



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



Lent 2020  
Volume 8, Issue 1



## A Fresh Look for Saint Bonaventure

Jodi Ketter

One of the five overarching goals from the 2019-2021 Parish Vision Plan is **Communications, Marketing and Technology**:

*“Using advancements in marketing, communications and technology, it is our goal at Saint Bonaventure to reach all who are seeking a relationship with God. Through printed, electronic, or social media, we must communicate a comprehensive and unified message that reflects our Franciscan spirituality and values. It is also a goal that people throughout surrounding communities will be attracted to Saint Bonaventure. This will be achieved through branding, marketing and merchandising through effective media channels.”*

We have a saying in our household, “how do you eat an elephant? One bite at a time!” So, too, Saint Bonaventure has been taking active steps to work towards this overarching goal. A website committee was formed, successfully researched the needs and desires of our stakeholders, and navigated the process of selecting a vendor and platform for a new website. A job description was created, a search committee came together, and I was hired and brought on to the parish staff in a communications and stewardship role.

The next steps have been taking place over the last several months. Building from the great work that had been done through the parish vision planning process and the website process, we began a branding process. Many of you might easily recognize the benefit of branding for a commercial or secular business, but I assure you that it is also a key step in getting us closer to these goals. At the base level, branding is simply establishing an image or perception to a target audience. A brand is a unique identity that shows: who you are, what people can expect, and what you stand for.

With the help of a marketing agency, Fuzati, and many helpful individuals from our community willing to lend their opinions and perspectives, we went through a discovery process, deeply considering everything about our community and spaces.

**Our VALUES:** Saint Bonaventure is a traditional Catholic Church and Franciscan Community. We are approachable, welcoming, and wish to reach those in our broader community.

**Our PEOPLE:** We are a vibrant, diverse parish with people of all ages and backgrounds.

**Our MESSAGE:** Our Mission is to Love God – Love Others – Make Disciples.

**Our PATRON:** Saint Bonaventure was a Franciscan, theologian, Bishop, and Cardinal.

With that, I’m excited to introduce our new logo! As with any big change, we will be transitioning everything one step at a time. Please be patient and work with me to implement our brand and style across our community. Beyond the logo, we will be working to have a consistent look and feel to all of our materials using certain colors, fonts, and writing styles.



**SAINT BONAVENTURE**  
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Saint Bonaventure was a Franciscan Friar and known for his teachings on the **triple way** as a spiritual itinerary and the cross as the **tree of life**. The **San Damiano Cross** is a hallmark of the Franciscan identity.

Lastly but certainly NOT least—we have a new website! It’s the same address: [saintbonaventure.org](http://saintbonaventure.org). Again, this was built off of the great work the parish vision team, website committee, and many others have done. I have been able to get our new website up off the ground. I believe a website is never truly finished, as it will need to evolve along with our community. Thank you for all of your help, support, and patience as we work together to share all of the great things happening in our community!



**SAINT  
BONAVENTURE**  
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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**A NOTE FROM  
SAINT BONAVENTURE**

*Love God - Love Others - Make Disciples*



## Lenten Perspectives

Friar Bryan

The Lenten Season is upon us – may we welcome it so as to give ourselves the space and time to delve our souls further in the journey of Faith. Though Lent is at-times met with a sense of “pressure” or sense of being “strict,” I would like for us to consider a few different perspectives so as to benefit more-fully from this liturgical season the Church provides.

- The four saint statues within the church have been draped in purple cloth: Anthony, Our Lady, Bonaventure, Joseph. The reason they are draped is to spur us to focus our attention to Christ Crucified within the sanctuary and the Stations of the Cross. By focusing more fully on these images of our Lord, may we reflect on the paradox that while people in anger and distrust sought to end the life breath of our Lord, Jesus in His goodness and tremendous care willingly embraced this unfolding of events of hardship to more fully bring-forth His life breath. Put simply, when we see Christ Crucified, we **see Christ fully alive**. The statue of the Immaculata in the oratory of Our Lady of Grace and the statue of the Holy Family will NOT be covered. I invite y’all to continue meditate upon those images to further nourish y’all’s Christian soul.
- Within the Gathering Area, y’all will notice our Living Lord bursting forth from the Cross in between the two MinisTREE Grids. This juxtaposition is intentional. Often when we think of Lent, we think of things we ought to give-up or things we should not do. However, this Lent, I invite y’all to lend yourselves to the Marian spirituality of Saint Maximilian Kolbe, OFM Conv, who always encouraged the friars to consider what you CAN DO to manifest and celebrate the Christian virtues within your own life and within the local community. To this end, I invite y’all to **consider what you CAN DO** during Lent to manifest Christian virtues – intentional good deeds of time and talent and treasure, as well as intentional corporal and spiritual works of mercy we manifest. Not only do I desire us as a community to spread goodness, but I want us to recognize and celebrate the goodness we Christians bring forth. For every good Christian virtue or deed y’all do (including the MinisTREE), please tie onto the cross of the Living Lord a purple ribbon so that our local community can acknowledge all the goodness we as a Christian community bring forth in life. This is not self-righteous praise; rather, this is an expression of the Christian witness we are bringing forth during Lent. Thank you for building the Kingdom of God – may we acknowledge and celebrate that during our Lenten season!
- Join in and **pray the Stations of the Cross** with others in our community. Stations will be offered twice each Friday:
  1. Mornings following daily Mass at 9:30 a.m.
  2. Evenings with our parish’s Intentional Discipleship Ministry at 7 p.m.
- I heartedly invite y’all and your friends to **partake in the sessions of Forgiveness**, a series from FORMED and hosted by Intentional Discipleship at 7:45 p.m. on Fridays.

**Friends, may we embrace the goodness of Lent! May we give ourselves the space and time to delve our souls more fully into the life of Christian community and Christian spirituality!**

# What are “Stations of the Cross”?

Jolene Carpenter

Several years ago, when I was working in a corporate office, one of my team members asked me what I meant by Stations of the Cross. It made me realize there may be others who are not quite sure what they are and why this is a treasured tradition.

Stations of the Cross (Stations) is a devotion in Catholic prayer. Many saints have derived great benefit from accompanying Jesus on His Way to Calvary and were inspired to compose versions of the ancient devotion. Stations trace their origin to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Tradition has it that Mary visited the sites of Jesus’ suffering, death, and resurrection on a daily basis after His ascension into Heaven.

The word “stations” was first used in the mid-15th century to indicate halting places along the Way of Sorrows as pilgrims retraced the steps of Jesus. It was Leonard of Port Maurice or Porto Maurizio, Italy (1676–1751), a Franciscan of the Riformella, who established what we know today as the 14 **Stations of the Cross**. In his long life as a missionary, Saint Leonard erected more than 570 Stations.

Pope Innocent XI, in 1686, granted the Franciscans, in answer to their petition, the right to erect Stations in all their churches, and declared **all the indulgences that had ever been given for devoutly visiting the actual scenes of Christ’s Passion**, could henceforth be gained by Franciscans and all others affiliated to their order if they made the Way of the Cross in their own churches in the accustomed manner. Pope Innocent XII confirmed the privilege in 1694, and Pope Benedict XIII in 1726 **extended it to all the faithful**. In 1731, Pope Clement XII further extended it by permitting the indulgenced Stations to all churches, provided they were erected by a Franciscan priest with the sanction of the ordinary. At the same time, he definitely fixed the number of Stations at 14.

The object of Stations is to help the Christian faithful make a spiritual pilgrimage through contemplation of the Passion of Christ. Pope Pius XI said Stations were necessary so Christians could understand the magnitude of what Jesus suffered on His way to His crucifixion.

The Scriptural significance of the Stations is to follow the path Jesus walked on His way to eventual redemption of humanity. This path was one that featured Him bearing the weight of the cross, falling down three times due to the physical exhaustion He endured, meeting His mother, Simon the Cyrene, and a woman named Veronica along the way. Stations of the Cross also include Jesus being nailed to the cross, His death and burial.

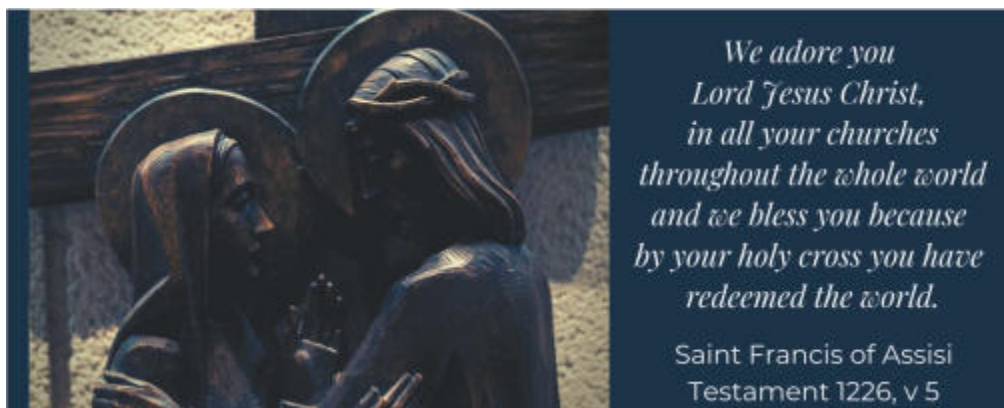
The spiritual benefit of the Stations is when individuals recognize what Jesus endured for them, and enable it as a call to action in their own lives. For congregations, someone leading the narrative effect of the experience will call out before each station, “We adore you O Christ, and we praise you,” to which the respondents reply, “By your cross and resurrection, you have redeemed the world.”

**Please join us for Stations of the Cross at Saint Bonaventure during the Fridays in Lent. Bring your whole family for this special time of prayer, enrich your Lenten experience, and glorify God.**

**Stations of the Cross: Fridays, February 28 - April 3**

Friday Mornings, following daily Mass at 9:30 a.m.

Friday Evenings at 7 p.m.



## Living Stations of the Cross

The youth of Saint Bonaventure invite you to pray the Living Stations of the Cross with us at 7 p.m. on Friday, March 13. In this theatrical adaptation, the community is invited to walk along Christ’s journey to the cross through visual representation, modern reflection, and song. Throughout the journey, the community is invited to reflect on recognizing Christ in others in their day to day life and join in song. This is not a play, but an opportunity to truly open your heart to God and walk along with Jesus in His journey towards the cross. Questions should be directed to Katie Kelly, [katiek@saintbonaventure.org](mailto:katiek@saintbonaventure.org), 952-297-8414.

# Ash Wednesday Soup Supper



Join us and get to know those beginning the Lenten journey with you and enjoy delicious soup at the same time!

**When:** February 26, following 6:30 p.m. Mass  
**Where:** Ambrose Hall in the Activities Building

# Forgiven Series

Our Intentional Discipleship Ministry will be leading the Friday evening Stations of the Cross and hosting a parish-wide study, *Forgiven*, from the Augustine Institute.

*Forgiven* is a video series through FORMED and reveals the transforming power of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.



Please join us for just Stations of the Cross, just for *Forgiven*, or participate in both.

## Stations of the Cross and *Forgiven* Series

### Fridays, February 28 - April 3

|                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Stations of the Cross | 7 p.m.    |
| <i>Forgiven</i>       | 7:45 p.m. |
| Discussion Groups     | 8:20 p.m. |
| Ending                | 9 p.m.    |

# Fish Dinners

Mark your calendars for our annual fish dinners from 4:30 - 7 p.m. on March 6 and April 3! Help carry on this Catholic tradition that brings our community together for great food and fellowship. Enjoy fried ocean perch hot out of the cookers, our fresh baked hot rolls, and the fixin's for a great fish dinner all for \$12 for adults; \$6 age 6-12; age 5 and under FREE.

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. Parishioners are welcome to come on the early side for choice seating and service—if we are ready, we start to serve about 4:15 p.m.

Together we make a vibrant, faith-filled community—spread the word and invite your friends, families, and neighbors to join us for great food and fellowship!

**When:** March 6 and April 3, 4:30 - 7 p.m.  
**Menu:** Fried ocean perch, fresh-baked hot rolls, au gratin potatoes, coleslaw, dessert, and beverage  
**Cost:** \$12 for adults; \$6 age 6-12; age 5 and under FREE  
**Where:** Ambrose Hall in the Activities Building



# Reflections at the Foot of the Cross

Karen Thompson

Every other year or so, our music theatre ministry, Heaven Help Us Players, offers a powerful prayer service titled "Reflections at the Foot of the Cross." This year, it will be offered at Nativity of Mary Catholic Church on Friday, March 20 at 7 p.m. beginning with a Soup Supper at 5 p.m., coupled with a collection of bags of food to be offered to VEAP of Bloomington.

In the context of storytelling with Liturgical and Contemporary Christian music, *Reflections* is a prayerful offering similar to a Living Stations of the Cross. Biblical characters – the Centurion, the disciple John, Veronica, Mary Magdalene, the Man Born Blind, Mary Mother of Jesus – offer their testimony surrounded by music led by singers and musicians mostly from Saint Bonaventure and Nativity of Mary Parishes.

The vivid storytelling is the truly amazing feature of "Reflections at the Foot of the Cross," drawn from the written visions of a Mystic of the Church, Blessed Anne Catherine Emmerich (1774-1824). It was only during the last five years of her life that she began to write down the history of her visions which have become a treasury for many of the faithful. She was Beatified on October 3, 2004 by Pope John Paul II.

**When:** Friday, March 20  
Soup Supper at 5 p.m.  
Reflections at the Foot of the Cross at 7 p.m.  
**Where:** Nativity of Mary Catholic Church, 9900 Lyndale Ave S., Bloomington, MN 55420



# Buildings & Grounds Update

Art Breitbarth, chair, Buildings & Grounds Committee

Short Term Capital Needs (Coal Fund) Collections are held twice a year and the spring one is coming up fast on April 4 and 5. We are running low on coal and once again request your support during the spring collection weekend and/or anytime throughout the year. We wanted to share an update on the more recent projects to highlight what the money is used for.

The **Coal Fund** was started years ago by the Building & Grounds Committee and named by Fr. Regis, pastor at the time. This fund provides financial support for projects that come up throughout the year that were not budgeted for. As we all know, sometimes needs arise quickly, with short notice or emergency reasons and we need a way to finance those needs. Generally the fund is for needs that are beyond day-to-day maintenance and cost over a \$1,000, and are within the range of money available in the fund. When it comes to major projects, we utilize the Capital Needs Fund or organize a formal campaign for a specific project.

## Recent Improvements Funded by the Coal Fund

### Activities Building:

- New wall-to-wall storage closets in rooms 5 & 6
- Replaced concrete sidewalks
- Updated gutters and wood work
- Purchased a new floor scrubber

### Friary:

- Currently installing new garage door

### Street Improvements:

- City assessments

There are always projects being discussed or studied that may be financed through the Coal Fund and the amount of money in the fund may determine if and when we can go ahead with a project. We hope you will continue to be generous in your financial support of the fund as it is dearly appreciated and makes a difference in our community.



## Church Security

Tom Mantel, trustee

Recently we met with Officer Andrew Risdall, Homeland Security Coordinator, from the Bloomington Police Department. Officer Andy's duties include being available to review and offer recommendations for securing Houses of Worship (HOW) in Bloomington. After reviewing our current security procedures and touring our buildings and grounds, Officer Andy thought we have a great start. Examples include our enhanced parking lot lighting and security cameras.

Officer Andy offered suggestions we could implement to increase our security. Some items will require training and little or no money, while others, if implemented, could be costly. A few suggestions would restrict access to areas at times. All of this requires thought and evaluation. Officer Andy left us with publications from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Homeland Security, and Advancing Security Worldwide (ASIS).

If you have an interest in assisting in reviewing this information and assembling a list of recommendations for consideration by Friar Bryan, Pastoral Parish Council, and Finance Committee, please contact Tom Mantel, [jtomman@yahoo.com](mailto:jtomman@yahoo.com), 612-799-0199.

## Prayer & Listening Sessions

Archbishop Hebda has begun an important initiative throughout the archdiocese to gather the concerns of the Faithful so he may have a better understanding as to how to govern and guide the flock. A series of Prayer & Listening Sessions are scheduled throughout the archdiocese so as to permit the Faithful to readily gather and express such concerns in an ordered and prayerful manner.



We are grateful that Saint Bonaventure Catholic Community has 12 Ambassadors to help engage our local parish community with these Prayer & Listening Sessions. Our parish Ambassadors are Jim and Christine Bittner, Larry and Shellee Leif, Deacon Jon and Joan DeLuney, Wendell and Tricia Kawakami, Claire Valladolid, Patty Stibal, and Deanna Lelemsis. Additionally, Christine Kelly serves as a representative for our deanery to the Lay Advisory Board.

Please consider attending one of the Prayer & Listening Sessions!

Thursday, February 27, 6 - 9 p.m. at Our Lady of Grade, Edina

Saturday, February 29, 9 a.m. - 12 noon at St. Pius V, Cannon Falls

Saturday, March 7, 9 a.m. - 12 noon at Transfiguration, Oakdale

Saturday, March 14, 9 a.m. - 12 noon at St. Alphonsus, Brooklyn Center



## Ad Limina Visit Will Herrmann

Every five years or so, bishops are required to make a pilgrimage to Rome. Looking forward to the future of the archdiocese, Archbishop Hebda and Bishop Cozzens chose to invite 25 young people ranging from 18-35 years old to accompany them on their pilgrimage, and I was fortunate enough to be selected for this honor.

I could gush about the beauty of the Sistine Chapel or the basilicas that seemed to be on every block. I could contemplate on how moving it was to see the manger of Our Lord or climb the same stairs that Jesus climbed to reach Pilate. I could even recount how we got to shake hands with Pope Francis and someone in our group traded hats with him! If you want to hear those stories, you'll have to find me and ask me to tell you about them in person! Instead, I'm going to share about the family I met.



This past Easter Vigil, I "swam the Tiber"; I publicly proclaimed that I desired to become Catholic and received the sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion. This moment wasn't a graduation—an end of a series of classes—but a new beginning for me. I've since eagerly strived to learn more and more about my faith, and that included a family of saints I'd never known as a Lutheran.



Coming to Rome as a new Catholic was like attending my first family gathering with the in-laws. Visiting tombs in Rome and Assisi, I met saints I'd already been acquainted with, like St. Francis (I even had the opportunity to pray in front of the original San Damiano cross that he heard Jesus speak through). I met saints I'd heard about but didn't know well like St. Helen, St. Monica, and St. Philip Neri. And I met a number of saints I'd never heard of and I knew I wouldn't remember the names of, but understood how important they were to the faith.

One particularly meaningful part of the pilgrimage was having Mass in St. Peter's Basilica. This majestic building has many altars, but we were privileged to have Mass at the one directly in front of St. Peter's tomb.

During the Gospel reading, I heard the words of Jesus: "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it." The significance of these words dawned on me. These words of Christ were said to the man buried in front of me. Upon this rock was built the Church. The Church that has survived plagues and wars, outlived empires and nations, and overcome every threat ever conceived by man or Satan. The Church promised to stand even to the end of time.

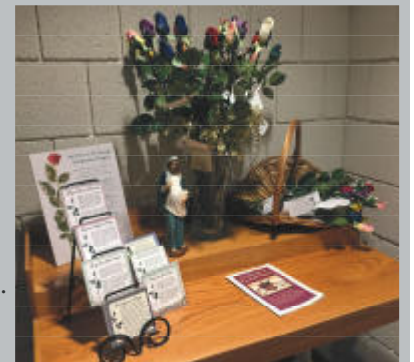
Together with my family, "with Mary, Virgin mother of God, with the apostles, and with all the saints who have done [God's] will throughout the ages", I celebrated Mass with the Church built by Jesus Christ. My Church!

## Blessings Bouquet

What is the Blessing Bouquet? We have a Rosebud Program at Saint Bonaventure to help the Church identify, pray for and support those who are pregnant; celebrating birth and adoption; grieving a miscarriage, stillbirth, abortion, infant or child death; wanting to become pregnant or adopt. A different colored rosebud represents these intentions.

The Blessings Bouquet is located in a nook by the statue of the Blessed Mother in the Gathering Space. There you will find a banquet of rosebuds: yellow, pink, white, red, blue, purple with a card attached. Fill out the card and put the rosebud in the vase. The Church will pray for your intention.

*The Elizabeth Ministry, now international, started this program and follows the example of Mary and Elizabeth, who represent and share the sacredness of Life.*



# Uganda Experience

Barb Schaack Kaminski

In August, 2019 my family (husband, son and daughter) and I went with Give Us Wings (GUW), a nonprofit organization from St. Paul to semi-rural Uganda, Africa about 10 miles from Tororo, Uganda (a city of 40,000). Our group of 15 people had varying backgrounds. I learned of the group from another member of Saint Bonaventure. GUW has been going there for 20 years and concentrates on health care, education, and small businesses. I am a nurse and our daughter is a MD so we were mainly at the health clinic.

One of the first days I was at the clinic, a mom and baby came. The baby was crying, sobbing and clearly in pain. I took his temperature, and it was 104 degrees. I looked at the African nurse next to me and she whispered to me “it is malaria.” The lab test confirmed it was malaria. The baby had an intravenous anti-malaria medication administered of which he was none too happy to get, and then protocol says the patient needs another dose in 4 hours. So mom and baby had to stay at the clinic for 4 hours to get another dose of the medication. And then the mom, with baby on her back, walked home— I do not know if it was 1 or 5 kilometers. There are few cars there. There are motorbikes in Tororo but precious few in rural areas. Mom and baby had to come to the clinic for 7 days in a row for the same medication per protocol. I did happen to see the mom and baby 2 days later and already the baby was much happier. These people do not have the money for clean water and other preventive measures to not get malaria. It is such that in this area it is not if you get malaria but how often you get it in your lifetime.

At another time, the medical people that came to Uganda, were giving an educational piece, using translators, on pregnancy. A mom stood up and told us that her worth as a woman was determined by how many children she had. You see many children die before reaching adulthood and the parents want some children to care for them in their old age. Yet I also saw a woman the next day at the clinic who was asking for an abortion, which are not done at that clinic. She was counseled by the African staff to go home, think about this and directed to the city of Tororo. So clearly there is a discrepancy in thought in the population. After the educational pieces, we were told there would be a lunch. It was fry-bread and a pop. I was helping serve the women and a couple of moms asked for a “coke” for their less than 1 year old. I was shocked but there was no other option so I had to give the moms “coke” for their babies. Then the moms (some pregnant) and babies walked home— again I do not know how far.

One day we were taken by GUW to visit a slum. You see, Uganda does not have a safety net. If your family falls on hard times, you go to the slum to live. There were many, many children. We had brought “suckers” for them and they were a hit. The first girl I gave a sucker to curtsied to me. I was shocked again. I wanted to say “no-no” to her but quickly realized that she saw me as possibly a queen or such. The curtsy was common practice in the slum and at schools.

With all the above said, I believe, the people of Uganda try very hard with what they have BUT they have very little.



*Barb and Host Friend*



*Health Clinic Director and my Daughter, Amy*



*Brett, my son and Host Family*

## MinisTREE

Our mission at Saint Bonaventure is to Love God—Love Others—Make Disciples, and our active and vibrant community animates this. We all hold the ministries of our parish in our hearts and carry out its mission with our hearts, hands, and resources.



The MinisTREE program is an excellent opportunity to come together and help out with needed tasks and funding items not included in our regular budget. During Lent this year, you will find MinisTREE cards on the grids next to our Living Lord in the center of our Gathering Space. On these cards you will find varying requests from our ministries. For each card you fulfill or Christian virtue or deed you do, please tie onto the cross of the Living Lord a purple ribbon as an expression of the Christian witness we are bringing forth as a community during Lent.

We are beyond grateful that our community has been very generous to the MinisTREE program over the years, funding many unique things such as the matching green dalmatic our deacons wear during Ordinary Time or the new chairs in the confessionals. This program has also grown our volunteer base and helped to complete many needed tasks.

# Church of Saint Bonaventure of Bloomington

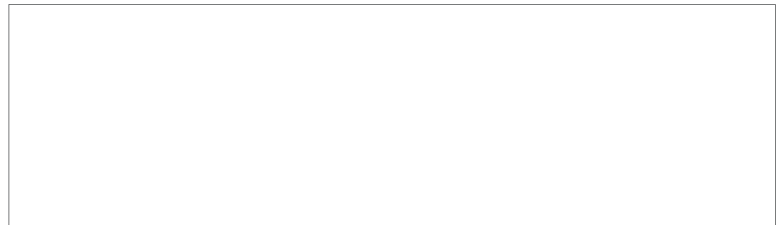
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## Lent 2020 Newsletter



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### Saint Bonaventure Upcoming Events

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| February 26 | Ash Wednesday Soup Supper                   |
| March 6     | Fish Dinner                                 |
| March 14    | ALIVE! Ladies' Spring Luncheon              |
| March 20    | Reflections at the Foot of the Cross        |
| March 28    | ALIVE! Ham Bingo                            |
| April 3     | Fish Dinner                                 |
| April 5     | Pancake Breakfast<br>ALIVE! Easter Egg Hunt |

### Ash Wednesday Mass

Wednesday, February 26  
8:45 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

### Stations of the Cross

Fridays, February 28 - April 3  
9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.

### Forgiven Series

Fridays, February 28 - April 3 at 7:45 p.m.

### Lenten Penance Service

Sunday, March 29 at 4 p.m.

### Holy Thursday Mass

Thursday, April 9 at 7 p.m.

### Good Friday Service

Friday, April 10 at 3 p.m.

### Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil Mass

Saturday, April 11 at 8 p.m.

### Resurrection Sunday Mass

Sunday, April 12 at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

