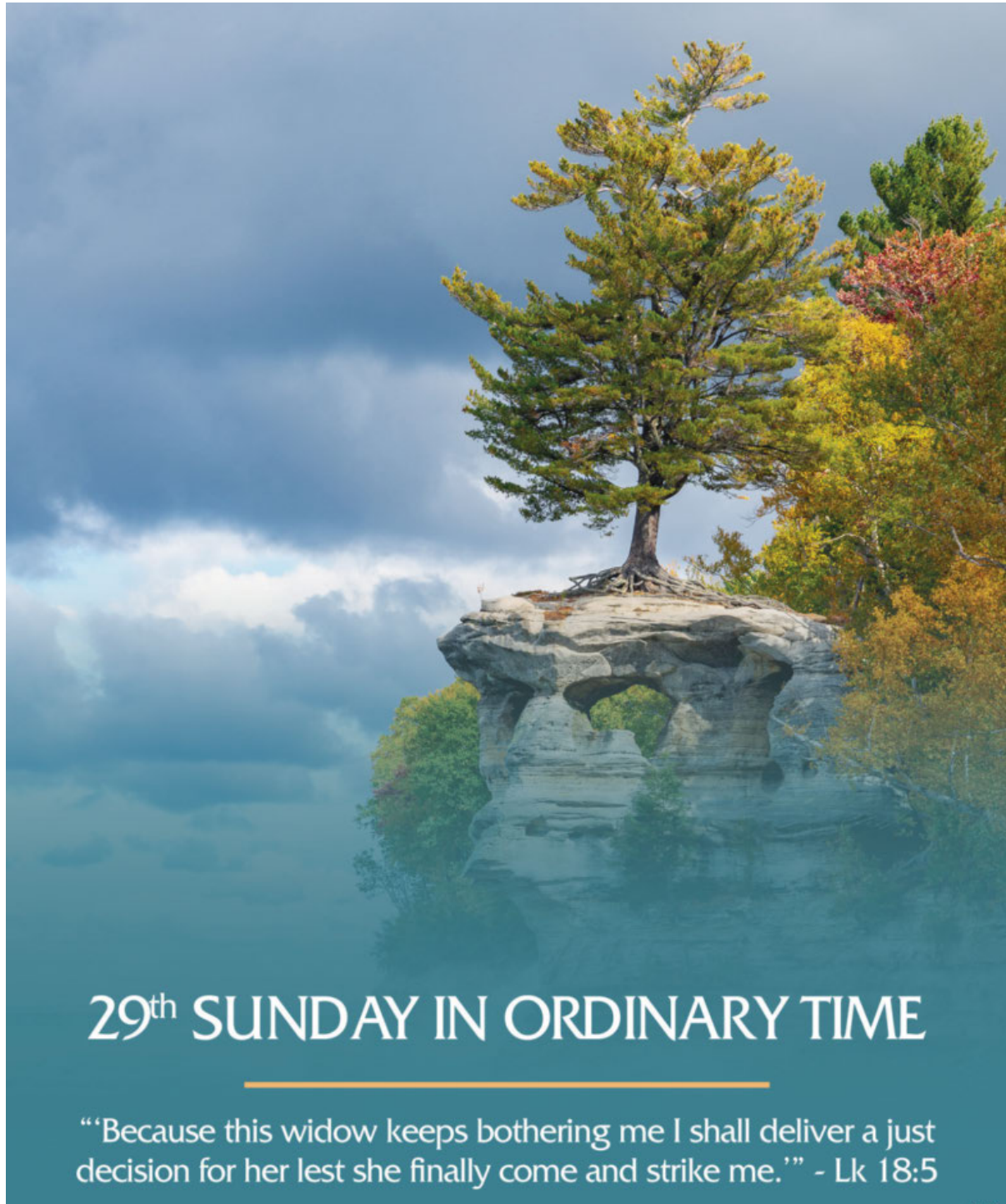


The Church of Saint Boniface

817 Massachusetts Avenue
Lunenburg, MA 01462



October 16, 2022



29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Because this widow keeps bothering me I shall deliver a just decision for her lest she finally come and strike me.” - Lk 18:5

THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

October 16, 2022 • Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 17:8-13 | 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2 | Luke 18:1-8

Prayer, whether short or lengthy, whether rote or extemporaneous, is what keeps us connected to God. It is no accident that Jesus spends a lot of time praying to the Father. Not only did Jesus teach his disciples how to pray, he showed them that he prayed, and prayed often. It connected him to the Father, and if he needed to make that connection often, how much more important is it for us? Persistent prayer will see to it that justice is done for us and God's chosen ones. Persistent prayer helps us to understand and accept God's will. Persistent prayer ensures that there will still indeed be faith on earth when the Son of Man comes.

Question of the Week: *For what do I feel I am praying in vain? Can I find the will to pray for it persistently? Meanwhile, how can I be part of God's answer to someone else's persistent prayer?*

Connect! Sunday Reflection

By: Colleen Jurkiewicz

...Pray always, without becoming weary. — Luke 18:1

For the first nine months of my daughter's life, she didn't "sleep" so much as she succumbed to 45-to-90-minute power naps against which she struggled viciously, like a fugitive resisting capture.

In those blurry, melatonin-deficient days of early parenthood, I don't think I once said a nighttime prayer that lasted more than five seconds. As soon as my daughter had finally passed out for the first "nap" of the night, I hastened to make the most of my window of opportunity and tried to get to sleep as quickly as possible. Prayer was a mumbled half-thought, half-groan that went something like, "I'm so sorry, God, I'm just so tired, but I love you" as I was borne away on the irresistible current of a REM cycle.

And when I tell you that those were some of the most profound moments of communion with my creator that I have ever felt, I am not lying.

After my daughter began sleeping more and I stopped having an "excuse" for these brief, intense moments of conversation with God, I felt I had to return to my previous way of praying, a practice which closely resembles the recitation of the Gettysburg Address by a disinterested and slightly nervous fifth grader.

One evening not long ago, as I faceplanted into bed after the house went quiet, I actually got angry at the thought of praying. I am so sick and tired of everything. I am so done with giving. I do not have the strength or energy to coddle the ego of the creator of the universe, I told God resentfully. I am not praying tonight.

In other words, I was praying about how I was too tired and cranky to pray.

St. Therese of Lisieux, a true genius of the relationship between the human and the divine, described prayer as "a surge of the heart ... a simple look turned toward heaven ... a cry of recognition and of love." It's such a beautiful description, and far more appealing than "a long and belabored list of requests shamefully presented, compliments lazily given, and gratitude halfheartedly offered," which more accurately describes the type of prayer I've engaged in since childhood.

For most of my life, I have believed that I struggle with prayer — with finding the time for it, with doing it correctly and effectively. But I have recently come to realize that I don't struggle with prayer. I struggle with understanding what prayer is.

Prayer does not have to be a litany (though it can be!). It does not have to be a love letter (though it can be!). It does not have to be an act of worship like Mass, with rubrics and protocols (though it can be!). Prayer is not a transaction or a test or a compulsion. If it is any of these things, then it is not prayer.

Prayer is Moses raising his hands to Heaven — wearily, and with assistance. It is the widow desperately banging on the door of the indifferent judge. It is something that needs to be done, yes, but also something that we cannot help but want to do, because it is natural. It is what we were designed for.

I recently heard that the reason babies resist sleep is because they have not yet learned that sleep will bring relief for the discomfort of exhaustion. So, they thrash and claw and scream, protesting the cure for their ailment because they do not understand it.

Just let yourself sleep, I would whisper to my daughter all those years ago as she used every ounce of energy in her small body to fight against the thing she needed most. You're making this too complicated.

Just let yourself pray, God whispers to me. You're making this too complicated.

"...proclaim the word, be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient..."

Timothy 4:2

It is not always convenient to be a good steward, especially when all the temptations of our busy and materialistic world get in the way. Now add our own pride and ego into the equation and living a stewardship lifestyle may be downright uncomfortable! Remember, God didn't call us to be comfortable. He never said that we would have an easy life. Rather, He called us to be faithful!



A Prayer

Lord, teach me to pray without growing weary.

Let all of my actions and all of my thoughts be a conversation with you. Help me to seek out your company in the course of my day

In the midst of my labors and among the people I meet.

*Teach me that prayer is a surge of my heart
A connection
A lifeline.*

MASS INTENTIONS

Oct 23	10:30 am	Deacon Joseph & Nancy Cieri , by their family
Nov 5	4:00 pm	Virginia Fernandes , 1st Anniversary, by her family
Nov 6	8:00 am	Wesley Laford , 1st Anniversary, by the Laford family
Nov 12	4:00 pm	Paul Keating , 16th Anniversary, by his children
Nov 19	4:00 pm	Tina Forest , by her family
Nov 20	8:00 am	Ann Rivard , 3rd Anniversary, by her husband
Nov 5	4:00 pm	Virginia Fernandes , 1st Anniversary, by the family
Dec 3	4:00 pm	Bernard Robarge , 11th Anniversary, by his daughters
Dec 10	4:00 pm	Angelina Arruda , 23rd Anniversary, by her grandchildren
Dec 17	4:00 pm	Louis & Angelina Arruda , by their children

An individual may ask a priest to offer a Mass for several reasons: for example, in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as on a birthday), or, as is most common, for the repose of the soul of someone who has died. If you wish to schedule a Mass intention for a loved one, please call, email or visit the parish office.

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

CONGRATULATIONS to Grant Oliver, son of Katie and Ian Kasowitz, who was baptized at Saint Boniface on October 15th. Welcome to our Parish Family.!

COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP Saturday, November 5th - If you know of anyone who requires assistance with lawn and property clean-up or you would like to volunteer please contact Bob Bourque at bobbourque@comcast.net. Times and locations to follow.

Do you wonder what the Knights of Columbus are all about?

All men of the parish are invited to attend the October Council meeting at 7pm on October 12 in the parish hall so you can see what we're doing for the parish. Pizza and fellowship will be shared after the meeting and we will do our best to answer your questions.



Organ Dedication, Sunday November 13 at 2:00 p.m.

Please join us as we dedicate our new Organ and piano in thanks to God and our generous parish. We will hold a special concert to show off our new instruments (both organ and piano) and hear the Fugue and Friends" of the Montachusett Chorale. After this beautiful one hour concert, we will join in the hall for refreshments provided by the Ladies of St. Boniface.



Calling all Altar Servers! We're looking for new altar servers. If you have received your First Communion you qualify! This is a wonderful opportunity to be more active in the celebration of Mass. Please see Louise Nadeau, our sacristan, or contact the Parish Office for more information.

St. Bernard Cemetery Lot & Columbarium Sale

St. Bernard Cemetery will be having a sale from October 1st - October 31st on grave lots in the New Calvary Section which was recently plotted with updated regulations pertaining to monument and lot layouts. Plus their newly constructed Columbarium with niches will also have reduced prices. Please contact the Cemetery Superintendent Ray Spagnuolo at the cemetery office 978-342-4820. All calls will be returned. Weekend and after hour appointments are available.

STEWARDSHIP

September 2022 ACH	\$5,664.00
October 9, 2022	
• Sunday Offering	\$2,138.00
• Maintenance/Fuel	635.00
• Holy Day	15.00
• Other	0
October 9 Total	\$2,788.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUOUS GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT!

Give to your parish whether you're in the pews or not! Many parishioners make their weekly offerings online. It's easy, secure, and convenient to make one-time or recurring donations. Scan the code below with your phone or visit www.stboniface-lunenburg.org and click on "Online Giving Options" in the upper left.



Ninth Annual Celebrate Priesthood - Taste of the Diocese Gala

For the past eight years, the Diocese of Worcester has hosted this wonderful gala as a benefit for Retired Priests' Care. We pause to reflect on the gift of the priesthood in the lives of all Catholics. On Thursday, October 20 we are planning an in-person Taste of the Diocese event. We are excited to announce our return to Saint Paul Diocesan Jr./Sr. High School in the refurbished Gymnasium and the video to be shown onsite. To make a donation, buy tickets for Taste of the Diocese, or to get more information to place an advertisement, visit worcestardiocese.org/celebrate-priesthood or call Michael Gillespie at 508-929-4368.

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 – 4:00 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

Summer schedule: Sunday: 9:00 am | Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm

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 the parish office at 978-582-4008, email stbonifaceparish@verizon.net or contact Louise Nadeau at dinalou1@comcast.net.

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
Heather Sroka, Administrative Assistant	978-582-4008	stbonifaceparish@verizon.net
Lucy Marcil, Religious Ed Coordinator (Grades 1-6)	978-502-7993	lmarcil419@gmail.com
Terry Stramowski, Religious Ed Coordinator (Grades 6-10)		gr610@cffstboniface.onmicrosoft.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, Director, Preschool	978-582-7110	ninastboniface@gmail.com

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.

Come and see...

Εὐαγγέλιον

Euangelion*

2022

October 22, 2022

St Cecilia Church
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Use code **STBON22** for your special
"sponsoring parish" discount!

Confirmation candidates:
plan to attend –
counts as retreat!

**Euangelion: Greek, meaning "good news" –
it's where the word "gospel" comes from!**

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

October 17.

Saint Ignatius of Antioch

On his journey to Rome to face his death in the Circus Maximus, Saint Ignatius of Antioch visited and wrote to many of the churches along the way. These letters have become a valuable source of instruction as well as a source of information about the early days of the Church.



October 18.

Saint Luke

Saint Luke is known to us primarily as the author of the Gospel that bears his name, and Acts of the Apostles. Actually two volumes of one work, Saint Luke instructs and inspires us with his beautiful treatment of the words and deeds of Jesus and of the early Church. We are blessed by his writings.



October 19.

Saints Isaac Jogues, Jean de Brébeuf, and Companions

Isaac Jogues and his companions are popularly known as the North American martyrs. Over a period of years, these eight Jesuits worked among the Hurons, bringing many into the Catholic faith. They labored in what would become the northeastern United States and eastern Canada.



October 20.

Saint Paul of the Cross

Saint Paul of the Cross dedicated his life to the memory of Christ's passion and death. Known as the Passionists, the Congregation of the Passion that he founded is committed to preaching the good news of Christ crucified, and to caring for the poor. The Passionists take a fourth vow to promote the Passion of Jesus.



October 21.

Saint Hilarion

The life of a hermit living in the desert strikes many people as mysterious, if not inexplicable. Yet this is what Saint Hilarion, and many others, sought and hoped for and, in some cases, fought for. They teach the value of solitude and prayer to our noisy and busy world.



October 22.

Saint John Paul II

Born in Wadowice, Poland, Pope Saint John Paul II had lost his mother, father, and older brother before his 21st birthday. Then his promising academic career at Krakow's Jagiellonian University was cut short by the outbreak of World War II, during which he worked in a quarry and a chemical factory while attending an underground seminary..





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