

THE CHURCH OF SAINT BONIFACE

817 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
LUNENBURG, MA 01462



AUGUST 31, 2025



THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

AUGUST 31, 2025 / TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 38-39/ Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a/ Luke 14:1, 7-14

Meanwhile, the challenge Jesus issues to his host is to invite those who cannot reciprocate. Reach out to those on the margins of society. This is consistent with the beatitudes, which laud the poor, the meek, the unjustly persecuted, the shunned. How much more would it mean to someone such as this to be invited, whether to a dinner, to receive a gift, or even to offer an opinion, than to someone who has grown to expect such invitations! On this Labor Day weekend, let us commit ourselves to work to lift up those who find themselves forsaken by society and others, for in them we can find the Lord.

Question of the Week: When have I realized too late that I should have exercised some humility? What have I learned when exercising humility?

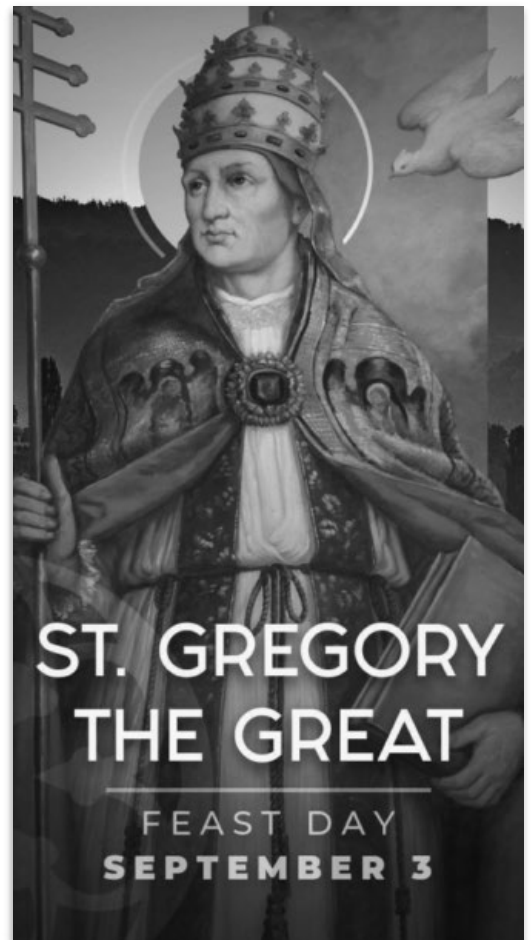
Gospel Meditation

Once I was invited to a group meeting with Pope Francis. Entering the room, I paused, eyeing the seats next to the Pope's fancy chair. Someone saw my paralysis and invited me to sit in the seat farthest from what I wanted. Hiding my disappointment, I sat. We waited. To our surprise, an aid pointed out that those seats were still empty and invited me and another to have them. We calmly but gleefully strode across the room and sat. Pope Francis entered, and we enjoyed two hours of amazingly uplifting conversation.

Jesus says this week to us: "When you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, 'My friend, move up to a higher position.' Then you will enjoy the esteem of your companions at the table" (Luke 14:10). This is not about how to score free seat upgrades. Rather, it is a wise pattern for the whole of life. It is how to live free from the anxiety of constantly grasping for status and recognition.

Jesus perfectly embodies his seat-taking advice. He eschews his glorious throne for the lowest: death on a cross, that lonely chair we all deserve. In his resurrection, he calls us up higher to his marvelous banquet seats. This week, perhaps we should look for opportunities to choose the lowest seat. We'll be pleasantly surprised when we do.

— Father John Muir
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Prayer for Humility

Dear God,
Mold my heart after Yours. Help me to see myself as You see me: surrounded by Your love. Help me to see others as You see them as well. Give me knowledge of your ways, today and always.
Amen

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MASS INTENTIONS

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
OCT 25	4:00 PM	DON FEATHERSTONE
NOV 2	8:00 AM	WESLEY LAFORD
NOV 15	4:00 PM	WAYNE DUFOUR
NOV 22	4:00 PM	DON FEATHERSTONE
NOV 22	4:00 PM	LOUIS & ANGELINA ARRUDA

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 September and October will go to St. Francis food pantry. Donations can be placed in the rear of the church. Thank you for your continued generosity.

CCD Welcome Back Breakfast

Sunday, September 7th 9 AM: ALL CHILDREN AND FAMILIES ARE WELCOME FOR BREAKFAST. We will also have a brief overview of the program. Please join in for breakfast and the 10:00 AM Mass to help us honor the work of Jeff Tremont. He is retiring from teaching, and we will miss him dearly.

Scholarship Opportunity

The St. Thomas More Society of the Diocese of Worcester is offering a scholarship of varying amounts to a law student attending an accredited law school in the fall. Applicants or parents must be registered and active members of a parish in the Diocese of Worcester. Applicants may be in any year of law school studies. Applications and qualification requirements may be found by visiting the diocesan website, www.worcesterdiocese.org/st-thomas-more-society, by mailing requests to: St. Thomas More Society, Chancery Office, 49 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609 or by calling 508-929-4345. Applications are due on or before October 1, 2025.

Change of Mass

Beginning September 7th mass is changing from 10:30 AM to 10:00 AM. Thank you for all of your voting participation!

Songs in the Key of Love

On Saturday, September 27th the Montachusett Chorale will be presenting an evening of songs from the great American Songbook as a benefit for Saint Cecilia's parish. It's at 6:30 PM at Leominster City Hall. Tickets are \$25 and include a glass of wine and appetizers and pastries.

STEWARDSHIP

Aug 24

Sunday	1,365.00
Fuel/Maintenance	48.00
Holy Day	8.00
World Mission	664.00
Total	\$2,085.00



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SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH

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

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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.

Which Saint Lived in a Cider Barrel While Caring for the Sick?

Fr. John Eudes crawled back into the big, empty barrel that formerly held cider. It was almost large enough to live in—although a bit damp and cold at times—while he attended the suffering plague victims in his home diocese in France. He could not stay in safety, he thought, while so many needed the sacraments and a comforting presence.

But the plague was highly contagious and he did not want to spread it to his fellow religious. So he lived in a barrel outside the city till his work was done. It was but one example of the intense, Christlike and Marylike love that burned in his heart.

St. John Eudes was born in 1601 and ordained a priest of the Oratory of Jesus and Mary in 1625. His primary job was to conduct parish missions and he proved himself a zealous and effective preacher.

In 1641, touched by the unfortunate condition of the prostitutes he ministered to in his work, he founded a religious congregation—the Sisters of Our Lady of Charity of the Refuge, now known as the Good Shepherd Sisters—to give shelter and support to these women.

During his time as a missionary, he was disturbed by the lack of formation among the clergy. The idea of dedicated diocesan seminaries was relatively new, having only been introduced by the Council of Trent the previous century. So priestly formation often lacked standards and could vary widely. Fr. Eudes noticed that the good reforms he inspired among the faithful at his missions often disappeared quickly because their parish priests were so poorly formed.

So he decided to do something about it. He founded his own congregation—the Congregation of Jesus and Mary, also known as the Eudists—to establish seminaries for the education of priests.

But perhaps the greatest gift that St. John Eudes gave the Church was his intense devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. This devotion formed the core of his spirituality and lit the fire of his missionary zeal. He wrote the first Masses in honor of the Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart and the first book about devotion to them. Popes have praised his contributions to devotion to the Hearts, and there is a movement afoot to proclaim him a Doctor of the Church.

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22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





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