

**Forgive your neighbor's injustice;
then when you pray,
your own sins will be forgiven.**

Sirach 28:2



September
13
2020

Twenty-Fourth Sunday
in Ordinary Time



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

WEEKDAY RECONCILIATION: Monday and Friday after 8:30 AM Mass

PASTOR: Rev. Roger Kutzner
DEACON: Mark Otten (815-469-7165)

PARISH SECRETARY: Kathy Short
Email: office@stbonifacemonee.org

MINISTRY OF CARE: Erwin Bogs
Email: st.boniface@comcast.net

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR: Nancy Bishop
Email: stbonifacemoneere@gmail.com

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Call office.

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

BAPTISM: 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 12:00PM (Noon). Call the office to schedule an appointment.

RELIGIOUS ED CLASSES: All classes meet on Sundays from 10:00-11:30

Church: 5304 W. Main St., Monee, IL 60449
P.O. Box: 217, Monee, IL 60449
Phone: 708-534-9682

Church Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday
8:30am—2:00pm

Website: stbonifacemonee.org
Facebook: St Boniface Church Monee

**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.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, September 12—5:30 PM

Marlene Welte & Joe Males †

Req. by Camille Dancer

Mary Ann Perozzi † Req. by Bogs Family

Sunday, September 13—9:00 AM

Robert Kurowski † Req. by Bogs Family

Arlene Marston † Req. by Bogs Family

Monday, September 14—8:30 AM

All Catechists and RE students

Wednesday, September 16—8:30 AM

Dan Marcukaitis †

Req. by Steve and Gina Driscoll

Friday, September 18—8:30 AM

Dan Gryczewski † Req. by Family

Saturday, September 19—5:30 PM

Mr. and Mrs. Boleslaw Smolinski †

Req. by Chris Hays

Brian Orolin † Req. by Arnie Orolin

Sunday, September 20—9:00 AM

Ron Mitchell † Req. by Barb Mitchell

Melanie Valencia †

Req. by Leobardo & Ana Valencia Martinez



Eucharistic Ministers

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September 13

5:30 PM

Father Roger

9:00 AM

Father Roger

September 20

5:30 PM

Father Roger

9:00 AM

Father Roger

At this time, only the body will be distributed.



Lectors

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September 13

5:30 PM

Camille Dancer

9:00 AM

Kathy Dornhecker

September 20

5:30 PM

Paul Przybyla

9:00 AM

Barbara Mitchell

Weekly Offering



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COLLECTION SUMMARY

Week of September 13, 2020:

Sunday Offertory	\$	1355.00
Maintenance Fund	\$	500.00

We sincerely thank everyone still mailing in their contributions. If you can continue to give, know that we are grateful. We do not wish to put any financial burden on you.

Please remember—DO NOT MAIL CASH! You are welcome to mail a check or call the office to arrange a day and time to drop off your donations.

St. Boniface Church
P.O. Box 217
Monee, IL 60449



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SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday:	Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Grandparents Day; Catechetical Sunday
Monday:	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Tuesday:	Our Lady of Sorrows
Wednesday:	Ss. Cornelius and Cyprian
Thursday:	St. Robert Bellarmine
Friday:	Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year) 5781
Saturday:	St. Januarius; Blessed Virgin Mary

Dost thou wish to receive mercy? Show mercy to thy neighbor.

—St. John Chrysostom

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 13, 2020

Forgive your neighbor's injustice;
then when you pray,
your own sins will be forgiven.

—Sirach 28:2

From the Pastor

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As people of God, as Catholic Christians, we have learned that if Jesus Christ was going to be our guide to follow, we had to get to know how he sees things. We have to learn to see ourselves, others, and the world around us more and more as Christ does. Only then will Jesus be the real center and guiding hand in our lives. And only then will we begin to live the kind of interior peace and exterior fruitfulness that we really want to live. I was thinking of at least three things to speed up the process of learning to see all things as God sees them.

First, we can spend time every day alone with God in prayer. I guess it's no news to any of you. A Christian without a daily God-time is like a cell phone without a battery - good for nothing.

Second, we can study what the [Church](#) teaches about itself, instead of getting all our Church news from non-Catholic news sources or highly personalized blogs. I am serious. In today's world of massive information flow and access we need to be constantly up to date about what's going on in our world. And remember that Jesus has promised to guide and protect his Church and its official teaching throughout history. The New York Times, The Associated Press, and the Drudge Report have no such divine guarantee. True, reading Church teaching is more demanding than reading the latest blog posts - but we are always willing to go the extra mile for someone we love, and Jesus is certainly someone we love. T

Third, we can cultivate friendships with people who love God and follow Church teaching. Friends are like elevators: they either take us up closer to God, our true purpose of life, or they take us down and away from him. It's up to us to choose which friends we will follow.

Let Christ be our guide, teacher and master. We should know him well enough that we can bring to him all our dilemmas, questions, and doubts. I can't guarantee that seeking all answers in Christ will always be easier, but I can guarantee that it will always be better.

+ Father Roger



Stewardship Thought

Stewardship is not optional!
"None of us lives as his own master and none of us dies as his own master," says St. Paul. "While we live, we are responsible to the Lord, and when we die, we die as His servants."

*Who needs my forgiveness?
 Whom will I forgive—and for what—
 perhaps again?
 What forgiveness do I need?*

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Remember the commandments and hate not your neighbor (Sirach 27:30 — 28:7).

Psalm — The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion (Psalm 103).

Second Reading — Whether we live, or whether we die, we do so for the Lord (Romans 14:7-9).

Gospel — Forgive one another from your heart (Matthew 18:21-35).

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.

Please consider including St. Boniface Church when creating or updating your personal will. Contact the office for information.

FORGIVENESS

Nearly ten years before, a son and father had parted ways when the business they shared went bankrupt. The son blamed the father. They did not speak to each other again.

Then the father became seriously ill. The mother called the son and told him he had better come soon. The son walked sheepishly into the hospital room. The father motioned his son to him and whispered: "Did you ever think you could do anything that would keep me from loving you?"

Resentment and anger are foul things, the first reading from Sirach tells us. Remember the last things. Stop hating. Live by the commandments. As St. Paul writes to the Romans, we are to live for the Lord and die for the Lord.

Jesus' parable in today's Gospel reminds us of God's compassion. The immense sin of humanity has been forgiven and stricken from the record. We are to forgive others in the same way.

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**PRAYER REQUEST**

Kathy Bertram, Vicky Schmidt, John Kooyenga, Paul Gonzalez, Dan Mott, Ken Zohlfeld, Jeanne Bodnar, Eason M., Bernie Van Etten, Jason Brandstetter, Helen Barrett, Dolly Richmond, Douglas Newbanks, the safety of all healthcare workers, all those battling the Coronavirus, those who died this last week and those that go unnamed.

Names will remain on the list for one month unless otherwise requested. *To have someone added to this list please call the parish office.*

**Holy God, We Praise Thy Name**

**Holy God, we praise thy name;
Lord of all, we bow before thee!
All on earth thy rule acclaim,
All in heav'n above adore thee;**

*Infinite thy vast domain, Everlasting is thy
reign, Repeat...*

**Hark! The loud celestial hymn
Angel choirs above are raising,
Cherubim and seraphim,
In unceasing chorus praising;**

*Fill the heav'ns with sweet accord:
Holy, holy, holy Lord. Repeat...*

2020 Word & Song Book, Hymn #733

Faith is the union of God with the soul.

—St. John of the Cross

SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM (c. 344-407)

September 13

"Speaking truth to power" may have become just another cliché, but doing precisely that cost John "the Golden Mouth" (*Chrysostom*) his diocese and, after exile and a forced march, his health and life. "Renowned for eloquence, heroic in suffering" (*Sacramentary*), John's scriptural insights still comfort and challenge. Mystical theologian, he bids Eastern Christians, whose principal Divine Liturgy bears his name, to lift up their hearts to "God ineffable, beyond comprehension, invisible, beyond understanding, existing forever, always the same." Model pastor, he warns Roman Catholics in the *Liturgy of the Hours* not to neglect God-in-the-flesh: "Would you honor Christ's body? Do not scorn his nakedness, honoring him here in church with silken robes, while neglecting him cold and naked outside. What use to burden Christ's altar with golden chalices, while Christ himself starves to death? What use dressing the altar with gold-woven cloths, while denying the shivering Christ the clothes he needs? Do not adorn the church while ignoring your needy brother: he is the most precious temple of all!" (Saturday, Twenty-first Week in Ordinary Time).
—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



"Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."

This week's message is so important that Jesus himself reminds us of it every time we say the prayer He gave us. The prayer from the Son, to the Father. The "Lord's Prayer". In this line we are literally asking God to forgive us all the sins we have committed against Him, and our fellow man, in the same fashion that we ourselves have forgiven those that have sinned against us.

We see Peter in today's Gospel asking our Lord "how many times do we need to forgive others?" Peter has a number in his mind and its 7, just 7 times, not 8 or 6. And Jesus cuts to the chase, he tells Peter not 7 times but 7×77 . So let's be clear, that's not meant to be an actual number we use to keep track of others offenses against us, in biblical writings this is meant to mean "more than you would want to count". Simply put, forgive without counting.

Sirach tells us what a horrible sin anger and hate are to us and our relationship with God and each other. And forgiveness is the only way we can bring peace. It fulfills that commandment to love one another. So today when you are reciting that most perfect prayer, "the Our Father" think about who you may be holding a grudge against. It may be so old that you have even put that person out of your mind. It may be so fresh that your wounds are still hurting and you feel angry. Please remember, we only have today. Tomorrow is a promise made by the devil. We must have mercy to expect mercy!

So I ask myself, how is that going to fair for me on the day I stand before Him in heaven? This is a question that runs through my mind so often, when I find myself angry or hurt by someone else. Times when I make snap judgments or find myself with a quick temper. Is this really how I want God to act towards me? How horrible would that day be if he did? I would not stand a chance. I am so grateful that The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

*Yours in Christ,
Deacon Mark*

BECOMING MORE LIKE CHRIST

When Peter asked Jesus how many times he must forgive, he was probably stunned at Jesus' response. Peter had asked, "As many as seven times?" Seven being the perfect number, surely this is enough forgiveness, Peter likely thought. Jesus' response seems lavish beyond proportion. "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times." Jesus understands the fullness of God's mercy and teaches that disciples are called to this same lavish outpouring of mercy. God showers compassion on humanity, beyond what might seem sensible or wise, yet we are called to "remember the Most High's covenant, and overlook faults," to give others the benefit of the doubt, knowing that God does this and more with us, each and every day. As recipients of God's compassion, we must extend forgiveness and care beyond what might seem reasonable, because God's love is beyond human reason.

A Prayer for Catechists

Loving Father, we pray today for our catechists. We thank you for their gift of ministry in your church.

Grant them your wisdom that they may grow in the understanding and teaching of your word. Grant them also your love that they may be fruitful heralds of your word and lead others to love you.

Pour forth your Holy Spirit upon them to grant them wisdom about what is important; knowledge of the truths of faith; understanding of their meaning; right judgement about how to apply them in life; courage to persevere even in the face of adversity; reverence before all that is sacred and holy; and that loving zeal which leads others to a transforming encounter with your Son.

We pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.