

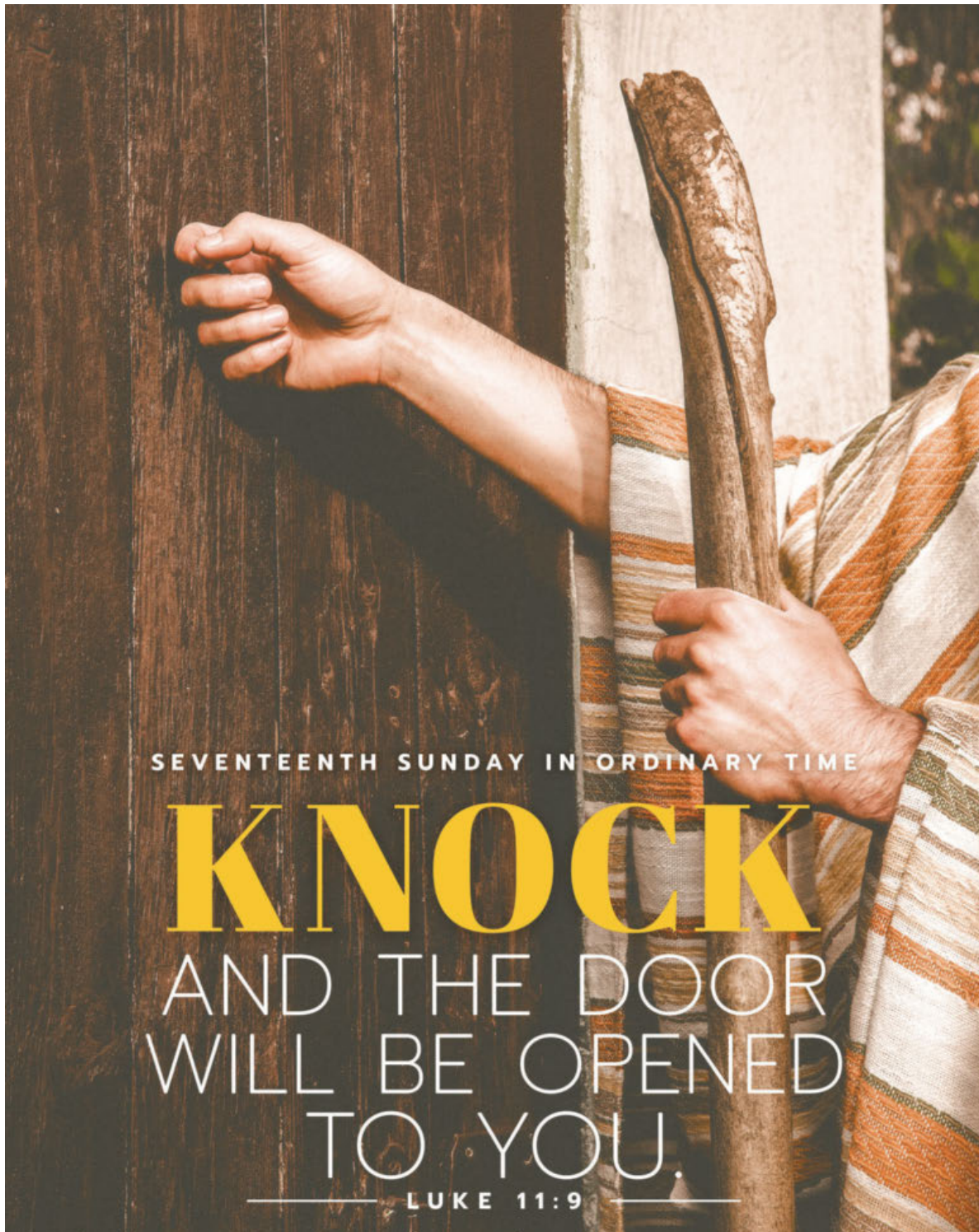


THE CHURCH OF SAINT BONIFACE

817 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
LUNENBURG, MA 01462



JULY 27, 2025



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

KNOCK
AND THE DOOR
WILL BE OPENED
TO YOU.

— LUKE 11:9 —

THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

JULY 27, 2025 / SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Genesis 18:20-32/ Colossians 2:12-14/ Luke 11:1-13

Centuries before Jesus taught his disciples the importance of persistence in asking God to fulfill their needs, Abraham dared to persistently ask God how few innocent people needed to live in Sodom for its destruction to be prevented. In this lengthy exchange, Abraham discovers one power of prayer: not that Abraham could change God's mind as to what would eventually happen, but that Abraham might eventually know how wide God's mercy is. It turns out that God did not require as many as fifty innocents to spare the city, but as few as ten. By extending his conversation with God, by persisting in positing a smaller and smaller number of innocents, Abraham is able to determine the wide extent of God's mercy.

Question of the Week: Over the coming week, take time each day to persistently ask God for a need of yours or a friend's. At the end of the week, answer this question: What have I learned by persisting in prayer daily for this need?

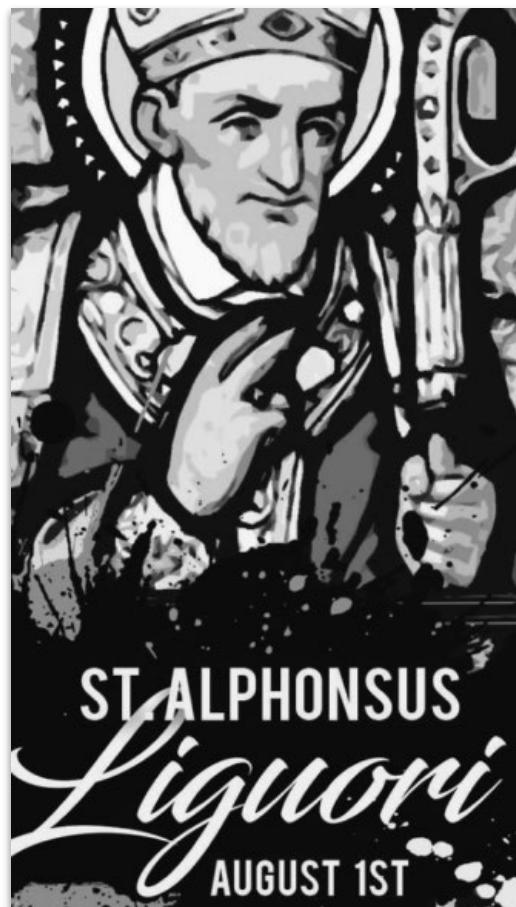
Gospel Meditation

Once I went to a hospice facility to celebrate Last Rites for an elderly dying man. His family had told me that he had been uncommunicative for days. At the conclusion of the ritual, we began to recite the Our Father prayer. To everyone's surprise, his lips moved, clearly mouthing the words to the Lord's prayer. Stripped of most of his faculties, the man could still pray those precious God-given petitions. A lifetime of prayer had planted the words even deeper than his failing consciousness.

Do we want the Lord's prayer to be as deeply embedded in us? If we want to be people of hope, we should. Recall that our Lord immediately follows the prayer by saying: "Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you" (Luke 11:9). We only ask, search and knock because we hope that the request is not in vain. Everything we could possibly hope for is contained in the prayer. Praying the Our Father deepens our hope.

We should consciously pour all our hopes into the Lord's prayer; we should allow it to be an expression of hope, not simply rote words. Then, over time, it builds up our hope in God. It sinks deep into our souls and bodies. How blessed we are when these words of hope are on our lips, even when everything else seems to fail.

– Father John Muir
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Prayer for Hope

Lord,
Restore my hope!
Where I fear the future, write a new
script in my heart.
Where I doubt Your goodness, fill me
anew.
Give me steadfast hope for a beautiful
tomorrow.
Amen.

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MASS INTENTIONS

JULY 26	4:00 PM	DON FEATHERSTONE
AUG 2	4:00 PM	MARIE NADER
AUG 9	4:00 PM	ROSE SANTORO
AUG 16	4:00 PM	WAYNE DUFOUR
AUG 23	4:00 PM	DON FEATHERSTONE
SEP 13	4:00 PM	FRANK DIGIACOMO
SEP 20	4:00 PM	WAYNE DUFOUR
SEP 27	4:00 PM	DON FEATHERSTONE
OCT 4	4:00 PM	JOSEPH PICUCCI JR.
OCT 12	10:30 AM	MICHAEL BRISSON
OCT 18	4:00 PM	WAYNE DUFOUR

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

Instrument Donations

If you have any musical instruments you could donate, the church would be very grateful. Please leave them in the back of the church. We are hoping to start a children's music group.

CCD

Registration for Religious education is now open. If you are new to our parish or if you have a child entering 1st grade, please take a moment to fill out the form at this link

<https://stboniface-lunenburg.org/religious-education-1>.

Our program runs on Sundays from 9-10 AM every other weekend beginning in September. The cost of the program is \$50 per child, with a family max of \$75. We look forward to being a part of your faith journey.

Wanted Vendors

Sunday August 3rd, 11 AM–5 PM rain or shine. At the Macaroni Club 36 Birch St Passway Fitchburg. Whether you're a maker, a seller, or a small business, join us for our first ever Macaroni Marketplace. We're looking for a variety of vendors—crafts, vintage, handmade goods, specialty items, and more. There will be food served. Limited space available. Apply soon. Contact the club for the application. Message us on Facebook. Call or text Chrissy Russo at 978-227-6648. All event details will be on the application. Let's make it a great one! See you there!

STEWARDSHIP

July 13

Sunday	3,491.00
Fuel/Maintenance	300.00
Holy Day	5.00
Total	\$3,796.00



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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 5:00-5:30 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:

Rev. Charles Omolo, Administrator
Parish Office
Lucy Marcil, Religious Ed Coordinator
Carolyn Farley, Music Ministry
Judit Ernst, Organist
Louise Nadeau, Sacristan
Ministry Schedule
Nina Charpentier, Director, Preschool

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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.

JULY 27, 2025

Which Saint Lost Everything to Gambling?

Camillus de Lellis had lost everything.

His mother was dead, his father had neglected him, and by seventeen he had developed an incurable disease in his leg.

Now, at twenty-four, in the teeth of a harsh winter, he had gambled away nearly all he owned—down to his last shirt.

With nowhere to turn, he thought of the hospital where he had once served as a patient and orderly. But even there he was unwelcome; his anger and quarrelsome temper had seen him expelled.

The only refuge left was the most unlikely: a Capuchin friary in Manfredonia. Desperate, Camillus took a job there.

God began to work on him. One day, while he labored, a sermon pierced his heart and sparked a slow, steady conversion.

Camillus longed to join the Capuchins and applied to their novitiate, but his diseased leg led to rejection. He tried several more times and was refused each time.

Instead of relapsing into his old fury, Camillus let the refusals humble him. He devoted himself to caring for the sick.

Guided by a friend—Saint Philip Neri—Camillus pursued the priesthood and was ordained at thirty-four. Soon after, he founded the Order of the Camillians, dedicated to serving the sick.

He bore his affliction for the rest of his life, yet it only deepened his compassion and zeal.

The Church honors him today, July 18, on his feast.

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17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





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