

Parish of the Blessed Sacrament
First Sunday of Advent
November 27, 2022



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
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

Finance Manager:

Janet Vespa

Director of Communications:

Lisa Sarnowski

Principal:

Nicole Kuhlman

School Administrative Asst:

Laura Horton

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:

John Langdon

Bulletin Submissions:

Margaret Antenan
Email: mantenan@bsps.org

First Sunday of Advent

CELEBRATING THE DAYS

Monday, November 28

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Ruth Pohlman
Betty King

Tuesday, November 29

Confessions before Mass

8:20am Mass: Don Egan

Wednesday, November 30

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: John Robert Hennessy

Thursday, December 1

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Mary Staudt

Friday, December 2

Confessions before Mass

8:20am Mass: James M. Belz
Philip Graham

Saturday, December 3

Confessions before Mass

8:00am Mass: Betty King

3:00-4:00pm: Confessions

4:30pm Mass: Paul Schafer

Sunday, Dec. 4 - Second Sunday of Advent

7:00am Mass: Jane & Jerry MacMurdo

8:30am Mass: Shirley Lanphier

10:30am Mass: Intentions of our Parishioners

Confessional in the Adoration Chapel

**Rosary beginning at 10:05am is prayed
before the 10:30am Sunday Mass**

Dear Parishioners,

Thanksgiving is over and it is just 28 days until Christmas. There are so many things to do and life can become very stressful. My suggestion is to slow down. Perhaps instead of quantity, focus on quality and use this time wisely. Let me offer a few suggestions how to use the days of Advent not just as a time to get ready for Christmas, but as a time to welcome the Lord.

--Writing. This year instead of just a card, write a note to an old friend or to someone who made a difference in your life. Tell them how their influence changed your life; then wish them a Merry Christmas.

--Decorating. Be sure to find a special place in your home for the manger scene; perhaps under your tree, on the mantle, or even on the dinner table. As you set it up, read the Christmas story from the Gospel of Luke. On Christmas eve, plan a special prayer service to place the Christ child in the manger.

--Shopping. Take time to buy a gift for someone unable to return the favor. Our angel tree or St. Martin De Porres could be the place to donate these. Consider offering this gift in place of others you may buy for family or friends.

--Wrapping gifts. There is an old St. Nicholas Day custom where one leaves a gift anonymously at the door of a neighbor or friend. What a wonderful surprise!

--Baking. One tradition I remember from my childhood is baking and decorating Christmas cookies. Cut them in shapes of angels, stars, kings, and shepherds and as you decorate them tell the story of Jesus' birth.

--Celebrating. Plan to center your Christmas celebration around Christmas Mass. What better way to welcome Jesus than to welcome him into your heart as you receive him in the Eucharist. The truth is he can be born in our hearts over and over again each time we worship him at Mass. Come and adore.

There are some who say we should not celebrate Christmas until Christmas. I agree, but we should spend every day getting ready for it. We should spend time each day remembering that just as Jesus was born into our world on Christmas day, he promised he would return. He will not abandon us. As you get ready, prepare for it as though you are expecting Jesus to return today. Prayer, appreciation, and generosity are all ways to keep your focus on the true meaning of this wonderful season. Now is the time for us to prepare to welcome Jesus into our homes and into our hearts.

Fr. Jeff

OUR PARISH FAMILY



SAVE THE DATE

Blessed Sacrament Christmas Market
Saturday, December 10
8:30am-Noon

Featuring parish artists, crafters, & purveyors
Coffee & Treats for purchase
Interested in having a table

Contact: Kim Hoffmann, Hoffmann@bssbruins.org

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION (for those excused from Mass) WILL TAKE PLACE SUNDAY OUTSIDE OF MASS FROM 9:45-10:00AM

Mass will continue to be live-streamed and can be found by going to the parish website at www.bsps.org And click on WATCH MASS HERE.

Confessions are heard Monday-Saturday mornings from 7:30-7:45am and on Saturday afternoon 3-4pm.

Volunteers Needed! B.S.S. is in need of judges and volunteers for this year's Speech Meet. The Speech Meet is being held on Saturday, December 3rd from 8:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. If you are interested in volunteering, contact the school office. Thank you for your help!

Angel Giving Tree— Advent is here and Blessed Sacrament will again provide Angel Giving Trees, sponsored by Catholic Charities, starting this weekend, November 19 & 20.. Please take a tag(s) off the tree and purchase a gift(s) listed on the tag. Then bring the **unwrapped** gifts back to the church or church office (8am-1pm) by **December 6th**. Donations of wrapping paper will be appreciated. Thank you for your acts of love and caring.

Can you commit to join the Blessed Sacrament Choir ministry from now through Christmas? This counts as service hours! Come join us; it's great fun! Rehearsals Wednesday 5:30 – 7:00 Call Jane Hartman Irwin – 217-503-8821 for more information.

Get a Head Start on Christmas Shopping! Are you buying gift cards this year? Don't shop at the grocery store for gift cards when you can get them at Blessed Sacrament! Every gift card you purchase here results in funds for Catholic education. A list of participating gift cards and a Christmas shopping planner are included in today's bulletin. Make copies and pass them around the table at Thanksgiving to get gift ideas! Drop the completed form off at the school or rectory offices and pick up your gift cards one week later. Contact scrip@bssbruins.org if you have questions

Purchase your 12/4 Advent by Candlelight tickets now! Ticket sales are in full swing so don't wait till the snow flies to buy your ticket for the 9th annual Advent by Candlelight event. There's 3 ways to reserve a seat: on line at www.bsps.org/womens-ministry, in person at the parish office, and buying tickets after weekend masses, November 12 & 13. Look for us in the church vestibule. Limited seating. Doors open at 2 pm, and program, featuring Dr. Calvin Bell will begin at 3 pm. Followed by a scrumptious, delicious dessert buffet and entertainment provided by our Children's Choir, the day will definitely end on a "high" note! Volunteers are needed to decorate tables, make homemade desserts, serve and set up refreshments. For more details on how to volunteer, go on line at www.bsps.org/womens-ministry. We need many hands to make this day successful. Have more questions? Call Sally Petrone 217.341.9088.

The Teacher Salary Support Fund is specially designated to offset our teachers' salaries by giving them a well-deserved bonus at Christmas each year. The monies donated through the green parish envelopes throughout the year are combined with donations from school families, the PSA and the Men's Club. All donations are allocated to the teachers and staff once a year - at Christmas! Please consider a donation during this school year by submitting the Parish Teacher Salary Support Fund envelope or an envelope on which you designate "Teacher Christmas Bonus Fund" by Monday, December 19th. Thank you in advance for your support of our hard-working teachers and staff

The students and families at Blessed Sacrament School will be working with St. Patrick's School on the "Gift of Giving" Christmas charity program during the month of December. The "Gift of Giving" is a wonderful opportunity to help spread our Christmas joy with others. Your donations will be used for the students at St. Patrick's school to give to their loved ones at Christmas. We will be accepting donations starting November 28th. Items can be anything new or slightly used that serve as a gift to a parent, grandparent, sibling (boy or girl) or friend. They sometimes bundle things like a hoodie, book and small toy. You may want to bundle a scarf, gloves and an item of jewelry for a mom. Some people in the past have chosen to donate a gift card for Big Lots, Walmart or Five Below. These gift cards are used to purchase items that are needed. Anything is appreciated! We appreciate your generosity and kindness!



Our Catholic faith is so rich! We are able to receive the Eucharist! Christ Himself! As our Church is devoted to promoting the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, there are many ways to find Catholic articles to help us prepare. One of the programs we use at the school is Pflaum Gospel Weeklies. They have given us quotes and reflections to share. For this week they have a quote from St. Francis of Assisi. "And as He appeared to the holy apostles in true flesh, so now He reveals Himself to us in the sacred bread." The reflection that is with the quote says; "Jesus lived here on the earth 2,000 years ago. He was present to the Apostles and to all who saw him, heard him, or experienced a miracle through him. Before he left the earth, after his Death, Resurrection, and Ascension, Jesus left us the great gift of His Body and Blood in the Eucharist. Although we cannot see him, the Body that we receive is the same body that was conceived by Mary and born of her; who grew up, taught, performed miracles; was arrested, suffered, died, and was buried; and now sits at his Father's right hand. One and the same Body was here 2,000 years ago and is still present now." If you would like to sign up for a weekly hour in our Adoration chapel to spend an hour in the presence of Christ, email us today at bspeucharisticadorers@gmail.com or www.bsps.org or call one of our committee members David & Karen Senger-525-6052 Eric & Susan Portz-718-4030

BREADLESS SUNDAY to support St. John's Breadline. To offset the loss of this fundraiser you may put an envelope in the collection marked **St John's Breadline** and we will see to it that the Breadline gets your donation. The Breadline continues to serve hundreds of hungry men, women and children everyday. Please consider a donation to the Breadline to able them to continue serving these meals

SHG PREVIEW NIGHT is **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1ST**, from 6-7:30 pm. We invite all students in grades 6-8 and high school transfer students for what we promise will be a fun night! See our campus, meet our teachers, and check out our clubs and sports teams! We will have prizes, giveaways, and the opportunity for 8th-grade students to register for the placement test and receive a \$50 credit to their SHG lunch account for next year! To register, please email our Director of Admissions, Fanie Jocelyn, at jocelyn@shg.org. **WALK - INS WELCOME**



MINISTRY SCHEDULE NOVEMBER 28-DEC. 2 MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00am & 8:20am

Saturday, Dec. 3, 4:30PM

Lector: Vince Toolen

Servers: Andrew Gerding, Hank Davis, Carter Etheridge

Eucharistic Ministers: Richard Campbell, Kathy Harth

Sunday, Dec. 4, 7:00AM

Lector: Jim McDermott

Servers: Teddy Mizeur

Eucharistic Ministers: Rachel Pennell, Ann Walker

Sunday, Dec. 4, 8:30 AM

Lector: Kevin Lust

Servers: Shea Stone, Liam Bryant, J. P. Leonard

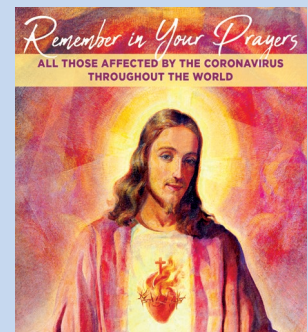
Eucharistic Ministers: Sheri Dhabalt, Bradely Frost

Sunday, Dec 4, 10:30AM

Lector: Tim Moore

Servers: Katie Bensko, Wade Naylor, Peyton Naylor

Eucharistic Ministers: Andrea Judd, Mary Tuttle



Blessed Sacrament Prayer Line

Call the Parish Office 528-7521 Please pray for the intention of :
 Jimmie Hill, Robert Farris, Amber, Vernon Spiedger, Rita, Ron,
 Owen Doak, 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, John M, Louie Rago, Gwinn, John,
 Claire, Mary, Ray Roland, Josette, Danielle Loftus, Kitty, Susan,
 Cindy, Barbara Schuh,, Annie, Barb, Tony, Kurt C, Eric, Tom
 VonBerg, Donna Fitts, Ellen White, Barbara, Rose, Archer
 Senft, Suzie Culters, Tom J., Judy, Doug, Beth, Camden Spin-
 ner, 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, 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, Sharon S, Laura Black James G.,
 Anna Chougry, March, Charlotte, Shandi Chrysler, Andy, Donald
 Cole, Dave, Leo, Emily Amy, Gloria, Susan McCain, Ray Shaw,
 Jeanette, Kevin Henry, Gary, Laurie, Gary Bartels, Don John,
 Dale, Peggy Cadigan, Sarah & Everett O'Connor, Mary, Rocky,
 Caleb Cross, Callie, Marlene Keldermans, Jeannie Marie,
 Gorman, Dcn. Ben Hoefler, Colleen, Denny McDaniels, Terry
 Jordan, Janet Ketchum, Michael Mauch, Steve Bartels, Bette
 Atteberry, William Burke, Helen Rhinehart, Edward, Diana
 Schumacher, Melissa Brown, Mary, Beverly Rago, Jim &
 Cynthia Novello, Becky Wood, Denise Cindy Ramirez, Tod
 Pierce, Daniel, Janet Nelch, Kim, Bobby, Kathy, Janet Keating,
 Nicky, Nick, M. Blazis, John P. Steil. Sarah Bice, Bob, Jill Burwitz,
 Rich Brown, Pat H, Charlene Dolan, Millie Gillen, Nancy Jensen,,
 Jane Cloyd, Emily Monaghan, Kathy, Kim, Matt, Gabriele,
 Spencer, Kathy Pingsterhaus, Judy, Robert D. Fields, Barb
 McDermott, Kelly W. Miguelismo & Celia, Joe, Ed VDB, Lorie
 Allen, Jeanne McCarthy, Sharon Elliott, Becky, Mary Garvert,
 Mitch, Noah, Jeff Stauffer, Patty Redpath, Diane Canavan, Carol
 Jirousek, Cathy Napier, Chuck DeMoisse, Mark Schmidt

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

Parish Collection

Target Amount	\$23,500.00
Sunday, Nov. 13	\$18,738.38

Project Rachel can help women and men heal from the pain of
 abortion. For assistance call 217-698-4456

Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting & Investigation 217-321-1155

Blessed Sacrament Prayer Line (cont)

Ursuline Sisters of New Orleans, Eloise Havey, Sam Atherton,
 Dodie Stannard, James Reynolds, Myla Jane Meisner, Joan
 Putrich, Walter Howe, Margaret Jordan, Pete Wayne, Jim Kane,
 Lori Lawless, Sue Furman, Rev. George Bernard, Mary K.,
 Michael Bresnan, John & Donna Maloney, Pat Maloney, Bill Reed,
 Marissa, Charles E., Kevin Geist, Marian Jenkins, Gregg L, Ron
 Walsh, Greg Benanti, Alexander Howe, Beverly Stinde, London
 Estelle, Chris Brown, Char Dolan