

St. Bonaventure Catholic Community

Adult Faith Formation Newsletter

September, 2019



Welcome to Our New Newsletter!

As part of our transition to Flocknote for email and text communications, we're also experimenting with a new newsletter format. You'll get the highlights in the initial email and the details in the attached PDF file. Please let me know whether this change works for you. We're always open to your comments and feedback.

September is a time of new beginnings and new ventures. Some are already underway, with the group of adults discerning whether they are being called to enter or complete their sacraments in the Catholic Church (RCIA) having begun their meetings in August. Adult Confirmation preparation begins in September in Spanish and in October in English. And our children and teen faith formation programs are about to kick off, so be sure to register if you have not already done so. Bible Study begins again September 5 with a focus on the book of Mark.

Most excitingly, our new Alpha ministry kicks off its fall session on Monday, September 9. There's still time to register if you would like to join the fun. Better yet, invite a friend, someone with questions about faith and the big issues in life. Most of all, we need your prayers for the guests and team. So please come, invite, and pray!

Blessings,

Gina

Gina Cattalini

Director of Adult Faith Formation and Initiation



Alpha Begins September 9: Sign Up Now!

We all have questions. Why Jesus? What is God doing? Why am I here anyway? Join us on Alpha to explore and discuss life's big questions together – while having a lot of fun. We meet over eleven sessions (plus a special Saturday) to explore the basics of the Christian faith. Each Alpha night includes food, a high quality video talk, and great conversations.

Alpha is an open, informal and honest space, where you can say or ask anything. It is perfect for anyone with questions, but designed

especially to be welcoming to those who may feel far away from God or the Church. It's a great place to invite family or friends to come and explore.

Alpha begins September 9. Whom will you invite?

For more information and to register, visit www.stbonaventure.net/alpha. Or, contact Gina at 672-5800 x2217 or gcattalini@stbonaventure.net. Sign-ups by September 3 are helpful for planning if possible.

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Ongoing Events

Morning Prayer

(Liturgy of the Hours)
M-F @ 8:05 am for 20 minutes
In the Chapel

Drive thru Prayer

M-F, 5:30-6:30 PM
in the parking lot, weather permitting

Adult Luncheon

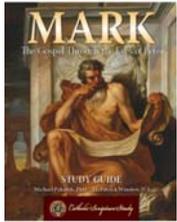
Sept. 12th
2nd Thursday of the month,
11:30am in the Large Hall.
\$15 reservation due by Sept. 9
Sign up after Mass or in parish office

Women in Prayer

September 12th
2nd Thursday of the month
7:15pm in the Chapel

Men's Spiritual Network

September 28th
Last Saturday of the Month



Scripture Study on Mark Begins This Thursday

Mark: The Gospel through the eyes of Peter begins meeting this week. At the conclusion of the Gospel of Mark study in February, the morning class will study Angels through the Ages. The evening class will study The Kingdom of Happiness, a look at the Beatitudes.

Scripture Study meets Thursdays, from Sep. 5 through May 2020, from 10-11:30 am or 7-8:30 pm. For more details, see www.stbonaventure.net/scripture.

Advance registration concluded last week, but there may still be books available. For more information please contact Greg Gamache at bonaventurebible@astound.net.

Taizé Prayer Service to End Gun Violence

Join us for an evening of prayer and remembrance, to ask God's intercession and honor all lives affected by gun violence. Taizé is an ecumenical, candle-lit service of prayer offered in simple chant, Scripture readings, silent worship and veneration of the Cross. Thursday, September 26, 7pm in the Church. Sponsored by the St. Bonaventure Social Justice Ministry. For more information or to help, email stb.sj.ministry@gmail.com.



Grief Support at St. Bonaventure

The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Whether the death was unexpected and tragic, or one with warning and preparation, the reality of death leaves most of us in a state of shock, confusion and sadness. Grieving people need time and space to honor their grief.



“**Healing the Heart**” is a 6-week program that will meet on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 until 9:00 pm from September 10th to October 15th in classroom B1. The Grief Companions will share their experiences and there is time for small group sharing. We invite you to join us and let us accompany you on your healing journey. For more information and to register, please call Helene at (925) 681-8105 by September 5th.

Moms Group on Break

Our Moms Group is taking a temporary break, waiting for new leadership. If you're feeling called to step forward to leadership, or if you would like to be notified when the group begins meeting again, please contact Gina Cattalini at gcattalini@stbonaventure.net.

WCF Retreat: Save the Date

Ladies of the parish, please mark your calendars for the 26th annual Women's Christian Fellowship Retreat, January 31-February 2, 2020, at St. Clare's Retreat Center in Soquel, CA. Theme of the retreat is “Be Still and Know that I Am God.” Fr. Richard Mangini, former pastor here at St. Bonaventure, will guide us through a weekend of reflection and contemplative prayer to help us draw closer to the God living within us. More information will be available in October.



Adult Confirmation

Are you an adult who is interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation? St. Bonaventure invites you to participate in our Adult Confirmation Program, if you:

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

Preparation sessions begin in the fall in both English (Oct. 2) and Spanish (Sept. 22).

If you have any questions or would like to learn more about the process, please contact Gina Cattalini at (925) 672-5800 x2217 or gcattalini@stbonaventure.net. The registration form is also available on our website at www.stbonaventure.net/adult-confirmation.





Book Study: *The Time Is Now— A Call for Uncommon Courage*, by Joan Chittister, OSB

Join Fr. Richard Mangini and Christa Fairfield for a three-week book study of Sr. Joan Chittister's newest book. In it, she shares the wisdom of prophets, both ancient and modern, in a way that reveals the power of our own prophetic voices.

It's a book for "the weary, the cranky, and the fearful." Come and join us for a powerful and exciting exploration of how we can bring our spirituality to action.

Three Tuesday sessions at 10 am and 7 pm: November 5, 12 and 19th. Feel free to attend either time slot.

Register online at www.stbonaventure.net/book-studies or with Gina Catalini at gcattalini@stbonaventure.net or (925) 672-5800x2217. Please contact Gina with any questions. Books will be available in the parish office in October.

**Walking Through the Door:
Sexual Assault & Abuse Survivors Group**

You are not alone! Come join other survivors and share whatever feels comfortable in a group setting. We focus especially on the spiritual journey of healing from sexual abuse. Our meetings have reflected the power of God's healing grace.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, Sep. 11 at 7pm in the Rectory Conference Room. All survivors, family, and friends are welcome. Come and see where the Spirit leads us. Please contact Gina Catalini at gcattalini@stbonaventure.net or 672-5800 x2217 for questions or more information.



RESPECT **Respect Life Ministry**



The Respect Life Ministry works to promote a renewed respect for human life – in all its stages—and to live out that witness through prayer, action, walks and legislative advocacy. There are many moral issues out there which deserve our prayerful attention, including abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, and suicide. If you are interested in becoming involved with this ministry, please contact Jane Walker, 916-759-3674 or Sandy Mazza, 925-890-3749. Next meeting is Tuesday, Nov. 12 at 7:00 pm.

Rosary: Please join us for a Respect Life Rosary on the second Sunday of each month after the 9:00 Mass in the Chapel.

**Knights of Columbus
September
Activities**



September 15

Pancake Breakfast after the 7:30 am and 9 am Masses. \$6 per person, \$20 per family.

September 28

Blood Drive for the Red Cross in the Large Hall 9 am– 4 pm. For appointments, call 1-800-Red Cross (800-733-2767), log on the redcrossblood.org website and enter Sponsor Code: St.Bonaventure, or call Denis Thomson at 925-673-0720. Denis also will take appointments after the Masses on September 14 & 15 and September 21 & 22.

September 29

Rosary immediately after the 9 AM Mass in the Chapel.

Social Justice Ministry

How is God calling us to act for justice in our community and our world? Join us to help plan social justice activities and formation at St. Bonaventure. The ministry is in its initial stages of putting together its vision and mission statements and planning activities. Your input and participation would be wonderful at this stage of the process. Contact Greg Colley at stb.sj.ministry@gmail.com.

“In all your deeds and words you should look upon this Jesus as your model.”

~ St. Bonaventure



REBOOT!

With internationally renowned speaker and author,
CHRIS STEFANICK.

REBOOT! Live! is fun, inspiring and practical. Chris will show you how the beauty and genius of the heart of the Gospel applies to every aspect of your life. From prayer and spirituality, to work, dating, marriage, parenting, health and more! There is no part of your life that will be left untouched!

WEDNESDAY, January 15th, 7:00PM – 9:30PM

Keep watching the bulletin for all the details!

To register, go online to

www.RealLifeCatholic.com/reboot – or –

Contact Jacob or Anthony at 925-672-5800

www.stbonaventure.net/reboot

We hope you will join us!

Religious Education Classes for Children & Teens

St. Bonaventure's religious education classes will begin the week of September 22nd. Our faith formation programs begin with children as young as age 4 and Kindergarten and continue through High School.

Families can register in the office, Monday—Friday from 1:30-4:00pm. We have an evening registration, Thursday, September 5, 5:30-8:00pm in the office.

Registration forms will be in the church foyer, in the church office and on our website at www.stbonaventure.net. Just click on the link for Faith Formation Registration. We look forward to having your child in our Faith Formation Programs!



Don't forget to order your St. Bonaventure gear. Grab a jacket as the weather cools down.

www.stbonaventure.net/st-bonaventure-apparel

Marriage Encounter

Give yourself and your spouse time away from the pressures of work and everyday responsibilities. Enjoy a chance to talk and listen to that special someone who loves you! The **next Marriage Encounter Week-ends** include: **Sep. 13-15, 2019 in Concord, CA** and **Nov. 15-17, 2019 in Danville, CA.** For more information and/or to register for a Weekend, visit our website at: oaklandwwme.org or contact **Chuck & Annie** at applications@oaklandwwme.org or **925-849-5466.**

