



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



Summer 2021
 Volume 9, Issue 1



Welcome CFIC Priests! Meet our new pastor, Fr. James!

Fr. James Chitteth has been appointed our new pastor and will begin celebrating Mass at Saint Bonaventure on July 1. Learn more about Fr. James in his note on the next page.

The Congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception (CFIC) was founded by Blessed Luigi Monti with the charism of taking care of the sick and the education of orphans, abandoned, and needy youth.

Luigi Maria Monti was born to pious parents Angelo and Teresa at Bovisio, diocese of Milan, on July 24, 1825. As a youth, he dedicated himself to the apostolate among the youth, gathering youngsters of his age and setting up an evening oratory. The people of Bovisio called the group “the **Company of Friars**” for their austerity of life, dedication to the sick and poor, and efforts at evangelization. He consecrated himself to God at the age of 21 and followed his spiritual director among the Sons of Mary in Brescia, where he assisted those afflicted by cholera during the epidemic of 1855.

In 1857 he came to Rome, where he founded the CFIC at Vatican’s Santo Spirito (Holy Spirit) Hospital to serve the sick as ‘the poor of Christ’ and assist the orphans with a paternal spirit. Pope Pius IX approved the Congregation in 1877 with Pontifical right. Monti also started the first house to take care of the orphans at Saronno in the diocese of Milan in northern Italy, where he died a holy death on October 1, 1900. The cause of his Beatification began in 1940, and Pope John Paul II beatified him on November 9, 2003. His feast day is celebrated on September 22 in the Church.

Today the CFIC is present in 24 countries such as Italy, France, Poland, Argentina, Brazil, Cameroon, New Guinea, DRC-Congo, Philippines, India, Poland, Albania, U.S.A, Canada, Mexico, Nigeria, Bolivia, Peru, South Korea, Vietnam etc., where the members are actively rendering their service and living its dynamic charism responding to the needs of the time in the Church. Locally, the CFIC has been serving parishes and ministries, including hospital and prison chaplaincies, in the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis since they were invited by Archbishop Flynn in the early 2000s.

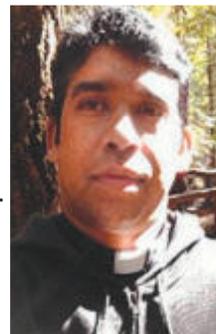
Our hope through this process was the friary would become living quarters for multiple priests, and the arrival of the CFIC fulfills that hope. Three additional CFIC priests with ministerial assignments in the Archdiocese will be living with Fr. James in the friary: Fr. Benny, Fr. Antony, and Fr. Jimmy.



Fr. Benny Mekkatt is pastor at Church of the Blessed Sacrament in St. Paul and Superior of the North American chapter of the CFIC.



Fr. Antony Skaria is pastor at Church of St. John Vianney in South St. Paul.



Fr. Jimmy Puttanickal is parochial administrator at The Church of St. Mary in St. Paul, and will be the hospital chaplain at HCMC.



**SAINT
BONAVENTURE**
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

901 East 90th Street
Bloomington, MN 55420

Phone: 952 - 854 - 4733

Email: office@saintbonaventure.org

Website: saintbonaventure.org

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Friday 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Parochial Administrator

Father Bob Hart

fatherbob@saintbonaventure.org

Deacon

Jon DeLuney

jdeluney@comcast.net

Deacon & Executive Director

Mickey Redfearn

mickeyr@saintbonaventure.org

Administrative Assistant

Patty Stibal

pattys@saintbonaventure.org

Communications & Stewardship

Jodi Ketter

jodik@saintbonaventure.org

Faith Formation

faithformation@saintbonaventure.org

Faith Formation

Gary Russell

garyr@saintbonaventure.org

Administrative Assistant

Tricia Kawakami

triciak@saintbonaventure.org

Health & Wellness

Becky Running

beckyr@saintbonaventure.org

Maintenance Custodian

Jo Segura Garcia

jog@saintbonaventure.org

Custodian

Elena Perez

Director of Music & Liturgy

Karen Thompson

karent@saintbonaventure.org

Organist & Accompanist

David Padden

Friars in Residence

Fr. Matthew Malek

**A NOTE FROM
SAINT BONAVENTURE**

Love God - Love Others - Make Disciples



Hello Friends,

I am Fr. James (Mathai Chacko), born on Easter day, April 18, 1960, as the seventh of 11 children of Mathew and Anna in Kerala State, South India. I am blessed with six sisters and four brothers, 18 nephews/nieces, and 19 grandnephews/nieces. Two of my sisters chose to be nuns: Sr. Neelkusum, a Missionary of Charity (of St. Mother Theresa of Calcutta), working in the Dominican Republic, and Sr. Liliana, a Franciscan, living in Rome, Italy. My dad left for his heavenly reward in 1997, and my mom in June 2013.



I joined the *Congregation of the Sons of the Immaculate Conception (CFIC)* in 1975. After my Graduation in Philosophy, I went to Rome to complete my Theological Studies and obtained a Degree at the St. Thomas University (*Angelicum*), and my Master's and Doctorate Degrees in Theology at the Lateran University in Rome.

I was ordained a priest on December 20, 1986, in Rome by Pope St. John Paul II. I served my religious order in various capacities in India and Rome, as Vocation Director and Formator; Superior Delegate, General Councilor, and Provincial Superior, during which I had the joy of opening homes for the orphans and a school for differently-abled children. I also taught Pastoral Theology for few years at St. Francis Institute of Philosophy and Religion in India.

From 2011 to 2020, my Superior asked me to take up pastoral ministry in Canada. I served as pastor of the Italian Parish of Maria Goretti in Edmonton-Alberta; of the bi-lingual parish of Immaculate Conception in Woodbridge, Ontario; and finally at St. Theresa's, Shrine of Little Flower in Toronto. I can manage to speak English, Italian, Malayalam, and Telugu, and at times enjoy celebrating Mass in Spanish and Latin.

I feel so honored and humbled to be appointed the pastor of St. Boni's, the wonderful parish community with its deep-rooted Franciscan spirituality and traditions. I am earnestly awaiting to know your expectations as I look forward to journey with you in growing together as a warm and vibrant community of disciples! A very hearty 'welcome back' to everyone as we slowly get over the challenges of the pandemic!

Music, nature, fishing, cooking spicy Indian dishes:
"these are a few of my favorite things"!

In Christ,
Fr. James

Ministry Opportunities

Many of our ministries are in search of help. Please consider your gifts and how you may be able to lend a hand. If you can help, contact Patty, pattys@saintbonaventure.org, 952-854-4733, and she will get you connected with our ministry leaders!

Bus Ministry:

Our bus is practically brand new; please help us get back on the road, so our parishioners can once again join us for Mass!

- **Bus Drivers:** No special driver's license required, and we will provide training.
- **Volunteers** to ride along to help secure and assist passengers on the bus.
- **Overall Chairperson:** Responsible for scheduling bus drivers and riders.

Feast of St. Bonaventure Picnic: Help us arrange our annual Feast of St. Bonaventure Picnic!

Liturgical Ministries: Altar Servers, Greeters, and Ushers will be resuming their ministries on July 1.

Livestream Team: Help share Mass beyond our pews. We will provide training, high-fives, and lots of laughs!

Martin Luther Care Center and Meadow Woods Assisted Living

Help bring Sunday Communion Services and Thursday Mass or the Rosary to residents.

Pew Rack Ministry: Rotating teams set their own schedule to make sure our pew racks are tidy and stocked.

This is not an exhaustive list of opportunities, the breadth and depth of our ministries are possible because of you! We also know our BeFriender, Cherub Nursery, and many other ministries are in search of volunteers.

Emails from Saint Bonaventure

To stay connected during the COVID-19 pandemic, we began more regularly using email to communicate. We've have a weekly "Staying Connected" email and send the weekly livestream of Mass. We also occasionally send Parish Updates.

We've received questions about folks not being able to get our emails. One big reason our emails may not be making it into your inbox is that spam filtering has become more rigorous. However, filters aren't 100% accurate, and sometimes emails we want to read go to spam. We are doing what we can on our end to stay out of the spam filters. Here are a few things you can do to help our emails get into your inbox.

Search for "Saint Bonaventure" in your inbox:

- If you find our emails in your junk, clutter, promotions, or another type of category, move the email into your inbox. You may be able to drop and drag it, or you might see a link at the top that says "move to inbox" or "mark as not junk," and you can use that to move that email into your inbox.
- Use the link at the bottom of our emails to add us to your address book.

If you would like to join our email list, you can subscribe on our website: saintbonaventure.org/news. If you are subscribed and not receiving our emails, contact Jodi, jodik@saintbonaventure.org, or 952-297-8417.

Join the Journey this Fall

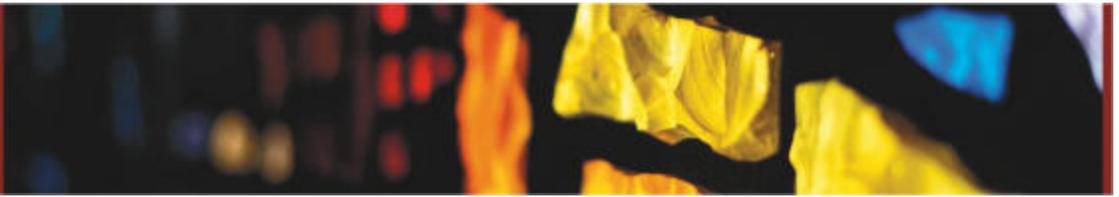
How can we as a Church better pass-on our beautiful Catholic faith whether in our homes or in the broader world? The Archdiocesan Synod kicks into high gear this fall. Plan to join us to help shape the future of our local Church through this ongoing process. Give your input in how to best form:

- Parishes that are in the service of evangelization;
- Missionary disciples who know Jesus's love and respond to his call; and
- Youth and young adults in and for a Church that is always young.

Saint Bonaventure will be holding Synod Small Groups this fall. Stay tuned for more details in our parish communications.

"The potential is boundless when we all put our heads and hearts together and allow the Holy Spirit to lead." - Archbishop Hebda





Ben Krippner



Irene Odeluga



Breta MacPhie

Parish Pastoral Council

Tammy Arndorfer, chair

Greetings from the Pastoral Parish Council!

As with everything else in life these days the Pastoral Parish Council (PPC) has also seen changes during this past year. We said farewell to Marcy Ager, Patty Stibal, and Kathy Caola. Marcy finished her second term in May. Patty stepped down after serving five years on the PPC because she took the position of Administrative Assistant in the Parish Office. And after four years as secretary, Kathy decided to move on. We want to thank these wonderful women for their service and for all the time they put into helping our parish community. We are forever grateful!

We welcomed new members Ben Krippner, Breta MacPhie, and Irene Odeluga:

Ben Krippner has been a member at Saint Bonaventure for about 20 years. Ben and his wife, Julie, were married here in 2010 and his two children were baptized by Fr. Richard. Ben has served as a small group leader in several programs, and he was a member of the Spiritual Task Force and the Parish Vision Team. He also served on the PPC for two terms when Fr. Bernie was our pastor. And most recently he has served on the Stewardship Committee.

Irene Odeluga began attending Saint Bonaventure in 1999 after moving to Bloomington from London, England. Irene became a member in 2001, joined the Adult Choir 19 years ago, and looks forward to the day when they can sing together again! She also sings in the Ave Maria Quintet. Irene is a lector at the Saturday 4:30 p.m. Mass and has participated in the Heaven Help Us Players Productions. When Irene is not at church, she's playing football- we Americans know it as soccer.

Breta MacPhie joined Saint Bonaventure in 1989, while raising her three daughters. Breta volunteered as a lector and taught Faith Formation classes which she continues to do today. Breta left Saint Bonaventure for a short time, but returned in 2010 and we are so happy she did! Breta was chair of the *ALIVE!* Committee and helped with many social events. She serves on the Liturgy and Stewardship Committees, organized the Farewell to the Friars event, and writes the announcements and petitions read at Mass.

We are looking for a **secretary/recorder of minutes** when we pick back up in August. The PPC Meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (August-May). If you are interested, contact Tammy, dtssarnd@q.com, 952-221-6293.

We look forward to what the Lord has planned for us as a team and for us as a Parish!

Saint Bonaventure Scholarship Scholarship Committee

The Saint Bonaventure Scholarship honors high school seniors for academic excellence and their contributions to our parish and the community. Two \$1,000 scholarships were awarded on Sunday, June 13 to **Sara Grosser** and **Hannah Pham**.

Sara will be attending the University of Kansas to study communications and business. Hannah will be attending the University of Minnesota Twin Cities to study neurosciences. Both are graduates of Bloomington Kennedy High School. Congratulations!

Pictured left to right are Hannah Pham, Tammy Arndorfer, and Sara Grosser.



Parish Vision

Parish Vision Plan Parish Pastoral Council

Do you remember what our parish vision is? In 2016, under the pastoral leadership of Father Richard, our parish hired a consultant and put together a Parish Vision Team. Over the next couple of years, the vision team re-evaluated all aspects of our life as a parish and authorized the St. Bonaventure Catholic Community Parish Vision Plan for 2019-2021. The team's efforts culminated into a plan "to recognize and promote the many positive attributes of our parish, and also identify the challenges and improvements that may be necessary in the upcoming years."

Our Parish Mission Statement is driving this process:

Love **G**od
Love **O**thers
Make **D**isciples

A summary of this work is found in our values in the **Vision Plan: Community, Diversity, Prayer, and Service:**

Values of St Bonaventure

Values are principal to St Bonaventure; they may well be an actuality but more often, they are living goals to aspire to. Stating our values, working toward their fulfillment and standing behind them proclaims to all who we are. These are the values that best define our parish faith community.

Community

...encourage, build up one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

We believe that in caring for others and through sharing our faith with one another, lives change and spiritual growth happens. With Christ as our example, we strive to intentionally create a sense of belonging for all those who encounter our faith community.

Diversity

...we are one body in Christ, individual parts of one another (Romans 12:5)

The Holy Spirit has blessed us with parishioners of all ages, life-stages, ethnicities and socioeconomic backgrounds. We invite, accept and include all in our parish mission and ministry.

Prayer

...pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

We believe that prayer is essential to celebrating, worshiping and growing in our relationship with God.

Service

...as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord (Joshua 24:15)

Our life at St. Bonaventure is dedicated to serving others just as Christ urged His Disciples to do. We are His present Disciples and we respond to His call.

These stated values serve as the foundation for a new concept we will be introducing later this year called Commissions. Friar Bryan continued implementing our Parish Vision by giving these commissions names to support the Catholic Church, the Parish Vision Plan, and all ministries.

We think of these Commissions as four pillars, and these four Commissions reflect the tenets of the Catholic Church: **to Sanctify, to Serve, to Teach, and to Unify.**

Each Commission will be an umbrella of support to our parish ministries. For example, the Liturgy Committee and the Adoration Ministry would both be within the Commission to Sanctify. Commission goals could be shared and supported throughout each Commission. For example, we are in the year of St. Joseph. The Liturgy Committee could bring this to their Commission to spread the word. The outcomes could take the form of special prayers through our Prayer Line and Rosary ministries, creating themed intentions for Mass, or simply increasing awareness. Through Commissions, we would try to find common needs for ministries to share resources and provide more opportunities for collaboration. As the Parish Pastoral Council continues to move forward with the Vision Plan and Commissions, we look forward to sharing more and receiving input.

GENEROUS HEARTS



Saint Bonaventure has always been a community with generous hearts, but in a year filled with uncertainties, you've humbly stepped up and beautifully shared God's blessings. Here are a few highlights of generosity from our community this year.

Jump Start 2 School Bloomington Public Schools and UpWorks

Dear Generous Partners - thank you for all of the time and energy you've put into organizing, planning and implementing Jump Start 2 School this past week. The supplies you've helped provide Bloomington Public School families make a positive impact and truly help them enter the school year prepared. It was a pleasure to see so many people working together to serve the community. By the end of the day, **we distributed 476 backpacks full of school supplies to students who needed some encouragement to get their school year started right.** You made a huge difference in how the year will get started for these kids. Thank you so much for all you've done to make this event a success. We are truly grateful.

2020 Fall Festivities

Under normal circumstances, the parish would have welcomed several thousand people to our annual Fall Festival. There would have been lots of food, hundreds of vintage cars in the car show, hand-made items for sale and chances to win prizes in the raffle – a true celebration of community and fellowship. An opportunity for the people of Saint Bonaventure to show off our spirit of hospitality. But, needless to say, 2020 has turned out to be anything but normal.

We wish to thank everyone who worked so hard to make the Fall Festival Activities a success this year. It was sad we weren't able to gather with thousands of friends and family as we normally do. It is truly amazing that even with the limitations caused by COVID-19, there were still **\$24,820 worth of raffle tickets sold and \$2,350 in cash donations**. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to make this successful. Together we support the life of the parish. Together we ensure our ministries will continue to thrive.

Cans Help the Poor Sr. Rose Hang Vu, RGS

In response to the **\$128.30 donation sent from our can recycling program**, *"I thank God for sending you to journey with me in my mission of helping God's poor children in Vietnam. I am grateful for your loving support. You give me courage to serve Jesus in the poor. Through your love they come to know God's love for them. May God bless your parish and keep you in His loving Care."*

Bridging the Gap

Thank you for helping us "Bridge the Gap" in our operating budget! We are grateful! Givers make our mission to *Love God - Love Others - Make Disciples* possible. **On October 30, our weekly giving was \$30,878 behind our budget and on December 31, our weekly giving is \$2,731 ahead of our budget. God is good, and so is our community!** With your help and support, we will continue to show God's love through our available resources.

Shoe Box Mission Project Becky Running and Gary Russell

Thank you to everyone who helped to make this year's Christmas Shoe Box Mission Project another wonderful success! We were so excited to learn last May that the Appalachia Kentucky Papal Footprints Shoe Box Project would take place as planned despite the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic. It seems as soon as the word went out the project would take place, many went to work shopping for and gathering the many beautiful gift items and packages to touch the lives of hundreds of families in Appalachia Kentucky each and every year! We would like to extend a very sincere Thank You to everyone who helped to make this year's mission project another wonderful success. **We were able to send 103 completed shoe boxes as well as several larger boxes of needed items to Appalachia Kentucky for this special Christmas mission project.** May God bless all of you for your immense generosity!

Giving Tree

Frida Maiers

The Giving Tree program marked its fifth anniversary during the 2020 Christmas season. This program has given members of the Saint Bonaventure parish the opportunity to help families that find themselves experiencing hardship around the holidays. As a parish, we were able to persevere despite the obvious hurdles due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, and you responded with great generosity as you have in previous “normal” years. Instead of providing actual gifts and items this year, you provided monetary donations that allowed us to safely purchase and distribute the requested items. **We were able to help a total of 16 families this year.** All recipients were so very appreciative and grateful for the assistance. As noted on our parish website, the name Bonaventure means “good event” and can also describe the Giving Tree project this Christmas season. Again thank you for your generosity and care.

Baby Bottle Boomerang

Respect Life Ministry

Our "Baby Bottle Boomerang" for the Robbinsdale Women's Center has, once again, been an enormous success. Thanks to all of you who have given so generously! You have helped save babies and their mothers from the tragedy of abortion. **Your sacrificial giving was most apparent with many very generous gifts making our total donation \$8,270 for this year! Over the last 19 years, our community has given a cumulative total of \$142,078 to this wonderful project.** Especially noteworthy is that this year's total even surpassed the 2020 total despite the challenges of the past year. Thanks so much!

MinisTREE and Operation Rice Bowl

Thank you for responding to the MinisTREE program so generously! **We received nearly 110 cards back, \$10,432, more than 120 in-kind items, and almost 30 service hours donated!** Your gifts come together and bless several of our ministries with items outside of our normal budget:

Financial gifts to help our youth experience Extreme Faith Camp, Archdiocesan Youth Day, March for Life, Mission Trips, and seek higher education through our Saint Bonaventure Scholarship Fund.

Tools to extend our reach with an updated laptop and curriculum for Faith Formation, to keep our grounds beautiful a weed whip and lawnmower, to keep our food warm and safe with a new food warmer and stainless steel kitchen panels, and to help our crafting friends make beautiful keepsakes!

Adding beauty to our sacraments and spaces with a new funeral pall, vestments for our clergy, and shade trees, flowers, shrubs for our grounds!

Helping our neighbors who benefit from the St. Vincent de Paul food shelf, Good Samaritan House, and local life care centers with many in-kind items.

Hands to help our grounds and liturgical ministries thrive!

We are grateful for your financial and tangible gifts—it is truly your hands, hearts, and feet making our community vibrant!

Thank you to everyone who participated in **Operation Rice Bowl; your change totaled: \$195.21, and many feel your kindness in all parts of the world.**

Garage Sale

Thank you for donating, shopping and volunteering—through the hard work and generosity of many, our Garage Sale was bigger than ever! It was truly amazing to see the mountain of donations come in, and the swift and intentional hands from our community organize and facilitate such a fantastic Garage Sale. **The record-breaking profits of \$11,179.36 will support the Social Justice activities for our community.**

#ShoeMeTheLOVE

ANswering the Cry of the Poor (ANCOP) - Couples for Christ

Thank you to the Saint Bonaventure Community for the outpouring of support. **Our hearts are filled with gratitude as we have 78 bags with 25 pairs of shoes in each bag.** The proceeds we gather from this shoe drive will be donated to the medical mission that will help the Philippines purchase medical devices such as body thermometers, oximeters, blood pressure devices, and other items needed during this time of the pandemic.



Farewell to the Friars

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

A celebration of thanks
for 63 years of Franciscan
ministry and service.



SAINT BONAVENTURE
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
LOVE GOD - LOVE OTHERS - MAKE DISCIPLES

Farewell to the Friars

We are grateful to the Conventual Franciscan Friars for providing leadership, service, and ministry over 63 years. We gathered for an event on Tuesday, June 8 to celebrate and honor all we have done together! Together we broke bread as Archbishop Bernard Hebda and Minister Provincial Father Wayne Hellmann, OFM Conv., of Our Lady of Consolation Province concelebrated a beautiful Mass for the occasion. After Mass we continued our celebration with a program; if you would like to watch a recording of the Mass and program in full or the videos that were a part of the program on our Farewell to the Friars event page, saintbonaventure.org/farewell-to-the-friars.



*“We heard in the gospel about those two beautiful images that Jesus uses about salt and light. The Franciscans have been nurturing this parish, brought life to this parish, they were there for the birthing of the parish, and for all of those years, they’ve been making sure the salt of Saint Bonaventure parish has great flavor, and they’ve done that so well. For 62 years, they’ve been holding you up and saying you have the light of Christ within you. You have to be that light that shines, and we don’t put that under a bushel basket; rather, we hold it up for the world to see. **For 62 years, under the influence of the Franciscans, Saint Bonaventure has been a parish where that light has been able to shine.**”*

*For 62 years, your faith family has been formed by the Franciscans in a way that leaves a lasting imprint on you so that no matter what happens, no matter where you go, people are going to be able to see that you were formed by a Franciscan. That there’s something about you that’s different because of the generosity of these wonderful men and the way in which they live out their Christian vocation – the way in which they build up our church. **My hope and prayer is you never lose that, that you will love and serve the Lord in a way that shows your roots in this community, that there’s still this beautiful generosity that lead these men to say yes, when they were asked to establish this parish, and over all of these decades, pouring themselves out in service so that you will never lose your flavor so that your light would always shine.**” – Archbishop Bernard Hebda*



*“How great, how wonderful, how good it is to break bread and lift our hearts in prayer and to give thanks to the Lord our God. And as we give thanks, we remember. We can’t give thanks if we don’t remember—all of God’s gifts given to us. From the wonders of creation to the gift of God’s own inner life, through His Word Incarnate and His word inspired. And that gratitude that we express today also expresses our trust in God’s promises yet to come. So, especially today, we give thanks for these many gifts of more than 62 years of grace in this community. **Just know one thing: we friars will treasure the memories of our time with the people of Saint Bonaventure’s.** So, thanks to you all.”*
– Minister Provincial Wayne Hellmann, OFM Conv.

Photos by Alfred Iyobhebhe, WORLDFRED Photography

“We are celebrating over 62 years of these friars, who came and did exactly what they were asked to do. Which way back when, when God asked Francis to rebuild his church, he just didn’t put the “re” on this one, it was just, build this church, and so they did. Part of the Franciscan vow of poverty is that they are always ready to go onto their next assignment. They don’t plant roots. They don’t own things that tie them down. **And so, they have done their job, and we’ll let them go.** This really is an evening of joy and happiness for all they have done for us.”
 – Breta MacPhie



Photo by Art Breitbarth, Works of Art

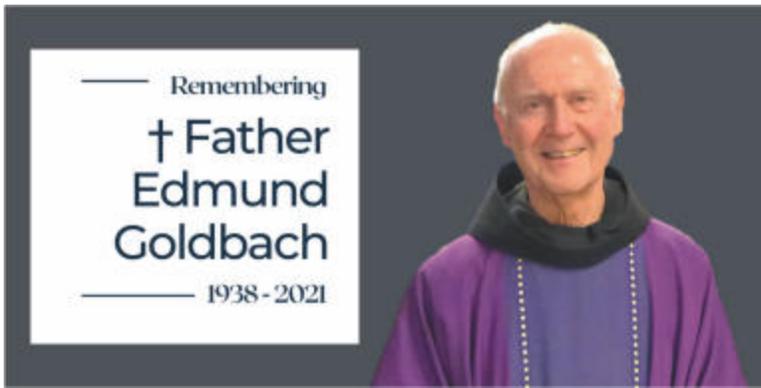
“When he heard that voice say, “repair my church,” St. Francis started rebuilding actual physical churches. But then, Francis heard the gospel on a particular Sunday and realized it wasn’t really the physical church, but it was the communal church, and so that’s when Francis started preaching and reaching people that way. And so, rebuilding the church is not about the physical structure. It’s not about the space. It’s about what’s created in the space. Francis really is talking about rebuilding the church, and so that’s really what the friars have been doing since 1958.” – Fr. Steve McMichael, OFM Conv.



“What a joy and what an honor it is to be here with you. As it has been an honor and a joy to be with you these last few years. Yes, in a way, we are saying goodbye, but we’re also saying so long for now. Because when you’re in a relationship like we have been with the people of God like we are here in this parish, it doesn’t just end. It doesn’t just get flipped off like a light switch. It doesn’t stop. It goes on and the gifts that indeed we’ve celebrated tonight that I know the friars have poured out on this parish. It’s very important that we don’t forget how you, in turn, have poured those out upon us. How fortunate we are. How blessed as a people we are. And I think our invitation now as we go forward and we go as a parish, as a people of God, is to embrace truly what was in the Gospel today. We are the light of the world. We are that salt that will hopefully always keep its flavor. We are people called as children of God to be in mission to go forth and share what we have. So, my invitation to you is to give to the new folks coming in, to the new priest, to this new order, give them the love you have given us. Trust me; you will be amazed what will happen. And this parish will continue. And you will definitely go on in my heart. So, I don’t say goodbye, I say so long, for now, thank you.” – Fr. Matthew Malek, OFM Conv.



“What a wonderful community of faith. What a wonderful community of families. And what a blessing it has been to be here this year. To all of the friars, who have done so much, who have come physically from far away, spiritually you have never left us.”
 – Fr. Bob Hart



We are grateful for †Father Ed and his joyful spirit! Father Ed passed away on March 14. He was actively serving our parish and had even concelebrated Mass on Saturday night, March 13—celebrating the 56th Anniversary of his Ordination!

We celebrated a Mass of Christian Burial for †Father Ed on March 20 and he was laid to rest at Mount St. Francis, Indiana on March 26. Fr. Matthew Malek offered a thoughtful eulogy, excerpted below and Fr. Richard Kaley, OFM Conv. gave a beautiful homily inspired by the writing on the right.

If you would like to watch the Mass or see the photo collection we put together, they are posted on our website, saintbonaventure.org/father-ed.

*Part of what we are celebrating and remembering about him today is what he embodied as a priest. **Ed was what we call a servant priest. He believed very much in the role of priest as one who is there obviously to serve at the altar, but most importantly to serve the people of God.** He did that beautifully. And in many ways, I think he embodied what it is when we say, this is a Franciscan parish. What makes it special? It's people like Ed. In their honesty, in their sheer sense of being able to see goodness in people to meet people where they are at, what a gift that was. And how it transformed this parish at the time he was pastor here and anywhere he served. Like a good friar, he was stationed at many different locations. And I have no doubt if we were to go to those places, we would find people who remember funny things, touching things, powerful things about Ed.*

*There was the part of Ed that very much I think embodied what it means to be a friar, to be a Franciscan. And he did that beautifully. **Just as he was a servant priest, he was a servant Friar. And he gave his entire heart and being to helping people and to being part of community and to being part of whatever he was assigned to.** That's a real gift, and part of that legacy is obviously here with us today.*

I invite you to hold to your hearts your favorite memories of Ed. He touched us in so many ways, with his simplicity, with his faith, with his servanthip. Just that the fact that indeed he had a wonderful gift to transform the lives of those he encountered.

(Excerpt from Fr. Matthew Malek's Eulogy for Father Ed.)

Old Man and the Sun

There are two terribly sad things: an old man who thinks he is young, and an old man who thinks he is dead.

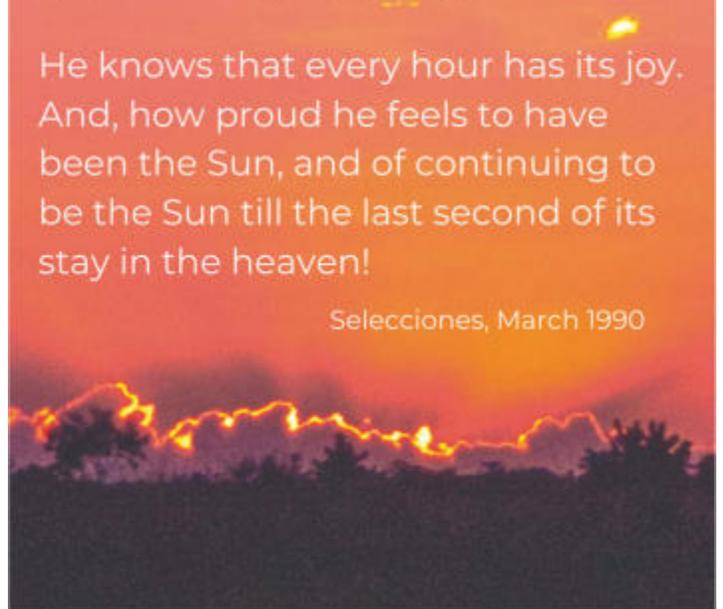
There is a stupendous thing: an old man who takes on the second part of his life with the same courage and dreams as the first.

One must accept the fact that the setting Sun is as important as the morning and midday Sun.

The Sun is not embarrassed at setting, nor feels nostalgia for its morning brilliance, nor thinks that the day hours are casting it out of the sky; it does not feel less beautiful for having to admit that the sunset is nearing, nor does he believe that the afternoon sun on the buildings is less necessary than that which, a few hours earlier, was making the seeds sprout in the fields.

He knows that every hour has its joy. And, how proud he feels to have been the Sun, and of continuing to be the Sun till the last second of its stay in the heaven!

Selecciones, March 1990





Marlys Corr

Meet Marlys Clare Corr. She's lived in Bloomington since 1971. Family is the most important to Marlys! She has three adult children, Sheila, Matt, and Paula, eight grandchildren, and six (soon to be seven!) "great" grandchildren. Marlys retired after 25 years at Jostens, worked part-time at Sears and that was her learning curve to work with co-workers and the public. Marlys is always "Singin' in the Rain!" and regularly dances with her Swiffer when Polka Spotlight comes on!

You might recognize Marlys's smiling face because she is often volunteering! She fills in at the front desk, serves on the Fall Festival Committee, Resurrection Choir, and helps with many of the social activities at Saint Bonaventure.

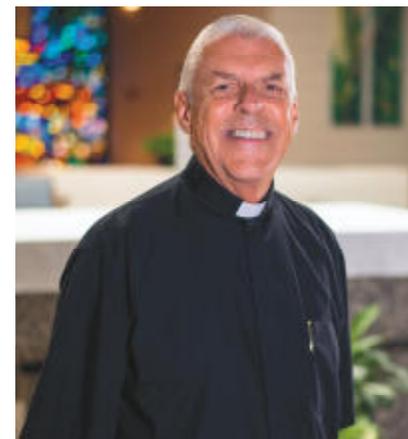
What do you love about Saint Bonaventure? Marlys loves that our community thrives on sharing all of our blessings together and that includes every parishioner!



Father Bob Hart

I am 72 years old and when I retired (the first time!), I moved into the Leo C. Byrne Residence for retired priests. I have a one-bedroom apartment that overlooks the Mississippi, although I rarely see the river itself because there are so many trees blocking my view. One of the big advantages of living there is the ability to take long walks along the river, weather permitting of course. I see many of the same people who are enjoying the same privilege. I also enjoy spending time with friends, reading, golf, racquetball and traveling. National Parks are among my favorite places to visit – I'm looking forward to returning to Yellowstone and Glacier during a ten day road trip this summer, following my time here at Saint Bonaventure.

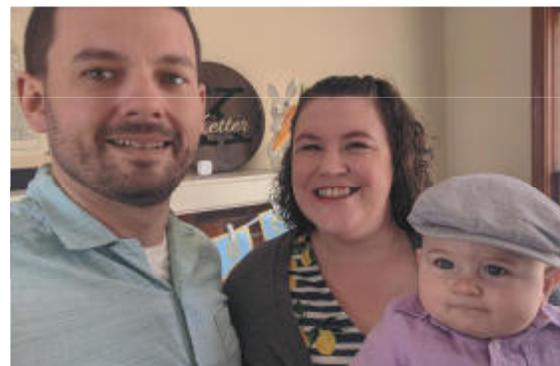
What do you love about Saint Bonaventure? This has been a wonderful short term assignment – the people are so warm, friendly, welcoming and accepting. I will miss this community dearly, but hope to return for the Fall Festival.



Jodi Ketter

Hello! My name is Jodi Ketter, and I am the Communications & Stewardship Coordinator at Saint Bonaventure. My husband, Kevin; our 10-month old son, Jude; cat, Georgie; and I live in Bloomington. Kevin is an aircraft mechanic at Delta and a true aviation enthusiast enjoying general aviation when he isn't at work. My roots are in dairy farming and agriculture, so we do our best to share our interests by volunteering at EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh and the Moo Booth and Milking Parlor at the Minnesota State Fair together every year. We enjoy spending time with family and friends, visiting breweries, eating great cheese, and are hoping to give our boy some great life experiences along the way!

What do you love about Saint Bonaventure? The people in this community are so great! It is such a blessing to be a part of this faith family filled with friendly, helpful, and fun-loving people.



The Church of Saint Bonaventure of Bloomington, Minnesota

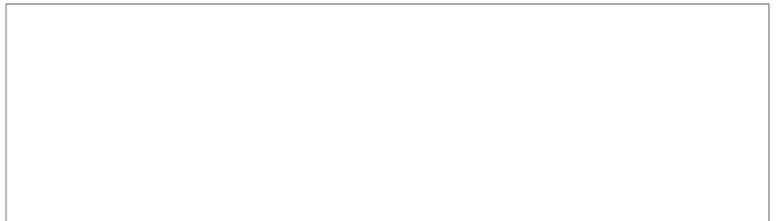
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Summer 2021 Newsletter

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Saint Bonaventure Upcoming Events

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| July 15 | Feast of Saint Bonaventure Picnic |
| September 10-11 | Fall Festival |
| October 30 | Trunk or Treat |
| October 3 | Transitus of St. Francis |
| November 1 | Solemnity of All Saints |
| November 6-7 | Christmas Boutique |
| November 7 | Service of Remembrance |
| November 13 | Military Appreciation Dinner |
| December 4 | Senior Luncheon |
| December 11 | Children's Christmas Party |

Please check saintbonaventure.org for the calendar of events.

MASS

Saturday:

4:30 p.m.

Sunday:

8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Tuesday-Friday:

8:45 a.m.

First Saturday:

8:45 a.m.



ADORATION

24 hours a day,
7 days a week,
except when Mass is
being celebrated.

All are welcome!