

**Parish of the Blessed Sacrament**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**December 18, 2022**



*Fourth Sunday of*  
**ADVENT**



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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](http://www.bsps.org)

**SCHOOL OFFICE:**

748 West Laurel  
Phone: (217) 522-7534  
Fax: (217) 522-7542  
[www.bssbruins.org](http://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](mailto:mantenan@bsps.org)

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

### CELEBRATING THE DAYS

**Monday, December 19**

**Confessions before Mass**

**8:00am Mass:** Mary Staudt

**Tuesday, December 20**

**Confessions before Mass**

**8:20am Mass:** Don Egan

Davidson & Tweryon Families

**Wednesday, December 21**

**Confessions before Mass**

**8:00am Mass:** Deceased Members Ernest R.

Hiltebrand Sr. Family

**Thursday, December 22**

**Confessions before Mass**

**8:20am Mass:** Mary Klaphake

James Meredith

**Friday, December 23**

**Confessions before Mass**

**8:20am Mass:** Vicke Matheis

Rita Sheppard

**Saturday, December 24**

**8:00am Mass: NO MASS**

**Christmas Eve**

**4:30pm Mass:** Richard & Mary Grega

Tailya Fahey

**8:00pm Mass:** Zoe Bartolo

**11:00pm Mass:** Allen Irwin Family

**Sunday, Dec. 25—Christmas Day**

**8:30am Mass:** Heather Gonet

**10:30am Mass:** Intentions of M & K

Intentions of our Parishioners

### Confessional in the Adoration Chapel

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

**Dear Parishioners,**

Christmas 2022

**Dear Santa,**

As the holiday approaches, it is again time for me to make my list of what I want for Christmas. There is not much I personally need; but there are a few things I wish to ask for others. You see, our world is a troubled place and many have lost hope that it will get better. Therefore, the things I want are things that could make it a better place for everyone.

First of all, Santa, I think our world has forgotten how to dream. When I was younger, there were people who were inspired to make this world a better place. Some dreamed of ending hunger; some of ending war. There were those who talked of a time when all would be treated with justice and all could hope for a better life. The prophet Isaiah had a dream that a time would come when the desert would bloom, the blind would see, and exiles would be able to come home. It would be a time of rejoicing. But some say that such a world could never be and they were critical and negative of such "impractical" dreams. The result is that people stopped dreaming. Santa, bring us a dream we can believe in; a world where all can live in peace. Secondly, in order to build such a world, we will need some tools. We will need generosity to chip away at the greed that can blind us. We will need patience to soften the hearts of those who are angry. We will need trust to repair the divisions that isolate us into opposing camps...and we will need forgiveness to heal the wounds we inflict on one another. Santa, bring us a tool box filled with these tools so we can make our world a better place.

My third request is for an instruction manual to teach us how to use these tools. Actually, I think the manual already exists and many own a copy. The problem is that it is sitting on a shelf at home rather than being carried in one's heart. Maybe if we were to find a copy of the scriptures under the tree and we would read it and pray it, our lives would begin to change.

There are a few other things I want to ask:

--There is a war in the Ukraine. The cold, the desperation and the fear, make it an unbearable situation. Bring peace to Ukraine and to all countries where violence threatens people's lives.

--There is a severe drought in eastern Africa. Many animals are dying and many people run the risk of famine and starvation. It is a place very dear to my heart. Bring rain to end the drought and food to end the hunger.

--There are lonely people in the parish who have lost loved ones. Being alone is a heavy burden to carry. Bring them consolation and reassurance that all life is in the hands of God.

--There are children neglected, abused, and unwanted. Bring them someone to love them.

--And finally, Santa, bring joy to the hearts of all who will celebrate Christmas this year. May our hearts be grateful for all we receive in this wonderful and yet, imperfect world.

I will again leave some cookies for you under the tree. By the way, Santa, our parish is going to undertake a capital campaign to replace the roof and repair the windows in the church. Slate and stained glass are very expensive. It will cost over three million dollars. If you happen to have a few extra pieces or slate or a little extra cash, that too would be appreciated.

Merry Christmas,

**Fr. Jeff**

## OUR PARISH FAMILY



**Christmas Festivities at B.S.S.** - As we prepare to celebrate our final Christmas programs and classroom parties at school, we want to thank the many parishioners who support our school with donations and gifts of prayer. We appreciate you and we could not do it without you! Blessings to you all!

**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](http://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.

**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 !

**!Beautiful Church** The holidays are upon us and when your company joins us for Mass, you may hear, "This is a beautiful church!" Wouldn't it be great to know the answers when they ask about the altar, paintings and stained glass windows? The Blessed Sacrament tour brochure can help! Pick up a copy in the vestibule today. You're gonna love it!

### **Scrip Gift Cards Make Great Stocking Stuffers!**

We've got tons of \$10 cards - for fast food places and for a limited time to **Amazon, Target and Walmart** Looking for something smaller? For the Christmas giving season, we've got \$5 cards for **Barnes & Noble, Panera and Starbucks** - stock up and keep some in your purse or wallet for surprise gifts! You can purchase gift cards in the parish office this week until Wednesday, December 21 at 11:00 AM!

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## Christmas Mass Schedule



**Christmas Eve**  
Saturday, December 24th  
4:30pm 8:00pm 11:00pm

**Christmas Day**  
Sunday, December 25th  
8:30am 10:30am

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**The End is Coming! 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](http://www.bsps.org/parish-giving) and you'll receive your statement in late January 2022. 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](mailto:lsarnowski@bsps.org) if you have any questions.

**Year-End Giving**—We are so grateful for the generosity of our parishioners throughout the entire year. During December, many people review their giving and determine that a year end charitable gift will benefit their tax status for the calendar year. If you wish to make a donation to Blessed Sacrament by making a general parish contribution to the church, or a gift to the School's Annual Fund, you may drop it into the collection basket during Mass or mail it to the school or parish office. All charitable contributions must be postmarked and/or received by December 31, 2022 to be included in the year-end statement for tax year 2022





**This is a crazy time of year**, we are running around preparing everything for Christmas. Have we taken the time to really prepare ourselves? I find that I end up living day to day...I am always grateful when my Friday hour comes and I can have some peace and quiet time with the Lord and pause to get myself back on track. How are we preparing ourselves and our families for the birth of our Lord? Maybe stop by and enjoy a little peace and quiet with the Lord. He will guide you. 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](mailto:bspeucharisticadorers@gmail.com) or [www.bsps.org](http://www.bsps.org) or call one of our committee members: David & Karen Senger-525-6052 Eric & Susan Portz-718-4030

**NIGHT OF PAUSE** The Church of the Little Flower invites you to take a moment during this hectic season to pause and reflect on Jesus on the longest night of the year. Take time to breathe and remember the gift of God's everlasting Peace and Joy freely given through Christ's birth and salvation. Join us for a quick visit or a few moments on December 21st from 5-9 pm in the church.



*Advent  
Preparing the Way*

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE

DEC. 19-23

MONDAY-FRIDAY

8:00am & 8:20am

**Saturday, Dec. 24, 4:00PM**

Lector: TBA

Servers: TBA

Eucharistic Ministers: TBA

**Sunday, Dec. 25, 7:00AM**

Lector: TBA

Servers: TBA

Eucharistic Ministers: TBA

**Sunday, Dec. 25, 8:30 AM**

Lector: TBA

Servers: TBA

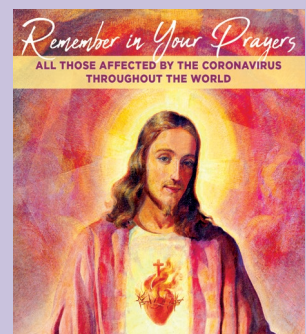
Eucharistic Ministers: TBA

**Sunday, Dec 25, 10:30AM**

Lector: TBA

Servers: TBA

Eucharistic Ministers: TBA



**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, 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 Spinner, Cindi, Andy Kates, Dave, Sandy H, Jim C., Jason Baird, Jen, Family of Gretchen Hornickel Harrison, Joyln Jensen, Jack Rhinehart, Dorothy Wilenborg, 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, Deny McDaniels, Terry Jordan, Janet Ketchum, Michael Mauch, Steve Bartels, Bette Atteberry, William Burkey, 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 DeMoissey, Mark Schmidt

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

**Parish Collection**

<b>Target Amount</b>	<b>\$23,500.00</b>
<b>Sunday, Dec. 4</b>	<b>\$32,687.38</b>

**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, Michael, Richard Elvarado, David Willer, Cynthia Plouche, Sharon Jeffers, Jennie Chambers

