

ONE BODY, ONE SPIRIT, ONE FAMILY

Newsletter for St. Boniface Parish • Serving the churches of St. Boniface, St. Agnes, and Sacred Heart



A west side sunset over the House of Discernment and Sacred Heart Church. | Photo provided by Fr. Tyler Tenbarge

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St. Meinrad Sunday

We will have St. Meinrad Sunday on the weekend Masses on **Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 13 and 14.** St. Meinrad School of Theology has a history of educating priests, deacons, and lay ministers for the church and especially for our diocese. Most of our priests are graduates of St. Meinrad. You will receive information about their ministry in the mail to ask for your support. This year due to the pandemic, they will not send a representative.

Ash Wednesday services

This year, Ash Wednesday will be **Feb. 17**, and it begins our 40-day Lenten Season with prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Usually, Ash Wednesday is the most attended Holy Day besides Christmas and Easter. We will celebrate four Masses with the distribution of Ashes on Ash Wednesday. They are:

8 a.m. at Sacred Heart
10 a.m. at St. Agnes
12:10 p.m. at St. Boniface
6 p.m. at St. Boniface

Let us strive to include one or all of these disciplines to change our hearts into the heart of Christ.

Letter from Fr. John



Greetings,

We are just completing a memorable year in the year of 2020. Who would have thought that our lives would have been so distracted and changed through this pandemic? Our normal way of being with people was to keep your distance, wash your

hands, and cover your face, which has created some discomfort for us. This truly created some anxiety and some aggravation on my part. The person to person contact halted, so building community had to be redirected to virtual viewing and learning. I know it moved me out of my comfort zone.

I happened to view a post on Facebook from a relative that the year 2020 relates to God's sight of 20/20 vision. How did we see things, and how did we adjust to make things happen? Can we reflect on this past year and recognize how we made changes to adapt to the situation? I know I had to count on my faith to understand that I am not in control. It took a lot of trust. As I reflect, I saw some growth in all of us to adapt and make things work. With Masses suspended, some called me out of my comfort zone to communicate the Mass and other devotions virtually. I appreciate their efforts to bring the Mass from our parish into your homes. Fr. Lowell Will coordinated his drive up rosary every day to pray a rosary for the return of Mass publically and end the pandemic. Some took advantage of this prayer and to safely see one another. As we returned to Mass, we received a grant and installed a camera to help with the audio and visual communication so you could view the Mass at home. We tried to keep up with messages through emails and Flocknotes. I know some do not have internet, so I am sorry about not communicating with you. We did some phone calling but we didn't connect with the entire parish. We tried to stay connected and hold the community together. Who would have thought about drive-thru confessions? Some did take advantage of it. With large gatherings suspended, I did see an awesome response to our social raffles and our drive thru chicken dinner. In addition, you have responded overwhelmingly with your stewardship towards the parish and CPC. We are still ahead of last year in the offerings and pledges. You have also supported our parish clubs and school fundraisers. I am so appreciative of your generosity. Many people stepped up to make all of this work.

I know this pandemic hindered our growth of community, but we can still see people and talk to them. Our communities are formed by our care for each other. As I wrote in the last newsletter, we have to reach out to our neighbor. We will still be in this pandemic during this two-month newsletter, so we have to reach out and keep in touch. Who is my neighbor? Do you know your neighbor? I am reading this book about neighborhoods and what people want to see in a neighborhood. They want to have a relationship with them. The key is knowing your neighbor and treating them like your brothers and sisters. Our culture has moved us to be more isolated and to care for ourselves. Even though this pandemic has caused us to be isolated, hopefully it has brought us closer together and to think about other people and to check on them. Really when we do that, it is not about us but about them.

You might receive this newsletter at the end of 2020. The last weekend of the calendar year we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. We think of the Holy Family as Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Do you ever consider the parish as your family? The parish is a family of God. It is a family of sisters and brothers in Christ. We hear in Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, (12:12-26) that we are many parts and each part is important. We need each other for the body (Community) to fully operate. We really become a family when we show love, compassion, forgiveness, mercy, and generosity. When someone suffers, we suffer too, and when one is honored, we all share in their joy. I truly believe this creates family when we are there to support them through their joys and sorrows. Even though we are in this pandemic, we can share a phone call, send a card, or just talk to our community in the yard. One day, we will get together again and the best words we can hear from our brothers and sisters, "Thanks for helping me get through this, or thanks for caring for me." Maybe the year 2020 taught us to see in God's ways.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,

Catholic Relief Services

During the Lenten Season, we will be supporting the Catholic Relief Services as a part of our Almsgiving. Usually when disaster strikes, Catholic Relief Services are on ground serving the people not only during the rebuilding process but also months and years later in the recovery. I invite you to pick up a Rice Bowl and participate in helping the poor with your sacrifices. Each week, we invite you to place your almsgiving in the collection basket during the preparation of gifts or wait until the end of Lent. Let us be in solidarity with the poor when we make those sacrifices.

Happy New Year from Parish Council

The Saint Boniface Parish Council would like to wish everyone a very Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Council members are:

Fr. John Brosmer,
Pastor

Jamie Wicks,
Chairperson

Philip Zenthoefer,
Vice-Chairperson

Jenny Vaughn,
Secretary

Jeff Happe

Jerry Kirchoff,
Administrative Liaison

Mary Hupfer, Finance
Liaison

Lori Pierre

Steve Kercher

Tim Klingler

Danny Koressel

Darin Hayden

The Parish Council meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 6:00 PM in the Daller Room at St. Agnes. All members of the parish are invited to observe.

Stations and Mass during Lent

We will have Stations of the Cross followed by a Mass on each Friday during Lent besides Good Friday. We will alternate the locations each Friday, beginning at St. Agnes on the first Friday in Lent. They will all begin at **5 p.m.** This schedule might change and if that happens it will be announced in the bulletin and through Flocknote.

- Feb. 19 @ St. Agnes**
- Feb. 26 @ St. Boniface**
- March 5 @ Sacred Heart**
- March 12 @ St. Agnes**
- March 19 @ St. Boniface**
- March 26 @ Sacred Heart**

Blood Drive

We will sponsor another Blood Drive on **Sunday, Jan. 24 at St. Boniface School Gym.** It will be similar to our prior drives with starting time at **8 a.m.** and concluding at **2 p.m.** We had some outstanding drives last year with a total of 150 units of blood. This is a great outreach ministry for our parish. You can go online at redcross.org or call the office to register. Please give the gift of life.

Please pray for the deceased of our parish and their family members:



Clarence Mesker
Dec. 7, 1926-
Oct. 30, 2020



Jacob "Bill" James
Oct. 15, 1942-
Nov. 15, 2020



Rex Strange
Dec. 7, 1937 -
Nov. 23, 2020



Geneva "Jenny" Scheller
July 19, 1931 -
Nov. 25, 2020



Vickie Scott
Aug. 29, 1941-
Nov. 29, 2020



Janet James
July 8, 1938 -
Dec. 5, 2020

Please pray for those who were joined in the Sacrament of Marriage:

Everett and Jeanne Ethridge convalidated their Marriage on Oct. 9, 2020 at Sacred Heart Church

Nick and Maddie (Happe) Will on Dec. 5, 2020 at Sacred Heart Church

Michael and Angela (Mills) Bailey on Dec. 11, 2020 at St. Boniface Church

St. Boniface School Sign

In 2019, Paul's Pharmacy donated their electronic sign from their east store to St. Boniface School. We were planning to have it erected at St. Boniface School where the old sign resides beginning in March but then COVID came. This month Alvey signs will present it to the zoning board for approval. Hopefully, we will receive approval and do some things to spruce up the area. Many thanks to Paul Mayer and Jacob and Kari Mayer for their generosity to the school and parish.

Steward of God's Grace Report

Fr. John Brosmer

Several years ago the Diocese of Evansville promoted a Capital Campaign. Campaign goals for each parish were established from each parish's yearly offering. St. Boniface had a campaign goal of \$1,066,188.00. The diocese would split the revenue generated from this campaign 50/50 between the diocese and parish. Parish leadership then had to designate particular needs or projects to be used for their portion. Our specific needs were:

- Parking lot maintenance on the three campuses — patching, resealing and striping; \$150,000
- Roof repairs of St. Agnes Church and Westside Catholic School at St. Agnes campus; \$150,000
- Lighting fund at Westside Catholic School at St. Boniface and St. Agnes campuses to upgrade the lighting systems to LED; \$25,000
- Boiler replacement at Westside Catholic School at St. Agnes Campus; \$100,000
- Demolition of the Old Boiler House at St. Boniface; \$10,000
- Exterior maintenance of St. Agnes Church — caulking, paint, and gutter repair; \$15,000

The totals for these projects is \$450,000.00. As the campaign proceeded, St. Boniface pledged \$564,384.82, so this amount would be split 50/50 with the diocese and parish. At this time, the campaign has received payments of \$520,512.74, so we



Fish Fries

With the success we had last year in March and our chicken dinner in August, we are planning several fish fries in 2021. We will begin with a drive-thru dinner on Friday, Jan. 15. We wanted to have a smaller menu, so we will offer a fish sandwich and a side or two for the first one. More details will follow in the bulletin and on Flocknote. We also scheduled three dates in the season of Lent, **Fridays, Feb. 19, March 5 and March 19**. As we plan these, the menu will be communicated in the bulletin and on Flocknote. They will be held at the **St. Agnes campus**. The money raised will be used for the school's budget.

Christ Renews His Parish Retreat

The women and men of St. Boniface Parish are sponsoring CRHP weekends the first two weekends in March. The **women's weekend** will be **March 6 and 7** and the **men's weekend** on **March 13 and 14 at St. Agnes Ryves Hall**. CRHP stands for Christ Renews His Parish. It is an incredible opportunity that will help you discover what's missing in your life and what to do about it. It will connect you on a deeper level with other women and men in the parish. After the weekend you'll feel recharged, renewed, refreshed, and more at home at St. Boniface Parish than ever before. We encourage you to participate in this CRHP weekend to grow deeper with Christ and to build friendships and community.

Catholic Parishes Campaign Update

Our pledges for the Catholic Parishes Campaign have increased over last year. We have received \$181,437.00 in pledges at this time (Dec. 15th). I thank you for your generosity. Our parish assessment is 195,401.00. We have reached 92% of our goal, but we still need \$13,694.00 to reach our goal. These numbers are close, but what concerns me is that we only received 64% of parishioner participation. We had 480 cards returned out of 747 cards sent out. This tells me that we have less than 500 parishioners who want to be involved. I understand your thoughts and/or concerns about the diocese, but we just need your card returned. I was hoping to have 70-75% participation. I encourage you to give what you can and return your card. Your card tells me that you want to belong to the parish. I appreciate your support. Thank you for your cooperation. - Fr. John

received half of this amount. We have used some of this revenue for the parking lot maintenance at the three campuses, lighting upgrade, and the cooling system at Westside Catholic School at the St. Agnes campus. Some projects were in line with the initial estimate with others below. The totals for the completion of these projects was \$151,791.57.

The designated projects that need to be fulfilled are the roof repairs at the church and Westside Catholic School at St. Agnes Campus, and the demolition of the boiler house at St. Boniface. This summer we had Helming Brothers from Jasper inspect the slate roof at St. Agnes Church, and they mentioned that it does not need replacing. Its current condition should be sufficient for many years to come unless a future storm creates damage. As for the boiler house demolition, it has been discussed to dress up the area around the school and the church.

I write this to inform you of the completed projects and the remaining balance of \$108,584.80. However, other needs have drawn more attention since the original campaign need assessment list. The heating and air conditioning unit at St. Agnes Church needs to be addressed before summer. Another need is an air filtration system for the schools and churches while we encounter this pandemic. The heating/boiler unit at Westside Catholic School could be updated for better efficiency, but presently is not a need. From parish leadership and maintenance staff, I am considering that we reallocate the particular funds from the Steward of God's Grace to these present needs of the parish facilities. I am asking if you have an objection of meeting these present needs from the funds of the campaign. I will continue to inform you of these needs and the remaining funds. Thank you for your generosity. - Fr. John

From the Principal's Desk

Dear St. Boniface Parish family,

What a year 2020 has been! With all of the changes this year has brought, one thing has still remained the same. That is your generosity in helping to support our school families through the Angel tree. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to help more than 20 students and their families with Christmas gifts and tuition assistance. I am so thankful for your kindness and eagerness to support our students. You are all in my prayers and I wish you all a very happy new year full of good health.

Blessings,
Mrs. Kelsey Meier, principal

“No news” from Altar Society

Sharry Thompson

If "no news is good news" is still true, the Altar Society is going strong. That's because there really is NO NEWS. We haven't met since September, and the December Nut Club Dinner and Christmas party were both cancelled because of Covid-19. We aren't scheduling any meetings until this pandemic is at least tamed. Any changes will be noted in the parish bulletin.

We will be able to make our twice-a-year commitment payment of \$3,000.00 to St. Boniface Parish and our quarterly donation of \$150.00 to Life Choices, thanks to our successful Card Party in September.

Stay well the best you can!

Men's Club News

Jerry Kirchoff

The Men's Club has just completed a very profitable Spot Shoot. We had three great Sundays. The weather was perfect all three days. With the addition of the weekly \$333.00 Raffle and the raffling off of the flat top grill, our net was around \$19,000. We want to thank all who took part in the raffles and came to Dogtown for the shoot. This will go a long way in helping to fund the projects that occur around our three campuses.

With the restrictions of the COVID-19 virus we are putting our Steak Night on hold. We are planning on having our raffle that goes along with the event. You will see more details in the bulletin in late January and early February. Mark your calendars for Saturday, Feb. 27, 2021 for the drawing of the raffle.

The Men's Club continues to provide funding for a number of projects around the three campuses. We have just completed the renovation of the kitchen at the St. Boniface School along with the help of the Servant Society. These renovations

Parish generosity helps St. Vincent de Paul

Dear St. Boniface parishioners,

I am writing on behalf of St. Vincent de Paul Conference. With your generous donations this year we have been able to help almost 800 people with rent, utilities, beds, and furniture. Our members spent 1,480 hours and drove 2,365 miles offering help. We received \$21,000 from the parish. Several parishioners made very generous donations along with money from Christian Sharing, St Ann's Altar Society, Men's Club and our Members. Due to Covid, many agencies were overwhelmed or had depleted their funds. With the donations we received, we were able to help families pay rent, utilities, and help with other issues. It is very humbling when those we help tell us we were the only ones who helped when they had nowhere else to turn. We received several thank you cards at the Parish Center thanking us. With Covid most of our dealings with clients was conducted by phone. It was very touching when clients began crying thanking us for helping them. St. Boniface Parish is being recognized for their generosity. As members of St. Vincent we are proud to be parishioners at St. Boniface. As Vincentians we are able to convey the Beatitudes to our clients with your help.

Respectfully,

St. Boniface Parish, St. Vincent de Paul Conference

include new paint on the ceiling and walls, new epoxy floor, new dishwasher and sink, and cleaning of the stoves and hood. We also have contributed to the St. Vincent DePaul Society and the Staff Christmas Gifts. We are now waiting for summer to install a new floor in the Daller Room and offices at St. Agnes School. We continue to look for ways to help the parish and school with our time and treasure.

Our officers for next year are Steve Kercher (Chairperson), Danny Koressel (Vice Chairperson), Mark Tornatta (Treasurer), and Leroy Weinzapfel (Secretary). Our meetings are the second Tuesday of each month, and we meet in the St. Boniface Cafeteria. We start at 6:30 with a delicious meal and follow with the meeting around 7:00. All men in the parish are welcome to attend.

Thank you from the Servant Society

The Servant Society would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's "raffle only" Christmas Bazaar and soup sales. Your generosity was amazing.

We were able to raise \$14,120.00 to further help our parish.

We look forward to next year when we can hold the bazaar that everyone has grown accustomed to seeing.

Full House of Discernment keeps residents busy, happy

Fr. Tyler Tenbarge

The late fall at the House of Discernment was anything but lifeless. COVID concerns have dampened many aspects of many of our lives, yet those associated with the House at Sacred Heart have not let things slow them down!

The five House residents are doing well. One is enjoying his studies in psychology at the University of Evansville. Two more are enjoying their studies at USI. Two are working part-time, one at Hasgoe and one at a preschool (which is helping him discern fatherhood, for sure!). Over Thanksgiving break, two more diocesan seminarians moved into the House to finish out their online studies from Saint Meinrad before they could depart to be home with family for Christmas. Eight people makes for a full house!

In mid-October, the teenage Savio guys from many parishes gathered for a Mass, fun-run, and breakfast together on an early Saturday morning. For those from the East side, and as far as Gibson and Dubois counties, trekking up and around Reitz Hill was a treat on that fall day.

For the Solemnity of All Saints this year, we held a photo contest for our Savio guys. They found a photo of someone who is canonized or on the road to canonization, dressed up like that saint, and then posted a photo side-by-side. The results were fantastic! Winners were high schooler Nate Goebel (St. Philip Parish) and middle schooler James Elpers (Good Shepherd Parish).

Currently, as I write this article, the House at Sacred Heart is surrounded by Christmas trees and Troop 399. It has become an annual event that the residents and I look forward to. There is so much life and faith on this campus. Thanks be to God for the faithful community which surrounds and sustains the work in this harvest.

Financial Report

July 1, 2020 – November 30, 2020			
Income	Current YTD	YTD Budget	Total Budget
Sunday Collections	\$396,995	\$447,700	\$1,058,200
School Fees/Tuition	\$379,686	\$374,362	\$852,156
Other Church Income	\$170,452	\$59,167	\$220,425
Summer social	\$0	\$0	\$50,000
Other School Income	\$19,967	\$57,208	\$108,800
TOTAL INCOME	\$967,100	\$938,437	\$2,239,581
EXPENSES			
Parish Staff Salaries and Benefits	\$99,713	\$105,828	\$242,526
Parish Buildings/ Grounds Maintenance/Utilities	\$104,363	\$77,102	\$185,242
Catholic High school Assessment	\$36,778	\$35,523	\$85,255
School Staff Salaries and Benefits	\$558,721	\$578,967	\$1,371,351
Other Expenses	\$191,818	\$159,727	\$355,207
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$991,393	\$957,147	\$2,239,581
Net Income	<u>(\$24,293)</u>	<u>(\$18,710)</u>	<u>\$0</u>

As of Nov. 30, our Sunday collections were running short of the YTD budget by almost \$51,000. We are, however, nearly \$13,000 ahead of the same period last year. As this is a current YTD report, *Other Church Income* includes all income thus far from grants and donations used for previous improvements. *Total Income* is approximately \$29,000 higher than our YTD budget. This is partly due to recognizing income from restricted accounts to fund the new dishwasher at St. Boniface School and sound system at Sacred Heart Church. These two projects along with a new copier for the parish office have also had an impact on our expenses. While the sound system was paid for through donations and the dishwasher was partly funded with donations from the Men’s Club and Servant Society, our *Total Expenses* include the cost of these projects.

The parish and school continue to work diligently to be good stewards of the gifts you provide. A huge thanks to all for your continued financial support. Understandably, many of you are not attending weekend Masses. Thank you for mailing in your tithing envelopes and utilizing the online giving. If you wish to utilize online giving you may sign up by calling the parish office (812-423-1721) or using the link on our website, saintbonifaceparish.com. Again, St. Boniface appreciates your generosity and commitment to our parish community.

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The guys at the House of Discernment dining together on Monday evening before Holy Hour & Mass at Sacred Heart. | Photo provided by Fr. Tyler Tenbarge