
Jan. 22 Faith Connections: Celebrating Life

1 message

Faith Connections <mail@flocknote.com>

Fri, Jan 22, 2021 at 2:53 PM

**St. Bonaventure Catholic Community**
January 22, 2021

*"This is the time of fulfillment.
The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent, and believe in the gospel."
~Mark 1:15*

**This week's
news & events**

1.**Prayer and Action for Life**

Today, January 22, we celebrate the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. We invite you to spend time today in prayer and reflection. You may find prayer and other resources on our [Respect Life Ministry webpage](#).

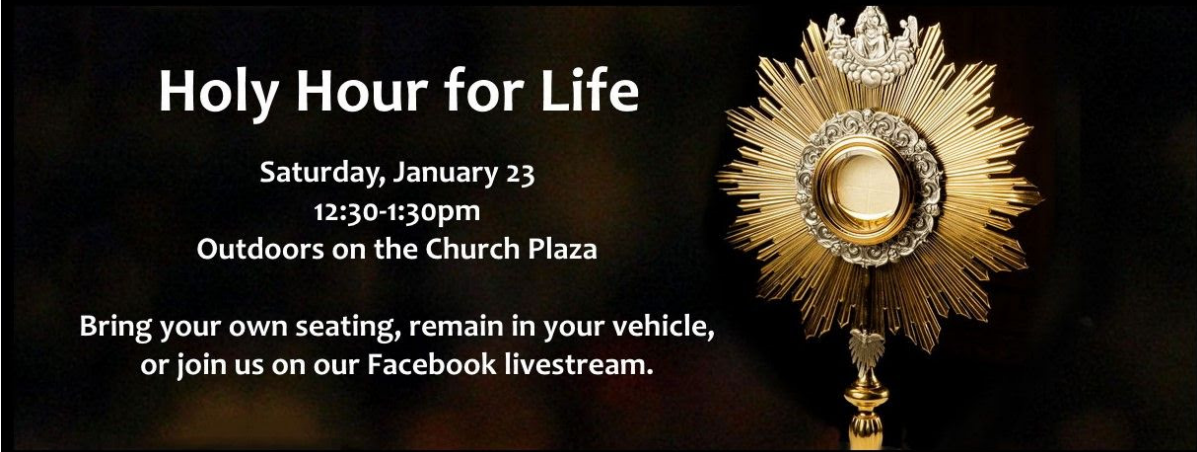
**Walk for Life West Coast**

Join the St. Bonaventure Respect Life Ministry at the the 17th Annual Walk for Life West Coast on January 23, 2021. Visit walkforlifewc.com and sign up for the newsletter to receive important updates. Meet the St. Bonaventure group at the

Concord BART station at 10 am Saturday to ride in together and walk as a group.
For more information please contact Jane Walker at (925) 934-2129.




Walk for Life West Coast Flyer



Holy Hour for Life

Saturday, January 23
12:30-1:30pm
Outdoors on the Church Plaza

Bring your own seating, remain in your vehicle,
or join us on our Facebook livestream.



Holy Hour for Life

Join us in person or on Facebook for the Holy Hour for Life as we pray for our country to acknowledge the sanctity of every human life, from natural conception to natural death. This holy hour is hosted by St. Bonaventure for those who may not feel comfortable attending the Walk for Life in San Francisco but still want to support the pro-life cause. There will be praise and worship, a rosary, and a short exhortation by our pastor and newly appointed Vicar General, Fr. Lawrence D'Anjou.

2.

Oakland Diocese Racial Justice Statement

Dear Parishioners,

You may have seen the Rogers and Hammerstein classic movie "South Pacific." There is a song in that movie called "You've Got to be Carefully Taught." This song introduces the topic of racism and how from a young age we are often exposed to racist fears and prejudices. Racism has been a part of our country's history, sadly. The African American population has suffered it since our country's inception and still is systematically subject to it.

Racism doesn't have to have a hold on us and our society. We can and must work to end it, which is every Christian's personal calling and task, invited to love as God loves. The Oakland diocese has been working in new ways to help us appreciate our responsibility to end racism. I invite you to read a statement from Bishop Barber and the Diocese of Oakland Task Force for Racial Justice [here](#).

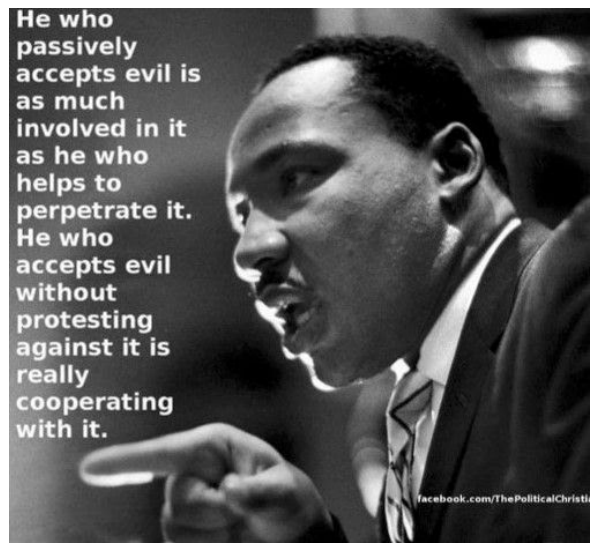
I hope you will join me in the effort to root out racism in ourselves and in our society by learning more about it. More information is available on our [Racial Equity Challenge](#) page. Be assured of my prayers for you.

Fr. Lawrence

MLK Event Video

If you were unable to join the Interfaith Council's Martin Luther King, Jr. event

celebrating Dr. King's life and message, it is now available on YouTube [here](#). A Zoom technical difficulty limited the number of live attendees. Remember Dr. King with prayer, music, and an inspiring speaker. How are we called to carry on Dr. King's legacy today?



3.

Liturgy News and Notes

Anointing of the Sick at 9am Daily Mass: Wednesday, January 27

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be offered at the 9:00am outdoor daily Mass this Wednesday, January 27. Please bring your own seating. The Anointing of the Sick is offered for all those suffering with ailments of body, mind, and soul.

Rain Is Returning

As rain enters the forecast again this weekend, please remember to check the weather and our rain plan before leaving for an outdoor liturgy.

Health Reminders

Please join us for our liturgies through Facebook if you have tested positive for COVID in the past 14 days, if you have a fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, if you were exposed to COVID in the past 14 days, or if you feel actively sick. Thank you for helping us keep St. Bonaventure a safe, welcoming place for all.

For the full liturgical schedule and most up-to-date information, please visit our website at www.stbonaventure.net.



St Bonaventure Rain Plan

4.

Nourish for Caregivers



There are 65 million family caregivers in the U.S. struggling and searching for support. Since the onset of COVID-19 caregivers are in crisis now more than ever,

with increased isolation and stress.

If you are caring for an aging parent, spouse or other family member, in town or at a distance, you are not alone. **Nourish for Caregivers** provides caregivers a faith perspective, as well as practical and emotional supports, useful tools, and shared experience.

Meetings every other Tuesday from 2-3 pm on Zoom. *For more information, email Helene Billeci at fuzyfrank@aol.com.*

Nourish offers meetings in Spanish too! For more information, please contact Biviane Ochoa at itsbiviane@gmail.com or (650) 278-6462.

For more caregiver resources, including other local and national support groups, please visit the Diocese of Oakland webpage [here](#). Watch Helene's Tea Time video below to learn more about Nourish!

5.

Plan Now to Help with Winter Nights Shelter

The Winter Nights Family Shelter partners with faith congregations to protect homeless families by providing shelter in a clean, safe, and warm environment and assisting them toward self-sufficiency and into stable housing. If you haven't checked out Winter Nights lately, click [here](#) to learn how their mission and services have expanded over the years.

St. Bonaventure is preparing now to help the United Concord Methodist Church (UCMC) host Winter Nights at their campus from May 17 through June 14. We are scheduled to help from May 24 to May 28. There will be 4 families in 4 tents, at most 16 people, staying 24/7. We need people to provide "restaurant packaged dinners" for the staff to serve the clients. Volunteers are not permitted to serve or to enter the clients' living space.

We will be responsible for purchasing and delivering the dinners and dropping them off at UCMC. You can purchase and deliver trays of prepared food from Costco, Smart and Final, Safeway's deli, etc. We will also need to provide food for lunches and breakfasts. Monetary help will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you to everyone who has been so fantastic about helping out in previous years. Please get your groups and friends together and let me know who is willing to help, to start the organizing process.

To sign up, for questions or more information, please contact Anne Sparks at 925-676-5146 or tosparks-40@astound.net. Thank you!

6.


Register for Adult Confirmation

Are you an adult who has received the Sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist but not Confirmation? Do you know someone who is? Adult Confirmation preparation sessions begin this February for Confirmation in May. English classes will meet on Tuesday evenings from 7-8:30 pm beginning February 16. Spanish classes will meet on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 pm beginning February 24.

Please click [here](#) for more information and the registration form. Please register for either class at least one week in advance, with the registration form and a copy of your baptismal certificate.

Please contact Gina Cattalini for more information about the English Confirmation classes at (925) 672-5800 x2217 or gcattalini@stbonaventure.net. For the Spanish program, please contact Fr. Arturo in our Hispanic Ministry Office at (925) 672-5800 x2225 or acardenas@stbonaventure.net.

7. Alpha Is Coming!



Everyone has questions.

Exploring is good. We're built for it. Explore more about life, faith and meaning with Alpha.

For many people, the pandemic has raised new questions of faith. For others, it has offered an invitation to explore God's role in our lives more deeply. Do you know someone looking for a place to continue that exploration? Are you that person?

Mark your calendar for [Alpha](#) on Thursday evenings beginning Feb. 25 in Spanish and March 4 in English. "Zoom" your way to an evening with laughter, a film with different questions about faith and life, and small group discussions where you can say or ask anything.

Alpha. Who will you invite?

Ministry Notes

Mark Your Calendars for These Upcoming Events:

- Next **Faith in Action** ministry meeting on Monday, February 8 at 7:00 pm
 - **Marriage Encounter** Virtual Weekend, February 19-21 (register now)
 - **Knights of Columbus Blood Drive** on Saturday, February 20 from 10 am to 4 pm
- Stay tuned for more details!

Resources for Coping During the Pandemic

Click [here](#) for spiritual, parenting, emotional, and mental health resources for coping during the pandemic.

Tea Time Video

Get to know Helene better as she tells us about her involvement in our Nourish for Caregivers ministry in today's Tea Time.



Sign up for
Tuesday Tea Time
videos here!

Ongoing schedule & activities

LITURGY AND PRAYER

Please visit our website at www.stbonaventure.net for the most up-to-date liturgy information.

No registration is needed for our outdoor Masses. Please bring your own chair if you plan to join us on the lawn or sidewalk.

Sunday readings: [Click here](#)

Download Worship Aids for Sunday:



Sunday January 24

Look for the Spanish worship aid on our [website](#).

The 9am and 10:30 pm Sunday Masses are livestreamed on Facebook; click here for more information.

If you need help with watching a liturgy or other event live-streamed on Facebook, please click here.

Prayer, Spirituality and Formation:

Prayers for Those Who Have Died: Please join us in praying for members of our community who have died. You may find their names on our website. May they rest in peace.

Daily Mass Readings: [Click here](#)

St. Bonaventure Domestic Church tips and links: [Click here](#)

Mass Intentions, Online Prayer Vine & Drive-thru Prayer Information:

[Details here](#)

Online Spiritual Communion Service: [Details here](#)

Christian Centering Prayer Group: [Details here](#)

Word on Fire Videos on Flocknote: [Details here](#)

(Staying at home more? Take advantage of Bishop Barron's great videos!)

STAYING CONNECTED

Sacraments, Pastoral Counseling, and Staff Support

We're here for you! Our clergy and pastoral staff continue to be available to you during this pandemic. We can offer pastoral counseling by appointment, over the phone or by videocall, and **the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is available in person** when needed. Please call the parish office at (925) 672-580 to make an appointment. We offer **the Sacrament of Reconciliation** in the classrooms on Saturdays at 2:30 pm.

The office has had to close for walk-up visits, but staff are available by appointment. Please call the main office number or call or email the staffperson directly. As our staff are working from both the office and home, it is often easier to reach people by email. However, we are monitoring phones and voice mail, and will return messages as soon as possible.

Under current health regulations our ministries are unable to hold regular meetings at the parish. We are able to schedule outdoor gatherings for prayer and worship. Please contact your staff liaison if you are interested in scheduling a prayer gathering.

* * * * *

Parish Connections Thank you to everyone in our parish community who is working to reach out and keep in touch. If you need assistance, or would like to volunteer to help others by running errands, picking up groceries, etc., please email info@stbonaventure.net. ***The St. Bonaventure Food Pantry is open Tuesdays from 9-10:30 am in the parish parking lot. See our website for more information.*** (Note: *The Food Pantry thanks you for your continuing donations of food and other items, but is no longer requesting bags -- they have a sufficient supply.*)

Thank you for the many ways you continue to support our community!

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Your Gifts Are Keeping Us Open

We want to say THANK YOU to our parishioners and those who are not members yet but have sent us their donations to help in this unprecedented time.

We are so grateful to many who are now sending their donations through mail, online and collection box methods. Your efforts and generosity are greatly appreciated and are helping us continue to live our mission as a community of faith.

To learn more about online giving or other options, please [click here](#). If you attend the drive-in Mass or walk-up Holy Communion this Sunday, you may drop off your gift personally.

May God bless all of you and reward you abundantly for your support of your parish.

NOTE: *If you are new to Faith Connections, the way to join the conversation and comment is by using the blue reply button below, not your usual email reply button. You will have the option of replying to others' comments or starting a new thread. Check back during the week to view or add new comments. If you know someone who is not getting this email, please forward it to them and ask them to email gcattalini@stbonaventure.net to subscribe. If they have subscribed and are not receiving the email, it may be landing in their spam or junk folder. The best solutions are to find one of the emails and mark it as not spam or junk and to add "mail@flocknote.com" to their address book.*

* * * *

***May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.
Amen.***

For More Information:

www.stbonaventure.net

[Facebook](#)

[YouTube](#)

[Instagram](#)



Sent by Gina Cattalini

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