

April 8 Faith Connections: Divine Mercy Sunday

Faith Connections <mail@flocknote.com>

Thu, Apr 8, 2021 at 4:07 PM



St. Bonaventure Catholic Community April 8, 2021



*Jesus calls us to be willing
to place ourselves in the
pain and struggle of
others*

Thoughts from Deacon Bill

This weekend we celebrate the 2nd Sunday of Easter, also known as "**Divine Mercy Sunday**." On this day in the year 2000, then Pope John Paul II proclaimed to the world that "from now on throughout the church, this Sunday will be called Divine Mercy Sunday."

The Bible describes mercy as a **gift from God**, a gift that is meant to be given to those who need it most. It has an action quality. It is God's invitation to **celebrate** and **practice** mercy.

(continued on our website)

This week's news & events

1.

Rice Bowl Collection



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Catholic Relief Service "Rice Bowls" over Lent. Your donations provide livegiving support to people in more than 100 countries. Seventy-five percent of Rice Bowl donations support CRS work around the world and

Click [HERE](#) for more information about Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowls.

twenty-five percent support efforts right here in the Oakland Diocese.

It's time to return the Rice Bowls at Mass this weekend, or, better yet, a check made out to St. Bonaventure in the collection basket with "CRS Rice Bowl" on the memo line. This year you also can use the new donation page on the diocesan CRS website [HERE](#). Be sure to note St. Bonaventure/Concord as your parish.

2. Register Today for "The Wild Goose"

THE WILD GOOSE

Are you ready for a deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit? The ancient Celts used the term "Wild Goose" to highlight the unexpected and surprising nature of the Holy Spirit. Featuring Fr. Dave Pivonka and a range of interviews, *The Wild Goose* invites viewers to an encounter, or a renewed encounter, with the Holy Spirit. Each session includes a short (25-30 minute) video with time for discussion and prayer. We meet weekly on Monday evenings at 7pm, April 12 to May 24, or Wednesday mornings at 10am, April 14 to May 26. Visit our [webpage](#) for more information and to register by April 11.

(We will begin with the first 7 videos this spring and start again with the final 7 videos in the fall.)



3. Liturgy Notes

Happy Easter!

Thank you to everyone who celebrated with us and to all of our ministers and volunteers who came together to make our liturgies possible. It was beautiful to see so many people in the church, outside, and online. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

"First Saturday" Mass

Our First Saturday Mass, part of our Five First Saturdays devotion, has been moved to this Saturday, April 10, due to Holy Saturday. Please join us in the church or on Facebook at 8am.

Divine Mercy Holy Hour: Sunday, April 11, 3pm

When Pope Saint John Paul II canonized St. Faustina, he also established Divine Mercy Sunday as a feast day for the entire Church. The feast day falls on the Second Sunday of Easter each year. Join us for a Holy Hour as we pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, listen to an exhortation from Fr. Lawrence, and adore our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

4.

Volunteers: Welcome Back & Help Needed

As vaccinations increase and restrictions ease, we welcome back our volunteers across different ministries, including our liturgical ministries. If you've been away for a while and are feeling ready to get back involved, please contact us and we can discuss what opportunities might be available. We especially need new volunteers for our church audio/visual ministry. Volunteers are needed to assist with sound and video needs during our Masses and other church events. Training is provided. If you're interested, please contact Anthony at aarteaga@stbonaventure.net.

5.

Get FORMED



An Easter present from St. Bonaventure: We are excited to share that St. Bonaventure now has a subscription to FORMED, a premier online platform filled with over 4,000 Catholic studies, movies, audio dramas, talks, e-books, and even cartoons for our children. You have easy access to all of the material on FORMED to support your own faith journey and that of your family members.

To gain access to all of FORMED's content, follow these simple steps:

- Go to signup.formed.org
- Enter our parish's zip code (94521) & click on St. Bonaventure

- Enter your name and your email address

That's it! You're in.

You can get the free FORMED app for your phone or other devices by searching *FORMED Catholic* in your app store.

(Don't worry, we still offer full access to Bishop Robert Barron's Word on Fire digital content through Flocknote as well! Just click [HERE](#) to access Bishop Barron's videos online. Remember, you must have a Flocknote login and password to access Word on Fire online.)

For questions about FORMED or Word on Fire, please contact Gina Cattalini at gcattalini@stbonaventure.net. Download the file below for more details on FORMED.



6. Respect Life Ministry



The Respect Life Ministry would like to thank our wonderful St. Bonaventure community for their overwhelming generosity in supporting the “Walking With Moms in Need” campaign. The baby clothes, furniture and diaper drive was a huge success and has given women in crisis pregnancies so much hope, through Birthright and the Gabriel Project. Thank you for helping women choose an alternative to abortion. God bless you!

(Pictured: Esther Reyes, Lisa Thomas, Jane Walker, Claris Abraham, Vivian Ochoa, Maryann and Bob Pallotta. Missing: Sandy Mazza and Karen Lemons.)

Please join us for a Respect Life Rosary this Sunday, April 11, after the 9am Mass in the Grotto to the Unborn in the church garden (and every second Sunday).

7. Opus Dei Men's Evening of Recollection

Fathers with children age 13 or younger are invited to a men's monthly recollection in the church on the first Thursday of the month, beginning May 6, from 7:15 to 9:00

pm. This event is an opportunity to reflect on one's everyday occupations, family life and relationships with God and others in light of the basic truths of the Catholic faith. It is commonly referred to as a "mini-retreat," with 2 half-hour meditations (times of guided prayer) led by a priest and a short, formative talk as well as benediction with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The recollection allows for silent, personal prayer and reflection with an opportunity to engage in spiritual direction and/or the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

This activity is entrusted to Opus Dei, a personal Prelature of the Roman Catholic Church. For more information on the Prelature of Opus Dei please visit the website: www.opusdei.org. For information on the recollection please contact Gian Paolo Machado at gian.p.machado@gmail.com or (707) 548-4038.

Ministry Notes

More news and events:

- **Drive-thru Prayer:** Drive-thru Prayer has returned Tuesday-Friday, 5:30-6:30 pm, in the parking lot next to the rectory. Stop by for a prayer!

- **Respect Life Ministry:** The Archdiocese of San Francisco is sponsoring a bilingual Project Rachel **Women's Retreat for Hope and Healing After Abortion** on Saturday, April 17. Click [HERE](#) for more information or download a flyer in [English](#) or [Spanish](#).

- Learn the tools to put God in your Sacrament of Marriage. Go to wwme.org to find the next virtual **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience** that works for your schedule from the comfort of your own home!

- **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.

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

Tuesday Tea Time is back! This week Fr. Lawrence shares more about our upcoming "Wild Goose" program. Sign up below to continue receiving the Tea Time videos.

Join Tuesday Tea
Time



Ongoing schedule & activities

LITURGY AND PRAYER

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

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 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](#).

Sunday readings: [Click here](#)

Download Worship Aids for Sunday:



Please see our website for the Spanish worship aid.



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

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. We encourage all parishioners to receive the COVID vaccine as soon as they are eligible. Thank you for helping us keep St. Bonaventure a safe, welcoming place for all.

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](#)

Friday Adoration & Holy Hour:

We offer Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after 9am Mass on Fridays until 3pm. The Holy Hour beginning at 2pm includes the Rosary, the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy and concludes with Benediction at 3pm.

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

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

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

(Take advantage of Bishop Barron's great videos! Remember, you must have a Flocknote account with a password to access these 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.

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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 8:30-10:00 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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