



Saint
Boniface
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish
Weekly

November 28th, 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

November 28th~ First Sunday of Advent (*Fr. Tony*)

8:30 am ~ People of the Parish/Richard and Patricia LaHood 11:00 am ~ Michael DeGrella +

December 5th~ Second Sunday of Advent (*Fr. Quan*)

8:30 am ~ JoLee McGrath + 11:00 am ~ People of the Parish

Pastor~
Fr. Jeff Shooner ~
jshooner@stpatlou.org

Associate Pastor ~
Fr. Quan Nguyen ~
qnguyen@stpatlou.org

Deacon ~ David Tomes ~
davidtomes@aol.com

Business Manager ~ Gale Gowen
ggowen@stpatlou.org

Organist and Director of Music ~
Ryan McEldowney ~
ryanmcelandowney@gmail.com

Office Manager ~ Patty Loerch ~
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.



"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand."

I enjoy fantasy. Perhaps my first exposure to this literary genre was *The Chronicles of Narnia* series by C. S. Lewis. The books belonged to my uncle Byron, who is just two years older than me (my dad's youngest brother), and I read the seven books in a week while I was visiting my grandmother in Cincinnati. I was about 11 years old. Each night, I would start one of the books at around 8:00 p.m. and read until I was finished, sometimes at 3, 4, or 5:00 a.m. I would sleep without an alarm and wake to my grandmother preparing a meal and plans for the day. It was a magical week filled with activity and, each night, with a world of wonder and larger than life symbolism, meaning, and adventure. My mind soared with musty wardrobes, a talking lion (I think I cried at Aslan's death) among a host of other talking animals and mythical beings, and ships sailing on seas. I was engrossed in another world of possibility.

In high school, I first picked up *The Chronicles of Thomas Covenant* (unbeliever and wielder of white gold). Through the six books in the series, at the time (I have recently learned there are an additional four books published 21 years after the sixth book), I entered an alternate and decidedly more adult and darker world than Narnia. It caught my imagination, again, and I encountered a world that hinged on an imperfect protagonist overcoming real world limitations to accept destiny and improbable power in an ultimate battle against evil. The necessity of purification, the ambiguity of human motivations, and the final acceptance of what we can be or become resonated as themes through this world of magic, giants, lore, and the strange power of

white gold. It had such an influence on me that, years later, I would actually choose white gold as the metal for my class ring at the Air Force Academy. This series is less than a classic, but I have recently begun rereading it in preparation to read the four books I only recently knew existed.

Above my reading chair (it is also my prayer chair) in my bedroom is a framed poster for *The Lord of the Rings*. This series, along with *The Hobbit*, by J. R. R. Tolkien, has a pride of place in the Shooner family and in my own experience. My uncle Matt read the series to each of his five sons and my poster is a copy of the print that hangs in their own family room. Of this series, Tolkien wrote, "The Lord of the Rings is of course a fundamentally religious and Catholic work; unconsciously so at first, but consciously in the revision. That is why I have not put in, or have cut out, practically all references to anything like 'religion', to cults or practices, in the imaginary world. For the religious element is absorbed into the story and the symbolism." It is a fantasy world filled with Catholic imagery and consciousness. I was also taken by the movie adaptation and have rewatched it several times. In the movie version of *The Two Towers*, before the Battle of Helm's Deep, the wizard Gandalf says, "Look to my coming on the first light of the fifth day, at dawn look to the east." At the moment of despair and acceptance of death, though not with the resignation of defeat, Gandalf arrives with allies to win the battle.

As we begin Advent, we hope for the coming of Jesus. The cross, opposite of our expectations, brings life. The love of Christ, which conquers all things, will destroy death forever. This is not fantasy. It is the very promise of God. Jesus is coming. Dawn is rising. This Advent, look to the east!

Fr. Jeff

Prayer Requests

Precious Adams
Margaret 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: Charles Gazaway

Lector: Doug Korfhage

Gift Bearers: Gary and Cathy Zirnheld

11:00 a.m. Mass

Server: Charles Gazaway or Nick Perri

Lector: Gray Grisham

Gift Bearers:

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



Parish News

Presents with a Purpose....We have been asked by Catholic Charities of Louisville to participate in their program again this year. All items need to be dropped off at church or the office by Sunday, December 5th. All gifts should be new and left unwrapped. Families will then shop from the selection. This is the list we were given for this year: *Board games, superhero toys, stuffed animals/pillows, sports sandals, refillable water bottles, young adult books, LED string lights, hygiene gift sets, bikes, volleyballs, basketballs, footballs, soccer balls, bath bombs and body washes, gift cards for Target, Walmart, Kroger in \$25 increments, and coats (especially larger sizes for both kids and adults).*

Angel Tree for Nativity... Thank you for your generous participation in our Annual Angel Tree. All Angels are from students families at Nativity Academy. Suggested gifts are written on each angel. Please attach the angel as a gift tag on your wrapped gift and return it to church on Sunday, December 11th. If you prefer to use our volunteer shoppers, you may choose to attach your check to an angel and return it to church or school before December 11th. The suggested amount for angels for the children is \$60.

Marriage Moments..."...on earth nations will be perplexed by the roaring of the sea and the waves..." (Luke 21:25) Whether you interpret this biblically or connect it with what scientists are saying about climate change, bad weather can be frightening. Agree on one step to take to befriend planet earth this week.

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... It's Thanksgiving weekend in the USA, aka the beginning of the Christmas shopping season. For Christians, it's also the beginning of Advent. Focus this weekend on how your family can simplify your lifestyle, not just buy more stuff. Maybe do a family house cleaning.

Diocesan News

50 and Over Catholic Singles Group...

Are you a mature single Catholic over 50 looking for a group of friends just like you? Would you be interested in gathering together in a social setting that allows you to grow in your faith while building lasting friendships? Please consider joining the new Catholic Singles Over 50 Group today! Gatherings will be held on the first Thursdays of the month in the Multi-Purpose Building of Holy Trinity Church, 501 Cherrywood Rd. The first gathering will be a Potluck dinner on Thursday, December 2nd at 6:30 pm. No reservations required, so please join us! For more information, please contact Debbie at debralmedford14@gmail.com or Sue at suelordan@yahoo.com



Singles Social

Catholic High School Placement Test – December 11, 2021

Students in grade 8 who wish to attend a Catholic high school next year are required to take the Catholic high school placement test scheduled on **Saturday, December 11, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** The test is free of charge, and students take the test at the Catholic high school they plan to attend. Students should bring two #2 pencils.. Information about the location of Catholic high schools can be found at www.louisvillecatholicschools.com. If inclement weather cancels the test on December 11, it will be rescheduled for the following Saturday, December 18, at the same time. The placement test helps Catholic secondary schools determine the most appropriate course work and academic path for meeting the needs of each student. For more information, call or email the high school you plan to attend or email comm@archlou.org.

Next week's readings....

1st Reading—Baruch 5:1-9
2nd Reading—Phil. 1:4-6, 8-11
Gospel Reading— Luke 3:1-6

November 21st, 2021 Collection Report

\$2,069	Weekly Stewardship
\$3,750	Weekly Stewardship Budget
\$(1,981)	Budget Over (Under)
\$67,389	Stewardship Year-to-Date
\$67,250	Budget Year-to-Date
\$139	Year-to-Date Over (Under)

Introduction to the Liturgy of the Day

Advent is a time to prepare for the coming of the Lord, whom we portray as a precious infant in a simple manger at the end of this season. But

there are more arrivals of our



Lord to contemplate during this season of preparation and they tend to be overlooked. One day Jesus Christ will come again in glory as the world ends and he delivers his final judgment. He gives a glimpse of this to his disciples in today's Gospel. But let us also consider his third appearance—to each of us personally, into our hearts and into our lives as we embrace him as his disciples. As we celebrate today, let us consider how we can welcome him ever more intimately into our lives.

Introduction to Liturgy of the Word

Today's readings focus on two comings of Jesus as the fulfillment of God's promise to the Chosen People and as judge at the end of time. The prophet Jeremiah and the apostle Paul offer words of hope and encouragement to their people as they anticipate these events. In the meantime, Paul advised the Thessalonians, they should act even more out of love for one another. May these words serve to prepare us as well during the holy season of expectation.

Reflection on the Gospel

The word of God calls us to be people of hope. Jesus proclaims to us in today's gospel the same good news he spoke to the bent-over woman (see Luke 13:10-17). Touched by Jesus the women who for eighteen years had looked only at feet and dust was able to "stand up straight" and to see the Sabbath stars shining on his face. Today, we, too, are urged to lift up our heads and have faith that we will see our redemption drawing near in the Son of Man.

Bulletin Reflections

"May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we have for you." 1 Thessalonians 3:12

Love is contagious. Joy, gratitude, generosity, and service flow from love. So it is with stewardship. The U.S. Bishops teach us: "Christian stewards receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, and share them lovingly with others..."