



FROM THE RECTOR My friends-

You have been doing a most faithful job of staying together while we have been staying apart. On Palm Sunday close to 400 gathered for our online worship from 10 states and 4 countries.

But I also know that life is really hard now. Physical distancing and staying home are inconvenient and painful. Yet even more so, they are beautiful expressions of loving your neighbors. It's bringing out the best in us.

Still, at the same time, our hearts are breaking as we grieve the more than 10,000 deaths in the US alone due to COVID 19, the loss to the families, the strain on our medical professionals, the economic uncertainty, the suffering of those recovering, and our isolation from family and friends.

As we keep all of this in prayer, I hope that our daily and Sunday connections via technology brings peace and comfort.

For me, the hardest part of this is not seeing your beautiful faces, not receiving your happy greetings, bright smiles, friendly handshakes, and warm hugs. But this isolation will end. And we will be together again soon.

One of the gifts of live stream technology is that we can also archive services. Easter 2019 was a most splendid service of praise and thanksgiving to God, that seems a lifetime ago. So it will be reposted alongside the Easter 2020 service, a blessing to remind us of how we will be gathering again, soon.

Finally, while you know this, I think it bears putting in print. This virus is not an act of God. Nor is this the first pandemic in the history of God's creation. Which means that God is in this with us, and moreover, that God is grieving with us. The acts of God occurring now are when people step up to help each other. The cross and resurrection of Jesus, our focus this week, means that nothing puts us beyond the love of God.

I love you all, and God bless you,

Wayne +

We wish you the joy and hope of Easter! Please see below for the ways that St. Boniface will be celebrating this Season.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES Join us for **Maundy Thursday, Good Friday** and **Easter Sunday** at 10:00 a.m. for services, broadcasted through Boxcast on our website bonifacechurch.org

WEEKDAY MEDITATIONS and prayer are offered at 9:30 a.m. with clergy via the Boniface Facebook page.

WEDNESDAY MUSIC offered weekly at 7:30 p.m. on our website.

PRAYER REQUESTS are welcome, for yourself or on behalf of others. Please email Fr. Wayne Farrell at rector@bonifacechurch.org (we ask only the person's first name; no last name or circumstance is necessary).

GATHERING ONLINE as community until we are able to meet in person again, see the list below of meetings via Zoom and contact info.

YOUR FINANCIAL GIFTS are especially welcome at this time. While our church doors may not be open, clergy and staff continue to work, plan worship, and minister to parishioners and neighbors. Please [give](#) to support our ministries.



CELEBRATING CINDY HANNON St. Boniface Church Business Manager, Cindy Hannon, after 33 years here at St. Boniface Church, is retiring. Cindy is, and has been, an indispensable member of the church staff as well as support to our many ministries. She has worn many hats over these years, including parish and preschool finance manager, human resource manager, technology consultant, consultant to the diocese, just to name a few. Thank you, Cindy, for your behind-the-scenes support all these years! A celebration in Cindy's honor will be held at a later date.

JOE MASTER has accepted the Business Manager position here at St. Boniface, and will be a wonderful addition to the staff. Read more about Joe in our next issue.

GIVING THANKS We give great thanks for our many parishioners whose faithful generosity continues! Church life still carries on - albeit looking and feeling different. Your gifts and pledges sustain St. Boniface's worship, pastoral care, and good works.

We also give thanks for a generous and unanticipated gift last month. A parish household, who wishes to remain anonymous, wanted to help ensure that St. Boniface's ability to serve the congregation and community did not falter during this time. Their gift will support our Sunday morning worship livestream, staff salaries, and the Clergy Discretionary Fund. - *The Rector and vestry*

FEEDING THE HUNGRY We may not be able to gather, but we can do what St. Boniface does best: reach out to those in need! Many children in Sarasota rely on the free/reduced cost meals they receive while in school. Now, with recent school closures, they are going without. Compound this with lost wages parents are experiencing. Families are struggling with hunger. We can help! Join All Faiths Food Bank's Campaign Against Summer Hunger. They will match your gift dollar for dollar. Go to allfaithsfoodbank.org to make your gift directly. Or, write your check to St. Boniface with "AFFB" on the memo line.
- *St. Boniface Grants & Outreach Committee*

ZOOM MEETINGS Staying connected through internet conferencing:

Sunday Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.

- Fr. Jeff Hamblin, jlh@jeffreyhamblin-md.com

Sunday Book Discussion, 9:00 a.m.

- Vince Brennan, vhbrennan43@gmail.com

Tuesday Prayer Shawl Ministry, 1:00 p.m.

- Meg Larrabee, meglarrabee@hotmail.com

Friday Men of Boniface, 8:00 a.m.

- Reg Irvine, reg.irvine@verizon.net

Literary Ladies, monthly

- Ann Hardcastle, athardcastle1@gmail.com

Migration Ministry, on occasion

- Fr. Jonathan Evans, jevans@bonifacechurch.org

Other Ministry Groups will be added. Please contact the group's leader to learn more.

Saint Boniface Church, 5615 Midnight Pass Rd., Sarasota, FL 34242

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