



Saint  
**Boniface**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish  
Weekly

January 2nd, 2022

Sunday Masses: 8:30 am and 11:00 am  
Reconciliation on Sunday 10:15 - 10:45 am

531 E. Liberty St. Louisville Kentucky 40202  
Office Hours 9 am—2 pm Monday—Thursday  
502.584.4279

[www.stbonifaceparish.com](http://www.stbonifaceparish.com)

January 2nd ~ Epiphany (*Fr. Quan*)

8:30 am ~ Ann and Joyce Trott + 11:00 am ~ People of the Parish

January 9th ~ Baptism of the Lord (*Fr. Jeff*)

8:30 am ~ Gary and Cathy Zirnheld 11:00 am ~ People of the Parish

Pastor~

Fr. Jeff Shooner ~  
[jshooner@stpatlou.org](mailto:jshooner@stpatlou.org)

Associate Pastor ~  
Fr. Quan Nguyen ~  
[qnguyen@stpatlou.org](mailto:qnguyen@stpatlou.org)

Deacon ~ David Tomes ~  
[davidtomes@aol.com](mailto:davidtomes@aol.com)

Business Manager ~ Gale Gowen  
[ggowen@stpatlou.org](mailto:ggowen@stpatlou.org)

Organist and Director of Music ~  
Ryan McEldowney ~  
[ryanmceldowney@gmail.com](mailto:ryanmceldowney@gmail.com)

Office Manager ~ Patty Loerch ~  
[patty@stbonifaceparish.com](mailto:patty@stbonifaceparish.com)

Welcome to the Parish!

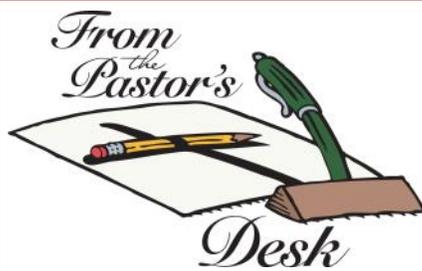
Everyone is invited to be a member of the parish family by registering as either a member or associate member. Cards are available at the doors of the church.

Change of Address? Please notify Patty in the Parish Office as soon as possible of an address change or any other changes to your family records.

Stewardship, A Lifetime of Opportunity, Responsibility, Accountability.

Have you remembered St. Boniface Church in your will?

**St. Boniface is a Roman Catholic Church in the heart of downtown Louisville and has been ministering to the local community since 1836. We are a community formed by the Word of God, the Sacraments and the Tradition of the Catholic Church. We strive to be a catalyst for positive change in our neighborhood. We put the faith we have received into action through a variety of social outreach programs, namely: St. John's Day Center for Homeless Men, Central Louisville Community Ministries (CLCM), and by assisting Nativity Academy in its mission to educate at-risk youth. In these efforts we strive to be a refuge for those in need, and offer hope to our surrounding community.**



***"And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on***

***entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh."***

An epiphany usually happens in a sudden and dramatic way. We gain a burst of insight, a flash of understanding, or a spark of discovery. It may also happen more gradually, like the dawning of an idea or realization. As we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord, the revelation of who Jesus is was just beginning with the magi. Guided by the Spirit, the light of Jesus Christ has continued to grow and be more fully grasped. Not only is that a deepening and broadening process in the church and in the world, but is a process that happens in each of our lives, minds, and hearts. I have had many epiphanies in my life, often like a burst of light, that have propelled my relationship with God. The first one, however, was more gradual.

I was 17 years old and on my senior retreat at the Flaget Center. I had spent the previous summer as a cultural exchange student in Japan. I was intelligent, although I thought myself more intelligent than I was, and I suffered the temptation of youth to see myself discovering ancient mystery as if for the first time. I had made myself the measure of all things and took my international experience as a broadening of horizons. I had a wonderful experience, but I had some recency bias which gave that experience great weight, more than the years of faith practiced and handed on to me by family, friends, and church. In Japan, I had profound moments for which I remain grateful. I

explored many Buddhist and Shinto shrines in the mountains on the island of Shikoku outside the city of Matsuyama. Because of this, I started my retreat with the idea that God (or the divine) was an impersonal force that could be accessed through nature and, especially, through paradox. Life was about walking the mountain ridge, balancing paradoxes, so as to remain at the highest point of the journey. I felt a little rebellious and certainly sophisticated with my new and different ideas. Truth, it seemed to me, came from the exotic far away land, not in an old converted high school used as a retreat center. My expectations for the retreat were low.

You may remember that my parents divorced when I was seven years old after mom had lost three children following my premature birth. My brothers Bradley and Patrick were both born premature, but did not survive, and her fourth pregnancy ended in a late miscarriage. When my dad sat me down to tell me that he and my mom were getting divorced, he also said that, now, I would have to be the man of the house and that if my brothers had lived, they wouldn't be getting divorced. It is beyond the scope of this article to unpack how profoundly I was affected by those words, but on the retreat, a letter from my dad to me was read aloud in front of all the students. In it, he wrote two things I had never heard in person. The first was that he was sorry for the divorce and the second was that he was proud of me. I was overcome with emotion and despite my fear of what my classmates would think, I broke down sobbing. A remarkable thing happened. Instead of the feared judgment, my classmates surrounded me, embraced me, and comforted me. I experienced being loved. In later reflection, as I was alone walking in the small garden next to the chapel, I understood that somehow God is love, like I had experienced from my classmates. It was just the dawning of an idea, but if God was love, the divine couldn't be an impersonal force. God had to be a person to be love and to love. It was just the dawning of an idea, a star to follow in the sky, but it has made all the difference in my life.

***Fr. Jeff***

## Prayer Requests

Precious Adams  
Robert Douglas  
Barton  
Marty Bedoian  
Bob Camfield  
Betty Chambers +  
Don Hess  
Louis Manion  
Twilight Mayes  
Jim McGrath  
C.M. Rodes +  
Greg Ross Smith  
Dean Scott Toller



*If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please call the church office at 584.4279.*

## Ministers for this Week

*8:30 a.m. Mass*

Server: Doug Korfhage

Lector: Charles Gazaway

Gift Bearers: Carol Cook and Kim McCoy

*11:00 a.m. Mass*

Server: Charles Gazaway or Nick Perri

Lector: John Poole

Gift Bearers: Carlotta Ingram and Twilight Mayes

*If you are interested in serving, please see the sign up sheets*



### **Parish News**

**Thank you...**Nativity Academy at St. Boniface would like to thank you for your gifts and support of Nativity Academy's Angel Tree project. There are many families feeling blessed, and smiles on the faces of the children in our community. We are so blessed to have so many incredible donors that believe in our mission and offer such generous support. You have made this season very special for our students and their families! We are grateful for you.



**Thank you...**Thank you so much for your efforts at St. Boniface to support the Catholic Charities Presents with a Purpose program! This year Presents with a Purpose served: 135 families, 202 adults, 367 children, We provided new coats, hats, gloves, outfits, household goods, hygiene products and toys to every person that walked through our doors. We gave out \$14, 225 in gift cards alone! None of this would be possible without your compassion. This was a big year for our Presents with a Purpose program, as we gave our clients the dignity to "shop" for their own gifts for the first time. It was a massive effort on the part of staff, volunteers and donors, and it was a great success.

**Marriage Moments...**The Epiphany is a feast of kings, camels, and stars. (Mt. 2:1-12) But what does it mean for a married couple today? Take a moment this week to look at a star together. Remember that God's love for you and your love for each other is bigger than this world and the sky.

**Central Louisville Community Ministries update...**Our ability to provide emergency rent and utility assistance to our neighbors in need has greatly expanded during the pandemic due to increased federal and local grants. We're grateful to St. Boniface donors and the network of other congregations who are supporting us in this work. We continue to ask for donations of personal care items (but NO over-the-counter medications). ***Needed items can now be brought to the church and we will deliver them.***

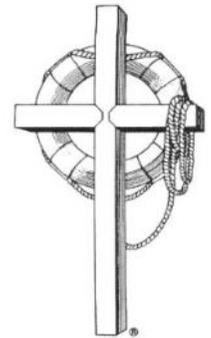
**Parenting Pointers...** Many children are baptized soon after birth and much later confirmed. Others come to Baptism as adults. What difference has Baptism made in your life? Really! Think about something specific. Once you have your own answer, talk to your children about their baptism. Perhaps show photos. Reenact it.

**Paula's Pantry....** We are running **very low** on supplies and are looking for foods that can be eaten straight from the package and individual servings which need no preparation. Suggested items: canned fruit with a pop-top, granola bars, tuna packets, meat sticks, dried fruit, peanut butter and crackers, etc. ***Checks to buy supplies would also be appreciated.***

### **Diocesan News**

**Hildegard House seeking Compassionate Companions!**...Hildegard House provides a home and compassionate care for individuals at the end of life who have no home or caregiver, so that they may die with dignity. Hildegard House is seeking volunteers to serve a weekly 5-hour shift to provide compassionate care. New volunteer training is Friday, January 14 from 6 to 8 p.m. and Saturday, January 15 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please visit our website at [www.hildegardhouse.org](http://www.hildegardhouse.org) to sign up or call Jana McNally at 502-581-8267 for more information. Hildegard House is located at 114 Adams Street in the Butchertown neighborhood of Louisville.

**The Holiday Season is Hard on Marriage...** Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages (and not just because of the holidays). It is designed to provide the tools to help get your marriage back. It will give you the opportunity to rediscover each other and examine your lives together in a new and positive way. Thousands of couples experiencing marital difficulties have found help through all levels of difficulty from disillusionment to deep misery. For confidential information about or to register for the February program beginning with a weekend on February 18-20, 2022, call 502-479-3329; email: [3012@helpourmarriage.org](mailto:3012@helpourmarriage.org); or go to [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org).



**Annual Memorial Mass for the Sanctity of Life...**will be held on Sunday, January 16th at 3:00 pm at St. Martin of Tours Church, 639 S. Shelby St. Please make plans to join Archbishop Kurtz and people from all over the Archdiocese of Louisville for a special mass to celebrate the dignity and sanctity of life. This event is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and the Office of Family and Life Ministries for the Archdiocese of Louisville.

## Next week's readings...

1st Reading—Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

2nd Reading—Acts 10:34-38

Gospel Reading— Luke 3:15-16,  
21-22



## December 26th, 2021 Collection Report

\$ 8,068	Weekly Stewardship
\$ 7,000	Weekly Stewardship Budget
\$ 1,068	Budget Over (Under)
\$107,474	Stewardship Year-to-Date
\$ 99,000	Budget Year-to-Date
\$ 8,474	Year-to-Date Over (Under)

### Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day

When Jesus was baptized, the Holy spirit descended upon him like a dove and a voice from the heavens rang out, "you are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." No such dove was seen or voice was heard when we were baptized, yet the Holy Spirit did descend upon us in baptism and we were welcomed into this holy family, initiated into the body of Christ. Let us give thanks today for the blessings we received in baptism, blessings we note in the baptism we celebrate today.

*He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.*



Luke 3:16

### Introduction to Liturgy of the Word

In the first reading, we hear Isaiah proclaim that the chosen one, imbued with God's spirit, will bring justice, establish a covenant, and free those who dwell in darkness. Listening to his words, we marvel at how Jesus fulfilled Isaiah's prophecies, but we also realize how far we still need to go. Let us listen to God's word and consider how Jesus and the Holy Spirit can work through us to bring light, blessing, and justice to all.

### Reflection on the Gospel

The baptism of the Lord could be called a prayer event, for Luke does not describe the moment of baptism but rather its aftermath. It is Jesus' prayer that tears open the heavens for the descent of the Holy Spirit and the revelation of this true identity as baptized sons and daughters of God. It opens heaven to us and reveals who we are.

## Bulletin Reflections

*"...They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." Matthew 2:11*

The wise men spend their lives seeking God and when they finally found Him they opened their coffers in generosity. Stewardship is much easier when we seek God first in our lives.