

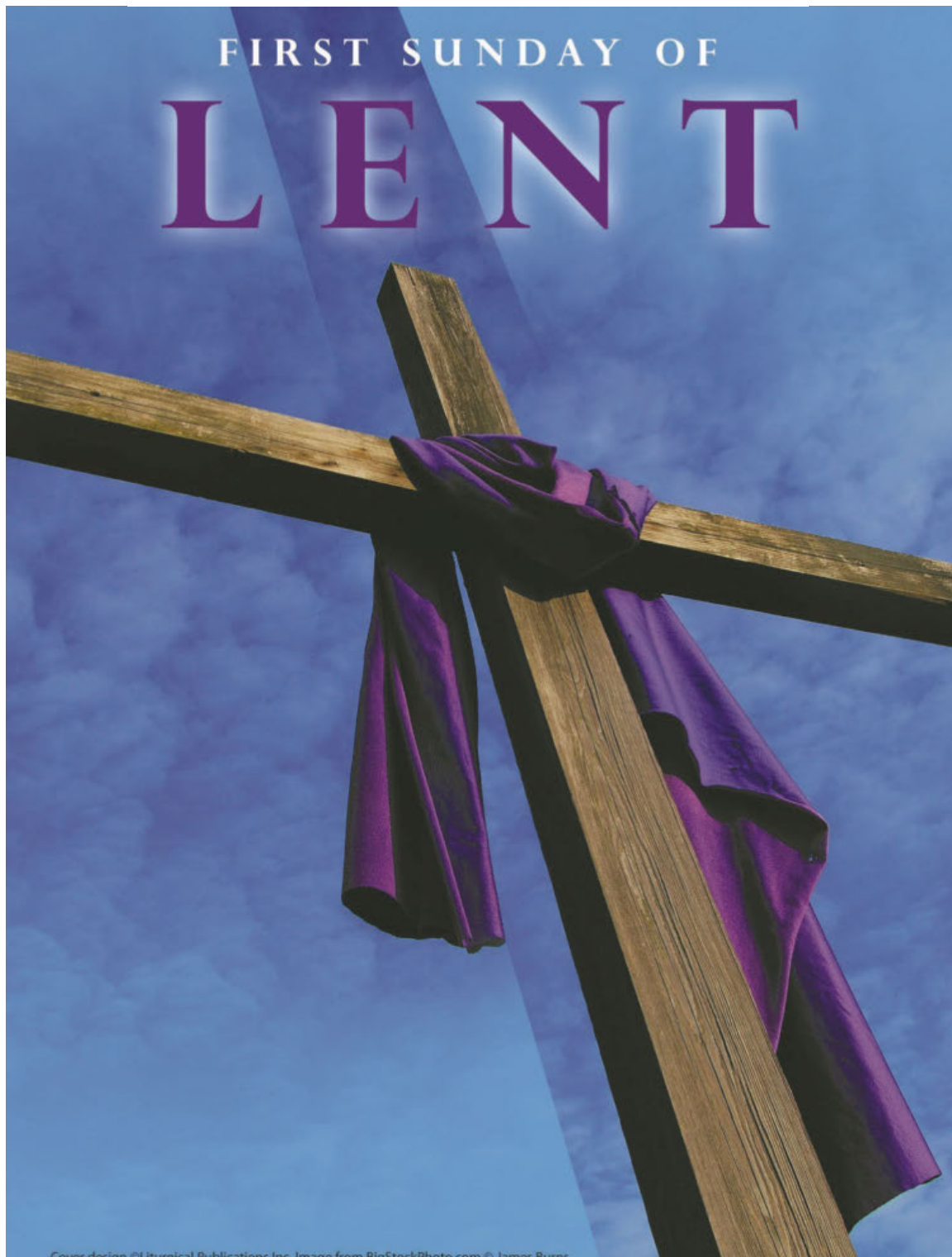


## THE CHURCH OF SAINT BONIFACE

817 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE  
LUNENBURG, MA 01462



FEBRUARY 18, 2024



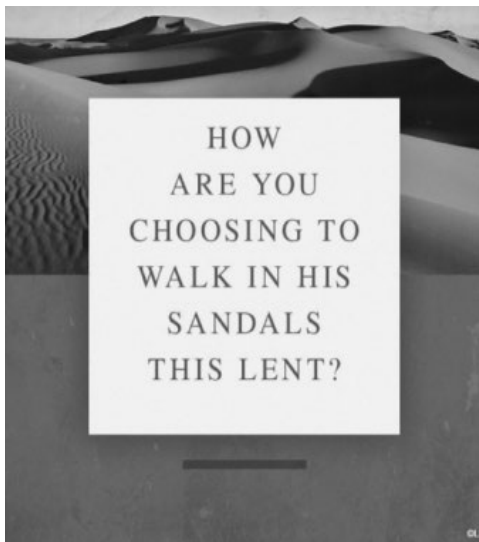
## THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

**FEBRUARY 18, 2024 / FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

*Genesis 9:8–15 / 1 Peter 3:18–22 / Mark 1:12–15*

By the waters of the flood the world was transformed. By the waters of baptism we are transformed. God established a covenant with Noah, his descendants, and all living creatures, transforming humanity's relationship with God. We enter into a covenant in baptism, transforming our relationship with Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. As we journey through these forty days, let us open ourselves to the transformative grace of God in our lives.

**Question of the Week: How will I minister to others during these forty days of Lent?  
Who is in need of my help?**



God of power and might,  
wisdom and justice,  
through you authority is  
rightly administered,  
laws are enacted, and  
judgment is decreed.  
Assist with your spirit of  
counsel and fortitude  
the President and other  
government leaders of these  
United States.

May they always seek  
the ways of righteousness,  
justice and mercy.  
Grant that they may be  
enabled by your powerful  
protection to lead our country  
with honesty and integrity.  
We ask this through  
Christ our Lord.

### The Gospel Family Connection

The announcement that Jesus makes as he begins his preaching in today's Gospel is recalled on Ash Wednesday at the signing with ashes: "Repent and believe in the gospel." This is our challenge for Lent; indeed, it is the challenge of our entire life. During Lent, we are invited to strengthen and to renew the promises that we made at our Baptism, to reject Satan and sin so as to live as children of God. Through the grace of God that we received at Baptism, we follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit and know that with Jesus' help, we will be victorious over sin.

As you gather as a family, talk about the importance of Baptism. At our Baptism, our sins were forgiven, and we promised to live as children of God. As part of the Rite of Baptism, we rejected sin and Satan. Read today's Gospel, Mark 1:12–15. During Lent, we renew the promises of our Baptism, turning again from sin and promising to follow God. Light a candle, perhaps a candle used at one of your family member's Baptisms, and pray together the Act of Contrition.

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended  
Thee, and I detest all my sins because of thy just  
punishments, but most of all because they offend  
Thee, my God, who art all good and deserving of all  
my love. I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace to  
sin no more and to avoid the near occasion  
of sin. Amen.

## MASS INTENTIONS

MAR 3	10:30 AM	CATHERINE SROKA
MAR 17	10:30 AM	KAY WOOD
APR 7	10:30 AM	ROBERT NADEAU
APR 14	10:30 AM	ROLAND AND JANE HUNTOON
APR 28	8:00 AM	HOWARD AND ELLA MAY CRANE
MAY 5	8:00 AM	REV. ANDRE GARIEPY
MAY 19	8:00 AM	RICHARD AND FRANCES HEBERT
JUNE 22	4:00 PM	JOHN SANTORO
JUNE 29	4:00 PM	FRANK DIGIACOMO
JULY 14	9:00 AM	LARRY PATON
AUG 10	4:00 PM	ROSE SANTORO

### 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 January and February will go to Lunenburg Community Food Pantry sponsored by the Lions Club. Donations can be placed in the rear of the church. Thank you for your continued generosity.



Please join the **Knights of Columbus** for a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, February 24th following the 4:00 Mass. The meal includes, spaghetti, meat sauce, bread, salad, a drink and dessert. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$5.00 for children under \$12.

### Tickets now available for 2024 Men's Conference

Tickets are now available for the 2024 Worcester Catholic Men's Conference which will be held on Saturday, March 16, 2024 at Worcester's DCU Center. Tickets are only \$50 for Adults and \$30 for Students and can be purchased online at [www.catholicmenworc.com](http://www.catholicmenworc.com) or by calling (978) 537-3016.

### Table Rental Available at Indoor Yard Sale

On Saturday, March 9 from 9 am - 3 pm St. Christopher Parish will host an Indoor Yard Sale at 950 W. Boylston St., Worcester. Table Rental are \$25 each or 2 for \$40. Must be reserved and paid in advance Call Liz Knott at 508-852-2348 for details. The day will also include a Bake sale and other foods and beverages will be available.

### Bereavement Support Group

Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, 111 Worcester Street, West Boylston will hold its next 6-part series of "A New Day" bereavement support group beginning Monday, March 4 from 1-2:30 pm. For more information or to register (required prior to the start of the sessions) call Renate Isbell (508) 835-3286

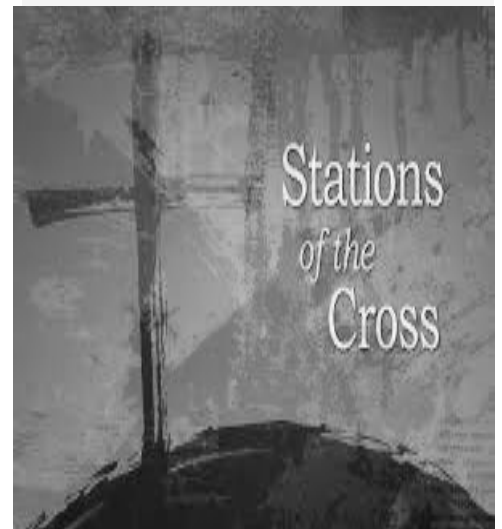
## STEWARDSHIP

Feb 10/11

Sunday: .....\$3,064.00  
Maintenance/Fuel: ..\$448.00  
Priest Retirement: ..\$1,011.00  
Total ..... **\$4,583.00**

January 2024 Online Giving

Total: ..... **\$4,274.00**



We hope you will join us on Fridays at 6:30 pm during Lent for Stations of the Cross

God of the covenant, you pledged your commitment to us and to all your creation. Continue to keep us in your loving care and help us to care for each other as you hear the prayers we make for ourselves and each other, through the source of our salvation, Jesus Christ our Lord.

# SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH

817 Massachusetts Avenue, Lunenburg, MA 01462  
Parish Office: 978-582-4008 email: [stbonifaceparish@verizon.net](mailto:stbonifaceparish@verizon.net)

Discover St. Boniface ~ Visit our website: [www.StBoniface-lunenburg.org](http://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](mailto:stbonifaceparish@verizon.net) or Louise Nadeau at [dinalou1@comcast.net](mailto: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](mailto:stbonifaceparish@verizon.net) or contact Louise Nadeau at [dinalou1@comcast.net](mailto: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 Thomas St. George at [tjstgeorge@gmail.com](mailto:tjstgeorge@gmail.com) or Deputy Grand Knight, Thomas Bodkin at [tbodkin@bodkinmason.com](mailto:tbodkin@bodkinmason.com) or (508-363-3422), or email [kofc16480@gmail.com](mailto:kofc16480@gmail.com).

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### 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

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[ninastboniface@gmail.com](mailto:ninastboniface@gmail.com)

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**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.*

## FROM THE BISHOP



Diocese of Worcester  
Office of the Bishop  
49 Elm Street  
Worcester, Massachusetts 01609

Lent 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

*"Jesus is calling us deeper."* That reminder of our three-year National Eucharistic Revival is intended to "renew the Church by enkindling a living relationship with the Lord Jesus in the Holy Eucharist" ([www.eucharisticrevival.org](http://www.eucharisticrevival.org)). That call of renewal through a deepened relationship with Christ is particularly apt in this season of Lent.

We have begun our forty-day journey of deepened prayer, more frequent penance, and greater charity. We embark on the journey because we are sinners in need of and called to repentance by Jesus Christ. Lent's annual journey also prepares us for the fruitful celebration of the Paschal Mystery—from the Last Supper on Holy Thursday and His Passion and Death on Good Friday to his Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

The forty penitential days of Lent derive from Jesus' forty days of prayer and fasting in the desert. They also call to mind Moses' forty days on Mount Sinai during the forty-year journey of the Israelites through the desert to the Promised Land.

During that long journey, the Israelites were sustained by the manna which each night came down from Heaven to nourish and strengthen the people. Centuries later, Jesus would say, *"I am the living bread which comes down from heaven; if anyone eats of this bread he will live forever; and the bread that I give is my flesh for the life of the world"* (John 6: 51). Just as the Israelites would not have made it to the Promised Land without the manna from Heaven, we cannot complete the journey of life to Heaven without the nourishment of Christ in the Holy Eucharist (*"unless you eat of the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you"* [John 6: 53]).

In addition to Lenten penances and almsgiving, please consider going to weekday Masses and making visits to the Church outside of Mass to adore the Lord whether reserved in the tabernacle or exposed in the monstrance. Through a greater Eucharistic devotion, we will appreciate, even more, Christ's presence to us, the graces He offers at every Mass, and the peace and comfort of a prayerful visit to Church. Thus, nourished and strengthened, we will be better equipped to meet life's challenges, reflect God's love, and make progress on our journey to Him.

With every prayerful best wish, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus  
Bishop of Worcester





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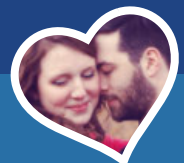
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