



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



Taizé. Photo Credit: Eileen Limberg

Third Sunday of Advent *Tercer Domingo de Adviento*

December 17, 2017

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

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,

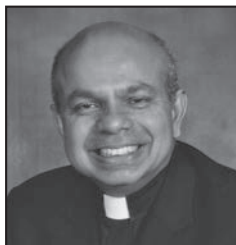
Nurture the development of our faith and knowledge of Christ,

Offer to share the Holy Spirit's gifts of time, talent and treasure,

Worship through prayer, Mass and the Sacraments.

Dear Parishioners,

The third Sunday of Advent is called "Gaudete Sunday" because the Mass for today (in its original Latin text), begins with the opening antiphon: "Gaudete in Domino semper"—"Rejoice in the Lord always." To remind ourselves that we are preparing for the very joyful occasion of the birth of Jesus, we light the rose candle, and the priest will wear rose vestments. The common theme of the day's Scripture readings is one of joy and encouragement. The readings urge us to make the preparations required of us as we await the rebirth of Jesus in our hearts and lives. Holy Scripture reminds us that the coming of Jesus, past, present and future, is the reason for our rejoicing.



The Prophet Isaiah, in the first reading, encourages the Jewish exiles returning from Babylon to rejoice because their God, Yahweh, is their strong guide, provider and protector. St. Paul, in the second reading, advises the Thessalonian Christians to "rejoice always" by leading blameless, holy and thankful lives guided by the Holy Spirit, because Christ's second coming is near, and he is faithful in his promise to reward them. Today's Gospel tells us that John the Baptist came to bear witness to Jesus as the light of the world. The Baptizer wants all the Jews to rejoice because the long-expected messiah, as the light of the world, will remove the darkness of sin from the world.

Our mission as brothers and sisters of Christ and members of his Church is to reflect Christ's light to others, just as the moon reflects the light of the sun. It is especially important during the Advent season that we reflect Christ's sharing love and his unconditional forgiveness. Let us bring the true light of Christ to illumine the lives of all these brothers and sisters during this Advent season through our sharing love, overflowing mercy, unconditional forgiveness and humble service. We will be able to accomplish this witnessing mission of radiating Christ's light by performing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy where we see these are needed.

May I invite you to come to the parish communal penance service and individual confessions on Tuesday, December 19 at 7:30 p.m. We will have 10 priests to assist us.

Remember me as loving you,
Fr. Mat

PARISH LIFE thoughts

FAITH DIRECT

In this season of Advent, we are continuously preparing ourselves for the celebration of Christ's birth. Why not help our own parish prepare for the coming new year by signing up with Faith Direct? By supporting St. Bonaventure, both you and our parish can save some time and peace of mind this holiday season.

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

CAR DONATION NEEDED FOR REFUGEE FAMILY

St. Bonaventure Community has sponsored and supported the Ahmadi family through the Family-to-Family ministry since June 2016. They are now in need of a newer car. The father, Najib, already holds down a full-time job but is determined to be self-sufficient without continued financial support from us. His motivation has led him to research a second job driving for Uber or Lyft during his evening hours. The requirements for this job would mean driving a 2005 car (or newer) with additional insurance. The Family-to-Family ministry will be able to help with the insurance, but we are hoping that someone in our St. Bonaventure Community might have a 2005 (or newer) car to donate to help him get closer to his goal. Najib is very motivated and willing to work long hours to provide for his family, especially with a new baby due to arrive in mid-February. If anyone is able to donate a car for this struggling family, please call Jenelle Abrams 925-727-8531 or send an email to jenelle.abrams@yahoo.com. Thank you so much!

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



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK





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.



STEWARDSHIP of Treasure

Weekend of December 9 & 10 Collection

Goal: \$25,440
Actual: \$20,560
Deficit: (\$4,880)

2nd Collection

Retirement Fund for the Religious: \$3,942

Food for Family: 460

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

LITURGY & PRAYER

ADVENT COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION SERVICE: Tuesday, December 19 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 short prayer service followed by an opportunity for individual confession and absolution on Tuesday, December 19 at 7:30 PM in the church.

IMPORTANT NOTE REGARDING DECEMBER 23/24/25 MASS OBLIGATIONS

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.

The 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)



GOOD NEWS for You

READINGS for the WEEK

MONDAY: JER 23:5-8; PS 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; MT 1:18-25

TUESDAY: JGS 13:2-7, 24-25A; PS 71:3-4A, 5-6AB, 16-17; LK 1:5-25

WEDNESDAY: IS 7:10-14; PS 24:1-4AB, 5-6; LK 1:26-38

THURSDAY: SG 2:8-14 OR ZEP 3:14-18A; PS 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; LK 1:39-45

FRIDAY: 1 SM 1:24-28; 1 SM 2:1, 4-8ABCD; LK 1:46-56

SATURDAY: MAL 3:1-4, 23-24; PS 25:4-5AB, 8-10, 14; LK 1:57-66

SUNDAY: 2 SM 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16; PS 89:2-5, 27, 29; ROM 16:25-27; LK 1:26-38

FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN

BAPTISMS – NOVEMBER 2017

God's blessings to these children who have become Children of God in the Sacrament of Baptism

Gia Marie Arnold, daughter of Jeffery and Christina

Samayah Liana Barnes, daughter of Jamarcus and Norma

Yulissa Leilani Barnes, daughter of Jamarcus and Norma

Michael Razon Cervantes, son of Michael and Menchie

Brandon Connor Deguzman, son of Wesley and Leighwayne

David Miguel Guzman-Hernandez, son of Ivan and Elizabeth

Casen Josiah Huffman, son of David and Megan

Noreen Kay Lacap, daughter of Eric and Jessica

Landon Donald Livingston, son of Chris and Liz

Conor Patrick Spillner, son of Nick and Kristen

Evelina Julia Uribe, daughter of Margarito and Angelina

Alexandria Rose Yabut, daughter of Harold and Regina



FAITH FORMATION FOR ADULTS

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.

ADULT CONFIRMATION

The parish celebration of Confirmation will be
on May 12, 2018 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 contact
Eileen (925)672-5800 x2217 or elimberg@
stbonaventure.net. Registration requested by
February 15.

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

"The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because
the **Lord** has anointed me..." Let your spirits
be augmented by attending a Worldwide
Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend with your
spouse. **The next weekends are held at San
Damiano Retreat Center, Danville on January
12-14 and May 18-20.** 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

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SUPER BOWL CRAB FEED PARTY!

Looking for something fun to do after the
holidays are over? Look no further. The Crab
Feed is back! Join us for a night of great fun,
delicious food, live-silent auction of incredible
items, once in a lifetime sports collectables and
fabulous door prizes!

Saturday, January 27, 2018; 6pm

Tickets will be on sale starting Dec. 30. Contact
Mike Farnham with any questions or to reserve
your table ahead of time. 925-766-2864

CLAYTON VALLEY COUNSELING CENTER (CVCC) AT YOUR SERVICE

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

PREGNANT? NEED HELP?

☎ 1-800-910-0191, The Gabriel Project



*Pray
For*

All Fire Victims

SANCTUARY LIGHT IS LIT FOR

DIANNA HARDY
December 16- 22 , 2017



MASS INTENTIONS

✝ FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

5:00 Ernesto Dizon
Emidio Busuttill
Reynaldo Jose
Naty Kurdziel

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

7:30 Tony Summut
Guillermo "Bill" Muniz
9:00 St. Bonaventure Community
11:00 Lena Johnson
Thomas Quesada
John Muscat
Esteban "Steve" Mercado
5:00 Regina Canovas
May Concepcion Magno De Garcia
Bishop Christian Vincent Noel

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

6:30 Alzheimer patients
9:00 Marina M. De Villa
Nonato & Iria Almeida
Jacob Arevalo
Pat Conroy
Anthony Williams

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

6:30 Children with disabilities
9:00 Dimitris Argyriou
Sarah Fernandes
Jacob Arevalo

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

6:30 Patients with Parkinson's Disease
9:00 Jacob Arevalo

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

6:30 All the sick and homebound
9:00 William M. Jordan
Jacob Arevalo
Anastacia Lloren

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

6:30 Safe holidays
9:00 John Muscat
Tony & Joe Sammut
Jacob Arevalo

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

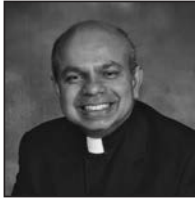
5:00 St. Bonaventure Community



REFLEXIÓN DEL PADRE MAT

Estimados Feligreses:

El tercer domingo de Adviento se llama "Domingo Gaudete," porque la misa de hoy (en su texto original en latín,) comienza con la antífona de apertura: "Gaudete in Domino Semper" – "Siempre alégrese en el Señor." Para recordar que estamos preparando la ocasión muy alegre del nacimiento de Jesús, encendemos la vela color de rosa y el sacerdote viste vestimentas de color rosa. El tema común de las lecturas bíblicas del día son de alegría y ánimo. Las lecturas nos impulsan hacer los preparativos necesarios mientras esperamos el renacimiento de Jesús en nuestros corazones y vidas. La Sagrada Escritura nos recuerda que la venida de Jesús, pasado, presente y futuro es la razón de nuestra alegría.



El profeta Isaías, en la primera lectura, anima a los judíos exilados que regresaban de Babilonia a alegrarse porque su Dios, el Señor, es su guía fuerte, proveedor y protector. San Pablo, en la segunda lectura, aconseja a los cristianos de Tesalónica a "estar siempre alegres" por los que llevan un vida intachable, sagrados y agradecidos guiados por el Espíritu Santo, porque la segunda venida de Cristo está cerca y que es fiel en su promesa de recompensarlos a ellos.

El Evangelio de hoy nos dice que Juan el Bautista vino a dar testimonio de Jesús como la luz del mundo. El Bautista quiere que todos los judíos se regocijen porque el Mesías esperado tanto tiempo como la luz del mundo, eliminará la oscuridad del pecado del mundo. Nuestra misión como hermanos, hermanas de Cristo y miembros de su iglesia es para reflejar la luz de Cristo a los demás, así como la luna refleja la luz del sol. Es especialmente importante durante el tiempo de Adviento que reflexionemos en Cristo compartiendo su amor y su perdón incondicional.

Traigamos la verdadera luz de Cristo para iluminar la vida de todos estos hermanos y hermanas durante este tiempo de Adviento por medio de nuestro amor para compartir, merced desbordante, el perdón incondicional y de servicio humilde. Nosotros seremos capaces de lograr esta misión de irradiar la luz de Cristo mediante la realización de las obras corporales y espirituales de misericordia adonde veamos que se necesitan.

¿Puedo invitarlos a venir a la parroquia al servicio de penitencia en común y confesiones individuales?, Este servicio será el martes 19 de diciembre a las 7:30 pm. Tendremos 10 sacerdotes que nos ayudaran en este servicio.

Recuerden que yo los amo,
Padre Mat

FAITH DIRECT

Demos una bienvenida a este otoño donando electrónicamente a través de Faith Direct, la manera más conveniente y segura para que usted pueda hacer su donación semanal a San Buenaventura. Sus contribuciones automáticas a través de Faith Direct ahorrarán tiempo valioso para usted y nuestro personal de la parroquia.

Visite a www.faithdirect.net y usa nuestro código de la iglesia: **CA725**.

¡Gracias por su continuo apoyo a nuestra familia parroquial! Dios los bendiga — Fr. Mat Vellankal

MENSAJE DE NAVIDAD-PARA TODA LA COMUNIDAD HISPANA

Padre Oscar Rojas

Hermanas y hermanos estamos acercándonos a las festividades de la Navidad. Hemos podido observar alrededor muchas casas decoradas con luces de diferentes colores y un ambiente de alegría. Es un maravilloso tiempo que tenemos que aprovechar para disfrutar plenamente esta Navidad con amor, alegría y paz. No perdamos la oportunidad de vivir esta Navidad con mucha alegría y compartiendo con todos nuestros seres queridos. Aún es tiempo de acercarnos más a Dios con un corazón sencillo



llo de amor y de gratitud a Dios. Navidad es un tiempo para agradecer a Dios por todas aquellas bendiciones que hemos recibido a lo largo de este año; salud, trabajo, familia, amigos, económicamente y la vida. Hay muchas razones por cuales venir a la Santa Misa a dar gracias a Dios y llenar nuestro corazón del amor de Dios. Así como las casas están bien adornadas e iluminadas también hay que iluminar nuestro corazón con Cristo que es la luz. Hay que preparar el corazón para que nazca en nuestro corazón y que transforme nuestra vida. Quizá habrá resentimiento, enojo, coraje, envidia, ira, odio, y quizás estas cosas no nos dejaran disfrutar plenamente esta Navidad. Perdona, experimenta el verdadero amor de Dios viviendo plenamente feliz y lleno de muchas alegrías. No dejes que el enojo u otras situaciones quiten tu felicidad de compartir con tu familia y amigos. Ilumina tu corazón con las luces del amor, la paz, paciencia, comprensión, caridad y felicidad. Que los demás puedan ver tu vida iluminada del verdadero amor de Dios. Les deseo a todos lo mejor en esta navidad y que el Hijo de Dios Nazca en el corazón de cada uno de ustedes. Seamos humildes como el niño Dios que nace en un pobre y humilde establo. Deja que nazca en tu corazón. ¡Se humilde y recíbelo!!!

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.

