



THE CHURCH OF SAINT BONIFACE

817 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
LUNENBURG, MA 01462



DECEMBER 7, 2025



2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. - Mt 3:4

THE LITURGY OF THE DAY

DECEMBER 7, 2025 / SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 11:1-10/ Romans 15:4-9/ Matthew 3:1-12

Let us now reimagine the animals as people. We think of the different natures, behaviors, and instincts of animals, and the same can be true of people. People have many various faults, traits, habits, and personalities. How to reconcile them all in such a way that all eight billion of us can live together in peace? This continues to be a challenge, but Jesus has given us a road map. Turn the other cheek, forgive each other, love your neighbor, care for the least of your brothers and sisters. If we can see Jesus in the faces of those in need, we can see the kingdom when we serve them.

Question of the Week: How can my family live together more harmoniously? What can I do to help make this happen?

Gospel Meditation

This week we hear that John the Baptist is out in the wilderness eating “locusts and wild honey” (Mark 1:6). It’s not just a strange historical detail. It’s a symbolic expression of a healthy spiritual diet. The path to Christ includes both the hard and the beautiful, the gritty and the sweet. We have to learn to gulp the locusts and savor the honey.

I remember working with a young couple preparing for marriage. They were sincere, but raw – barely beginning to discover faith. Part of me wanted to rush them ahead, to fill in all the gaps, to bombard them with scripture and church documents. I swallowed that instinct. It was like eating locusts.

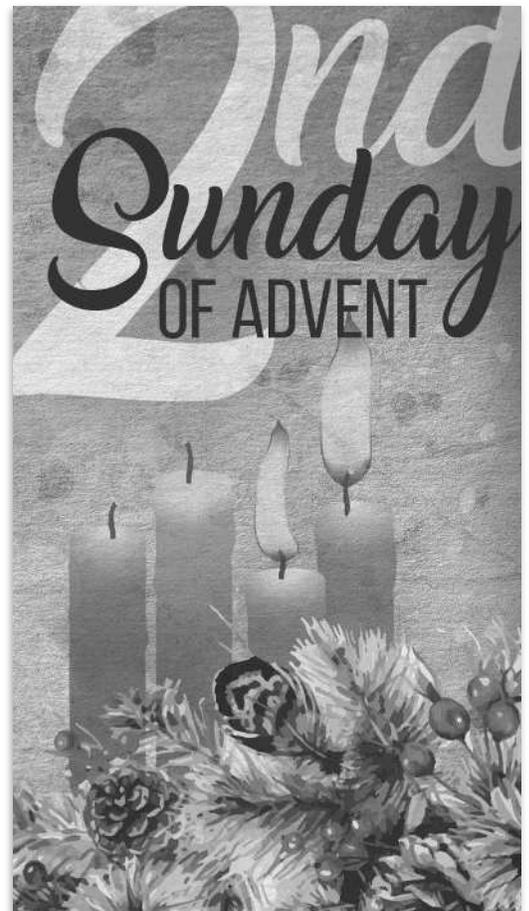
But I also recall them light up as they spoke about each other, about their first child, then their second. And they wanted to be close to God. Something innocent and beautiful was unfolding. That was the honey. I knew God was asking me to savor it.

This Advent, maybe we’re each being invited to accept both locusts and honey. Maybe it’s time to stop avoiding the difficult parts of faith – prayer that feels dry, the call to repentance, the patience with the troublesome. It’s time to eat some locusts.

But we also need to notice the small gifts God gives us: a peaceful moment, a good conversation, the joy of serving someone else, new life, good intentions of our friends. That’s the honey. Savor it!

John didn’t avoid either. He took it all in. And so can we. What are your locusts? Your honey? If we let God feed us with both, we’ll be ready – really ready – for the coming of Christ.

– *Father John Muir*
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Prayer for Advent–Peace

Come, Lord Jesus!
Bring your peace to our world. Inspire reconciliation, heal divisions, bind wounds, rewrite scripts. You are the Prince of Peace, bring that light into every space.
Amen.

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MASS INTENTIONS

DEC 6	4:00 PM	ELAINE CHARPENTIER
DEC 14	10:00 AM	MARIO PATACCHIOLA
DEC 20	4:00 PM	WAYNE DUFOUR
DEC 20	4:00 PM	ANGELINA ARRUDA
DEC 27	4:00 PM	DON FEATHERSTONE
DEC 27	4:00 PM	ANDRE PIERRE
DEC 28	8:00 AM	PETER JANCAITIS
DEC 28	10:00 AM	DICK GRIGAS
DEC 28	10:00 AM	MARION RUSSO
JAN 10	4:00 PM	THOMAS DAVIS

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 November and December will go to Catholic Charities. Food pantries are having a difficult time due to the high cost of groceries and low donations. If everyone in our parish could help by bringing 2-3 items each month during the Holiday season it will help a lot of people to have food on their tables for the Holidays. Donations can be placed in the rear of the church. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Grief Share Ministry

The new Grief Share Ministry here at St. Boniface, now has an e-mail. Any interested participants should submit their contact information. The team will reach out with information about the upcoming classes in January. stbonifacegriefgroup@gmail.com

Holiday Tradition

For over 50 years St. Boniface parishioners have opened their hearts to provide Christmas gifts for two local Rest Homes. These are smaller facilities, Penny Lane in Fitchburg and The Village in Leominster and for many residents this is the highlight of their holidays! Our tradition continues with your generosity! On the weekend of Nov. 29/30th there will be a list of names and gift requests on the posters at the back of the church. Please choose one and return your wrapped gift no later than Dec 14.

We would love to include some Christmas treats for the residents and staff to enjoy during the holidays so anyone willing to provide some know your contribution would be much appreciated. These could be left in the hall kitchen sometime between Dec 11-14. Any questions please contact Mary Bourque 978-855-2309 or Mary Powers 978-582-6532 yabourque@comcast.net or rpmp74@gmail.com

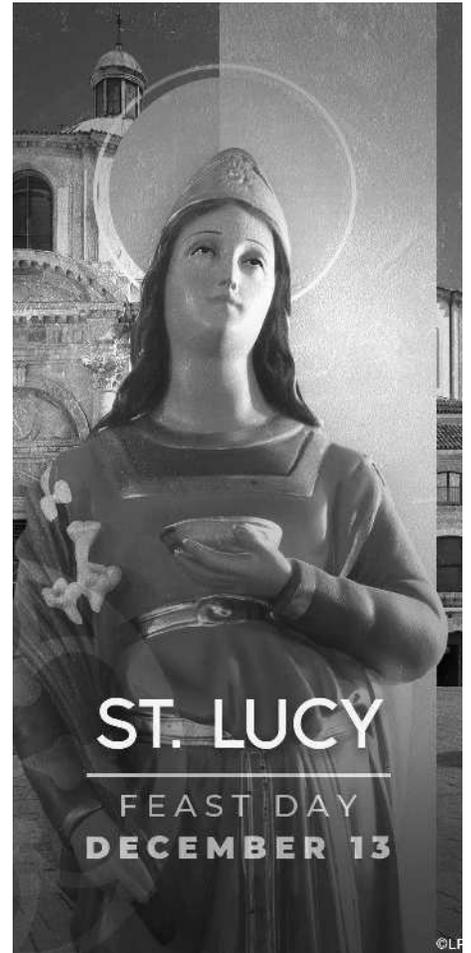
STEWARDSHIP

Nov 23

Sunday	2,547.00
Human Development	213.00
Total	2,760.00



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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, 10:00 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 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
Carolyn Farley, Music Ministry	978-621-5352	carolyndiva@comcast.net
Judit Ernst, Organist	978-582-4008	stbonifaceparish@verizon.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.

How Much is Enough?

I've got some great news for some of you: Jesus Christ doesn't care what name you bear. He doesn't care where you were born, and he doesn't care what your family tree looks like. He doesn't care where you grew up or where you went to school.

I've also got some bad news for some of you: See above.

It's so easy to take our salvation for granted. The mercy of God makes it so. Look at John the Baptist — he was pouring water on everybody who wanted it. Everybody but one group: those who expected it. Those who thought it was a given because of who they were, because of what they were. Those who had no intention of doing the work of repentance.

Sometimes, because God is so faithful, we make the mistake of forgetting that He is also just.

I am baptized, we think. I made my First Communion, and I was Confirmed. That's enough.

I went to Catholic school. I know all the Ten Commandments and I can tell you anything you want to know about the Popes. That's enough.

I'm on parish council. I put money in the basket, and I volunteer. That's enough.

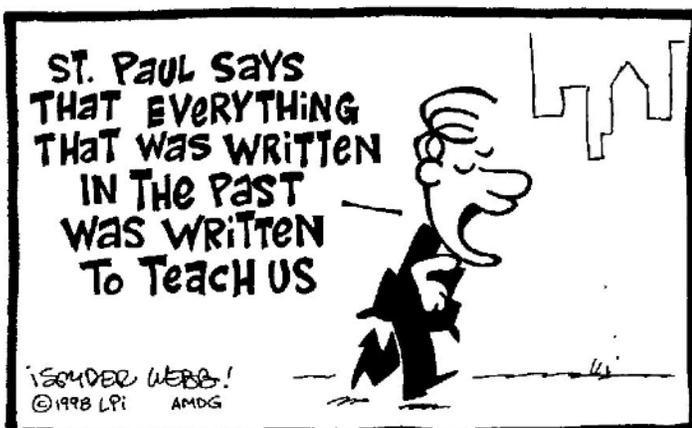
None of it is enough. It would never be enough. And before we look upon the Pharisees and Sadducees with too much judgment, we need to remember: the work of repentance is ongoing. It is a process that we must commit to within ourselves, continuously.

God is the missing element to this equation. He is the one who raises children to Abraham from the stones. If we rely only on our own abilities, our own merits, our own offerings, it will never be enough.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT





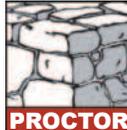
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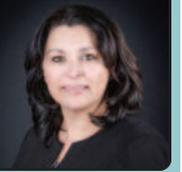
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