

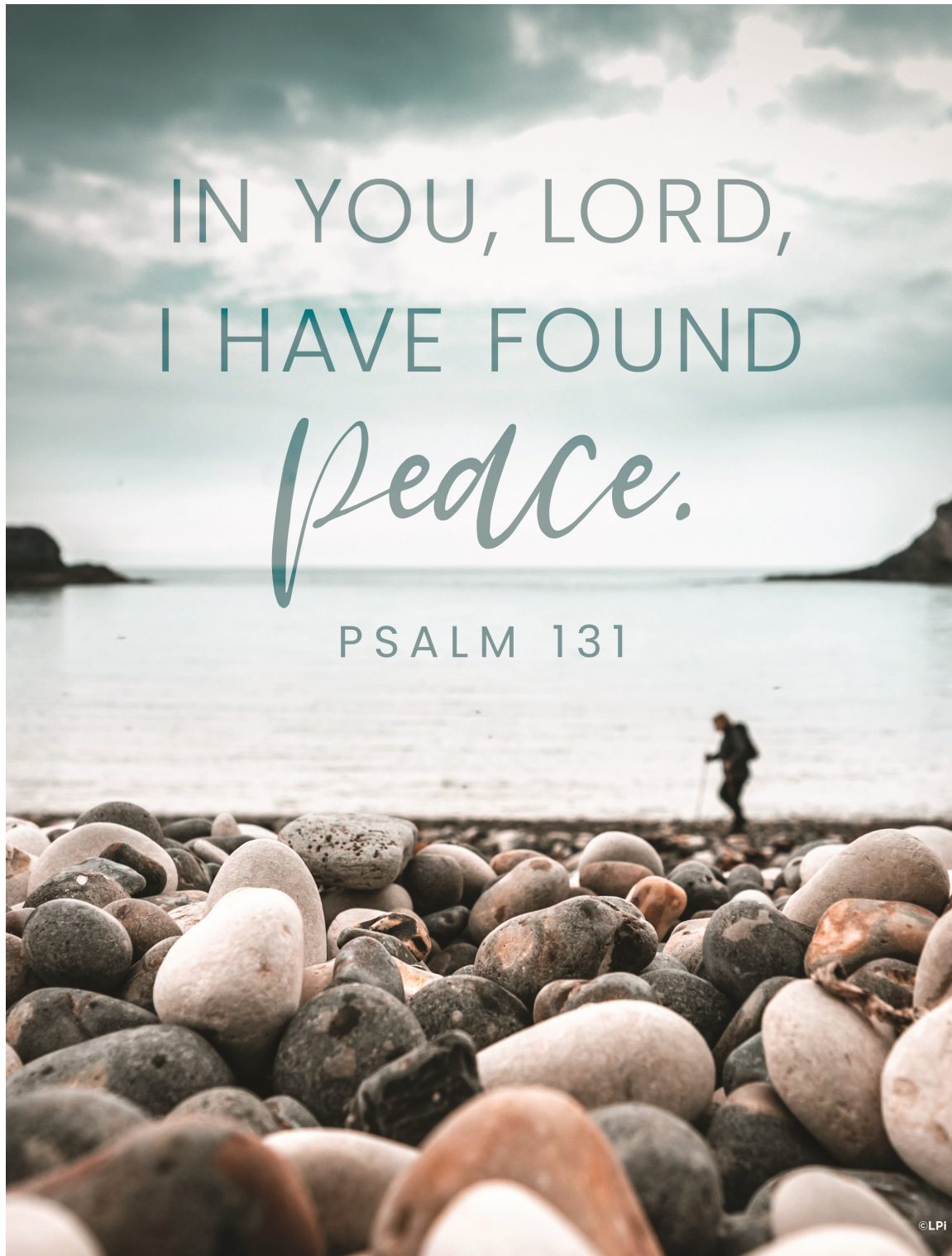


THE CHURCH OF SAINT BONIFACE

817 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
LUNENBURG, MA 01462



NOVEMBER 5, 2023



THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

NOVEMBER 5, 2023 / THE THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Malachi 1:14b—2:2b, 8–10 / 1 Thessalonians 2:7b–9 / 13 Matthew 23:1–12

We are reminded today that we have all been called to a life of service before God. Malachi specifically addresses the priests, who of all people should not be setting a poor example. Paul reminds the Thessalonians that the apostles gave their very selves in their work and ministry. Finally, Jesus warns the crowds what will happen if one exalts oneself. With humble hearts, let us ponder God's word.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

When do I fail to practice what I preach? What change must I make to do so as effectively as Paul and his fellow disciples?

"Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

(Matthew 23:12)

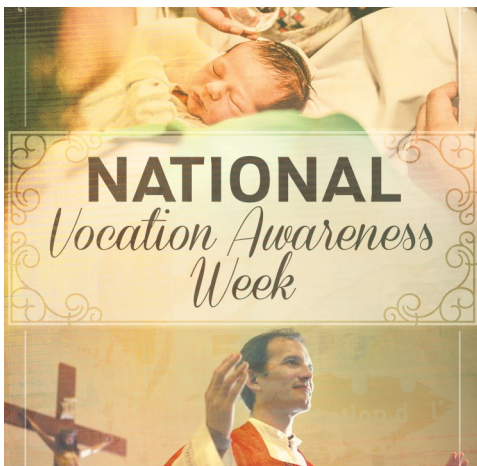
The world celebrates people in the spotlight and those who have the most of everything. We think celebrity, money and possessions is the key to happiness. Yet, our world is filled with more loneliness, anxiety and depression than ever before. The key to a happy life is relationship. Relationship with God and each other. Trust is the foundation of any good relationship and humility is the seed of trust.

Family Connection

"Do as I say, not as I do." How many of us have been tempted to say this to our children? In today's Gospel we hear a resounding reply from Jesus, "Practice what you preach." Those who know us best, our family and especially our children, can identify the inconsistencies between what we want to teach and the example that we give. The challenge for all of us, especially for those of us who are parents, is to model with consistency the faith and the Christian way of life we wish to teach our children.

As you gather as a family, talk about what it means to practice what you preach. Identify some examples of people you know who practice what they preach. What do you observe about these people? What do you admire about them?

In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus talk about the importance of acting in ways that are consistent with our faith. Read together today's Gospel, Matthew 23:1-12. Talk together about ways in which your family might better practice the faith that you profess. Choose one action to take that will show your faith in action. Pray together that your family's faith will be shown consistently in your actions. Pray the [Prayer for Vocations](#).



MASS INTENTIONS

NOV 25	4:00 PM	LOUIS ARRUDA & ANGELINA ARRUDA
NOV 26	8:00 AM	ANNE RIVARD
NOV 26	10:30 PM	HARRY SCHOFIELD
DEC 2	4:00 PM	ELAINE CHARPENTIER
DEC 16	4:00 PM	BERNARD J. ROBARGE
DEC 23	4:00 PM	ANGELINA ARRUDA
JAN 13	4:00 PM	PETER CHARPENTIER
JAN 21	8:30 AM	THOMAS COTTER

Prayer of the Rosary

Every Saturday at 3:30 pm in the church, led by members of the St. Boniface Knights of Columbus.

Food Donations for the months of November and December will go to Catholic Charities of Leominster. Donations can be placed in the rear of the church. Thank you for your continued generosity.

St. Leo School Holiday Fair

Saturday, November 18th from 10:00 am–3:00 pm located on Main Street in Leominster. This year's fair will include many area crafters, beautiful basket raffles, money tree raffle and children's activities. Their famous potluck booth will return along with a new cookie and baked goodies booth. The Ultimate Grille Food Truck will be serving delicious soups and hot sandwiches. Free door prize raffle to win \$2,000. All are welcome!

"Christmas In Acadia" Fair in Leominster

St. Cecilia's "Christmas In Acadia" Fair will take place on Friday, Nov. 10 from 5-8 pm and Saturday, Nov. 11 from Noon-6 pm. Featuring Traditional French-Canadian foods including Poutines, Rapee, and Fricot. Or choose from our extensive kitchen menu and end your meal at the pie booth or the baked goods table. Acadian Auction, \$4,000 Major Raffle, Theme Baskets, variety of handmade Craft items and a large Flea Market available for your enjoyment. There will be face painting and a variety of game booths for children of all ages! On Saturday free picture with Santa from 2:30-4:30pm. Live entertainment on Saturday includes LouAnn's Christmas Line Dancers at 1pm and a Christmas Concert featuring Claire Neas accompanied by Elizabeth Fiedler from 5-6 pm. Come enjoy the food and festivities!

High School Amplify Night in Leominster

All high school youth (9th-12th grade) are invited to the next Amplify night on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 6-9 pm at Our Lady of the Lake in Leominster. Join us for pizza, trivia & prizes, praise & worship music, a guest speaker, Eucharistic Adoration, and confessions! Our speaker will be Oscar Rivera, nationally known Catholic youth speaker and Director of Youth Ministry in the Diocese of Fall River. It is FREE but we do ask that you sign up so we have an estimate for food. To sign up, go to <https://neworchester.org/amplify-12-2>

STEWARDSHIP

Sunday: \$1,723.00
Maintenance/Fuel: \$35.00
World Mission: \$6.00
Holy Day : \$51.00
TOTAL \$1,815.00

Thank you for your continued,



IT IS THE DUTY OF CITIZENS
TO CONTRIBUTE ALONG WITH
THE CIVIL AUTHORITIES TO
THE GOOD OF SOCIETY IN A
SPIRIT OF TRUTH, JUSTICE,
SOLIDARITY, AND FREEDOM.

-CCC 2239 | Election Day

Merciful God,
with humble hearts and
gentle voices, we ask
that you bestow your
blessings upon us. May
we share those many
blessings with our sisters
and brothers as we offer
our prayers today
through Jesus Christ our
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

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Sunday: 8:00am and 10:30 am | 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:

Rev. Charles Omolo, Administrator
Heather Sroka, Administrative Assistant
Lucy Marcil, Religious Ed Coordinator (Grades 1-5)
Terry Stramowski, Religious Ed Coordinator (Grades 6-10)
Judit Ernst, Music Ministry
Louise Nadeau, Sacristan
Ministry Schedule
Nina Charpentier, Director, Preschool

phone

978-582-4008
978-582-4008
978-502-7993
978-855-2104
978-582-4008
978-582-7110

email

stbonifaceparish@verizon.net
stbonifaceparish@verizon.net
lmarcil419@gmail.com
gr610@cfftstboniface.onmicrosoft.com
juditernst@comcast.net
stbonifaceparish@verizon.net
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.

TODAYS GOSPEL

(Practicing Catholic) RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

A Heavy Burden, Hard to Carry

“Mommy, you haven’t been making any sacrifices.”

My daughter was peering through the little opening in the plastic cover of the “sacrifice jar” we made for Lent this year. The repurposed oatmeal container, jazzed up with glitter glue and pictures of St. Therese of Lisieux, was more than half-filled with little slips of paper bearing descriptions of the various sacrifices family members had made for one another.

But she was right: every piece of paper bore the childlike scrawl of herself and her brother. I had not added anything to the sacrifice jar.

“If I wrote down every sacrifice I made for you in just a single day, the jar would explode,” I retorted, and even though my daughter giggled, I instantly regretted the comment, sighing as I realized I did it again. I let a snide, self-pitying thought form on my lips and make its way into the world because for a brief moment I thought someone didn’t appreciate my (imagine me sniffing injuredly here) *hard work*.

We sneer at the scribes and the Pharisees as Jesus describes them in the Gospel, lengthening their phylacteries and coveting the places of honor. But then I remember: nobody starts out *meaning* to be a jerk.

We want to do good things. We try to be holy. But it’s hard, that burden weighs heavy on our back.

So, we murmur about it here and there. We stop to catch our breath. We glimpse other people looking at our burden with approval and admiration, and we breathe a little harder, groan a little deeper. And somewhere along the way the burden becomes an idol and our labor a performance. We dare not ask for help bearing it, for we prize too greatly the sweat of our own brow.

“The greatest among you must be your servant.” — Matthew 23:11

©LPi



Lord, we pray that you would open our eyes to see the needs of veterans in our communities. Open our mouths to uplift our veterans with honor and kindness. Open our hands in generosity to serve and care for them. Let us not be too busy or too distracted to honor their sacrifices.