



Saint Boniface

CATHOLIC CHURCH

DECEMBER 26, 2021
HOLY FAMILY

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 for daily updates on St. Boniface events.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

“On the second day of Christmas, my true love sent to me two turtle doves and a partridge in a pear tree” (THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS).

“The Twelve Days of Christmas” is one of the most popular carols of this festive season, and has been for centuries, but how many of us know the history and meaning of this beloved Christmas classic? For starters, why does the song say there are twelve days of Christmas? In our experience, the Christmas season runs from Christmas Day through the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which is celebrated the Sunday after the feast of Epiphany. This means that the length of the Christmas season can vary, depending on what day of the week December 25th is (this year Christmas has sixteen days). This was not always the case, however. In the 18th century, when the song was composed, the Christmas season ended with the feast of Epiphany, which was celebrated January 6th, meaning that there were always twelve days of Christmas.



But what about the somewhat strange gifts that mark each verse? These are actually religious symbols that were used to teach Catholic children about their faith. Catholics in England were persecuted and forced to practice their faith in secret at the time the carol was written, and so the anonymous author used these cryptic symbols to represent teachings of the Catholic Church. The meaning of each symbolic gift is as follows:

1. Partridge in a pear tree = Jesus, who gives his life on a tree for us
2. Turtle doves = the two Testaments of the Bible, Old & New
3. French hens = the theological virtues of faith, hope, and love
4. Calling birds = the four Gospels
5. Golden rings = the first five books of the Old Testament, collectively called the Pentateuch or the Law
6. Geese a-laying = the six days of creation (God rested on the seventh)
7. Swans a-swimming = the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit
8. Maids a-milking = the eight Beatitudes

9. Ladies dancing = the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit
10. Lords a-leaping = the Ten Commandments
11. Pipers piping = the eleven faithful Apostles
12. Drummers drumming = the twelve truths of our faith proclaimed in the Apostles' Creed

So merry second day of Christmas to you all! Throughout this blessed season, whatever day it is, celebrate each one to the full, and whenever you hear or sing “The Twelve Days of Christmas”, remember it’s history and meaning, rooted in our Catholic faith. For more information, please see The History of 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' (catholicnewsagency.com).

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.

SCHEDULING~ If you are interested in renting the Coleman Center or the St. Boniface Parish Hall for a party or family function please call the parish office at 825-4439 for more information.

PARISH OFFICE~ The parish office will close at the end of the day on December 23rd and open again on Monday, January 3th.

CONGRATULATIONS~ to the following students from our parish who have achieved the Honor Roll at Mercyhurst Preparatory School for the second term of the 2021-22 school year: **Delaney Anderson, Veronica Sambor, Samuel Praetzel, Mia Anderson, Izaak Bryson and Joseph Fugagli.**

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
 Pastor..... pastor@stbonifaceparisherie.org
 General Office..... secretary@stbonifaceparisherie.org
 Business Office..... finance@stbonifaceparisherie.org
 Religious Ed. faithformation@stbonifaceparisherie.org
 Pre-School..... preschool@stbonifaceparisherie.org

December 26, 2021

~PRE SCHOOL NEWS~

Luke 2:13-14 13And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 14Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Preschool News:

For the first time in 2 years, St. Boniface preschool was able to host a Christmas Program for families to attend on the morning of Wednesday, Dec. 22. The staff at St. Boniface was pleased to be able to get back to “normal” and allow families into our building to celebrate the joy that is their children, especially at Christmas time. Preschool children began practicing a variety of holiday songs and fingerplays at the start of December. There was a mix of traditional songs such as “Away in a Manger” and “Jingle Bells” mixed with some non-traditional songs such as “Oh Candy Cane”, “Counting Cookies” and “We’re on Our Way to the North Pole.” After lots of practice students were ready to perform for their parents on the BIG stage in Coleman Hall. After the performance families were invited to stay for a cookie. It was wonderful to be able to celebrate the season with our St. Boniface Preschool Families again!

Important Dates:

Thursday, December 23-Sunday, January 2:

No School/Preschool closed

Monday, January 3rd: School Resumes

Monday, January 17th: No School/Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Friday, January 21st: Preschool IN session including Before/After Care (Covid-19 make-up due to Oct. closure)

WASD closed: School Age Before/After Care CLOSED

Hours of Operation:

Before Care: 7:00-8:15 AM

Preschool Programs: 8:15 AM-3:15 PM (11:45 AM half day)

After Care: 3:30-5:30 PM

Be Grateful in all things and God Bless,
Brooke Lander

St. Boniface Preschool Director
Preschool@stbonifaceparisherie.org

Happy New Year
from St. Boniface Preschool!



HEAVENLY DUSTERS~ Your new schedule is ready. Please pick one up. They are on the counter in the gathering space.

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, on January 4th at 7:00p.m. in the Allgeier Room. Please call the Parish Office at 814-825-4439 to register.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE~ After meeting Jesus, the Magi returned home by “another way.” What in your family needs to be done “another way?” Do you need “another way to resolve differences, to communicate or show affection? This is a new year, time to change what isn’t working. Take a tip from some wise men, there’s always “another way.”

SEVENTH ANNUAL 138 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE~ "Say Yes! to the 7th Annual 138 Women's Conference. The conference will be held from 8:30-12:30 on March 12, 2022. You may attend live at St. Jude Parish in Erie, PA, virtually at satellite parishes via zoom or in your own home via zoom. The cost is \$20. This year's conference will feature national speakers Lisa Hendey, best selling author and founder of CatholicMom.com and Patricia Breen who writes online for Blessed is She, Fem Catholic, Grotto Network and CatholicMatch. Visit our website at www.138women.com for more information and to register."

SANCTUARY CANDLE LIT IN MEMORY~ The Sanctuary Candle is lit this week in memory of **Benjamin Cermak** from **Tom, Ann & Thomas Cermak**.



~FAITH FORMATION NEWS~

“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland”
~Isaiah 43:18-19

Prayer for Hope After A Hard Year

Crosswalk.com

God, Thank you for helping us to make it through this difficult year. Thank you that you've carried us through the uncertainty of deep waters, through the flames of trials, and through the pain of hard losses. We are constantly aware of how much we need you, your grace, your strength, your power working through even the toughest days.

Help us to keep our focus first on you this season. Please forgive us for giving too much time and attention to other things, for looking to other people before coming to you first. Help us to reflect again, on what Christmas is really all about. Thank you that you came to give new life, peace, hope, and joy. Thank you that your power is made perfect in our weakness.

Help us to remember that the gift of Christ, Immanuel, is our greatest treasure, not just at Christmas, but for the whole year through. Fill us with your joy and the peace of your Spirit. Direct our hearts and minds towards you. Thank you for your reminder that both in seasons of celebration and in seasons of brokenness, you're still with us. For you never leave us. Thank you for your daily powerful Presence in our lives, that we can be assured your heart is towards us, your eyes are over us, and your ears are open to our prayers. Thank you that you surround us with favor as with a shield, and we are safe in your care.

We choose to press in close to you today, and keep you first in our hearts and lives. Without you we would surely fail, but with you, there is great hope. Thank you for your healing power, thank you for bringing us into this new season up ahead. We look forward to all that You still have in store. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Year's Blessings,

Jeanne Yaple

The Word of God this Week ~Loyola Press

Gospel Reading, Luke 2:41-52

The boy Jesus is found in the Temple.

Family Connection~ Today's Gospel describes a time of anxiety in the life of Jesus' family. We can imagine their panic and worry as they discovered that Jesus was not with the caravan returning to Nazareth. The Holy Family journeyed with family members and friends because traveling alone was dangerous. When they found Jesus at the Temple, Jesus spoke like a typical adolescent, unsympathetic to his parents' concern. Yet his words teach an important lesson about reducing anxiety in our family life. In essence, Jesus says, “If you had remembered who I am, you would have known where to find me.” In their panic, Mary and Joseph had forgotten what had been told to them before Jesus' birth, that their son was the Son of God. Knowing a person well helps reduce our anxieties for them because we can better predict how they will behave, and we know their capacity to handle the challenges life might present to them.

As you gather as a family, have fun playing the game “How well do you know me?” Take turns trying to stump one another by asking family members questions about yourself, such as “What is my favorite memory of a family vacation?” “Given a choice, what dinner menu would I pick?” “If I could travel anywhere in the world, where would I go?” One member of the family might prepare and read the questions aloud as each person writes down the answers. Family members then take turns guessing the answers, playing this game as a quiz show. Observe that one thing about families is that we learn to know each other well.



MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Monday, December 27, Saint John
No Mass Today

Tuesday, December 28, Holy Innocents
8:00 a.m. **Joan Pisano**
(Vic Pisano)

Wednesday, December 29, Christmas Weekday
8:00 a.m. **Fr. Dan Arnold**
(Edith Chetnik)

Thursday, December 20, Christmas Weekday
8:00 a.m. **Norbert Kania**
(Mike & Cheryl Ferrie)

Friday, December 31, Christmas Weekday (New Year's Eve)
7:00 p.m. **Carl (Jim) Carlson**
(Valeria Carlson & Family)

Saturday, January 1, New Year's Day
10:00 a.m. **Adriane Malik**
(Al & Fran O'Connell)

Saturday, January 1, Epiphany of the Lord
5:00 p.m. **Joe Winkler**
(Gloria & Ron Wienckowski)

Sunday, January 2, Epiphany of the Lord
7:30 a.m. **Eleanor Kozik**
(Pat & Teresa Wilczynski)

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

RECONCILIATION

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

~LECTOR~

FRIDAY— December 31 (New Years Eve)
7:00 p.m. D. Golombieski

SATURDAY— January 1 (New Years Day)
10:00 a.m. Need Volunteer
5:00 p.m. D. Golombieski

SUNDAY— January 2
7:30 a.m. G. Stanton
10:30 a.m. V. Meehan

~ALTAR SERVER~

FRIDAY—December 31 (New Years Eve)
7:00 p.m. Need Volunteer

SATURDAY— January 1 (New Years Day)
10:00 a.m. Need Volunteer
5:00 p.m. L. Pinzok, E. Pinzok

SUNDAY— January 2
7:30 a.m. J. Hlifka
10:30 a.m. M. Brocious

~GREETER~

SATURDAY— January 1
5:00 p.m. R. & C. Bayle

SUNDAY— January 2
7:30 a.m. C. Meeker
10:30 a.m. A. & B. Lynch

~UPCOMING EVENTS~

Monday— December 27
9a.m.-1:30p.m. Parish Office Closed

Tuesday— December 28
9a.m.-1:30p.m. Parish Office Closed

Wednesday— December 29
9a.m.-1:30p.m. Parish Office Closed
7:00p.m. Boy Scouts (Classroom)

Thursday— December 30
9a.m.-1:30p.m. Parish Office Closed

Friday— December 31
9a.m.-1:30p.m. Parish Office Closed

THANK YOU~ Pauline Tatara, St. Boniface parishoner for 69 1/2 years, sends thanks to Fr. Marc, Holy Communion ministers and everyone else. I am grateful for the wonderful service received by me. Pauline Tatara, 123 Disque Drive, Seneca, Pa. 16346.



~Week of December 12, Collection~

Adult.....	\$7,323.00
Loose	\$18.50
Online.....	\$860.00
Catholic Service Appeal.....	\$485.00
Religious Retirement.....	\$1,678.20
Christmas.....	\$45.00
Human Development	\$20.00
Holy Days.....	\$70.00

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

CHURCH CLEANING~

Heavenly dusters this week are: **Cathy Rieder, Brenda Pyle, Penny Warmbrod and Mike & Nancy Allgeier.** May God bless them in their faithful work.



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