

St. Boniface Parish

Family Newsletter

Spring 2018

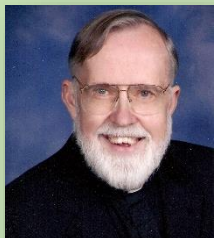


Dear Brothers and Sisters -

Happy Easter! Welcome to the first issue of our quarterly parish newsletter. By sharing updates of recent events, highlighting faith in action, and offering inspirational stories and prayers, I hope this newsletter will be another way of helping us draw closer as a parish family.

The Easter season is a perfect time to reflect on the Good News of our Risen Lord and look at how Jesus' followers built a community of believers and spread His Word. More than two thousand years later, we are called to carry on this important work. May this newsletter provide a way of sharing our faith and encouraging one another.

Peace and love,
Fr. Joe



Easter, the most important liturgical feast of the year, was joyfully celebrated at St. Boniface. Our church was full, our voices raised in glorious song.

At the Easter Vigil, we welcomed Ian Stecker into the Catholic Church through the sacrament of Baptism. John Clark and Ian Stecker also received the sacrament of Confirmation.

Let us continue to pray for both men as they proceed on their faith journeys.

The 10 o'clock Mass on Easter Sunday was offered for everyone enrolled in the Easter Flower Memorial. Special thanks to all of the volunteers who worked to arrange the flowers so beautifully.

*- Dear God, thank you for loving us so much that
You sent Your only Son to die for us and open the
gates of heaven.*



Happenings



On April 8, the Health & Wellness Ministry hosted a meet-and-greet after each Mass. Delicious, healthy refreshments were available, along with wellness information. The event was well-attended, and even Bishop Binzer enjoyed a healthy snack!

- *Loving and merciful God, we pray for all those who need healing in body, mind, or spirit.*

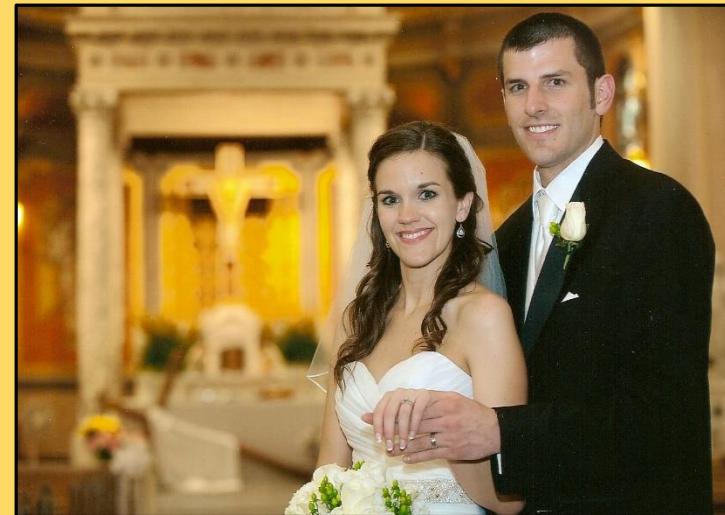


The fish fry Fridays during Lent were a great success. What a win-win way to support St. Boniface School! Some stats: about 990 pieces of fish served; > \$9,500 raised; many happy diners.

- *Holy Father, please watch over the men and women who harvest food for us from Your oceans and lands.*

St. Boniface has been privileged to witness several marriages in the last few weeks, and several more are upcoming. While the sacrament of Matrimony is a serious and solemn commitment, it is also a joyful promise of love and fidelity. We ask God to bless all of these couples as they begin their new lives together.

- *Dear God, we praise and thank you for your limitless love.*



Inspiration

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia!

Easter is joy. We commemorate Christ's triumph over death and the proof of His divinity. He opened the gates of heaven, giving us the hope of eternal life.

But as life settles back to a more normal routine, how do we continue to feel the joy and hope of Easter? Here are a few suggestions:



1. Take time each day to be aware of and thank God for one of the many blessings in your life. Even when nothing seems to go right, or when we experience a loss or disappointment, we are still so richly blessed . . . but it takes effort to be aware of His love.

2. Consider continuing your Lenten penance one day a week until Pentecost. For example, if you gave up TV for Lent, then perhaps “fast” from TV one night of the week throughout the Easter season. This could be a way to continue strengthening our spiritual muscles.

3. Be conscious of the beauty of spring. A robin building a nest outside your window, a magnolia tree extending arms full of pink blossoms, tender asparagus tips appearing in the garden—these signal renewal. They are reminders of our hope of being born into everlasting life.

Inspiration

In St. Luke's gospel, we read about two of Jesus' disciples walking to Emmaus, a village seven miles from Jerusalem. "And it happened that . . . Jesus himself drew near and walked with them . . ." Let us pray that Jesus be with us on our journeys as we travel around the world on vacation or take a stroll around the neighborhood.

We asked parishioner Fran Klosterman to reminisce about her pilgrimages to Our Lady of the Angels Monastery and the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Hanceville, Alabama.

We used to go twice a year. It was a bus trip, but the drive didn't seem that long because we would watch movies and sing songs. When we reached the shrine, there would be Confession and Mass, and a priest would give a spiritual talk. In the afternoon, our group would go to the chapel and have time for private prayer.

The tour of the grounds included the outdoor Stations of the Most Holy Eucharist, a grotto to Our Lady of Lourdes, a chapel honoring Pope St. John Paul II, a grave of an unborn child, and a building with life-size statues of the nativity. And of course we couldn't leave without a trip to the gift shop!

Later on, we'd go to the television station. It's hard to believe that Mother Angelica started broadcasting religious programs from a garage back in the early 80's and that effort has now grown to be the worldwide media network of EWTN. It's really amazing.

One time we saw Mother Angelica. She was in a wheelchair and a nurse was with her, but she reached through the cloister grille and touched our hands and blessed us. I'll never forget that special moment.

The shrine is a beautiful and inspiring place. Visiting there reminds us that anything is possible if we trust and have faith.

Bill Konerman has been a member of St. Boniface for **55** years, and he has served as an usher for about **15** years.

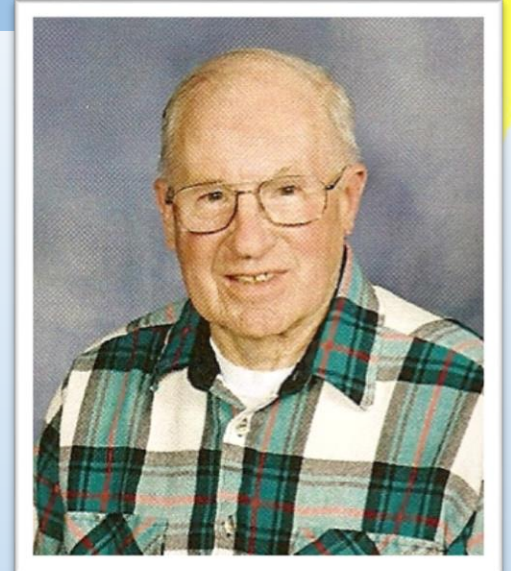
Q: What are the duties of an usher?

Bill: *Well, for the most part, we take up the collection and assist with the Offertory Procession. We also help if someone needs assistance with seating.*

Q: Are there any special skills you've had to develop?

Bill: *An usher taking up the collection has to be alert and sensitive. For example, if I see someone just pulling out their checkbook as I near their aisle, I slow down my steps a bit to give them time!*

Thank you, Bill, for your service, and thanks to all of our amazing volunteers! Keep up the good work serving our Lord and our parish family.



Volunteer Opportunities

There are many opportunities to live your faith by volunteering. Here are just a few:

Parish Pastoral Council Candidate

- Run as a candidate for Parish Pastoral Council in the May election
- You must be Catholic and at least 18 years of age

Backup Wedding Coordinator

- Train to become a backup wedding coordinator
- This role involves being present at rehearsals and weddings; opening church and locking afterwards; answering questions, etc.

Rummage Sale Prep

- Volunteers are needed prior to the sale to sort and price items
- Volunteers are also needed on the day of the sale, Saturday, June 9

*If interested in these opportunities, please call the parish office at 541-1563 and ask for Jenni.
Or talk with Jenni to find a role that fits with your interests and schedule.*

Mystery Photo



Stroll through the parish grounds, look around Church, or take a tour in your memory if you are homebound. Do you recognize what this photo is and where it is located?

Send your answers to jlindgren@stbonifaceschool.net or mail to Mystery Photo, 1750 Chase Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45223. Please include your name. A drawing from correct answers will be held on May 31. The full photo along with the name of the winning contestant will be revealed in the next issue of the newsletter.

Happy sleuthing!

To conserve resources, this colorful newsletter is designed to be viewed on screen rather than in print. If you know of a fellow parishioner who does not have a computer, please show to them on your laptop or smart phone.

*We welcome your comments and suggestions:
jlindgren@stbonifaceschool.net*