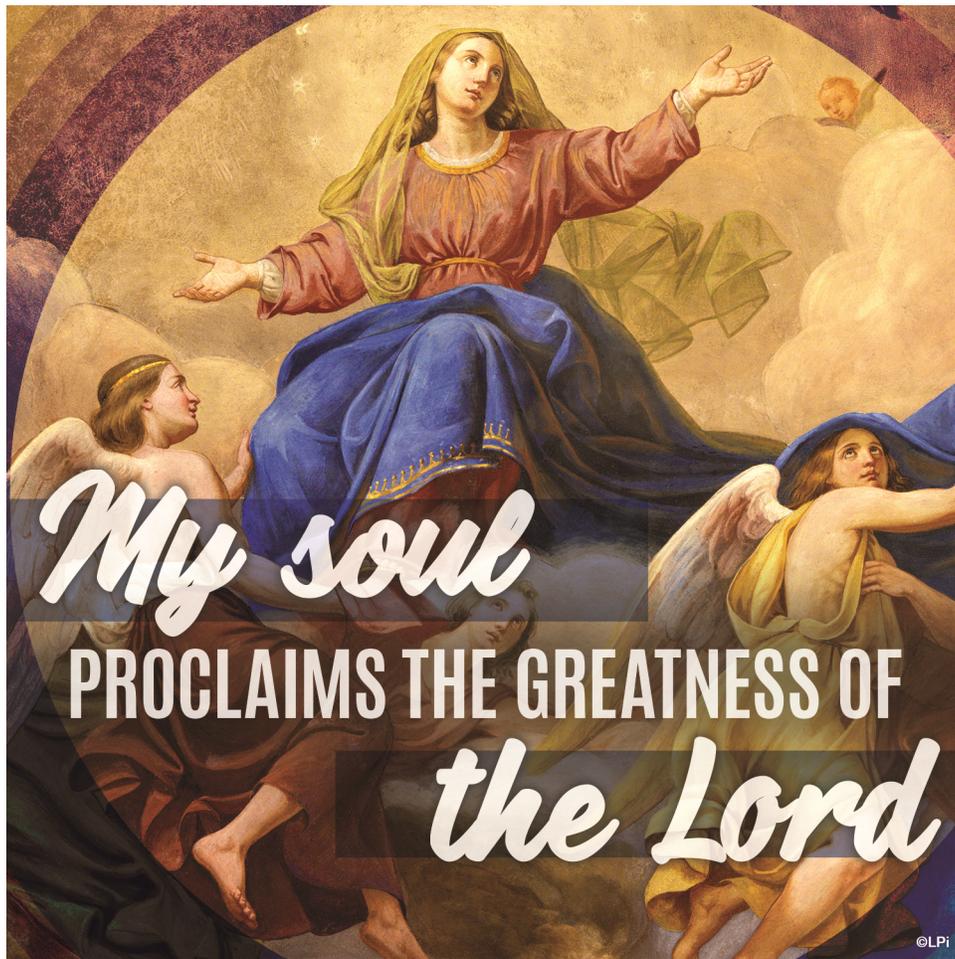


The Church of Saint Boniface

August 15, 2021

The Solemnity of the Assumption
of the Blessed Virgin Mary



THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

August 15, 2021 • Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

When the angel Gabriel visited the young virgin Mary with the momentous, shocking news that she would be the mother of God's Son, she responded faithfully, "May it be done to me according to your word." When a woman spontaneously praised his mother, Jesus told the crowd, "Blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it." As we listen to God's word today, let us consider how we assent to God's will and incorporate God's word in our lives.

Mary was not the only person the angel Gabriel visited. Six months earlier he was sent to Zechariah, Elizabeth's husband, to whom he announced that she would soon conceive a son as well. He chose not to believe the angel, and as a consequence was rendered mute until God's promise to him and Elizabeth was fulfilled. Mary, however, chose to believe and consent to this unusual and troubling proposal. Though not as dramatic, every day we too make choices to accept or not accept God's will.

We do not know how Zechariah would have reacted to Mary's visit had he been able to speak, but we know what he said once his son was born and he was able to speak once again: "you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways" (Luke 1:76). It took nine months, but the Holy Spirit moved him as well and he gladly and freely consented to God's will. We all can appreciate second chances.

Question of the Week:

For what great things would I praise God?

Reflect the Light of Christ

"And Mary said, 'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior.'"

(Luke 1: 46)

After Jesus, we look to Mary as our model of stewardship. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's will. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we too are called to reflect Christ to the world. We do this by living grateful and generous lives. We do this by putting other's needs before our wants.

**Saint Boniface update:
73 parishioners have pledged
a total of \$405,681 (as of August 5)**

**Thank you to all those who have
submitted their pledge amounts and
have given so generously!**



Together we can make a difference!

This means that over \$280,000 will come back to our parish over the next four years. We are well on our way to making our plans a reality! Pledges are still being accepted, and 100% of new donations will go directly to Saint Boniface.

Legacy of Hope is the largest fundraising campaign to date for us at Saint Boniface. Because of its magnitude and size, we are foregoing our parish Grand Annual Appeal for the next four years in order to place great emphasis on the Legacy of Hope. Our wish is to ensure its success by making it easier for more parishioners to increase the size of their pledges.

About Your Pledge

- Pledges are not legally binding but rather are an indication of your giving intention.
- Payments can be made over the next 4 years either monthly, quarterly, semi-annually or annually.



Use your phone to scan the QR code at left and learn more about the campaign, or make your pledge online at legacyofhope.worcesterdiocese.org/donate-now

MASS INTENTIONS

Aug 22	10:30 AM	Todd Dickie , by Rev. Charles Omolo
Aug 29	10:30 AM	Vivian Shaw , by Tom & Ann Ferrazzano
Sep 5	10:30 AM	John McShane , by Carol McShane

If you wish to schedule a Mass intention for a loved one, please call, email or visit the parish office for more information.

PRAY THE ROSARY every Saturday at 3:30 PM in the church, led by members of the Saint Boniface Knights of Columbus.

WEEKDAY MASS & HOLY HOUR SCHEDULE

Wed. 5:30-6:30 PM Holy Hour & Adoration (new!), Mass at 6:30 PM

Thur. & Fri. 8:00 AM Mass

The Solemnity of the Assumption celebrates the Blessed Mother's entrance into heavenly glory. It reminds us that life on earth is a pilgrimage to our ultimate destination. We prepare in hope for our own passage into eternal life by the choices we make today. When we choose to love and follow God in our daily lives, we strengthen our relationship with Him, and this relationship is the true meaning of heaven: "To live in heaven is 'to be with Christ.'"

Catechism of the Catholic Church, second edition ©2000 LEV-USCCB

CALLING ALL ALTAR SERVERS! There will be a brief training review on Thursday, August 19, at 6:00 p.m. in the church. All experienced servers as well as new candidates are encouraged to attend — we need your help in this ministry as we serve the Lord each week at Mass.

"About Jesus Christ and the Church, I simply know that they are just one thing, and we shouldn't complicate the matter."

— St. Joan of Arc

2021 Worcester Catholic Women's Conference Saturday, September 11, 2021

Rediscover and renew your faith. There will be wonderful talks by great national speakers and opportunities to meet them and make new friends. There will be time for fellowship, to go to confession, celebrate the Eucharist, and altogether strengthen your Catholic identity! Join us for this conference to "Joan Up with the Armor of God." For more information and to register, go to www.wcwconference.com or call Corinn Dahm at 508-277-3969.



COLLECTION REPORT

August 8

– Sunday Offering	\$ 2,849
– Maintenance/Fuel	380
– Holy Day (Assumption)	25
– Church in Eastern Europe	376
Total	\$ 3,630

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Give to our parish whether you're in the pews or not! Many parishioners have been making their weekly offerings online. It's secure, convenient and easy to make one-time or recurring donations at www.stboniface-lunenburg.org



You're out there. We hear you!!!

Our Diocese has restored the ability for Choirs to gather once again in September. After a very long period of silence, we would like to open up our Choir to new members. Previous choir experience is not necessary, only a heart and spirit open to praising the Lord in song. Please consider meeting with us in the parish hall on Thursday, September 30 at 7 PM when we will begin to warm up our voices with songs of praise.

We'll take it slow. BE NOT AFRAID!!!

If you need more info, please stop and ask Claire after any Mass.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

BEGIN SEPTEMBER 12

Religious Education classes for grades 1-10 begin on September 12 with our welcome Mass at 10:30 a.m. For those who are new to the program this year, please complete the registration form which is online at the Saint Boniface website.

We still need teachers! Please contact Lucy Marcil at 978-502-7993 or lmarcil419@gmail.com for more information if you are able to help.

The Catholic Company presents

GET FED™
Bite-Sized Faith

Where did Mary rest on her way to Bethlehem?

Kathisma, also known as the Church of the Seat of Mary, is an ancient site where Mary and Joseph—according to legend—stopped to rest on their way to the City of David. The word “kathisma” is Greek for “seat.”

Located in what was the Byzantine Empire, between Jerusalem and Bethlehem, the Kathisma was originally an octagonal church. A wealthy widow named Ikelia built the church in 456 to honor this holy place, which was rediscovered in an archaeological dig in 1992.

At Kathisma, the widow Ikelia supposedly helped begin a new tradition for Candlemas. Forty days after the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day, monks at the Kathisma would lead a procession with white candles to commemorate the Purification of Mary.



The Kathisma today

You can visit Kathisma in the Holy Land and walk alongside Mary and Joseph on their journey to Bethlehem.

Brought to you by The Catholic Company: catholiccompany.com

Saints of the Week

August 16.

SAINT STEPHEN of HUNGARY

Saint Stephen of Hungary was both a king and a Christian. So, he embodied both the civil and the religious aspects of life in his person. Saint Stephen expressed those aspects in the best way he knew how according to his culture and period of history.

Saint Stephen is the Patron Saint of bricklayers, and Hungary.



August 17.

SAINT JOAN of the CROSS

Transformation from greedy and surly businesswoman to saint is the story of Saint Joan of the Cross. Her conversion is credited to an elderly woman who most people thought was crazy, but who reached Saint Joan's heart. Joan of the Cross went on to found a religious congregation and several charitable institutions.



Statue of Saint Joan of the Cross, l'école des soeurs de Jeanne Delanoue

August 18.

SAINT LOUIS of TOULOUSE

Born into royalty and headed for the throne of his father, Saint Louis of Toulouse renounced his status, became a Franciscan, and was named a bishop. It was during the years that he was held hostage and under the tutelage of the Friars, that Saint Louis began to realize his call to something other than the throne. He became known for his generosity to the poor.



Saint Louis of Toulouse, by Carlo Crivelli, Church of Santa Lucia, Montefiore dell'Aso, Italy

August 19.

SAINT JOHN EUDES

Saint John Eudes was a noted preacher and confessor. He founded several seminaries because he saw the need for clerical formation. He also founded a couple of religious communities to address other needs that he saw. Saint John had a great devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.



Stained glass window, Church of Saint-Pierre de Dourdain, France

August 20.

SAINT BERNARD of CLAIRVAUX

Wanting to be a simple monk in the quiet of a monastery, Bernard of Clairvaux was called instead to be a very active member of the Church in his day. Preacher, reconciler, adviser, healer—are just a few of the roles he played. A man of many talents, Bernard used his abilities for the service of God and the Church.



Stained glass window, National Museum of the Middle Ages, Paris

The Solemnity Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

AUGUST 15, 2021

What is the Assumption?

The first name of this solemnity was the Feast of Mary, Mother of God. Later, its name in the East carried over, the Dormition (or Falling Asleep) of Mary. In the West, it became known as the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

This solemnity celebrates the fact that Mary's Assumption is "a pledge of the future participation of the members of the mystical Body of Christ in the paschal glory of the Risen Christ." It shows that the Lord "reserves a munificent reward for his humble Servant because of her faithful cooperation with the divine plan, which is a destiny of fullness, happiness, glorification of her immaculate soul, her virginal body, perfect configuration to her Risen Son" (Directory, no. 180). The Mass has a proper vigil, and the solemnity replaces the Mass of the day when it occurs on a Sunday in Ordinary Time.

What does this all mean?

On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII declared the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which the Church celebrates every year on August 15. Simply put, the dogma of the Assumption states that at the end of her life, the Blessed Virgin Mary was taken, body and soul, into Heaven.

While this event isn't reflected in Sacred Scripture, it is clearly part of the Church's earliest observance. In the sixth century, St. John Damascene wrote in one of his sermons, "Your sacred and happy soul, as nature will have it, was separated in death from your most blessed and immaculate body, and although the body was duly interred, it did not remain in the state of death, neither was it dissolved by decay; your most pure and sinless body was not left on earth, but you were transferred to your heavenly throne."





THE SOLEMNITY ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Theologically speaking, death is often understood to be a consequence of original sin. Since Mary was conceived without Original Sin, some theologians have wondered if Mary died or if perhaps she was taken into Heaven without experiencing death. The Catechism of the Catholic Church doesn't answer this question but simply states, "The most blessed Virgin Mary, when the course of her earthly life was completed, was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven" (no. 974)

The Solemnity of the Assumption reminds us of the unique role that Mary served in the process of our salvation. Although she was without sin, we have the possibility of receiving God's forgiveness for our sins through Christ. Her entry into Heaven prefigures our own hope of experiencing the same eternal life.

Ordinarily, the celebration of the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a holy day of obligation for Catholics, but when it falls on a Saturday or a Monday, that obligation to attend Mass is lifted.

Saint Boniface Church

817 Massachusetts Avenue, Lunenburg, MA 01462

Parish Office: 978-582-4008 email: stbonifaceparish@verizon.net

Discover St. Boniface ~ Visit our website: www.StBoniface-lunenburg.org

Parish Office Hours

Monday / Wednesday / Thursday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM (closed 12:00 – 1:00 PM)

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Sunday: 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Holy Hour of Adoration: every Wednesday 5:30-6:30 PM

Weekday Masses: 6:30 PM Wednesday | 8:00 AM Thursday & Friday

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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Adults are baptized at the Easter Vigil as part of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). Infant and child Baptisms are by arrangement.

FIRST EUCHARIST Preparation begins in grade one and includes classes, retreats, and home instruction. Children receive First Eucharist in grade two.

CONFIRMATION Our Confirmation program begins in the 9th grade; students are confirmed in the spring of the 10th grade. For young adults who have been baptized but not yet confirmed, contact the parish office.

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.

ANNOINTING OF THE SICK Please call the parish office 978-582-4008 or email Fr. Omolo at stbonifaceparish@verizon.net or Louise Nadeau at dinalou1@comcast.net to arrange these visits.

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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #16480 *In Service to One. In Service to all.* Members meet in the Parish Hall on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 PM. Any Catholic men over 18 who are interested in joining the Knights should contact Grand Knight Peter Bak (978-403-5119) or Deputy Grand Knight Claude Poirier (978-660-3202), or email kofc16480@gmail.com.

PARISH STAFF:

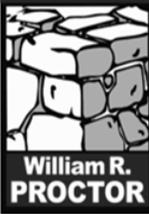
	<i>phone</i>	<i>email</i>
Rev. Charles Omolo, Administrator	978-582-4008	stbonifaceparish@verizon.net
Jo-Anne Poirier, Administrative Assistant	978-582-4008	stbonifaceparish@verizon.net
Lucy Marcil, Religious Education Coordinator	978-502-7993	lmarcil419@gmail.com
Claire Garrity Neas, Music Ministry	617-823-4237	cmkakosgarrity@aol.com
Louise Nadeau, Sacristan		
Ministry Schedule	978-582-4008	stbonifaceparish@verizon.net
Nina Charpentier, Dir. Early Childhood/PreK	978-582-7110	

Newcomers to St. Boniface are invited and encouraged to formally register as members of the parish so that we may stay in touch with you with faith formation news, notices of special events, volunteer opportunities, and more. Registration forms are available at the doors of the church, the parish office, or on our website.

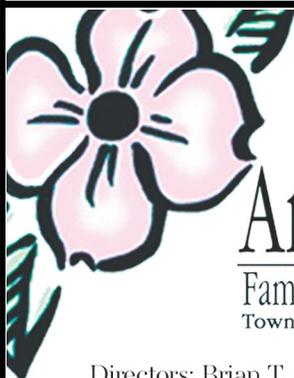
Please note that you must be registered for at least six months before we can issue any verification of your status as a parishioner for godparent or sponsor letters.

The
Chapdelaine
Family

EXCAVATING



**SEPTIC SYSTEMS/SITE WORK
WATER & SEWER LINES
TITLE 5 INSPECTIONS
DAN PROCTOR OWNER
978-582-4764**



Serving St. Boniface Families
with Three Convenient
Locations

Anderson
Family Funeral Homes
Townsend ~ Ayer ~ Fitchburg

Directors: Brian T. Anderson & Michael D. Masciarelli
www.andersonfuneral.com • 800.562.2692

(978) 342-9716

THOMAS FUEL HOME HEATING OILS

Since 1932



Dan Thomas
681 Mass Ave.
Lunenburg, MA 01462

Timothy W. Murphy Attorney At Law

81 Merriam Avenue
Leominster, MA 01453

Tel: (978) 537-5500

Fax: (978) 534-9778

E-Mail: Tmurphyesq@aol.com



DRIVE-IN SEAFOOD & FISH MARKET

Seafood at its best since 1946.

835 Mass Ave. Rte 2A, Lunenburg, MA
978-582-6115



Robert C. Alario

Certified Public Accountants, PC

75 N. Main St., Leominster, MA 01453

292 Park Ave., Worcester, MA 01609

(L) 978-534-1999 (W) 508-755-7575

Fax: (L) 978-534-0499 (W) 508-755-7599

www.robotalario.com
bob@robotalario.com



380 ELECTRIC AVE. (RT 13)
LUNENBURG

www.WHALOMWASH.COM

978-829-0399

DAN AND JEAN PROCTOR, OWNERS

A Note of Thanks
to our sponsors!
Please support
them with your
patronage.

For ad information
call the parish
office

978-582-4008

YWCA-Battered Women's Resources

*Helping area women, to survive, emerge from,
or heal from abusive relationships*

*Counseling *Emergency Shelter

*24-hr hotline (978-537-8601)

For more information call 978-537-2306, Ext. 19

ST. BONIFACE PRE-SCHOOL & CHILDCARE

817 Massachusetts Ave. Lunenburg, MA 01462

978-582-7110

Children Ages: 2.9 through 7 years | Open 7:30 am- 5:30 pm