with John Jordan & Donnie Fisi
Special Guests: Katy & Dell Burchett

Saturday, December 9, at 7:30 PM
St. Bonaventure Church

Admission: Free

CHRISTMAS

CONCERT

First Sunday of Advent *Primer Domingo de Adviento*

December 3, 2017

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

MISA EN ESPAÑOL/IN SPANISH

Domingo: 12:45 PM

DAILY MASS/MISA DIARIA (CHAPEL/CAPILLA)

Monday/Lunes thru Friday/Viernes : 6:30 AM & 9:00 AM

BAPTISM/BAUTIZOS

In English: Call the office to begin the process. This requires two months preparation

En Español: Llame a la oficina para solicitar información y concertar una cita con el Sacerdote. Este proceso requiere mínimo 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 solicitar información y concertar una cita con el Sacerdote. Este proceso requiere mínimo seis meses de preparación.

RECONCILIATION/RECONCILIACIÓN

In English: Saturdays 3:30 PM (in the church) or by appointment.

Llame a la oficina para hacer una cita con el Sacerdote.

Mission

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

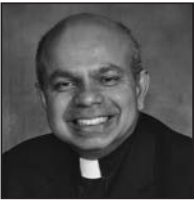
Keep connected to our parish community,

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
Father Mat

DEAR PARISHIONERS,

Parish Outreach work is a foundational aspect of our faith. Jesus intended that we share our faith beyond the boundaries of our local place. Our missionary efforts bring hope and life to those in need and enriches the faith of the giver.

I come from India and have traveled extensively to many of the poorest regions of the world. I have seen the impact and mercy that our involvement and charitable relationships can have on the very poorest of God's children.

I have also seen how participating and partnering with organizations and parishes who are on the ground serving can have on the giver.

We are blessed beyond measure to live in the United States of America. Understanding the reality of the poorest helps us to see our blessings and give thanks to God. It also helps us live our faith in rich, real and deep ways as Christ directs us in the gospels.

Our parish has a long history of living the gospels. In 1998, we partnered with Maryknoll and the Foreign Mission Society of America to build a maternity wing in St. Mary's Hospital in Nairobi, Kenya and to provide financial assistance to the Assumption Sisters in Nairobi that totaled over \$100,000.

After we completed our commitment there, we looked for other places where we could make a difference and learn about the realities of those in need in other countries.

In 2004, we started a partnership with the Salesians to provide aid for the children living on the streets in Bangalore, India. In 2006 our Parish Council approved a commitment of \$155,000 to build a care center for the kids at risk. Since those years, we have learned so much about the poverty and struggle of these children. And we have expressed our gratitude and God's mercy generously. We have sent over \$363,000 to build the center and provide hope and aid to the children.

In 2006, we adopted a sister parish in the gang infested region in Soyapango, San Salvador, El

Salvador where violence and murder have risen to some of the highest in the world. We helped to build a school and continue to help subsidize student tuition. To date, we have shared almost \$160,000 in treasure along with our friendship and prayers.

I am so grateful to have been sent to such a generous and loving parish where the community is committed to serving those in need and developing relationships where they can learn about the real poverty in the world.

In 2016, I visited Tanzania and saw again the raw poverty and need of those living the Diocese of Same. I felt God calling me to bring help to a parish there.

Part of knowing God's will is to discern in community. Over the last couple of months, I have spoken to our staff, our Parish Council, Fr. David, Fr. Richard and the Bishop about our outreach partnerships. All agree that we have been most generous to the children's center and that it is time to expand our community's awareness of poverty in the world.

Recently I spoke with our Bishop Barber about our missionary efforts. He expressed surprise by how long and how much generosity that our parish has extended to our brothers and sisters in India and encouraged us to reach out to others in need and extend mercy beyond India. He encouraged me as pastor to seek out other projects that are equally if not more needy than our present ones. He receives over 200 requests a year for assistance and support from the Diocese and parishes. The need is extensive and our efforts in a new project can seed hope, faith and love for another community lacking broad-based support.

After much prayer and discussion, we will be ending our formal partnership with the Salesians in India and look for a new outreach opportunity in another country. I am in touch with the Bishop of Same, Tanzania to adopt a parish there as our sister parish.

I want to acknowledge the blessing of Fr. T.C. George's pastoral care and presence at our parish over these years. We are now blessed with three full time priests and with Fr. Richard being available, we feel it is most fair that Fr. T.C. George be available to share his priestly service with others more in need.

We know the good works that are being done for the children in India and that many of our parishioners are committed to this work. We



GOOD NEWS
for You

READINGS for the WEEK

MONDAY: IS 2:1-5; PS 122:1-9; MT 8:5-11

TUESDAY: IS 11:1-10; PS 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; LK 10:21-24

WEDNESDAY: IS 25:6-10A; PS 23:1-6; MT 15:29-37

THURSDAY: IS 26:1-6; PS 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27A; MT 7:21, 24-27

FRIDAY: GN 3:9-15, 20; PS 98:1-4; EPH 1:3-6, 11-12; LK 1:26-38

SATURDAY: IS 30:19-21, 23-26; PS 147:1-6; MT 9:35 — 10:1, 5A, 6-8

SUNDAY: IS 40:1-5, 9-11; PS 85:9-14; 2 PT 3:8-14; MK 1:1-8

hope that you will continue to support the children's center as God is leading you. You can continue to make donations to either by check or credit card. You can continue to connect with Fr. T.C. George at tcgsdb@yahoo.com.

Post Checks

Payable to: Salesian Missions TG

Post to: Salesian Missions, 2 Lefevre Lane, New Rochelle NY 10801

*Please specify that the donation is for Fr. George Thannickal (Code TG) of Bangalore Province, India. *This notation is very important.

Credit Cards

Call the toll-free number of the Salesian Missions New Rochelle at 1-888-608-2327 (Mon-Fri 8:30-4:30 EST). Please inform the customer service representative that the donation should go to Fr. George Thannickal (Code TG) of Bangalore Province, India. *This direction is very important.

May I thank you for your kind understanding and collaboration in making our parish ever amazing.

Remember me as loving you.
Fr. Mat



PARISH LIFE thoughts

CHILD CARE HELP NEEDED

Do you like being around young children? Do you have Wednesday mornings free and want to meet some of the parish families? The Moms' group meets the first and third Wednesday of the month from 9:45-11:30am. They are desperately in need of babysitters. We need 2 adults to watch their children while the moms grow in faith and community. You will need to be fingerprinted and 'Safe Environment' trained. If we can gather a group of adults, they can rotate. If interested or want more information, please contact Eileen 672-5800 x2217 or elimberg@stbonaventure.net

FAITH DIRECT

With Thanksgiving and the Season of Advent coming up, enrolling in Faith Direct is a great way to ensure your gifts to St. Bonaventure are received even while you are traveling for the holidays. Already using Faith Direct? Don't forget to add your Christmas or End-of-Year contributions to your account. Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: **CA725**.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family! God Bless You. —Fr. Mat Vellankal

LITURGY & PRAYER

COME JOIN "VINTAGE" FOR THEIR 14TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT: DECEMBER 9, 2017 AT 7:30PM IN THE CHURCH

The members of Vintage are our St. Bonaventure parishioners Santiago & Joyce Martinez and Maryann Tarantino. They will also be joined by fellow parishioners Donnie Fisi and John Jordan. Santiago and Maryann have been leading the Sunday 9am Choir for over 30 years. They have produced two Christmas CD's, and one of the Vintage songs has been featured on EWTN radio. If you have attended their Christmas concerts, you know that every year the money that is collected provides Christmas presents for the children of the Food Pantry Families. Come and enjoy an evening of Vintage Harmonies and help Vintage once again put a smile on the faces of the children of the Food Pantry Families.

FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN

ON THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM, A FAMILY EVENT

Pancake Breakfast
Crafts and activities for children
Visit from Santa
Saturday, December 9
9AM to 11:30AM in the Large Hall

Experience the magic and wonder of the Christmas Season as we prepare for the birth of Jesus! St. Bonaventure's Knights of Columbus will serve breakfast.

Cost is \$7 per person. Tickets are available in the Church Office. Deadline for ticket sales is Wednesday, December 6. Contact Rosann Halick if you have any questions - 672-5800, Ext. 2204 or e-mail rhalick@stbonaventure.net

There will be a special visit from Santa!

FAITH FORMATION FOR ADULTS

MOMS' GROUP

An invitation to all parish moms (and children!) Come join our St. Bonaventure Moms' Group. We meet at 9:45-11:30am on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month in Ministry Center classroom A3 & A4. **Our next meeting will be on December 6.** Come explore our Catholic faith as women and as parents, and share the joys and challenges of parenting in a casual, welcoming setting.

WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP 24TH ANNUAL RETREAT

"The Mighty God Has Done Great Things for Me, and Holy is His Name", Lk 1:49

Fri, Jan 26 to Sun, Jan 28, 2018 at St. Clare's Retreat Center. The cost is \$225 per person. Registration flyers are available in the foyer, church office, and on the parish website. Contact Andrea for additional questions: 925-529-7675. We hope to see you there.

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

Advent is an opportunity to enter into a period of contemplation and reflection on the mystery of the Incarnation. In this time of parties, shopping, gift wrapping and too many things on your to-do list, come reflect on the blessings in your life. Spend some quiet time with God. Join us on Tuesdays, 4:05-4:30pm in the Chapel. Just come when you can. Call Eileen (672-5800 x2217) if you have questions.

WORLD WIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

"Yet, O LORD, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands." As we begin the waiting of Advent, let us strive to become the work of his hands by enjoying a Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend with your spouse. **The next weekends are held at San Damiano Retreat Center, Danville on January 12-14th and May 18-20th.** Space is *very* limited! Early registration 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



STEWARDSHIP of Treasure

**Weekend of November 18 & 19
Collection**

Goal: \$25,440
Actual: \$23,895
Deficit: (\$1,545)

**Thanksgiving collection for
Loaves & Fishes: \$1,772**

Food for Family: 1140 (11/19 & 26)

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



PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

SENIOR LUNCHEON

Thursday, **December 14 at 11:30 AM** in the Large Hall, \$13 per person.

We'll be celebrating the Birth of Jesus with a delicious pork loin dinner provided by Chef Greg. As always drinks and dessert are included. Please make reservations by *Monday December 11* by calling George Brown at 363-4708 or by registering after Mass on December 9 & 10. Adults of all ages are welcome, particularly the "Young at Heart"!

THIS IS HOSPITALITY WEEKEND: DECEMBER 2 & 3

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!

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS

This weekend is the **last chance** to purchase Christmas cards, Advent Wreaths and replacement candles and more. When you want to send the very best, send "Christ" at Christmas.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS SALE

Boy Scout Troop and Venture Crew 444, chartered by St. Bonaventure Church, will be selling Holiday wreaths on **Sunday, December 3**, after the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Masses.



We will have on hand, in limited quantities:

- 28-inch Mixed Evergreen Wreaths for \$35
- 22-inch Mixed Evergreen Wreaths for \$25
- 22-inch Noble Fir Wreaths for \$25
- 10-foot long Western Cedar Garlands for \$23
- Noble Fir Door Swags for \$20
- Center-piece arrangements for \$17.

Proceeds will help the boys and girls defray the cost of summer camps and other Scouting activities.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: DECEMBER 16 & 17

Country Kitchen after all the Masses in the Church Foyer. This gives you an extra chance to pick up last-minute edibles to grace your holiday table. All proceeds will benefit the St. Bonaventure Food Pantry.

ATTENTION, ATTENTION, ATTENTION!

All bakers, pastry chefs and candy makers!!!! The ladies working the Country Kitchen would love it if you would share some of your talents in your cooking/baking field and donate some goodies to be sold at all Masses in the Church Foyer December 16 & 17 that weekend to benefit our Food Pantry! We have been so spoiled in the past by your delicious sweet treats that we are really salivating with unquenchable hunger for them soon. Please consider our needs at the Country Kitchen and call Jean Gualtieri at 925.588.8020 with any questions. All homemade items can be brought to the office on Friday or to the church Saturday at 4:00pm. Wrapped and priced items are appreciated. We are looking forward to your delicious sweet treats and all your tasty bakery goods.

Thank you for your time and talents. All proceeds from these events benefit St. Bonaventure's Food Pantry.

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.



SANCTUARY LIGHT IS LIT FOR GERARD, RAFAEL, MICHAEL & NENA SISON MARTINEZ December 2- 8 , 2017



MASS INTENTIONS

✝ FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

5:00 Mercy Rocio Villalba
Marianne Hartman
Tony Sammut
Wilson Zee Tan

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

7:30 St. Bonaventure Community
9:00 Margaret & Ray Mangini
Tu Truong
Dolores Burgess
Tony Sammut
11:00 Mia Basarich
Helena Tworzydlo
Joanna Brud
Janusz Zelazny
5:00 William Pace
Henry Alumia
John Muscat
Roy Que

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

6:30 All children in foster homes
9:00 Allan Starosciak
Rino Galli
Karen Cieslar
Alan Smith

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

6:30 St. Bonaventure Pastoral Staff
9:00 Allan Starosciak

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

6:30 Families struggling with poverty
9:00 Louie Moutinho

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

6:30 Emidio Busuttill
9:00 Muriel Claeys
William M. Jordan

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

6:30 All souls in purgatory
9:00 Mary Meyerhoff
Concepcion Flores
Brian Docili
Blas & Natalia Franco
7:30 Florence Novicky
Tony Sammut

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

5:00 St. Bonaventure Community





Advent 2017

Special Liturgies

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception: Friday, December 8

This is a holy day of obligation. In the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we see the hand of God preparing the way for his Son, choosing Mary, and keeping her free from sin from the very moment of her conception. We invite you to gather with your parish community and give thanks and praise to God for his plan for our salvation.

Masses will be held at 6:30 AM, 9:00 AM, and 7:30 PM

Our Lady of Guadalupe: Tuesday, December 12

Behind the miraculous appearance and icon that define Our Lady of Guadalupe is a story of persistence and courage. Our Lady helped Juan Diego make his point through her miracles. This story reminds us to trust and makes clear the certainty that, when God calls us to proclaim his kingdom, we are surrounded by the grace we need to see our mission through. Our celebration begins with **Mañanitas at 5:00 AM** featuring mariachi music and a rosary. That evening, we will celebrate a **Solemn Mass at 7:00 PM**. Bishop Elias Samuel Bolaños, from the Diocese of Zacatecoluca, La Paz, El Salvador will be joining Fr. Oscar to say Mass at 7:00pm and participate in Mañanitas. Bishop Bolaños will also be celebrating **Mass with the English community at 9:00am in the Church**. We hope that you can join us for this day of festivities!

Other Events

An Evening of Taize Prayer

Monday, December 4, 7:00-8:30pm in the Church.

Taizé Prayer is a quiet, simple way of prayer designed for people of all Christian traditions. This meditative candlelit service will include simple songs and chants sung repeatedly, rich silence, and prayers of praise and intercession. It's the perfect way to calm your soul and ready your heart for new beginnings this Advent.

Making a Holiday Survival Plan

A one-evening discussion about strategies for surviving stress and loneliness after the loss of a loved one. All adults are welcome, whether or not you have participated in the Healing the Heart sessions previously. Please join us on Tuesday, December 5 at 7:30pm in Classroom B1. Please register by December 1 so we have enough cookies and chairs!! Call Helene at 925-681-8105 with questions or to register.

On the Road to Bethlehem: Pancake Breakfast

Experience the magic and wonder of Christmas as we prepare for the birth of Jesus! There will be crafts and activities for children and a special visit from Santa. St. Bonaventure's Knights of Columbus will prepare a wonderful pancake breakfast. This will take place on Saturday, December 9 from 9am to 11:30am in the Large Hall. The cost is \$7 per person; children 3 and under are free. Tickets are available in the Church office. Deadline for ticket sales is Wednesday, December 6. Contact Rosann Halick if you have any questions, at 672-5800, Ext. 2204 or email: rhalick@stbonaventure.net.

Las Posadas

Las Posadas is a beautiful tradition faithfully passed on from one generation to the next in Hispanic families. This devotion is a reenactment of the journey of Mary and Joseph asking for lodging in Bethlehem. Several times Joseph asks for shelter for his family and several times he is refused, until the owner of a stable recognizes the couple as holy pilgrims and bearers of salvation, and lets them in.

The children of the Spanish Faith Formation classes on Sunday morning will tell the story. Traditional Spanish carols will be sung. This will take place on **Friday, December 15 at 7:00pm** in the Church.

Mini Boutique & Bake Sale

Our Classy Crafters are still at their stoves and ovens preparing delicious treats for our purchase just before Christmas. They will also bring back some of the beautiful handcrafted items that were seen at the November Boutique. The sale will take place before and after the Masses on December 16 and 17. All proceeds will benefit the Food Pantry.

Christmas Concerts



The **Resurrection Choir and Friends** are again holding their annual Christmas Concert in the church on Saturday, December 2 at 7:30 PM.

Vintage will be holding their annual Christmas Concert in the church on Saturday, December 9 at 7:30 PM.





Advent Traditions

The Advent Wreath



One of the most popular symbols used by Christians to prepare for Christmas is the Advent wreath. The wreath's symbolism of the advent (coming) of Light into the world is clear.

The gradual lighting of the four candles, one on each Sunday of the Advent season, combined with the liturgical colors of the candles (purple is the penitential color used during Advent and Lent; rose is a liturgical color used only on Gaudete Sunday in Advent and Laetare Sunday in Lent) help to symbolize not only our expectation and hope in Our Savior's first coming into the world, but also in his Second Coming as Judge at the end of the world.

The wreath itself is also symbolic. The circle of evergreen in which the candles are placed represents everlasting life. The seedpods, nuts and cones used to decorate the wreath are symbolic of resurrection, and fruits represent the nourishing fruitfulness of the Christian life.

Since Advent is a time to stir-up our faith in the Lord, the wreath provides for us a way to enhance this special preparation for Christmas. Moreover, this tradition helps us to remain vigilant in our homes and not lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas.

The Crèche

St. Francis of Assisi is credited with creating the first nativity scene in 1223 at Greccio, Italy in an attempt to place the emphasis of Christmas upon the worship of Christ rather than upon secular materialism and gift-giving. Staged in a cave, St. Francis' nativity scene was a living one with humans and animals cast in the Biblical roles. Such pantomimes became hugely popular and spread throughout Christendom. Within a hundred years every church in Italy was expected to have a nativity scene at Christmastime. Eventually, statues replaced human and animal participants, and static scenes grew to elaborate affairs with richly robed figurines placed in intricate landscape settings.

The scene is typically composed of figurines depicting the infant Jesus resting in a manger, Mary, and Joseph. Other figures in the scene may include angels, shepherds, and various animals such as a donkey and an ox. The ox traditionally represents patience, the nation of Israel, and Old Testament sacrificial worship, while the donkey represents humility, readiness to serve, and the Gentiles. Traditionally, all figures are added to the crèche except for the infant Jesus; He should be added after midnight on Christmas Eve.

Nativity scenes usually remain on display until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord on January 10, the official end of the Christmas season.





MEALTIME PRAYERS

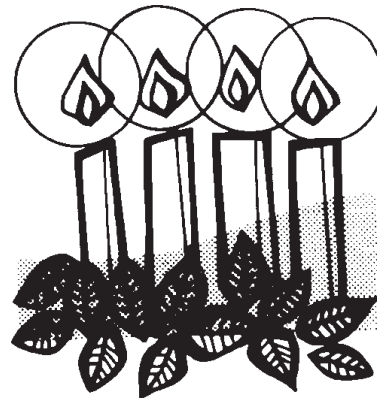
During Advent

As we prepare for the coming of your Son, O God, we are hungry and thirsty for signs of his love in our lives. We give you thanks for this season of waiting and hopefulness for Jesus to be even more present in the life of our family. We give you thanks for this food and drink, signs of your gracious love. May this meal strengthen us to love each other and our neighbors as we patiently wait for the coming of your Son. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Before Christmas Dinner

Leader: Lord Jesus, in the peace of this season our spirits are joyful: With the beasts and angels, the shepherds and stars, with Mary and Joseph we sing God's praise. By your coming may the hungry be filled with good things, and may our table and home be blessed.

Together: Bless us O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty through Christ our Lord. Amen.



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The Season of Advent



Reconciliation Services Schedule

Advent is not considered a penitential season but rather a period of "devout and expectant delight." Celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation should be part of our preparation for the season of the Incarnation. We participate in this sacrament because we are confident that God is merciful. We have this confidence because, in every age, God has shown us his justice and his mercy.

Communal Reconciliation Service in English at St. Bonaventure: Tuesday, December 19 at 7:30 PM

Other Local Reconciliation Services:

St. Francis of Assisi: Monday, December 4 at 7:00 PM

Queen of All Saints: Wednesday, December 20 at 7:30 PM

St. Agnes: Tuesday, December 12 at 7:00pm

Hail,
full of grace!
The Lord is
with you.



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Important Note Regarding December 23/24/25

This year the celebration of Christmas, the Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord, falls on a Monday. The Church asks us to attend Mass on both Sunday, December 24, the Fourth Sunday of Advent, and on the Feast of Christmas, since the Nativity of the Lord remains a Holy Day of Obligation. The 5:00pm Mass on Saturday, December 23 and the morning Masses on Sunday, December 24 will fulfill the obligation for the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Masses on the afternoon/evening of December 24 and the morning of December 25 will fulfill the Christmas obligation.

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Modified Weekend Schedule)

Saturday, December 23

3:30 pm: Sacrament of Reconciliation

5:00 pm: Vigil Mass

Sunday, December 24

7:30 am: Mass

9:00 am: Mass

12:00 pm: Mass (Spanish)

Christmas Eve: Sunday, December 24

3:00 pm: Early Childhood Christmas Pageant & Mass

5:30 pm: Elementary Children's Christmas Pageant & Mass

8:00 pm: Christmas Vigil Mass

10:00 pm: Christmas Vigil Mass

12:00 am: Christmas Midnight Mass

Christmas Day: Monday, December 25

8:00 am: Christmas Day Mass (English)

10:00 am: Christmas Day Mass (English)

12:45 pm: Christmas Day Mass (Spanish)

New Year's Eve/The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph:

Sunday, December 31, 2017

We will have a normal Sunday morning Mass schedule: 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am, 12:45pm (Spanish). There will NOT be a 5:00pm evening Mass.

New Year's Day/The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God:

Monday, January 1, 2018

We celebrate the motherhood of Mary as well as the start of a new calendar year. The title "Mother of God" is a western derivation from the Greek *Theotokos*, which means "God-bearer." On this day, we are reminded of the role that the Blessed Virgin played in the plan of our salvation.

We will have one Mass at 9:00am in the church.

Christmas Flower Offerings

Many people each year comment on the beauty of the Church and Chapel environments during the Christmas season. This effort can be realized only 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 use either 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. It is a wonderful way to remember someone special.



Amount Enclosed

Donor

Phone

Address 1

Address 2

Given in Name of



© Annika Nelson



REFLEXIÓN DEL PADRE OSCAR ROJAS

JESÚS NOS INVITA A ESTAR VIGILANTES

Hoy, primer domingo de Adviento, comenzamos el tiempo de preparación para la venida de Nuestro Señor Jesucristo. El salmo responsorial: "Oh Dios, restáuranos, que brille tu rostro y nos salve de Israel". Jesús es quien viene a nuestra vida a restaurarnos de tal manera que tenemos que estar atentos y vigilantes. El Evangelio de San Marcos nos exhorta: "Mirad, vigilad: pues no sabéis cuando es el momento". Es momento para cada uno de nosotros estar vigilantes para recibir la venida del Señor. No sabemos ni la hora, ni el momento en que venga el Señor.

¿Cuántos de nosotros permanecemos cada día vigilantes a la espera de Jesús? En nuestro tiempo es fácil perder de vista y pasar desapercibida la llegada del Señor. A cada día recibimos diferentes ofertas baratas a través de los medios de comunicación que no nos ayudan a crecer en la vida con Dios. Cuántas personas gastan gran cantidad de tiempo en aquello que no ayuda a florecer sus habilidades y responsabilidades. Todo lo que el mundo nos presenta como bueno, desvía nuestra mirada de Dios y terminamos gastando nuestra vida sin esperar la venida de Dios. En un principio la felicidad, el placer y el amor del mundo nos hace creer que es lo absoluto. Sin embargo, cuando regresamos a la realidad, después de haber gastado nuestra vida en las cosas mundanas; nos damos cuenta que estamos vacíos, solos, lastimados, derrotados y vencidos. Todo aquello que no viene de Dios, nada más quiere destruir lo bello de vivir la vida de Dios. Quizás nos cueste descubrir ese camino que Dios nos presenta: un camino de amor, misericordia y paz.

El Evangelio nos presenta la parábola de "un hombre que se fue de viaje y dejó su casa y dio a cada uno de sus criados su tarea y encargando al portero que velara". De tal manera que cada uno de nosotros, estamos llamados a permanecer vigilantes en nuestra vida. Reconocer que necesitamos a Dios para vivir plenamente feliz, misericordiosos y llenos de un corazón de amor. Dios siempre nos espera en la Eucaristía para alimentarnos y saciar nuestra sed. Sin embargo, debemos ser humildes y sencillos de corazón para recibir a Jesús en nuestra vida. Es en la humildad que vamos a lograr tener un encuentro íntimo personal con Cristo y disfrutar de la dulzura de Dios. Descubriendo el amor de Dios, en el encuentro personal, disfrutamos de la oración y entramos a gozar de la majestuosa presencia

de Dios. Entre más nos acerquemos a Dios, más logramos amarlo con todo nuestro corazón. Cada día es una oportunidad que Dios nos regala en su bondadosa generosidad de amor para que reflexionemos sobre nuestra vida y nos acerquemos a Él.

Hermanos y hermanas la Palabra de Dios nos invita a estar alertas y vigilantes a la llegada de Jesús. Hoy, es el momento de recibir a Jesús en tu corazón con amor y darle un poquito de tu tiempo. Dios nos bendice a manos llenas y deberíamos ser agradecidos con el Padre amor. Que Dios restaure nuestro corazón lastimado por el pecado y que cure nuestras heridas. No hay mejor felicidad que la felicidad que viene de Dios. No tengas miedo a descubrir la belleza de Dios en la Eucaristía del amor.

EN CAMINO A BELÉN — EVENTO FAMILIAR

Desayuno "Pancake" Manualidades y Actividades para niños; Visita de Santa
Sábado, Diciembre 9; 9AM a 11:30AM en el Salón Grande

Experimente la magia y el poder de la Navidad Preparémonos para la venida de Jesús!
Organizado por los Caballeros de Colón de San Buenaventura. Costo \$7 por persona. Los tiquetes están disponibles en la oficina Principal.
Fecha límite para comprar tiquetes, miércoles, diciembre 6. Contacte Rosann Halick si tiene preguntas, 672-5800, Ext. 2204, rosann.halick@stbonventure.net

Tendremos una visita especial de Santa!

SOLEMNE CELEBRACION DE LA VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE SANTA MISA PRESIDIDA POR EL OBISPO ELIAS SAMUEL BOLAÑOS

HORARIO DE LA CELEBRACION, Martes 12 de Diciembre de 2017



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Mañana

5:00 am Mañanitas

5:30 am Santo Rosario

6:00am Santa Misa (Presidida por el P. Oscar Después de la santa Misa habrá pan y chocolate

Noche

6:00 pm Danzas

7:00pm SANTA MISA SOLEMNE PRESIDIDA POR OBISPO DE EL SALVADOR

8:30 Danza y Cena

BIENVENIDO A COMPARTIR

HORARIO DE OFICINA PADRE OSCAR ROJAS

Teléfono (925) 844-9015

Cerrado para almuerzo de 12:30-1:30pm

Lunes a Jueves: 8:30 a.m. -5:30pm

Viernes: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

BAUTIZOS 2018

LUGAR DE BAUTIZO: IGLESIA · LUGAR CLASES: B-1

ENCARGADO: GREGORIO MENCHACA, (925) 826-5102

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

Fecha de Bautizo	Hora de Bautizo	Fecha de Clase	Hora de Clase
Sat 01/13/18	10:00 a.m.	Fri 01/12	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 02/10/18	10:00 a.m.	Fri 01/26	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 02/17/18	10:00 a.m.	Fri 02/09	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 03/10/18	10:00 a.m.	Fri 03/02	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 03/24	2:00 p.m.	Fri 03/09	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 04/07	12:00 p.m.	Fri 03/16	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 04/07	2:00 p.m.	Fri 03/23	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 04/21	2:00 p.m.	Fri.04/13	7-9:30p.m.
Sat 05/12	10:00 a.m.	Fri 05/04	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 05/19	12:00 p.m.	Fri 05/11	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 05/26	10:00 a.m.	Fri 05/18	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 06/09	10:00 a.m.	Fri 06/01	7-9:30 p.m.

