



First Sunday of
Advent

December 2, 2018



St. Boniface Catholic Church

MASSES: Saturday (Sunday Obligation) 5:30 PM, Sunday: 9:00 AM
WEEKDAY MASSES: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8:30 AM

REV. ROGER KUTZNER, PASTOR
PERMANENT DEACON: Mark Otten (815-469-7165)
PARISH SECRETARY: Kathy Short
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR: Deacon Mark and Anita Otten
MINISTRY OF CARE: Erwin Bogs

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturdays After 5:30 Mass

MARRIAGE: By appointment only. Normally made 6 months in advance.

BAPTISM: To have a child baptized at Saint Boniface Church, you must be a registered, active, member of the parish and attend a Baptism class. Baptisms are held the 2nd Sunday of the month at 12:00 PM (Noon). Call the office to schedule an appointment.

RELIGIOUS ED CLASSES: K thru 4th meet Saturdays from 9:00-10:30 AM
Grades 5, 6, 7, and 8th meet on Sundays from 10:00-11:30 AM

Church: 5304 W. Main St., Monee, IL 60449
Rectory: 25942 So. Middlepoint Avenue
P.O. Box 217, Monee, IL 60449 (534-9682)
Website: stbonifacemonee.org
Church Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday
8:30am—2:00pm

Saint Boniface Catholic Church Mission Statement

Saint Boniface is a welcoming, caring Church community united under one baptism. We encourage participation by all members in promoting and sharing Christian and social values.

Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength
to escape the tribulations that are imminent
and to stand before the Son of Man.

Luke 21:36

Mass Intentions For The Week



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Saturday, December 1
 5:30 PM—Lucille Sakaski † Req. by Carol Pucik
 Deborah Lynn Lubert † Req. by Rossi Fam.

Sunday, December 2
 9:00 AM—Richard and Barbara Schultz † Req. by Fam.
 Irene Hauth † Req. by Kwasigroch Family

Monday, December 3
 8:30 AM—Patricia Decklemann †
 Req. by Leo Deckelmann

Wednesday, December 5
 8:30 AM—Joe and Elizabeth Egofske †
 Req. by Alice Dorda

Friday, December 7 Immaculate Conception Vigil
 8:30 AM—Raymond Hays † Req. by Zofia Iwaniuk
 7:15 PM—Parish Intentions

Saturday, December 8
 5:30 PM—Matthew Janecek † Req. by Janecek Family
 Mario Broccardo † Req. by E. Broccardo

Sunday, December 9
 9:00 AM—Sandrone and Ridings Family
 Req. by Mary Riding
 James Bolger † Req. by O'Malley Family

Weekly Offering



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November 18, 2018

Sunday.....	\$	1976.00
Children's Envelopes.....		10.00
Human Development.....		855.00

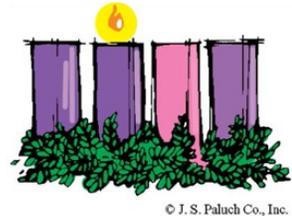
November 25, 2018

Sunday.....	\$	2084.00
Children's Envelopes.....		5.00
Christmas Flowers.....		804.00

Many thanks to all of you for your generous donations to our Parish. May God bless all of you!

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: First Sunday of Advent; Hanukkah begins
 Monday: St. Francis Xavier
 Tuesday: St. John Damascene
 Thursday: St. Nicholas
 Friday: St. Ambrose; First Friday
 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day



Eucharistic Ministers



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December 2 5:30 PM John Porpora John Blazeovich Marie Schnepf Kathy Short	December 9 5:30 PM Debra Ledford Camille Dancer Christine Semanovich Kathy Short
9:00 AM Mark Otten Erwin Bogs Therese Bogs-Haser Karen Scrementi	9:00 AM Mark Otten Beth Daly Cindy Marden Joan Parker

December 7
Immaculate Conception
6:30 PM
 Mark Otten
 Colleen Domke
 Donald Domke
 Karen Scrementi

Lectors



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December 2 5:30 PM David Schmidt	December 9 5:30 PM Rene Jurack
9:00 AM Tracy Sheehan	9:00 AM Paul Przybyla

December 7
Immaculate Conception
6:30 PM
 Kathy Dornhecker

Altar Servers



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December 2 5:30 PM Makenzie Albano Alison Porpora	December 9 5:30 PM Joey Correa Kelsey Correa
9:00 AM Abigail Hansen Clare Hansen Richard Hansen	9:00 AM Ava Daly Brooke Hobbs

December 7
Immaculate Conception
6:30 PM
 Athena Jaculbe
 Sebastian Jaculbe

First Sunday of Advent
December 2, 2018
 I will raise up for David a just shoot;
 he shall do what is right and just in the land.
 — Jeremiah 33:15

From the Pastor

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We have entered the liturgical season of Advent. Though we know it is a time for preparation for Christmas season, we practically anticipate the holidays with joyous expectation. Much of a Christmas atmosphere we already feel in the air. It may be confusing because the liturgies of the four weekends of Advent are far away from "Christ is born". They focus on patient waiting and prayer. Advent speaks more of hope than joy. It is the hope about the coming Messiah which we have expressed for

centuries thinking of our salvation. The intention of Advent is to experience the burden of waiting, to develop desire for the Lord's coming, to reflect on the reasons we need Jesus in our lives. I encourage you to live your Advent in a spirit that the Church always has wanted us to celebrate. You can actually separate it from the actual "big event". You can save energy for "that day" by focusing on your spiritual development. Take a look around you. You are going to do so much for your family and friends in order to get ready for Christmas. Putting up the decorations, buying gifts and preparing festive food will already be part of that hassle and bustle. That's for the body. There has to be something we all should do for our souls. Here is one of the things we can start with - realizing what Advent means to us. Let me give some examples, how real Advent can be for some people. She awaits word from her doctor on the results of the biopsy of the "growth" taken from her body - fearful "it" has come back...that's her Advent. He watches daily for the mail, looking for word from the university where he applied, wondering if he has been accepted...he is in Advent. They sit helpless next to their two-year-old baby's bed, wondering if and when the child will regain consciousness after his fall down the basement steps... they are in Advent. She watches CNN on the hour for the latest word from Iraq, apprehensive that sooner or later she'll get the dreaded word that he has been killed in action, and scared to tell the kids...She is in Advent. He sits in the confessional Saturday and Sunday, wondering if anyone will ever come and experience the renewal and mercy of the Sacrament of Reconciliation... he is in Advent. She has invited her husband to sit down and talk, realizing that their marriage is falling apart, and she paces the floor asking herself if he will come back after he stormed out the door... she is in Advent. He is exhausted praying for a job, having begged God hour after hour, day after day, these past months of unemployment, as he replies to the most recent want ad, knowing his savings and benefits are almost gone, reluctant to admit failure again to his wife and kids...he is in Advent. She's at the end of the long line, all her belongings in two plastic garbage bags, and she is fearful that the beds will be taken on this freezing night by the time she gets to the door of the shelter...she is in Advent. Let's learn something from all our "Advents". We live lives where we don't have all the answers. We have to wait for them. The borderline between "I don't know" and "I shall believe" runs through our hearts. We are to find it. When we start to look for the difference between ignorance and knowledge, between selfishness and compassion, between hatred and love then we begin our journey of finding out all the answers. Our Advent in the Church is that we find that answer in Jesus Christ again.

+ *Father Roger*



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We welcome into our
Catholic community
Addalyn Mae Fenton
and Jaxson James Fenton
twins of Jeremy and Rebecca
Fenton of Monroe who were
baptized on Nov. 11, 2018.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The days are coming when the LORD will fulfill the promise made to Israel and Judah (Jeremiah 33:14-16).

Psalm — To you, O Lord, I lift my soul (Psalm 25).

Second Reading — Abound in love for one another and for all (1 Thessalonians 3:12 — 4:2).

Gospel — Stand erect and raise your heads; your redemption is at hand (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36).

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

A Child's Letter to God: Dear God, My brother is a rat. You should give him a tail Ha-Ha. Danny
A Collection of Children's Letters to God

THE PROMISE OF JUSTICE

We are in fairly good company when we ask God for justice. Often enough we hear and agree with the lament of the people of Israel asking God why the wicked prosper. However, when we call out for justice, we usually want someone to get his or her comeuppance. God's justice is something other than this, of course. God's justice comprises a wonderful rightness between God and humankind. Today, Jeremiah looks ahead to a time when a just one will sprout from the shorn-off stump of Jesse of the house and family of David. Life was not fair in Jeremiah's time. Israel's kings held the promise of God's fidelity, but it was difficult to see how God's promise could be realized through them. Nevertheless, Jeremiah lifts his voice and announces that the Promised One will come. Luke's Gospel echoes that announcement, and Paul is filled with sturdy encouragement. And so Advent begins with a promise.

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Christmas and New Year's

Mass Schedule:

Monday, December 24th

Christmas Eve Masses – 6:30pm and
10:30pm

(No 8:30am Mass this day)

Tuesday, December 25th

Christmas Mass – 9:00am

Monday, December 31st

8:30am Mass only

Tuesday, January 1st

New Years Day Mass – 10:30am

(No 8:30am Mass this day)

*"Never look down on someone unless you
are helping them up." Unknown*



The health intentions of
Robert Oleniczak who is
currently battling cancer.

**There are three distinct comings of the Lord of which
I know: His coming to humankind, His coming into
humankind, and His coming against humankind.**

—St. Bernard: *Third Sermon for Advent*

God comes. Even when scary signs and frightful things abound, God comes. Even when we hear of unmerciful acts and unjust behaviors, God comes. We know God came once in human flesh, we experience God-is-with-us still, we believe God will come again at world's end. This God, overflowing with mercy, gives us confidence to stand erect and, unafraid, raise our heads to all things good and just and right. How can God's grace free me from the slavery, from the trap of being afraid? How can God's loving mercy help me be even more merciful this year? What work of mercy will I do this week with new intensity?

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Occasionally, someone raises a surprised complaint that while Christmas arrives on Santa's sleigh at the Macy's parade on Thanksgiving Day, the Church doesn't catch on too fast. They may even say that Advent is a new fangled idea. Not so. To trace its beginnings, we have to go back to the fourth or fifth century in France (then Gaul), when Epiphany was the favored day, next to Easter, for baptism. The old pagan structures of Rome were collapsing then, and many people sought to be baptized. Since adults always prepared for baptism by fasting, folks counted back a few weeks for a kind of retreat. Before too long, bishops were advising everyone to attend church frequently beginning on December 17. Soon, artists were imagining ways of expressing the Advent mystery, and in Italy this gave rise to beautiful mosaics of empty thrones awaiting the arrival of the Lord of all creation. Advent as we know it develops on two separate Tracks: the first having to do with our spiritual preparation for celebrating the Christmas feast, and the second having to do with the way this is organized and expressed in the liturgical readings and prayers every day of the season.

—James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Giving Tree tags are still available in the office for those in need of assistance to purchase food, clothing, or Christmas gifts for the children. Tags must be filled out and turned in to the office by Friday, Dec. 7th. If you take a tag to fill, please fulfill and bring gifts to the office no later than Monday morning, Dec. 17th. Recipients will be notified or can check with the office Monday, Wednesday, or Friday the week before Christmas. For more information call 708-534-9682 or stop in the office on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays from 10:00am-2:00pm.

Saturday, December 8th is the Immaculate Conception and is a holy day of obligation. We will be having a Vigil Mass on Friday at 6:30pm. *Note: This is an updated time.* There will still be Mass at 8:30am Friday morning as well.



Thank you to everyone who helped decorate our Christmas trees last Monday morning. Many hands make light work and a festive atmosphere!

Joy to the World! It's not to join in our **Children's Christmas Choir** directed by Mary Pierce. Practices are on Saturdays—December 8th, and December 15th from 10:30am-11:00am. The children's choir will be singing on **Christmas Eve** at the 6:30pm mass so you must be available to attend this mass. Singing in a church choir during the **Christmas season** can create wonderful, lasting memories for the children. Be sure to give your child this opportunity!

The Ladies Club Christmas Bake Sale



is this weekend! Be sure to stop in after mass and purchase a treat! They will also be drawing the winners for the raffle. We offer a huge Thank You to everyone who supports our Ladies Club!

NEW MINISTRY SCHEDULE!

The current Ministry schedule for Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers will end January 1, 2019 and we will need any changes to when you serve, vacation dates, etc. for the next schedule which will begin January 5, 2019 and run until April 28, 2019. If you would like to be a Lector or Eucharistic Minister, or Altar Server, send us your name and phone number, and the Mass time you would like be part of. This info can be dropped in the collection basket, or call the office during hours. We are very short of help at all Masses. We are in great need of ministers at both weekend Masses, so choose your favorite Mass and what role you would like to take on. Training will be provided. Deadline for any changes (new people, delete your service, etc.) must be in the office no later than December 10, 2018.

Once again... if you faithfully attend mass at St. Boniface Catholic Church or you have children registered in our religious education program, this does not automatically make you a registered parishioner of St. Boniface. Please note, if you do not receive Sunday offertory envelopes in your mail, you are not registered. Please contact Kathy in the office, 534-9682 for registration or information.



Knights of Columbus "Coats for Kids" The Knights of Columbus will be accepting gently used coats this weekend for PADS. Please consider dropping off a coat you no longer use to help keep someone else warm this winter.