



The Church of Saint Boniface

817 Massachusetts Avenue
Lunenburg, MA 01462



August 20, 2023

Be gracious
to us, O Lord,
for we are
in distress.

PSALM 31:9

God, bring
consolation
and relief

to Maui.

THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

August 20, 2023 The Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 56:1, 6-7 / Romans 11:13-15, 29-32 / Matthew 15:21-28

Faith is key, but it may come from anyone, even far outside the community of believers. In the Gospel, it is the faith of the Canaanite woman that convinces Jesus to answer her prayer. In Isaiah, it is foreigners who come to God's holy mountain with sacrifices and offerings. In Paul's letter to the Romans, it is Gentiles whom Paul not only welcomes but hopes may spur Jewish people like Paul to accept Christ. Faith is to be encouraged in all peoples.

Question of the Week:

Whom is the message of inclusion in today's readings challenging me to look at differently? How can I be more accepting of others?

"For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable." (Romans 11:29)

God has a special mission in mind for each of us. He has given us the gifts we need to accomplish that mission. We are called to be good stewards by using those gifts to do the work that He has planned for each of us. If we deny our gifts or fail to use them as God calls us to use them, then some part of His work will be left undone. Each of us has a part in God's salvation plan.



- The author of the passage of Isaiah that we hear today is unafraid to make a bold statement about God's will during a tumultuous time in Israel's history. Cyrus the Great, the Persian king, had just liberated the Israelites, fifty years after they were driven into exile by the Babylonians. They returned to Judah and found it desolate, with Jerusalem in ruins. But "Third Isaiah" (scholars believe this author of the book was the third to write under Isaiah's name) challenges his compatriots to not only rebuild the temple and the country, but also to welcome all peoples to come worship the LORD. Though the pagan nation of Babylon had destroyed Judah and conquered its people, the pagan nation of Persia had rescued them and restored their lands. Isaiah understood that believing all foreigners to be evil and dangerous was simply wrong.
- It appears contradictory for Jesus to say, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" while standing in the region of Tyre and Sidon, which was clearly outside of Judea (Matthew 15:24). However, the Good Shepherd will not stop at boundaries to pursue his sheep. Therefore, this Canaanite woman feels free to challenge him to break down another boundary. Jesus refuses initially, but her persistence leads him to acquiesce, healing her daughter, sight unseen.

SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, SEPT. 16, 2023 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Vendors Needed - please contact Dave or Claude
for more information**

Family Fun

Raffles - Prizes - Kids & Adult Games
Food - Beer & Wine

Questions? Contact our event

Chairman, Dave McCarthy at dmccarthy484@gmail.com
or Assistant Chairman, Claude Poirier at claudelsa@yahoo.com

SAINT BONIFACE PARISH



MASS INTENTIONS

Aug 20	9:00 am	Tina Forest, 1st Anniversary, by Jo-Anne and Claude Poirier
Aug 27	9:00 am	James and Gerene Maloney, in honor of their birthdays
Sep 3	9:00 am	John McShane, by Carol McShane
Oct 1	8:00 am	Joseph Picucci, by his daughter, Ava
Nov 5	8:00 am	Wesley LaFord, 2nd Anniversary, by his family
Nov 25	4:00 pm	Louis and Angelina Arruda, by their grandchildren
Nov 26	8:00 am	Anne Rivard, 5th Anniversary, by her husband
Dec 23	4:00 pm	Angelina Arruda, 23rd Anniversary, by her 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.

Food Pantry donations for the months of July and August will benefit the Lunenburg Community Food Pantry. Donations can be left in the back of the church. Thank you for your continued generosity.



The St. Boniface Knights of Columbus will be hosting a parish cook out in appreciation of our parishioners continued support of the Knights charitable activities. The meal of hamburgers, hot dogs, sides, and dessert will be held immediately after the 4pm Mass on **August 19th**.

Diocese of Worcester Night at the WooSox

Join us for a fun, family evening with the Worcester Red Sox on Friday, Sept. 1 at Polar Park. The WooSox will take on the Norfolk Tides with game time at 6:45 PM and it is a Unibank Fireworks night immediately after the game. Ticket price is \$17.00 and for ticket information please visit: <https://fevogm.com/diocese23> See you there. . . GO WOOSOX!

Fall Festival in Westminster

Saint Edward the Confessor Parish, 10 Church St, Westminster will hold its annual Fall Festival on Saturday, Sept. 9 from 10 am to 4 pm on the church grounds. The festival features Chicken BBQ, games for children and adults, "Attic Treasures" flea market, cash raffle, baskets, raffles, jewelry room, baked goods, entertainment at 1pm and many locally produced craft items. Plenty of free parking. Early Bird to Attic Treasures – get in a half hour before the crowd for \$5.00 per person.

Pilgrimage to Ireland Our Lady of Hope Parish's Pilgrimage to Ireland will be led by Fr. Anthony Mpagi and Fr. Derek Mobilio on April 8-19, 2024. We will visit Galway, Glenstal Abbey, the Aran Islands, Our Lady of Knock Shrine, Cobh, Glendalough, and Dublin. For information and to sign up, please contact Fr. Derek Mobilio -- fr.mobilio@gmail.com -- 508-556-0553.

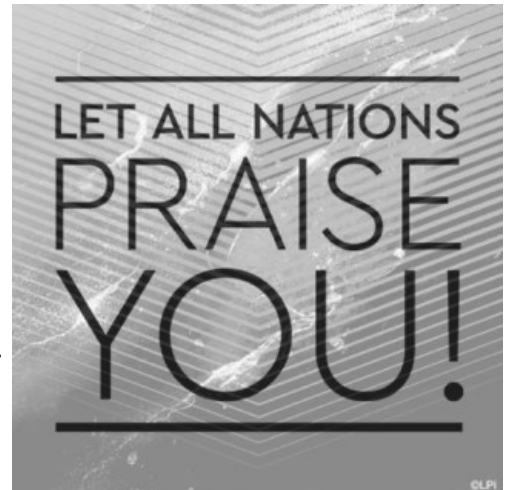
STEWARDSHIP

August 6/7

Weekly	3,354.00
Maintenance/Fuel	669.00
Holy Day	39.00
Other	<u>5.00</u>
Total	\$4,067.00

August 12/13

Weekly	1,089.00
Maintenance/Fuel	21.00
Central/Eastern Europe	<u>283.00</u>
Total	\$1,393.00



Loving God,
you offer your love and mercy to
all your children.

As we grow in faith in you,
may we realize your call to
universal love and mercy,
even as we seek yours
to fulfill these prayers we make,
through Christ our Risen Lord.

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: 9:00am | Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm

Holy Hour of Adoration: last Wednesday of the month 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 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 at tbodkin@bodkinmason.com or (508-363-3422), 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
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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.



VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- As fires continued to burn on the Hawaiian island of Maui and as the death toll continued to rise, Pope Francis offered his prayers and his encouragement to firefighters and rescue workers.

"His Holiness Pope Francis was deeply saddened to learn of the loss of life and the destruction caused by the wildfires on the Hawaiian island of Maui," said a telegram sent by Cardinal Pietro Parolin, Vatican secretary of state, to Cardinal-designate Christoph Pierre, the apostolic nuncio to the United States.

The pope, he said, "expresses his solidarity with all those suffering from this tragedy, especially those whose loved ones have died or are missing."

Officials said late Aug. 10 that the death toll from the fires, which began Aug. 8, had reached 55, and Gov. Josh Green told reporters that number was expected to rise as a search through devastated property and neighborhoods continued.

Pope Francis offered "the assurance of prayers for the dead, injured and displaced, as well as for the first responders and emergency personnel," Cardinal Parolin wrote. "As a sign of his spiritual closeness, the Holy Father willingly invokes upon all the people of Maui Almighty God's blessings of strength and peace."

CATHOLIC NEWS SERVICE

Almighty God, who is our strength and our refuge; be with those who are besieged by fire in Hawaii, guide those who evacuate so that they may find care and comfort in a safe place; protect their homes and their pets, their neighbors and their friends, so that they may return home to a loving community. Comfort those whose loved ones have been lost, and sustain and protect those who battle the fires. We ask this in the name of Jesus your son, who abides with you and with the Holy Spirit.
Amen.





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