

Parish of the Blessed Sacrament
First Sunday of Advent
December 1, 2019



1st Sunday
OF ADVENT



Blessed Sacrament Parish welcomes new residents and visitors. It is wonderful to celebrate the Eucharist with you. If you are new to the parish, please call the office to register.

PASTOR:

Father Jeffery Grant

Parochial Vicar

Father Ron Lorilla

Deacon David Erdmann

Deacon Tom Burns

PARISH OFFICE:

Phone: (217) 528-7521

Fax: (217) 528-3137

Website: www.bsps.org

SCHOOL OFFICE:

748 West Laurel

Phone: (217) 522-7534

Fax: (217) 522-7542

www.bssbruins.org

Office Manager:

Margaret Antenan

School Finance Manager:

Laura Horton

Parish Finance Manager:

Lisa Sarnowski

Principal:

Dawn Klinner

School Administrative Asst:

Nancy Evans

School Secretary:

Michele Hinds-Greenwood

Music Director:

Jane Hartman Irwin

Parish School of Religion:

Call the Parish Office to register

Development Director:

Kim Hoffmann

Maintenance Manager:

Ed VonDeBur

Bulletin Submissions:

Margaret Antenan

Email: mantenan@bsps.org

First Sunday of Advent

CELEBRATING THE DAYS

Monday, December 2

Confessions before Mass

8:00AM Jim Belz
Sanctity of Life

Tuesday, December 3

Confessions before Mass

8:20AM Catherine Adsit
John Sullivan

Wednesday, December 4

Confessions before Mass

8:00AM James "Mac" Graham
Donald Christie
5:30PM Prayer Service

Thursday, December 5

Thanksgiving Day

Confessions before Mass

8:00AM Fritzie Belz
Mary Jo Brahler

Friday, December 6

Confessions before Mass

8:20AM Tom Stapleton
Sandy Berry

Saturday, December 7

Confessions before Mass

8:00AM Daniel VonBert
3:00-4:00pm Confessions
4:30PM Warren Foran

Sunday, Dec. 8-Second Sunday of Advent

7:00AM Jim Davidson

8:30AM Tom Schmidt

10:30AM Intentions of our Parishioners

Rosary beginning at 10:05am is prayed before 10:30am Mass Sundays and includes intentions from the Blessed Sacrament Prayer Line. Please join us in praying for our parish family. Hope to see you there!

Dear Parishioners,

Joyful Expectation. As the church begins the season of Advent, one thing that we must be careful not to do is to make it a "little Lent." There are of course many similarities. Both are times of preparation for major feasts. Both emphasize prayer and penance. Both use the color purple in the ritual. However, the difference is in the tone of the season. Lent is about sin and redemption. We are called to be sorry for our sins and to repent. We are called to accept responsibility for our failings and actively seek forgiveness. Christ's death on the cross is our hope for new life. In other words, the tone of Lent is bittersweet. Advent, on the other hand, is a time to focus on the promised return of Jesus. We are called to be vigilant and prepare for the time of his coming. The tone of Advent is joyful expectation. During the season of Advent, we are reminded on the First Sunday that Jesus is not yet finished with our world. A day will come when he will return. On the second and third week we hear of God's first promise when he told the Israelites he would send a messiah. Hundreds of years passed and many lost hope. Prophets were sent to teach and prepare the people for that time. One of them was John the Baptist. His message was to turn to God and get ready, for the time is at hand. The urgency and excitement of this coming is told to us so that we too will prepare. The final week recalls the story of Mary and Joseph as they make preparations to welcome the promised savior. The season begs the question: are we ready for Lord when he comes?

Decorating our homes, baking and cooking, exchanging gifts are just some of the ways our secular world prepares in this time before Christmas. Yet, offering our prayers, remembering the promise, reflecting on God's word and opening our hearts are the spiritual ways we can use this time; for, unlike Lent, that recalls the bittersweet events of sin and salvation, Advent reminds us of the loving promise of God. He will not abandon us. He will come again in glory. In the meantime we must watch and wait...in joyful expectation.

Fr. Jeff

OUR PARISH

Please pray for our Recently Departed:

Wayne Moore

SCHOOL NEWS!

Tuesday Dec. 3– Penance Service for grades 6-8

Wednesday, Dec. 4– Penance Service for grades 3-5

Thursday, Dec. 5– SHG Open House

Saturday, Dec. 7– 9-11am—Speech Meet at St. Agnes for 7th & 8th grade students

Sunday, Dec. 8– Advent by Candlelight in cafeteria

A Note from Jane ☐ As Advent and Christmas are nearly upon us, please consider joining the choir for this season! It's such a beautiful time of year and we would love to add your voice to our choir! We meet on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 in the choir room. Join Us! Soli Deo Gloria!

Advent by Candlelight evening- Sunday, December 8th

Hosted by the Women's Club, the Advent by Candlelight event doors open at 4 pm giving ticket holders time to view the candlelit tables, the nativities, and decorations and partake in heavy appetizers and hot drinks. At 5:30 pm the Advent program begins with a special reflection by Marlene Mulford on "The Grace to Surrender With Joy: Finding and Keeping Freedom and Peace in Your Life" followed by a scrumptious dessert buffet. The evening concludes with a performance by the Children's Jubilate Choir.

The Angel Giving Tree– Advent is approaching and Blessed Sacrament will again provide Angel Giving Trees, sponsored by Catholic Charities. Please take a tag off the tree and purchase a gift(s) for a child or two children listed on the tag. Then bring the **unwrapped** gifts back to the church or church office by **December 10th**. Donations of wrapping paper will be appreciated. Thank you for your acts of love and caring.

Interested in learning more about Advent? Sign up to receive our Advent emails! You'll receive ten emails throughout the Advent season with facts about Advent, how to celebrate well, ideas for new traditions to practice with your family and the history of Advent. Emails may include a brief video and always include a daily challenge. Sign up at bsps.flocknote.com/advent or email Lsarnowski@bsps.org to be included.

Poinsettias -Blessed Sacrament Scouts BSA Troop

31 will be selling poinsettias after masses December 7th & 8th. The cost is \$10 each and will be available in red, white, and marble. Thank you for your support!

Illinois Tax Credit Scholarship Program - Want to help B.S.S. students and qualify for a 75% Illinois income tax credit for yourself under the Invest in Kids Act? Please join us for an informational meeting on Wednesday, December 11 at 6:30 in the school conference room to see how you can help provide scholarships to needy students and benefit from the Illinois tax credit. The Men's Club will be providing drinks and snacks. Step by step instructions will be provided for participating in this beneficial program. For questions or more information, call Kim Hoffmann at 522-7534 or reach out via email at hoffmann@bssbruins.org.

The End is Coming! New this year - parishioners can choose to receive their end-of-the-year contribution tax statement via email. Please go to our parish website and complete the simple form at www.bsps.org/parish-giving and you'll receive your statement in mid-January 2020. This process saves time and money for the parish and if you misplace your statement, you can simply reprint it from your email. Please contact Lisa Sarnowski at Lsarnowski@bsps.org if you have any questions.

Planning a Christmas Party? Consider using Scrip gift cards to purchase food! We sell gift cards to County Market and Meijer. Having food delivered? We've got Chipotle, Panera, Papa John's, Pizza Hut and Subway. If you're throwing a party AT a restaurant, we've got Bella Milano, Darcy's Pint and Engrained Brewery. Contact scrip@bssbruins.org to place an order via email.

Our Teacher Salary Support Fund is designed to help offset our teachers' salaries by giving them a much deserved bonus at Christmas each year. The monies donated through the parish envelopes throughout the year are combined with donations from our school family donation envelopes (sent home with the children at school) and donations from our PSA and Men's Club. All donations are allocated to our teachers and staff once a year--at Christmas. Bonuses are calculated based on the funds we have available each year. Please consider making a donation to this fund this year by either returning a donation in your monthly Parish Teacher Salary Support Fund envelope or in this year's school family donation envelope, by Monday, December 16th. Please help us give our teachers and staff the best possible Christmas gift as a "thank-you" for all their hard work and dedication to our school and children



ADORATION HOURS: Following are the hours that are open and available for Adoration. Is it possible that you may have "One Hour to Watch with Him". We need 29 people to commit to one hour a week or find a friend and alternate weeks! This can make it nice when you need a sub! Are you one of these people?? For further information please email Karen Senger at senger@bssbruins.org or bsps.org.

Sunday 12am	Monday 1pm	Friday 3am
Sunday 1am	Tuesday 1am	Friday 11am
Sunday 2am	Tuesday 2am	Friday 10pm
Sunday 3am	Tuesday 3am	Saturday 1am
Sunday 1pm	Wednesday 9am	Saturday 2am
Sunday 2pm	Thursday 11pm	Saturday 5am
Monday 1am	Thursday 4pm	Saturday 7am
Monday 2am	Friday 1am	Saturday 10am
Monday 3am	Friday 2am	Wednesday 4pm
Monday 9am		

Are you a visitor to Blessed Sacrament? If you're visiting us today we're glad you're here. If you are considering Blessed Sacrament as your new spiritual home, or if you just want to know more about us, we have a packet of information we would like you to take home with you. Just ask any usher for a visitor's packet. You don't have to give us any information about yourself. Just ask an usher. No strings attached. Thank you for visiting Blessed Sacrament.

The Filipino community of the Springfield area extends their invitation to everyone to join them with the celebration of their traditional 9 day Christmas novena known as Simbang Gabi starting on Dec 15 thru Dec 23 at 6 pm at Blessed Sacrament Church. Dinner potluck follows each Mass. Bishop Paprocki will preside at the Mass on the last day Dec 23rd.

SHG PREVIEW NIGHT On Thursday, December 5, from 6:00- 7:30 p.m., you're invited to come and see what life is like at SHG, meet teachers and students, and check out our beautiful school in a self-guided or personal tour! This event is free and open to 5th-8th grade students, transfer students, and their parents or guardians who are interested in learning more about what makes Sacred Heart-Griffin a great school for students to learn and grow. For more information or to set up a Shadow Day, contact Amanda Mandeville, Director of Enrollment Management and Communications, at mandeville@shg.org or 217-787-9732.

The Staab Family invites you to **"Light A Candle of Love**, a Service of Remembrance at Holiday Time" on Sunday, December 1, at 2pm at the Cathedral Atrium. This annual service provides a message of hope, as well as encouragement on how to cope with grief during the holidays. You are encouraged to bring a small framed photo of your loved one for display on our Memory Table. For more information call 528-6461.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE DECEMBER 2-6 MONDAY-WEDNESDAY

8:00am-8:20am

Jack Bailey-Joelyn Nation

THURSDAY-FRIDAY

Cady Eck-Joseph Bertaina

Saturday, December 7, 4:30PM

Lector: Sandy Etheridge

Servers: Leo Havey, Olive

Havey, Connor Etheridge

Eucharistic Ministers: Erica Beeman, Lisa Belz, Noreen Luhr, Trish Marriott, Windie McKay, Colleen VonDeBur, Paul Wheeler

Sunday, December 8, 7:00AM

Lector: Daniel Heffernan

Servers: Andrew Reimers

Eucharistic Ministers: Christy Geving, Kathy Grubb, Michele Hinds-Greenwood, George Rudis, Patrick Sheehan

Sunday, December 8, 8:30 AM

Lector: Kevin Lust

Servers: Aayla Horton, Ethan Keller, Felicity Keller

Eucharistic Ministers: Anne Capestrain, Andrea Judd, Rose McCarthy, Michael O'Brien, Carrie O'Brien, Maggie O'Brien, Mark Ushman

Sunday, December 8, 10:30AM

Lector: Mary Maloney

Servers: Tyler Furkin, Madelynn Furkin, Luke Harvey

Eucharistic Ministers: Rose Amon, Lori Criscione, Jack Lamar, Cynthia Lamar, Patti Naylor, Sally Petrone, Mary Tuttle

Blessed Sacrament Prayer Line

Call the Parish Office 528-7521 Please pray for the intention of :

Lucy Wallner, Jimmie Hill, Robert Farris, Amber, Dorothy Tracy, Vernon Spiedger, Terri Burwitz, Rita, Ron, Owen Doak, Kayte, Denise S, Christopher Morgan, Dave, Betty, Ed Pauley, Steve, Hannah Clark, Peter Schofield, Ginny Schofield, Amy Gatewood family, Monica Larch, Austin Fields, Larry Theise, Gwen Bramlet, Richard Judd, John M, Louie Rago, Gwinn, John, Claire, Mary, Ray Roland, Josette, Danielle Loftus, Kitty, Susan, Cindy, Barbara Schuh, Ruth Pohlman, Charles Klaphake, Annie, Barb, Tony, Kurt C, Eric, Lois & Jim Burton, Tom VonBerg, Donna Fitts, Ellen White, Barbara, Rose, Archer Senft, Suzie Culters, Tom J., Judy, Anna Gietl, Doug, Beth, Camden Spinner, Cindi, Andy Kates, Dave, Sandy H, Jim C., Jason Baird, Jen, Family of Gretchen Hornickle Harrison, Joyln Jensen, Jack Rhinehart, Dorothy Willenborg, Tom, Barry McCollom Tyra Redpath, Steve Kinsella, Destiny Renfro James, Clarita DeLargy, Steve, Karen, Steve, Miles Fifer, Maureen, Charlie Adams, Julie, Bill, Mary Coffey, Craig DeLargy, Brian Meredith, Destiny Jane, Katie Bronken, Cheryl, Fonda, Kristen, Tia, Jeff K., Laura M, Sue, Dave, Leo, Betty, Elizabeth Handrich, Melissa, Mary Jane Harshbarger, Troy, Joan Casper, Sharon S, Laura Black James G., Anna Chougry, March, Charlotte, Don Egan, Shandi Chrysler, Andy, Donald Cole, Dave, Leo, Emily Amy, Gloria, Susan McCain, Ray Shaw, Jeanette, Kevin Henry, Gary, Laurie, Mary Alice Owens, Gary Bartels, Don John, Dale, Peggy Cadigan, Sarah & Everett O'Connor, Mary, Rocky Tom Acker, Caleb Cross, Callie, Marlene Keldermans, Jeannie Marie Gorman, Dcn. Ben Hoeffler, Colleen, Edna Kienzler, Denny McDaniels, Terry Jordan, Janet Ketchum, Michael Mauch, Steve Bartels, Mary Kulavic, Bette Atteberry, William Burkey, Barb Hansen, Helen Rhinehart, Edward, Diana Schumacher, Melissa Brown, Mary, Beverly Rago, Sharon O'Brien. Jim & Cynthia Novello, Becky Wood, Denise Cindy Ramirez, Tod Pierce, Bertha S, Daniel, Janet Nelch, Kim

**STEWARDSHIP
(Time / Talent /Treasure)
In the Spirit of Giving**

Parish Collection

Target Amount	\$23,500.00
Sunday, November 17	\$18,469.25

Project Rachel can help women and men heal from the pain of abortion. For assistance call 698-4456

Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting & Investigation 321-1155