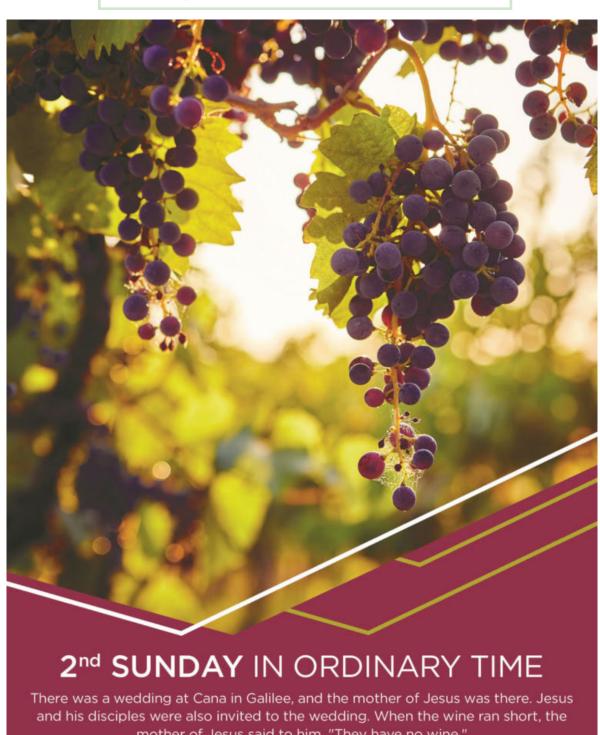


THE CHURCH OF SAINT BONIFACE

817 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE LUNENBURG, MA 01462



JANUARY 19, 2025



mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."

THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

JANUARY 19, 2025 / SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Isaiah 62:1-5/1 Corinthians 12:4-11/ John 2:1-11

This account of Jesus changing water into wine is found only in John's Gospel. John referred to Jesus' miracles as signs, as a way for him to reveal his glory and a way for those who observe them to receive the gift of faith. But transforming water into wine was much more than a way to ensure that the wine would not run out at this couple's wedding banquet. It foreshadows one of his final signs, which he performs at the Last Supper when he transforms bread into his Body and wine into his Blood. By commanding the disciples to continue to do this in his memory, he ensures that it is his Blood that we receive at the Eucharistic banquet each time the Eucharist is celebrated. Just as the joy of the guests at the wedding banquet in Cana was not allowed to run out, the joy we share in the Eucharistic banquet will also last forever.

Question of the Week: Name one spiritual gift that I can identify in myself. How can I use that gift in service of the Lord?

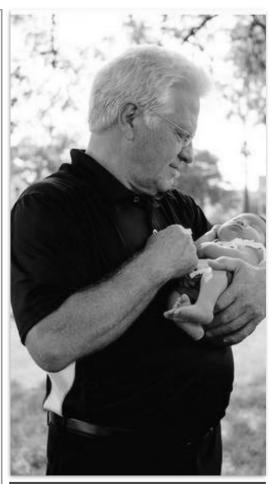
Gospel Meditation

A friend invited me to an invitation-only wine-tasting event. There were over two hundred varieties of wine. Having no idea how to approach such a massive selection, I wandered aimlessly among the tables, sipping this and that. At the end of the evening my friend asked if I had tried some of the exceptionally expensive wines. I hadn't. "The really good stuff disappears first," he said. "My man, you missed out on some amazing vino." I was so disappointed. I wasted my chance for amazing once-in-a-lifetime wine. The wine I tasted was, well, blah.

Don't we often feel a similar disappointment in life? I missed this or that opportunity. If only I had known. Optimism sputters and fades. The glory days are gone. The chances, it seems, for the really great things in life come and go so quickly. Then they are gone forever. The good stuff goes first. Then life is just blah.

Not so with the Lord Jesus. In Jesus' miracle at the wedding at Cana, the steward of the feast says, "Everyone serves good wine first, and then...an inferior one" (John 2:10). That's the natural downward progression of life. The good stuff disappears quickly. But he says of the groom (who symbolizes Jesus), "But you have kept the good wine until now." This is the ever-improving trajectory of the realm of God's grace. With Jesus, the "good wine" of divine love, hope and peace gets better as our journey of faith progresses. Where are your greatest disappointments? Don't give in to the lie that the really good stuff is gone. Tell Jesus you've run out. Then learn how to taste that amazingly good wine, because he saves the best until now.

– Father John Muir ©LPi



Prayer for the Miraculous

Oh God beyond my understanding, Bring Your soul-stirring power into my life today. In the places where people are saying, "It can't be done" or "There's no solution," act in such a way that responds: "There is a way, and there is a God, and He loves me." Amen.

©LPi

MASS INTENTIONS

JAN 18	4:00 PM	DOROTHY BOISSEAU
JAN 18	4:00 PM	WAYNE DUFOUR
JAN 19	8:00 AM	THOMAS COTTER
JAN 19	10:30 AM	GIL LANDRY
JAN 25	4:00 PM	DANIEL GILLIGAN
JAN 25	4:00 PM	DON FEATHERSTONE
JAN 26	10:30 AM	DOROTHY BOISSEAU
JAN 26	10:30 AM	GIL LANDRY
FEB 2	8:00 AM	WESLEY LAFORD
FEB 14	8:00 AM	WAYNE DUFOUR
FEB 15	4:00 PM	LOUIS ARRUDA & LOUISE GIROUARD

Prayer of the Rosary

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

Food Donations for the months of January and February will go to the Lunenburg Food Pantry. Donations can be placed in the rear of the church. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Snow Notice

If Lunenburg schools are closed due to snow or have a delay there will be no daily masses.

Religious Education Updates

Classes will resume on Sunday January 26th for Grades 6-8: Grade 9 is working on a special project with Mrs. Marcil and will not meet that Sunday. We have another class in February on the 9th from 9-10:15 AM. Grades 6-9

Classes Resume on February 2nd for Grades 1-5: Grade 4 will have their class mass. This is our only meeting in February.

Diocesan Scout Sunday Mass

Please join us at Blessed Sacrament Church, 551 Pleasant St., Worcester for the Worcester Diocese Scout Sunday Mass on Feb. 9 at 10 am Mass followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall. There will be FREE limited edition Scout patches available.

Learn About the Mass with Bishop Barron

ADULT EDUCATION SERIES: Bishop Robert Barron's "The Mass." Walk through the Liturgy with Bishop Barron and you'll be transformed through insights on this most privileged and intimate encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ. Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8 pm on Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26. March 12, and 19. Our Lady of Hope Parish, St. Mary's Campus, 17 Waterville St., North Grafton. Optional \$15.00 fee to purchase Study Guide. To register contact Darlene at dfarland@ourladyofhopegrafton.org. "The Mass" will help you understand how to fully, consciously, and actively participate in the source and summit of the Christian life.

STEWARDSHIP

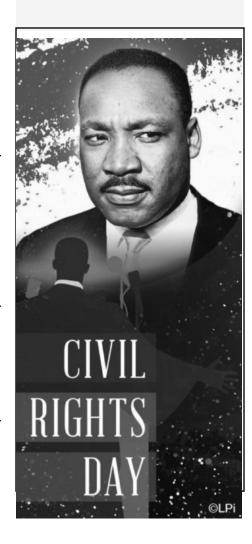
January 12

Sunday	4,178.00
Fuel/Maintenance	265.00
Cath Univ	15.00
Other	5.00
Total	\$4,463.00

Dec ACH \$1,252.00 Dec E-Catholic \$2,505.00



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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 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Sunday: 8:00 am, 10:30 am | Saturday Vigil: 4:00 pm Memorial Day through Labor Day — Sunday: 9:00 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 Thomas St. George at tjstgeorge@gmail.com or Deputy Grand Knight, Thomas Bodkin at tbodkin@bodkinmason.com or (508-363-3422), or email kofc16480@gmail.com.

PARISH STAFF:	phone	email
Rev. Charles Omolo, Administrator	978-582-4008	stbonifaceparish@verizon.net
Parish Office	978-582-4008	stbonifaceparish@verizon.net
Lucy Marcil, Religious Ed Coordinator	978-502-7993	lmarcil419@gmail.com
Carolyn Farley, Music Ministry	978-621-5352	carolyndiva@comcast.net
Judit Ernst, Organist	978-855-2104	juditernst@comcast.net
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.

JANUARY 19. 2025

"This Saint had a Nagging Brother too..."

St. Gregory of Nyssa was familiar with powerful, bold, and holy people. His brother was St. Basil the Great, a fiery and influential man, and his close friend was the widely admired archbishop, Gregory of Nazianzus.

Despite being surrounded by these powerful figures, Gregory of Nyssa never thought he would need to be as bold as they were. Rather than looking for a position of influence or leading a mission, Gregory was a bit of a dreamer. He loved quiet reflection, long philosophical debates, and the beauty of God's mysteries.

But one day, his quiet life took a dramatic turn.

It began with a letter.

Gregory, then a bishop, received a sternly worded message from his older brother, Basil. Basil had been instrumental in fighting off heresies like Arianism, which denied the divinity of Christ. He saw Gregory as his ally in these battles, but he also saw him as, frankly, a bit of a lightweight.

In the letter, Basil demanded Gregory leave his meditations and help confront a local group causing trouble. Gregory had been content focusing on prayer and study, not eager to wade into messy disputes. But family was family, and Gregory reluctantly agreed.

When Gregory arrived, he found himself in over his head. The debates were heated, the issues complex. His opponents were skilled debaters and Gregory quickly realized he couldn't rely on simple arguments or half-formed thoughts. He had to dig deeper into his faith and intellect to hold his ground.

Then something remarkable happened. With his leap of faith, grace came in abundance. The dreamy bishop, who preferred quiet contemplation, began to thrive in the challenge. Gregory's mind lit up as he defended the truths of the Faith. He articulated ideas about the Trinity and the two Natures of Christ with clarity and precision that surprised everyone—perhaps even himself.

In this tense situation, surrounded by anger and heresy, a saint was being forged. His willingness to surrender his will to assist the Church yielded much grace—and a quiet man became an influential saint.

So, the next time you find yourself being asked to step outside your comfort zone, remind yourself: "Maybe this is my sainthood in the making."

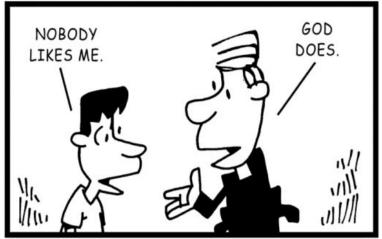
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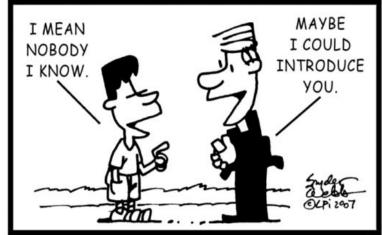


Volunteers Needed

Calling all volunteers! Saint Boniface can use some collection counters, lectors, eucharistic ministers, and alter servers. If interested please email the office at stbonifaceparish@verizon.net

2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME









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