



# *Saint Boniface*

**CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**AUGUST 22, 2021**

**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

## **OUR MISSION**

Christ Jesus, you call us together as a parish to sow and nurture the seeds of God's saving love in the hearts and minds of all our neighbors and beyond by living your gospel.

## **OUR VISION**

Christ Jesus, bless us as you blessed our patron, St. Boniface, so that, by carrying out the mission entrusted to us, our parish will yield a bountiful harvest of passionate disciples, united to you by the sacraments and sent by you to further your mission.



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## **OUR VALUES**

Christ Jesus, enable us to reap this bountiful harvest by staying rooted in the "good soil" of the basic principles in which we as a parish believe.

- We are a parish who prays, studies, and acts in accord with the Scriptures and the traditions of the Catholic Church and the Diocese of Erie.
- We are a parish who stands firmly on the foundation of our past;
- We are a parish who understands and responds to the changing needs of all families today;
- We are a parish who welcomes and enjoys fellowship with all people;
- We are a parish who lives within our means and exercises responsible stewardship of the resources entrusted to us;
- We are a parish who works together as God's family for the good of all, putting our common mission above all else.

This we pray, in your name. Amen.

St. Boniface, pray for us.

**9367 Wattsburg Road • Erie, PA 16509-6031**

Visit [www.stbonifaceparisherie.org](http://www.stbonifaceparisherie.org) for daily updates on St. Boniface events.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESKTHE MASS EXPLAINED  
PART 1: PRE-MASS PREPARATION

“Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar and there recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift there at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift” (Matthew 5:23-24).



Throughout the month of August, we have been reflecting on St. Joseph as a model for priests, particularly in his spiritual fatherhood, teaching Jesus the faith and leading the Holy Family in worship. In an effort to do both more effectively here at St. Boniface, as your spiritual father I will be working with Deacon Tim over the next several weeks to explain the Mass in my column and in our Sunday homilies. It is our hope that by doing so we will help deepen our celebration of the Mass and help us all realize how important the Mass is in our lives and that of our parish.

In a sense, Mass begins before we even leave our homes to come to church with our personal preparation. By observing the Communion fast of abstaining from all food and drink, except for water and medicine, for one hour before we receive Communion, we are raising our awareness of the awesome mystery we are about to celebrate. By removing worldly concerns from our lives, we make room for Christ to come and make his home with us, refocusing our lives on God's kingdom, which we experience sacramentally at Mass, rather than the world. We can also go beyond the required Communion fast in our preparation for Mass, spending time in personal prayer, spiritual reading, or other spiritual activities that can enhance our participation and experience of Mass.

All of these contribute to what we call our disposition for celebrating Mass, especially for receiving Holy Communion. Disposition means our readiness and openness to receive the grace of the sacraments; the better our disposition, the more transformative will be our reception of God's grace, which is the whole point of celebrating the sacraments, including the Eucharist. A major factor that can limit our disposition or even close us off completely from

receiving God's grace in the Eucharist is sin. If we are conscious of having committed grave sin since our last sacramental confession, we need to go to confession before receiving Holy Communion to be properly disposed to receive God's grace. This is because sin is the opposite of grace, and so, to receive God's grace at Mass, we need to be free of sin, which for grave sin ordinarily happens only through the sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

Like most things in life, the more we put into our celebration of the Mass, the more we'll get out of it, and that includes putting the time and effort we need into our personal preparation for Mass. Next week we will continue our reflection on the Mass with the Introductory Rites. In the meantime, I encourage everyone to engage in your own reflection on the Mass. A good place to start is: <https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/the-mass>. Check it out, and let us grow together in our love for the Mass here at St. Boniface.

*Fr. Marc Stockton*

**ADORATION~** Please join us the last Thursday of each month at 6:00p.m. in the Church for Adoration. All are welcome to attend. If you have any questions contact the parish office.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE FOR LABOR DAY~** For Sunday, September 12, 2021, articles are due **September 3, 2021**.

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**STAFF**

Rev. Marc Stockton, JCL.....*Pastor*  
 Rev. Mister Timothy G. Good.....*Permanent Deacon*  
 Jeanne Yaple.....*Faith Formation Director*  
 Sandee Krivonak.....*Business Manager*  
 Melanie Kennerknecht.....*Parish Secretary*  
 Brooke Lander.....*Pre-School Director*

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Friday..... 9:00a.m.-1:30p.m.

**DIRECTORY**

Parish Office..... 825-4439  
 Pre-School..... 825-4439 ext. 222  
 Center..... 825-8101  
 Hall Rental..... 825-4439  
 Parish Website..... [www.stbonifaceparisherie.org](http://www.stbonifaceparisherie.org)  
 Pastor..... [pastor@stbonifaceparisherie.org](mailto:pastor@stbonifaceparisherie.org)  
 General Office..... [secretary@stbonifaceparisherie.org](mailto:secretary@stbonifaceparisherie.org)  
 Business Office..... [finance@stbonifaceparisherie.org](mailto:finance@stbonifaceparisherie.org)  
 Religious Ed..... [faithformation@stbonifaceparisherie.org](mailto:faithformation@stbonifaceparisherie.org)  
 Pre-School..... [preschool@stbonifaceparisherie.org](mailto:preschool@stbonifaceparisherie.org)

**BACKPACK BLESSINGS~** We will bless the school supplies that you have so generously donated for needy families in our area at all Masses the weekend of August 28-29. As part of that blessing, we invite our families to bring your own children's school supplies to be blessed as they prepare to begin a new school year. Just bring the supplies in a book bag or backpack to Mass that weekend, and thank you for your generosity to the children of our area!

**MARRIAGE MOMENT~** Whether or not you've been able to take a vacation this past summer, you can still dream. If money were not an issue and you had the time, where would each of you love to go? You don't have to agree right now. This is just fantasy time.

**SAMUEL GROUP~** If you as a young adult are wrestling with big questions about your future, don't worry— you are not alone! The Samuel Group is for young adults ages 20-30 who seriously desire to discern God's will for their lives. The Samuel Group is a seven-month journey that includes: monthly gatherings at Saint Mark Catholic Center, spiritual direction, prayer, talks, small group discussion, and accompaniment. The goal of the Samuel Group is for each participate to grow in self-knowledge and to hear and respond to God's call with an open heart. Applications are due September 1st.

Please visit our website for our informational video and application details: <https://www.eriercd.org/youth/samualgroup.html> For more information contact Director of Vacations, Fr. Scott Jabo, at [SWJabo@eriercd.org](mailto:SWJabo@eriercd.org), or Jillian Zaczyk, Director of Young Adult & Youth Ministry, at [jzaczyk@eriercd.org](mailto:jzaczyk@eriercd.org)

**DIOCESE INTRODUCES REMEMBERING OUR SUNDAY STORY INITIATIVE~** The Faith Formation Office of the Diocese of Erie has spent months coordinating an initiative to ensure that people feel welcome as they return to public worship. Over the next six months, the Re-membling Our Sunday Story effort will provide an array of resources, from prayer cards and bulletin announcements to social media posts and a pastoral letter from Bishop Lawrence Persico. Watch for the logo indicating the information is part of the effort to make sure the return to parish life after the pandemic is transformative. Stories about the effort can be found at [www.nwpaCatholic.com](http://www.nwpaCatholic.com).

**THE ST. BONIFACE 2021-2022 RCIA~** (Rite of Christian Initiation of adults) will once again be starting this Fall. Anyone who is interested or knows someone who is interested in becoming Catholic or understanding our faith more fully, may complete an application form. For an application, please call the parish office at (814) 825-4439 or pick one up in the Gathering space in the back of church. Once completed, applications can be mailed or dropped off to the office.

**PARISH LEADERSHIP RETREAT~** It's been two years since we last gathered the leadership of our parish together to pray, study, and plan how to best further the mission of our parish. It is time to get together again. We invite all those in parish leadership – parish council, finance council, and chairpersons of parish task forces, committees, and ministries – to a parish leadership retreat on Saturday, August 28, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, at St. Mark Catholic Center. More information will be available soon, but please mark your calendars for this important event in the life of our parish as we plan together how to move beyond the Covid-19 era. Hope to see you there.

**BAPTISMAL CLASS~** New parents are required to take a Baptismal preparation class prior to having their first child baptized. Parents who have already attended baptism class and kept documentation of that attendance do not need to take the classes more than once. Please call the parish office for class dates or check the weekly bulletin for upcoming classes. There is a class being held here at St. Boniface Church, on Tuesday, September 7th at 7:00p.m. in the Allgeier Room. Please call the Parish Office at 814-825-4439 to register.

**COVID-19: GET THE FACTS!**

Total cases: PA 1,251,965; Erie Co. 21889

Total deaths since pandemic began: PA 27,993 (+ 79); Erie Co. 422 (+ 1)

New Cases: PA 1257 (- 397); Erie Co. 29 (+ 8)

Total fully vaccinated: PA 5,826,058 (45% of total pop.); Erie Co. 128,676(48% total pop.)

**SANCTUARY CANDLE LIT IN MEMORY~** The Sanctuary Candle is lit this week in memory of **Dottie Deutsch** from **Dianne Brzozowski**.



## ~FAITH FORMATION NEWS~

*"We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God." ~John 6:69*

A Prayer for a New School Year  
by Annie Boyd

Lord, I give this school year to you. I pray that each of my children will learn exactly what is right for them to learn. Help them to master new skills and increase in their love of learning. Prepare them for what you have for them in their futures. Protect them from what is harmful to them and expose them to good things only. I pray that they will have good attitudes and a willingness to work hard. I pray that they will show respect and obedience. Please give our family peace during this school year. Thank you for loving them, protecting them, and caring for them. Amen.

### Upcoming News and Events:

If you haven't already done so, please remember to register for the upcoming Faith Formation Year and/or Sacrament Prep Sessions as soon as possible to ensure learning materials for your family. Starting on Sunday, September 12, we are looking forward to monthly events for both parents and children, guiding all families through "faith-talk" discussions, faith-filled activities, and an increased involvement within our parish community. More importantly, study after study has shown that the role of parents is more decisive than religious education or schooling on whether their children remain Catholic. Committed to creating lifelong learners of faith, we at St. Boniface Parish, are dedicated to fully engaging our parish families!

8/28-8/29 Backpack Blessings

We will bless the school supplies that you have so generously donated for needy families in our area at all Masses the weekend of August 28/29. As part of that blessing, we invite our families to bring their own children's school supplies to be blessed as they prepare to begin a new school year. Just bring the supplies in a book bag or backpack to Mass that weekend, and thank you for your generosity to the children of our area!

**Love and Light,**

**Jeanne Yaple**

## THE WORD OF GOD THIS WEEK ~LOYOLA PRESS

Gospel Reading, John 6:60-69

Simon Peter confesses his faith that Jesus alone has the words of the eternal life.

**FAMILY CONNECTION~** When a child is baptized, the parents speak on behalf of the child in professing the faith in which the child is to be baptized. The parents promise to teach their child this faith so that they may one day accept this faith as his or her own. In the example of Simon Peter, we learn that each person must also make his or her own profession of faith in Jesus as the one sent by God to save us. We pray for our children as they mature in the faith that they may learn that Jesus alone has the words of eternal life and that they may choose to follow the way of Christian discipleship.

As you gather as a family, talk about promise that parents make at their child's baptism to teach their child about Jesus and the faith of the Church. Talk about the importance of this promise to your family and about some of the things that you are doing to try to honor this commitment. In today's Gospel we hear Simon Peter speak about what he has come to believe about Jesus. Together read today's Gospel, John 6:60-69. Pray together that each person in our family will grow in his or her faith that Jesus is the one sent by God who alone has the words of eternal life. Pray together the Apostles' Creed or the Nicene Creed.

## ~UPCOMING EVENTS~

**Monday— August 23**

5:30p.m. Preschool Meet your Teacher  
(Coleman Center)

**Wednesday— August 25**

7:00p.m. Boy Scouts (Classroom)

**Thursday— August 26**

6:00p.m. Adoration (Church)

**Saturday— August 28**

7:00a.m. Spacious Skies Cross Country Meet

## ~KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS~

Our next meeting night will be September 2nd at 6:30pm. Mask will be required.

Our next Rosary Sunday will be September 4,5. Please join us as we Pray for the suffering people of Haiti. They are STILL recovering from the Earth Quake of 2010, are cleaning up from the present Earth Quake and are preparing for a POSSIBLE HURRICANE coming their way? PLEASE GOD WATCH OVER THESE PEOPLE IN THEIR TIME OF NEED.

## ATTENTION LECTORS AND ALTAR SERVERS~

If you would like to be placed back on the schedule to be an Altar Server or Lector at this time please call the parish office at 825-4439 to be placed on the schedule. Thank you.

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

**Monday, August 23, Ordinary Weekday**  
No Mass Today

**Tuesday, August 24, Saint Bartholomew**  
8:00 a.m. **Mary Ann Ritter**  
(Barb Petrone)

**Wednesday, August 25, Ordinary Weekday**  
8:00 a.m. **Edward & Irene Gorski**  
(Valeria Carlson & Family)

**Thursday, August 26, Ordinary Weekday**  
8:00 a.m. **Robert Dombrowski**  
(Ron & Cathy Dombrowski)

**Friday, August 27, Saint Monica**  
8:00 a.m. **Fr. Dan Arnold**  
(Edith Chetnik)

**Saturday, August 28, Saint Augustine**  
8:00 a.m. **Joan Pisano**  
(Vic Pisano)

5:00 p.m. **Marge Lorei**  
(Joe Lorei)

**Sunday, August 29, Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 a.m. **Richard Dylewski**  
(Ed & Lisa Allgeier)

10:30 a.m. **Living and Deceased Members of St. Boniface Parish**

### RECONCILIATION

Saturday.....4:15-4:45 p.m.  
(and anytime by appointment)

## ~Week of August 8, Collection~

Adult.....	\$8,256.00
Loose .....	\$35.00
Catholic Service Appeal.....	\$270.00
Latin America.....	\$25.00
Holy Days.....	\$71.00

*~Thank you to those who use their envelopes regularly and to all who have increased their offerings.~*

## CHURCH CLEANING~

Heavenly dusters this week are: **Suzie Lyle & Family** and **Marlene Kerecman**. May God bless them in their faithful work.



## ~LECTOR~

**SATURDAY— August 28**

5:00 p.m. J. Bitters

**SUNDAY— August 29**

7:30 a.m. C. Mester

10:30 a.m. C. Russell

## ~ALTAR SERVER~

**SATURDAY— August 28**

5:00 p.m. Need Volunteer

**SUNDAY— August 29**

7:30 a.m. N. Szymanski

10:30 a.m. K. Northrup, A. Northrup

## Prayer for Vocations

Lord God, creator of all things and source of all gifts and talents, your Son came to this world to fulfill his vocation as the Redeemer of all humanity.

Grant the sons and daughters of the parishes of the Diocese of Erie a profound awareness of their own vocations. Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, may they come to realize their distinct place in your divine plan.

Give them the grace to recognize and the courage to pursue vocations as devoted priests, deacons and consecrated women and men to assist the Diocese of Erie in fulfilling her mission.

With the intercession of Saint Patrick, our patron, who preached the Gospel in word and deed, we pray that they may find happiness and fulfillment in a life of service to others.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Imprimatur, July 29, 2013

The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Perisco, JCL  
Bishop of Erie

**A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE~** Even though many found the teachings of Jesus “difficult”, He did not back down. In our families, it is important to say what is difficult to hear, to speak the truth with kindness, to correct with love and guide with understanding.

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