

ParishConnect

St. Boniface Church Newsletter

Welcome to ParishConnect!

A new way for the people of Saint Boniface...to *share* the good news of what's happening in our Parish to *welcome* and encourage others to join in our faith community and to *celebrate* our rich heritage as members of the Universal Church

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Summer Mass Schedule

(May 28-Sept 3)

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am

Weekday Masses

Tue & Wed 9AM

Regular Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 8 & 10:30 am

Weekday Masses

Wed/Thu/Fri 9AM

Contact Info:

How We Build Community

How We Build Community

It is not easy to 'pull off' a summer edition of the newsletter. Summer is a time we all just want to 'unplug' (sit back, rest and just take it easy). So the team thought it wise to look at what we have done to grow our St. Boniface community.



Our theme for this newsletter edition is "How do we build community. A community cannot be built alone or by one person – it takes all of us. Whether it's in a print or online dictionary, looking up the definition of "community" is easy, the hard part is building community. There are many ways to build community. Sometimes a community exists naturally, like a family or a country, or even a community of trees; other times it requires hard work and diligence to build and maintain communities. Since last summer, St. Boniface has journeyed towards building community. The liturgical events, Religious Education, Parish events, and special programs such as the Songs of Thanksgiving and Praise Concert, Ecumenical Prayer, the Parish Lenten retreat, First Fish Fry, etc. are important

Contact Info:

Rev. Anthony Mpagi, Pastor

Nancy Wessells

Administrative Assistant

Claire Garrity Neas

Director of Music Ministry

Sandy Vettese

Director of Pre-School

Mr. Greg Cucchiara

Building & Grounds

community-builders. St. Boniface has been a religious community since the 1950's, and it continues to thrive and seek opportunities to create community within the parish, in Lunenburg and the surrounding towns of Fitchburg, Leominster, and beyond. It takes 'we' to build - so a big thanks to all who dedicate themselves to growing our St. Boniface Parish community.

Now of course the master architect of all this is God. Let the Spirit continue to guide and inspire us. Let us allow Him to use us. Let Him be our strength as we continue to build the Kingdom, *and community*, of God here and now.

Thank you to all the contributors, the *ParishConnect* team, and especially Carla Cappucci who pulls all this together.

Dates to Remember

Confession

Saturdays 3:00 pm

-

Rosary

Saturdays 3:30 pm

-

Rosary,
Silent Adoration of
Blessed Sacrament

First Friday
9:00-11 am

-

Music Ministry

Come one come all
10:30 Mass

-

Knights of Columbus
First Wednesday of the
month 7:00 pm

-

Our Father's House
Meals

Last Wednesday of the
month

-

Oktoberfest Planning
Meeting

Thursday, Aug 24,
Sept. 28
6:30 pm

Oktoberfest Saturday,
October 7
1-7 pm

Bona facite (Do Good)

Liturgical Ministry

Service ~ Nourishment ~ Service



Something so familiar, we all know it well, gathering for a meal - with family, friends, neighbors, or perhaps strangers. We know well how this daily ritual nourishes our bodies as well as our relationships with those present.

So it is with the Mass. The celebration of the Liturgy nourishes our souls, and us as a community, the Body of Christ. From the parish assembly come the building blocks for this joyful gathering...

...We are welcomed by the **Greeter**. The table is set by the **Altar Servers**. The conversation is led and God's Word is read by the **Lector**. We receive the bread and cup from the **Eucharistic Ministers**.



Through service to God's family, we serve God. We build our parish community by continually nourishing each other, despite our flaws and failings.

To volunteer in this way is to help ensure that we have a healthy communal relationship as God's people, and that we can each bring that divine love into our relationships with those we meet and serve in our daily lives.

Religious Education



September 10th is Kick Off Sunday for Grades 1-10!

Grades 1-7: 9:00-10:15 AM

Grades 8-10: 7:00-8:00 PM

New this year: Children's Liturgy of the Word (ages 3-5), more information to come.

At this time we are in need of ONE catechist for the upcoming year in a combined grade of 4/5. There are 10 children in that class. If you can help, please contact Lucy Marcil at lmarcil419@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Coming Soon: Watch for a Save the Date notice for the Religious Education cookout!

Registration is ongoing. Pick up forms at the church exits, download from our website www.stboniface-lunenburg.org, or email Lucy Marcil at lmarcil419@gmail.com

Music Ministry



Over this past year, many exciting events took place at St Boniface which were not only beautiful and inspiring, but drew folks together in lots of ways. In November of 2016, St Boniface hosted our first "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" Festival. Thirteen Choir's from eleven parishes offered songs in varied styles and ways for the single purpose of praising God and it was BLESSED. In December, our newly re-formed choir filled the

loft with glorious sounds on Christmas Eve. In February a special liturgy for married couples took place in a church bedecked as for a wedding with special flowers, a trumpet's bright tones, the renewal of vows and a meal with wedding cake afterwards.

April saw a reenacted procession led by the choir of "Jesus riding a donkey into Gallilee," and a gathering of faiths in an ecumenical Tenebrae Service. The clergy and choirs of United Parish, Pilgrim Covenant and St Boniface "opened the door" to shared praise and song, conversation and future collaboration in community



events where "Bona Facite" (doing Good) is called for. The chants of Holy Week were proclaimed with great fervor. Now we enjoy a group gathering in the loft (of their own accord) on Sunday mornings

at the 10:30 am mass to resurrect a much longed for Weekly Choir. All are Welcome!!! There is no doubt that the Hand of God can be seen in our church. God is calling and it's so exciting to be a part of all that He is asking us to do!

Knights of Columbus



The Knights of Columbus recently held very successful community events. In March we celebrated with our St. Patrick's Day Dinner and the Irish Step Dancers. Very well attended!

In April, we held our first Fish Bake: well attended and enthusiastically receive!. Next

year's Fish Bake means we have established a new tradition at St. Boniface!!

And on June 24th, we sponsored the parish picnic. Though not a community activity strictly speaking...St. Boniface was well represented at the All Men's Conference at Assumption College on March 17th. Finally, we were able to reach out to the Lunenburg community through a donation to the Lions Club Food Bank.

Summer time is not break time! We are working with Fr. Anthony to repaint the statue of the Virgin Mary (the one in the back of the church hall) and establish a small shrine area on the church grounds. More on that later.

Lastly, the Knights are gearing up to get involved in Octoberfest in October, under Claude Poiriers' leadership. Questions? Please contact me at joersimoneau@juno.com.

Baccalaureate



The Baccalaureate was revived for the graduating Class of 1996, by a group of parents from Pilgrim Covenant Church, St. Boniface and the United Parish of Lunenburg. The Baccalaureate had not been a part of the graduation programs for a very long time. All graduates and their families are invited to the service. The ministers and priests, parents and church leaders read

Scripture, lead in prayer and provided special music for this service. Over the 21 years some changes have brought speakers from the school community, special music by the LHS chorus and graduating seniors, and the addition of Our Lady of the Lake church as part of the annual rotation, along with guest speakers from any parishes that are represented by the graduates families.

A Rock was chosen in 1996 and engraved with the words "The Lord is My Rock". This Rock is engraved with the new year and remains on display in the host church reminding the church to pray for the graduates during the upcoming year. The Rock then moves to the next host church. A small gift is presented to each graduate in attendance as a reminder of the Baccalaureate and that our faith community is praying for them.

This year the Baccalaureate was held at Pilgrim Covenant Church. Graduates were led in Prayer and reflection and reminded that they are "the Light of the World", by Pastor Ryan, Pilgrim Covenant; Father Derosier, St Mary Church, Ayer; Bishop Carmack, The Church of Latter Day Saints; Father O'Brien and Father Ruiz, Our Lady of the Lake; Reverend Black, United Parish ; And our own Father Anthony. The Rock left St. Boniface and was presented by Bob & Geri Gardner to Pastor Ryan, where they will pray for the graduates for the year ahead. This was a great testament of the Faith Community that we are so much a part of!



Vacation Bible School Comes

to St. Boniface August 14th - 18th

9 am - noon

Grades 1-5

*Come experience God's love through
fun games, crafts, songs, and more!*

For more information or to join the crew please
contact:

Sue Cote: sj33@msn.com or 978-582-0404

Download [Registration](#) form or
pick one up at either entrance of the church



OKTOBERFEST Beer Festival 2017!!

Saturday, October 7, 2017 from 1 to 7 pm, St Boniface will host it's first Oktoberfest! Beer Vendors will offer various craft beers for tasting, grilled and homemade foods will be for sale, artisan crafts will be offered in the hall for purchase, huge themed gift baskets raffled and lottery tickets will be made available soon for some big cash prizes!!

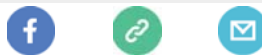
Mark your calendars for this most auspicious event! Craft table space is available for rent so get the word out to local artisans (you?) Many volunteers will be needed to make this the huge success it will be! Delicious homemade foods will be prepared to sell to hungry beer tasters, and soft pretzels, bratwurst and chowder will be featured on the menu.

HOW MUCH FUN IS THIS?

More news will come via the bulletin and pulpit. Once again, St Boniface Parish Community coming together to have fun and "Bona Facite!" (sounds of tubas making oompah noises and lots of cheering!)

Did you know we have a Facebook page?

Click [here](#) to see it!



St. Boniface Church

Our mailing address is:

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