

ST. BONIFACE CHURCH
PO BOX 280 402 MUNSTER STREET GERMANTOWN, IL 62245-0280
Rectory: 523-4271 Fax: 523-4263

Pastor: Fr. Jim Buerster Email address: frjim@stbonifacechurch.net

Deacon: Richard Bagby

Secretary: Melinda Knobeloch Tues. & Thurs. 9AM to Noon E-mail: bonifacechurch@charter.net

DRE: Evelyn Kuhn E-mail: evelyn@stbonifacechurch.net Hours: 8:30AM to 11:00AM

Website: www.stbonifacechurch.net

March 1, 2009
First Sunday of Lent

HOLY MASSES: February 28-March 1:

Sat. 4:00PM Parish
Sun. 9:00AM Clarence Weier

HOLY MASSES: March 2-8, 2009:

Mon. NO MASS
Tue. 7:45AM Marie Breiner
Wed. 7:45AM Louise Heidemann
Thu. 7:00PM Parish
Fri. 7:45AM Peace
Sat. 4:00PM Parish
Sun. 9:00AM Girl Scouts/Charles & Florence Albers

NEXT WEEKEND March 7-8

LECTOR

Sat. 4:00PM Dave Jansen
Sun. 9:00AM Randy Sauer

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER

Joan Young, Marilyn Jansen, Lorinda Jansen, Gerald & Ann Kohnen
Karen Albu, Pat Bagby, Albert Becker, Ruth Eversgerd, Julie Foppe

GIFTBEARERS

Sat. 4:00PM Parish
Sun. 9:00AM Girl Scouts

MASS SERVERS

Kristen Gebke, Kayla Mattson, Nick Hitpas
Girl Scouts

CANTORS

Sat. 4:00PM Judy Kampwerth
Sun. 9:00AM Choir

ROSARY LEADERS

Sat. 4:00PM Florence Jansen, Dolores Kohnen
Sun. 9:00AM Rich & Pat Bagby

USHERS

Mike Beer, Maurice Dierkes, Mike Tonnies
Jeff & Kelly Schuchmann, Russ Voss

GREETERS

Sat. 4:00PM Maurice & Jonella Spihlmann
Sun. 9:00AM Joe & Mary Sue Langenhorst

CHILDREN'S LITURGY LEADERS & HELPERS

Sun. March 8, 9:00AM Lynn Tonnies, Nancy Weems
Travis Wuebbels, Kevin Haar

Tue. March 3: 7:15AM Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help
6:30PM Novena and Rosary Devotions
7:00PM Choir practice. The choir will sing at the 9AM Mass on March 8.

Thu. March 5: 7:00PM Mass, followed by Stations of the Cross

Sat. March 7: 3:00PM Confessions

Sun. March 8: 10AM to Noon Eucharistic Prayer for Vocations & Pro-Life

STEWARDSHIP OFFERINGS: envelopes: \$3090; Loose: \$300; Candles: \$6. TOTAL: \$3396. Ash Wednesday (Aid to the Church in Central & Eastern Europe): \$414; Messenger: \$117. Thank You! **SISTER PARISH COLLECTION** will be held this weekend. **NATIONAL COLLECTION FOR BLACK & INDIAN MISSIONS IN THE UNITED STATES** will be held at the weekend mass. Because of the generosity of the people of this parish and parishes around the US, last year, over 9 million dollars were contributed to the collection. The support went to the neediest people across the United States; from the inner cities of the rural South and from the deserts of the Southwest to Alaska's cold wilderness- 131 diocese received assistance. Through your gift, you join your sacrifice to those who sacrifice daily to lead others to Christ. Envelopes are in with your regular set. Thank you.

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR: Today, at the 9AM Mass, St. Boniface Church celebrates the Parish Sending of Catechumens and Candidates for Election, sending 3 young people to a special ceremony held this Sunday afternoon at St. Peter's Cathedral in Belleville. Mandy Vannoy, fiancée of Brian Barth, and Kevin and Ashley Haar, 8th grade son and 7th grade daughter of Kevin Haar, have been preparing to join the Catholic Church at St. Boniface at this year's Easter Vigil on April 11. On this 1st Sunday of Lent, Bishop Braxton, and bishops around the world, preside at cathedral churches at the Rite of Election. And what is the Rite of Election? In the early Church, unbaptized adults seeking baptism (they were called "catechumens" – adults already baptized are called "candidates") gathered with other catechumens for instruction and formation in the faith, a process which could last a year or several years. Every catechumen had a sponsor who introduced them to the beliefs and practices of the Church. When the catechumens were ready for the final steps leading up to full membership in the Church, the community presented them to the bishop. On behalf of the Church, the bishop formally accepted them as candidates in a ceremony called the Rite of Election at the beginning of Lent. The catechumens were now the "elect" – and one by one they came forward to sign their names in the Book of the Elect. The enrolling of names is considered a central element in the Rite of Election because it is a sign of the candidate's promise to live the life of a Christian. The Book of the Elect, and pictures of the Elect will be displayed at St. Boniface Church during Lent so that the community can hold these elect, Mandy, Kevin and Ashley in prayer. Lenten items placed on the Communion Rail have gone quickly. 25 more Black Books for adults have been ordered, should be here in a week. Congratulations to Kaley Boeckmann, daughter of Russ and Cindy Boeckmann who was recently recognized as one of the 7 metro east St. Louis Post Dispatch Athletes of the Week.

THE DEACON'S BENCH. There will be no class on Monday, March 2 for our Faith Formation Adult Catechism Study. However, as we open the Season of Lent, we have dedicated each week to a particular phrase of "giving something extra." This week we are giving the Gift of the Word. We will dedicate at least an hour this week to reading the Word of God in the Bible. We invite the rest of the parish to join us in our weekly dedication.

COSGROVE' KITCHEN. Once again St. Boniface, along with the Altar Sodality will participate in "A Meal for the Poor". We will be handing out pans and a recipe next weekend, March 7 & 8. The prepared casseroles (not baked) need to be returned to Germantown IGA by March 15, and they will be delivered to Cosgrove's Kitchen on March 17. Remember: MAKE-DON'T BAKE!!

SISTER PARISH REPORT & UP DATE: Contributions and donations to our sister parish in Guatemala, Immaculate Conception Parish, continue to be very strong. Several inquiries have been made as to how the funds are used. Since I have been pastor here at St. Boniface, July, 2007, a monthly letter – in Spanish – arrives by registered mail from Immaculate Conception Parish in Guatemala. On occasion I have asked Fr. Vince Haselhorst to translate them. There were general descriptions of church life in the parish, and how the funds were used. Recently Deacon Rich Bagby has been attending a Spanish class in Clinton County. I asked Rich to take some recent letters to the class to possibly translate. The following is a summary of three of the most recent letters sent to us. I will do a better job of regularly communicating what's happening in our sister parish: Fr. Pedro Alfaro Del Cid from our sister parish, Immaculate Conception in Morazan, el Progreso, Guatemala, has sent several letters thanking St. Boniface parishioners for their generosity. He says that the money has been put to good use by paying for parts of the salaries of the sacristan/caretaker of the church, maintenance for the parish car, heating expenses for the rectory, and teaching materials for the parish catechists as well as for training at diocesan conferences. He and some parishioners recently attended a 3 day Diocesan Pastoral Assembly, especially concerning family, the elderly and how in this year of St. Paul we are all called to evangelize in Christ's name. In an earlier letter, Fr. Pedro reports that some money is being directed towards diocesan and parish levels of training for deacons. One conference theme was "Disciples as Missionaries." He has also continued to visit outlying villages, which are part of the el Progreso parish family to celebrate community masses, to teach children, adolescents, women and men in order to enliven their participation in the parish. Finally, Fr. Pedro reports that a group of 150 young people participated in a youth gathering/missionary trip and were trained as a first aid team.

READINGS & QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Theme: Repent and Believe

Reading I: Genesis 9:8-15 (the covenant with Noah)

Reading II: 1 Peter 3: 18-22 (saved through Baptism)

Gospel: Mark 1: 12-15 (the Desert Temptations)

Adults: What can I do this Lent to deepen my trust in God as my only source of strength and peace? Is there anything hindering my spiritual growth?

Children: What can I do at home or school this Lent to be more like Jesus?

OPERATION RICE BOWL. St. Boniface will once again participate in Operation Rice Bowl during Lent. Packets were sent home with the Faith Formation classes. Literature and bowls may also be found in the entrance of church.

NEXT SUNDAY, March 8 the Confirmands will make a retreat at Mater Dei after the 9AM Mass. Please pray for our confirmands as they prepare for their Confirmation on April 30.

NEXT SUNDAY, there will be the First Eucharist parent meeting after the 9AM Mass in the school cafeteria. Child care will be provided.

TO ALL FAMILIES OF ST. BONIFACE FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM – A Parent Newsletter was sent home on Thursday along with Operation Rice Bowl Material. The newsletter lists many Lenten ideas and practices for your family. If you did not receive it or misplaced it you can go to the Parish web site (see above) and click on Ministry.

YOUTH MINISTRY KRISPY KREME SALE is planned for Sunday, March 8 before and after the 9AM Mass. \$6.00 for one dozen, \$3.00 for a half dozen

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER TRAINING at St. Mary Church, Carlyle, March 19, 7-9PM for new and renewal. Also Lector Training, new and renewal at St. Mary's, Carlyle, March 26 from 7-9PM. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. No advance reservation needed.

ST. BONIFACE CEMETERY CLEAN-UP. St. Boniface Cemetery will have a clean up from March 23 to April 1. Everything that is not permanently attached to the tombstone (such as flowers, hooks, etc.) will be removed from the monuments. If there is anything you wish to keep, please remove before March 23. Flowers can be replaced anytime after April 1, in time for Easter.

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER – CELEBRATION OF LIFE, 26th Annual Dinner/Auction, Saturday, March 14. Doors open at 5PM, dinner served at 6:30PM, McCormick Center, 301 South First St. Belleville. Adults: \$15, children age 4-9: \$7.50, age 3 and under: free. For reservations please contact Celeste at 233-2273 or Gloria at 235-6797.

CATHOLIC MEN'S BREAKFAST, Saturday, March 14 at K of C Hall in Collinsville. Begin with Mass at 8AM at SS Peter & Paul Church, 207 Vandalia St., Collinsville, a hearty breakfast at 9:15AM, and guest speaker Hector Molina at 9:45AM. Master of Ceremonies is Zip Rzeppa. Cost is \$15 per person. Please contact Jim Wolters at 345-5602; John Brennan at 345-1623 or Dave Gries at 344-3259 to register.

BASEBALL/SOFTBALL REGISTRATION, March 1, in the school cafeteria from 8AM to 12PM. Children currently in grades 1-8. Registration will ONLY be held on March 1. If you are unable to attend on the scheduled date, contact Kelly Eversgerd at 523-8179 PRIOR to this date. Please make sure your child is present for registration. There will be a late fee (\$50 per family) for anyone who registers after March 1.

GERMANTOWN PTA is selling BUTTER BRAIDS & COOKIE DOUGH for their Spring Fundraiser. Order now through March 14 by calling Gwen Freund at 523-7035 or through any student.

GERMANTOWN AMERICAN LEGION POST 325 is accepting lawn cutting bids. For more info and an application call Marvin Molitor at 523-4748.

THE GERMANTOWN PARK BOARD has sent out raffle tickets for its annual Cardinal raffle. If you did not receive any, or would like more contact Scott Kohrmann at 523-4502 or Jeff Timmermann at 523-7789. The Park Board will also have tickets available after the weekend Mass on March 7-8 and any sold or unsold tickets can be turned in at that time.

GERMANTOWN LEGION FISH FRY, Fridays during Lent, from 4:30PM to 7PM, American Legion basement. Dine-in or carry out. To benefit Youth Activities.

BREESE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LENTEN FISH FRY, Fridays during Lent from 4-7PM at the Breese K of C Hall. Dine-in or carry-out. Bingo begins at 7:30PM every Friday except Good Friday.

CHICKEN & PORK ROAST DINNER, March 15, 11AM to 6PM, Germantown American Legion. Homemade dressing, homemade desserts! Sponsored by Germantown American Legion.

CHICKEN DINNER, March 1, 11AM to 6PM, Breese American Legion. Sponsored by Breese Lions.

QUILT BINGO, March 1, 1PM, St. Libory American Legion, sponsored by St. Liborius Parish. Sandwiches and desserts available beginning at 11AM.

WURSTMARKT, March 7, 3-8PM at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Hall, Posen, IL. Pork Sausage, Roast Beef, Liver Sausage. Sponsored by Holy Name Society. Mass at 6PM

QUILT & CASH SOCIAL, March 8, 1:30PM, doors open at noon. K of C Hall, 312 N. Gordon St., Pickneyville.