
Feb. 11 Faith Connections: Lent Invitation

Faith Connections <mail@flocknote.com>

Thu, Feb 11, 2021 at 6:49 PM



St. Bonaventure Catholic Community
February 11, 2021

**This week's
news & events**

1.

**Invitation to Lent
from Fr. Lawrence**



*God invites us.
The Church invites us.
Let's take advantage of this
holy season.*

This Wednesday we begin again the season of Lent. It's a time of fasting, prayer and almsgiving – of turning wholeheartedly to the Lord and making extra time in our day to grow in our faith. I always find the season of Lent to be well-timed, in that this season which follows on the heels of Thanksgiving, Christmas and the holidays gives us a chance to 'shed our winter coat' a bit by fasting from food 😊. Why fast? Well, because it is a time-honored spiritual practice in which the foregoing of food (or something else) creates an intentional space in us for God. Jesus fasted in the desert for 40 days prior to starting his ministry. Then energized by that spiritual discipline he went out to heal, proclaim the gospel and save the world. In our 40 days of Lent we join him spiritually in preparation for Holy Week and the great triumph of Easter.

(continued on our [website](#))



Please join us! Click [HERE](#) for our Lenten offerings. To receive daily Lenten reflections written by our parishioner Mary Franceschini, please click the button below.

**Yes! Please sign me up for
daily Lenten reflections.**

2.

Liturgy News and Notes

Welcome Back Inside the Church!

We are now able to return to limited-capacity indoor Masses. All of our liturgies have returned inside unless otherwise indicated. Saturday Vigil (4pm) and Sunday Masses require advance registration on our [website](#) or by calling the parish office at (925) 672-5800 weekdays between 8:30 am and 12:30 pm. There is no registration required for daily Masses. (Registration will open Mondays at 10 am, Tuesdays if Monday is a holiday.)

We will continue to livestream the Sunday 9 am (English) and 10:30 am (Spanish) Masses and offer walk-up Holy Communion from noon to 1 pm. For our full Mass schedule, please click [HERE](#).

Opening Mass for the Consecration to St Joseph:

Saturday, February 13, 8:00 am

Join the Women's Christian Fellowship for a special Mass this Saturday morning to begin the preparation process for the Consecration to St. Joseph. For more details about the consecration process, please click [HERE](#). (Mass will be in the church, no registration necessary.)

Ash Wednesday: February 17

On Ash Wednesday we will have several liturgical offerings, all including the distribution of ashes. Ashes will only be distributed at the liturgical times listed below:

- **9:00am Mass (English) (Indoors with Outdoor Overflow)**
Register online for indoor seating.
If indoor seating is unavailable or you feel more comfortable outside, bring your own chair and sit on the church plaza. Audio and video of the Mass will be shown and ashes and Holy Communion will be distributed outside.
- **12:15pm Liturgy of the Word (English) (Outdoors)**
Bring your own chair and sit on the church plaza.

- **2:00pm Liturgy of the Word (English) (Indoors)**
Register online for indoor seating.
- **4:00pm Liturgy of the Word (English) (Indoors)**
Register online for indoor seating.
- **6:00pm Mass (English) (Indoors)**
Register online for indoor seating.
- **7:00pm Mass (Spanish) (Indoors)**
Register online for indoor seating.

Please click [HERE](#) for Ash Wednesday registration links.

Recycle Last Year's Palms

You may bring in last year's palms to be recycled into the ashes used on Ash Wednesday by dropping them off in the basket in front of the parish office by Monday, February 15.

Thursday Reconciliation During Lent

Beginning on Thursday, February 18 and continuing during the Lenten Season, we will be adding an additional day for the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Thursdays at 3:30pm

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.



3.

Knights of Columbus Blood Drive



Every day in the U.S. roughly 44,000 pints of blood are needed. That means nearly every two seconds someone needs blood. Every donation may help save up to three lives. Won't you be part of this life saving journey?

The Knights of Columbus are hosting a Community Blood Drive for the American Red Cross on Saturday, February 20, 2021 in the Large Hall from 10 AM to 4 PM. The Red Cross is taking every COVID-19 precaution. Please help make the process efficient and effective by scheduling an appointment in advance; click [HERE](#) for more information.

4. Respect Life Ministry / 40 Days for Life

You can protect mothers & children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray & fast for an end to abortion!



February 17 - March 28
40 DAYS FOR LIFE®



Download this flyer for full details on how you can participate!

Please join us for a Respect Life Rosary after 9am Mass this Sunday. We meet every second Sunday of each month, now at the Respect Life memorial in the garden behind the church. For more information please contact Jane Walker at (925) 934-2129.

5. Sign up for Alpha & Invite a Friend!

www.stbonaventure.net/alpha

Bring your questions.
Engage in honest
conversation.

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?

Lent is an invitation to go deeper in our spiritual journeys. Alpha offers companionship on the journey. It makes sharing your faith easier – something as simple as sharing your faith with someone, and inviting them to try Alpha, can have a huge impact

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:

- Last chance to sign up for **Adult Confirmation** this spring! Preparation sessions begin February 16 (English) and February 24 (Spanish) for Confirmation in May. Please click [here](#) for more information and the registration form.
- Sign up for a small group with the Women's Christian Fellowship to prepare for the **Consecration to St. Joseph**. The process begins with Mass on Saturday, February 13. Space is limited; click [here](#) for more information and to register.
- Celebrate St. Valentine's Day with a **Marriage Encounter** Virtual Weekend, February 19-21 ([register](#) now)
- **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.

Vaccine Statement

Are you on the list to be vaccinated? Our Bishop, along with the California Conference of Bishops, has recently released an important statement on **COVID-19 Vaccines**. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Resources for Coping During the Pandemic

Feeling overwhelmed? You're not alone. Click [HERE](#) for spiritual, parenting, emotional, and mental health resources for coping during the pandemic.

Tea Time Video

As we celebrate our return to the Church, learn more about the Art and Environment Ministry and their work behind the scene.



Sign up for
Tuesday Tea Time
videos here!

Ongoing schedule & activities

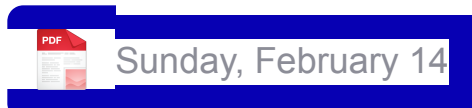
LITURGY AND PRAYER

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

Please register [HERE](#) for our Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses. No registration is necessary for our daily Masses.

Sunday readings: [Click here](#)

Download Worship Aids for Sunday:



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, and during Lent we've added a second opportunity on Thursdays at 3:30 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.

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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.

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***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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