Welcome to Our Parish Family

IMPORTANT, PLEASE READ
Due to destruction/construction of classrooms, some ministries will not be meeting here at St. Bonaventure. Please call the Coordinator for the ministry you are interested in to confirm the meeting venue. We apologize for the inconvenience and we thank you for your patience and understanding.
We'd Love to Hear from You
St. Bonaventure Catholic Community
5562 Clayton Road, Concord, CA 94521
Phone: (925) 672-5800  *  Fax: (925) 672-4606
www.stbonaventure.net
Parish Office Hours
Monday - Friday: 8:30am - 12:30pm / 1:30pm - 5:30pm
Receptionist in Office: Monday - Friday: until 8:00pm
Saturday: 10:00am to 4:00pm
Masses in English/En Ingles
Saturday Vigil/Sábado: 5:00pm
Sunday/Domingo: 7:30am, 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm
Mass in Spanish/En Español: Domingo: 12:45pm
Daily Mass/Misa Diaria (Chapel/Capilla):
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday/
Lunes, Martes, Jueves y Viernes: 6:30am, 9:00am;
Wednesday/Miércoles: 12:15pm
Communion Service/Servicios De Comunión (Chapel/Capilla):
Wednesday/Miércoles: 6:30am, 9:00am
Sacrament of Reconciliation/Reconciliacion
In English: Saturdays 3:30pm (in the church) or by appointment
En Español: Llame a la oficina para hacer arreglos con un Sacerdote ó Diácono. Por cita.
Baptism/Bautizos
In English: Call the office to begin the process. This requires
two months preparation.
En Español: Los Sábados 10:00am. Llame a la oficina para hacer arreglos con un Sacerdote ó Diácono. Este requiere dos meses de preparación.
Marriage/Matrimonio
In English: Call the Parish Office to arrange with a Priest or Deacon.
Six months preparation.
En Español: Llame a la oficina para hacer arreglos con un Sacerdote ó Diácono. Este requiere seis meses de preparación.

ST. BONAVENTURE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
In the 1890s the Clayton Valley provided a social center when miners came from the Somerville and Nortonville Mining Communities. In the early 1950s the Rose Family, one of the early settlers, saw the need for a church to serve the approximately 130 Catholic families living in the Clayton area, whose parish was then Queen of All Saints in Concord. In 1953, a five acre parcel of land was donated by Minnie Rose to the San Francisco Archdiocese.

In 1957 ground was broken. Two additional acres were bought from Annie Carlos, one of the surviving children of Mrs. Rose, and she gave the parish another two. On June 26, 1957 His Excellency John J. Mitty, Archbishop of San Francisco appointed Father Matthew C. Carolan as the first pastor. He named the new parish “St. Bonaventure.” The first service held was the Christmas 1958 Midnight Mass. In 1962, St. Bonaventure Church became part of the Oakland Diocese.

Today, St. Bonaventure Catholic Community has 2,700 registered families.

OUR MISSION
We, the people of St. Bonaventure, are called to build a Catholic community as disciples of Jesus Christ. Nurtured by the Eucharist and inspired by the Holy Spirit, we dedicate ourselves to:
- ¶ Foster life-long faith formation and spiritual growth
- ¶ Encourage one another to live in Faith, Hope and Love
- ¶ Invite our neighbors to share in the Good News
- ¶ Reach out to the needy and work for social justice.

In carrying out this mission, we will demonstrate the love that we have for God, by the community we create with each other and our response to the needs of our neighbor.
ABOUT THE PERSON: ST. BONAVENTURE
WHO WAS SAINT BONAVENTURE?

Born in 1221 in central Italy, St. Bonaventure was given the name “John.” As a very young child, St. Francis of Assisi prayed over him to be healed of a serious childhood disease. It was said that St. Francis could intuit peoples’ character; be prophesized about St. Bonaventure’s future greatness. It was St. Francis who coined the expression, O Buona Ventura, which means what “good fortune” he will have. The name stayed with him.

St. Bonaventure entered the Franciscan Order, and after finishing his studies he became close friends with St. Thomas Aquinas while in Paris. For his astute knowledge and vibrant faith, St. Bonaventure is known as a “Doctor of the Church.” In addition to theological and philosophical works, St. Bonaventure has left us numerous spiritual treatises, some of which have been translated into English including the Journey of the Soul to God, Tree of Life, and The Life of Saint Francis.

Although St. Bonaventure was a man of the highest intellectual attainments, he would emphasize that a fool’s love and knowledge of God may be greater than that of a humanly wise man. To reach God, he said, “little attention must be given to reason and great attention to grace, little to books and everything to the gift of God, which is the Holy Spirit.” Above all he emphasized charity: “For in truth, a poor and unlearned old woman can love God better than a Doctor of Theology.”

St. Bonaventure served as Minister General of the Friars Minor (the Franciscan Order). Bonaventure was nominated as archbishop of York in 1265 by Pope Clement IV, but asked humbly not to be elevated. In 1273, Pope Gregory X obliged him to assume a greater place of honor, that of Bishop-Cardinal of Albano, one of the seven suburb dioceses around Rome. Bonaventure enjoyed special veneration even during his lifetime because of renowned teaching and writing, his preaching of the Word of God, his stainless character, his spiritual power to reconcile opposites, and for the miracles attributed to him.

St. Bonaventure’s Feast Day is celebrated on July 15.

About the St. Bonaventure logo

The church logo represents the Christ risen. Within the logo is the Holy Eucharist (head) and the Holy Spirit (body represented by the flame). Together they form Christ Risen.

The logo was designed by a St. Bonaventure parishioner who wishes to remain anonymous.
Ministries at a glance.....

LITURGY

Altar Servers
Anointing of the Sick
Art & Environment
Lectors
Eucharistic Ministers
Filipino Community Prayer Groups
  • Flores de Mayo Committee
  • Mother of Perpetual Help
Funeral Assistants
Hospitality Ministers
Liturgy Ministry Committee
Music Ministries
  • Children's Choir
  • 9 am Sunday Choir
  • 11 am Sunday Choir
  • 12:45 pm Sunday Choir
  • 5 pm Life Teen Mass Choir
  • Funeral (Resurrection) Choir
  • Technical/Sound Ministers
Ministries to Sick, Homebound
  • Aegis Senior Living
  • Communion to Sick and Homebound
  • Diamond Terrace Senior Living
  • San Miguel Nursing Home
Prayer and Praise
Prayer Vine
Prison Ministry - Marsh Creek Detention Center
Remembrance Ministry
Rosary Ministry
Sacrament of Marriage
  • Marriage Preparation
  • Wedding Coordinators
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Sacristan
Sanctuary Guild
Spanish-Speaking Ministries
Ministros en Español
  • Acólitos
  • Bautizados (Niños Pequeños)
  • Preparación para Bautizar
  • Lectores
  • Liturgia para los Niños
  • Ministros de Eucaristía
  • Ministros de Hospitalidad

Ministries at a glance.....

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

Sacrament of Baptism (Infant—age 7)
Catechism in Spanish/
  Catecismo en Español
Children's Liturgy of the Word
Christian Initiation for Children and Teens (Grade 2-High School)
Early Childhood Faith Formation
  • Pre-School and Kindergarten Program
Youth Faith Formation Program
  • Grade 1 through Grade 5
  • First Reconciliation and First Eucharist
  • Special Education
Summer Bible Camp
Ministros en Español
Jr. High Youth Group
  (Grade 6, 7, & 8) - EDGE Program
High School Youth Ministry
  • Teen Confirmation
  • Teen Community Outreach
  • Teen Retreats and Conferences
Scouting
  • Cub Scout Pack 444
  • Boy Scout Troop 444
  • Venture Crew 444
  • Girl Scout Troop #1374
Sports Programs
  • CYO Basketball
  • CYO Track

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Adults Becoming Catholic (RCIA)
Adult Confirmation for Catholics
BonFire
Catholicism & Coffee
Cursillo
JustFaith
Men's Spiritual Network
Reel Conversation/Movie Night
Scripture Study Opportunities
  • Thursday Morning
  • Tuesday Evening
Small Church Communities (SCC)
Women's Christian Fellowship

“The Word of the Lord”
- Fr. David Lawrence, S.J.
Ministries at a glance.....

**FAMILY LIFE**

- Al-Anon
- AA (Alcoholics Anonymous)
- Alcohol & Drug Recovery
- Birthright
- Clayton Valley Counseling Center
- Condolence Ministry
- Couples for Christ (CFC)
- Dad's Ministry
- Divorced and Separated Ministry
- Engaged Couples Weekend
- Grief Ministry
- Marriage Builders
- Marriage Encounter
- Mom's Group
- Mother-Daughter Tea
- NA (Narcotics Anonymous)
- Nar-Anon
- Natural Family Planning
- Parents' Hour of Power
- Quarterly Book Study
- Retrouvaille (Troubled Marriages)
- Widow's Connection

**COMMUNITY LIFE**

- Bridge Group
- Caring Hands
- Family to Family
- Food Pantry
- Giving Tree Ministry
- Knights of Columbus
- Loaves & Fishes Ministry
- Meals for Parishioners
- Meals on Wheels
- Nursing Ministry
- Parish Social Activities Committee
- Senior Group Ministry
- Social Justice Ministry
  - Gabriel Project
  - Habitat for Humanity
  - Respect Life
- Special Dinner Committees
  - St. Joseph's Dinner
  - St. Mary's Senior Dinner
  - St. Patrick's Dinner
- St. Vincent de Paul Society
- Theresians of Contra Costa
- Welcoming Committee
- Young Men's Institute

Parishioners sharing multi-cultural foods after the parish Unity Mass—July, 2008

Parishioners at the reception line after the parish Unity Mass—July, 2008
Ministries at a glance.....

ADMINISTRATION

Environment Care & Maintenance
Facilities Maintenance Ministry
Filipino-American Leadership Team
Finance Council Ministry
Information Systems
Parish Website
Meditation Garden
Parish Outreach Projects
  - Bosco, Yuvodaya: The Street Children of Bangalore, India
  - Soypango Hope School Project
  - Garden Park Apartments
  - St. Cornelius School
Pastoral Council Ministry
Evangelization Steering Team
Multi-Cultural Task Force

LITURGY
Liaisons:
TreEssa Palmeri - 672-5800 ext. 2230
treessa.palmeri@stbonaventure.net
Rose Carroll – 705-0898
rosecarroll@gmail.com

Liturgical and other ceremonial community celebrations are key ways in which we honor God.

ALTAR SERVERS. Altar Servers assist the priest and deacon at Mass and at other church celebrations. This opportunity to serve is open to boys and girls who are in third grade and higher and have received First Communion. Training is provided.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK. The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is celebrated twice a year at special liturgies. At any other time or for emergencies, please call the parish office to schedule an appointment with any of the priests. Home or hospital visits are also made. If a loved one is in the hospital, one can ask hospital staff to contact the hospital Chaplain.

ART & ENVIRONMENT. Providing an inspirational and prayerful environment for the liturgies is the focus of this group. This is done through special decorations, flowers, banners, lighting, etc. If you feel called to use your talents in this area, please join us.

LECTORS. Proclaim the Word of God at the Eucharistic celebrations. Training is provided. Lectors serve approximately once every six weeks. Ministry is open to both youth and adults. Volunteers needed throughout the year.
Eucharistic Ministers. To act as extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, helping the celebrant with the distribution of the consecrated bread and wine at each Eucharistic celebration. Training is required and provided. Volunteers needed throughout the year.

Filipino Community Prayer Groups
Flores de Mayo Committee. Annual parish event celebrated on the last Saturday of May honoring the Blessed Mother. Volunteers needed a few weeks prior to the event to help with food preparation, set-up, and clean-up. All are welcome.

Mother of Perpetual Help. Parishioners come together as a prayer group every Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. in the chapel to pray the novena to the Mother of Perpetual Help. The Eucharist is celebrated every first Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m. in the chapel. Prayers to the Blessed Virgin Mary are offered every first Saturday of the month in various family homes. All are welcome.

Funeral Assistants. Lay ministers help assist presiders as acolytes at funeral Masses. Volunteers needed throughout the year.

Hospitality Ministers. Ministers of Hospitality (Ushers) greet people at each Mass, assist them in finding a seat, take up the collection and distribute bulletins after Mass. Scheduling is flexible; training is provided. Volunteers needed throughout the year.

Liturgical Ministry Committee. Committee usually meets monthly to coordinate the liturgical ministries of the parish.

Music Ministries
Children's Choir. Seasonal. Open to children ages 7 to 17 yrs. old. Watch for bulletin announcements. Adult volunteers to assist in the program needed throughout the year.

9:00 a.m. Sunday Choir. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the church. Volunteers are welcome throughout the year.

11:00 a.m. Sunday Choir. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the music room. Volunteers are welcome throughout the year.

12:45 p.m. Sunday Spanish Choir. Rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., music room - St. Agnes Church. Volunteers are welcome throughout the year.

5:00 p.m. Life Teen Sunday Choir. Rehearsals at 3:30 p.m. before Sunday Mass in the church. Volunteers are welcome throughout the year.

Funeral (Resurrection) Choir. Participants sing at funerals. Practice one hour before funeral liturgy. Volunteers are welcome throughout the year.

Technical/Sound Ministers. Assist at weekend liturgies by operating the sound board. Volunteers are welcome throughout the year. Training is provided.

Ministries to Sick, Homebound
Aegis Senior Living. Provides the Eucharist to Catholics who are residents in the Aegis Senior Living Center. Ministers provide communion service for one hour once a week. Volunteers are welcome throughout the year.
Communion to Sick and Homebound. If you know of someone who would like to receive the Eucharist or be visited by a volunteer, this is done by individual requests and scheduling. If you are available to provide this service to the sick or homebound, please call the office. Volunteers are welcome throughout the year.

Diamond Terrace Senior Living. Provide the Eucharist to those Catholics who are residents in the Diamond Terrace Senior Living Center. Ministers provide communion service once a week. Private distribution of Holy Communion is available. Volunteers needed throughout the year.

San Miguel Nursing Home. Ministers provide a communion service to residents in San Miguel Villa on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. Also, ministers bring the Eucharist to residents on the first and third Tuesday each month after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Volunteers needed throughout the year.

PRAYER & PRAISE. Come together as a small group to share faith. Meets Thursdays from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Worship includes: singing, Scripture readings, silent and vocal charismatic prayer, ending with intercessory prayer for the needs of the parishioners. Volunteers needed throughout the year. We are in need of a Coordinator for this ministry.

PRAYER VINE. Offers prayer for parishioners, family and friends who are ill or have special problems or needs. All communication is done by phone. Volunteer members are always welcome. Those needing prayers are encouraged to call. All needs and requests are confidential.

PRISON MINISTRY. Marsh Creek Detention Center. Our Prison Ministry welcomes all the men in the Marsh Creek Detention Facility (minimum security facility located within parish boundaries) in need of spiritual sustenance. Non-judgmental acceptance of all men is stressed. Requires orientation and security clearance. Volunteers needed throughout the year.

REMEMBRANCE MASS MINISTRY. A Mass of Remembrance for all who have died during the year is offered twice a year at a special liturgy.

ROSARY MINISTRY. Small prayer sharing group that offers prayer gatherings daily (except Sundays):

- 8:10 a.m. for morning prayers
- 8:25 a.m. for scriptural rosary (before 9:00 a.m. Mass), followed by praying of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- Prayer gatherings are on every Tuesday evening (6:45 p.m.) for rosary and chaplet of Divine Mercy
- Each Friday, we gather for exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and adoration after 9 a.m. Mass until 4 p.m., followed by evening prayers and benediction.
- We also meet on Sunday mornings (7 a.m.) for rosary. All take place in the chapel.

All are welcome to come to one or all of above.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Marriage Preparation. The celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage at St. Bonaventure requires six months preparation. The parish office can provide you a marriage brochure outlining the marriage preparation process and requirements at St. Bonaventure.
Wedding Coordinators. A couple to be married are assigned a Wedding Coordinator to assist them in preparation of liturgy and in coordinating activities of their wedding day. There are four Wedding Coordinators in the parish. Wedding Coordinators receive a stipend from the couples to be married.

Sacrament of Reconciliation. Individual Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated every Saturday from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Reconciliation Room located in the church. If you wish to celebrate this sacrament at any other time, appointments can be made by calling the Parish Office.

Sacristan. Ministers prepare the church for Sunday liturgies approximately one-half hour prior to Mass. Responsibilities include: preparing the presider’s binder, setting up credence table, light candles, place all books in place, keep sacristy clean, wash and stock vessels after all Masses, unlock and/or lock church, and other tasks as requested. Volunteers needed.

Sanctuary Guild. Members are involved in keeping the church and altar linens in good condition. Involvement includes weekly light dusting, vacuuming of the pews, laundering of altar linens, purificators and towels. Cleaning is done once a week after the 9:00 a.m. Mass either Wednesday or Thursday. One hour for general cleaning once a month. Volunteers needed throughout the year.

"Entrust our plans to the Lord and our works will succeed.”
SPANISH-SPEAKING LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

The parish offers a full range of services in Spanish: pastoral, liturgical, catechetical, and many others.

MINISTROS EN ESPAÑOL. La Iglesia San Buenaventura incorpora algunos Ministerios en Español para servir mejor a los feligreses de habla Hispana. Este proceso empezó el 10 de Enero, 2004 cuando la Casa Hispana fue cerrada el 31 de Diciembre 2004. El Reverendo Padre Richard A. Mangini, Pastor de St. Buenaventura, supervisa las actividades de estos Ministerios y el Diácono Mariano Preza está a cargo de todas las actividades que se celebran en el Ministerio Hispano.

Acólitos. La oportunidad de servir esta abierta para niños y niñas que están en 3rd, grado y grados superiores. Ellos ayudan al sacerdote y diácono en las Misas del Domingo y días de Fiestas Obligatorios. Se les da entrenamiento.

Bautizos (Niños Pequeños). La parroquia prepara y recibe con mucho agrado a los padres de familia que desean bautizar a sus hijos pequeños. Este Sacramento se celebra todos los meses del año. Esta clase es obligatoria. Cuando los padrinos viven fuera de la ciudad, se les aconseja que vayan a recibir la clase a la Iglesia de su jurisdicción. La Iglesia nos envía por FAX la información indicando que han asistido a la clase.

Preparación Para Bautizar. Los padres y padrinos tienen que asistir a una preparación antes del Bautizo. El objeto de esta clase es enseñar el significado del Sacramento del Bautizo y se les explica los padrinos en que consiste servir de padrino o madrina de un niño o niña.

Lectores. Este ministerio ofrece la oportunidad de proclamar la Palabra de Dios durante la misa del domingo y días de Fiesta Obligatorios. Este ministerio lo pueden desempeñar jóvenes y adultos de ambos sexos que puedan leer bien.

Liturgia Para Los Niños. Este momento es dedicado a los niños, para que celebren la liturgia durante las Misa en Español de los Domingos. Antes de la Primera lectura el sacerdote que oficia la Misa llama a los niños para que se reúnan con las personas encargadas de este ministerio y vallan a la capilla a practicar por medio de dibujos, canciones y actividades la liturgia que se está celebrando. Los niños regresan a la Iglesia a reunirse con sus padres antes de la presentación de los regalos.

Ministros de Eucaristía. Este Ministerio brinda la oportunidad de asistir al sacerdote a distribuir el Pan y Vino consagrado en las Misas. También llevan el Sacramento a personas que no pueden venir a la Iglesia. Este Ministerio se ofrece a personas adultas de ambos sexos. Se da entrenamiento.

Ministros de Hospitalidad. El ministerio de Hospitalidad se encarga de saludar a las personas cuando llegan a la Iglesia, les ayudan a buscar asientos para que no estén de pie. Coordina la colecta de donaciones y también se encargan de buscar a las personas para el Ofertorio de las Ofrendas. Distribuyen los boletines a la salida de la Misa.

PRAYER MINISTRIES. El Salvador del Mundo, Hermandad de Señor de los Milagros, Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Martin de Porres, St. Jude Thaddeus.
YOUTH FAITH FORMATION
Liaisons:
Rosann Halick, Director - 672-5800, ext. 2204
rosann.halick@stbonaventure.net
Heather Abraham, frogger_prudential@yahoo.com

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (INFANT – age 7). Baptism is a
time of special joy and blessings for families. The celebration of the
Sacrament of Baptism requires two months preparation. The
preparation includes an interview with a priest or deacon,
attendance at a Baptism class, and celebration of the Welcome Rite
at a weekend Liturgy. The celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism
is scheduled twice during each month. To begin the Baptismal
process, please call the parish office.

CATECHISM IN SPANISH/CATECISMO EN ESPAÑOL
Teaching Catechism in Spanish using Bilingual Material
Enseñanza de catecismo en español usando materiales bilingües
(Español/Ingles)

La enseñanza para los niños de primero y segundo año esta basada en
los sacramentos, entrelazada con: el amor a Dios, la vida y obras de
Jesús y la vida de la comunidad. Para ello, se usan diferentes
actividades físicas, manuales y ayudas de audiovisuales en las clases, de
acuerdo al grado y a la época del año litúrgico que se esta viviendo.

También se tiene un día de retiro familiar en el que se comparten
actividades de integración y educación familiar. Cada domingo durante
las clases, los padres de familia reciben educación integral en el aspecto
moral y religioso.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY OF THE WORD (K–5th). This is a
special Sunday morning opportunity for children to celebrate the
Liturgy of the Word during the 9:00 a.m. Mass. The children gather
in the Chapel with a group leader prior to the First Reading and
return to the Mass assembly before the presentation of the gifts. The
Gospel message is shared with the children through role playing,
interactive activities and song.

CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS
(Grade 2-High School). This program is for children, youth and
teens who are preparing for the Sacrament of Baptism and
Eucharist. Classes meet on Sunday morning, after the 9AM Mass.
The family is prepared together as part of the learning and teaching
process. Through the sharing of Bible stories, interactive activities
and life stories we become a vibrant part of our faith community.
An interview with the Director of Youth Faith Formation is
scheduled prior to the class inception. This process helps families
who are “returning to the church” and for their children who will be
receiving sacramental preparation.

EARLY CHILDHOOD FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM
Pre-School and Kindergarten Program. Pre-school aged
children who are 4 years old or who are entering Kindergarten
are able to participate in classes that are conducted during the
9AM Sunday Mass. The Word of God is shared on a level that
is understandable for early childhood students. In addition to
Bible stories, classroom time includes crafts, songs, and
interactive activities. The program begins in late September
and runs through the second week of May.
YOUTH FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM

Grade 1 through Grade 5. Children who are in Grade 1 through 5 are able to participate in faith formation classes that meet for one hour, one day per week. The program includes sharing Bible stories, daily prayer, learning Catholic social teaching, reviewing our sacramental life, bringing the Word of God to others through our good works and deeds. Classroom time may include crafts, interactive activities and service projects that relate to the daily themes. Classes begin the end of September and continue through the middle of May. Parents and grandparents are encouraged to attend special sessions of prayer and faith education scheduled throughout the year.

First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. This program is for children in their second grade year. Classroom catechesis is designed to prepare the child for reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. Through sharing of Old Testament bible stories, an understanding of the Ten Commandments, and the teachings of Jesus, children gain an understanding of the importance and beauty of these sacraments. Classroom time may include role plays, interactive activities and crafts. Parent and children retreats are included to support the faith formation of the family.

Special Education. Parents of children with special needs are encouraged to contact the Faith Formation office. The Sacraments are welcome to all.

SUMMER BIBLE CAMP. One of the highlights of our summer is our annual vacation bible camp which takes place during the third week of July. The Bible takes root in children’s hearts as inspiring lessons are reinforced in every activity of camp. Activities planned for each day include a bible story, theme-based music, crafts, games and skits. Children in Pre-school age 3 and 4 may attend a two hour session, and children aged Kindergarten through 5th grade will attend a three hour class each day. Sixth graders are counselors in training and will participate in daily activities and service projects, and will receive instruction that will prepare them to be counselors. Teens in grades 7 through high school are invited to serve as counselors. Adult volunteers are needed to facilitate the camp.

JR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP (6th, 7th, AND 8th GRADE). We follow the EDGE program. EDGE is a Catholic middle school youth ministry for early adolescents in grades six, seven and eight. It is designed to meet the educational, spiritual, emotional, and social needs of young adolescents.

Activities include interaction and sharing within small groups, guest speakers, and work on parish service project in a structured, but fun, atmosphere. Sessions are held on Thursday evenings throughout the school year from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Youth Center small hall. Volunteer responsibilities include setting up and clean hall, weekly attendance, lesson planning and coordinates with other catechists. Participate in parish meeting/groups as required.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

Teen Confirmation. Faith life grows and is strengthened by the gifts of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation. Teens who are in high school and who will have attained the age of 15 at the time of Confirmation may participate in the Teen Confirmation program. Teens have the opportunity to learn and grow in their faith and in their community. This is accomplished through participation in at least 12 youth group
sessions, attending a monthly Confirmation preparation meeting, participating in the Sunday Liturgy on a regular basis, completing a community service requirement and attending one St. Bonaventure Confirmation retreat.

**Teen Community Outreach.** There will be monthly opportunities for teens (and parent chaperones) to experience the joy in serving others. We will spend a Sunday working at various agencies serving the less fortunate. These experiences will provide powerful life lessons in Catholic social teaching to help all to realize how blessed we are, how thankful we should be and how important it is to share what we have with others.

**Teen Retreats and Conferences.** Teens have numerous opportunities to participate in weekend retreats, conferences (such as LA Youth Day and National Catholic Youth Conference), one day event enrichment events and rallies.

**SCOUTING**

**Cub Scout Pack 444.** Scouting for 1st-5th graders. Weekly den meetings and monthly family meetings where Scouts show their projects and merit patches are awarded. Scouts participate in community service activities, field trips, Pinewood derby and working to earn the various patches. Volunteers welcome!

**Boy Scout Troop 444.** High adventure scouting for boys ages 11-18. Activities include weekend hikes, church and community service projects. The goal is character development through outdoor programs. Yearly activities include Scout Sunday, the Parish Pancake Breakfast, leadership camps, hiking, canoeing, rafting and summer camp. Parents are expected to help with troop activities. Time commitment is approximately one hour a week. Training: Youth Protection Training; New Leader Essentials is recommended.

**Venture Crew 444.** Venturing is a coed high-adventure scouting program for young men and women ages 14 to 21. The focus of Crew 444 is to develop proficiency in outdoor skills and to use these skills on high adventure activities. The Crew serves as a training resource for other scouting units and the community. The Crew participates in a number of activities and outings with Troop 444, including service projects for St. Bonaventure Church.

**Girl Scout Troop #1374.** This Troop is currently a Brownie Troop (girls ages 5-8, Grades 1-3). Bi-weekly troop meetings, quarterly awards ceremonies, community service activities, field trips and working to earn various badges. We are a co-op troop, each girl’s parent assists the troop in some way.

**SPORTS PROGRAMS**

**CYO Basketball.** An opportunity for boys (2nd through 8th grades) and girls (3rd through 8th grades). Practice is 2-3 days a week on the average with competition games once a week. Some teams participate in tournament play. Sign-ups are in August; season begins in November. Games may start in September. Adults with an interest in and knowledge of basketball are always needed to coach or referee!

**CYO Track.** Provides an opportunity for 2nd-8th graders (boys & girls) to participate in a variety of track and field events. No experience necessary, no tryouts required. Season is from Feb. 1st to mid-May. Practices are on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 5-6 p.m. at Clayton Valley High School. Competitions once a week starting from mid March at various fields, with possibility of regional and/or diocesan meets in May.
of JustFaith is to empower participants to develop a passion and thirst for justice and to express this passion in concrete acts of parish social ministry. JustFaith is a tool that has proven over and over again to be an effective strategy for training and forming parishioners to be agents of social transformation. We are seeking a coordinator for this ministry.

**MEN’S SPIRITUAL NETWORK.** A network of parish men dedicated to spiritual growth and support to each other. We host a retreat in the spring and sponsor the parish golf classic in October. We gather on the last Saturday of the month at 8:00 a.m. in the Youth Ministry Center. All men are welcome, no-fee membership, come and get to know your neighbors. Members are welcome year-round.

**REEL CONVERSATIONS/MOVIE NIGHT.** A get-away movie night on the first Friday of the month (Sept. – May). A chance to get together with other parishioners in the small hall, in a comfortable setting, and watch a movie with a point and a message. After the film, there is an opportunity for discussion and sharing. Free popcorn and drinks! Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and movie starts at 7:00 p.m.

**SCRIPTURE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES**

**Thursday Morning.** Various opportunities are offered throughout the year for Scripture Study. For description and schedule of classes, please watch for bulletin and website announcements.

**Tuesday Evening.** Various opportunities are offered throughout the year for Scripture Study. For description and schedule of classes, please watch for bulletin and website announcements.

**NEW: SMALL CHURCH COMMUNITIES (SCC).** When we live the gospel, we invite God to rewrite it through our stories. In the larger church, many people often feel disconnected from the pulse of the parish - feeling the need to have their faith life to be more than just Sunday worship, looking for ways to connect what they pray and learn at Mass with their everyday life. SCCs are small groups of less than a dozen people who gather to share their stories, to retell the gospel of Jesus in their lives, journeying with them while sharing that journey with others. The group usually meets twice a month according to the member’s schedules. Scripture texts and other spiritual resources are used as a focus of prayer, discussion and growth. We encourage you to connect with others in this special way by joining an existing one or start your own (resources available).

**WOMEN’S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP.** A ministry of enrichment and encouragement which focuses on providing practical tools and a supportive environment for the spiritual growth of women. Activities include: weekend and day retreats, Healing Masses, speakers, videos, discussion and an annual dinner in May. No membership required. Attend events that interest you.

“This is the Way of the Cross.”
AL-ANON. Al-Anon is a fellowship of relatives and friends of alcoholics and addicts who come together in order to support each other in dealing with alcoholism in their family life. Meets weekly.

AA (ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS). Ongoing recovery-oriented meetings that are open to members with alcohol/substance abuse problem. Meets weekly. These meetings are closed which means Members/New prospective members only.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG RECOVERY. Works to counteract the effects of alcohol and substance abuse in the parish. Offers personal outreach to alcoholics and addicts seeking recovery. Provides support and referrals for families. Offers educational programs to all parishioners regarding alcohol and substance abuse, early warning signs and treatment options. Strict anonymity guaranteed to callers.

BIRTHRIGHT. Helps women who are pregnant and in need by offering free pregnancy testing and counseling. Also, provides layettes and infant equipment when needed. We are all volunteers and our sole support is through financial donations. We also accept used clothing (including baby clothes) and other household equipment in good condition.

CLAYTON VALLEY COUNSELING CENTER. Clayton Valley Counseling Center (CVCC) provides comprehensive counseling services to the people of St. Bonaventure. Staffed by licensed and experienced mental health professionals, CVCC is committed to providing quality, affordable psychotherapy to men, women, couples and families of St. Bonaventure. In addition, CVCC provides engaged couples with extensive premarital counseling to all couples planning on being married at St. Bonaventure Church. After these enlightening counseling sessions, couples understand each other's perspective more clearly as well as the complexities, challenges and uncertainties of marriage.

CONDOLENCE MINISTRY. Sends sympathy cards to those who have experienced a loss of a loved one. This ministry also sends out letters to families inviting them to the annual parish Mass of Remembrance on All Souls’ Day.

COUPLES FOR CHRIST (CFC) is called to bring the Lord’s strength and light to those who are struggling to be true Christian families in the modern world. It is called to be families in the Holy Spirit renewing the face of the earth. Twice a year, CFC conducts Christian Life Program, a 13-week series proclaiming anew the basic message of Christianity. This program is held in St. Bonaventure classrooms either Friday or Saturday, which is scheduled in advance. All are welcome to attend.

In 1993, CFC established its Family Ministries, which include Kids for Christ (KFC), Youth for Christ (YFC), Singles for Christ (SFC), Handmaids of the Lord (HOLD), and Servants of the Lord (SOLD). This has provided a "womb-to-tomb" renewal ministry, where individuals are evangelized at the youngest age and sustained as they grow through their various life experiences.

DAD'S MINISTRY. A ministry focused on Christian fatherhood. Coming soon!
DIVORCED AND SEPARATED MINISTRY. The Divorced and Separated Ministry is a group of parishioners that have experienced the pain of separation or divorce, and would like to share their experience with men and women who are feeling that pain now.

ENGAGED COUPLES WEEKEND. The Engaged Couples Weekend allows participants preparing for marriage to respond fully and personally to God’s call to a Catholic marriage. The program presents the beauty and dignity of the Sacrament of Matrimony as a sign of Christ’s love and fidelity for life according to the teaching of Christ and the Church. All sessions are held at St. Bonaventure Church. St. Bonaventure couples serve as mentors.

GRIEF MINISTRY. This ministry offers spiritual and emotional support in a group setting for those who have experienced the death of a loved one. The groups are facilitated by peer ministers who have experienced a loss themselves. Please call for schedule.

MARRIAGE BUILDERS. This ministry supports communication, spirituality and growth in marriages. Couples gather in small groups every 6-8 weeks with occasional social gatherings throughout the year.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER. Enrich your marriage and reach a whole new level of intimacy in your relationship by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend. Marriage Encounter is one of the most successful and dynamic marriage enrichment experiences in the world today.

MOM'S GROUP. Are you looking for a place to connect with other Catholic moms? The Mothers' Group offers regular gatherings, playgroups, and other activities. We focus on spiritual enrichment, faith sharing and community building. We welcome mothers of all ages, although our primary focus is on mothers of newborns through elementary school children.

MOTHER-DAUGHTER TEA. The Mother's Group coordinates this annual fundraising event, benefiting one of St. Bonaventure outreach programs. The May event treats grandmothers, mothers, aunts, sisters and daughters to a fun tea party which includes tea, light sandwiches, dessert, and entertainment. The event also features speakers. Volunteers needed to set-up, clean-up and coordinate event.

NA (NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS). Support group program for those recovering from substance abuse. Meets weekly.

NAR-ANON. Nar-Anon is a support group for those who are dealing with the addiction of a loved one. Nar-Anon hopes to give you the assurance that no situation is too difficult and no unhappiness is too great to overcome.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING. Come join the growing number of couples in the parish practicing Natural Family Planning (NFP) – a safe, healthy and effective way to postpone or achieve pregnancy, as well as strengthen and enrich your marriage. Ongoing classes teaching NFP as well as support in social events.

PARENTS' HOUR OF POWER. All parents are welcome to join together for an hour of prayer for their families on the first Sunday evening of each month immediately following the 5:00 p.m. Mass.

QUARTERLY BOOK STUDY. Join us for our regular book discussion and sharing. Books chosen generally focus on spirituality and growth.
RETRouvaille (Troubled Marriages). Helps couples in troubled marriages. The CORE (Continuing Our Retrouvaille Experience) group provides support to couples with serious difficulties in their marriage, and those wishing to strengthen their union. Couples must attend a weekend experience with six follow-up Saturday meetings over the next three months.

WIDOW'S CONNECTION. This is a new ministry to connect the widows in the community who want to share one another's journey, support one another and socialize in various ways.

Parish Meditation Garden: "Come, follow me."

COMMUNITY LIFE
Liaisons:
Christa L. Fairfield - 672-5800, ext. 2205
christa.fairfield@stbonaventure.net
Joe Howard, joe.howard@yahoo.com

BRIDGE GROUP. Participants come together at various homes to play Bridge. Group gets together for a bridge marathon party once a year in June.

CARING HANDS. Create one-on-one matches between caring volunteers and frail, isolated, and/or disabled seniors over the age of 60 enabling them to stay in their homes, and remain independent, as long as safely possibly by providing free non-medical in-home assistance. Volunteers' interests are matched with seniors' needs in the following areas of service: transportation and escort services, shopping and errands, friendly visiting, friendly
calling, respite care, minor home repairs and yard work, light household tasks, light meal preparation; letter writing and reading assistance. Time commitment is 1 to 3 hours once a week at a time convenient to the volunteer and senior. An all-day training is necessary. Call Caring Hands office for training schedule.

**FAMILY TO FAMILY.** This is a parish program developed in partnership with Catholic Charities of the East Bay. Our core purpose is to bring people closer to Christ’s love through service. Our core mission is to assist families in need to improve the quality of their lives by providing them resources to becoming economically self-sufficient. Servers recognize these core values: ready to grow spiritually; embrace core purpose; actively want to participate in the mission; willing and ready to share their gifts (time, talent and/or resources).

**FOOD PANTRY.** Supplies supplemental bag of groceries to families in need in Concord/Clayton area. Volunteers arrive at the Church every Tuesday at 8 o’clock a.m. to sort and bag food. Volunteers needed throughout the year. Financial assistance always needed to purchase additional food through the Food Bank.

**GIVING TREE MINISTRY.** Provides Christmas gifts to community members in need. Volunteers work directly with representatives of local parishes and community service organizations to review gift requests and compile gift lists; prepare paper gift ornaments, set-up Giving Tree display, help sort gifts on Sort Night (the first Sunday in December); keep track of late gifts as they are returned to the church; purchase and wrap last minute gifts using cash donations from Giving Tree Ministry. Volunteers make one delivery of sorted gifts to the parish or organization about two weeks before Christmas. This ministry offers opportunities for different levels of time commitment. Advent event. Seasonal.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS.** Knights of Columbus is a fraternal organization focused on faith, family, community, youth, and fellowship. It is in service to others and our call to action through faith that our Brotherhood is strengthened.

**LOAVES & FISHES MINISTRY.** Committee members participate twice a month (on Fridays) offsite in providing a hot meal for the homeless and others in need. Volunteers cook and serve the meal and/or clean up afterwards. Time commitment is about 5 hours each time or 10 hours a month. Volunteers needed throughout the year.

**MEALS FOR PARISHIONERS.** Homemade or restaurant meals are prepared or purchased and delivered by committee volunteers to parishioners on a short-term basis, for situations such as childbirth, illness or a death in the family and recuperation after hospitalization. Volunteers needed throughout the year.

**MEALS ON WHEELS.** Parish volunteers pick-up and deliver commercially prepared meals mid-day, on weekdays only, to homebound clients of the Meals on Wheels program on a set schedule, usually once a month. Volunteers needed throughout the year.

**NURSING MINISTRY.** Assist parishioners by promoting health matters via health talks and monthly bulletin health info. Members will also have the opportunity to assist in the healing Masses, participate in the monthly hospitality weekend and annual parish ministry fair.

**PARISH SOCIAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE.** Plans and organizes large annual social events including the Rock 'N Roll Pasta Dinner and the Progressive Dinner. These events offer the opportunity to celebrate and further enhance the spirit and
friendships within our special community. Tasks include decoration, registration, publicity and food preparation.

**SENIOR GROUP MINISTRY.** Holds monthly luncheons for seniors and coordinates day trips to keep seniors active. Participants and volunteer helpers welcome.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY.** This ministry responds to the needs of our brothers and sisters and also works for social change. It addresses the implementation of Catholic social justice teachings on a parish level, and encourages the participation of parishioners to address unjust structures and situations in society. It also fosters the charitable distribution of time and money for appropriate causes. If you are interested in either of these areas, you are most welcome to join us. Meetings are held third Tuesday of the month.

**GABRIEL PROJECT.** Provides assistance to pregnant women in time of crisis.

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY.** St. Bonaventure is a covenant church for Habitat. We provide both spiritual and practical support to this ecumenical Christian organization that builds decent, affordable housing for families in need.

**RESPECT LIFE.** Stimulates Respect for Life at all stages by studying and informing parish of developments in science and thinking; facilitating action to further respect for life; focus on improving the quality of life issues which cloud the inherent value of life.

**SPECIAL DINNER COMMITTEES**

**St. Joseph's Dinner.** In Italy, St. Joseph is honored on his feast day, March 19th, with a celebration of festive foods assembled on decorative altars. The food is shared with the poor and the needy. In keeping with tradition, all the food for the St. Bonaventure's Festa de San Giuseppe is prepared and donated by the attendees and any leftovers are given to those in need. Additionally, all proceeds from the ticket sales benefit St. Bonaventure's emergency fund for the needs of our parishioners. Volunteers are needed for ticket sales, bartending, setup, cleanup, etc. We are seeking a coordinator for this ministry.

**St. Mary's Senior Dinner.** Provides dinners and entertainment for the homeless and/or low income senior citizens at an Oakland parish. Commitment needed: eight hours, four times a year. Volunteers needed for food preparation, serving and other tasks.

**St. Patrick's Dinner.** All are invited to come together to celebrate the feast of St. Patrick over corned beef, cabbage and potatoes prepared by members of Knights of Columbus. Volunteers needed around two months before March 17th of each year.

**ST. BONAVENTURE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP.** We are a community of parishioners who are survivors of cancer, waiting and willing to share your experience, pray with you and be there to help you through your ordeal.

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY.** A lay organization inspired by Gospel values and comprised of parishioners who help neighbors in need. The Society's essential elements are: spirituality, friendship and service. The Society welcomes all who desire to grow closer to Christ in the service of the poor, recognizing that we are all poor.
THERESIANS OF CONTRA COSTA. Dedicated to a deeper appreciation of the vocation of the Christian woman as this vocation is lived in the religious and lay states in the world today. Meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month after the 9:00 a.m. Mass in the hospitality room. Open to all women. Members welcome throughout the year.

WELCOMING COMMITTEE. Provides a ministry of welcoming new parishioners. This committee also offers opportunities for new parishioners to meet staff and other parishioners at various committee-sponsored events, such as the “Welcome Weekend” after Saturday and Sunday Masses; and the quarterly “Potluck” dinner, usually held after the 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass. Volunteers needed throughout the year to greet newcomers, serve refreshments and clean up. One to two hours once a month are required.

YOUNG MEN’S INSTITUTE (YMI). Diablo Valley #111 – A fraternal organization of brotherhood for adult younger men. Must be male 18+ years old (there is not upper age limit). Meetings are the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month in the Hospitality room in the Church from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. Volunteers needed throughout the year.

ENVIRONMENT CARE & MAINTENANCE. Care and upkeep of church environment including light maintenance of pews, chairs and kneelers. Also, decorating with container gardening and care of small garden areas.

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE MINISTRY. We are a core group of parishioners interested in aiding and advising with the general maintenance of our property with the goal of seeking ways to reduce costs on major projects. We are always looking for professionals with building or facilities related experience, and those who have established connections or are willing to seek out help at reduced costs.

FILIPINO-AMERICAN LEADERSHIP TEAM. Develop opportunities to those with Filipino heritage. Connect the spiritual and social activities of the Filipino-American community with the entire parish. Team meets approximately six times during the year, or more often, when team is coordinating a special event. We need you!

FINANCE COUNCIL MINISTRY. This is the Pastor’s advisory board for parish finances. The purpose of the St. Bonaventure Finance Committee is to assist the Parish Life Director to develop a financial plan for the parish, measure performance and monitor a system of accountability for parish financial resources that supports the parish ministry. We are seeking a coordinator for this ministry.
INFORMATION SYSTEMS. This ministry is headed by a part-time staff person and is supported by a small group of IT professionals who donate their time and talent to maintaining and expanding the parish network infrastructure. They are involved in the technology planning of future facilities and a wide range of ongoing projects that support the parish staff.

NEW! PARISH WEBSITE. Publish and manage the expanding parish website. Currently managed by a staff member. New volunteers are welcome soon.

MEDITATION GARDEN. Maintains the Meditation Gardens, planting, weeding, watering, etc. Work with other volunteers at set times or alone at your own time. Gardening experience NOT required.

PARISH OUTREACH PROJECTS. Each year our Parish Council advises the Pastor and Parish Life Director on the selection of a small group of organizations on which the parish will focus its outreach efforts on for the year.

BOSCO, Yuvodaya: The Street Children of Bangalore, India. This is a day and night care center for children on the street in Bangalore, India where there are an estimated 80,000 street and working children due to the extreme poverty and homelessness. The center provides children home placement, medication, advocacy, counseling, education and shelter. The center is in need of renovation and expansion. Our financial gifts aide in this renovation and help cover the costs for individual children.

Soyapango Hope School Project. We assist with the construction and tuition support of two schools in the barrios of San Salvador, El Salvador—an elementary school and high school for children who would not have an opportunity for education without these schools. St. Bonaventure has a “sister parish” relationship with Madre de las Americas Parish in Soyapango.

Garden Park Apartments. Located in the Monument area of Concord, this is a permanent supportive housing project serving formerly homeless families. It is a unique facility in that it is not temporary housing but “permanent” housing that frees families from the cycle of homelessness. Each family contributes 30-40% of their annual income but with a median annual income of $8,800, additional support is needed.

St. Cornelius School (Richmond). St. Cornelius School in Richmond, California is a Catholic School in Richmond’s inner city with few financial resources. This is a multi-ethnic school which educates children from all ethnic backgrounds and of lower economic means. The area is one of great violence. This school is a safe haven as it is the only school in the area without violence.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MINISTRY. A God-centered body of pastoral leaders who discern and promote the mission of St. Bonaventure. The role of the Parish Pastoral Council is to discern pastoral direction for parish life and to give advice and counsel to the Pastor. In carrying out this role, the Council will work specifically to:

1. Establish and monitor long-range pastoral planning and establish priorities, policies and goals.
2. Listen for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit through the voice of the people of God.
3. Review activities of parish staff and ministries to ensure support of the mission and the strategic plan.
4. Facilitate other parish activities as may become necessary.

**Evangelization Steering Team.** The Evangelization Steering Team is a sub-committee of the Parish Pastoral Council with the responsibility to help the parish community to understand its need for conversion and mission. Through prayer, study, and dialogue, the team develops concrete plans to help evangelize the active parish community and to reach out to those who no longer participate or who are non-churched. Eventually, the team will develop an appropriate process to reach out to those who have no clear faith in God or Jesus. We are seeking a coordinator for this ministry.

**Multi-Cultural Task Force.** This is a sub-committee of the Pastoral Council originally set up in November 2003 as an advisory group task force designed to connect with the Spanish-speaking members of our parish community and its leadership group. It has developed to continue to expand connections with various cultural groups in our multicultural St. Bonaventure community. This committee consists of representatives from the Parish Council, Pastoral staff, Filipino-American, Hispanic and Indian leadership groups. We welcome all other ethnic cultural groups who may wish to participate in various parish events. We are seeking a coordinator for this ministry.

"Everything I have is Yours."