Dear Parishioners: God bless us all this Advent! We have lost a stalwart of our parishes in the death of Elsie Frijters this week, but she was a Christian who lived for the Coming of the Lord: surely that is the essence of Advent! Perhaps you have heard about SNAP (a survivors of clergy-abuse group) producing a list of known priest sexual offenders in our diocese: just before it was published, the Archdiocese of Vancouver released a list of convicted priests and “those with credible accusations”. There was a companion article about the differences in privacy laws between the USA and Canada, explaining why what seems to have become commonplace in the States doesn’t generally happen here. While it seems so gross a comparison – the privacy of an offender versus putting names out there in an effort to encourage more survivors to come forward – I do remember a hero of mine, Cardinal Bernardine of Chicago who was falsely accused: when he was ultimately exonerated and had a remarkable healing encounter with his accuser, there was nothing in the media that came anywhere close to the sensation that accompanied the accusation. Pray that these recent developments will help us all on the road to healing and justice for all who suffered abuse by our priests. Our “Slice of Faith” Youth discussion group has yielded a surprising idea: our young people are looking for a fuller program that I cannot supply, but the Mennonite Church can! I’m beginning talks with their Youth Pastor to see if we can’t come together to better serve our young people. I don’t want to overload anyone during Advent, our time of joyful waiting, but I will be sending around some information on the Psalms, as I make Psalm 122 the focus of preaching for the next few weeks. Join us for sung Evening Prayer each Sunday: please note the unusual time next Sunday, to accommodate the Living Nativity. Come, Lord Jesus! Fr. Matt

Zurich Annual Live Nativity
Sunday, December 15 at 7:00 pm at the pavilion behind the Zurich Ball Diamond. Come out and join the celebration of the First Christmas!

Faith & Social Justice News by Brielle & Olivia
December 8, 2019

Here are some of the upcoming faith events at St. Boniface Catholic school.

- Angel Tree Campaign begins on Dec. 9-13, 2019. Students are invited to pick a (boy/girl/age) angel and purchase a gift for someone for Christmas
- School Christmas Feast, Thursday, December 12 (11:15-2)
- Please join us for our school Advent Mass on Friday, December 13 at 9:15 am.
- Please join us for our Christmas concert on Tuesday, December 17, either at 1 PM or 6:30 PM
- This Sunday we light the second candle to represent preparation and peace.

Quote Of The Week: “Be still, and know that I am God” Psalm 46:10
A Message from your Finance Committee

Our Parishes appreciate your generosity and depend on it continuing especially at Christmas time for our financial needs and the mission of the Church. Currently both Parishes are operating in a deficit {St. Boniface ($3,071) & St. Peter's ($4,063)} and we are going to need a little more help than normal to make a balance budget by year's end. Hopefully with your help we can meet our operating needs at both parishes for this year. Thank-you! The Finance Committee

Offertory Envelopes for 2020
If you are not currently receiving offertory envelopes and would like a set for 2020 please contact the church office at 519-236-4191 or email bluewater@dol.ca.

New Sacramental Life
Welcome to our parish family Everly Alaina Rae Ccostello, daughter of Olivia who was baptized at St. Boniface Church and we welcome into Full Communion with the Church Tammy Lynn Bendig.

Prayer List
Please remember in your prayers the members of our parish family suffering from illness, Reese Thomson, Fr. Martin Nyland, Shirley Bedard, Marie Cyr, Theresa Davies, Carolyn Rau, Nanc Wilkins, Fr. Matt George, Tillie Rau, Barbara Coker, John Graham, Annabelle Reinseth, Pauline Tambeau-Burns and all who minister in hospitals.

Prayers & Sympathy
Prayers and sympathy is extended to the family of Elsie Frijters who died this past week. May she rest in peace.

Sung Evening Prayer
- Sunday, December 8 at St. Boniface at 7 pm
- Sunday, December 15 at St. Peter's at 6 pm
- Sunday, December 22 at St. Boniface at 7 pm

St. Boniface CWL
Christmas Social - The St. Boniface CWL Christmas Social will be Tuesday, December 10th at 6:30 pm hosted by Carmel & Patti’s group. Please bring an appetizer or dessert and wear your ugly Christmas sweater. Please note this year there will be NO gift exchange.

CWL Membership Dues - Please return membership dues ASAP. Envelopes can be placed in the basket.

A Slice of Faith Pizza & Discussion Group
Our next Youth Discussion Group will be held on Thursday, December 12 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm at St. Boniface Church.

Advent Memorial Donations
Once again this year we are offering a way for you to remember your loved one this Christmas! We will be accepting donations from both parishes for flowers throughout the Christmas season to be donated in memory of your loved one. If you wish to make a donation in memory of someone please place your donation in an envelope marked “Christmas Flowers” along with the name of the deceased person and your name or the name you wish to use as offered by. Please have all donations into the church office by Monday, December 16, 2019. The names of the deceased loved ones will be published in our Christmas bulletin.

Preauthorized Donations
Thank-you to all our parishioners who have signed up for preauthorized bank deductions. This method of donation helps in the mission of the parish particularly in our budgeting. We are now preparing our records for next years preauthorized donations. If you are not already signed up and would like to make donations through automatic monthly bank withdrawal please contact the office for a form.
Please Support These Local Businesses That Support Our Parish

Events at a glance....

- Sung Evening Prayer - Sunday, December 8 at 7:00 pm at St. Boniface Church
- Seasons of Hope Bereavement Group - Tuesday, December 10 following the Mass at noon at St. Peter’s Church
- Scripture Bible Study - Wednesday, December 11 following the 7 pm Mass at St. Boniface Church
- A Slice of Faith Pizza & Discussion Group - Thursday, December 12 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm at St. Boniface Church
- School Mass - Friday, December 13 at 9:15 am at St. Boniface Church
- Happy Birthday Social for Father Matt - December 14/15 following all Masses
- Sung Evening Prayer - Sunday, December 15 at 6:00 pm at St. Peter’s Church
- Zurich Annual Live Nativity - Sunday, December 15 at 7:00 pm at the Zurich pavilion
- Seasons of Hope Bereavement Group - Tuesday, December 17 following the Mass at noon at St. Peter’s Church
- Scripture Bible Study - Wednesday, December 18 following the 7 pm Mass at St. Boniface Church

Christmas/New Year’s Mass Times

Christmas Eve - December 24
5 pm St. Boniface
7 pm St. Peter’s

Christmas Day - December 25
9 am St. Boniface
11 am St. Peter’s
1 pm BWRH

New Year’s Eve - December 31
5 pm St. Boniface

New Year’s Day - January 1
9:30 am BWRH
11 am St. Peter’s
Parish Organizations

Parish Advisory Council: A combined council meets regularly to discuss and plan pastoral initiatives and practical functioning of the parish. If you have suggestions please consider contacting one of the members.

Youth Ministry: Youth from grades 7 to 12 gather regularly for fun, faith and friendship. See the website for information.

Children’s Liturgy of the Word: Every Sunday at the 9:00 am mass.

Catholic Cemeteries: We have the privilege of having cemeteries associated with St Peter and St. Boniface Churches. Information can be found on the website.

Other Organizations: Catholic Women’s Leagues, Knights of Columbus and others.

Parish Pastoral Council
Kristie Cresswell
Lynette Graham
Ray Mathonia
Marg Suplat

Weekend Masses
Sat  5:00 pm  St. Peter  (mid April to mid October)
      St. Boniface  (mid October to mid April)
Sun  9:00 am  St. Boniface
      11:00 am  St. Peter

Pastoral Staff:
Pastor: Fr. Matthew George
Secretary: Lori LaPorte
Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday
            8:30 am – 4:30 pm
            Friday - 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

MISSION STATEMENT
And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20 (NRSV, Catholic edition)

Celebrating Our Faith

Baptism
Please contact the office as you await the birth of your child or while you are awaiting adoption.

Reconciliation
God sent His Son so that we might be saved! Experience God’s healing through the sacrament of reconciliation on Tuesdays at 11:30 am before the Mass at St. Peter’s or before Mass on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 - 6:45 pm or Saturday mornings from 8:00 - 8:45 am at St. Boniface or by appointment.

Marriages
The sacrament of marriage is a beautiful expression of God’s love for the world! Minimum six months notice is required during which time the engaged couple must attend a Marriage Preparation Course.

Sacrament of the Sick
If you know of a person who is in hospital, or who is homebound because of illness and is desiring the sacrament of the sick, contact the office to make arrangements.

Bluewater Nursing Home
A weekly mass is offered on Thursdays at 3:30 pm in the chapel. All are welcome.

Devotions
St. Joseph and St. André - Tuesday at the 11:30 am - St. Peter’s.
Our Mother of Perpetual Help - Wednesday at 6:25 pm - St. Boniface.
Every first Friday at St. Boniface Church there is exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm—come be transformed by the healing power of Jesus.

Website
Our website is regularly updated. There is a monthly calendar of events, important information and great pictures.
www.bluewater.dionet.ca