

Gaudete Sunday ~ December 17, 2023

Mass Schedule Saturday: 9am, 4pm; Sunday: 8am, 10:30am Mondays - Fridays: 8am

Holy Day Masses: 8am, 7pm

Confession Saturdays 3pm-3:45pm

Holy Hour 3pm Saturdays (Church) 2pm Wednesdays (Chapel)

Rosary after 8am Mass Mondays –Fridays 8:30am Saturdays

Miraculous Medal Novena after 9am Saturday Mass

Church Hours Mondays -Fridays: 8am-2:30pm Saturdays: 9am-5pm; Sundays: 8am-12pm

Parish Office Hours Tuesdays -Thursdays: 9am-12pm; 12:30-3pm

Parish Contact Information 145 Glen Avenue, Sea Cliff, NY 11579 516-676-0676; stbonchurch@gmail.com www.saintboniface.org www.facebook.com/StBonifaceMartyr/





Outreach Pantry & Thrift Shop Saturdays 10am-1pm. Contacts: Jody Fleischmann and David Meagher at 516-676-0676 x125

St. Vincent de Paul Society If you know neighbors in need, please call Jovanna Lemonda at 516-676-0676 x124 Please Note: There is **NO 8AM MASS** on Sunday, December 24.

See page 5 for the Christmas Schedule.

Liturgy Schedule

Saturday, December 16

3pm Confession

3pm Holy Hour

The altar bread, wine, candles and sanctuary lamp used in this week's celebrations of the Mass were donated in loving memory of **Tom & Ann Brady** by the Kerr Family.

4pm Mass: Eric Tyrkko, Irma Becker

Sunday, December 17

8am Mass: Tom & Ann Brady10:30am Mass: Margaret Lycopolus, Sioban Rack, Maddalena Giambrone

Monday, December 18 8am Mass: Felix T. Enrile

Tuesday, December 19 8am Mass: John Damiano

Wednesday, December 20 8am Mass: Ralph Perone 2pm Holy Hour in the Chapel

Thursday, December 21 8am Mass: Robert Norys

Friday, December 22 8am Mass: John & Dorothy Fanning

Saturday, December 23 9am Mass

CWIND AND

Early Deadlines

Friday, December 15 for the December 24 bulletin. Friday, December 22 for the December 31 bulletin.

Please get Fr. Josef's approval for your submission at domjosef@gmail.com before emailing stbonbulletin@gmail.com.

Let Us Pray

For Our Deceased

Joseph Allario, Ernie Franck, Catherine Ann Godleski, Mary Kinney, Robert Norys

For Our Sick

Patrick Baca, Theresa Connell, Margaret Lilly

Names will remain on the list for six weeks. Please email stbonbulletin@gmail.com or call 516-676-0676 x128 if you would like your listing continued. New requests must be made by an immediate family member.

Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound

If you know someone who is homebound and would like to have someone bring them Holy Communion, please call Jovanna Lemonda at 516-676-0676 x124.

For Our Military

Lieutenant Commander Melissa Buffa, US Navy Captain Nicholas Cavallone USAF Fr. Azubuike Igwegbe, Chaplain, US Army Jake A. Hojnowski, Sailor E-3, US Navy Christian Pace Laderer, MMN3, US Navy First Lieutenant Conor Lynch, US Army Lieutenant Commander Michael R. Ragusa, US Navy Colonel Bryan Schiller, Army Reserve Lieutenant Commander Drew Whitting, US Navy Major Christina Merrick-Wright Major Bradley Wright, US Army.

Events this Week

Sunday, December 17 9am Handbell Rehearsal

Monday, December 18 6:30pm Youth Group 7:30pm Prayer Group Zoom

Tuesday, December 19 7pm Book Group Zoom

Wednesday, December 20 2pm Holy Hour (Chapel) 7:30pm St. Vincent de Paul Meeting

Thursday, December 21 7pm Knitting Circle 7:30pm Scripture Study



St. Boniface Outreach

Dear Lord, Let us pray for those struggling from hunger and neglect all over the world. May we share and extend our blessings to empower those to flourish. Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.



Food Pantry

Due to the growing need for more food, we continue to rely on the generosity our parishioners. We are in need of the following:

Shelf stabilized milk Peanut Butter & Jelly Ready-to-Serve Soup Personal Hygiene Products Chef Boyardee Instant Potatoes Canned Corn

St. Boniface Martyr Thrift Shop

Come visit our Parish Thrift Shop on Saturdays from 10am to 1pm. There are great bargains on clothing and shoes for the whole family! The housewares department has a wide assortment of dishes, glassware, pictures, linens and toys. All proceeds benefit our food pantry.

The thrift shop is accepting new or gently used winter clothing, especially sweaters, jackets and coats in infant, children and adult sizes. We also accept shoes, sneakers, jewelry, purses and household items that are in good condition. Thank you for your generosity!

St. Vincent de Paul Society

In today's Gospel John the Baptist says, "I am the voice of one crying in the desert; make straight the way of the Lord." Let us ask for the grace to help others to know the love of the Lord.

Christmas is a time of love and gift giving. Please give to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so those in need can share in the blessings of Christmas.

We meet at 7:30pm the third Wednesdays of the month in St. Boniface School. For details, call Jovanna Lemonda at 516-676-0676 x124.

Ministry Meetings

Third Sundays: Bereavement Support Group

Next Meeting: January 21 at 3pm in Room 11, first floor of St. Boniface School, 12 Main Ave., Sea Cliff. The group is facilitated by two experienced grief counselors, Dr. David Meagher and Linda Rose. No fee PRE-registration required. For details and registration, contact David Meagher at 516-676-0676 x131, davidkmeagher@gmail.com or lrosecsw@hotmail.com.

Mondays: Youth Group

8th-12th graders are invited to the Youth Center, Room 10 in St. Boniface School, on Mondays from 6:30pm-8pm. Follow us on instagram username: stbonyg. Join our facebook page 'St. Boniface Martyr Youth Group'. Contact Youth Ministers, April and Leo at 516-297-9886 or stbonym@gmail.com.

Mondays: Charismatic Prayer Group

Zooms weekly at 7:30pm. Praise with us! Call John and Rosemary Murello for details at 516-676-2767.

Women of Faith Book Group

Meets monthly in the parish center Tuesday evenings 7-8pm, Wednesday mornings 10-11am and via zoom Wednesday evenings 7-8pm. New members welcome! Contact Pat at pattomfox@gmail.com.

Thursdays: Knitting Circle

Meets weekly at 7pm in the parish center. Beginners welcome. For details call Nancy Furlong at 516-759-5869 or brknit@optonline.net.

Thursdays: Scripture Study

Zooms weekly from 7:30pm–8:30pm to deepen and share our appreciation of the Word of God. Call John and Rosemary Murello at 516-676-2767 for details.

Third Saturdays: Third Order Lay Carmelites

Meets monthly 10am-12pm in the parish center. Lay Carmelites of St. Titus Brandsma seek God's will and presence in the ordinary circumstances of life in solidarity with others. Call Flora at 516-656-9375 or Ann Hunt at 516-676-0330 for more information.

New Day and Time

Men's Ministry: Second Saturday Mornings

Next meeting: Saturday, January 13 from 7:30 AM to 8:45 AM

Join us in Room 11 in St. Boniface School for a bit of breakfast, prayer, videos and discussion. Contact Rich Lucidi at richlucidi40@gmail.com.

Youth Group Plays Santa's Elves for Giving Tree



Jesus' Birthdate

The opening of the third millennium harmonized with the traditional date for the first Christmas. Without a doubt, the birth of Jesus is the most important event to celebrate in a new millennium. But there is plenty of doubt about when that birth took place. There is no clear historical record of the date and year of Jesus' birth. Although two of the Gospels record incidents pertaining to the event, neither assigns a date.

Two main theories surround the choice of December 25 to commemorate the Nativity. The first theory looks to a third-century Roman pagan celebration coinciding with the winter solstice. As the days began to lengthen each year, December 25 became a festival for the rebirth of the unconquered sun. Christians, who believed Christ was the real unconquered source of light, put his birth date on the same day.

The second theory looks to the passion of Jesus. According to early conjectures, the actual day of Christ's passion fell on March 25 in the year Jesus died.

Some Christians believed that Jesus died on the anniversary of his conception. For this reason, March 25 became also the celebration of the Annunciation. Looking forward nine months, the birth of Jesus was placed on December 25.

The traditional year of Jesus' birth was fixed in the mid-sixth century by Dionysius Exiguus, a monk and scholar who set the calendar according to the system we now know as ad. (anno domini, "in the year of the Lord"). However, Matthew and Luke both say Jesus was born during the reign of Herod the Great, which scholars now calculate from 37 to 4 BC. Oddly then, Jesus was probably born "before Christ."

Although the actual birth date of Jesus cannot be known, he was born, and we continue to commemorate his birth by recognizing that all of time hinges on his life.

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Christmas Schedule

Saturday, December 23

Fourth Sunday of Advent 3pm Confession 3pm Holy Hour **Mass:** 4pm

Sunday, December 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass: 10:30am only (NO 8am Mass)

Sunday, December 24

Christmas Eve **Masses:** 4pm and 10pm

Monday, December 25

Christmas Day **Masses:** 8am and 10:30am

Saturday, December 30

Feast of the Holy Family 3pm Confession 3pm Holy Hour **Mass:** 4pm

Sunday December 31

Feast of the Holy Family **Masses:** 8am and 10:30am

Monday, January 1

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God Mass: 9am





This WEEK at HOME

MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

O Adonai (Lord)

The Hebrew people used the title Adonai as a substitute for the unutterable name of God. Today's "O" Antiphon calls us to attention and reminds us that when we invoke the name of the Lord, we should do so with the utmost reverence.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

O Root of Jesse

Today's prophetic invocation for Jesus hearkens to the source of his human ancestry: "A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom" (Isaiah 11:1). Jesse was the father of King David and is designated as the first person in the genealogy of Jesus. From the Root of Jesse, comes a branch, Jesus, from whom we graft life.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

O Key of David

The genealogy of Jesus locates him in the line of King David. The prophet Isaiah foretells, "I will place the key of the House of David on his shoulder" (Isaiah 22:22). Thus, Jesus carries the power to liberate us from sin with the exquisite grace of forgiveness and to open the doors for all those asleep in the underworld. Jesus, the key to the kingdom of God, shows us the way to salvation.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21 O Radiant Dawn

Today's "O" Antiphon stems from the celebrated prophecy "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; Upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone" (Isaiah 9:1). In praying "O Radiant Dawn," we call for Jesus, the light, to break through the darkness of our lives like the dawn transforming the night sky. Christians often plan to line their sidewalks and front entryways with lights on Christmas Eve as a testimony of their joy at the arrival of the Light of the world.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

O King of Nations

The Hebrew people eagerly awaited a messiah to relieve them from oppression and restore justice to the land. In her canticle in the Gospel of Luke, Mary paints a picture of their savior as one who will "scatter the proud in their conceit, cast down the mighty from their thrones, fill the hungry with good things" (Luke 1:51–53). Even though the prophet Isaiah foretold that this longed for "King of Nations" would come as a child, no one could imagine the messiah entering the world as a homeless infant. Jesus upended expectations forevermore.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

O Emmanuel

As we turn the page from Advent to Christmas, we invoke our final "O" Antiphon, calling the child Jesus Emmanuel, which means "God-with-us." Herein meld the most unlikely truths: the infant born in a manger is truly God dwelling among us. The infant, completely dependent upon the care and protection of his parents, is indeed the Savior of the world.

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A Christmas Wish List

Young children sit on Santa's lap to answer the question that consumes them these days: What do you want for Christmas?

The child in each of us still wants stuff like toys and new clothes. But deep inside us we have more basic needs. We need security, fairness, and love. We want something huge for Christmas. We want peace on earth and justice for the oppressed. We want poverty eliminated and wars ceased.

Isaiah promises we will not be disappointed. He promises that God will do such wondrous things that justice and praise will spring up in every nation. When God is the joy of our soul, Isaiah says, a robe of salvation clothes us and a mantle of justice enfolds us. When God is our joy, we feel as rich as royalty, no matter how poor our state.

What does the earth want for Christmas? It wants good news for the poor, healing for the brokenhearted, liberty for captives, and release for prisoners. The earth wants what God alone can provide.

What do you want for Christmas? Is it something for you or something for the earth? Will it hinder or help the earth get what it needs

Lighten Up

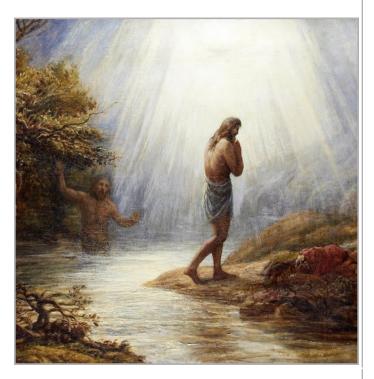
Christmas is serious business, but it shouldn't be taken too seriously. Christmas will be a time for joy, as we gather with family and friends and as we worship at church to celebrate the good news that Christ is born for us. All this celebrating demands hard work. Work is rarely fun, but the preparation for Christmas brings along with it some of the enjoyment of Christmas Day. This work helps us think about the love we have and the hope we share.

Even Advent can get too serious. True, this is a time of preparation. We confess our sins and mend fences so that Christmas will have more meaning for us. But Advent aims to keep us joyful all the way to Christmas. "Rejoice always," we hear Paul say today. "In all circumstances give thanks." Paul was addressing the Christian community in Thessalonica. He reaffirmed their belief that the second coming of Christ was very close. He prayed for them, that they "be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

One sign of their blamelessness would be their joy. Rejoice always, Paul says. Always.

Throughout Advent, we get distracted. We have many duties in the weeks ahead. There isn't much time to get everything done. But even this time of preparation is a time to lighten up. Let us not lose sight of where we're headed: Christmas Day! Rejoice!

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Saint John the Baptist "He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light" John Linnell (1792–1882)

Monthly Donations

November

Stewardship: \$31,353 All Saints Day: \$1,093 Catholic Campaign for Human Development (DRVC): \$671

Faith Direct

Signing up for e-giving is easy. You can set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift. Visit Faith.Direct/NY820.

Family Corner

This is a space in the vestibule for young families to come and collect books to bring back to their pews to keep the kiddos engaged during Mass. You may spend a few minutes here with your child to "cool down," do a coloring page or read a book. Please do not bring crayons back into the church. Your children should never be left unattended.

We want you to be comfortable, but please remember, voices Carry.

Parish Information

Our parish online calendar is available to the public! Go to our website: www.saintboniface.org and be sure to check the bulletin board in the vestibule.

Pastor: The Very Reverend Father Josef Norys, Can. Reg.; domjosef@gmail.com

Deacon: Tom Fox: 676-0676 x 126; stbondcntom@gmail.com

The Sisters of Jesus the Saviour: 676-0676 x101

Mass Stream Ministry: All masses are in person. 8am, Saturday 9am and Sunday10:30am masses are streamed via facebook.com/StBonifaceMartyr OR: saintboniface.org/streaming. Questions? Email stbonstreaming@gmail.com.

Business Manager: Eileen Krieb; 676-0676 x 110; stbonfinance@gmail.com

Director of Music & Liturgy: Jeffrey Schneider; 676~0676 x105; stbonmusic@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education: Lorraine O'Sullivan, 671-0418; stbonreligioused@gmail.com

Youth Ministry: April Meier, Youth Minister; Leo Capobianco, Assistant Youth Minister; 516-297-9886; stbonym@gmail.com

Office Administration: Joan Schiller. 676-0676; stbonchurch@gmail.com

Bulletin Editor: Julie Byrne 676-0676 x128. **Deadline:** Monday 10am unless otherwise indicated. After you receive approval from Fr. Josef, please email stbonbulletin@gmail.

Webmaster: Robert Lynch; stbonweb@gmail.com 516-782-7494

Altar Servers: Patty Lizza 516-317-5371

CYO: Call Kevin Kelly at 676-0676 x 122

Virtus Coordinator: Christine Whited stbonvirtus@gmail.com; 676-0676 x132 Bereavement Support: David Meagher 676-0676 x131. davidmeagher@gmail.com Registration: We welcome new members to our

parish family. Please contact the parish office.

Parish Trustees: Donna Calamis, Vincent Agosta

Pastoral Council Members: Vincent Agosta, Kevin Burke, Julie Byrne, Donna Calamis, John Canning, Karen Croce, Jody Fleischmann, Kevin Kelly, Maryellen Kerr, Eileen Krieb, Jovanna Lemonda, Rich Lucidi, Robert Lynch, Carolyn Rassiger, Bill Schiller, Jeff Schneider, Jane Serpico, Frank Sujecki, Christine Whited

Baptism: Fourth Sunday of the month at 10:30am Mass. Please contact the office to arrange an interview and class. Godparents must have received the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation) and live in harmony with the Catholic Church.

Matrimony: Engaged couples are to call the parish office before any other arrangements are made. A minimum of six months is needed.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Are you or someone you know curious about the Catholic faith? We welcome those who are not baptized, those baptized in another Christian tradition and those baptized Catholics who have not received First Communion and/or Confirmation to join our inquiry class. Contact Jane Serpico at 676-0676 x130 or stbonRCIA@gmail.com for details.

Diocese of Rockville Centre

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