

THE CHURCH OF SAINT BONIFACE

817 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
LUNENBURG, MA 01462



OCTOBER 5, 2025



27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith." The Lord replied, "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."

- Lk 17:5-6

THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

OCTOBER 5, 2025 / TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Habakkuk 1:2-3, 2:2-4/ 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14/ Luke 17:5-10

The mulberry tree is especially difficult to uproot, as it has an extensive root system. One can only imagine how difficult it would be two thousand years ago, without the excavating equipment we have available to us today. And yet the task is no match for a small amount of faith. We may have had occasion ourselves to rely on as much faith as we can muster to cope with the grief of the loss of a loved one, to overcome an addiction, or to survive a tragedy in our lives. We probably did not know how strong our faith was until we put it to the test. These same apostles needed to do the same thing after the death of the Lord on the cross. We have the advantage of knowing that God is stronger than death, that Jesus is the resurrection and the life, and that the Holy Spirit is with us forever.

Question of the Week: What can I do this week to be an “unprofitable servant” in God’s eyes?

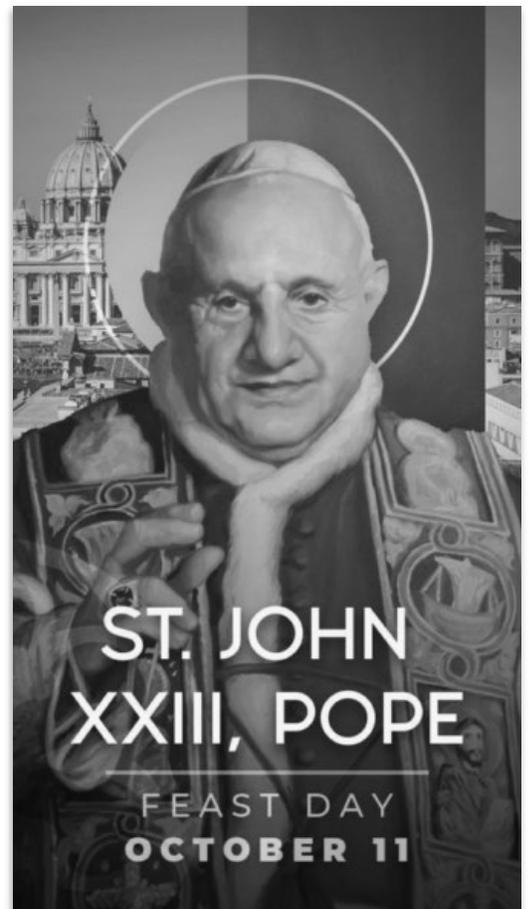
Gospel Meditation

A priest friend of mine received a call from a family whose elderly mother was dying. Within thirty minutes, he was at her bedside, offering the consolation of the sacraments, anointing her with the oil of the sick, and commending her soul to God. She passed not long after, and for months, her family spoke of their deep gratitude for his presence. When I phoned him to commend his faithful ministry, he simply said, “I was just doing my job.”

His words brought to mind Jesus’ teaching this week in Luke 17:10: “So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.’” In a world that often seeks recognition and applause, the Lord invites us into a different mindset – one of humble service. The priest did not see his response as extraordinary; he saw it as a grace to fulfill his vocation.

How tempting it is to seek affirmation for doing what I ought to do! Yet Jesus reminds us that true discipleship is not about grandstanding but about quiet faithfulness. It is enough to have served. It is enough to have loved. It is enough to be grateful that we were given the chance to do our duty in the first place. Whether in priesthood, parenthood, or any vocation, what peace-soaked freedom there is in simply doing what is asked of us. No more, no less. Jesus, that is how you quietly love us.

– *Father John Muir*
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Prayer to Respect Life

Dear God,
Help us to hear Your voice, especially when You speak on behalf of the voiceless, the overlooked, and the forgotten. Keep our ears attuned, and work through us in a way that loves, blesses, assures, supports, and strengthens LIFE.
Amen.

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MASS INTENTIONS

OCT 4	4:00 PM	JOSEPH PICUCCI JR.
OCT 5	8:00 AM	PAUL BOUTIN
OCT 5	10:00 AM	ROLAND PEPE BOUCHARD
OCT 12	8:00 AM	WILLIAM MOHAN & SABATO PERSUITTE 40TH ANNIVERSARY
OCT 12	10:00 AM	MICHAEL BRISSON
OCT 18	4:00 PM	WAYNE DUFOUR
OCT 24	8:00 AM	DIANE RAPTERY
OCT 25	4:00 PM	DON FEATHERSTONE
NOV 2	8:00 AM	WESLEY LAFORD
NOV 15	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 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.

North Star Family Shelter

Our next week to support the North Star family shelter dinner and weekly groceries begins November 9th. Tags will be in the back of the church under the North Star basket. Please put any donations in the basket with the tags, so it doesn't get confused with pantry donations, prior to the 10am Mass on 11/9. Refrigerated items can be placed in the downstairs refrigerator.

If any parishioner enjoys cooking and is able to cook a meal for the families, or if anyone has questions about this ministry, please call Allison Lilly at 617-947-3574. Thank you for your many years of supporting the unhoused families in our community.

St. Boniface Knights of Columbus

St. Boniface Knights of Columbus Council #16480 will be holding our annual coat drive throughout the month of October. We ask for your donations of new or gently-used coats for children and adults of all sizes. We will be working with the Fr. Robert D. Brusco Council #15962 at the St. Bernard/St. Camillus Parish to provide coats to the needy in the Lunenburg and Fitchburg areas. Donation boxes will be placed in our parish hall. As always, thank you in advance for your generosity.

Knights of Columbus Hospitality

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting Hospitality and Fellowship on Sunday, October 12th following the 8AM Mass. They hope you join them for some delicious food and great company.

STEWARDSHIP

Sept 21

Sunday	2,558.00
Fuel/Maintenance	35.00
Religious Ed	80.00
Catholic School appeal	26.00
Total	2,699.00



Scan QR code to donate online



Musical Instruments

We are still in need of any musical instruments for the children music program you can donate. They would be greatly appreciated and can be placed in the back of the church. Thanks so much!

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, 10:00 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:

	<i>phone</i>	<i>email</i>
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
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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.

Did you know that the real Wonder Woman was a saint?

Thud, thud, thud.

It was 1802. The workmen's pickaxes chipped away at the dirt that had caked the walls and floor of St. Priscilla's catacomb for centuries.

Thud, thud, thud.
Thud, thud, CLUNK.

The workmen were suddenly alert. Here was a sound different from the dull thump of grimed metal on crusty dirt which they had heard for hours (if not days) on end! Quickly clearing away the earth, they discovered three ancient tiles, bearing some simple drawings in red paint and a line of letters:

PAX TECUM FILUMENA

For roughly 1,500 years, these words had kept watch in darkness and silence over the tomb of a young Christian martyred during Diocletian's great persecution. Now, a Vatican overseer came to the site...the tomb of the unknown martyr was opened...and the relics of a young girl—no older than fifteen or fourteen—were placed in the treasury of Sacred Relics.

Philomena is the English version of Filumena, which comes from the Latin meaning "Daughter of Light." In 1805, a priest from Mugnano del Cardinale, Fr. Francesco di Lucia, obtained her relics from Rome and transferred them to the Church of Our Lady of Grace.

A host of miracles were reported to follow the arrival of Philomena's relics: a boy crippled from birth was able to walk...a blind girl regained her sight...the archbishop's assistant was healed on his deathbed upon calling out to the saint...and the resurrection of a young boy who had succumbed to chronic illness, to name a few.

Pope Gregory XVI authorized Philomena's public veneration with a Mass and Divine Office in 1837, although the lack of verifiable background concerning this martyr ultimately prevented her feast day from remaining on the official Church calendar. It was removed in 1961.

Nevertheless, fervent devotion to her has grown quickly in the 200 years since her discovery, including her veneration by several saints such as Padre Pio and Frances Xavier Cabrini. The abundance of miracles attributed to her intercession earned her the title of "Wonder-worker."

St. John Vianney was deeply devoted to her. When people asked him for certain favors through prayer, Vianney then asked St. Philomena for help, and when the miracles came—he deferred all praise to her! (What a clever and humble saint!)

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27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





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