

ST. BONAVENTURE CATHOLIC CHURCH



St. Bonaventure Parish
The Family of God on a Mission.
Second Sunday of Easter or Sunday of Divine Mercy

April 24, 2022

329 South Jamie Boulevard,
Avondale, LA 70094

Phone: (504) 436-1279

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Web page: stbonaventureavondale.org

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Bonaventure-Church>

Second Sunday of *Easter* (or Sunday of Divine Mercy)

*Jesus said to Thomas,
"Have you come to
believe because you
have seen me?
Blessed are those
who have not seen
and have believed."*

John 20:29



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April 24, 2022

Parish Hall Rental



Call the Church Office

504-436-1279 (M-F 9:00am-4:00pm)

Parish Mission: To advance an Inclusive, active and spirit-filled Parish with our patron Saint as a model and guide.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 8:00 AM & 10:00AM

Tues, Wed, Thurs & Friday: 8:30 AM

Wed. — Holy Hour & Benediction 6:00pm

Pastor: Rev. Francis Offia

STAFF:

Secretary: Judy Guidroz

CRE: Elizabeth Carmona

Music Director: Tina Adams



Second Sunday of Easter or Sunday of Divine Mercy

Once I was dead, but now I am alive forever and ever.— *Revelation 1:18a*



St. Bonaventure Catholic Church

April 24, 2022

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, April 23, Mass 5:00pm

For the soul of Phero & Maria Nguyen Ty; Charion Hemphill; Cherie Mitchell+; Mary Rice+; Dawn Gonza les+; Joy Labit+; Maria-Pham thi Hoang+; Peter-Tran Van Hung+; George Burkhardt+; Fr. Vincent Qui+; and Millicent Jenkins+

Sunday, April 24, Mass 8:00am

Parishioners of St. Bonaventure

Sunday, April 24, Mass 10:00am

For the soul of Maria Lisa Oanh+; Mary Ann Rice+; Dora L. Carmadelle+; Peter-Tran Van Hung+; Fr. Vincent Qui+; Dominic Lam Van Tran+; Maria Bau Thi Nguyen+; Peter-Joseph Hian Van Tran+; Vincent Hai Phu Nguyen+; and Carlos Cortez+

Monday, April 25— No Mass

Tuesday, April 26 — Mass 8:30am

For the soul of Peter-Tran Van Hung+; Fr. Vincent Qui+; and For our country;

Wednesday, April 27 — Mass 8:30am & 6:00pm

For the soul of Peter-Tran Van Hung+; Fr. Vincent Qui+

Thursday, April 28 — Mass 8:30am

Peter-Tran Van Hung+; Fr. Vincent Qui+;

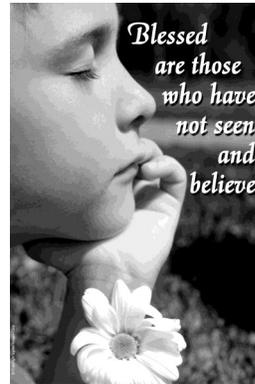
Friday, April 29 — Mass 8:30am (First Friday)

For the soul of Peter-Tran Van Hung+; Fr. Vincent Qui+; and



This Week Sanctuary Candle burns For:

Parishioners of St. Bonaventure



Blessed are those who have not seen and believe

DIFFICULTY, SURVIVAL, AND GLORY

In Revelation, John the Evangelist tells us what we can expect as followers of the risen Jesus: distress, endurance, and a kingdom. Although we are only eight days into our fifty-day Easter feasting, we cannot ignore the distress weighing down our daily lives. Jesus' resurrection does not erase individual suffering, but his glorious triumph over death cultivates endurance in our hearts. We remember that Jesus did not spare himself, and we ask for the strength to endure as he did. Imitating Christ helps us grow as members of God's royal family. As beloved citizens of the Kingdom of God, we recognize our kinship with all people. Peter demonstrates his care for others as he heals multitudes of broken, suffering people. In the Gospel, Thomas accepts his own spiritual healing when Jesus helps him to believe. In times of difficulty, survival, and glory, we borrow Thomas' declaration of faith: "My Lord and my God!"

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The apostles perform many signs and wonders among the people. Many are added to their numbers (Acts 5:12-16).

Psalm — Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting (Psalm 118).

Second Reading — John, caught up in the spirit, envisions the glorified Lord, the first and the last, the one who lives (Revelation 1:9-11a, 12-13, 17-19).

Gospel — The risen Christ comes to his disciples with peace and the Spirit. The absent Thomas doubts (John 20:19-31).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



Spring Fun Bingo-Friday, April 29, 2022 — Come join the fun and support your parish.

BINGO WHERE: McMahan Hall - TIME: **7:00pm** (doors open 6:00pm).

Refreshments will be sold.—Parade of Prizes. Any donations to help defray the cost of the Bingo would be greatly appreciated. *Suggested items: nacho chips, sweets for the snack table., can drinks, Cash donations (will be used to purchase prizes & other items needed).* **CHILDREN WELCOME!!**

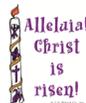
We Are All Stewards of Time, Talent & Treasure
Thank you for your time, talent & financial donation

May God bless you for your generosity

Weekend of April 16/17

Envelopes \$1,201.00 Loose \$920.00

Holy Land \$454.00 Easter Offering \$858.00



☑ 4/24 Catholic Home Mission

☑ Diocesan Priest Retirement Fund (this envelope of 4/23-24 is for May 7th. & 8th.)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20
Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15
Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21
Thursday: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36
Friday: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15
Saturday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21
Sunday: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13; Rv 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19 [1-14]

BEGINNING AND END

Faith is the beginning and the end is love. —St. Ambrose



Pastor's Corner

On this Sunday of Divine Mercy, may we extend the mercy of God to those who might have wronged and offended us in the past. Pope Francis reminds us that the Name of God is mercy and that the Risen Jesus is the True face of God's mercy. In the spirit of the resurrection of Jesus, may we become people of Great Mercy

2. Now that the season of Lent is over, we will resume our parish weekly Holy Hour on Wednesdays by 5.30pm and pray the Divine Office and close with Benediction.
3. Blessed Paschal Candle on Easter Vigil represents the Light of Christ's Resurrection having conquered the darkness of the tomb and rose on Easter Morning. The Paschal candle burns in Churches throughout the 50 days of Easter Season during liturgical celebrations reminding us of the presence of the Light of Christ in our midst. We will begin the practice of traveling Paschal Candle here in our parish. Whoever signed up will get the candle to bring to his/her home and use it to pray for one week and return it the following week. Watch for further details on this.
4. We will begin pressure-washing and painting outside church wall last weekend of April. I humbly ask everyone to come help in any way you can. Keep the following dates in mind
 - Friday/Saturday April 29th/30th
 - Friday/Saturday May 6th/7th
 - Friday/Saturday May 13th /14th
5. If you would like to make a donation towards buying the materials needed to repaint our church walls, there is a box at the back of the church, or you can contact me. Thank you for your generosity.
6. Remember that in our bulletin every 2nd Sunday of the Month we publish the income and the details of the parish expenses of the previous month. I would humbly ask that everyone take the time to look at that important piece of information to get an idea of what is going on.

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Weekend of April 23/24, 2022

In today's first reading from the Acts of the Apostles we hear it proclaimed that many "signs and wonders" were performed in public by Christ's followers, a demonstration that produced two results. First, the people of Jerusalem outside the Christian community were awed by what the disciples were performing. And in the midst of all this amazement, many were being converted. Good stewards know of the evangelizing power emanating from their daily acts of love, compassion, kindness and generosity. They believe that if they stay focused on Christ each day, every act has the power to transform a broken world. **What "signs and wonders" will we perform today?**

WE REMEMBER YOU, O RISEN LORD

We remember you, O risen Lord,
New Covenant at the feast of the cross.
Your resurrection dresses the table
for the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation.
Blessed are you!

—From *Come, Lord Jesus* by Lucien Deiss, CSSP, copyright © 1976, 1981, Lucien Deiss. Published by World Library Publications. p.163

Welcome New Parishioners —We invite all new parishioners and all those who have not yet registered with our parish to do so. There are registration forms on tables at the entrances of the Church and on our website. Please take a moment to fill in your information, or take it home and fill it in and return it later or bring it to the Church office so that we can include you as part of our parish.

SPIRITUAL READING

You will not see anyone who is truly striving after spiritual advancement who is not given to spiritual reading.

—St. Athanasius



Would you pray for a priest each day?

Please take a monthly calendar prayer request for priests available in the en-



Spring Fun Bingo-Friday, April 29, 2022 — Come join the fun and support your parish.

WHERE: McMahan Hall - **TIME: 7:00pm** (doors open 6:00pm). Refreshments will be sold.—Parade of Prizes. Any donations to help defray the cost of the Bingo would be greatly appreciated. *Suggested items: nacho chips, sweets for the snack table., can drinks, Cash donations (will be used to purchase prizes & other items needed).*
CHILDREN WELCOME!!

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Second Sunday of Easter (or Sunday of Divine Mercy)

God of everlasting mercy,
who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast
kindle the faith of the people you have made your own,
increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed,
that all may grasp and rightly understand
in what font they have been washed,
by whose Spirit they have been reborn,
by whose Blood they have been redeemed.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Reflection question:

How can I come to grasp more fully the meaning of my baptism?

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Pope's APRIL Intention

For health care workers

We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE IN MILITARY SERVICE AND FOR THEIR FAMILIES.

Prayer for Soldiers Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen.



Prayer Request: LynLeigh Adams; Jeff Adams; Janell Angelle; Tina Barry; Pearl & Rebecca Berthelot; Todd Bordon; Joyce Caire; Jason Chiasson; Kai ye Chin; Kelly Cuquet; Brenda Goss; Ben, Brandon, & Tim Guidroz; Barbara Hammer; Ester Hammil; Kathleen, Donald, & Glenn Jeansonne; Norbert Labit; Diana Lane; Gay Litolff; Kirk Litolff; Brenda Jones; Gary & Holly Marshall; Theda Melerine; Carolyn & Arthur Moore; Anita Perkins; Janice Reiser; Tammy Reites; Jules & Michael Sancho; Lloyd Seneck; Al Stapler; James Theriot III; Barbara Winters; . Please call the office or send in your request to add or delete a loved one to the prayer list .

VOCATION: MEDITATION FOR PRIESTHOOD, DIACONATE & RELIGIOUS LIFE

"God has called us with a holy calling...according to His own purpose and grace." If you think God is offering you the grace of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, Contact Fr. Francis at 504-729-8469.



COMING UP

MONDAY, April 25, 2022 —

☐ No Mass

TUESDAY, April 26, 2022 — All Souls

☐ Rosary 8:00am—Mass 8:30am

☐ First Penance — 6:30pm

WEDNESDAY, April 27, 2022 —

☐ Rosary 8:00am — Mass 8:30am

☐ Holy Hour & Benediction—5:30pm

THURSDAY, April 28, 2022 —

☐ Rosary 8:00am — Mass 8:30am

FRIDAY, April 29, 2022 —

☐ Rosary 8:00am — Mass 8:30am

SATURDAY, April 30, 2022 —

☐ Mass 5:00pm ☐ Confession—4:00—4:45pm

SUNDAY, May 1, 2022 —

☐ Mass 8:00am & 10:00am



SACRAMENTS



Confession: Saturday 4:00—4:45pm; Wednesday 5:30—7:00pm

Sacrament of Baptism: Call the office to schedule an appointment with Father. Parents and Godparents must attend a seminar.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Arrangements should be made at least 6 months prior to expected wedding date. Call the office for details.

Funerals: Please notify the priest before contacting the Funeral Home.

INSPIRED SCRIPTURE

The study of inspired scripture is the chief way of finding our duty.

—St. Basil the Great

A Nation's Prayer — God our Father, giver of life, we entrust the United States of America to your loving care. You are the rock on which this nation was founded. You alone are the true source of our cherished rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. Reclaim this land for your glory and dwell among your people. Send your Spirit to touch the hearts of our nation's leaders. Open their minds to the great worth of human life and the responsibilities that accompany human freedom. Remind your people that true happiness is rooted in seeking and doing your will. Lead us into a new millennium of life. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.



MATTERS ARISING

HIS MERCY IS TO A MERE ABSTRACT CONCEPT

It has been years since Pope St John Paul II departed this world to be with our creator, but his legacies, especially through his teaching and writing, are such that will continue to illuminate the path of life for men and women of our time. Thinking about the Divine Mercy Sunday, I couldn't help but to remember the person who earned for himself the title of **“THE GREAT MERCY POPE**. As some pointed out: “Pope John Paul II, both in his teaching and personal life, strove to live and teach the message of Divine Mercy. As the great Mercy Pope, he wrote an encyclical on Divine Mercy and a line in it says; ‘*The Message of Divine Mercy has always been near and dear to me... which I took with me to the See of Peter and which it in a sense forms the image of this Pontificate.*’

And so once again I was drawn to take a new glance at the 1980's Encyclical of the saintly Pope which he entitled, ***DIVES IN MISERICORDIA*** (On the Mercy of God). In the section in which he talks about, The ***Incar-nation of Mercy***, St. Pope John Paul, draws our attention to how the universe and the created things give us only the indirect and imperfect knowledge of the nature of God. Thus, he writes: “*This indirect and imperfect knowledge, achieved by the intellect seeking God by means of creatures through the visible world, falls short of "vision of the Father. No one has ever seen God, writes St. John, in order to stress the truth that the only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he has made him known.*” *Christ is the Incarnate Son of God. Him and the Father are One. He reveals the Father to us. He makes God known to us in a more intimate way. And so, St John Paul II continues: “This ‘making known’ reveals God in the most profound mystery of His being, one and three, surrounded by ‘unapproachable light.’ Nevertheless, through this ‘making known’ by Christ we know God above all in His relationship of love for man: in His ‘philanthropy.’ It is precisely here that "His invisible nature becomes in a special way visible, incomparably more visible than through all the other things that have been made: it becomes visible in Christ and through Christ, through His actions and His words, and finally through His death on the cross and His resurrection.*”

On this Sunday after Easter, The Church invites us to a renewed appreciation of "God, who is rich in mercy". Mercy is in His DNA. It is in the nature of God to be merciful. The message of the Divine Mercy which was championed by St Faustina according to one writer is simple: “*It is that God loves us – all of us. And he wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy.*” He continued: *The Divine Mercy message is one we can call to mind simply by remembering ABC!*

A - Ask for His Mercy. God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.

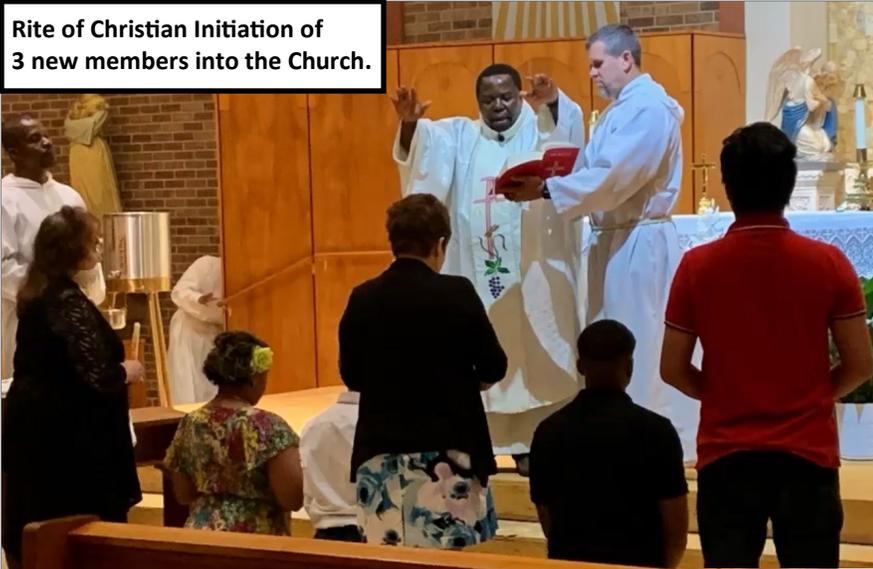
B - Be merciful. God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.

C - Completely trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive.

The events of the Passions, Death, and Resurrection which we celebrate this Easter, show us that God's love and Mercy are **NOT** mere abstract concepts. Pope Johnpaul II writes: “*Christ and through Christ, God also becomes especially visible in His mercy; that is to say, there is emphasized that attribute of the divinity which the Old Testament, using various concepts and terms, already defined as "mercy."* Christ confers on the whole of the Old Testament tradition about God's mercy a definitive meaning. Not only does He speak of it and explain it by the use of comparisons and parables, but above all He Himself makes it incarnate and personifies it. He Himself, in a certain sense, is mercy. To the person who sees it in Him - and finds it in Him - God becomes "visible" in a particular way as the Father who is rich in mercy.

May we continue to Blossom in His Abundant Mercies. Happy Easter to you all from the Western Part of the Country

**Rite of Christian Initiation of
3 new members into the Church.**



Congratulations - WELCOME

We welcome into the Church
**Michael Finch;
John Mitchell; and
Chantell Scott.**

On Holy Saturday they were Baptized,
received the Sacrament of the Holy
Eucharist and Confirmation.
We look forward to working with you
and your participation in our parish.



CHURCH

“Church” in Greek means convocation, or assembly in Latin, because all are called to be members of it.

—St. Isidore



Michael Finch; Fr. Francis; John Mitchell; Chantell Scott

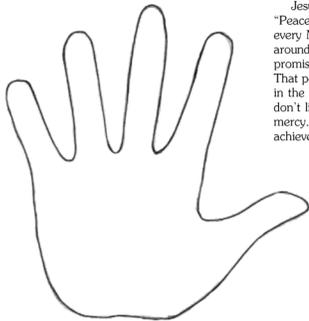


SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

Today is the Second Sunday of Easter, not after Easter. We continue to celebrate this great feast for fifty days. The last day of the Easter season will be the feast of Pentecost, June 9. You will probably be starting your summer vacation then.

Today is also known as Sunday of Divine Mercy. Divine Mercy Sunday was first celebrated in the year 2000, when Pope John Paul II announced the feast at the Mass declaring Sister Faustina Kowalska a saint. Her feast day is October 5. You might want to find out more about this holy woman and her connection to the devotion to the Divine Mercy by researching her life story. She shared with us what Jesus revealed to her in visions: that everyone who trusts in God shares in God's loving mercy. No one is excluded. On this day you can pray Sister Faustina's prayer: "Jesus, I trust in you."

Jesus' first words in today's Gospel are "Peace be with you." We say these words at every Mass. We reach out our hands to those around us. We repeat the words of Jesus and promise to make peace a reality in our lives. That peace must then be shared with everyone in the world, even to those we don't know or don't like and who don't like us. This requires mercy. This peace of Jesus is not easy to achieve, but he promises to be with us and help.



Look at the hand on this page or trace your own hand on another piece of paper. Inside each finger, write one way you can bring peace and forgiveness to others. In the palm of your hand write the names of some of the people you know who need peace and mercy. Ask the people in your family to do the same. Cut out the hands and put them together to form a wreath. Remember to include those who might not be so easy to love and forgive.



"Father, don't you recognize me?
I come to our church every Easter and Christmas!"



"Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."
John 20 : 25

events