



Saint  
**Boniface**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish  
Weekly

January 3rd, 2021

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 3rd ~ Epiphany (*Fr. Fichteman*)

8:30 am ~ Anna Rose, Ben and Rose Dattilo +

11:00 am ~ People of the Parish

January 10th ~ Baptism of the Lord (*Fr. Fichteman*)

8:30 am ~ People of the Parish      11:00 am ~ June Poole+

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

Associate Pastor ~  
Fr. Steven Reeves ~  
[sreeves@stpatlou.org](mailto:sreeves@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.***



From  
the  
Pastor's

Desk

**"When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, 'Where is the newborn king of the Jews?'"**

**We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage."**

Like eyes that are drawn to a crack in a door, today's gospel and the feast we celebrate give us a glimpse of what is to come. Both the bad and the unbelievable are seen through the narrow sliver of a view. Entrenched power, oppression, and dominion recognize the true threat of a helpless baby that would be king. The wisdom of the wise, however, sees the true promise contained in a God who has become one of us. It is the demarcation of sides in the long arc of history. The battle lines have been drawn between the power of this world and the true freedom given by love. It is the fundamental conflict in each of our hearts and lives. It is not so obvious as to be evident from the start, but it is the key that unlocks our true humanity. Jesus stands at the door and knocks. Will we let him in? Will we open wide the door?

One of the defining moments of my life happened about the time I was 10 years old. Like a baby born in a manger, I didn't recognize the significance of the event at the time. The small house I grew up in backed up to a drainage ditch nearly 30 feet wide and 15 feet deep with 20 feet of right of way on each side. As a child, it was great for exploring, shooting my BB gun, and experiencing unsupervised freedom for hours at a time. The far side of the ditch, usually inaccessible because of the water at the bottom, was a wild wood in the suburbs. One day, a friend and I were playing near the ditch when we spotted an ominous and rugged teenage boy on the other side much larger than either of us. With the perceived safety of the man made barrier for protection,

my friend, just a year older than me, for some reason beyond my understanding began taunting the teenager. I don't recall the specific insults or jabs, but angry words were exchanged between them across the ditch. Then, as if watching a disaster unfold in slow motion, the teenager made his way down and across the water at the bottom. The fear of impending violence gripped my heart. My friend ran back to my house. I didn't. Something inside of me, hidden until that very moment, steeled my resolve. I had not cast any taunts (although I didn't know if the menacing teenager knew that) and a sense of justice welled within. If I were to be pummeled by his fists, he would be in the wrong. It wouldn't be right. I was compelled to stand my ground for truth even as I trembled with fear.

Our encounter registered no drama. After heading my way and passing within feet, he said, "Hey." I replied, "Hey." That was it. He went on his way, but something was born within me. As insignificant as it may have seemed, I was changed (and more than slightly relieved). A new born baby, born in Bethlehem, with no imaginable claim to the throne, could hardly be less significant. Millions, perhaps billions, of babies, nameless in the history books, have been born and passed their lives in the same way. Herod and the Magi, each in their own way, see past the insignificance and realize something has changed. This baby upends the conventional power system. He embodies a love so great that it will conquer all, even death. Jesus reveals the true origin and destiny of the universe, the origin and destiny of you and me. Herod will stop at nothing to find this child to destroy him. The Magi will stop at nothing to find this child to do him homage. This epiphany sets the choice before us. Hidden until this moment, precisely at this point in the arc of history, what will we do? Slam shut the door or open it wide?

Fr. Jeff

## Prayer Requests

Precious Adams  
Vickie Bays  
Margaret Barton  
Marty Bedoian  
Bob Camfield  
Don Hess  
Twilight Mayes  
Scott McCoy  
Jessica Scott  
Greg Smith  
Dean Toller



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

## Lectors for Today:

8:30 am ~ Bob Springer  
11:00 am ~ Judy Perri

*To become a Lector, please call or text Judy Perri at 502.599.5211.*  
**Lectors are needed for all of January.**



## Parish News

**Marriage Moments...** "Behold, Magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem." (Mt 2:2). The feast of the Epiphany reminds us that the wise still seek Jesus. What gifts of wisdom do you possess? A lesson learned from your childhood? A proverb that steers your life? A virtue to which you've struggled to be true?

**Parenting Pointers...** Perhaps you already say a bedtime prayer with your child. Perhaps your children feel too old for this custom. Either way, in person or in spirit, try this universal prayer for your child: "May the Lord bless you and keep you! May the Lords' face shine upon you and be gracious to you! May the Lord look upon you kindly and give you peace!" (Numbers 6: 24:26)

**Kroger and Amazon Smile programs...** Would you like to help the church while you shop? Then sign up for these two wonderful programs! Using your Kroger card, go to Kroger.com and click on community rewards and designate St. Boniface. To donate to St. Boniface through Amazon, you must use their website: [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com), and designate St. Boniface Church.

**Paula's Pantry....**As you may know Nativity is doing NTI learning and the students are not at school to take care of Paula's Pantry. We have been taking donations to help keep this stocked for the people who rely on it as a means of nutrition. Therefore, we are now collecting items at church and in the parish office to be put out throughout the week. We 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, jars of peanut butter and jelly to make sandwiches, etc. Checks to buy supplies would also be appreciated.

**Stewardship...**you can always mail your checks to the church or you can go online to our website and set up an account to make your contribution online: <https://www.stbonifaceparish.com/give.html>

THANKS  
FROM THE  
HEART

**A Big Thank You...**From the students and families of Nativity Academy for helping out this Christmas season. All the gifts and gift cards were greatly appreciated!

## Diocesan News

**Conversations with Archbishop Kurtz...** During segment one of January's Conversations with Archbishop Kurtz, Chancellor Dr. Brian Reynolds and Archbishop Kurtz discuss the new year and Archbishop Kurtz's hope and observations about trends in Church and society. In segment two, Archbishop Kurtz welcomes Christopher Graney, an astronomer with the Vatican Observatory, to discuss the topic of faith and science and the local faith and science dialogue group in which Archbishop Kurtz participates. In segment three, Archbishop Kurtz and Chancellor Dr. Brian Reynolds answer questions from viewers. Conversations airs on the Faith Channel, or can be downloaded from iTunes. It is also online at [www.archlou.org/conversations](http://www.archlou.org/conversations).

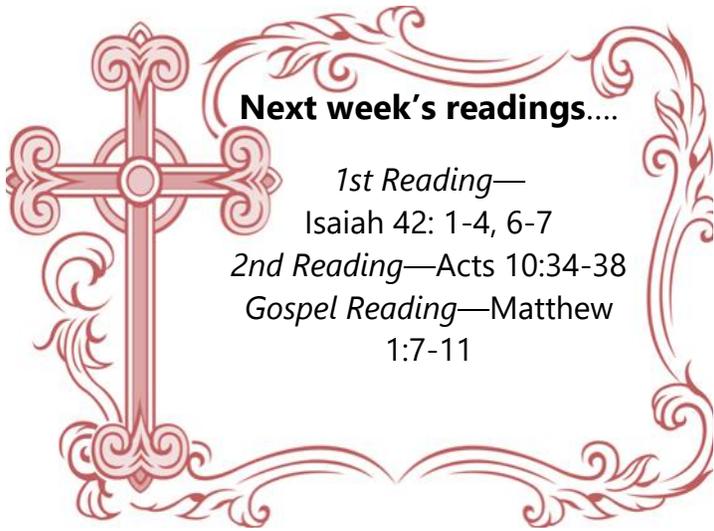


**Central Louisville Community Ministries...** will soon resume providing personal care items to folks in our neighborhood, and we need your help to restock the closet! You can drop off your donations at First Unitarian Monday-

Thursday from 9:30 am —1:30 pm —we need toothbrushes, toothpaste, bar soap, dish detergent, toilet paper, shampoo, razors and deodorant. These are items that cannot be purchased with SNAP benefits (food stamps). **Needed items can now be brought to the church and we will deliver them.**

**Save the Date...**St. John's Center's Raisin the Rent will be a virtual event this year. It will be held on Saturday, March 6th from 7:30—8:00 pm. For more information, go to: [www.stjohncenter.org/raisin-the-rent](http://www.stjohncenter.org/raisin-the-rent).

RAISIN  
THE RENT



**Next week's readings....**

*1st Reading—*

Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7

*2nd Reading—*Acts 10:34-38

*Gospel Reading—*Matthew 1:7-11

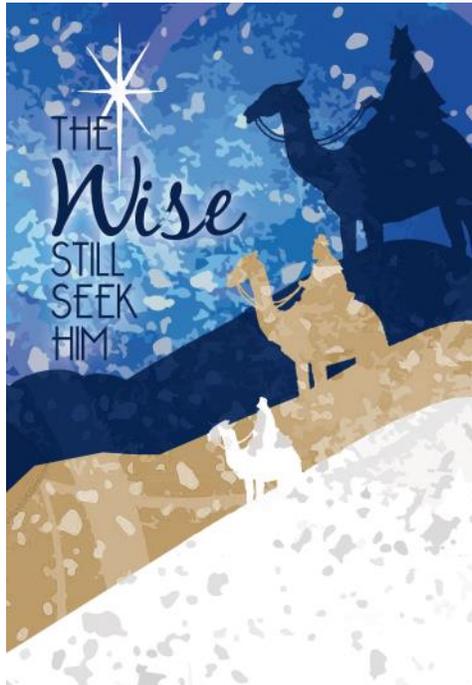
**December 27th, 2020 Collection Report**

\$8,750.00	Weekly Stewardship Budget
\$7,660.00	Weekly Stewardship
\$(1,090.00)	Budget Over (Under)
\$100,285.05	Stewardship Year-to-Date
\$115,000.00	Budget Year-to-Date
\$(14,771.95)	Year-to-Date Over (Under)

*Regular use of your offertory envelopes assures that you are kept as an active member of the parish.*

**Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day**

Living in an age well before the internet or social media, the magi from the East relied upon a single star as a sign that a king had been born. The heavens revealed to these learned foreigners that a matter of great import had occurred in Judea. Today we celebrate the revelation of the birth of our Lord to the outside world, to us. The light over the little town of Bethlehem has revealed the light of the world to the ends of the earth.



**Reflection on the Gospel**

When we place the Magi in our Christmas crib, the truth that their visit declares and the symbolism that their presence in the crib proclaims is the gospel truth that Jesus is a King for all the nations of the earth. This is what we pray for in the words of the responsorial Psalm 72: the establishment of God's kingdom of justice and peace throughout the world so that the rights of the poor and helpless are respected and the cries of the needy are answered.

**Today's Focus: Jesus, the Open Door**

Today's feast focuses us on the ways in which the Good News of salvation in Christ is meant for and offered to all. We may try to close a door on God's salvation, but Jesus will open it.

*"On entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They knelt down and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh." Matthew 2:11*

**Consider/Discuss**

*When have you felt unwanted, as though a door has been slammed in your face? How does that feel different from the welcome of a door that has been graciously opened?*