

Welcome, Fr. Mathew!



Photo Credit: David Blankenhorn.

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

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

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

July 2, 2017 Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time | 2 de julio de 2017 *Decimotercer Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario*

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

THOUGHTS FROM FR. RICHARD
 PENSAMIENTOS DE PADRE RICARDO

■ **A BIG-HEARTED WELCOME TO
 FATHER MATHEW**

I have come to a great peace and sense of satisfaction as I leave my post as Pastor of St. Bonaventure Community for the last 21 years. **Today you welcome Fr. Mathew Vellankal as your new Pastor.**

“He has big shoes to fill” many of you say. The first editor of the Catholic Voice, as I succeeded him, responded to a well-meaning person who said the same thing: “No, he has his own shoes. I am taking mine.”

Certainly our personalities are different, but I know you will find Fr. Mathew an enjoyable personality and spiritually stimulating. Of course, it will take time to adjust to a new leader after 21 years of someone else. That is “a generation.” So, I ask you to be very welcoming and open. Jesus is the leader; so please continue to follow Him.

Please do not put Fr. Mathew and Fr. Oscar on probation, as some thought that they were doing when I first came. St. Bonaventure has established a strong sense of planning and working together that I hope will continue. St. Bonaventure Parish has a competent, pastorally sensitive and spiritually wise pastoral staff that I hope Fr. Mathew will come to know and appreciate. One thing a new pastor always has to learn is to honor the history and the experience of a parish that he enters. The primary work of a pastor is to promote and foster the spiritual communion between the faithful people and Jesus, between themselves, always embracing a wider world. Those are the greater shoes that always have to be filled.

■ **A BIG-HEARTED WELCOME TO
 FR. OSCAR**

A pastor is important, but so is a new Parochial Vicar. St. Bonaventure has not had a newly ordained priest in many years. We welcome Fr. Oscar Rojas today as well. He came to the United States about 10 years ago. He speaks both English and Spanish.

Speaking now to the Latino members of our community especially, I ask you to welcome and open your hearts to him. The “Mangini” heart is different from the “Rojas” heart, and I hope that you open your heart to him as you did to me.

Fr. Rojas is here to work in the entire parish. He is not here just for the Latino community.

■ **DON'T FORGET FR. DAVID**

Fr. David has no desire at this time to retire, so he will continue to be with you, and a wise guide to the new priests as they arrive and begin their new, good work here.

In the last couple of years, we have had the help of visiting priests to see us through. Now, there is a new full-time team.

■ **FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Keep it up! Just because I am leaving, the financial support must remain steady, especially with the expenses for a third, full-time priest. Sometimes, with changing of personnel, people take “a wait and see” attitude, “whether I like them or not” attitude. Your financial support is support for all the ministries to continue and for the pastoral staff to continue, as well.

■ **LAST WORD FROM A GRATEFUL
 HEART**

Lastly, I want to thank you for the many congratulatory cards, notes and letters that I have received over the last weeks. I thank so many of you as well for the many financial gifts that you have given to me, as well especially for the \$4,100 that is being sent in my name to our sister parish in El Salvador. I know how loved and appreciated I am personally for my pastoral openness, support to so many people over the years and for my spiritual leadership.

I have enjoyed my time and priestly work here for the last 21 years. I am leaving with a sense that I have completed my mission here and done what God has wanted me to do. The direction for the pastoral life of St. Bonaventure has been set, and there are many wise, articulate and engaged parishioners who will bring it to further maturity. A pastor is successful if the parishioners are successful also.

It has been a wonderful 20 years and I hope that it will be even better 20 years from now.

“See you in Safeway.”

WHOEVER GIVES ONLY A CUP OF COLD WATER TO ONE
 OF THESE LITTLE ONES TO DRINK BECAUSE THE LITTLE
 ONE IS A DISCIPLE —



*amen, I say to you,
 he will surely not lose his reward.*

—Matthew 10:42

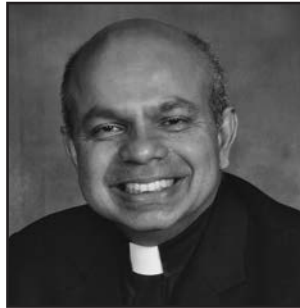
Thoughts from Fr. Mat

IT is with humility and with great joy that I take this opportunity to introduce myself to you as your pastor this weekend. My first ministry in the diocese of Oakland was in fact in Concord in 2001 as a Parochial Vicar in Queen of all Saints. That experience was life-changing for me and I fell in love with this great place! I truly believe that it is God who is sending me to you through the instrumentality of Bishop Michael Barber. “It is the Lord who goes before you; he will be with you; he will not fail you or forsake you; do not fear or be dismayed” (Deuteronomy 31:8). I trust that God will be at my side every step of the way, leading and guiding me in my task as your pastor.

As a way of introduction, let me share with you a bit about my journey:

I was born and raised in India and ordained a priest in the Salesian Congregation. I served 10 years in the foothills of the Himalayas, mostly as administrator of multiple educational institutions. Then I served as the World Chaplain for the International Movement of Catholic Agricultural and Rural Youth, based in Brussels, Belgium. I came to the diocese in 2001 and have truly enjoyed my priestly ministry in Queen of All Saints, Our Lady of Guadalupe (Parochial Vicar) and Holy Spirit (pastor for 11 years). I have served the Bishop as a member of the Presbyteral Council for four years.

In just a short time, I have been welcomed into St. Bonaventure Church with the mega-church heart. I am grateful to Fr. Richard Mangini and Fr. David Lawrence for their hospitality and generosity of heart. I have only words of appreciation to the staff who have already reached out to me and helped me in the transition. I am ex-



tremely thankful to Fr. Mangini as he retires after 21 years of selfless service as pastor of St. Bonaventure

My sincere congratulations to him as he celebrates 50 years of priesthood. He did meet with me a few times to help with the smooth transitions. Fr. Mangini, I wish you a restful vacation in Italy. Please know that you are always most welcome to celebrate the various sacraments and events at your beloved church of St. Bonaventure. Just come even to hang out and share your wisdom and experiences. I am excited that Fr. Oscar Rojas will join us at St. Bonaventure and share his priestly ministry with us.

I believe that we have great potential and I can feel the energy of enthusiasm as I come here. With great potential, we also have great responsibility to keep rooted and based in our Scripture and the traditions of our Church. Our Scripture tells us that we should “forget what lies behind and strain forward to what lies ahead.” (Phil 3:13) I am eager for the opportunity God has blessed me with to share in ministry with you. I believe that together we can open ourselves to the leading of the Holy Spirit so we may know God’s will and follow with generous hearts.

I look forward to meeting you all and learning the wonders of your life and faith stories. In the days ahead, I welcome hearing your wisdom, insights and concerns.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Weekend of June 24 & 25 Collection

Goal: \$25,440

Actual: \$21,958

Deficit: (\$3,482)

Food for Family: 426

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

STAFF DIRECTORY OFFICE: 925-672-5800

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mvellankal@stbonaventure.net

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Fr. Oscar Rojas, PAROCHIAL VICAR x 2215
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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:
Jacob Perry, DIRECTOR x 2229
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FAITH FORMATION FOR ADULTS

Eileen Limberg, DIRECTOR OF ADULT FAITH
FORMATION AND ADULT INITIATION x 2217
elimberg@stbonaventure.net

FACILITIES AND MAINTAINANCE

Frank Palmeri x 2216
fpalmeri@stbonaventure.net

PARISH LIFE THOUGHTS
 FROM CHRISTA FAIRFIELD

■ FAITH AND SOLIDARITY

This isn't what I'm hearing in the news.

Words from one of our English speaking parishioners to our Spanish speaking parishioners at a meeting last Thursday night when about 60 people from both communities sat in a large circle together to meet and get to know each other.

Members of the Latino community shared the fears and experiences their community is living in the current threatening environment of detention and deportation. A couple of people described the complex, difficult and expensive process of acquiring citizenship. One man, a previous Green Beret, explained how it took him over 10 years and \$10,000 to get citizenship for his wife. Others confirmed the hostile and painful experience they went through and the challenges of finding trustworthy legal representation. And the reality that the opportunity for citizenship for most undocumented residence is nearly non-existent was confirmed. *It's not that people don't bother to go through the process. There isn't a process.*

One woman from Mexico explained how often she is hearing the pain of mothers afraid about what would happen to their

children if they were detained or deported. She shared one mother's plea for help to find someone to adopt her children who were born here, so they would be safe if she was gone.

The night was illuminating for those of us who don't live in the shadows and with the fears. The conversation was strengthening for the Latino community who expressed appreciation to see that they were not alone. One man expressed his appreciation: *I just want to say thank you for being here. It means so much. I know you could be somewhere else watching tv or relaxing but you here tonight.*

So what's next?

We captured a white board full of actions that we can undertake together and decided to focus on three as first priorities.

1. Educate the English speaking community about what the reality is for those without documentation. There are stories to tell and statistics to share that will help all of us know the people behind the headlines.
2. Work with local community organizations to bring "Know Your Rights" trainings to the parish after the Spanish Sunday Mass. One English-speaking woman asked what that phrase meant. It's nothing special for the Latino

community. The rights discussed in these sessions are applicable to all in the United States. They include the right to representation, to remain silent, and to not open your door to law enforcement without a warrant.

3. Organize training for our parishioners to help our Latino families complete Family Preparedness Plans. These plans delegate legal guardianship for children in the event of a parent's detainment or deportation, as well as provide details on finances and medical issues. The completion of these forms do not require legal expertise.

Three groups of volunteers were established to begin work on these efforts. If you want to get involved in any of them, please contact me, Christa Fairfield, at cfairfield@stbonaventure.net.

And keep praying for strength and courage for those who live in fear and look for ways to take action and learn more.



■ FAITH DIRECT: PARISH EGIVING



The Lord is risen! As Christ's disciples, we are called to go forth and spread the good news of His Resurrection. Our parish's many ministries are examples of how many of you answer that call. Our ministries require not only gifts of time and talent, but also of financial help. Please prayerfully consider supporting St. Bonaventure with electronic donations through Faith Direct. You can sign up online by visiting www.faithdirect.net using our church code: CA725.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY: EPH 2:19-22; PS 117:1BC-2; JN 20:24-29

TUESDAY: GN 19:15-29; PS 26:2-3, 9-12; MT 8:23-27; OR, FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY, ANY READINGS FROM THE MASS "FOR THE COUNTRY OR A CITY," NOS. 882-886, OR "FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE," NOS. 887-891

WEDNESDAY: GN 21:5, 8-20A; PS 34:7-8, 10-13; MT 8:28-34

THURSDAY: GN 22:1B-19; PS 115:1-6, 8-9; MT 9:1-8

FRIDAY: GN 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67; PS 106:1B-5; MT 9:9-13

SATURDAY: GN 27:1-5, 15-29; PS 135:1B-6; MT 9:14-17;

SUNDAY: ZEC 9:9-10; PS 145:1-2, 8-11, 13-14; ROM 8:9, 11-13; MT 11:25-30

FAITH FORMATION FOR ADULTS

■ SUMMER BOOK STUDY

What Does It All Mean? is more than the title for our book study.

Fr. Richard Leonard, SJ, explores the grounds for faith, the challenges in believing, the problem of evil, and offers lifetime lessons for prayer and the spiritual life. Join Anthony Artega as he breaks open one of his favorite author's latest book, **Thursdays, July 6-August 3** in Classroom A1. The study will be offered from 10:00-11:30am OR from 7:00-8:30pm. There will be assigned reading before the class begins, so please register through the front office or email me elimberg@stbonaventure.net. Books are on sale in the office for \$20.

■ ADULTS BECOMING CATHOLIC

Have you never been baptized and wonder what the big deal is? Were you baptized in another Christian faith, but wonder what makes Catholics different? Were you baptized Catholic, but never received Eucharist and Confirmation? If you fall into any of these categories, this process may be for you. A new group of adults interested in becoming Catholic or thinking about being baptized will begin on August 20. Individuals will be brought into the Catholic Faith at the Easter Vigil (March 31, 2018). For further information and registration, please contact Eileen 672-5800 x2217 or elimberg@stbonaventure.net

■ CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

Summer is here!! Do you want to find a nice cool air-conditioned haven of peace and quiet? Join us for Contemplative Prayer in the Chapel on Tuesdays, 4:05-4:30pm. Come and add some quiet time to your life and give thanks for the blessings we receive.

■ MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Married Couples, Go Home... from a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend more in love and with a greater understanding and appreciation for each other than ever before! The next weekend is at San Damiano Retreat Center, Danville on July 14-16 or September 29- October 1st. 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.

NEED A NEIGHBOR?

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

We Offer:

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

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



PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

HOSPITALITY WEEKEND

Today is Hospitality Weekend: July 1 & 2.

Thank you to the parishioners and volunteers who have donated to this fine ministry.

After the 5pm Saturday Mass, we 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!

A QUIZ FOR ALL

Do you like people? How about friendly people? Do you enjoy helping others? Do you like delicious food? Do you enjoy making new friends? Do you enjoy working with others on a project? Are you looking for a meaningful way to 'give back'? If you have answered 'yes' to just one of these questions, **you** are just whom we would love to meet in our Classy Crafters meetings!! Please pop into Room A-1 on any Wednesday between 10 am - 2 pm and you will discover a very special group of people. Please join us! We want **you!**

BRIDGE GROUP

Are you interested in playing bridge with a partner of your choosing? Two couples play twenty hands at a time that is convenient for them for the months of September thru May. As many couples who are available gather at the Small Hall the first Thursday in June for a light dinner and several rounds of bridge.

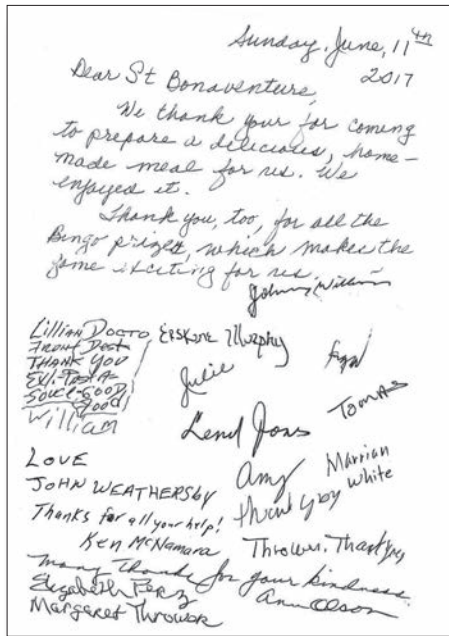
Each person who plays contributes twenty dollars. Prize money is given to the top three couples. We also give the top couple for each month **ten dollars**. All the money left (after the prizes have been passed out) is given to the church's Food Pantry. This year we donated **four hundred five dollars** to the Food Pantry.

If you are interested in joining this group or have questions, call Sheryl Caskey at 672-4087 by July 14.

THANK YOU FROM ST. MARY'S CENTER-OAKLAND

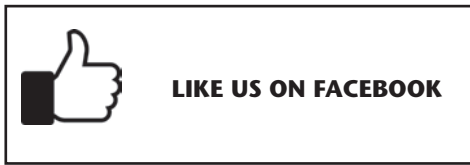
A big "Thank You" to all the volunteers who made the St. Mary's Dinner in Oakland a success on June 11. We are so grateful for our cooks, Karen and Gary LaMons and our dedicated workers: Jim & Carol Riley, Pete & Carol Chrobak, the Eichsens: Chuck, Monnie and Bob, Rose & Francis Fong and Lori & Dor Neeley. "Thank you" also to those providing angel food cakes for the strawberry shortcake and those parishioners who donated supplies, bingo prizes and made cash donations.

The load is lighter when many pitch in to help so please know that you are appreciated! Watch the bulletin announcement for our next dinner on **October 1**.



CANCELED: FAITH & FAMILY DAY WITH THE A'S

The A's cancelled this event for this year, apologies for your disappointment. Thank you to those of you who showed interest.



ANNUAL PARISH FAMILY CAMPING AT TAHOE - 2017



The dates are set for the annual family camping trip. **Sun, August 6 through Sun, August 13**, Sugar Pine Point State Park, Lake Tahoe. The cost will be **\$130**

for the week – same as last year. Plan your vacation week and come join us. Come for a few days or the entire week and relax with the family. Call Piedad or Kathy today to hold your spot for this years' fantastic week of family fun, rafting, hiking, etc. Please call Piedad (Pie) Fracasso ☎ 864-4748 or Kathy Riso ☎ 212-3579 for more details and/or to make your reservation.

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.



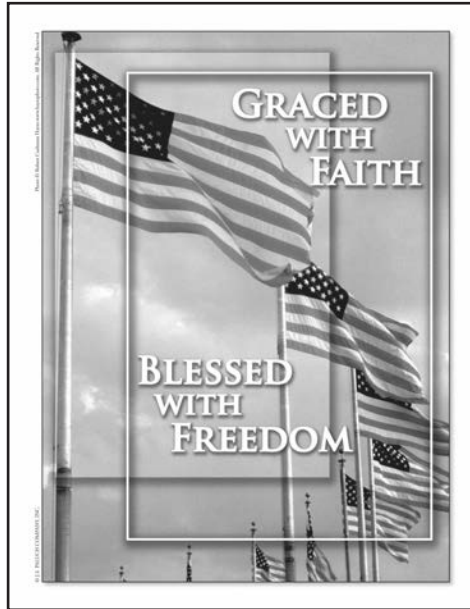
OUTSIDE PARISH

■ COMPANIONS IN IGNATIAN SERVICE
SAN DAMIANO RETREAT UPCOMING
EVENTS

Greetings and Happy Summer to you. San Damiano Retreat in Danville invites you to visit this summer. Here is a sampling of upcoming events:

- Monday mornings in July: Free Children's Book Series at San Damiano (K-5 + adult)
- July 28-30: Franciscan Hermitage Experience (silent retreat) with Sr. Mary Jo Chaves, OSF and Dorothy Charbonneau.

For additional details and to register, please visit www.sandamiano.org or call ☎ 925-837-9141



Mass Intentions
For The Week 

SATURDAY, JULY 1

- 5:00 Fr. David Lawrence
Warren Muller
Kathleen Muller
Christopher Connors

SUNDAY, JULY 2

- 7:30 Jennifer Martin
Vincent Mount
Dodie Jones
Maria Luisa De Luna
- 9:00 Eulysis M. Victorino
Margaret & Ray Mangini
Angelo Dimech
Wade Haley
- 11:00 Lucy Walsh
Agnes Walsh
Matthew Rainville
- 5:00 St. Bonaventure Community

MONDAY, JULY 3

- 6:30 Communion Service
9:00 Danielle Carmichael
Joanne Javier
Joaquin Sulivian

TUESDAY, JULY 4

- 6:30 William M. Jordan
9:00 Julie Degnan

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5

- 6:30 Communion Service
9:00 Communion Service

THURSDAY, JULY 6

- 6:30 Christian Barrere
Larry Mason
9:00 St. Bonaventure Pastoral Staff

FRIDAY, JULY 7

- 6:30 Communion Service
9:00 Christian Barrere
Victor Longo
Emidio Busuttill
Precop Colaco

SATURDAY, JULY 8

- 5:00 Gigi Runge
Ben & Manalo Marquez
Souls in Purgatory



PENSAMIENTOS DE PADRE RICARDO MANGINI

■ CON UN CORAZÓN GRANDE LE DAMOS LA BIENVENIDA AL PADRE MATTHEW

Tengo una paz grande y sensación de satisfacción al dejar mi puesto como Pastor de La

Comunidad de San Buenaventura después de 21 años. **Hoy le damos la bienvenida al Padre Matthew Vellankal como su Pastor nuevo.**

“Él tiene que llenar unos zapatos muy grandes” dicen muchos de ustedes. Así sucedió cuando yo replacé al primer director de la Voz Católica y él respondió lo siguiente a una persona que estaba diciendo lo mismo: “No, él tiene sus propios zapatos, yo me llevo los míos.”

Ciertamente nuestras personalidades son diferentes, pero yo sé que ustedes encontrarán en el Padre Matthew una personalidad agradable y espiritual muy estimulante. Por supuesto necesitarán un tiempo para adaptarse a un nuevo líder después de 21 años de tener a otra persona. Esto es “otra generación.” Por lo tanto, yo les pido que sean acogedores y abiertos. Jesús es el líder, así que por favor continúen siguiéndolo.

Por favor no pongan al Padre Matthew y al Padre Oscar en período de prueba como algunos hicieron cuando yo vine por primera vez. San Buenaventura ha establecido un fuerte sentido de planificación y trabajo que espero continuará. La Parroquia de San Buenaventura tiene un personal Pastoral, sensible y espiritual muy competente y estoy seguro el Padre Matthew lo conocerá y apreciará. Una cosa que un Pastor nuevo tiene que hacer siempre cuando entra a una parroquia es honrar la historia y la experiencia.

El trabajo principal de un pastor es promover y fomentar la comunión espiritual entre la gente fiel y Jesús, entre ellos, siempre abrazando a un mundo más amplio. Estos son los zapatos grandes que siempre tienen que estar llenos.

■ CON UN CORAZÓN GRANDE LE DAMOS LA BIENVENIDA AL PADRE OSCAR

El Pastor es muy importante, pero también lo es un Vicario Parroquial. San Buenaventura no ha tenido en muchos años un sacerdote recién ordenado. Hoy le damos la bienvenida al Padre Oscar Rojas. Él llegó a los Estados Unidos hace 10 años. Habla Inglés y Español.

Les pido muy especialmente a los miembros de la Comunidad Hispana que le den la bienvenida y abran sus corazones a él. El corazón “Mangini” es diferente al corazón “Rojas,” les pido que abran sus corazones a él como lo hicieron conmigo.

El Padre Rojas está aquí para trabajar en toda la parroquia. No solo está aquí para la Comunidad Hispana.

■ NO SE OLVIDEN DEL PADRE DAVID

El Padre David no tiene ningún deseo de retirarse en este momento, así que él seguirá con ustedes, y será un guía sabio para los nuevos sacerdotes cuando lleguen y comiencen su nuevo y buen trabajo aquí.

En los últimos años, hemos tenido la ayuda de sacerdotes visitantes. Ahora, tendremos un nuevo equipo de trabajo de tiempo completo.

■ AYUDA FINANCIERA

¡Sigán así! Sólo porque me voy, la ayuda financiera debe seguir siendo constante, sobre todo con los gastos de un tercer sacerdote de tiempo completo. A veces, con el cambio de personal, personas toman la actitud de “esperar y ver”, la actitud de “si me gusta o no me gusta”. Su apoyo económico es la ayuda para que todos los ministerios y el Personal Pastoral continúen así.

■ ÚLTIMAS PALABRAS DE UN CORAZÓN AGRADECIDO

Por último, quiero darles las gracias por las muchas tarjetas, notas y cartas de felicitación que he recibido en las últimas semanas. También agradezco a muchos de ustedes por los regalos financieros que me han dado, especialmente por los \$4.100 que han enviado en mi nombre a nuestra parroquia hermana del Salvador. Sé cuan amado y apreciado he sido personalmente por mi actitud pastoral, apoyo a tanta gente durante los años y por mi liderazgo espiritual.

He disfrutado de mi tiempo y mi trabajo sacerdotal aquí en los últimos 21 años. Me voy con la sensación de haber cumplido mi misión aquí y haber hecho lo que Dio ha querido que hiciera. Se ha establecido la dirección de la vida Pastoral de San Buenaventura, y hay muchos feligreses sabios, articulados y comprometidos, que le llevará a una madurez plena. Un pastor es exitoso si los feligreses también son exitosos.

Han sido 20 años maravillosos y espero que sean 20 años aún mejores a partir de ahora.

“Nos vemos en Safeway.”



PENSAMIENTOS DEL PADRE MATHEW

Este fin de semana quiero con humildad y mucha alegría presentarme a ustedes como su pastor. Mi primer ministerio en la diócesis de Oakland fue en Concord en el 2001 como vicario parroquial de la iglesia Reina De Todos Los Santos. ¡Esa experiencia fue un cambio de vida para mí y me enamoré de este lugar! Realmente creo que Dios es él que me está enviando a través del Obispo Michael Barber. “El Señor va adelante de ti; él estará contigo, no te dejará ni te desampará; no temas ni desmayes.” (Deuteronomio 31:8). Confío en que Dios va a estar a mi lado en cada paso del camino guiándome en mi tarea como su pastor.

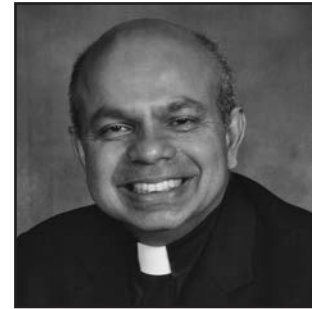
Como una manera de introducción, permítanme compartir con ustedes un poco acerca de mí trayecto:

Nací y crecí en la India y fui ordenado como sacerdote en la Congregación Salesiana. Serví 10 años en las colinas del Himalaya, en su mayoría como administrador de varias instituciones educativas. Luego serví como Capellán Mundial del Movimiento Internacional de la Agricultura y Juventud Rural Católica con sede en Bruselas, Bélgica. En el año 2001 vine a la diócesis de

Oakland y realmente disfruté mi ministerio sacerdotal en la iglesia Reina De Todos Los Santos, Iglesia Virgen de Guadalupe (Vicario) y como Pastor de la iglesia Espíritu Santo por 11 años. He servido cuatro años al Obispo como miembro del Consejo Presbiteriano.

En poco tiempo y con el corazón abierto la iglesia San Buenaventura me ha dado la bienvenida. Estoy muy agradecido con el Padre Richard Mangini y el Padre David Lawrence por su hospitalidad y generosidad de sus corazones. Sólo tengo palabras de agradecimiento para el personal que se ha acercado a mí y me están ayudando en la transición. Estoy muy agradecido con el Padre Mangini por su apoyo, él se retira después de 21 años de servicio desinteresado como Pastor de San Buenaventura. Mis sinceras felicitaciones a él al celebrar 50 años de sacerdocio. Él se ha reunido conmigo varias veces para ayudarme a tener una transición suave. Padre Mangini le deseo unas vacaciones muy descansadas en Italia. Por favor sepa que usted es siempre bienvenido a celebrar los diversos sacramentos y eventos en su amada iglesia San Buenaventura. Está invitado a venir a visitarnos a compartir sus sabidurías y experiencias.

Estoy muy emocionado de saber que el Padre Oscar Rojas se unirá a nosotros



en San Buenaventura y compartir su ministerio sacerdotal con nosotros.

Yo creo que tenemos un gran potencial y al venir aquí yo puedo sentir la energía y entusiasmo de todos. También tenemos una gran responsabilidad de mantener las raíces basadas en nuestra Escritura y tradiciones de nuestra Iglesia. Nuestra Escritura nos dice que debemos “olvidar lo que queda atrás y poner atención a lo que está por delante.” (Fil 3:13). Yo estoy ansioso por la oportunidad que Dios me ha bendecido de compartir el ministerio con ustedes. Creo que juntos podemos abrirnos a la dirección del Espíritu Santo para que podamos conocer la voluntad de Dios y seguirlo con corazones generosos.

Espero contar con su presencia y aprender las maravillas de su vida y las historias de su fe. En los próximos días, me complacerá escuchar sus puntos de vista, la sabiduría y sus preocupaciones.

Quien me recibe a mí, recibe al que me ha enviado



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BAUTIZOS 2017			
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Sat 09/09	10:00 a.m.	Fri 09/08	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 09/23	10:00 a.m.	Fri 09/15	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 10/14	10:00 a.m.	Fri 10/06	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 10/28	10:00 a.m.	Fri 10/27	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 11/11	10:00 a.m.	Fri 11/03	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 11/18	12:00 p.m.	Fri 11/10	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 12/16	10:00 a.m.	Fri 12/15	7-9:30 p.m.