



The Church of Saint Boniface

817 Massachusetts Avenue
Lunenburg, MA 01462



November 20, 2022



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

The rulers sneered at Jesus and said, "He saved others, let him save himself if he is the chosen one, the Christ of God." - Lk 23:35

THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

November 20, 2022 • Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

2 Samuel 5:1-3 / Colossians 1:12-20 / Luke 23:35-43

When we first meet David he was tending sheep, overlooked since he was the youngest of Jesse's sons. Jesus presented himself as the Good Shepherd, tending his own and rescuing the lost. On the cross he is still the shepherd, welcoming the lost sheep to his heavenly pasture.

Question of the Week: Who can I forgive this week, imitating the Lord's mercy, sowing the seeds of the kingdom, and bringing a sort of paradise to someone else's heart?

Connect! Sunday Reflection

By: Allison Gingras

While we understand the kingdom of God to be heaven, this quote reminds us — in God's mysterious ways, it also dwells among us — present in every Tabernacle of the world in the Eucharist. The totality of Jesus remains fully present among us in the guise of a little white host, having come into his kingdom through the salvific work upon the Cross.

While everyone's idea of heaven on earth is very different, none of us can begin to imagine the heaven that awaits us.

"What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard and what has not entered the human heart what God has prepared for those who love him," (1 Corinthians 2:9)

.In my typical tendency to limit the majesty of Jesus, I've only hoped for a tiara and an all-you-can-eat buffet filled with gluten and dairy that I will finally be able to eat! My anxious mind cannot begin to comprehend the peace experienced in heaven. "This perfect life with the Most Holy Trinity — this communion of life and love with the Trinity, with the Virgin Mary, the angels and all the blessed — is called "heaven." Heaven is the ultimate end and fulfillment of the deepest human longings, the state of supreme, definitive happiness" (CCC 1024).

The Catechism teaches for whom the kingdom has been prepared, "Everyone is called to enter the kingdom. First announced to the children of Israel, this messianic kingdom is intended to accept men of all nations" (CCC 543a). Then instructs, "To enter it, one must first accept Jesus' word: The word of the Lord is compared to a seed which is sown in a field; those who hear it with faith and are numbered among the little flock of Christ have truly received the kingdom. Then, by its own power, the seed sprouts and grows until the harvest" (543b). My Lord, my God, and my King — forgive me my trespasses, and remember me as you reign in your Kingdom.

In a recent homily, my pastor shared the subtle evidence that Christ's nobility was revealed in how his body was prepared for burial after removal from the Cross.

"Nicodemus, the one who had first come to him at night, also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes weighing about one hundred pounds. 40 They took the body of Jesus and bound it with burial cloths along with the spices, according to the Jewish burial custom." (John 19:39-40).

For a frame of reference, Father Matthew explained a hundred pounds of myrrh and aloe would be equivalent to twelve gallons of milk. Only a noble burial, he concluded, would warrant this quantity of anointing materials.

The Good Thief needed nothing more but a stirring of the heart to acknowledge Christ as King and receive the promise. Today, may we allow the Truth to penetrate our hardened hearts to make room for the kingdom here and the world to come.

"...giving thanks to the Father, who has made you fit to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light."

(Colossians 1:12)

**God wants us to be happy!
Instead of looking at the Ten Commandments as being restrictive and telling us what we can't do, look at them as guides for living a joy-filled and peaceful life. Most of our problems arise when we put our own needs first or we spend most of our time trying to acquire more stuff. Instead, try putting God first in all things. We were made for God. Open your heart and let Him in!**



*Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe,
we anoint you with our
worship and praise;
come reign in our hearts.*

*Remember us,
show your mercy upon us,
and welcome us into your
kingdom.*

MASS INTENTIONS

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
Dec 31	\$:00 pm	John McQuaid, 10th Anniversary, by his family
Jan 22	8:00 am	Thomas Cotter, 2nd Anniversary, by his family
Feb 4	4:00 pm	Louis Arruda, 18th Anniversary, by his grandchildren

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.

Calling all singers... Wednesday, November 30 at 7 pm the Seasonal Choir will gather to rehearse carols and more to add some beauty to our Christmas Eve Liturgy. Singers age 14 - 107 are invited and welcomed to join. No choir experience necessary but singing in the shower and with the radio count.

Christmas is coming soon! The Ladies of St. Boniface are looking for some kindhearted, generous parishioners willing to purchase a Christmas gift for a resident of the Village Rest Home in Leominster or Penny Lane Rest Home in Fitchburg. Sign up will take place after masses the weekends of November 19 and November 26.

Questions contact maryabourque@comcast.net or caraarchambault@comcast.net

St. Anthony's Annual Christmas Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, November 26 at 14 Phoenix St., Shirley, MA from 9 am - 2 pm at the Parish Hall. Along with talented crafters, there will Gourmet Lunch, Basket Raffle, Cookie Walk, homemade Donuts, the Grab Bag tree and face painting. Santa Claus will be there from 11 am - 1 pm to say hi, take pictures and listen to the children's Christmas wishes.

Food Donations for the months of November and December will be going to Catholic Charities of Leominster. Donations can be left in the back of the church. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

When St Boniface puts on an event, we don't fool around!!!

Special thanks to the Ladies of St Boniface for their generous donations of lovely baked goods and snacks as well as set up and clean up help. Gratitude to Lynn who does an AMAZING job behind the scenes, keeping our church clean, creating lovely decorations and always with a smile. Our guests always leave us happy! Thanks to our Knights for their knowledgeable and generous presence, our Judit Ernst for her masterful piano performance, Jacquie Cronin for her beautiful reading and prayer intentions, Fr Charles for his patience and blessing and all of our parishioners who came out on a chilly and rainy afternoon to support us.

STEWARDSHIP

November 6 and 13, 2022

Sunday	\$6,114
Fuel/Maintenance	\$1,092
Holy Days	\$119
Flowers	\$60
Mission	\$10
Other	\$20
TOTAL	\$7,415

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.



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, Thomas Bodkin, or email kofc16480@gmail.com.

PARISH STAFF:	phone	email
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.

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When was the first Thanksgiving?

Far from Plymouth Rock, more than fifty years before the Pilgrims arrived... a fleet of Spanish ships cast anchor off the coast of what is now the state of Florida. It was the feast of Our Lady's Nativity, September 8th, 1565.

The group, led by Pedro Menéndez de Avilés, was received peacefully by the local natives. Fr. Francisco Lopez de Mendoza Grajales, the fleet's Franciscan chaplain, came ashore before the captain, bearing a cross. Don Menéndez then followed, meeting Fr. Lopez, kneeling, and kissing the cross. Fr. Lopez proceeded to celebrate a Mass of thanksgiving for a safe voyage. The natives joined the newcomers for Mass and for a celebratory meal afterward. The place where the Spaniards landed is the oldest continually-inhabited city in the United States—St. Augustine, Florida, so named because land was sighted on the traditional feast of St. Augustine: August 28th. The parish established there is our country's oldest Catholic parish.

The word "eucharist" means "thanksgiving," and so it is providentially fitting that the first Thanksgiving in America was—first and foremost—the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

We hope you enjoy Thanksgiving with your families today. If you are able, start off your day with the Holy Mass, as they did in St. Augustine nearly 500 years ago.

And wherever life's voyage takes you, may the Eucharist be your sustenance and may gratitude be a daily habit.

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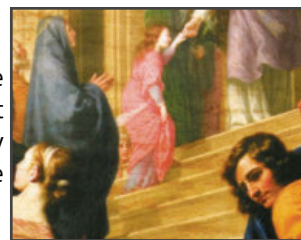
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SAINTS OF THE WEEK

November 21.

Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This feast celebrates Mary's presentation in the Temple by her parents Anna and Joachim. While it is not mentioned in Scripture, there is early evidence that this event was celebrated in both the Eastern and Western Churches.



November 22.

Saint Cecilia

Although there is little historical evidence concerning the life of Saint Cecilia, she is one of the famous martyrs of the Church in Rome. She is mentioned in the list of saints in the first Eucharistic Prayer—Roman Canon. Cecilia is often depicted playing an organ.



November 23.

Blessed Miguel Agustín Pro

Faced with persecution and possible death, Blessed Miguel Pro returned to his native Mexico after his ordination to minister to the people of God. Within a couple of years, he was arrested on trumped-up charges and executed.



November 24.

Saint Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions

Saint Andrew Dung-Lac was one of the 117 people martyred in Vietnam between 1820 and 1862. While members of this group were beatified on four different occasions between 1900 and 1951, all were canonized by Pope John Paul II.



November 25.

Saint Catherine of Alexandria

According to the "Legend of St. Catherine," Catherine of Alexandria was instrumental in the conversion of 50 pagan philosophers as well as over 200 soldiers and royal family members.



November 26.

Saint Columban

Saint Columban was an Irish missionary who worked on the European continent. He and 12 companions traveled to Gaul where they won the respect of the people. Columban established several monasteries in Europe.





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