



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



Women's Christian Fellowship 2018. Retreat Photo Credit: Tina Zingmark

First Sunday of Lent *Primer Domingo de Cuaresma*

February 18, 2018

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.

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THOUGHTS FROM FR. MATHEW



DEAR PARISHIONERS,

We began the holy season of Lent on Ash Wednesday. The *General norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar* say: "Lent is a preparation for the celebration of Easter. For the Lenten liturgy disposes both catechumens and the faithful to celebrate the paschal mystery: catechumens, through the several stages of Christian initiation; the faithful, through reminders of their own baptism and through penitential practices (27)."

The three traditional pillars of Lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Spending a bit of extra time in prayer each day of Lent will help us draw closer to the Lord. Fasting can also draw us to the Lord if we allow hunger pangs to be a reminder of God's presence. But fasting is also linked with almsgiving. When we fast from food or abstain from meat, we can give what we save to those in need. Since our baptism commits us to serve others as Jesus did, our Lenten practices should also lead us beyond ourselves to serve others.

Many Catholics grew up thinking of Lent as a time to "give something up." What we need to give up, above all, is sin. Giving up other things can help us develop some self-discipline that should enable us to resist temptations to sin

Our Lenten practices, whatever they may be, are much more than pious devotions. Whether our practice takes the form of giving up dessert during Lent, redoubling our efforts at prayer, increasing our contributions to help those in need, fasting, or abstaining from meat, they are all to be understood as a Spirit-assisted effort to empty ourselves of all that would stand in the way of being filled to overflowing with the light and life and love of God. Do we really have room enough for God? Many of us live amid so much clutter, so much noise. We travel through life at breakneck speed. Lent is the time to empty ourselves not only of the seemingly never-ending stuff, sound and speed in our lives, but also of our pettiness, our prejudice, our anxiety, our fear. It is an opportunity to make room not only for God, but for those who come our way. May this Lent help us to become better persons.

COMMON LENTEN PENANCE

Most of us perform some penance during the holy season of Lent. As a parish community of St. Bonaventure, I suggest that we all do the following in 2018: **full participation at Mass**. That means we will come on time for Mass and not leave until the final hymn is sung. The parish leadership enthusiastically supports this. I strongly urge every parishioner to take this penance seriously and carry it out. And this will help us all to draw closer to the Lord, whom we love.

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PARISH LIFE THOUGHTS

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES RICE BOWL

It is not too late to join other members of our parish community in participating in CRS Rice Bowl this Lent. You can pick up your family's rice bowl after Mass. Remember, your contributions to Rice Bowl changes lives: **25% of the proceeds remain in the Oakland Diocese**, with a portion being given out as **grants to St. Vincent de Paul conferences** and other organizations working to alleviate hunger and food insecurity in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Last December **our own St. Vincent de Paul conference received a Rice Bowl grant** of \$500.

FAST, PRAY, GIVE UP ENVELOPES

Christians are called to renew our spiritual practices like **fasting, praying, and almsgiving**, and to think about our lives and ourselves in new ways. Almsgiving encourages us to express gratitude for all that God has given us by giving some away, and you can embrace a new practice that will provide our church with consistent support and simplify your giving.

Please consider giving up your envelopes by embracing eGiving. Our parish can save money by eliminating the wasteful envelopes that go unused by so many.

Sign up is simple: you can do so by visiting www.faithdirect.net and enroll using our parish code: CA725. With online enrollment, you will be able to access your account any time.



LENTEN REFLECTIONS

Thank you to parishioner, Mary Franceschini for writing our Lenten Reflections this year. Every week, the reflections for the upcoming week will be found on the back page of the bulletin. You can also sign up to receive the reflections every morning in your email. Go to the parish website: www.stbonaventure.net and sign up through the link on the front page.

FEBRUARY 18 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

"At once the Spirit drove him out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days..." Mk 1: 12-15

This was the same Spirit who had descended on Jesus in his baptism.

What a stark contrast! When Jesus is baptized, he basks in the light of the Spirit of God, and a voice proclaims him as "his son." The next moment he is driven into a desert to face the wiles of Satan as well as the dangers of the desert. Not for one day, but for forty days. In the end, Jesus wins. In these forty days of Lent, we are asked to turn away from the wiles of Satan, to face our "deserts" head on. Jesus has been there; he knows what it's like, and he will help us.

FEBRUARY 19 MONDAY

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Lv 19: 1-2, 11-18

These words mirror the words of Jesus. Here, in a stricter text, it refers to one's countrymen.

Leviticus expands on the commandments given to Moses on Mount Sinai. Loving one's countrymen wasn't always easy and we know that it's not any easier in our day. These "countrymen" are our neighbors, regardless of race or creed, whether next door or across the country. When we lose sight of this fact, unrest happens. It is up to us to choose the path that unites us.

FEBRUARY 20 TUESDAY

"...in praying, do not babble like the pagans, who think they will be heard because of their many words." Mt 6: 7-15

The pagans recited a list of divine names thinking that one of them would force a response from the deity.

How many deities did the pagans have that they had to babble continuously? We have only one God, our Father. We must be careful that our prayers don't end up making noise and nothing else. Praying doesn't mean showing off. Prayer isn't rushing through words for the sake of saying many of them. Neither Jesus, nor God the Father, needs that. Let us pray with conscience, reverently. If we forget an intention, God "hears" it. Prayer comes from the heart.

FEBRUARY 21 WEDNESDAY

"Just as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites, so will the Son of Man be to this generation." Lk 11: 29-32

Jonah, the prophet, came from afar to preach repentance to Nineveh, and the people listened.

The people of Jesus's time wanted a sign. He called them an evil generation. They couldn't see the "sign" Jesus, who was greater than any prophet. Jonah was the sign to the Ninevites. Jesus would be the "sign" with his death and resurrection. We should pause and ask ourselves where we stand. What sign are we looking for?

FEBRUARY 22 THURSDAY THE CHAIR OF SAINT PETER THE APOSTLE

"You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Mt 16: 13-19

Peter states what others haven't. Because of this, Jesus makes him the rock of the church.

What must have Jesus felt like when this apostle, a fisherman, declared what no one had before. Can we picture the love that flowed from Jesus's heart to Peter? This simple man who more than once stumbled along the way in following Jesus, was molded every step of the way. We should reflect on this and take heart. Never in his dreams did Peter think he would become the rock of the church. Jesus is full of surprises.

FEBRUARY 23 FRIDAY

"Do I indeed derive any pleasure from the death of the wicked?" Ez 18: 21-28

Violence towards a person that results in death, even if it seems justified, is not God's plan.

This is something to really think about. How many times when someone commits a crime, or a terrorist is killed, we think justice is served. True, that if you commit an evil act towards a person or a people, many times you pay for it, but we shouldn't gloat over it. That person, like it or not, was a child of God just like the rest of us. God takes no pleasure in "the death of the wicked," and neither should we.

FEBRUARY 24 SATURDAY

"But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you..." Mt 5: 43-48

Jesus's statement is a challenge to be perfect just as the Father in heaven is perfect.

To be kind to those who are kind and sweet to you, is easy for anyone. What tests our mettle and has us stand out is kindness given to those who more than once test our patience or, for some reason, simply can't stand us. We've all dealt with people like that, and maybe still do. We can take the first step towards kindness. It probably won't change things, but we are doing the Father's will.



LITURGY & PRAYER

COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION
SERVICE: Tuesday, March 20 @ 7:30 PM

We gather together because we are confident and grateful that God is merciful. Lent is the time when the entire Church enters into the period of purification and enlightenment as we journey along with our elect and catechumens who are preparing for the Easter Sacraments. You are invited and encouraged to join us and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation as you continue to seek and prepare for this Lent.

*Last Opportunity for Individual Confession:
Saturday, March 24 @ 3:30 PM*

READINGS for the WEEK



MONDAY: LV 19:1-2, 11-18; PS 19:8-10, 15; MT 25:31-46
TUESDAY: IS 55:10-11; PS 34:4-7, 16-19; MT 6:7-15
WEDNESDAY: JON 3:1-10; PS 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19; LK 11:29-32
THURSDAY: 1 PT 5:1-4; PS 23:1-3A, 4-6; MT 16:13-19
FRIDAY: EZ 18:21-28; PS 130:1-8; MT 5:20-26
SATURDAY: DT 26:16-19; PS 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8; MT 5:43-48
SUNDAY: GN 22:1-2, 9A, 10-13, 15-18; PS 116:10, 15-19; ROM 8:31B-34; MK 9:2-10



STEWARDSHIP of Treasure

Weekend of February 10 & 11 Collection

Goal: \$26,123
Actual: \$24,217
Deficit: (\$1,906)

2nd Collection

Bishop's Appeal: \$4,809
Food for Family: 221
EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer)
included in above figures

FAITH FORMATION FOR ADULTS

ADULT CONFIRMATION

The parish celebration of Confirmation will be on May 12 with Very Rev. George Mockel. Parish preparation for those adults/young adults interested will **begin Monday, February 26**. We will meet Monday evenings, 7:00-8:30pm. Each candidate must:

- be over 18 years of age
- no longer be in high school
- be a baptized Catholic
- have received First Communion and
- attend Mass on a regular basis.

If you are interested, please call/email Eileen Limberg/elimberg@stbonaventure.net. Registration requested by February 15.

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

What is your prayer life like? Would you like to spend a little more 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.

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

BOY SCOUT TROOP 444 ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST

8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Sunday, February 25, Large Hall
Cost is \$5.00/person or \$15.00/family
All proceeds go to St. Bonaventure Catholic Community

BLOOD DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus are hosting a Community Blood Drive for the American Red Cross on Saturday, March 10 in Classrooms A2/A3; 10 AM to 4 PM. Schedule an appointment by calling 1-800-733-2767, or Denis Thomson at 925-673-0720, or by logging on to redcrossblood.org and enter Sponsor Code: St. Bonaventure. Drop-ins will be welcome, but there may be a wait while clients with appointments are handled first. Every donation may help save up to three lives. Won't you be part of this life saving journey?



ST VINCENT DE PAUL BUNDLE SUNDAY WEEKEND: FEBRUARY 24-25

Please bring clean, gently used clothing **only**, preferably on hangers, to church **during mass hours only on these days**. Volunteers will be manning an SVdP trailer during those times. If you need more info, call Dan Gabe at 925-408-5964. Have furniture to donate? Leave info on our SVdP. Hotline: 672-5800 x2234. We'll arrange for pickup.

A CALL FOR NEW AND RETURNING CLASSY CRAFTERS

We meet each Wednesday in Room A1 from 10 am to 2 pm. New members are welcome! Join us for crafting and fellowship as we begin preparations for our 2018 Holiday boutique. Not a crafter? No worries! The weekly fellowship is a rewarding component of our ministry. Stop by for a cup of coffee or bring your bag lunch and see what we're all about. There are many ways to be involved. Any questions? Call Jeanne Roberts at 925-676-3323. Hope to see you Wednesday!

Your ways, O Lord, make known to me;
teach me your paths.

— Psalm 25:4



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PENSAMIENTOS DEL PADRE MATHEW VELLANKAL

QUERIDOS FELIGRESES:

Nosotros empezamos la Cuaresma con el miércoles de Ceniza. Las normas Generales del Año de la



Liturgia y el Calendario dicen: "La Cuaresma es una preparación para el Domingo de Pascua de Resurrección." La Cuaresma coloca a los Catecúmenos y fieles a celebrar el misterio Pascual: catecúmenos por muchos pasos de iniciación cristiana; a los fieles por medio de los recuerdos de su propio bautizo y prácticas penitenciales.

Los tres pilares de la Cuaresma son: oración, ayuno y limosna. Pasando un poquito de tiempo rezando cada día nos ayudará a estar mas cerca de Dios. El ayuno nos puede llevar al Señor si nosotros dejamos que los momentos de hambre nos conecten a la limosna. Cuando nosotros ayunamos o nos privamos de comer carne, nosotros podríamos dar lo que economizamos en esta comida a los más necesitados, como lo hizo Jesús, nuestras prácticas de Cuaresma deberían de llevarnos a servir a otros.

Muchos católicos crecieron pensando que la Cuaresma es el tiempo de "dar algo." Lo que nosotros necesitamos es evitar el pecado. Dar otras cosas pueden ayudarnos a desarrollar una disciplina que nos ayude a resistir la tentación de pecar.

Nuestras practicas de Cuaresma cualquiera que sean, son devociones piadosas. Cualquier practica que tome la forma de abstenernos de postres durante la Cuaresma debe doblar nuestros esfuerzos de oración, aumentar nuestras donaciones para ayudar a los más necesitados; ayunando o privándose de comer carne tiene que ser entendido como un esfuerzo del Espíritu para vaciarnos de todo lo que esta en contra del camino de llevarnos a la luz, vida y amor de Dios. ¿Tenemos

realmente espacio suficiente para Dios?

Muchos de nosotros vivimos muy llenos de desorden y mucho ruido. Nosotros viajamos por la vida con mucha velocidad. Cuaresma es el tiempo para vaciar de entre nosotros no solo de cosas, sonido y velocidad en nuestras vidas sino también de nuestras insignificancias, ansiedades y miedos. Esta es una oportunidad de hacer espacio no solo por Dios sino por aquellos que vienen en nuestro camino. Ojalá que ésta Cuaresma nos ayude hacer mejores personas.

VIACRUCIS EN CUARESMA

Los estamos invitando al Viacrucis totalmente en español, en la Iglesia a las 8:00PM, todos los viernes de Cuaresma a partir del 16 de febrero. Todos son bienvenidos. Los esperamos.

CONFIRMACION PARA ADULTOS

Estamos invitando a las personas mayores de 20 años que no han recibido el Sacramento de la Confirmación todavía, que se acerquen a la oficina del Padre Oscar Rojas para registrarse y/o recibir información. El programa empieza el 25 de Febrero, es un programa de 10 sesiones. La Confirmación sería el 12 de Mayo aquí en nuestra Parroquia. Además de la información personal, es importante

tener los certificados de Bautizo y Primera Comunión.

AYUNO, ORACION, NO MAS SOBRES

Los cristianos somos llamados a renovar nuestras prácticas espirituales como el ayuno, oración y limosna a pensar en nuestras vidas y en nosotros mismos en una nueva manera. La nueva limosna nos ayuda agradecer todo lo que Dios nos ha dado y poder dar algo de regreso, usted puede adoptar una práctica que proporciona apoyo constante a nuestra iglesia y simplificar su donación.

Por favor considere no recibir sobres de donación y en cambio usar eGiving. Nuestra parroquia puede ahorrar dinero eliminando el envío de sobres los cuales no son usados por muchos. Registrarse es muy fácil: lo puede hacer visitando www.faithdirect.net y registrarse usando el código de la parroquia: CA725. Registrándose en faithdirec usted podrá tener acceso a su cuenta cuando lo desee.

**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 03/10/	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.
Sat 06/23	10:00 a.m.	Fri 06/15	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 06/30	10:00 a.m.	Fri 06/22	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 07/07	12:00 p.m.	Fri 06/29	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 07/14	10:00 a.m.	Fri 07/06	7-9:30 p.m.



MASS INTENTIONS



FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17

5:00 Joel Cuenco
Francisco & Juana Cuenco
Fernando Cuenco
William H. Leigh

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18

7:30 Amy Ripley
Effi Cartan
Ekkehardt John Keller
St. Bonaventure Community
11:00 Orlando Muñoz
Maria Francisca de Muñoz
Andres Caguntas
Dominic Minetti
5:00 William Emes, Sr.
Safe Confirmation Retreat

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

6:30 Virgilio Laguna
William Emes, Sr.
9:00 Lita Diaz
Paciencia Gopez
John Hamilton
Edwin Bianco

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20

6:30 Virgilio Laguna
9:00 William M. Jordan
Faustina Garcia
Don Davis
Benedict Camera

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21

6:30 Virgilio Laguna
9:00 Janice Haagstad
Jeff Wurscher
William Emes, Sr.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22

6:30 Emidio Busuttil
Virgilio Laguna
9:00 Kolba Porter
Nita Abasolo
Edward Valencia

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

6:30 Virgilio Laguna
9:00 Jose M. Villanueva
Special Intention
Elizabeth Krauss
Holy Souls in Purgatory

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 24

5:00 Jane Dewhurst
Ana Jackson
Amy Duffy
Luchie Kastner



STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND LENTEN SOUP MEAL

February 23 @ 7:00 PM: Stations of the Cross in Times of Conflict

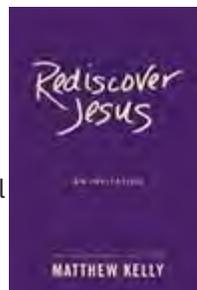
During times of conflict our faith can be tested to the full. We share the desolation of people torn apart by suffering and wonder whether life is really stronger than death. Yet, Jesus walked through death to new life. We join together to trust in His word and look to the future with confidence that all shall be well.

***The Knights of Columbus will host a simple Soup dinner on the Fridays in Lent in the Large Hall. Dinner will begin at 6:15pm and precede the Stations of the Cross. A Holy Spirit offering will be accepted.*



REDISCOVER JESUS BOOK STUDY

Fr. Mathew invites you to break open the book the parish gifted you at Christmas. Come and discuss how we can "rediscover the beautiful possibilities God places before us daily."



Mondays, February 26, March 5, 19, 26 in Classroom A2. Come either 10:00-11:30am or 7:00-8:30pm. Please call the office (or Eileen) to sign up (so we have enough seating). Free copies of the book are still available if you've already given your copy away. Read to page 56 for the first session.



SANCTUARY LIGHT IS LIT FOR



JOEL CUENCO
FEBRUARY 17 - 23, 2018

A DAY OF WRITING AS A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

Saturday, March 3, 10 am to 2:30pm
Cost: \$15/person to cover lunch, snacks & materials -

Does the title intrigue you? Do you write? Want to write? Afraid of writing?

This day retreat, led by Christa Fairfield, will be a safe and comfortable way to experience writing as a spiritual practice following the AWA (Amherst Writers and Artists) method. For more information or to sign up, contact Christa Fairfield at the parish office or email Eileen at elimberg@stbonaventure.net

2018 MEN'S RETREAT

"Mercy: A Disciple's Response..."

A Retreat with the Men of St Bonaventure's Parish, March 2-4 at San Damiano Retreat Center in Danville. Our retreat master is Fr. Mark Wiesner, pastor of St. Charles Borromeo parish in Livermore. For more information, call Joe Talarico (925.680.7767) or Matthew Remington (925.672.4006). Registration forms are available online at www.stbonaventure.net (Parish Ministries - Men's Spiritual Network).

PARISH MISSION WITH FR. JAY MATTHEWS MARCH 12-13-14

10:00am-11:30am or 7:00pm-8:30pm, Church

