



Ash Wednesday Mass. Photo Credit: David Blankenhorn

St. Bonaventure Catholic Church *Iglesia Católica de San Buenaventura*

5562 Clayton Road, Concord, CA 94521 ❖ www.stbonaventure.net

PHONE (925) 672-5800 ❖ FAX (925) 672-4606

March 12, 2017 Second Sunday of Lent | 12 de marzo de 2017 Segundo Domingo de Cuaresma

MASSES IN ENGLISH/EN INGLÉS

Saturday Vigil/Sábado: 5:00 PM
Sunday/Domingo 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM,
11:00 AM, 5:00 PM

MASSES IN SPANISH/EN ESPAÑOL

Domingo: 12:45 PM

DAILY MASS/MISA DIARIA (CHAPEL/CAPILLA)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday/Lunes,
Martes, Jueves y Viernes: 9:00 AM
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday/Martes, Miércoles y
Jueves: 6:30 AM

COMMUNION SERVICE/SERVICIOS DE

COMUNIÓN (CHAPEL/CAPILLA)

Monday & Friday/Lunes y Viernes: 6:30 AM
Wednesday/Miércoles: 9:00 AM

BAPTISM/BAUTIZOS

In English: Call the office to begin the process.
This requires two months preparation. *En Español:*
Los Sábados
10:00 AM. *Llame a la oficina para hacer arreglos con*
un Sacerdote ó Diácono. Este requiere dos meses de
preparación.

MARRIAGE/MATRIMONIO

Call the office to arrange with a Priest or
Deacon. This requires six months preparation.
Llame a la oficina para hacer arreglos con un
Sacerdote ó Diácono. Este requiere seis meses de
preparación.

RECONCILIATION/RECONCILIACIÓN

In English: Saturdays 3:30 PM (in the church) or by
appointment. *En Español: Llame a la oficina para*
hacer arreglos con un Sacerdote. Por cita.



As disciples at St. Bonaventure, we are committed to know Christ better and make Him better known. To this end we are committed to...

Keep connected to our parish community
Nurture the development of our faith and knowledge of Christ
Offer to share the Holy Spirit's gifts of time, talent and treasure
Worship through prayer, Mass and the Sacraments

THOUGHTS FROM FR. RICHARD
 PENSAMIENTOS DE PADRE RICARDO

■ **THE LENTEN CALL TO ACCOMPANY
 CONCORD'S IMMIGRANTS**

Catholics United for Justice (a Catholic advocacy group representing the six Catholic parishes of the Concord Deanery), the Concord Police Department, Catholic Charities of the East Bay and the Mt. Diablo Unified School District are reaching out to the immigrant and undocumented families and individuals of central Contra Costa County, especially the Spanish-speaking community.

Why? Because they are being “criminalized” by negative, brushstroke language as if they are all criminals.

Why? People fear to go shopping, to leave their homes lest they return to find ICE in the neighborhoods.

Why? Because a young child is unable to concentrate in school fearing they will return to their apartments and find their parents gone. People are becoming refugees in our own communities.

Immigrant families are being invited through our schools and churches to three informal gatherings, to three supportive forums to share stories about what is going on in their lives and to receive information from immigration attorneys about their rights as immigrants. All schools in the Mt. Diablo Unified School District will be safe zones for children, not allowing the passing, or permission to enter, on the part of ICE. Neither will the Concord Police participate or aid ICE in any way.

The organizers of these 3 gatherings wish to express care and solidarity and to offer helpful information for anyone caught in the present immigration limbo.

March 16, 2017, 7:00pm – 8:30pm
 St. Francis of Assisi Church Gymnasium
 860 Oak Grove Rd., Concord

March 28, 2017, 6:30pm – 8:00pm
 Cambridge Elementary School Cafeteria
 1135 Lacey Lane, Concord

April 19, 2017, 6:30pm – 8:00pm
 Meadow Homes Elementary School Cafeteria
 1371 Detroit Avenue, Concord

There will be childcare for children 4-10 yrs. old. The meetings will be held in Spanish. Translation devices will be available, provided by the school district.

■ **OPPORTUNITY TO SIGN A LETTER
 TO ENDORSE SB54, THE CALIFORNIA
 VALUES ACT**

SB54, sponsored by Senate President pro tempore Kevin Leon, would protect the safety and well-being of all Californians by ensuring that state and local resources are not used to fuel mass deportations, separate families or divide Californians on the basis of race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, immigration status or national or ethnic origins.

The California Values Act, a new law, it would ensure that California's police departments, schools, hospitals and courts remain accessible to Californians from all walks of life. **These institutions will protect the immigrant communities.**

An opportunity to sign is provided this Sunday.

■ **DO AN ECUMENICAL LENT AND MEET
 GOOD FELLOW CHRISTIANS**

If you are tired of spending your old traditional Lent, or if you like doing it, **but want something more**, our local small ecumenical group of parishes encourages you to join us at four special events and activities.

March 13, Monday at 7pm
 “What Lent Can Do for You?”
 St. Bonaventure Church, Fr. Leo Edgerly

March 20, Monday at 7pm
 Taize Prayer around the Cross,
 Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church,
 Pastor Barbara Barkeley

March 27, Monday at 7pm (A potluck supper, to visit and to get to know one another. Details to come)
 United Methodist Church on West St.
 Pastor Sungho Lee

April 14, Good Friday at Noon
 The Last Words of Jesus, Ecumenical Choir
 St. Bonaventure Church

■ **WHO ARE THE ECUMENICAL
 CHURCHES?**

St. Bonaventure Catholic Church
 Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church
 First Christian Church
 Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
 United Methodist Church

■ **POPE FRANCIS WRITES LENTEN
 LETTER. DO WE SEE THE OUTSIDE
 BUT NOT THE INSIDE?**

Have you started Lent yet? There are many Catholics who will not know that Lent has started. They may even come to church to pray but will not know it is Lent.

What did you do this last full week of Lent? What were your resolutions and intentions? Has God highlighted your week? Has your attitude toward others around your life changed in any way for the positive?

Last week, Pope Francis asked us to consider the story of Lazarus and a rich man as a way to understand the quest for true happiness. The rich man led an opulent and self-pleasing life. While he could see a poor man in wretched physical condition outside his luxurious home, he was not compelled to help him in any way.

[How is our eyesight? Does it see but not see really? Does a parent see a child, but not see the love and presence the child needs? Does a parent assume that providing home, money and entertainment is what loving is all about? Do spouses become so accustomed to how things are that they do not really see how things are?]

Have we become deformed in some way? “The rich man’s greed makes him vain. His personality finds expression in appearances. But his appearance masks an interior emptiness. His life is a prisoner to outward appearances, to the most superficial and fleeting aspects of existence,” the Pope writes.

The Pope reminds us that in those who are corrupted by pride, “nothing exists beyond their own ego. Those around them do not come into their line of sight.” They

seem to see, but they are really blind.

Just the Sunday before Lent began, we heard Jesus condemn this kind of blindness: “No one can serve two masters.” (Matt 6:24)

There are many people who don’t think about God or have no particular relationship with God, until God is needed to be the magic hand that rescues.

One of the acclamations of Ash Wednesday are the words when ashes are placed on foreheads: “Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.” Eventually, both Lazarus and the rich man will die. In fact, the major part of the story and the point of it happens after they die, the Pope points out. “The two characters suddenly discover that ‘we brought nothing into the world, and we take nothing out of it.’” (1Tim 6:7)

(The Pope’s point next week: “Is there a place for God in our life?”)

**■ GOLDEN JUBILEE MASS
 MAY 17, 2017, 5:30P.M.**

May 17, 2017 is the actual anniversary of my ordination as a priest, and I invite my fellow parishioners to celebrate the Eucharist with me that evening at 5:30pm. Yes, it is mid-week, a Wednesday.

The theme and focus of the 50th Anniversary Mass is the Priesthood of Jesus Christ that I share with my fellow diocesan priests. I am inviting them to the Mass as well and hosting a supper with them, only after the Mass. There will be no general reception after this event.

Cardinal William Levada, Prefect Emeritus of the Congregation of the Faith at the Vatican, will preach the homily. During the clergy supper after the Mass, Fr. George Crespin, both Chancellor and Vicar General Emeritus of the Diocese of Oakland, will speak about “The Joy of Being a Priest after the Second Vatican Council.”

No reservations are required for the Anniversary Mass, and everyone is welcome.

**DECREE ON ABSTAINING
 FROM MEAT ON THE
 UPCOMING FEAST OF SAINT
 PATRICK (MARCH 17)**

From Most Rev. Michael C. Barber, S.J.

The disciplinary practice of abstaining from meat on the Fridays in Lent is an important dimension of the penitential nature of the season. This year, the Feast of St. Patrick, March 17, 2017, falls on a Friday in Lent. Given the many celebrations that occur on this day, in accord with the norm of law, I herewith grant to all Catholics of the Diocese as well as all present here that day, a dispensation from abstinence from meat and meat products. I encourage all who make use of this dispensation to engage in another sacrificial or charitable act that day.



**PARISH LIFE THOUGHTS
 FROM CHRISTA FAIRFIELD**

■ MARK YOUR CALENDAR

*St. Bonaventure 60th Anniversary—
 Fr. Richard’s 50th Ordination
 Anniversary—Retirement*

There are a number of liturgical celebrations and events occurring this year to acknowledge the Retirement, Ordination Anniversary of our beloved Fr. Richard, and St Bonaventure’s 60th Anniversary. Following is a listing for your information. Please check our website and bulletin for more detailed information as the events occur.

**■ FAMILY-TO-FAMILY UPDATE:
 SPOTLIGHT ON NAJIB AHMADI**

This article will focus on Najib Ahmadi, husband and father, and his accomplishments since arriving in the United States in June 2016. While discussing his earliest observations of the United States, Najib explained that because he worked for the United States military in Afghanistan for fourteen years, he was somewhat familiar with our culture. In fact, when he first saw the San Francisco area, Najib said, “I know this place.” He understands that our country

Parish Life Thoughts continued on page 4 ▶

Mark Your Calendar

DATE	TIME	EVENT	VENUE
Wednesday, May 17	5:30pm	50th Anniversary of Ordination Mass	Parish Church
Saturday, June 10	6pam	Fil-Am Community Dinner with and for Fr. Richard *Following 5pm Mass	Parish Hall
Sunday, June 11	2pm	Hispanic Community Celebration *Following 12:45 Spanish Mass	Parish Grounds
Saturday, June 17	6pm	Parish Dinner To celebrate Fr. Richard’s Ordination and Retirement	Concord Hilton
Saturday, June 24	4pm	Liturgical Celebration & Reception with Bishop Celebration of Parish Anniversary	Church

continued from page 3

is comprised of many races, cultures, and religions living together. These concepts were completely new to Najib's wife, Zainab, and their three children when they arrived here.

Since coming to the United States, Najib has worked hard to become acclimated to his new country. He now has a full-time permanent job as a security guard. He is currently working 40 hours per week plus overtime in a large San Francisco office building. He likes his job and said his philosophy at work is to take his job seriously and get along with everyone - it makes the work day more pleasant! Najib also passed the California driving test and now has his license and a used car, which The Sisters of Holy Names generously donated to the family. The car has allowed the Ahmadi to be even more independent and self-sufficient.

Najib strongly believes that the future is decided by God and that "our story is written." Working within that framework, he wants to eventually purchase a home for his family, provide a good education for his children, and help his wife, Zainab, develop independence.

Najib misses very little about Afghanistan. It is not the country he once knew because the Taliban and ISIS have destroyed so much. Najib lost four friends to a suicide attacker. The only thing he misses is his family.

Najib looks forward to the time when he can help the next family "adopted" by St Bonaventure and the Family to Family committee. "Words cannot express my appreciation for the support our family has received, including my family in Afghanistan. Thank you to Family-to-Family, the parishioners, and the clergy." He also requested that we keep praying for his family as they continue to adjust to this country.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can help the Ahmadi family, please write to Jenelle Abrams at Jenelle.abrams@yahoo.com or contact the parish office.

■ PARISH DIRECTORY UPDATE

Good news — the second and final proof of our 2016 Parish Directory is back in the hands of Lifetouch. Lifetouch will do their magic and produce our beautiful hardback directory. Their turnaround time is 30 business days, so the estimated shipping time will be the first part of March. With that date in mind, our plan is to have the distribution after all Masses the weekend of March 18/19 and 25/26. The directories will also be available in the church office during regular hours. For those parishioners who are interested in purchasing a directory, a limited number of directories will be available and the cost will be \$10.00.

Thanks to all of you who were able to partake in the 2016 Parish Directory; the committee hopes you will be pleased with this edition. Special thanks go out to the committee and all the angels who helped with the hosting at the portrait sessions — we couldn't have done it without you.

■ FAITH DIRECT: PARISH EGIVING



Fast. Pray. Give up your Envelopes! We invite you to help your parish save money by giving up your offertory envelopes this Lent! Enrolling with Faith Direct will provide St. Bonaventure with consistent support and simplify your giving without the wasteful envelopes. Join us in giving up envelopes this Lenten season! Follow the link below to quickly enroll in eGiving to St. Bonaventure.

To enroll, just go to www.faithdirect.net or download the free app and use our church code: CA725.

Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

LITURGY & MUSIC



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY: DN 9:4B-10; PS 79:8, 9, 11, 13; LK 6:36-38

TUESDAY: IS 1:10, 16-20; PS 50:8-9, 16BC-17, 21, 23; MT 23:1-12

WEDNESDAY: JER 18:18-20; PS 31:5-6, 14-16; MT 20:17-28

THURSDAY: JER 17:5-10; PS 1:1-4, 6; LK 16:19-31

FRIDAY: GN 37:3-4, 12-13A; 17B-28A; PS 105:16-21; MT 21:33-43, 45-46

SATURDAY: MI 7:14-15, 18-20; PS 103:1-4, 9-12; LK 15:1-3, 11-32

SUNDAY: EX 17:3-7; PS 95:1-2, 6-9; ROM 5:1-2, 5-8; JN 4:5-42 [5-15, 19B-26, 39A, 40-42]

INVITATION TO VOLUNTEERS

■ AN INVITATION TO SERVE FROM ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Are you looking for ways to experience God? Members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul invite you to share in their ministry of experiencing God in serving people living in poverty. We see Christ in the poor because Jesus told us "whatever you do to the least of my brothers and sisters you do for me." Join us for an SVdP Informational Hour on Tuesday, March 21 at 6:30pm in Classroom A-2. Contact Dan Gabe (408-5964), Parish St. Vincent de Paul Conference President for more details.



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

FAITH FORMATION FOR CHILDREN

■ VACATION BIBLE CAMP: JULY 17-21

What's all the *buzz* about? Well, we are *gearing* up for an amazing Bible Camp and we want you to *bee* a part of it! The excitement is *building* for the best week of the summer! So save these dates for a Bible adventure with God! Great Bible stories, delicious snacks, *creative* crafts, team-*building* games and so much more!!! You need to put all the *puzzle pieces* together, make the *connection* and stay tuned for the theme - it's going to be super *fun*! *We are all created by God and built for a purpose!*

■ CREW OPEN HOUSE

Come and experience Venture Crew 444's Open House.

Tuesday, April 4, 2017 – 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in Room B5; St. Bonaventure Catholic Church, 5562 Clayton Road, Concord,

Venturing is a coed program for youth 13 who have completed the 8th grade, or ages 14 to 21. For more information contact crew444@astound.net. You can also go to www.scouting.org/venturing.

FAITH FORMATION FOR ADULTS

■ PARENT ENRICHMENT

Turn off your I-Pads, your I-Phones, and your I-Tunes and come experience a new way to look at your marriage through I-Marriage. In our monthly meetings, we will learn how Andy Stanley's three key teachings help you enrich your marriage and examine the "I's" of marriage: "Keeping My 'I' On You," "Putting Your 'I' Out," and "It Takes Three." We will meet, **Tuesday, March 14**, Classroom A2, 6:00-7:30pm. Free childcare is available in A4. If you have questions, please contact Eileen @925-672-5800 or elimberg@stbonaventure.net

■ CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

Lent has begun. Many people "give up" things during Lent. This is OK, but what God really asks of us is to come closer to him and to make improvements in our lives that better reflect God's grace in the world. Contemplative prayer is offered in the Chapel on Tuesdays, 4:05-4:30pm. Come and add some quiet time to your life where you are present to God and give thanks for the blessings we receive.

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

■ BLOOD DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus are hosting a Community Blood Drive for the American Red Cross on Saturday, April 1 in the Large Hall from 10 AM to 4 PM. In order that the process be efficient and effective, we are asking that you schedule an appointment. Appointments can be scheduled at 15-minute intervals by calling 1-800-Red Cross (800-733-2767), by logging on to the **RedCrossBlood.org** website and entering Sponsor Code: St. Bonaventure, or by calling Denis Thomson at 925-673-0720. Drop-ins will be welcome that day, but there may be a wait while clients with an appointment are handled first. 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?

■ THANK YOU FROM ST. MARY'S CENTER-OAKLAND

A big "Thank You" to all the volunteers who made the St. Mary's Dinner in Oakland a success on February 19. We are so grateful for our cooks Karen and Gary LaMons and our dedicated workers: Jim Riley, Carol & Pete Chrobak, Claudia, Jorge & Neco Tejada, Charlotte Picallo, Linda Mercader, Jonel Sangalang, Gloria Leigh, Gladys de Guzman, Bob Eichten, Rose Yap, the Lane Family (Liz, Tim, Mateo & Colin) and our new volunteers, Francis Fong and Lori Neeley. "Thank

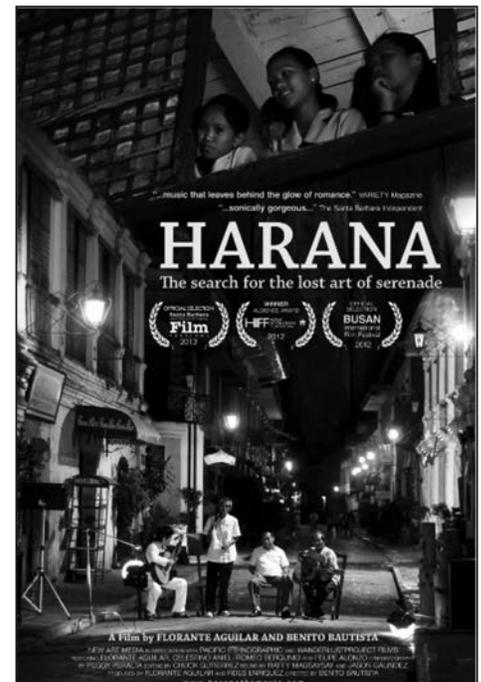
you" also to the cake bakers and those parishioners who donated supplies, bingo prizes and made cash donations. The load is lighter when many pitch in to help, so please know that you are appreciated! Watch the Bulletin announcement for our next dinner on **April 23**.

■ "HARANA", THE MOVIE
(*The Search for the Lost Art of Serenade*); **Saturday, April 22, 7:30pm**

The Filipino-American Ministries of St. Bonaventure Catholic Community and St. Francis of Assisi Church proudly present "Harana."

At: St. Bonaventure Church, 5562 Clayton Road, Concord. Cost: \$15 for adults; \$10 for ages 7-17; free for ages 6 & under. Ticket info: 925-207-1608, 925-682-5447, 925-585-2613

Net proceeds benefit St. Bonaventure & St. Francis of Assisi Church.



■ CLAYTON VALLEY COUNSELING CENTER (CVCC) AT YOUR SERVICE

For 15 years, CVCC has been serving the St. Bonaventure Community. The Counseling Center, with licensed therapists, serves individuals, couples and families, and prepares engaged couples for marriage using the well-established Prepare Program. ☎ 925-210-6176.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Weekend of March 4 & 5 Collection

Goal: \$25,440

Actual: \$29,554

Over: \$4,114

Food for Family: 280

*EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer)
 included in above figures*

OUTSIDE PARISH

■ SUMMER @ CARONDELET IS BACK!

This year, we are offering a variety of co-ed middle and high school courses to help your children get an academic edge this summer. We also have programs specifically for girls, with our middle school sports clinics and a Girls Leadership program designed for 4th and 5th graders, which allows them to explore their leadership skills. Visit us at www.CarondeletHS.org/summer for more information about these exciting classes. We can't wait to see you this summer!

■ DIABLO CHORAL ARTISTS

Diablo Choral Artists presents two concerts of choral music by Dvorák, Schubert and Bruckner, featuring Dvorák's beautiful "Mass in D Major." Mark Tuning, Music Director.

Performances:

- Friday, March 17, 8:00pm, WC United Methodist Church, 1543 Sunnyvale Ave, Walnut Creek,

- Sunday, March 19, 3:00pm, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 1601 Mary Drive, Pleasant Hill.

Details and ticket purchase on website: www.dcachorus.org, 925-680-7089, info@dcachorus.org. (Early adult & senior discount before 3/9)

■ CALLING ALL WOMEN!

Magnificat SOTI, a Ministry for Women invites you to join them at a Prayer Breakfast; April 1, 9:30-12:30, Crowne Plaza, 45 John Glenn Drive, Concord

**Please note that we are returning to the Crowne Plaza!*

Please join us in welcoming **Sonja Corbitt** as our speaker! Sonja, the well-known talk show host of the Bible Study Evangelista, is a Southern girl with the gift of storytelling! She is also the best-selling author of *Unleashed* and many bible study materials that "give you a bite of spinach that tastes like cake"!

Bring your bibles and come join us as Sonja shares her message to "love and lift all you've been given."

Tickets are \$33/\$40 after March 25. Go to www.magnificatsoti.org for more information about our guest and tickets or call Jennifer at 503 709 8449 for reservations.



SANCTUARY LIGHT IS LIT FOR

JUANA CUENCO
 March 11 – March 17, 2017



NEW PARISHIONERS

Melchor Aguilera
 Joseph & Julie Baratta
 Ruben & Judy Calle
 Johanna Clarin
 Russell Conboy & Family
 Ann Gillette
 John Martin
 Jesus & Yolanda Padilla & Family
 Alida Rackwitz
 Randy & Donna Trana

Mass Intentions For The Week



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SATURDAY, MARCH 11

5:00 Luz de Guzman
 Eliseo Yanga
 Marcelino Domingo
 Guillermo Entredicho

SUNDAY, MARCH 12

7:30 Patricia Phillips
 Joy Hart
 Carmen Guereque
 Horace "Lefty" Abono
 9:00 St. Bonaventure Community
 11:00 Helena Tworzydlo
 Joanna Brud
 Janusz Zelazny
 Krystyna Stawarski
 5:00 Leona Annis
 Angelo Fracasso
 Norma M. Evaristo & Family
 Souls in Purgatory

MONDAY, MARCH 13

6:30 Communion Service
 9:00 George Oatis
 Maria Sarabia Finnen
 Ricardo Aguilar
 Iria & Nonato Almeida

TUESDAY, MARCH 14

6:30 Children receiving
 First Communion
 9:00 Juana Cuenco
 Sue Gardella
 Grace Ellis
 Mary Ackman

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

6:30 Communion Service
 9:00 Communion Service

THURSDAY, MARCH 16

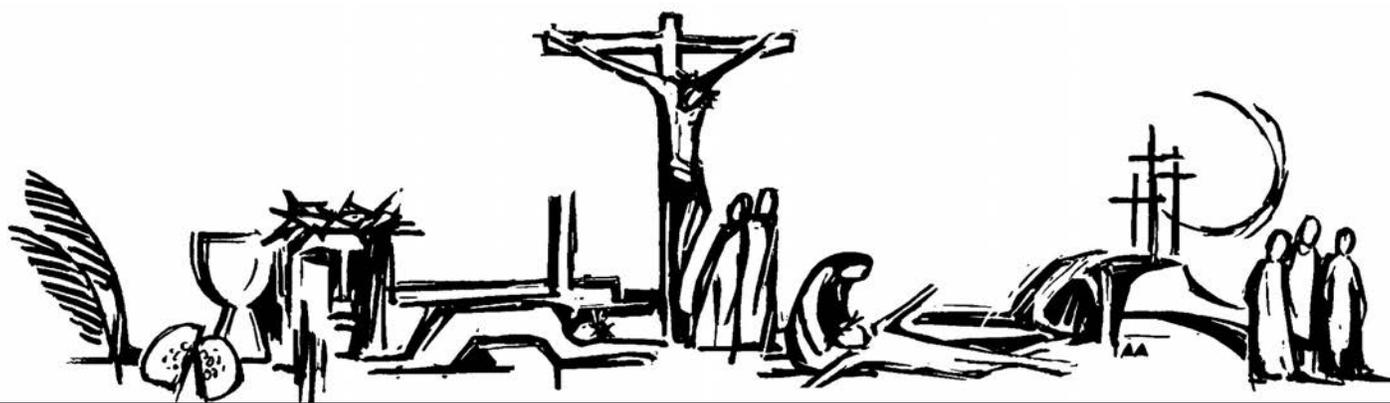
6:30 Carlos Arturo Rojas
 9:00 Caridad Mathew

FRIDAY, MARCH 17

6:30 Communion Service
 9:00 Oscar & Imelda Jovel
 Mike Geraghty
 Guillermo "Memo" Preza

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

5:00 Marcelino Domingo
 Norma Evaristo
 Luz de Guzman
 Lillian Le



LENTEN PARISH MISSION

March 13-14-15; 10:00am-11:30am or 7:00pm-8:30pm

WHY LENT?



Why Lent? Because we forget that God loves us.

Why Lent? Because we are sometimes overwhelmed by the challenges of life.

Why Lent? Because God needs us to let the world know that Faith conquers doubt, Hope conquers despair and Love conquers hate.

Why Lent? Because we need a time to reflect, to renew and to recommit.

The Family of Saint Bonaventure invites you to join Fr. Leo Edgerly for a Parish Mission: March 13th, 14th and 15th (10:00am-11:30am or 7:00pm-8:30pm) in the Church. Together we will answer the question: *Why Lent?*

Fr. Leo was born and raised in Oakland and is the eldest of four children. He shares the story of entering the St. Francis de Sales Grammar School in 1958, with two of his siblings. "During my first year at St. Francis (3rd grade) the good sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus, Mary and Joseph introduced to me the concept of Hell. It was a place that I didn't want to experience and I don't think that it is mere coincidence that I expressed a desire to become a priest at the tender age nine. (It seems me that if I were a priest I had a pretty good chance of avoiding Hell; I was a strange little kid.)"

His life story – which includes losing his faith while a junior in high school, but still trying to "make it work" in the seminary. Leaving and completing his degree in psychology from UC Berkeley. Attending a Cursillo in 1971. Working in the corporate world. Meeting and falling in love with a beautiful woman he met in 1975. Two years later Fr. Leo regained his faith. As he struggled with the idea of getting married, she said to him, "You need to work out this priesthood thing." How right she was. In the fall of 1980, Fr. Leo entered St. Patrick's Major Seminary in Menlo Park, CA. He was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Oakland on September 28, 1984. "I have heard the phrase: 'God writes straight with crooked lines.' That is an adept description of how God has guided me throughout my life."

PENITENTIAL RITE

The Penitential Rite serves to mark the Lenten purification of baptized but previously uncatechized adults and candidates entering the Church at Easter Vigil. After the homily, candidates and those preparing for Full Communion are called forward and the community prays with them in the form of intercessions, before they are dismissed to reflect on the Word they have just heard. The Penitential Rite will be celebrated at the 5:00pm Sunday Mass this weekend.

Please pray for our Elect and those preparing to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church in these final days of their preparation:

Gary Boswell
Abdoul Fofana
Stewart Lehman
Christopher McFerran
Malik Rodriguez
Michael Rodriguez
Marco Sanchez
Kristen Spillner
Heather Zamora

Thank you to parishioner Mary Franceschini for writing our Lenten Reflections this year. Every week there will be a center pullout in the Bulletin with the reflections, events and other information that apply to the upcoming week and beyond. You can also sign up to receive the reflections every morning in your email. Go to the parish website: www.stbonaventure.net and sign up through the link on the front page.



March 12 Second Sunday of Lent

And he was transfigured before them; Mt 17: 1-9

Peter, James, and John follow Jesus up to a high mountain, completely unaware of what they are about to experience. Jesus is transfigured before them, Moses and Elijah appear, and the voice of God affirms that Jesus is his beloved Son. They were afraid and rightly so. This happening was beyond anything they had ever experienced. And they were to keep this to themselves!

Can we picture ourselves in the place of Peter, James, and John? The wondrous things that happen when we are in the company of Jesus can leave us in awe. We have an advantage over the apostles. We can let everyone know what graces, what wonderful things he has done for us. It may not be blinding lights, or a voice from heaven, but if we learn to see the wondrous in the ordinary, life can take on a whole new dimension.



March 13 Monday

For the measure with which you measure will in turn be measured out to you. Lk 6 36-38

We are to be merciful, not judge others, stop condemning people, and not bear grudges. The one thing that we are to do is to be merciful. Jesus seems to ask much and yet if we don't want happening to us what we do to others, it only makes sense. The Golden Rule comes into play here.

There is nothing wrong with recognizing the faults of others, but we don't need to be arrogant about it. Rather, let's try to correct a person by doing it with respect. After all, we have enough of our own faults. More than ever, we have to recommit ourselves and be an example. We cannot allow the prevailing atmosphere of arrogance to blindside us! That's the last thing our world needs.



March 14 Tuesday

...do not follow their example. For they preach but they do not practice. Mt 5: 1-12

Jesus denounces the Scribes and the Pharisees for not living up to what they preach. They love to be seen in public places, have seats of honor, and be held in high regard. The disciples of Jesus are to act otherwise.

More than with words, we learn from example. Jesus lived what he preached. He knew that it would cost him dearly, but he didn't back down. We set an example with our manners, in our dealings with people. Children learn more from example than from words. Setting a good example is not only important in our families, but also in our nation, and the world.



March 15 Wednesday

Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee approached him with her sons... Mt 20: 17-28

If we read this passage in its entirety, the mother approached Jesus with her sons to do him homage, wanting something in return. She wanted her sons to each have a place in the kingdom, next to him. Jesus stops her short. That request was only in the Father's hands. The other apostles are naturally indignant. Jesus, with his never-ending patience, reminds them that he came to serve and not to be served. If they were to be his disciples, they had to do likewise.

The mother here appears a little presumptuous, but then what mother doesn't want the best for her children? The danger is that, many times, once the "best" is attained, the inclination is to "lord" it over others. As Christians we have to be careful about this. Who wants to be "lorded" over?



March 16 Thursday

My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; Lk 16: 19-31

Wealth isn't a bad thing as long as it has been properly acquired. But even if properly acquired, it is a sin to have wealth and ignore those who have very little, if anything

at all. Lazarus was not only poor but covered with sores. He would have gladly eaten the scraps that fell from the table of the rich man. The rich man had his fill during his life but he paid for it when he died.

We are blessed to live in the wealthiest nation on earth. We are also blessed if we possess wealth personally. But what are we doing with it, on a personal level or as a nation? Are we helping the less fortunate, especially the elderly who are struggling to get by, or are we robbing them of what little they have? In the end, are we going to find ourselves with the rich man or with Lazarus?



March 17 Friday

Here comes that master dreamer! Gn 37: 3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a

Joseph was the favorite son of Israel—"the child of his old age." In Joseph's dreams, he seems to be showered with favors. His father ponders one of the dreams, but his brothers are filled with jealousy. They plot to kill him, but instead throw him into an empty well. In the end, Joseph is sold for twenty pieces of silver and becomes a slave in Egypt.

In a way, I compare Joseph to Jesus. He lived in Egypt for a while when, as a baby, his parents had to flee Herod's wrath. When he began his mission, he was a master dreamer for his desire for a world of justice, of brotherly love. Because of greed, he was betrayed for thirty pieces of silver. When he rose from the dead

and ascended back to his Father, he became King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Behold, the master dreamer!



March 18 Saturday

This man welcomes sinners and eats with them. Lk 15: 1-3, 11-32

The Pharisees and scribes criticized Jesus because he forgave sinners. Not only that, but he ate in the house of people that to the Pharisees were sinners. They just didn't get it that Jesus was acting in accordance with the Father, who welcomed the repentant sinner.

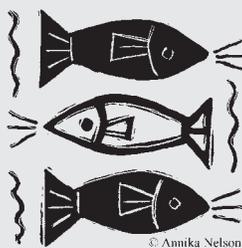
We must ask ourselves if at times we are like the Pharisees. Everyone has a story to tell. People make mistakes, and many times grievous ones, against individuals or humanity, but they are all children of God. Even if only one of them repents of his or her ways and tries to make amends, the Father will not turn away.



PRAYER OF BLESSING FOR A MEAL DURING LENT

O God of mercy and compassion, with humility of heart we ask your blessing on the meal we are about to share. During this season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving may we be inspired to share our gifts with the needy. May the sharing of this meal urge us on to work tirelessly to bring your word of comfort to all who seek meaning and direction in their lives. Bless us, the food we are about to receive, those who prepared it, and the friendships we share. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, who is Lord forever and ever. Amen.

LENTEN REGULATIONS ON FAST AND ABSTINENCE



Abstinence from meat is observed on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent by all Catholics 14 and older.

Fasting is observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday by all Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those bound by this rule may take only one full meal. Two smaller meals are permitted as necessary to maintain strength according to one's needs, but eating solid foods between meals is not permitted.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICE (CRS) RICE BOWL



For more than 40 years, CRS Rice Bowl has been a Lenten faith-in-action program for families and faith communities. Growing up, I remember the bowls that sat in the center of our kitchen table.

One meal a week, would be a "simpler meal" and the money saved would be put in the bowl. On Palm Sunday, we'd bring the bowl back to church and see the pile stack up. Stewardship is more than talent and time. It also includes treasure. Together, we can make a difference in our community and in our world. **Twenty-five percent of everything collected is kept in the diocese for programs where we live. Our own St. Vincent de Paul chapter has been a recent recipient.** Give up one latte a week and put the extra change in the rice bowl – lead your children by your own good example.

Every week, CRS introduces us to a family and recipe from the different countries that benefit from Rice Bowl. March 12-18 we **Encounter** Evelina from Zambia. Generations of Zambians used to survive on meals made from corn flour, usually a porridge called "nshima".

Unfortunately, nshima has very little nutritional value - and relying too heavily on it has led to high rates of malnutrition. So CRS is teaching women like Evelina how to prepare healthier meals and grow new, vitamin-rich crops like peanuts, pumpkins and sugar cane. "We sing and dance during cooking lessons because we are happy to learn how to cook different types of food," says Evelina. Evelina is healthier and so is her son Steven. "He's full of energy," she says, with a smile.

Friday Lenten Prayer Offerings

On Friday evenings, we are providing a variety of prayer opportunities; some traditional, some with a more contemporary feel. We invite you to join us to experience God's invitation in a different manner each week.

The Knights of Columbus will host a simple Soup dinner on the Fridays in Lent (except March 17) in the Large Hall. Dinner will begin at 6:30pm and precede the Stations of the Cross. A Holy Spirit offering will be accepted.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

March 17 @ 7:30 PM: *Praying the Stations of Mercy with Pope Francis (no soup dinner in Hall)*

Pope Francis has called the Church to become more merciful. We are invited to imitate Christ who, in his way of the cross, offered mercy to the world. Even though we continued to live in selfishness and sin, he loved us with the tender heart of God. He revealed God's face to us: a Father of Mercy.

March 24 @ 7:30 PM: *Stations of the Cross on the Path of Ecological Conversion*

March 31 @ 7:30 PM: *Stations of the Cross Against Violence*

April 7 @ 7:30 PM: *The Scriptural Way of the Cross w/ the Resurrection Choir & Friends*

GRACIOUS AND MERCIFUL: COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION SERVICE Tuesday, March 21 @ 7:30 PM

We gather together because we are confident and grateful that God is merciful. We have this confidence because, in every age, God has shown his justice and his mercy. Lent is the time when the entire Church enters into the period of purification and enlightenment as we journey along with our elect and catechumens who are preparing for the Easter Sacraments. You are invited and encouraged to join us and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation as you continue to seek and prepare this Lent.

Last Opportunity for Individual Confession: Saturday, April 8 @ 3:30 PM

■ CONOCIENDO EL CAMINO DE DIOS

La misión de la Iglesia de San Buenaventura es dar a su comunidad el alimento de la palabra, Jesús dijo: *“Yo he venido a que tengan vida y vida en abundancia, porque Yo Soy el Camino, La Verdad y la Vida, nadie conoce al Padre sino aquel que ha bajado del cielo y también me conocen aquellos que mi Padre lo dé a conocer a través de mi Palabra.”* Los invitamos a que en esta Cuaresma reserven un tiempo los lunes a las 7:00 pm, para reflexionar sobre la necesidad que tiene nuestra alma del conocimiento y el amor de Dios. Meditando y aprendiendo el misterio de la venida de Cristo a la tierra. *“Yo soy el Camino, la Verdad y la Vida”.*

Día: Lunes 13, 20 y 27 de Marzo

Hora: 7:00 PM

Lugar: Iglesia de San Buenaventura.

Salón: B-1

■ LA CUARESMA NOS LLAMA A QUE APOYEMOS A LOS INMIGRANTES DE CONCORD

Los Católicos Unidos por la Justicia. Un grupo católico representante de las seis parroquias de Concord, El Departamento de Policía, Caridades Católicas del Este de la Bahía y El Distrito Escolar Unificado de Monte Diablo están llamando a las familias del Condado de Contra Costa, especialmente a las personas que hablan español.

¿Por qué? Porque ellos están siendo ofendidos con lenguaje negativo y son llamados criminales.

¿Por qué? La gente tiene miedo de ir de compras, salir de sus casas y cuando lo hacen encuentran empleados de (ICE) Departamento de Inmigración en el vecindario.

¿Por qué? Porque un niño no se concentra en la escuela por el miedo de que cuando regrese a casa sus padres no estén. La gente está refugiada en sus propias comunidades.

Las familias de los Inmigrantes han sido invitadas por medio de las escuelas y las parroquias a tres reuniones informales. Son tres reuniones de apoyo para que compartan las historias de lo que está pasando en sus vidas. Abogados de inmigración

darán información acerca de sus derechos como inmigrante. Todas las escuelas del Distrito Unificado de Monte Diablo van hacer zonas seguras para los niños, no se permitirá que entren sin permiso personal del Departamento de Inmigración (ICE). Tampoco el Departamento de Policía participará en ninguna forma con ICE.

Los organizadores de estas reuniones desean expresar cuidado y solidaridad al ofrecer la información que ayudará a cualquier persona que se encuentre en ésta situación de inmigración.

Las reuniones serán así:

Jueves, 16 de Marzo, 2017 de 7:00-8:30 pm, Gimnasio-Iglesia San Francis de Assisi, 860 Oak Grove Rd, Concord

Martes, 28 de Marzo, 2017 de 6:30-8:00 pm, Cafetería-Cambridge Elementary School, 1135 Lacey Lane, Concord

Miércoles, 19 de Abril, 2017 de 6:30-8:00 pm, Cafetería-Meadow Home Elementary School, 1371 Detroit Ave., Concord

Habrá cuidado de niños de 4-10 años de edad. Las reuniones serán en español. El Distrito Escolar proveerá artefactos para traducir.

■ OPORTUNIDAD DE FIRMAR LA CARTA APOYANDO LA LEY SB54 LOS VALORES DE CALIFORNIA

SB54 es patrocinada por el Presidente del Senado Kevin León, esta ley va a proteger la seguridad y el bienestar de todos los Californianos asegurando que los recursos del Estado y Locales no sean usados para deportaciones en masa, separar a las familias, dividir a los Californianos basados en clase media, sexo, orientación sexual, religión, status migratorio ya sean nacionales o de origen ético.

La ley se llama **Acto de Valores de California**, una ley nueva que asegurará que los departamentos de policía, escuelas, hospitales y cortes permanezcan accesibles a californianos de cualquier clase de vida. Estas instituciones van a proteger a la comunidad de inmigrantes. Este domingo se dará la oportunidad de firmar la carta.

■ PAPA FRANCISCO ESCRIBE UNA CARTA DE CUARESMA, VEMOS LO DE AFUERA PERO NO LO DE ADENTRO?

¿Usted ya ha empezado la Cuaresma? Hay muchos católicos que no sabrán que ha comenzado la Cuaresma. Incluso pueden llegar a la iglesia a orar sin saber que es la Cuaresma.

¿Qué hizo usted esta pasada semana de Cuaresma? ¿Cuáles fueron sus resoluciones e intenciones? ¿Destaco a Dios su semana? ¿Ha cambiado su actitud hacia los demás en su vida en alguna manera lo positiva?

La semana pasada, Papa Francisco nos pidió considerar la historia de un hombre rico y Lázaro como manera de entender la búsqueda de la verdadera felicidad. El hombre rico llevó una vida opulenta y auto complaciente. Mientras que veía a un hombre pobre en miserable condición física fuera de su casa lujosa, él no se sintió obligado a ayudarlo de ninguna manera.

[¿Cómo está su visión? ¿Puede ver pero no realmente? ¿Un padre ve a su niño, pero no ve el amor y la presencia del que niño necesita? ¿El padre de familia asume que proporcionando el hogar, dinero y diversión es lo que es amor? ¿Cónyuges acostumbrados así a cómo son las cosas que no realmente ven cómo son las cosas?]

¿Nos hemos convertido en deformados de alguna manera? “La avaricia del rico le hace inútil. Su personalidad encuentra expresión en apariencias... Pero su apariencia oculta un vacío interior. Su vida es de un preso de apariencias exteriores, a aspectos más superficiales y efímeras de la existencia, “escribe el Papa.

El Papa nos recuerda que en aquellos que están dañados por el orgullo, “nada existe más allá de su propio ego. Los de su alrededor no entran en su línea de visión.” Parecen ver, pero son realmente ciegos.

Recientemente el domingo antes que comience la Cuaresma, escuchamos a Jesús condenar esta clase de cieguísimo: “Nadie puede servir a dos amos.” (Mateo 6:24)

Hay mucha gente que no piensa en Dios o que no tienen una relación con Dios hasta que realmente lo necesitan para que sea la mano mágica del rescato.

Una de las aclamaciones del Miércoles de Ceniza son las palabras cuando las cenizas son colocadas en la frente: “Acuérdate que eres polvo y al polvo volverás.” Finalmente, Lázaro y el hombre rico irán a morir. En realidad, la mayor parte de la historia y el punto sucede después de su mueren, el Papa señala. “Los dos personajes de repente descubren que nada trajimos al mundo, y tomamos nada de él.” (1Tim. 6:7)

(El punto del Papa la proxima semana. “Hay un lugar para Dios en nuestras vidas?”)

■ **MISA DE JUBILO DE ORO: Mayo 17, 5:30P.M.**

Mayo 17, 2017 es el actual aniversario de mi Ordenación como sacerdote, e invito a mis queridos feligreses a celebrar la Eucaristía conmigo esa noche a las 5:30p.m.

Sí, es en el medio de la semana, miércoles.

El tema y el enfoque de la Misa de aniversario 50 es el sacerdocio de Jesucristo que comparto con mis compañeros sacerdotes diocesanos. Estoy invitándolos a la Misa también y anfitrión de una cena con ellos solamente después de la Misa. No habrá ninguna recepción general después de este evento.

Cardenal William Levada, Prefecto Emérito de la Congregación de Fe en el Vaticano predicara la Homilía. Durante la cena del clero después de la Misa, Padre George Crespín Canciller y Vicario General Emérito de la voluntad de la Diócesis de Oakland hablará de “La alegría de ser sacerdote después del Concilio Vaticano II.”

No es requerido hacer reservación para la Misa de Aniversario, todos están bienvenidos.

Escriba en su Calendario

FECHA	HORA	EVENTO	LUGAR
Miércoles, Mayo 17	5:30pm	Misa del 50th Aniversario de Ordenación	En la Iglesia
Sábado, Junio 10	6pm	Cena de la Comunidad Filipina Con y para el Padre Ricardo <i>*Después de la Misa de 5pm</i>	Salón Parroquial
Domingo, Junio 11	2pm	Celebración de la Comunidad Hispana <i>*Después de la Misa de 12:45pm</i>	Jardines de la Parroquia
Sábado, Junio 17	6pm	Cena de la Parroquia <i>Celebración de la Ordenación y Jubilación Del Padre Ricardo</i>	Concord Hilton
Sábado, Junio 24	4pm	Celebración Litúrgica y Recepción <i>Celebración con el Obispo Celebración del Aniversario de la Parroquia</i>	Iglesia

■ **MARQUE SU CALENDARIO**

60th Aniversario de San Buenaventura-50th Aniversario y Jubilación del Padre Ricardo

Hay una serie de eventos y celebraciones litúrgicas que se llevaran a cabo este año, la Jubilación y el Aniversario de la Ordenación de nuestro querido Padre Ricardo y el 60 aniversario de San Buenaventura. A continuación enunciamos los eventos para su información. Por favor visite nuestro sitio web y boletín para obtener información más detallada de todos estos eventos.

■ **CELEBRACION DEL 50TH ANIVERSARIO Y JUBILACION DEL PADRE RICARDO MANGINI: Sábado, Junio 17**

Usted ha escuchado de la gran festividad que se llevara a cabo el sábado 17 de Junio y desea tener más detalles. Aquí están los detalles, el costo de la entrada es de \$75 por persona. El Cóctel se servirá a las 6:00p.m y la Cena a las 7:00p.m.

*Grupo de 10 personas que desean sentarse en la misma mesa, necesitan registrarse y comprar los tiquetes al mismo tiempo.

Donde: Hotel Hilton, 1970 Diamond Blvd, Concord, CA 94520.

Como y cuando puedo comprar los tiquetes? Se pueden comprar para este especial evento de la siguiente manera:

- Si desea comprar los tiquetes con tarjeta de crédito, puede hacerlo a través de “*Faith Direct*” en línea yendo a la página electrónica de San Buenaventura. www.stbonaventure.net/celebrationevents.

Este es el software en línea que utilizamos para nuestra parroquia. Le permitirá comprar boletos con tarjeta de crédito. Este es el único método que se podrá hacer con tarjeta de crédito. Incluso si usted no tiene una cuenta configurada como su método electrónico de donación a la parroquia puede aún comprar los boletos usando una tarjeta de crédito, en “*Faith Direct*” para este evento.

- Si usted prefiere pagar en efectivo o con cheque, esto lo podrá hacer en la oficina de la Iglesia durante las horas regulares de trabajo, también estarán disponibles después de las Misas del 23 de Abril y 21 de Mayo.

Para su comodidad, también antes de comprar los boletos usted puede llenar la forma en nuestra página electrónica: www.stbonaventure.net/celebrationevents.

Información necesaria para poder ordenar la compra de los boletos:

- Nombre de cada asistente
- Número de Teléfono
- Escoger un plato (Salmon, Pollo Caprese, Filet Mignon o Vegetariano)

Si tiene alguna pregunta, por favor contactarse con Emily Molina al 925-963-3483

■ INFORMACION DEL DIRECTORIO PARROQUIAL

Buenas noticias - la segunda y última prueba de nuestro directorio de la parroquia del 2016 está en manos de Lifetouch. Lifetouch hará su magia y producirá nuestro hermoso directorio con tapa dura. Les tomara 30 días para prepararlo, o sea que el tiempo estimado de envío será a principios de marzo. Con esa fecha en mente, nuestro plan es que la distribución será después de las Misas del fin de semana del 18/19 de marzo y 25/26 para las personas que se tomaron fotografías. Los directorios también estarán disponibles en la oficina de la iglesia durante las horas regulares. Para los feligreses que están interesados en la compra de un directorio, una cantidad limitada de directorios está disponible y el costo será de \$10.00.

Muchas gracias a todos los que participaron en el Directorio Parroquial del 2016; el comité espera que este usted complacido con la edición. Especial gracias a nuestro comité y todos los ángeles que ayudaron ordenando las sesiones para tomas las fotografías- no lo podríamos haber hecho sin ellos.

BAUTIZOS 2017 LUGAR DE BAUTIZO: IGLESIA • LUGAR CLASES: B-1 ENCARGADO: GREGORIO MENCHACA, (925) 826-5102 ****PARA INFORMACIÓN SOBRE CLASES, FAVOR CONTACTAR LA OFICINA****			
FECHA DE BAUTIZO	HORA DE BAUTIZO	FECHA DE CLASE	HORA DE CLASE
Sat. 4/1	2:00 PM	Fri. 3/31	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 06/10	12:00 p.m.	Fri 06/02	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 06/17	10:00 a.m.	Fri 06/09	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 06/24	10:00 a.m.	Fri 06/16	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 07/08	10:00 a.m.	Fri 06/30	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 07/22	10:00 a.m.	Fri 07/07	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 07/29	10:00 a.m.	Fri 07/14	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 08/12	10:00 a.m.	Fri 07/28	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 08/19	12:00 p.m.	Fri 08/11	7-9:30 p.m.
/Sat 08/26	10:00 a.m.	Fri 08/18	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 09/09	10:00 a.m.	Fri 09/08	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 09/23	10:00 a.m.	Fri 09/15	7-9:30 p.m.
Sat 10/14	10:00 a.m.	Fri 10/06	7-9:30 p.m.

**Cristo Jesús . . . destruyó la muerte
 y ha hecho brillar la luz de la vida y de la inmortalidad,
 por medio del Evangelio. — 2 Timoteo 1:10b**

