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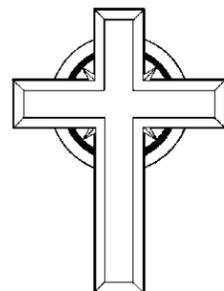


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**March 31, 2019**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

*Ephesians 5:8*

Now you are light in the Lord.

*Gospel of the Week*

John 9:1-41



*Live as children of light...* (Ephesians 5: 8)

His disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents that he was born blind?' Who speaks like that about a person with a physical disability?? (Someone *sinned* that is why he is blind??) and more so, the blind man is sort of put on trial, robbed of the joy of being cured. This is all due to the way the disciples 'see' things.

The way we 'see' things (see others, our worldview) has a huge effect on how we live and how we relate to others. **In the language of the scriptures today – it will determine if we live as children of light or of darkness. The challenge is to let Christ be our light.**

In the first reading, Samuel, a prophet, must revise how he 'sees' things. Human appearances are not the criteria that God uses to choose leaders. **People look at appearances. God looks at the heart. If we listen to the voice of God and accept it in faith, we will learn to look at the world and others through the eyes of God.**

The disciples in the Gospel 'see' but they 'do not see'. They are caught up in their own narrow way of 'seeing' things. This single minded world of rules and laws divides people: us versus them, holy versus unholy, pure versus impure, foreigner versus local, reject versus accepted. The blind, in this kind of world, are rejects and they have no chance of redemption. It is for this reason that they refuse to accept the blind man as healed. They almost want him to stay blind.

Jesus refuses this to happen. **There is a new way of seeing and living, where the grace of God can free us and make us new again.**

We are challenged to let Christ be our light. Let Christ light up the path of our life. To see and live as Christ does. Living and seeing as Christ does, makes us see people but assess them on more than externals. We observe faults of people, but can break through to discover their goodness. We behold others' gifts and do not withhold them from making those gifts known.

The world we live in requires clear sightedness and right discernment. There can be a lot of fogginess and darkness. It can be a world of many lights, but much 'spiritual blindness'. Our seeing and living as Christians does make a difference.

**Be bold to let Christ's way of seeing, permeate and illuminate your inner choices and decisions. See and do as God does.** It is a 'seeing' that heals and also calls us to a 'responsibility of the other'.

A blessed week in the Lord!

The *Third* Scrutiny

Fifth Sunday of Lent - April 7, 2019

The **scrutinies** are meant to uncover, and then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good.



Jesus raising Lazarus

**PASTOR:** Rev. Anthony Mpagi 978-582-4008

stbonifaceparish@verizon.net

**STAFF:**

- Administrative Asst.: Nancy Wessells 978-582-4008  
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- Sacristan: Louise Nadeau
- Building & Grounds: Greg Cucchiara
- Ministry Schedule: Jacquie Cronin 978-582-7040
- Early Childhood PreK Director: Nina Charpentier 978-582-7110

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** Welcome packets are available at the entrances of the church. Call or stop by the Parish office to register.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** Please call the parish office to make arrangements for the Sacrament of Baptism (978-582-4008).

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)** welcomes all who may be interested in learning more About the Catholic Faith. For more information contact Fr. Anthony Mpagi at stbonifaceparish@comcast.net

**SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY** It is the policy of the Diocese of Worcester that a couple should contact the parish **at least one year** prior to the anticipated date of their wedding to allow sufficient time to carry out the various steps of the marriage preparation process. It is important that arrangements be made with the church **before** plans are made with reception halls, caterers, etc.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** (Confession) Saturday 3:00 - 3:30 p.m. or by appointment.

**PRAYER LINE MINISTRY** If you or someone you know needs prayers or if you would like to be a part of this ministry of those who pray for the needs of neighbors, please contact Sue Cote 978-582-0404 sj33@msn.com

**LUNENBURG PUBLIC ACCESS TV**

**St Boniface Mass** from the previous week will be broadcast at 10:45 every Sunday on **Lunenburg Public Access Channel 9** ...anyone interested in helping video tape should contact ... tmurphyesq@aol.com

**SICK OR HOMEBOUND**

We would like to bring them Communion and minister to them on a regular basis either at home or in a health care facility. Please call the parish office 978-582-4008 or email Fr. Anthony at stbonifaceparish@comcast.net or Nancy Cieri 978-582-6983 nancycieri@comcast.net to arrange these visits.



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**In Service to One. In Service to all.**

The members of St. Boniface Knights of Columbus Council #16480 meet in the Parish Hall on the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm. Any Catholic men over 18 who are interested in joining the Knights should contact Grand Knight James Dijak (978) 534-7956 or Deputy Grand Knight Brian Cusick (978) 534-2326, or you can email the Council at kofc16480@gmail.com



**WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE**

4PM Saturday Vigil Mass  
8am & 10:30am Sunday Morning Mass

**DAILY MASS SCHEDULE**

All Masses are at 6:30pm  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday  
8am-12pm & 1- 4pm

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Weekend March 24, 2019

Sunday Ordinary:	\$2,018.00
Maintenance	50.00
Fuel:	30.00
Easter:	10.00
Good Friday:	5.00
Flowers	204.00
<b>Total Contributions:</b>	<b>\$2,317.00</b>

**March ACH Monthly Contributions: \$1,997.**

**Thank you for your continued support!**

**ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS**

**We are excited to announce that we now offer a quick, easy, and automated way for you to offer your tithe to the parish!**

Instead of trying to remember your checkbook or cash each week, simply click on the "Online Giving Options" link located on the Quick Links bar on the St. Boniface website.

You can make a one-time offering, or better yet, set up a convenient recurring Sunday Offering for consistent giving. We thank you for your support.



**Stations of the Cross**

6:30pm – Every Friday during Lent

**MASS INTENTION**

Sun	Mar 31	8am	For the Intentions of Doug Vink, by the Geibel Family
Sat	Apr 6	4pm	Robert Nadeau, (5 <sup>th</sup> Anniv), by his wife, Louise
Sun	Apr 7	10:30am	Patricia Alario, by Judy Alario
Sun	Apr 28	8am	Howard & Ella May Crane, by the Laford Family
Sun	Apr 28	10:30am	Joseph Bilotta, by his family

**CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE - WORCESTER DIOCESAN**

On Saturday, April 6th, 2019, join over a thousand men for the 19th Annual Worcester Diocesan Catholic Men's Conference at Assumption College in Worcester, Massachusetts. Bring fellow parishioners.



Great speakers, exhibitors, bishops, priests and men desirous of deepening their faith will welcome you. Be sure to register early and bring your friends, fathers, uncles and sons. You won't want to miss this historic conference. See parish website to access the link for the Catholic Men's Conference website.



**FAMILY MASS CELEBRATION**

On Sunday April 7th 2019, there will be a celebration of the Family Mass at 10:30 am for the Religious Education Grade 3.

**A PARISH PENANCE SERVICE**

All are welcome to join us on Sunday, April 7th, 2019 at 2 PM for a Parish Penance service. **Deacon Tim Cross from St Mary's Church in Jefferson MA will be a guest preacher who will be discussing the important role that the Sacrament of Reconciliation has during Lent and preparation for Holy Week.**



There will be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation from local area priests during the Penance service.



**PANCAKE BREAKFAST ON PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup>**

The social justice committee will be hosting a pancake breakfast after each of our Sunday Masses. Mass times are 8 AM and 10:30 AM. **Donations are accepted and proceeds will support our work with the family shelter, Montachusett Interfaith Hospitality Network in Leominster, MA.**

Visit our website to learn more about MIHN. Donations can also be made online



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is visible every day in the compassionate outreach of Catholic Charities, to the least among us; in the prayerful witness of our retired priests and the joy of new priestly vocations; to the many diocesan ministries and programs that heal, teach and care for others.

**TEXT GIVING:** This is an easy and most secure way to give. If you know how to send a text message, you can make a gift to *Partners in Charity* in seconds on your phone. Best yet, **St. Boniface will receive credit!** Text the word **donate to 84576**. You can also make your gift online at [partners-charity.net](http://partners-charity.net). Thank you for your continued support!

**LENTEN FISH-FRY DINNER**



All are welcome to join us on Friday, April 12th, 2019 at 5 pm for a delicious and freshly prepared fried fish dinner. The dinner will consist of deep fried haddock, French fried potatoes, coleslaw, bread and butter and dessert.

**Tickets are priced at \$10.** There will be macaroni and cheese available for purchase at \$3 per bowl and soda and water for \$1. Tickets for the dinner are sold in advance and will also be sold at the end of the weekend masses starting March 29th.

Tickets may also be purchased online on the parish website. Proceeds will benefit the Knights of Columbus charities.

*Irish Blessing*

*May the roads rise to meet you,*

*May the winds be always at your back,*

*May the sun shine warm upon your face,*

*The rains fall soft upon your fields,*

*And until we meet again*

*May God hold you in the hollow of his hand.*



**CONDOLENCES**

**Our Parish Family extends its sympathy & prayers to the family of Patricia Sampson Alario who recently passed away. May she rest in peace.**