

# ST. BONAVENTURE CAMPAIGN NEWS

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1565 18th Ave., Columbus, Nebraska 68601



## A MESSAGE FROM FR. MIKE SWANTON

*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”*  
—Jeremiah 29:11

Dear Parishioners,

God is always faithful to us, and we are called to be faithful to God.

This mutual faithfulness extends to our efforts to update and expand our parish facilities. We are now being challenged to be good stewards by planning for the future of our parish.

This project is a great task. It takes faith in God, as we progress with the planning and the fundraising. It will take faith in each other.

Our Commitment Weekend will be in June. Prior to that, I ask that you prayerfully consider a commitment to the campaign and to the future of St. Bonaventure Parish.

Personal discernment will be part of this process and has two components: First, gathering information is necessary to making informed decisions.

Our events team is planning many get-togethers, each including refreshments and a brief presentation, at which our vision will be shared, the campaign explained and your questions answered.

Please review the upcoming event list in this newsletter and choose a date compatible with your schedule. Bring a parish friend or neighbor, and join us in fellowship. It will only take one hour.

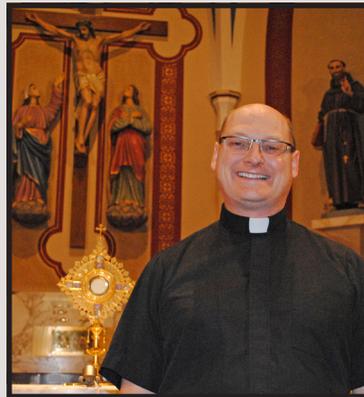
Second, prayer is a valuable guide in any discernment process. Included in this newsletter is our campaign prayer. Consider praying this on a daily basis, maybe with your family before the evening meal or at night. As you pray for St. Bonaventure Parish, know that you are in my prayers, too!

As always, I welcome your questions, concerns and thoughts about our parish and this capital campaign process.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Mike Swanton

P.S. If you haven't joined one of our campaign teams, please commit to one today. Each offers a great opportunity to get to know more of your parish family, all with a minimal time commitment.



## THE STORY BEHIND THE LOGO

By Jeanne Schieffer

With pride in St. Bonaventure's history and its steeple, the Communications Team focused on the goal of bringing our church community together, while expanding the foundation of our faith through future generations attending St. Bonaventure Elementary School.

In three, different meetings, individual team members brainstormed numerous words and concepts. The church steeple and the Eucharist were images frequently suggested, as were the church's stained glass windows and the cross. Various phrases and renderings were tested, until a collective and final design was selected. We pray you will embrace its meaning:

- **St. Bonaventure** is dominant in red to reflect our namesake's cardinal-bishop garb, the church's decor and the school's colors.
- **The Holy Trinity** is symbolized by the three, concentric circles. Each circle is separate but connected to **the church**, depicted by the bell tower and iconic steeple.
- **The Eucharist**, the Body of Christ, is central to the three circles. It also represents our parishioners' dedication to 24-hour, perpetual adoration since 1961. The 2020 notation can be removed at a later date.
- **"Behold"** is representative of when John the Baptist first saw Jesus, he said "Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" (John: 1:29).
- **"Believe"** is positioned directly under the Eucharist as if foundational, just like our Catholic beliefs are to our religion.
- **"Belong"** is rich in theology. Through the Eucharist and our faith, we are members of the mystical Body of Christ.

**Your Campaign Communications Team:** Dr. Kim Allen, Tim Cumberland, Dianne Keiter, Jeanne Schieffer, Sarah Wacha, Royce Campbell, Joe & Stacy Chohon, Connie Cumberland, Jeff Dubas, Keith Evans, Jeff Hall, Matt & Kristyn Kamrath, Virginia Martin, Jon & Jane Dusel-Misfeldt, Theresa Petr, Cassie Rief, Angie Rusher, Tim Schieffer, Louise Stopak, TJ Thiem, Janelle Parry-Yipp and Mary Young.

# Our Campaign Prayer

Eternal and ever-loving Father,  
we praise Your name and thank You for the many blessings  
You have bestowed on our St. Bonaventure parish family.

As we **behold** You in the Eucharist,  
we are rooted in the past, standing in the present,  
with our eyes fixed on the One who leads us.

We **believe** in Your vision for the future of our parish,  
not because of who we are, but because of who You are.  
Unite and guide us as we surrender to do Your will.

Through the intercession of St. Bonaventure  
and our mother, Mary,  
allow us to emulate the sacrificial hearts of those  
who have gone before us in faith.

By the grace and power of the Holy Spirit,  
we **belong** to the Mystical Body of Christ.

In the Franciscan spirit,  
we will continue to build Your kingdom.

Through Christ our Lord,  
Amen.

## THE STORY BEHIND THE PRAYER

by Jan Brezinski

As members of the St. Bonaventure Campaign Prayer Team, we are hopeful that all parishioners will be united in prayer during this process. Our first objective was to write a campaign prayer. We wanted it to be heartfelt but with a bold challenge.

To include the tenets of prayer, we brainstormed words and themes which, we felt, describe our parish family: thanks, praise, humble, St. Bonaventure, grace, family, Franciscan spirit, unity, faith, intercession. We wanted to include the campaign theme: Behold, Believe, Belong.

Through this prayer, we seek the intercession of the Holy Spirit, our blessed mother Mary and St. Bonaventure to be with us as we begin this mission and meet this challenge.

Enclosed with this newsletter are prayer cards. We invite you to join us in reciting this prayer on a daily basis, as we seek the Lord's guidance and peace in the weeks ahead.

**Your Campaign Prayer Team:** Jan Brezinski, Bill Ruskamp, Tami Williams, Charlene Augustine-Semin, Marilyn Bartholomew, Karen Beck, Al & Maxine Becker, Rich & Ev Bernt, Vaughn & Mary Blum, Janet Bolton, Peggy Brooks, Elaine Chochon, Pat Cimburek, Dave Eisenmenger, Eldon & Nadine Engel, Gerry Engelbert, Jill Erickson, Ann Ernst, Kelli Faltys, Sandie Fischer, Bud & Rita Fleischer, Bob Gablenz, Ann Gannon, Dorothy Gubbels, Richard Hamling, Randy & Janet Hanson, Gene & Helen Hegemann, Hank & Betty Heimann, Ed & Joan Heimann, Dan & Annette Hellbusch, Ron & Irene Henry, Shirley Hoessel, Cathy Hoops, Kristen Jacobson, Steve & Joan Jahn, Jean Jones, Kim Korth, Joe & Wilma Kosch, Aaron & Shannon Kosch, Jerry & Diane Krings, Martha Kunasek, Joan Lahm, Mark & Dee Landholm, Susan Littlefield, Judy Loseke, Virginia Martin, Karen Melcher, Deacon Larry Mielak, Michelle Moore, Jim & Lorie Naughtin, Brian & Shelli Naughton, Kati Odbert, Rae Ann Otte, Mary Lou Podraza, Michelle Ruskamp, Jan Schmeits, Mike & Diane Schneider, Bob & Michelle Soulliere, Colleen Soulliere, Dori Stracke, Deb Svehla, Sharon Swanson, Donnie Thorson, F. Jane Tooley, Jane Tooley, Jim & Brenda Tubbs, Bob Voboril, and Cathy Wibbels.

## COME TO THE TABLE

Please join us, at any of these events, to learn more about our project and the logistics of our capital campaign. These are **information only events** to enjoy fellowship with other parishioners.

**We also want your input  
because you belong to  
St. Bonaventure Parish.**

### HOLY GUACAMOLE

Saturday, April 29, 6:00 pm  
Social Hall  
*Childcare Provided*

### HOLY GUACAMOLE

Sunday, April 30, 7:00 pm  
Social Hall  
*Childcare Provided*

### EAT, DRINK & BE MERRY

Friday, May 12, 7:00 pm  
Parish Center

### PASTRIES WITH THE PASTOR

Sunday, May 21, 8:00 am  
Parish Center  
*Childcare Provided*

### PASTRIES WITH THE PASTOR

Sunday, May 21, 12:00 pm  
Parish Center  
*Childcare Provided*

### CHOCOLATE, CHAMPAGNE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

Monday, May 22, 6:30 pm  
Social Hall

### EAT OF THE FORBIDDEN FRUIT

Sunday, May 28, 10:00 am  
Parish Center  
*Childcare Provided*

### RSVP Information:

To plan appropriately, please rsvp with event and number attending to Theresa Ingram at 402-276-0357 or [stbons2020@gmail.com](mailto:stbons2020@gmail.com)

We look forward to seeing you there!