




The Spirit of
SAINT BONAVENTURE
 CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
 LOVE GOD - LOVE OTHERS - MAKE DISCIPLES



Lent 2024
 Volume 12, Issue 1

† LENTEN MISSION: MARCH 10-12



Who Do You Say I Am?
 Reimagining God in Troubled Times

Fr. Richard Kaley, OFM Conv.

SUNDAY MARCH 10	CONFERENCE 1: <i>The God of Life and Love and The god I Don't Believe In</i>
MONDAY MARCH 11	CONFERENCE 2: <i>Jesus: God Who is With Us</i>
TUESDAY MARCH 12	CONFERENCE 3: <i>Becoming Christ: Feed My Lambs, Feed My Sheep</i>

Lenten Mission

March 10-12 at 6:30 p.m. in the Church

The world is a mess with political dysfunction, war, untold violence, personal struggles, and grief, and... **Jesus said, "I have come that you may have life and have it more abundantly." (Jn. 10:10).** The past few years don't look like abundant life to me. They look like less, not more, life. Who God is to us can make a huge difference as we deal with the reality of our lives. Fr. Richard Kaley, OFM Conv., will be here to walk us through a Lenten Mission.

Fr. Richard is a Franciscan priest and a familiar face to many, growing up in our parish and serving as pastor (2010 - 2019). Fr. Richard has been an associate pastor, vocation director, novice director, campus minister, and pastor of four parishes. He shares, "I have known the struggles of others and, of course, have had to bear my own share of suffering. I am excited to look together at the journey of life we all are on through the eyes of faith."

Lenten Evening Prayer

Wednesdays, February 21 - March 20
 6:30 p.m. in Ambrose Hall

All children, parents, grandparents, and anyone from our faith community are invited to come together. From week to week we will tell the story of Jesus' journey to the cross through music and family-centered activities. Come hear the story of the cross. It's a great way to prepare for the glorious Resurrection of Jesus.

This time of prayer, sacrament, and community will be followed by **Faith Formation classes** and a **Holy Moments adult book study** ending at 7:45 p.m. **"Some moments are holy, some moments are unholy, and you get to decide."** Holy Moments is the profoundly simple and astonishingly practical way to collaborate with God, moment by moment, for the rest of your life. Join us in reading this book and pick up a free copy in our Gathering Space after Ash Wednesday.

Lenten Evening Prayer
 Wednesdays, Feb. 21 - Mar. 20, at 6:30 p.m. in Ambrose Hall



- Feb. 21 *What does Lent Mean?*
- Feb. 28 *The Last Supper*
- Mar. 6 *The Garden of Gethsemane*
- Mar. 13 *The Crucifixion*
- Mar. 20 *Stations of the Cross*



**SAINT
BONAVENTURE**
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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**A NOTE FROM
SAINT BONAVENTURE**

Love God - Love Others - Make Disciples



**Let Us Grow in Faith
Through Small Groups**

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As we enter a new season, I am glad to write this note to you. Lent is a special time during the year to reflect on our relationship with God and neighbor, and to focus ourselves on the teaching and example of Jesus. In our living situations, some of us are so busy immersed in our jobs, while some others may be struggling with loneliness, illness, grieving a loss or addictions. All of us, however, have our cross to carry. The beauty of our faith is that

we know Jesus carries that cross with us, and we are never alone. He would gently remind us, "Come to me, take my yoke upon you, for my yoke is easy, and my burden is light". (Mtt. 11, 28-30)

This year, you have the great opportunity to join a small group to strengthen your Lenten faith journey. As our Archbishop reminds us, "Small groups continue to be an excellent vehicle for the provision of Christ-centered care, with heart speaking to heart." Three good reasons to join a small group are: to foster personal relationships; to build community; and to help form missionary disciples. When you walk together in faith in a small group, you have a greater possibility to grow in holiness as joyful missionary disciples by strengthening each other.

I do wish and pray that as a parish community we will grow closer to Jesus during this season of Lent by making the best use of this opportunity. May God bless us on our Lenten journey.

Fr. James Chitteth, CFIC



You Will Be My Witnesses

"Small groups continue to be an excellent vehicle for the provision of Christ-centered care, with heart speaking to heart."

- Archbishop Hebda, You Will Be My Witnesses



Love God - Love Others - Make Disciples

Small Groups in Lent: Come and See!

Have you heard something about Archbishop Hebda's call to join a small group this Lent, but you're unsure what that means to you? Come and see! Our parish is launching a small group ministry. Imagine a group that meets you where you are and helps you take the next step in your faith journey. Imagine group leaders who welcome new members (in word and deed) so you don't feel like the "odd person out." Imagine deep prayer, sharing, and community. Here are a few small groups forming; stay tuned as we will have an invitation weekend during Lent. Watch for more updates in the bulletin, weekly Staying Connected email, and on our website: saintbonaventure.org/small-groups!

Young Adults (men & women 18-35)

Leader: Will Herrmann

Time: Monday at 7 p.m.

Location: Saint Bonaventure

YouTube videos with various content suggested by the Archdiocese

Leaders: Cecilio and Marian Daculan

Time: Every other Tuesday at 2 p.m.

Location: Daculan home

Abiding Together, Mother Mary Francis, A Time of Renewal, Reflections for the Lenten Season

Leader: Beth Boyle

Time: Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. (February-May)

Location: Saint Bonaventure

(OR)

Reflections – Word on Fire

Leader: Beth Boyle

Time: Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. or Thursday in the early afternoon

Location: Saint Bonaventure

Parents of Faith Formation students

Holy Moments, A Handbook for the Rest of Your Life – Matthew Kelly

Leader: Becky Running

Time: Wednesdays, February 21 - March 20 from 6:30 - 7:45 p.m.

Location: Ambrose Hall

Catholic Daily Reflection Podcast

Leader: Wendell Kawakami

Time: Thursday from 9:30 - 11 a.m.

Location: St. Francis Room

WINE (Women in the New Evangelization)

Living Joy, 9 Rules To Help You Rediscover and Live Joy Every Day – Chris Stefanick

Leader: Becky Running

Time: 3rd Thursday of the month (except Thursday, February 22) from 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Location: Youth Room

Discipleship Among Daily Situations (DADS) – Men of all ages and stages of life, focusing on sharing faith and growing together as Christian men in The Modern World

Leader: Ben Krippner

Time: Two Saturdays a month at 9:30 a.m.

Location: Saint Bonaventure

Ash Wednesday
SOUP SUPPER
 Wednesday, February 14 in Ambrose Hall
 4:45 - 5:30 p.m. or 7:20 - 8 p.m.




Get to know others beginning the Lenten journey with you over a simple meal of creamy wild rice soup, tomato soup, and mac and cheese with bread on the side. Free will donations welcome, no payment is required.

Ash Wednesday Mass and Soup Supper

Mass: 8:45 a.m. or 6:30 p.m.
 Soup Supper: 4:45 - 5:30 p.m. or 7:20 - 8 p.m.

We begin the season of Lent by being reminded of our mortality as we receive ashes in the sign of a cross: **“Repent, and believe in the Gospel.”** Participating in Ash Wednesday Mass is a powerful way to start the 40 days of Lent.

We are once again offering a Soup Supper for our community at Saint Bonaventure on Ash Wednesday. We will offer two shifts, stopping one hour before Mass, then again serving soup after Mass. You are welcome to come to Ambrose Hall whenever it is convenient for you and your family. If you would like to help serve, contact Breta at blmac1029@hotmail.com.

Fish Dinners

Friday, February 23 and Friday, March 22
 4:30 - 7 p.m. in Ambrose Hall

Enjoy ocean perch hot out of the cookers, our fresh-baked hot rolls, and the fixin’s for a great fish dinner! We love how this Catholic tradition brings our community together for great food and fellowship. If you’d like to help with the Fish Dinners, contact Art at abreitbarth@comcast.net or 952-854-3347.

We proudly serve ocean perch at Saint Bonaventure; we find it to be great tasting, and the price is right! You also might like to know that you won’t find perch at other fish dinners or on the menu at most restaurants.

\$15 Adults | \$7 Ages 6-12 | FREE 5 and under

Dinner includes: Fried ocean perch, fresh-baked hot rolls, au gratin potatoes, coleslaw, beverages, and soft serve sundaes. Take Out is available.



FISH DINNERS

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**\$15 Adults
 \$7 Ages 6-12
 FREE 5 and under**

FEBRUARY 23
 4:30 - 7 PM

MARCH 22
 4:30 - 7 PM

Alive! Events

Watch the bulletin and weekly Staying Connected email for more details or check out the Alive! table in the Gathering Space as the date of the event nears.

Ham Bingo: Saturday, March 16

Doors Open 5 p.m. | Bingo Starts at 6 p.m.

Dinner is \$6 and each Bingo Card is \$6.

Tickets available after Mass: February 24-25, March 2-3, 9-10, and at the door.



Easter Egg Hunt and Pancake Breakfast: Sunday, March 24

Kids 12 and under, join us for an **Easter Egg Hunt!**

Tickets are free, but required, and available after Mass: March 2-3, 9-10, 16-17. Ticket deadline is 5 p.m. March 17.

Pancakes for everyone! Join us for food and fellowship—no tickets needed for breakfast.



Lent Activities

During the 40 days of Lent, our parish community joins together in prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to prepare our hearts for Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection. We invite you to participate in these Lenten Activities offered at our parish.

Holy Moments

"Some moments are holy, some moments are unholy, and you get to decide." Holy Moments is the profoundly simple and astonishingly practical way to collaborate with God, moment by moment, for the rest of your life. Join us in reading this book and pick up a free copy in our Gathering Space after Ash Wednesday. Becky Running will lead a book study Wednesday nights from February 21 - March 20 in Ambrose Hall following **Lenten Evening Prayer**. Visit our **Parish Library** on the church's second floor on the south side to find more resources to enrich your Lent.

Magnets

We have a tradition of giving away key tags during Lent as a reminder of God's great love in our pockets. This year we are trying something new and will have magnets available to pick up in the Gathering Space starting on Ash Wednesday. Take a magnet with our Mass, Reconciliation, and Adoration times and share one as a reminder and invitation for our community.

Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving

- **Confirmation Prayer Scrolls:** Help us lift the 14 Confirmation candidates from our community up in prayer. Prayer scrolls for individual candidates are in the Gathering Space starting Ash Wednesday.
- **Lenten Regulations for Fasting and Abstinence:** "Fasting" refers to limiting the amount of food eaten. The purpose of fasting is to turn back to God; Lenten fasting helps to release us from our attachments to the things of this world. Catholics age 18 and older fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. "Abstinence" is when you give something up, like meat, for a set period. Catholics age 14 and older do not eat meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays during Lent, including Good Friday.
- **MinisTREE:** MinisTREE is an excellent opportunity to come together and help out with needed tasks and funding items outside of our regular budget. Find MinisTREE cards with requests from our ministries on the grids in our Gathering Space or on our MinisTREE page. *MinisTREE is made possible by the Saints Ann & Wendelinus Catholic United Financial Council #46. Council #46 will donate \$5 per completed MinisTREE card up to \$500 to Saint Bonaventure. Their chapter representative is Bill McMullen, bmcullen@catholicunited.org.*

Stations of the Cross

Fridays, February 17 – March 22, following 8:45 a.m. Mass in the Church

The tradition of praying the Stations of the Cross is a devotion that walks through the story of Christ's Way of the Cross. From His anguished prayers in the Garden of Gethsemane to His burial in the tomb, praying through the moments in Christ's final hours is a spiritual pilgrimage opening our eyes to the depth of God's love in the face of unimaginable suffering.

Lenten Reconciliation Service: Sunday, March 17, 4 p.m.

Following the service, priests will be available to hear individual confessions in the Church.

Are you feeling bogged down by life, struggling with regret or shame over past mistakes, or feeling like something is holding you back from peace and joy? God is awaiting you with open arms. This is an opportunity to join our sisters and brothers in asking for forgiveness and healing during this important time of the year. Reconciliation is also regularly available Wednesday and Friday: 8 - 8:20 a.m. and Saturday: 3:15 - 4 p.m.



Lent & Easter Liturgy Schedule

“Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart.” We welcome you and your family to join us for the season of Lent, a time when we draw our hearts back to Christ in preparation for his Passion, Death, and Resurrection.

Ash Wednesday: February 14

Mass: 8:45 a.m. | 6:30 p.m.

We begin the season of Lent by being reminded of our mortality as we receive ashes in the sign of a cross: **“Repent, and believe in the Gospel.”** Participating in Ash Wednesday Mass is a powerful way to start the 40 days of Lent.

Lenten Reconciliation Service: Sunday, March 17, 4 p.m.

Following the service, priests will be available to hear individual confessions.

Are you feeling bogged down by life, struggling with regret or shame over past mistakes, or feeling like something is holding you back from peace and joy? God is awaiting you with open arms. Join us for our Reconciliation Service or our regular Reconciliation (Confession) times: Wednesday and Friday: 8-8:20 a.m. and Saturday: 3:15-4 p.m.

Palm Sunday: March 24

Mass: Saturday 4:30 p.m. (livestream) | Sunday 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday and offers some of the most unique liturgies of our church year, filled with many opportunities to dive deep into prayer and prepare our hearts for Easter. During Palm Sunday Mass, talented members of our community will proclaim the Passion.

Holy Week Schedule

Holy Thursday Mass: March 28, 7 p.m. with Adoration until 12 a.m.

Good Friday Service: March 29, 3 p.m.

Easter Vigil Mass: March 30, 8 p.m.

Easter Sunday Mass: March 31, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

The Triduum liturgies which are Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter, walk us through Jesus’ Death and Resurrection. On **Holy Thursday**, we recount the story of the Last Supper and conclude with a Eucharistic procession to the Altar of Repose. On **Good Friday**, we remember Christ’s crucifixion and commemorate the unimaginable love poured out for us on the Cross. **Easter Vigil Mass** begins with the lighting of our paschal candle for the year and the readings present the Salvation history. After 40 days of this Lenten journey, we finally arrive at Easter, and we would love to have you and your family with us as we celebrate **Easter Mass!**

Divine Mercy Service: Sunday, April 7, 2:30 p.m.

“O Lord, Our God, We place our trust in You, because you are mercy itself.” Please join us to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, have Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image, reflect on Saint Faustina’s writings, and conclude with Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Livestream: We hope to see you in person as we worship and receive the Eucharist together. The Eucharist is Jesus’ great gift to us and the fulfillment of His promise to be with us always until the end of time. If you are not able, please join us via our livestream at youtube.com/c/SaintBonaventureMN.

Spring Craft Boutique

"Hands for crafting. Hearts for God."



Find the perfect gift for all ages and occasions, along with the usual favorites. Bring your friends!

March 2-3, 2024

Sat. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sun. 8 a.m. - noon

Spring Craft Boutique

Saturday, March 2: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Sunday, March 3: 8 a.m. - noon

Spring is coming to Ambrose Hall in the Activities Building March 2-3. You'll find all the usual favorites like dish towels, scrubbies, placemats, seasonal creations, baby gifts, woodcrafts, American Girl doll clothes, jewelry, baked goods and more. Bring your friends!

Visit the Craft Group: Tuesdays, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Come and visit the St. Boni Crafters in Room 1 of the Activities Building to see what we do. With "Hands for crafting. Hearts for God," our craft group is dedicated to creating items that can become treasured keepsakes. We are hoping to find interested people to join our ranks. Come every Tuesday or whenever you feel like it, please stop for a visit!

Freddie's Friends

A Ministry of Power and Grace

"Without Me, You can do nothing." Those are Christ's words to us, and they are true! If we operate on our ideas and strength and are not joined to Christ, our efforts in charity will not bear much fruit, nor will they be long-lasting. However, if we live and move and have our being in Him, He will act through us to truly love our neighbors in need. We need His direction, His plan, His guidance, His Divine Will. And to connect with that, we need prayer...lots of it.



We need people to offer **daily prayer for our St. Vincent de Paul Conference at Saint Bonaventure** (in any manner you choose). Pray specifically for guidance in our decisions and plans, for the resources we need, for evangelistic hearts to reach those we are called to serve, and for God's will in all we do. Intercessory prayer is a great way to participate in SVdP and avoids the barriers of family duties, distance, health, age-related limitations, or other reasons.

Become a part of "**Freddie's Friends.**" Bl. Frederic Ozanam and his friends formed the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Their example laid the foundation of what we do and how we serve today. Prayer was the most important part of planning and carrying out his mission, and prayer remains the most important part of our work today. Bl. Frederic will assist us in doing God's will if we ask him. Thus, we become "Freddie's Friends" and prepare for answers to prayer as we seek God's will to answer the cry of the poor among us.

If you would like to participate, please send your name, address, phone number, and email address to svdp_sb@yahoo.com.

Through the strength of prayer and grace, we can continue to bring light into the darkness, one person at a time.

Blessed Frederic Ozanam, pray for us and help us to carry out the mission you began.

The Gardener

*I love the Gardener of my heart -
He knows just what to do.
He strolls among the plants and flowers
And picks a weed or two.*

*He cultivates so carefully
And waters it with grace.
He makes me want to live for Him
And one day see His face.*

*Without His tender caring,
My life would barren be,
But with His love, I'm growing
Into all that I should be!*

Peggy Peterson



Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her.

† **Margaret "Peggy" Peterson** passed away on January 4. Peggy was a bright light in our community with an extraordinary dedication to teaching 4th Grade Faith Formation for FIVE decades! Peggy shared many of her poems for our publications, and we will continue to include them. Peggy's poems were regularly published in *Salesian Inspirational Booklets*.

Peggy had an unwavering love of Jesus, and we are grateful for the unique ways she shared the joy of knowing Jesus. We pray Peggy is welcomed to her heavenly reward and that her family is consoled by God's peaceful presence. Blessed be her memory!



Fall Festival 2023

The weather was great! Tents went up, and a joyful parade gave us a great start to a beautiful, fun-filled Fall Festival on Saturday, September 9. We served 600 broasted chicken dinners on Friday evening, and endless people came on Saturday, taking in all the festivities, including over 300 classic cars. We are happy to report we had net financial profits of \$57,418, about \$4,000 over 2022 profits. This financial result is super; financial results differ yearly with many variables out of our control. In most cases, sales and profits were higher, with some lower.

Our festival was a great success in every form. Words cannot describe the joy, laughter, and fellowship permeating our grounds on our Fall Festival weekend. People visibly enjoyed each other at all times!

Our festival does not happen by accident. Many hours of planning and work go into preparing and following our festival. Thank you to all who played a part! From working two hours in a booth to many hours of coordinating, etc. We are grateful for the guests who came and helped spread the word. Most of all, we thank God for all our blessings, including beautiful weather, many volunteer workers, a large crowd, and a successful celebration.



2023 Seniors' Christmas Luncheon

On the first Saturday of December, we welcomed our wonderful and lively senior citizens to kick off the Christmas season. Everyone enjoyed a great lunch of warm soup and bread, a hearty salad, plus an old-fashioned dessert. Our new music director, Jeremy Weaver, led the group singing Christmas songs after lunch. It's always a great time when this group gets together! People were asking for the three recipes used, so here they are for you to enjoy:



Easy Chicken Wild Rice Soup

CHOP

- 2 carrots
- 2 celery sticks
- 1/2 onion

Chop enough for 2 c. of veggies and sauté.

ADD

- 1 container (32 oz.) chicken broth
- 1 can (12.5 oz.) chicken breast in water
- 1 can (15 oz.) cooked wild rice or 2 c. of your own wild rice

In a separate pan, make a roux.

ROUX

- 1 stick of butter
- 1/4 c. corn starch (OR 1/2 c. of flour)
- 2 c. milk and/or half & half

Once roux is thickened, add to soup.

Warm and serve.



Spinach & Bacon Salad

INGREDIENTS

- 1 c. crumbled bacon
- 6 oz. baby spinach, coarsely chopped
- 1 small red onion, chopped
- 1 c. sunflower seeds (roasted, salted, shelled)
- 1 c. dried cranberries
- 1 c. shredded parmesan cheese
- 16 oz. box of bow tie or penne pasta, cooked (pasta optional; expands recipe for a larger crowd)

DRESSING

- 1 c. real mayonnaise
- 1/8 c. sugar
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 tsp. ground pepper

Mix the dressing in a small bowl.

Put salad ingredients - other than spinach - into a large bowl. Pour dressing over and mix well.

Refrigerate for several hours before serving to meld flavors.

Add chopped spinach, mix, and serve.



Cherry Berries in the Snow

CRUST

Lay graham crackers to cover the bottom of a 9 x 13 pan.

BASE

- 1 pkg. Dream Whip with milk and vanilla per box directions
- 1 pkg. (6 oz.) cream cheese, softened
- 1 c. sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla

Make Dream Whip per the directions.

Mix cream cheese, sugar, and vanilla.

Combine Dream Whip and cream cheese mix. Spread over graham cracker crust. Refrigerate 12 hours min.

TOPPING

- 1 pkg. frozen strawberries, thawed and drained
- 1 can (21 oz.) cherry pie filling
- 1 tsp. lemon juice

Spoon the fruit mix topping onto each piece right before serving.



Appalachia Christmas Shoe Box Mission Project

Once again, our community generously participated in the Papal Footprints Appalachia Kentucky Shoe Box Mission Project, which profoundly touches the lives of children, families, and adults each Christmas. We were once again overwhelmed by the generosity of many, which allowed us to send **77 beautifully wrapped shoe boxes and pack 20 large bulk boxes of blankets, coats, backpacks, shoes, and household goods**, which, together with donations from St. Paul and Minneapolis Archdiocese, went on a truck to Appalachia, Kentucky. Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's mission project a beautiful success! Through this project, many families were able to have a Christmas last year in big part because of your generosity. We are sincerely Grateful!

The Giving Tree

It was another very generous year for The Giving Tree. Your efforts to show the love of Christ through help for our less fortunate neighbors each Christmas Season is humbling.

34 residents of **Hayden Grove** and **Martin Luther Manor** received Christmas gifts.

\$5,736 of monetary donations for **St. Vincent de Paul** for food and housing expenses.

The following items were collected for **Sarah's Oasis** and **Closet of Hope**:

- **68 bath towels**
- **46 bars of soap**
- **35 pairs of gloves**
- **32 hats**
- **30 blankets**
- **24 pairs of socks**
- **23 tubes of toothpaste**
- **22 packs of sanitary pads**
- **16 water bottles**
- **15 lotions**
- **13 calendars**
- **10 sheet sets**
- **7 bottles of body soap**
- **6 laundry detergents**
- **5 umbrellas**
- **4 pans**
- **4 irons**
- **4 earbuds**
- **2 microwaves**



Hello Saint Bonaventure Friends! Thank you so much for the beautiful blankets, sheets, towels, gloves, and hats donated to our Closet of Hope! We are serving many refugees who are in desperate need of those items and they are much appreciated. We are grateful for our partnership with your church and very thankful for your donations.—Closet of Hope

The gifts from Saint Bonaventure's Giving Tree this year were used in Sarah's gift giving with our residents and they really enjoyed it and appreciate the gifts. We so appreciate the church giving these items again this year and that we have stayed in your hearts another year. Blessings and love from Sarah's 30 residents.—SARAH'S... AN OASIS FOR WOMEN

*Thank you for the outpouring of financial support to the St Vincent de Paul Conference through the Giving Tree! We received more than **\$5,736** to help continue to help fight poverty in our midst! Your money will be used to help purchase food for the hundreds of people who come each month to our food shelf. We will also be able to keep people from becoming homeless when they fall behind in rent due to job loss or illness.—St. Bonaventure Chapter of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul*

Spring 2024 Grief Series: Thursdays, 4:30 - 6 p.m.

Oak Grove Lutheran Church: 7045 Lyndale Avenue South, Richfield, MN 55423 | 612-869-4917
Bloomington-Richfield Grief Support Coalition | brgriefcoalition.com

Growing Through Grief and Multiple Loss, Julie Ditzler - April 4

How Families Grieve, Mary Anne Kelly-Wright - April 11

Sibling Loss, Rev. Catherine Duncan - April 18

Mindfulness as a Tool for Working Through Grief, Jean Fagerstrom - April 25

Writing Through Grief, Elizabeth Johnson - May 2

Myths of Grief, Norine Larson - May 9

Navigating Life After Loss, Erin Hente - May 16



Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration

Saint Bonaventure is blessed to have Our Lady of the Angels Adoration Chapel available to us for Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration where we can pray 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (except when Mass is being celebrated). Are you looking for a way to draw closer to Jesus through prayer this Lent?

Have you considered spending an hour in prayer in the presence of our Eucharistic Lord? There are many dedicated Adorers who have been spending time with Jesus in the chapel over the past 23 years. Each of you are invited and welcome to spend time in prayer in the chapel. There are hours available 24 hours a day to fit into any schedule. Most often you are paired with a Prayer Partner who is also assigned to the same hour and who is available in the event you have a conflict. In addition to a Prayer Partner, there are many other substitute Adorers who are willing to assist you.

To make a commitment to become a permanent Adorer at a time of your choosing is very easy. We use an online program called "We Adore Him". This site can be accessed at: saintbonaventure.org/adoration. There you will be able to sign up for an hour that meets your personal needs and schedule. Or you can call or text Will Hermann, Adoration Chapel Coordinator, at 513-505-9413 to assist you. You can also call the Parish Office at 952-854-4733.

Please consider making a commitment to spend time in our beautiful Adoration Chapel.

"Night and day, He is there. If you really want to grow in love, come back to the Eucharist, come back to that Adoration." –Saint Mother Teresa



Liturgical Ministers: New and Old!

Our community at Saint Bonaventure thrives due to numerous volunteer ministers throughout parish life. After COVID, we lost some of your help, and we wonder if we should have made it clear how much we appreciate your participation. Please let us know if you are interested in helping out before, during, or after the Mass you usually attend!

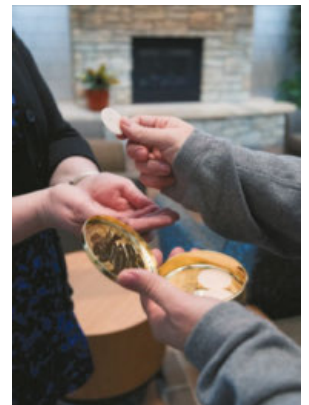
We plan to offer the Precious Blood of Jesus at weekend Mass, so we need more Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHCs). This is also a call for more Sacristans, Altar Servers, Greeters, Ushers, Lectors, Hospitality Ministers, Livestream Volunteers, Musicians (voice and instrumental), and Liturgical Environment Volunteers (decorating). Contact the Parish Office, call 952-854-4733, email office@saintbonaventure.org, or stop in with any questions or to let us know you're willing to help. Thank you!



Communion Service at Martin Luther Campus

Consider volunteering on the first or third Sunday of the month for the 9:30 a.m. Communion Service at **Martin Luther Manor Care Center**. Assist in bringing residents to the Chapel for the service, participate in the service as you wish, then help residents back to their rooms. Time commitment: 1.5 hours/month. Singles, couples, or families all welcome to volunteer—you can even bring your dog, if friendly and well behaved.

We also seek volunteers to conduct a Communion Service in the chapel at **Meadow Woods Assisted Living** on the third Sunday of each month. This would involve taking Communion to Meadow Woods, holding a Communion Service, and then bringing Communion to the rooms of those individuals who could not attend. Training is available! Contact the Parish Office.





New Faces

Our Saint Bonaventure team has been building! We have joyfully welcomed new staff members in the last few months. We appreciate your grace as it will take time for us to catch up and adjust. It's energizing to have fresh ideas and perspectives at the table. Here is a little bit about our new teammates.

Jim Bittner, Parish Administrator

"I feel called to serve Saint Bonaventure in this new role. I have a passion for building teams and creating collaborative work environments."

I am bringing a strong professional background, from serving as a controller of a roofing company to building partnerships with clients to leading teams developing, updating, and implementing business software applications and processes. I enjoy nurturing collaborative cultures. I have also found myself mentoring young men and helping them embrace their masculinity and who God intends them to be.

I have been a parishioner at Saint Bonaventure since 1990, with my wife, Christine

(a lifetime parishioner). We have been blessed to raise our five children in this parish. We have served in many ministries here including choir, musicals, lector, EMHC, sacristan, SVdP, facilities expansions, and Parish Pastoral Council.



Staff Christmas Party pictured left to right are Elena Perez, Tricia Kawakami, Becky Running, Jim Bittner, Nancy Jo Sullivan, Jodi Ketter, Molly Ladhoff, Jeremy Weaver, and Fr. James.

Molly Ladhoff, Administrative Assistant

"My start at Saint Bonaventure has been extremely pleasant - I am excited to learn and grow here!" Although I started school planning to become a high school English teacher, I graduated with a Tourism, Leisure, and Event Planning degree. I went on to work year-round at a summer camp in Michigan for four years until COVID-19 hit. Then, I moved to Minnesota to be closer to some of my family. Most recently, I worked at the Jewish Community Center, running one of their summer day camps and K-5 after-school programming. I attend the Church of St. Mark in St. Paul, where I love volunteering and working with the youth. I grew up all over the country: NY > PA > CA > MI > OH > CA > MI > MN and currently live in St. Paul. I'm the youngest of four with an older sister, brother, and a twin brother.

Nancy Jo Sullivan, Director of Religious Education

"In a sense, it feels like I've returned home as I grew up in this parish. I'm looking forward to building a program that balances the cherished traditions of Saint Bonaventure with new models of ministry." With more than 35 years of ministry experience, I am skilled in all areas of Faith Formation and Sacramental Instruction. As a Catholic author, my books have afforded me opportunities to speak on the local and national level. Having mothered a child with Down syndrome, I am drawn to families with special needs. In this season, I feel a special call to mentor Catholics who feel alienated or disheartened with the church. I am committed to the ministry of presence and look forward to hearing your stories. Personally, I am the parent of three grown daughters and two very huggable sons-in-law. This past year, God blessed our family with two new grandbabies, Connor and Esther. (I'm smitten with the babies!)

Jeremy Weaver, Music Director

"Music has been a lifelong passion of mine, from the time I started taking piano lessons when I was six years old, and being able to share that passion in worship with others is one of my greatest joys." I have a degree in piano performance from Notre Dame and have been serving parishes musically since I was 11. I welcome getting to know as many of you as I am able to and encourage you to introduce yourself to me when you get the chance. I am also always looking for more choir members, instrumentalists, or just anyone who wants to offer suggestions for music and praise in church. I just moved to Minnesota with my wife and six-month-old daughter.

Eddie LeMieux, Facilities Care Coordinator

We are all excited to meet and learn more about Eddie! Eddie has an impressive resume and comes to us with a wealth of experience. Watch the bulletin for an introduction in early February.

The Church of Saint Bonaventure of Bloomington, Minnesota
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Lent 2024 Newsletter



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Saint Bonaventure Upcoming Events

- February 14 Ash Wednesday Soup Supper
- February 23 Fish Dinner
- March 2-3 Spring Craft Boutique
- March 10-12 Fr. Richard Lenten Mission
- March 16 Alive! Ham Bingo
- March 17 Lenten Reconciliation Service
- March 22 Fish Dinner
- March 24 Alive! Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast
- March 28-31 Holy Week
- April 7 Divine Mercy Service

Please check saintbonaventure.org for the calendar of events.

Mass

Tuesday-Saturday:
8:45 a.m.

Saturday:
4:30 p.m.

Livestream at:
saintbonaventure.org

Sunday:
8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Reconciliation

Wednesday:
8 - 8:20 a.m.

Friday:
8 - 8:20 a.m.

Saturday:
3:15 - 4 p.m.

